



Dog Management (After Hours) Policy

Responsible Officer	Manager, Development
Relevant Delegations	Compliance Officer, Works Department
Legislation and References	Local Government Act 1999 Dog and Cat Management Act 1995

1 Overview

This policy will assist in managing community expectations whilst clearly defining Council's role in the management of dog-related issues and incidents outside of Council's business hours.

2 Procedure

Council will not attend any callouts to locate, seize, detain, impound, or release any dogs after hours, unless one of the following circumstances exist:

- the dog is wandering at large and exhibiting signs of menacing aggression towards people; or
- the dog has been involved in a dog attack, and is still wandering at large; or
- the dog has been involved in a dog harassment incident, and is still wandering at large.

In instances where a member of the public has detained a stray dog, Council staff may request the dog registration number be provided, enabling Council staff to contact the owner and request the owner collect the dog from its current location.

Council staff will not attend the dog pound to release impounded dogs after hours, unless one of the following circumstances exist:

- The pound is at capacity and additional pen space is required; or
- The dog belongs to a person living outside of the Council area, who at the time of seizure, was visiting the region and is planning to leave before business hours; or
- The keeping of the dog in the pound would be detrimental to the physical health of the dog; or
- The caretaker for the Transfer Station is onsite, and is able to release the dog during the Transfer Station's regular hours of operation.

Instances involving either a dog attack, dog harassment, or a dog exhibiting signs of menacing aggression will require a minimum of two Council staff to attend the last known location of the dog. If the incident that gave rise to the callout involved more than two dogs, Council staff should maintain a person/dog ratio of 1:1. Any SA Police Officers in attendance of the incident may substitute Council staff as part of that ratio.

File Path	Last review	Next review	Page
L:\1. Organisational Documents\Council Policies\Council Adopted Policies\Dog Management (After Hours) Policy 2023.Docx	September 2023	September 2028	Page 1 of 2



Dog Management (After Hours) Policy

Prior to attending the callout, Council staff must record the following information:

- Name, address, and contact number of person making the report
- Description of the offending dog
- Specifics of the incident
- Approximate time of the incident
- Last known location of the dog

Depending on whether the dog is located and deemed wandering at large at the time of arrival, Council staff will:

- Make efforts to seize, detain, and impound the dog; or
- Spend a minimum of 15 minutes attempting to locate the dog in the surrounding area.

Following the seizure and impounding, or failure to locate the reported dog, the callout will be logged and a callout charge can be claimed. All information relating to the callout will be forwarded to the relevant authorised officer during business hours for further investigation.

3 Review

This policy will be reviewed every five years, or as required.

The policy is available on Council's website www.claregilbertvalleys.sa.gov.au

4 References

Local Government Act 1999
Dog and Cat Management Act 1995

5 Document History

Approved by	Issue Date	Minute Reference – Details of Review
CGVC	20/05/19	Adopted by Council 132-19
CGVC	18/10/23	Reviewed by Council

File Path	Last review	Next review	Page
L:\1. Organisational Documents\Council Policies\Council Adopted Policies\Dog Management (After Hours) Policy 2023.Docx	September 2023	September 2028	Page 2 of 2