

	<p><b>Council Policy</b></p> <p><b>Barking Dog Complaints Handling Policy</b></p>	
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# Policy

## Policy Objectives

The objectives of this policy is to provide residents and staff with clear direction for resolving the nuisance caused by barking dogs

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## Policy Statement

Council recognises that dogs bark for natural reasons and that in some instances the noise from a barking dog can be considered a nuisance as defined under the Companion Animals Act 1998 (the Act).

In circumstances where the occupant(s) of an individual premises is affected by noise from a barking dog(s), the occupant(s) of that individual premises is to communicate directly with the owner of the dog(s) and seek a resolution to his or her concerns.

Where a satisfactory resolution is not achieved, then the occupant(s) of that individual premises affected by the noise from a barking dog should seek the assistance of the Community Justice Centre to mediate a resolution of the individuals concerns with the owner of the dog(s).

Council authorised officers will consider using its powers under the Companion Animals Act 1998 and issue a "Nuisance Dog Order" when at least two unrelated premises are affected by a barking dog(s) and sufficient evidence is provided to satisfy an officer that the barking of a dog(s) constitutes a nuisance as defined under the Act.

## Controlled Document Information

### Authorisation Details

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### Related Document Information, Standards & References

<b>Related Legislation:</b>	Companion Animals Act 1998	(Relationship/Context)
<b>Related Policies (Council &amp; Internal):</b>	(Policy Name & TRIM Document No.)	(Relationship/Context)
<b>Related Procedures, Guidelines, Forms, WHS Modules/PCD's, Risk Assessments, Work Method Statements:</b>	(Document Name & TRIM Document No.)	(Relationship/Context)
<b>Standards COP's &amp; Other References</b>	(Standard, COP or Other References)	(Relationship/Context)

### Definitions

Term / Abbreviation	Definition
CAA	Companion Animals Act 1998

### Version History

Version No	Date Changed	Modified By	Details and Comments
2	16/12/10	Steve Barry	Document updated to new template. No changes to policy content.
3	25/9/14	Stephen Barry	Document updated to new template. No changes to policy content.

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