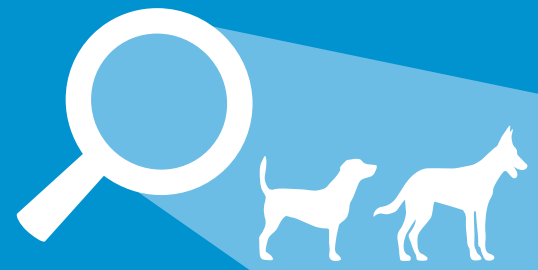


SELECTIVE INSPECTION PROGRAM



Maranoa Regional Council will be conducting its annual approved Selective Inspection Program from 25 September 2023 until 1 December 2023 to assess compliance in designated town areas with the State Government’s *Animal Management (Cats & Dogs) Act 2008* for dog registration and regulated dog provisions. This program allows authorised persons to enter and inspect properties in part of its local government area.

What is the purpose of the program?

The purpose is to encourage responsible animal ownership within the Maranoa region by reducing the number of unregistered dogs and ensuring the provisions for keeping a regulated dog are being maintained. Registration provides Council with information regarding the type and number of dogs located at premises throughout the region and enables lost or stolen pets that have been recovered to be reunited with their owners. The majority of impounded animals are unregistered, which supports the importance of the inspection program in achieving compliance within the region.

Information on registration and regulated dog requirements are included on the back of this fact sheet.

Who will be conducting the inspections?

Inspections will be carried out by authorised persons from Maranoa Regional Council. The inspection program allows authorised persons to enter and inspect selected properties within the local government area. All authorised persons will have identity cards issued by Council.

When will this occur?

The program will be carried out between 25 September 2023 and 1 December 2023 and inspections will be conducted between the hours of 7.30am and 5pm Monday to Friday, or at such a time depending on the circumstances of the householder.

What are the possible outcomes of the inspection program?

Outcomes will be dependent on the ability for Council to determine compliance. If all relevant legislative requirements are met, no action will be taken.

Infringement for Registration Non-Compliance

Where an authorised person identifies a dog as not being registered for the current financial year (2023/24) an infringement notice may be issued. The fine for failing to register a dog is currently two penalty units or \$309.

Non-compliance with Regulated Dog Provisions

Where an authorised person identifies that permit conditions are not being met, a compliance or infringement notice may be issued. A compliance notice requires the responsible person to comply within 21 days, or a fine may be issued. The fine for non compliance is 7 penalty units or \$1083.

If Council is unable to determine compliance or requires further information, a calling card will be left at the property requesting the resident to contact the Community Safety Team for further information.

More information can be found over the page.



SELECTIVE INSPECTION PROGRAM

Legislation requirements under the State Government's *Animal Management (Cats & Dogs) Act 2008* for registration and regulated dog provisions are detailed below.

Council administers the legislation on behalf of the Maranoa community.

Registration Obligations

- All dogs over 12 weeks of age must be registered
- If you are the new owner of a dog you must register the dog within 14 days after you have taken ownership
- All dogs must bear identification (registration tag)
- All owners must notify Council of changes in registration details.

It is also a legislative requirement for all dogs over 12 weeks of age to be microchipped.

Regulated Dog Provisions

There are specific requirements that apply to regulated dogs. Regulated dogs include dogs that are dangerous, menacing or restricted. These requirements are intended to protect the community from damage or injury. If you are the owner of a dangerous, menacing or restricted dog, the requirements cover items such as the animal's enclosure, signage on your premises and public access.

Dangerous and Menacing Dogs

Council may declare your dog as dangerous or menacing if it:

- Has bitten or attacked a person or animal
- Has acted in a way that caused fear to a person or another animal
- Was declared dangerous by another local government.

Restricted Dogs and Prohibited Breeds

A restricted dog is a breed prohibited from importation into Australia under the *Customs Acts 1901* – these breeds include American Pit Bull Terrier, Dogo Argetino, Fila Brasileiro, Japanese Tosa, Perro de Presa Canario.

Key Responsibilities of a Pet Owner

- If your dog or cat is 12 weeks or older, it must be registered annually with Maranoa Regional Council
- Be sure to get your dog and cat microchipped – it is a legislative requirement to microchip your cat or dog after it reaches 12 weeks of age
- Your animal is not to create a nuisance to others, such as barking and/or behaviour that may cause fear to a person or another animal
- Your animal must not wander off your land without being under a person's effective control
- You must walk your animal on a lead when in a public place
- If your animal defecates in a public place you must clean up after it and ensure disposal in a sanitary manner
- Ensure the general welfare of your animal at all times
- If you are selling or giving away your dog to another person you must have a supplier number.

