Dog and Cat Ownership Responsibilities
Every effort has been made to ensure that the information supplied in this publication is correct at the time of printing. Please notify changes or omissions to the Information Officer on 8372 8812. Email: mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

September 17

Enquires to: 8372 8876

City of Mitcham – Team Leader Compliance
131 Belair Road
Torrens Park SA 5062

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<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Forms – included - Barking Dog Sheet
Forms are available on the City of Mitcham Website – www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

- Application for Dog Registration
- Application for Cat Registration
- Application for Additional Dogs and Cats

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DOGS

DOG OWNERSHIP

Owning a dog can be a wonderful, fulfilling experience for the whole family. Dogs can be great companions and lots of fun. However, owning a dog brings with it a responsibility not only to feed, care and exercise your dog, but to also ensure your dog is well behaved and controlled.

As stated in the Dog and Cat Management Act, 1995, as a dog owner you are required to:
- Register your dog with the Council
- Ensure your dog is unable to escape from your yard
- Take responsibility for any damage that your dog causes
- Ensure your dog is physically restrained by a cord, chain or leash not exceeding two metres in length

Person Legally Responsible for a dog

Either the actual owner of the dog or a person responsible for the control of the dog can be charged with various offences under the Dog and Cat Management Act. For example, if you are looking after a dog for more than two weeks you may be responsible for registering the dog, or, if you are simply walking the dog and the dog attacks someone, you could be held legally liable and may have to pay any associated damages.

Registration

Councils keep registers of dogs within their area. It is important to keep this register up to date to assist Animal Management Officers to, for example, locate owners of lost dogs. It is compulsory to register your dog with the Council by the age of three (3) months. Your dog must wear a collar and registration disc securely attached to it at all times. New owners have fourteen days to register a dog after which they can be fined if the dog remains unregistered.

It is a defence to any charge if it can be proved that the dog has not been wearing a collar because of a medical condition.

Boarding kennels will not have to register dogs, but must keep records of dogs held. These records must be made available to the Council upon request.

Breeding or training kennels and businesses do not have to register individual dogs, but must pay a total amount to the Council to cover all dogs kept.

Current Registration Fees

The below table outlines the new registration fees set by Council effective 1 July 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Ordinary</th>
<th>Concession</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard – Desexed, Micro-chipped</td>
<td>$42.50</td>
<td>$21.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard – Desexed Micro-chipped, Trained</td>
<td>$42.50</td>
<td>$21.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Standard</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
<td>$42.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Standard – Trained</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
<td>$42.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Standard – Micro-chipped</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
<td>$42.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Standard – Micro-chipped, Trained</td>
<td>$78.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Standard – Desexed</td>
<td>$61.00</td>
<td>$30.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non Standard – Desexed, Trained</td>
<td>$52.50</td>
<td>$26.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working Dog or SAGRCB Greyhound Dogs</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance Dogs</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Registration fee</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Without special approval no more than two (2) dogs over the age of three (3) months are permitted to be kept at any property within the Council.

Registered dog owners must inform Council within 14 days if your:
- dog moves to different premises
- dog dies, or is missing for more than 72 hours
- ownership of the dog is transferred to another person

Common Offences

The Dog and Cat Management Act sets out a number of offences for which the owner or person responsible for the control of a dog can be fined. These include dogs which:
- Wander at large ($210)
- Attack, harass, chase etc. a person or animal ($315)
- Attack a person lawfully entering premises ($315)
- Chase a vehicle ($315)
- *Being in a school, kindergarten or child care centre without permission ($315)
- *Being in a shop (but not a pet shop, veterinary office or dog grooming parlour) or a place where food and drink is sold or prepared ($315)
- Defecate in a public place (unless the person with control removes the faeces immediately) ($210)

*These offences do not apply to Guide or Hearing Dogs.
Barking Dogs
The barking of dogs is one of the most common complaints. Whilst barking is a dog’s natural way of communicating, and can be protection for the home owner, it is an offence if the dog creates a noise by barking (or anything else) which persistently occurs or continues to such a degree that it unreasonably interferes with the peace, comfort, or convenience of a person. Dog owners are responsible for making sure that their dog’s barking does not become a problem. Some people are very sensitive to noise, and unfortunately, if a complaint is made, regardless of how trivial it may seem to you, it is the responsibility of the Animal Management Officer to act.

Penalties
If a complaint is received an Animal Management Officer may issue a control order or may decide to issue a fine called an expiation notice or, if the offence is more serious or repeated you may be summonsed to appear in court to answer to a criminal charge. A Court may, instead of or in addition to any fine, make other orders including that the dog be destroyed, disposed of or controlled in a specified manner. The Court may also order the person not to have another dog, or order payment as compensation for any injury, damage, or loss suffered as a result of any action of the dog.

Dogs ‘Wandering at Large’
It is an offence for a dog to be ‘wandering at large’ and the owner can be fined. A dog is considered to be ‘wandering at large’ if it is in a public place (other than a park) or a private place without the consent of the occupier and no one is exercising effective control over the dog, by means of a physical restraint or the dog is in a park and no person is exercising effective control of the dog either by:
Physical restraint, the dog is held or tethered on a leash, chain or cord no longer than two (2) metres, or the person controlling the dog can see it and is close enough to give it effective commands that it will obey, or the dog is contained in a vehicle or other structure.
Dogs being used for tending stock or for other organised events are not considered to be wandering at large. Mitcham Council has approved specific parks and reserves within its boundaries as being either Dog Free areas or Dog on Leash areas. This was introduced to facilitate a safer environment for the community from dogs not under effective control.

Dedicated Dog Park
CC Hood Reserve Dedicated Dog Park is located at the northern portion of CC Hood Reserve, is fully enclosed by a 1.5 metre fence to allow dogs to be exercised freely off the leash in a safe environment under effective control.

Dog Free areas (no dogs allowed at any time)
- The enclosed playground area of Apex Park Reserve
- The enclosed children’s playground area of Bailey Reserve
- The fenced soccer pitch of Bailey Reserve
- Barrans Reserve
- The enclosed playground area of Blackwood Hill Oval
- Crozier Reserve
- Denman Reserve
- Goode Reserve
- Kingswood Oval
- Portland Place
- The enclosed playground area of Price Memorial Oval

Dog on Leash areas
- The portion of Apex Park Reserve north of Watahuna Avenue
- The enclosed portions of Avenue Road Reserve comprising fitness equipment and the playground
- The portion of Bailey Reserve excluding the fenced soccer pitch at all times when organised sports and official training are in progress
- Burbank Reserve
- CC Hood Reserve except during the following times:
  - Daily from 1 April to 31 October (inclusive) between 7am to 9 am and 5 pm to 8 pm;
  - Daily from 1 November to 30 March (inclusive) between 7am to 9am - 6:30pm to 9.30 pm
- Donald Reserve
- Haddington Reserve
- Hillview Penang Reserve
- Keith W Pearson Reserve
- Mitcham Reserve
- Naomi Reserve
- Nunyara Reserve (Thompson Playground)
- Price Memorial Oval between the hours of 11 am and 4 pm daily and otherwise sporting activities are being undertaken
- Riverside Drive Reserve
- Strathcona Reserve
- Waverly Street Reserve
Dog on Leash within 10 metres of an unfenced playground and/or fitness equipment

- Archibald Reserve
- Batchelor Reserve
- Balham Reserve
- Thurles Reserve
- Alexander Ross Reserve
- Birksgate Reserve
- Delwood Reserve
- Donnybrook Reserve
- Francis Reserve
- Godden Reserve
- Hewett Sports Ground
- Highfield Reserve
- Jackson Reserve
- Karinya Reserve
- Kegworth Reserve
- Kent Reserve
- Manson Oval
- Marion Reserve
- Mead Crescent Reserve
- McElligotts Quarry
- Meadowbank Reserve
- Monalta Quarry
- Netherby Reserve
- Norman Reserve
- Ossie Goldsworthy Reserve
- Pasadena Reserve
- Piazza Reserve
- Rozelle Reserve
- Sherwood Reserve
- Suffolk Reserve
- Sierra Nevada Reserve
- Thiselton Reserve
- Whicker Reserve
- Woodlake Reserve
- Waite Reserve

Dog Attacks
As a member of the public you have the right to use public land without fear of being attacked or harassed by any dog. Any person may injure or destroy a dog if that action is reasonable and necessary to protect life or property. This action should only be considered in the most extreme of circumstances or it may be treated as a criminal offence if an animal is killed or injured without just cause. Any dog attack on a person or animal should be reported to the Council as soon as possible so there can be an investigation and, if appropriate, criminal charges laid. If you have been attacked you may be entitled to claim damages and costs incurred as a result of the attack. In this event it is suggested you seek legal advice.

Dog Management Officers
A Council must appoint a Dog Management Officer to handle all matters relating to dogs. The Dog Management Officer must carry and produce an identification card if requested. Officers have the power to:

- Require a person to produce a dog, or any certificate or records for inspection
- Require a person they suspect has committed or is about to commit an offence to give their full name and address, and produce identification
- Seize and detain dogs under certain circumstances

Officers may also enter and inspect (and use such force as is reasonably necessary to gain entry) any place or vehicle, and a warrant may be obtained if permission is denied.

In urgent circumstances a Dog Management Officer can take any steps he/she believes, on reasonable grounds, are necessary. It is an offence to hinder, obstruct, abuse or refuse to comply with a requirement of a Dog Management Officer. Officers may also cross Council boundaries to carry out various duties.

Lost or Seized Dogs
A Dog Management Officer may seize and detain a dog if it is wandering at large, has attacked any person or animal, is unduly dangerous, or if the Officer believes it is necessary in the best interest of public safety. The dog may either be returned to the owner (traceable through the registration disc) or kept in a Council pound. It is in the dog’s best interest that it be reunited with its owner as soon as possible.

The Dog Management Officer also has the power to injure or destroy a dog under certain circumstances. If the dog is kept in the pound, notice of this must be displayed in public at a Council Office or, in areas where there is no Council Office, the Police Station for at least 72 hours, and the owner must be informed.

If the dog is seized to stop it attacking or because it is dangerous, the Council must complete a notice of intention to make an order in relation to the dog, and if no orders are made within seven days, the dog must be returned to the owner or person responsible for the dog.

A dog will only be returned if satisfactory evidence of ownership or control of the dog is provided, and any costs of seizure and detention are paid. If the dog is unregistered, it may be necessary to register the dog before it will be released. If a person has a dispute with the Council, he or she may apply to the Courts for the release of the dog.

Destruction and Control Orders
Councils have been given the power to make orders for the destruction or control of dogs. This is so complaints and disputes concerning dog behaviour may be dealt with at a local level, without the need to take Court action in all instances. A Destruction Order must give at least one month’s notice of the date the dog is to be destroyed, and may specify where the dog is to be kept until destroyed. There are a number of Control Orders the Council may make, they are:
These orders may make directions such as: the dog is to be kept indoors or enclosed or muzzled; that warning signs be displayed; or that steps be taken to stop any nuisance behaviour. The Council must give seven (7) days written notice of any orders and must allow the owner the chance to have a say on the matter.

If no resolution is agreed, the owner may apply to the Courts to have the order removed. If a person does not comply with any order, a Dog Management Officer may take any reasonable steps to make sure the order is carried out, and the owner can be billed for any expenses. The owner can also face a criminal charge for not complying with an order.

**Destruction or Disposal of Seized Dogs** If a dog, found wandering at large, is not claimed within the 72 hour notice period, the dog may be destroyed, given away or sold. The dog can also be destroyed, sold or given away if the owner is notified but refuses to take the dog, or if any money owing is not paid within seven (7) days. Any proceeds from the sale may be kept by the pound or the Council. A dog may be destroyed by the pound if it is severely sick, infectious or injured. This should be authorised by a Veterinary Surgeon or Stock Inspector, but if the circumstances are urgent the dog may be destroyed without this authority. If this occurs, every effort must be made to notify the dog owner, who is then responsible for any costs associated.

**Dogs on Farm Land**
If a dog, unaccompanied by a person, is found in a paddock or other place where animals are being farmed, it can be injured or destroyed.
Poison baits may also be laid to protect farmed animals, but special rules relate to baiting and it is suggested legal advice be obtained before this action is taken.
Any person who injures or destroys a dog in these circumstances must, as soon as possible, inform the Police and Council and try to contact the owner of the dog.

**Special Breeds of Dogs**
Special requirements are designed for what are called prescribed breeds of dogs. These are American Pit Bull Terriers, Fila Braziliero, Japanese Tosa, Dogo Argentina and Presa Canario.
Any person who gives away or sells, or advertises to sell or give away such a dog is guilty of an offence under the Dog and Cat Management Act.
Prescribed breeds must wear a muzzle and be physically restrained by a cord, chain or leash not more than two (2) metres in length, while not effectively confined to premises of which that person is the occupier. The dog must be desexed.

**American Pit Bull Terrier**
**Fila Braziliero**
**Japanese Tosa**
**Dogo Argentina**
**Pres Canario**

**BY-LAW NO. 5 – DOGS**
*By-law made under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 and the Local Government Act 1999*
To limit the number of dogs kept on premises, and to provide for the control and management of dogs in the Council’s area.

1. **Definitions** In this by-law:
   - 1.1 “Approved Kennel Establishment” means a building, structure, premises or area approved by the relevant authority pursuant to the Development Act 1993 for the keeping of dogs on a temporary or permanent basis;
   - 1.2 “Local Government Land” means land owned by the Council or under the Council’s care, control and management;
   - 1.3 “Small Dwelling” means the premises of a self contained dwelling either:
     - 1.3.1 commonly known as a flat, serviced flat, home unit or the like; or
     - 1.3.2 which is contained in a separate strata title or community title;

2. **Limit on Dog Numbers**
   - 2.1 A person must not, without the Council’s permission, keep:
     - 2.1.1 in a Small Dwelling, more than one dog; and
     - 2.1.2 on premises other than a Small Dwelling, more than two dogs.

3. **Approved Kennel Establishments**
   - 3.1 The limits set out in subparagraph 2.1 of this by-law do not apply to an Approved Kennel Establishment provided:
     - 3.1.1 it is operating in accordance with all required approvals and consents; and
     - 3.1.2 any business involving the dogs is registered in accordance with the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.

4. **Dog Free Areas**
   - A person must not without the Council’s permission, on Local Government Land to which this paragraph applies cause, suffer or permit any dog under that person’s control, charge or authority, to be or remain in that place.

5. **Dogs on Leashes**
   - A person must not without the Council’s permission on Local Government Land to which this paragraph applies cause, suffer or permit any dog under that person’s control, charge or authority, to be or remain in that place unless such dog is restrained by a strong leash not exceeding two metres in length and either tethered securely to a fixed object or held by a person capable of controlling the dog and preventing it from being a nuisance or danger to other persons.

6. **Dog Exercise Areas**
   - 6.1 A person must not enter any part of Local Government Land to exercise a dog under that person’s control except on Local Government Land to which this paragraph applies.
   - 6.2 Where a person enters upon any such part of Local Government Land for the purpose of exercising a dog under that person’s control, that person must ensure that the dog or dogs remain under effective control by command, the dog being in close proximity to the person and the person being able to see the dog at all times while on that land.

7. **Application of Paragraphs**
   - 7.1 Paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of this by-law shall apply only in such portion or portions of the area as the Council may by resolution direct (in accordance with Section 246(3)(e) of the Local Government Act 1999).
   - The foregoing by-law was duly made and passed at a special meeting of the Council of the City of Mitcham held on the 11th day of August 2015 by an absolute majority of the members for the time being constituting the Council, there being at least two thirds of the members present.
CATS
The City of Mitcham Cat By-law became operational on 1 August 2010
The aim of the By-law is to limit the number of cats that can be kept on premises and to provide for the control and management of cats within the Council area.
This will be achieved by:
- A cat over the aged of 3 mths must be registered at an address to an owner over the aged of 16.
- Annual Registration fees will apply.
- Each cat must have a microchip for identification purposes.
- Only two cats may be kept at an address without Council approval unless conditions outlined in the By-law are met.
Council is committed to encouraging responsible cat ownership and working with cat owners and their neighbours to amicably resolve issues that may arise.
If issues are not able to be resolved penalties can be applied for non compliance. These include:
**Limit on cat numbers**
A person must not on any premises, without the Council's permission, keep more than two cats over three months in age unless they meet all the conditions stated in By-law No.6 Cats section 4.2 (there are no insanitary conditions, the cats are not causing a nuisance and each cat is desexed). Maximum penalty $320, expiation fee $80, continuing offence penalty for each 14 days the offence continues $50.
**Cats must be registered**
If a cat over three months in age is unregistered, any person who owns or is responsible for the control of the cat is guilty of an offence. Maximum penalty $320, expiation fee $80, continuing offence penalty for each 14 days that the offence continues $50.
**Cat Registration Fees**
The table below outlines the registration fees set by Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non Standard – Micro-chipped only</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard – Micro-chipped and de-sexed</td>
<td>$28.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Standard – Pensioner concession, Micro-chipped only</td>
<td>$42.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard – Pensioner concession, Micro-chipped and de-sexed</td>
<td>$14.15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Non Compliance with requirements of a notice issued under By-law No. 6 Cats section 5 – Notice to Remedy**
Any person to whom a notice is given pursuant to this By-law must comply with the requirements of the notice. Maximum penalty $400, expiation fee $100, continuing offence penalty for each 14 days the offence continues $50.

**BY LAW No 6 CATS CITY OF MITCHAM**
By-law made under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 and the Local Government Act 1999
To limit the number of cats that can be kept on premises and to provide for the control and management of cats within the Council’s area.

1. **Definitions**
1.1. In this by-law -
1.1.1. “Approved Kennel Establishment” means a building, structure, premises or area approved by the relevant authority pursuant to the Development Act 1993 for the keeping of cats on a temporary or permanent basis.
1.1.2 “Cat” has the same meaning as in the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.
1.1.3 “Keep” includes the provision of food or shelter.
1.1.4 “Premises” includes land and a part of any premises or land whether used or occupied for domestic or non-domestic purposes except on Approved Kennel Establishments;

2. **Registration of Cats**
2.1 A person must not keep a Cat over 3 months in age in the Council’s area for more than 14 days unless the Cat is registered in accordance with this by-law.
2.2 An application for registration of a Cat over 3 months in age must:
2.2.1 be made to the Council in the manner, the form (if any) and accompanied by the fee (if any) as the Council may prescribe by resolution; and
2.2.2 nominate a person of or over sixteen (16) years of age who consents to the Cat being registered in his or her name; and
2.2.3 nominate Premises at which the Cat will be kept.
2.3 Registration under this by-law remains in force until 30 June next ensuing after registration was granted and may be renewed from time to time for further periods of twelve (12) months.

3. **Identification of Cats**
A person must not without the Council’s permission keep a Cat over 3 months in age on any Premises unless the Cat is identified by means of having a microchip implanted in its body containing information that may be used to obtain the current address or telephone number of the owner or other person entitled to possession of the Cat.
4. Limit on Cat Numbers
4.1 A person must not on any Premises, without the Council’s permission, keep more than two (2) Cats over 3 months in age.
4.2 The limit in subparagraph 4.1 of this by-law does not apply:
   4.2.1 to those Cats being kept on Premises when this by-law comes into effect however the limit does apply if the number of Cats kept on those Premises increases after that time; or
   4.2.2 to an Approved Kennel Establishment; or
   4.2.3 where –
   4.2.3.1 the Council is satisfied that no insanitary condition is being caused by Cats being kept on the Premises; and
   4.2.3.2 the Council is satisfied that no nuisance is being caused to any neighbour by reason of odour from cat urine or by reason of any of the Cats wandering from the Premises; and
   4.2.3.3 all the Cats over the age of 3 months (or such later age as is considered appropriate and advised in writing by a veterinary surgeon) kept on the Premises are desexed.

5. Notice to remedy
5.1 If the Council is satisfied that any Cat kept or allowed to remain on any Premises is or is likely to become a nuisance or injurious to health, the Council may by notice in writing require the owner or occupier of those Premises, within the time stated in the notice, to take such measures as the Council considers necessary to prevent the Cat from being or continuing to be a nuisance or injurious to health;
5.2 Any person to whom a notice is given pursuant to this by-law must comply with the requirements of the notice;
5.3 If any person to whom a notice is given pursuant to this by-law fails to comply with the requirements of the notice, the Council may carry out the requirements of the notice and recover its costs in doing so from the person who failed to comply with the notice.

CAT OWNERSHIP
Owning a cat can be a wonderful and fulfilling experience for the whole family. Cats are excellent companion animals, being affectionate, intelligent, clean and easy to handle. Cats can live for 16 years or longer and a commitment to responsible cat ownership can be of benefit not only to you and your cat, but also to the community.

Medical research in Australia has found that pet owners have a lower risk of heart attack, having lower cholesterol, lower blood pressure, and lower triglyceride fats in their blood than non pet owners.

If you wish to obtain a pure-bred cat contact the Petcare Information and Advisory Service Australia Pty Ltd in your state and use the SELECTACAT program to decide the type of cat best suited to your household. To obtain a pure-bred kitten contact the cat breeders association in your state. Alternatively, animal welfare societies will have healthy kittens, as well as older cats requiring new homes. Owning a cat brings with it many responsibilities. Not only will you have to feed and care for the cat, but prevent it from producing unwanted kittens and from annoying neighbours. By being a responsible cat owner you are providing your cat with the best opportunity for a long, healthy and happy life.

Bringing Your Cat Home –
Whether your cat is a stray or a purebred it still requires the same care and attention. Before bringing your new cat home prepare its sleeping area. Your cat needs a warm, secure place to sleep. Cat beds and baskets are available commercially or a cardboard box arranged with an entrance hole and a blanket is equally suitable.

When you bring your cat or kitten home make sure the house is quiet and allow it to settle in and explore without too much interference. It is advisable to keep your new cat or kitten confined to the house for the first few weeks. Once your cat or kitten has settled in to its new home it should be familiarised with all the normal household noises and activities and introduced to visitors to ensure that it becomes confident and well socialised. Other pets should be introduced to the new arrival slowly and under close supervision.

Cats are naturally playful and will appreciate a few simple toys.

Dental Hygiene - Clean teeth are important for healthy gums and fresh breath. Some cats’ teeth need more attention than others. Ask your veterinarian for the best approach for your cat. It may be a regular check up and cleaning or feeding raw chicken wings or necks.

Health Care - When you purchase your cat ask for its vaccination certificate which will be signed by a veterinarian. If your cat or kitten has no previous vaccinations, or if you are unsure whether it has been vaccinated, you should take it to your local veterinarian to receive a health check and vaccinations for Feline Enteritis, Cat Flu and Feline Leukaemia Virus. Kittens require the first vaccinations between 6-9 weeks with the second at 12-16 weeks old. All cats require a ‘booster’ vaccination every 12 months.

Cats and kittens need to be wormed regularly to control roundworms, hookworms, and tapeworms which live in the intestine. This is easily done by using one of the many available preparations either as tablets, liquids, or pastes. Cats should be prevented from chewing plants as many common garden or indoor plants are poisonous. Aspirin and paracetamol are also poisonous to cats. Consult your veterinarian if you are concerned.

Neighbourhood Cat Problems - Community concerns about cats, both owned (‘pet’ or domestic cats) and unowned (stray or feral) stems from a number of factors.
Public Nuisance - Straying or wandering cats may cause a number of nuisance problems. These include property damage, pollution noise, odour, harassment of other pets and annoyance via intrusion.

Health Nuisance - Stray or wandering cats have been implicated in a number of health issues. There is a risk to public health with the possibility of transmission of toxoplasmosis, ringworm and fleas. Stray cats can also transmit feline diseases to owned cats.

Environmental Nuisance - Both owned and unowned cats have been implicated in the predation of native wildlife. Whilst the impact on wildlife in the urban environment is considered to be only marginal, the City of Mitcham has designated environmentally sensitive areas where no cats are allowed eg Belair National Park. Owned and unowned cats may be removed from these areas.

Contain - Cats should be encouraged to stay indoors from dusk to dawn. Not only does this help to protect the wildlife, it protects your cat/s. Nocturnal cat fights can leave your pet requiring veterinary attention and cats are also more likely to be run over at night.

Identify - More cats end up losing their lives through lack of identification than through any other cause. Identify your cat/s with a collar, tag, microchip and tattoo to ensure this does not happen to your cat.

Desex - Desexing solves a large number of cat problems when coupled with responsible cat ownership. Desexing will reduce caterwauling, ‘tom-cat’ urine spraying, wandering and fighting over females. Desexing your cat also eliminates the possibility of unwanted kittens.

Maintain - Maintain your cat’s health with annual vet visits, a nutritionally balanced diet, protection against fleas and other parasites, and lots of love and attention.

Neighbourhood Friendly Cats - It is your responsibility to control your cat and prevent it from annoying neighbours. If complaints are received from your neighbours, you must prevent your cat/s from entering onto their premises. Cats are active animals that love to run, jump, and climb and it can be difficult to confine them to your yard if you do not provide adequate facilities for them.

- Provide your cat/s with a well turned mulched area for use as an outside toilet
- Fencing can be adapted to discourage your cat/s from leaving your property
- Enclosed cat run provides outside activity and ensure your cat is kept safely on your property

VETS IN THE CITY OF MITCHAM
Adelaide Mobile Vet Service 8182 6630
Blackwood Veterinary Surgery 8278 4173 178 Main Road Blackwood
Email blackwoodvets@aapt.net.au
Web www.blackwoodvets.com.au

Colonel Light Veterinary Clinic 8276 7711 59 Springbank Road Colonel Light Gardens
Email www.colonellightvet.com.au

Coromandel Valley Veterinary Clinic 8370 3500 382 Main Road Coromandel Valley
Email www.familypetvet.com.au

Goodwood Road Veterinary Clinic 8373 3837 446 Goodwood Road Cumberland Park
Email info@adelaidevet.com.au
Web www.adelaidevet.com.au

Hawthorn Veterinary Hospital 8272 6077 116 Belair Road Hawthorn
Email hawthornvets@bigpond.com
Web www.hawthornvethospital.com.au

Hills Veterinary Centre 8280 4147 199 Main Road Blackwood
Email hillsvet@bigpond.net.au
Web www.hillsvet.com.au

Homecare Vet to Pet Mobile Vet Service 8370 7044, 0427 707 044
My Vet - Bird & Smith Veterinary Surgeons 8373 1699 181 Cross Road Westbourne Park
Web www.myvet.com.au

Unley Veterinary Surgery 8272 3400 36 Unley Road Unley

DOG TRAINING IN THE CITY OF MITCHAM
Dogs etc 0404 464 793
Rewards based training program Services Mitcham, Marion, Unley Council Areas.
Web www.dogsetc.com.au
| **Klever Kanine Dog Obedience School** | **8263 8516 or 0409 840 726** | Belair Primary School, Main Road Belair |
| Email: kleverkanine@gmail.com | Web: www.kleverkanine.com |

**DOG TRAINING IN GREATER ADELAIDE**

| **Adelaide Veterinary Behaviour Services** | **0488 038 054** - Willunga |
| Web: www.avbs.net.au |
| **Barkbusters Home Dog Training** | **1800 067 710** |
| Web: www.barkbusters.com |
| **Dover Gardens Kennel and Obedience Club** | **8277 0803** |
| Email: hop4@adam.com.au | Web: www.doverdog.org.au |
| **Newfoundland Dog Club** | **8524 2264** 63 Bethesda Rd, Lewiston 5501 |
| Email: jessbear.newfs@bigpond.com | Web: www.newfclubsa.com |
| **SA Obedience Dog Club** | **8223 6626** - South Parklands Adelaide |
| Email: gsy_kes7@bigpond.com | Web: www.sadogobedience.org.au |
| **Sit Drop Stay** | **1300 306 887** |
| Web: www.sitdropstay.com.au |
| **Unley Council Dog Obedience School** | **8295 5721** - Unley |
| Web: www.unley.sa.gov.au |

**DOG MINDING**

| **Dog-Gone Walking & Minding** | **0408 815 267** - Torrens Park |
| Email: happypets@doggonewalking.com.au | Web: www.doggonewalking.com.au |
| **DogCity Daycare** | **8363 5088** - Kent Town |
| Email: dogs@dogcity.com.au | Web: www.dogcity.com.au |
| **Dog Play Care** | **7099 3599** - 199 Main Road Blackwood |
| Web: www.dogplaycare.com.au |
| **Lillys Doggy Day Care and Grooming** | **8371 4445 or 0402 266 339** - Edwardstown |
| Email: rosanne@lillysdoggiedaycare.com.au | Web: www.lillysdoggiedaycare.com.au/index.html |

**GENERAL CONTACTS**

| **All Pets Boarding Village** | **8379 1995** - Mount Barker Road Urrbrae |
| Web: www.allpetsboardingvillage.com |
| **Angel Ashes Pet Cremations and Memorials** | **1300 914919 or 0419 589229** |
| Web: www.angelashes.com.au |
| **Animal Welfare League** | **8348 13001-19 Cormack Road, Wingfield** |
| Web: www.animalwelfare.com.au |
| **CatPad enclosures** | **0417 861 781 or 0418 852 951** |
| Web: www.catpadenclosures.com.au |
| **City of Mitcham Team Leader Compliance** | **8372 8876** 131 Belair Road Torrens Park |
| Web: www.deltadogsa.org.au |
| **Delta Society Australia** | **8124 4962** |
| **Dog and Cat Management Board of SA** | **7099 3599** www.dogplaycare.com.au |
| **Dog Play Care** | **GoodDogSA** |
| **Lost Pet Finders** | **8329 6000** Dogs, Cats and General |
| Email: rosanne@lillysdoggiedaycare.com.au | Animal Shelter - 25 Meyers Road Lonsdale |
| **RSPCA** | **RSPCA – reporting animal cruelty** |
| **Web: www.rspcasa.asn.au** | **1300 477 722** |
ADVICE RE DOG BARKING NUISANCE

PERSISTENT DOG BARKING CAN BE A BREACH OF THE LAW

Section 45A (5) of the Dog and Cat Management Act, 1995 states:

A person who owns or is responsible for the control of a dog is guilty of an offence if the dog (either alone or together with other dogs, whether or not in the same ownership) creates a noise, by barking or otherwise, which persistently occurs or continues to such a degree or extent that it unreasonably interferes with the peace, comfort or convenience of a person.

On receipt of a complaint, Council will advise the dog owner that a complaint has been made and, where possible, provide advice on training, housing and possible control methods in an effort to resolve the problem. This initial contact is informal and reliant upon the cooperation of the dog owner. Council’s aim is to have the matter resolved quickly and efficiently in an informal and neighbourly manner. If the owner is unwilling or unable to restrain the dog, final resolution of the problem may require further and more formal action by Council which will require additional involvement by you.

The onus of proving that a dog is a nuisance rests with the person making the complaint. If the dog owner refutes the allegations the complainant may be required to give evidence in Court.

Options available to Council pursuant to the Dog and Cat Management include, a Control (Barking Dog) Order upon the owner of the dog to take whatever action is reasonably necessary to restrain the dog and remedy the problem. Council may also take legal action against the owner, either by Infringement Notice or direct prosecution.

It is difficult for Council to launch a prosecution of this nature, as it is necessary to prove the offence beyond all reasonable doubt. Proving the matter may be difficult where there is no evidence independent of that given by the complainant to support the complaint. In such circumstances the complainant may pursue the matter through the civil courts where the burden of proof required is only on the balance of probabilities. Council does not become involved in civil actions.

Enclosed is a form on which to record the date, time and duration of the barking. This form must show 7 days of consecutive recordings. Additional forms are available from Council for other persons affected by the noise.

For any further information relating to this matter please contact the Animal Management Officer on 8372 8888.
Registration of Barking Dog details

Complainants Name: ...........................................................................................................
Address: ..................................................................................................................................
Contact Phone:  
Home: ......................................................... Work: ................................ Mobile: ..................................

Have you verified where the barking is coming from? Yes/No

Address of offending dog/s: ...............................................................................................  
Description of dog/s: .............................................................................................................
.............................................................................................................................................

Have you seen the dog/s barking? Yes/No

Have you spoken to the dog’s owner about this problem? Yes/No

Have any of your neighbours mentioned this problem to you? Yes/No

If yes, are they prepared to support your claim? Yes/No

If yes, please supply their name address and telephone number below:

Witness No (1) Name: ...........................................................................................................
Address: .................................................................................................................................
Phone Number: ......................................................................................................................

Witness No (2) Name: ...........................................................................................................
Address: .................................................................................................................................
Phone Number: ......................................................................................................................

Statement
I, the undersigned, wish to lodge a formal complaint with the City of Mitcham in
relation to the dog/s described above which bark persistently to such a degree that it unreasonably interferes
with my (peace), (comfort) or (convenience) in my premises.
(Please strike out items not applicable in bracketed areas)

Signature of complainant...................................................................................................... Date : …../……./…..

This document and the log sheet must be completed in full, signed and returned to the City of Mitcham within 14 days. Council will take no action in this matter until this document is completed and returned.
The onus of proving that a dog is a nuisance rests with the person making the complaint. If the dog owner refutes the allegations the complainant may be required to give evidence in Court.

The result of this log sheet will determine if action is necessary. Your accuracy in recording the nuisance barking is of extreme importance as it may be presented as evidence in a Court.

This log sheet must contain at least 7 consecutive day’s recordings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time barking started</th>
<th>Time barking stopped</th>
<th>Intermittent Or Continuous</th>
<th>Reason for barking if known</th>
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Signed by complainant: .......................................................... Date: ..../…../…..

PRIVACY INFORMATION The personal information requested on this form is being collected by Council for the purpose of evaluating a Barking Dog complaint. This information will be used solely by Council for that primary or directly related purposes. The applicant understands that the personal information provided is for the purpose of evaluating a Barking Dog complaint and that they may apply to Council for access and / or amendment of the information.
Please provide us with a brief statement in relation to the alleged noise/nuisance complaint so that we can get a better understanding of the kind of problems that you are encountering with the animal or bird at:

(Insert address at where animal is kept)

This statement is necessary in order for Council to investigate your complaint successfully and essential if the matter results in court action;

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(Signature of Complainant)  (Date)