

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT – IMPOUNDED CATS AND DOGS REGISTRATION AND MICROCHIPPING POLICY

COMMUNITY POLICY



1 Scope

This policy applies to impounded cats and dogs reclaimed by their owner/responsible person from Rockhampton Regional Council's Animal Management Centre.

2 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure impounded cats and dogs reclaimed from Council's Animal Management Centre comply with registration and microchipping requirements of the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*.

3 Related Documents

3.1 Primary

Nil

3.2 Secondary

Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008

Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011

Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011

Council's Fees and Charges Schedule

4 Definitions

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions apply:

Authorised Implanter	As defined in the <i>Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008</i> : (a) A veterinary surgeon who: (i) Has completed a course, about implanting PPIDs, prescribed under a regulation or approved by the chief executive; and (ii) Is not a prohibited implanter; or (b) A person who: (i) Has a qualification relating to the implantation of PPIDs prescribed under a regulation or approved by the chief executive; and (ii) Has completed a course, about implanting PPIDs, prescribed under a regulation or approved by the chief executive; and (iii) Is not a prohibited implanter.
Council	Rockhampton Regional Council

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Owner	As defined in <i>Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011</i> : Owner, of an animal, means: (a) Its registered owner; (b) A person who owns the animal, in the sense of it being the person's personal property; (c) A person who usually keeps the animal; including through an agent, employee or anyone else; or (d) If a person mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c) is a minor – a parent or guardian of the minor.
PPID	Prescribed permanent identification device as defined in the <i>Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008</i> , is a microchip or other electronic device that: (a) Is capable of being permanently implanted in a cat or dog; (b) Is designed to record information in a way that can be electronically retrieved; and (c) Complies with the requirements prescribed by regulation for the device.
Prescribed Period	Commences on the day a notice of impounding is given to a person, or if no notice is given to a person, on the day of the seizure and as defined in <i>Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011</i> : (a) If the animal is a horse, cow, registered cat, registered dog or other identifiable animal – 5 days; and (b) If the animal is an unregistered cat, unregistered dog or an animal which is not an identifiable animal – 3 days.
Region	Rockhampton Regional Area defined by the Local Government Areas of Queensland.
Responsible Person	As defined in <i>Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011</i> : Responsible person, for an animal, means: (a) The person, or the person's employee acting within the scope of the employment, who has immediate control or custody of the animal; (b) The parent or guardian of a minor who has immediate control or custody of the animal; or (c) The person who occupies the place at which the animal is usually kept, but does not include: (a) A person who occupies the place at which the animal is usually kept, if someone else who is an adult and lives at the place keeps the animal; or (b) A person who has the control or custody of or keeps the animal as an employee of someone else, if the person is acting within the scope of the employment.
The Act	<i>Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008</i>

5 Policy Statement

Council is committed to ensuring cats and dogs within the Region comply with microchipping and registration requirements under the Act.

Where possible, Council does not take a seized currently registered dog that also complies with section 14 of the Act directly to Council's Animal Management Centre if the owner/responsible person can collect promptly within the field. Seized unregistered dogs (including identifiable unregistered dogs) or unidentifiable animals are taken to the Council's Animal Management Centre where they are retained for the prescribed period. Council makes every effort to identify the owner/responsible person of the impounded animal prior to the expiration of the prescribed period.

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There may be times where an animal that does not comply with section 14 of the Act, is returned to the owner/responsible person in the field. In these cases, the owner of the animal is given a compliance notice giving 14 days to have the animal implanted with a PPID. If the animal is not implanted with a PPID after the 14 day period, further enforcement action is taken.

5.1 Implantation of a PPID

Dogs and cats must be implanted with a PPID under the Act.

Impounded animals must be scanned on arrival to Council's Animal Management Centre and rescanned prior to release to determine the presence of a PPID.

If no PPID is detected and the animal is being reclaimed by its owner/responsible person, the animal must be implanted with a PPID prior to release if the animal is over eight weeks of age.

The PPID may be implanted by an authorised implanter which may include a Council Local Law Officer or a veterinarian surgeon.

Council updates the PPID registry with the animal's ownership details at the time of implantation.

The owner/responsible person is then responsible for keeping the required details of the animal/owner up to date on the PPID register.

In these instances, the impound release fee as set in Council's Fees and Charges Schedule includes the cost of the PPID and implantation. It is mandatory that this fee, together with any other relevant cost-recovery fees are paid prior to the animal being reclaimed.

5.2 Dog Registration

Dogs over 12 weeks of age must be registered under the Act.

If an impounded dog over 12 weeks of age is unregistered and is being reclaimed by its owner/responsible person, the owner/responsible person must register the dog prior to release of the dog.

In these instances, the impound release fee as set in Council's Fees and Charges Schedule includes the cost of registration.

6 Review Timelines

This policy is reviewed when any of the following occur:

- (a) The related information is amended or replaced; or
- (b) Other circumstances as determined from time to time by the Council.

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7 Document Management

Sponsor	Chief Executive Officer
Business Owner	General Manager Community Services
Policy Owner	Manager Planning and Regulatory Services
Policy Quality Control	Legal and Governance



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