



**Subject:**

"Pause for paws" feedback

**Date:**

Monday, 22 July 2019 12:02:56 PM

**Attachments:**



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Hello,

In addition to the responses provided by the [REDACTED] in the online survey, we submit the following feedback in relation to the cat and dog legislation review:

1. Registration of cats and dogs
  - Would it be possible to change the modified penalty for an unregistered dog or cat so that when the infringement is paid a portion of the payment can be attributed towards the registration of that animal? This will reduce the requirement to issue subsequent infringements for the same offence where registration remains outstanding.
  - Could a provision be included to offer lifetime registration fee at a pro-rata/reduced rate if the dog or cat is over a certain age at time of registration? (For example, if a dog is first registered at the age of 7 years that dog would be eligible for a lifetime registration fee at half the price of the standard lifetime registration fee). Proof of the pet's age or DOB would be required (in the form of Vet certification or a Statutory Declaration).
  - Ability to seize an unregistered dog from private property through a warrant issued by a JP - similar to s. 29(5a).
2. Microchipping cats and dogs
  - One centralised microchipping database for all pets.
  - Greater promotion to differentiate between registering with a microchip database company and registering the dog or cat with their local government.
3. Dog attacks, dangerous dogs and restricted breed dogs
  - Include the ability for a local government to revoke a lifetime registration if a dog is subsequently declared "dangerous" or noted to be of a restricted breed after the fact. The dog owner is then required to conform to the 1-year annual dog registration requirements.
  - The inclusion of a model/guide to encourage consistency across local governments in terms of the enforcement practices/penalties applied as a result of dog attacks.
  - Increases to modified penalties for dog attack incidences that may not require prosecution (for example, for dog attack incidents bad enough to issue an increased infringement but not severe enough to warrant prosecution).
  - Further legislation surrounding the assessment or re-homing of "rescue" dogs due to the increase in dog attacks from inappropriate dogs released to unsuitable owners.
  - Penalties for organisations involved in the assessment or re-homing of "rescue" dogs that are subsequently involved in serious dog attacks.
  - Inclusion of the ability for dog attack victims to be awarded medical/veterinary costs through a dog attack prosecution (if not pursued

civilly).

- Clarify the 'Nature of offence' description in the Dog Regulations 2013 for s. 32(4) to reflect the undue/unlawful behaviour of the dog.

4. Cat numbers and nuisance/wandering cats

- Uniform cat curfews to be applied across all metropolitan council areas.

[Redacted]

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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