



DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CEDUNA

DOGS & CATS BY-LAW 2013

BY-LAW NO. 4 OF 2013

A By-law to limit the number of dogs and cats kept on premises and for the management and control of dogs and cats in the Council area.

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PART 1 – PRELIMINARY**1. Title**

This By-law may be cited as the *Dogs and Cats By-law 2013* and is By-law No. 4 of the District Council of Ceduna.

2. Authorising law

This By-law is made under section 90(5) of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*, sections 238 and 246 of the Act, and sections 667(1), 9.XVI of the *Local Government Act 1934*.

3. Purpose

The objectives of this By-law are to control and manage dogs and cats in the Council area:

- 3.1. to reduce the incidence of environmental nuisance caused by dogs and cats; and
- 3.2. to promote responsible dog and cat ownership; and
- 3.3. to protect the convenience, comfort and safety of members of the public; and
- 3.4. for the good rule and government of the Council area.

4. Commencement, Revocation and Expiry

4.1. The following By-laws previously made by the Council are revoked from the day on which this By-law comes into operation¹:

4.1.1 By-Law No. 4 Dogs and Cats 2006.

4.2. This By-law will expire on 1 January 2021

Note-

1. Generally a By-law comes into operation 4 months after the day on which it is gazetted: section 249(5) of the Act.
2. Section 253 of the Act provides that the revocation of a By-law by another By-law that contains substantially the same provisions, does not affect certain resolutions such as those applying a By-law to a part or parts of the Council area.
3. Pursuant to section 251 of the Act, a By-law will expire on 1 January following the seventh anniversary of the gazettal of the By-law.

5. Application

- 5.1. This By-law operates subject to the Council's *Permits and Penalties By-law 2013*.
- 5.2. Subject to clauses 5.3 this By-law applies throughout the Council area.
- 5.3. Clauses 9.1, 10.1.1, 11.1.2, –of this By-law only apply in such part or parts of the Council area as the Council may, by resolution direct in accordance with section 246(3)(e) of the Act.

6. Interpretation

In this By-law, unless the contrary intention appears:

- 6.1. **Act** means the *Local Government Act 1999*;
- 6.2. **approved kennel establishment** means a building, structure or area approved by a relevant authority, pursuant to the *Development Act 1993* for the keeping of dogs on a temporary or permanent basis;
- 6.3. **approved cattery** means a building, structure or area approved by a relevant authority, pursuant to the *Development Act 1993* for the keeping of cats on a temporary or permanent basis;
- 6.4. **children's playground** means an enclosed area in which there is equipment or other installed devices for the purpose of children's play (or within 3 metres of such devices if there is no enclosed area);
- 6.5. **cat** means an animal of the species *felis catus*;
- 6.6. **Council** means District Council of Ceduna;
- 6.7. **dog** (except for in clause 7.1) has the same meaning as in the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*;
- 6.8. **effective control** means a person exercising effective control of a dog either:
 - 6.8.1 by means of a physical restraint; or
 - 6.8.2 by command, the dog being in close proximity to the person and the person being able to see the dog at all times;
- 6.9. **identified cat** means a cat identified in the manner set out in regulation 8 of the *Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2010*.
- 6.10. **keep** includes the provision of food or shelter;
- 6.11. **nuisance** means:
 - 6.11.1 unreasonably interfering with the peace, comfort or convenience of a person; or
 - 6.11.2 injurious to a person's real or personal property; or
 - 6.11.3 obnoxious, offensive or hazardous to health; or
 - 6.11.4 wandering onto land without the consent of the owner or occupier of the land.
- 6.12. **premises** includes land, whether used or occupied for domestic or non-domestic purposes, except an approved kennel establishment;
- 6.13. **public place** has the same meaning as that contained in the *Local Government Act 1999*;
- 6.14. **small dwelling** means a self-contained residence that is:

- 6.14.1 a residential flat building;
 - 6.14.2 contained in a separate strata unit;
 - 6.14.3 on an allotment less than 600 square metres in area; or
 - 6.14.4 without a secure yard of at least 100 square metres in area;
- 6.15. **working dog** means a dog used principally for droving or tending livestock.

Note-

Section 14 of the *Interpretation Act 1915* provides that an expression used in this By-law has, unless the contrary intention appears, the same meaning as in the Acts under which the By-laws was made.

PART 2 – LIMITS ON DOG AND CAT NUMBERS

7. Limits on Dog Numbers

- 7.1. Subject to clauses 7.3 and 7.5, a person must not, without the Council's permission keep:
- 7.1.1 in a township, more than one dog in a small dwelling;
 - 7.1.2 in a township, more than two dogs in premises other than a small dwelling;
 - 7.1.3 outside of a township, more than three dogs (other than working dogs);
- 7.2. For the purposes of clause 7.1, dog means a dog that is three (3) months of age or older or, a dog that has lost its juvenile teeth.
- 7.3. Clause 7.1 does not apply to:
- 7.3.1 approved kennel establishments operating in accordance with all required approvals and consents; or
 - 7.3.2 any business involving dogs provided that the business is registered in accordance with the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.
- 7.4. The Council may require that premises which are the subject of an application for permission to keep additional dogs, must be inspected by an authorised person for the purpose of assessing the suitability of the premises for housing dogs.
- 7.5. No dog is to be kept on any premises where, in the opinion of an authorised person, there is no secure or appropriate area where a dog may be effectively confined.

8. Limits on Cat Numbers

- 8.1. Subject to clause 8.2, a person must not, without the Council's permission keep in any premises:
- 8.1.1 more than 2 cats; or

- 8.1.2 a cat of or over the age of 3 months, or which has lost its juvenile teeth, unless the cat is an identified cat.
- 8.2. Clause 8.1 does not apply to approved catteries operating in accordance with all required approvals and consents.
- 8.3. The Council may require that premises which are the subject of an application for permission to keep additional cats, must be inspected by an authorised person for the purpose of assessing the suitability of the premises for housing cats.

PART 3 – DOG AND CAT CONTROLS

9. Dog Exercise Areas

- 9.1. A person may enter a public place or part of Local Government land to which the Council has determined this clause applies, for the purpose of exercising a dog under his or her effective control.
- 9.2. A person entering a dog exercise area designated by the Council must ensure that any dog under that person's control, charge or authority is under effective control at all times.

10. Dog on Leash Areas

- 10.1. A person must not, without the Council's permission, allow a dog under that person's control, charge or authority (except an accredited guide dog, hearing dog or disability dog that is required to remain off-lead in order to fulfil its functions) to be or remain:
- 10.1.1 on Local Government land or public place to which the Council has resolved that this subclause applies;
- 10.1.2 on any park or reserve during times when organised sport is being played; and/or
- 10.1.3 on any park or reserve during times when an community event is being held;

unless the dog is secured by a strong leash not exceeding 2 metres in length which is either tethered securely to a fixed object capable of securing the dog or held by a person capable of controlling the dog and preventing it from being a nuisance or a danger to other persons.

11. Dog Prohibited Areas

- 11.1. A person must not allow a dog under that person's control, charge or authority (except an accredited guide dog, hearing dog or disability dog) to enter or remain:
- 11.1.1 on any children's playground on Local Government land;
- 11.1.2 on any other Local Government land or public place to which the Council has determined that this subclause applies.

12. Dog Faeces

No person is to allow a dog under that person's control, charge or authority to be in a public place or on Local Government land unless that person has in their possession a bag or other suitable container for the collection and lawful disposal of any faeces that the dog may deposit (for the purpose of complying with their obligation under section 45A(6) of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*).

13. Cats not to be a Nuisance

An owner or occupier of premises is guilty of an offence if a cat (or cats) kept or allowed to remain on the premises causes a nuisance.

Note- Nuisance is defined under clause 6.11 of the by-law

PART 4 – ENFORCEMENT

14. Orders

14.1. If a person engages in conduct that is in contravention of this By-law, an authorised person may order that person:

14.1.1 if the conduct is still continuing – to stop the conduct; and

14.1.2 whether or not the conduct is still continuing – to take specified action to remedy the contravention.

14.2. A person must comply with an order under this clause.

14.3. If a person does not comply with an order, the authorised person may take action reasonably required to have the order carried out, and the Council may recover its costs of any action so taken from the person to whom the order was directed.

14.4. However, an authorised person may not use force against a person under this section.

Note-

For example, an authorised person may order a person to:

- cease keeping more than the permitted number of dogs on that person's premises; or
- remove a dog from a dog prohibited area.

This By-law was duly made and passed at a meeting of the District Council of Ceduna held on the 24th July 2013 by an absolute majority of the members for the time being constituting the Council, there being at least two thirds of the members present.



Geoffrey Moffatt
Chief Executive Officer