

**FREE REGISTRATION FOR AGED PENSIONER'S DOGS AND GUIDE, HEARING
AND ASSISTANCE DOGS**

- Intent** To provide clear guidelines and assessment criteria for issuing free registration for dogs owned by aged pensioners (or other pension card holders who would otherwise be eligible for the aged pension) and for guide, hearing and assistance dogs.
- Scope** This policy shall apply to the assessment of all applications for free registration of dogs owned by aged pensioners (or other pension card holders that would otherwise be eligible for the aged pension), and for guide, hearing and assistance dogs.
- Definitions** Definitions as set out in *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*
<http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/A/AnimalManA08.pdf>.

PROVISIONS

General

All applications for free registration will be assessed by Council Officers. If approved, the free registration will be for a period of three (3) years.

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Proof the dog is owned and kept by an aged pensioner by provision of an aged pensioner card (or equivalent card of a person who would otherwise be eligible to hold an aged pension card);
- Presentation of a certificate from a veterinary surgeon or extract of microchip register, showing the dog is microchipped and the number (or if relevant, a signed veterinary surgeon's certificate for the dog stating that implanting it is likely to be a serious risk to the health of the dog¹);
- Provision of a certificate or statement from a veterinarian that the dog is desexed;
- Certificate or other written confirmation from the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, showing the dog is certified as a guide, hearing or assistance dog under *the Guide, Hearing and Assistance Dogs Act 2009*.

Any application not complying with the assessment criteria will be referred to the Manager Regulatory Services or Coordinator Local Laws Compliance for assessment and decision.

Approval

A Registration Notice will be issued for a three (3) year period for the dog. The next period of free registration will be 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2020 ("the registration period"). A registration tag will be issued to identify the dog as being registered for a three (3) year period. The animal details, including microchip number, animal number and tag number will be recorded in Council's record system.

A Renewal Notice will be issued to the owner at the end of the registration period. Upon receipt of the completed Renewal Notice, Council will issue a further registration tag to identify the dog as being registered for a further three (3) year period.

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This policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.

¹ Section 15(2)(a) of *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*.

General Manager Responsible for Review:

Planning & Environment

**ORIGINALLY ADOPTED: 24/02/2005
CURRENT ADOPTION: 12/04/2017
DUE FOR REVISION: 12/04/2021
REVOKED/SUPERSEDED:**



**John Andrejic
Chief Executive Officer**