
Registration of Restricted Breed and Declared Dangerous Dogs Policy



Council Policy

August 2025

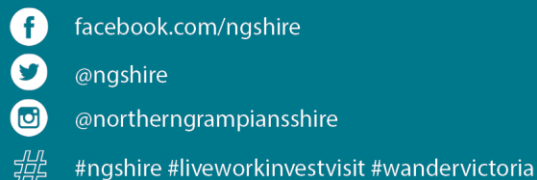


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Registration of Restricted Breed and Declared Dangerous Dogs Policy



Council Policy

Responsible director	Infrastructure and Environment
Responsible officer	Coordinator Environment & Community Protection
Functional area	Environment and Community Protection
Date adopted by Council	4 August 2025
Review date	August 2029

Purpose

The primary objective of this Policy is to provide for the safety and wellbeing of the shire's residents and visitors through the refusal to register restricted breed dogs and dangerous dogs.

Background

Council resolved at its Ordinary Meeting on 7/7/2005 to:

1. *Support the development of a Local Law for the purpose of restricting the registration of the breed of Pit Bull Terriers and Dangerous Dogs within the Municipality, and*
2. *Support the refusal to register dogs declared dangerous (other than guard dogs) including those deemed to be restricted breed dog whose importation into Australia is prohibited.*

Pursuant to Section 3(1) of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, a restricted breed dog is defined as any one of the following breeds:

- Japanese Tosa
- fila Brasileiro
- dogo Argentino
- Perro de Presa Canario (or Presa Canario)
- American Pit Bull Terrier (or Pit Bull Terrier)

Dogs may be declared dangerous by Council if the dog:

- Causes a serious injury to or kills a person or another animal.
- Is a declared menacing dog and its owner has received at least two infringement notices for offences of being outside the owner's premises not muzzled or controlled on a lead.
- Declared dangerous in another state or territory.

Council may make a discretionary directive not to register Restricted Breed Dogs or Declared Dangerous Dogs in its municipality.

Policy

This policy is a discretionary directive available to Council under the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, enabling Council to instruct Council officers not to register or renew the registration of a Restricted Breed Dogs or Declared Dangerous Dogs in this municipality. This will have the effect of banning these dogs within the municipality, as all dogs must be registered with Council (*Domestic Animals Act 1994*).

This policy will require the development of procedural documents to comply with legislative requirements. Implementation of this policy will enable Council officers to refuse to register the dogs mentioned and supply grounds for refusal of any appeal made to Council over the refusal to register these animals.

Council Plan Objective/Strategy

Objective: Enhance lifestyle and community

Legislation and Standards

Domestic Animals Act 1994 Part 2 Section 17.

Responsibilities

Responsible Director is Director Infrastructure & Environment.

Responsible Officer is Coordinator Environment & Community Protection / Manager Environment and Community Safety.

Stakeholders

Councillors, Local Laws Officers and Customer Support staff, members of the community.

Review

Assessment of this Policy will be undertaken every four years prior to the commencement of the annual animal registration period, and to align with the Council term to ensure it remains current with the Council's goals, processes, aims and requirements and as a means by which to reduce Council's exposure to risk. Triggers for an earlier assessment include legislative changes and introduction of new systems or procedures.

Communication and implementation

This policy and subsequent procedures will be conveyed to officers involved in the implementation by the Coordinator Environment & Community Protection. Training, as required, will be provided on the implementation of the policy and the procedures. The policy and procedures will be maintained in Council's Electronic Document Records Management System and communicated to staff as per Council's records management process.

References

Domestic Animals Act 1994 Part 2 Section 17.

Registration of Restricted Breed and Declared Dangerous Dogs Procedures

Charter of Human Rights compliance

It is considered that this policy does not impact on any human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights & Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Definitions

Policy: A formal statement by the organisation of its intentions and principles that establishes the framework for action. A policy does not have procedural content.

Council Policy: Policy generated by the Council's strategic direction and has the attributes of directly impacting on the public. Council policies are adopted by a resolution of Council.

Administration Policy: Policy that is about how the administration operates internally concerning only the administration and with no direct public impact. Administrative policies are established by the Chief Executive Officer and/or SLT.

Procedures: Procedures are rules and controls needed to implement a policy.

Policies themselves should not document procedural arrangements that are not related to decision making. This information should be laid out in a procedure which is referenced in the relevant policy document. Procedures and other guidelines are not required to be adopted by Council.

Review history

Date	Review details	Action
08 August 2017	Scheduled review to confirm policy aligns with current legislation.	Minor formatting changes only.
4 August 2025	Reviewed by Council at the August Council Meeting	Adopted by Council