

Version Control and Objective ID	Version No: 1.0	Objective ID:
Approved by Council on		
Date of Review		

1. Statement

Council is committed to providing an effective animal management service to residents and visitors alike.

2. Purpose and Principles

This policy guides Council's decision making based on principles of community safety, minimising nuisance and responsibly managing animals in our care.

The following principles underpin Council's commitment to effective animal management:

- Recognition that animals are an important part of many families;
- Acknowledgement that community safety is paramount, and that the animal management service plays an important role in minimising danger caused by pet animals;
- Promotion of the importance of responsible pet ownership;
- Responsibly managing the City's unclaimed impounded animals;
- Improvement to the amenity of residential areas through nuisance management that is in the public interest; and
- Provision of a limited after-hours animal management service;

3. Strategic Plan Links

This policy relates to:

- Caring for the Community;
- Caring for the Environment; and
- Listening, Leading and Financial Management.

4. Regulatory Authority

The main legislative provisions that apply to the management of animals in Ipswich are as follows:

- Local Government Act 2009;
- Ipswich City Council's Local Law No. 6 (Animal Management) 2013;
- Ipswich Planning Scheme;
- Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008;
- Animal Care and Protection Act 2001.

5. Scope

This policy applies to all councillors, council staff, contractors, and others that act on Council's behalf to ensure they work in accordance with the policy principles and in accordance with the relevant legislation.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

- The Chief Executive Officer approves and issues this Policy to all staff.
- All staff are responsible for ensuring their own compliance with this Policy.

7. Key Stakeholders

The following Council Departments and Branches will be consulted during the review process:

- Regulatory Services Branch - Planning and Regulatory Services Department

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy is to be reviewed no less than every two (2) years to ensure that there are no significant changes in legislation or other circumstances which may affect its effectiveness and validity.

The success and effectiveness of the policy will be measured by:

- Regular reporting on the operational functions that contribute to the achievement of the policy objectives.
- The delivery of an animal management service that is consistent with statutory requirements;
- Facilities, resources and equipment that enables the achievement of the policy objectives;
- Proactive marketing and promotional activities that are consistent with the policy objectives.

9. Definitions

The following are the definitions of key terms in this Policy:

Council means the Ipswich City Council.

Councillor means a duly elected person of the Ipswich City Council.

Public Interest means the interests of the community as a whole or a group within the community or individuals.

Risk means a potential impact that may cause physical, financial, environmental or other harm resulting in loss of value of goods, loss of life or loss of amenity.

10. Policy Owner

The General Manager- Planning and Regulatory Services Department is the policy owner and the Regulatory Services Manager is responsible for authoring and reviewing this policy.