

## **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AS A DOG OWNER**

### **Control of your Dog**

Whenever your dog is outside the enclosed confines of your house yard, it must be on an adequate lead and under the effective control of a competent person.

### **Where you may take your Dog**

Dogs on leads may be exercised in public places at all times (*except for the prohibited places*) subject to the person in control of the dog cleaning up any fouling caused by the dog.

### **Where you may slip the lead**

You may release your dog from the lead for exercise purposes in the following places:

- Beaches under Council's control – except in those areas mentioned.
- Inside an area of the south western corner of South Kempsey park between the Tourist Information Centre and the tennis courts.

**The dog must be under effective control of a competent person.**

**Again the person controlling the dog must clean up any fouling caused by the dog and dispose of the collected material in appropriate bins.**

### **No Dogs at all**

Dogs are prohibited from Council operated Caravan Parks at Crescent Head, Hat Head, Stuarts Point and Grassy Head. They are also prohibited from sporting fields, school grounds, child care centres, all swimming pools and their precincts and from any public place which is a children's play area. Dogs are prohibited from within a radius of 10 metres of any apparatus in a public place, provided for the preparation and/or consumption of food.



### **Be careful on the beaches**

Dogs are prohibited from the following beaches:

- Inside an area north from Killick Creek, Crescent Head to the National Park boundary.
- Inside an area from Saltwater Creek on the Main Beach, South West Rocks, east to the "wrecks".
- Horseshoe Bay Beach, South West Rocks.
- Inside an area from Korogora Creek at Hat Head to Pedestrian Access No.6.
- Inside an area from the headland at Grassy Head, north to a point 250 metres past beach access point from the Day Visitor area of the Reserve.
- Inside an area from the Big Nobby Crescent Head to the Goolawah Beach vehicular access.

Regardless of the above, dogs on leads may be taken through a prohibited place for access to a permitted area by the shortest possible route.

### **Your dog must be REGISTERED**

All puppies and any dog sold or given away after 1 July 1999, must be microchipped and registered for life. Dogs already registered must be microchipped and registered for life within 3 years from 1 July 1999.

On-the-spot fines may be issued to the owners of unregistered dogs.

Application forms for registration are available at Council's Customer First Centre.

## Penalties

### Dogs menacing and attacking

Where proof of ownership and the offence of menacing or attacking are verified and the complainant wishes to support legal action, the matter will be reported to Council for consideration of such action.

Provisions exist to declare the dog dangerous and special requirements would then apply.

### On the Spot Penalties

Provision has been made under the Acts for Penalty Notices to be issued "On-the-Spot" for offences.

Penalties vary. Maximum penalties if applied by the Courts are higher than the "On-the-Spot" fine.

### Impounding

Where a dog is impounded, it shall not be released to the owner or agent until all fees owing to the Council are paid. Such fees are the authorised impounding fees and where a dog is found to be unregistered, the appropriate registration fee.

Should you wish to release any animal, it will be necessary to pay all the required fees at Council's Customer first Centre and make arrangements to meet a Ranger at the pound. You will need to take the receipt and release documents to get your dog out of the pound.



### Be Considerate

Dog owners have responsibilities both to their fellow citizens and their animal. An awareness of those responsibilities will help establish the harmonious co-existence between residents and animals to provide a nuisance-free environment for all residents.

As a dog owner, you are responsible for the care and welfare of your animal and its existence in the community.

Council is responsible for the implementation of the NSW Dog Act and Companion Animals Act and associated regulations. The Acts have been produced by the government to ensure that the harmonious co-existence between residents and animals is achieved.

Council's Rangers implement the requirements of the Act and Regulations.

The Rangers are available to advise you on the effective care and control of your dog. They know your responsibilities as an owner, particularly the legal aspects.

### For further information and advice on Your Responsibility as a Dog Owner

#### Contact:

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