

Cassowary Coast Regional Council

Approved Inspection Program

Animal Management Act 2008 & Local Government Act 2009

Dogs – Registration, Microchipping, Enclosures and number of dogs kept September 2025 – November 2025

INTRODUCTION

Cassowary Coast Regional Council resolved on 24 July 2025 to approve a systematic inspection program in accordance with section 134 of the *Local Government Act 2009* as follows:

1. For the purpose of checking on legislative requirements for keeping animal such as the number of animals being kept, dog registration and fencing.
2. Commencement date for the program will be 1 September 2025
3. Properties inspected include all urban and rural residential properties within the local government area
4. The period of the program is three months (1 September 2025 to 30 November 2025).

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM

To ensure that the owners of dogs within the Cassowary Coast Regional Council area have complied with;

- the registration requirements prescribed by the Animal Management (Cats & Dogs) Act 2008 and
- the duty to provide a proper enclosure to prevent the animal from wandering in Council's Local Law.

PROGRAM TIMES

The systematic inspection program will commence on 1 September 2025 and terminate on 30 November 2025. It will be conducted between the hours of 6.30am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday, with the majority of inspections to be carried out during normal working hours, or at such time depending on the circumstances of the householder.

PROPERTIES TO BE INSPECTED

Properties that may be inspected include all residential and rural residential properties within the Cassowary Coast Regional Council area.

ENFORCEMENT

Registration and Microchipping:

Where an Authorised Officer identifies a dog as not being registered for the current year 25/26, and/or microchipped a caution notice will be issued and 14 days time period to register and microchip the animal. If the animal remains unregistered and un-microchipped, an infringement notice (\$333.00) may be issued for each offence.

Enclosure

Where an Authorised Officer identifies that a proper enclosure is not provided:

1. A verbal or written warning will be issued encouraging the owner to comply with a proper enclosure within 14 days.
2. Where a proper enclosure has not been provided within 14 days a Compliance Notice will be issued to the responsible person requiring them to comply within 14 days.
3. Where owners subsequently fail to comply with the Compliance notice, they will be issued an infringement notice (\$834.00). Continued failure to provide an enclosure may result in Council taking further action which could include seizing the animals.

Number of animals kept

Council's Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2022 states that keeping more than three dogs is prohibited. The local law also states that keeping a third dog requires a permit.

Where an Authorised Officer identifies that excess animals are being kept on the property:

1. A written caution notice will be issued and an application to keep excess animals will be provided. A timeframe of 14 days will be allowed in which to submit the application.
2. If after 14 days a permit has not been received and the excess animals continue to be kept on the property, a compliance notice will be issued providing 14 days in which to either reduce the number of animals on the property down to 2, or make application.
3. Where owners subsequently fail to comply with the Compliance notice, they will be issued an infringement notice (\$834.00). Continued failure to comply by keeping excess animals may result in Council taking further action which could include seizing the animal

