

Dog Control Policy

1 Document Information

Version Date <i>(Draft or Council Meeting date)</i>	[22 May 2018]
Author	Senior Environmental Services Officer
Owner <i>(Relevant director)</i>	Director of Environmental Services
Status – <i>Draft, Approved, Adopted by Council, Superseded or Withdrawn</i>	Adopted by Council
Next Review Date	Within 12 months of Council being elected or when legislation changes
Minute number <i>(once adopted by Council)</i>	18/05/20

2 Summary

Council prohibits the presence of dogs in all children's play areas, food preparation areas, school grounds and child care centres; and prohibits the presence of unleashed dogs in public recreation areas (such as parks, sporting areas, public bathing areas - excluding Council declared off leash dog areas), shopping areas and wildlife protection areas within the Cabonne Council area.

3 Approvals

Title	Date Approved	Signature
Director of Environmental Services		

4 History

Minute No.	Summary of Changes	New Version Date
01/08/31-5	Originally adopted as Dog Control – Canowindra Parks and Oval Policy.	20 August 2001
10/11/11	Readopted at November Council meeting in this name in error despite name change in March.	15 November 2010
10/03/19	Reviewed and re-named from “Dog Control – Canowindra Parks and Oval Policy” to “Dog Control – Restricted Areas Policy” and updated to represent current legislation and extended to all of Cabonne. Readopted by Council	15 March 2010
13/07/19	Renamed “Dog Control Policy”; reviewed for compliance with Companion Animals Legislation updates. Restrictions at Canowindra removed.	16 July 2013
13/09/30	Readopted as per s165(4)	17 September 2013

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14/04/9	Updated pursuant to Council resolving to establish an off leash dog area (13/11/37-ESS53/13 refers)	15 April 2014
18/05/20	Readopted as per s165(4)	22 May 2018

5 Reason

This policy demonstrates Council's commitment to uphold the requirements of the Companion Animals Act 1998.

In accordance with Part 3, Section 14 of the Act, dogs are prohibited in the following public areas:

1. Within 10m of any children's play area
2. Within 10m of any food preparation/consumption area (unless it is a public thoroughfare i.e. road, footpath or pathway)
3. School grounds
4. Child care centres
5. Any recreation area, public bathing area, shopping area or wildlife protection area where dogs have been prohibited by Council and signage is displayed

In accordance with Part 3, Section 13 (6) of the Act, there must at all times be at least 1 public place in the area of a local authority that is an off-leash area.

6 Scope

This policy applies at all times to:

1. Any resident of Cabonne or persons visiting the Cabonne Council area;
2. Dog owners, carers or persons responsible for the control of a dog at any time;

All children's play areas, food preparation/consumption areas, school grounds, child care centres, recreation areas (including parks, sporting, public bathing), shopping and wildlife protection areas in each of the townships in the Cabonne Council area.

Exemptions:

1. A dog is not prohibited in a place that is a food preparation/consumption area if the place is a public thoroughfare (such as a road, footpath or pathway).
2. A dog is not prohibited in a school ground or child care centre if it is there with the permission of the person controlling the school ground or child care centre.
3. A dog is not prohibited in a place within a shopping area if it is there:
 - a) in a vehicle that is secured in such a way as to prevent the dog from escaping from it, or
 - b) with the permission of the person controlling the place, or
 - c) for the purpose of being taken to or from a pet shop, the premises of a veterinary practitioner or a similar establishment.
4. A dog is not prohibited in any off-leash areas declared by Council.
5. This policy does not apply to a dog being exhibited for show purposes, a police dog, a corrective services dog or a dog which is an assistance animal been used bona fide by a person with disability to assist the person.

Further, a dog that is in a public place must be under the effective control of some competent person by means of an adequate chain, leash or cord that is attached to the dog and that is being held by (or secured to) the person.

7 Associated Legislation

Companion Animals Act 1998

8 Definitions

The Act – Companion Animals Act 1998

9 Responsibilities

9.1 General Manager

The General Manager is responsible for the overall control and implementation of the policy

9.2 Directors and Managers

To ensure that any new or existing public areas as specified in the policy display the appropriate signage advising on the restriction of dogs

9.3 Supervisors

To ensure that the Ranger has the training, support and equipment required to carry out inspections and enforcement of this policy

9.4 Ranger

The Ranger is responsible for the enforcement of this policy including educating the public on the details of this policy and the Act

9.5 General Public

The general public must act in accordance with this policy and any Orders posted at all times

10 Related Documents

Document Name	Document Location
Companion Animals Management Plan	In draft

11 Policy Statement

Council prohibits the presence of dogs (unless exempted under the Act) in all children's play areas, food preparation/consumption areas, school grounds, child care centres within the Cabonne Council area whether leashed or otherwise and erect appropriate signage at all entrances to these areas.

Council prohibits the presence of unleashed dogs in public recreation areas such as parks, sporting areas, public bathing areas, shopping areas or wildlife protection areas (unless exempted under the Act), and ensure appropriate signage is placed at the entrance to these areas.

Council will:

1. promote declared off-leash dog areas in Cabonne
2. erect appropriate signage to indicate off-leash dog areas, and
3. educate the public on the correct use of these areas.