

# WORKING DOGS



While working dogs do not have to be registered in Queensland, there are other laws that you may need to adhere to.

## WHAT IS A WORKING DOG?

A working dog is defined in the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* as a dog which is kept:

- on rural land; and
- by an owner who is a primary producer, or a person engaged or employed by a primary producer; and
- primarily for the purpose of droving, protecting or working stock

## CAN I REGISTER MY WORKING DOG?

Yes! While you are not legally obligated to register your working dog, Council does allow you to register for free. Registration is a great way to ensure your dog can be quickly and easily identified should it become lost.

### To register your working dog:

Complete a Working Dog Assessment. If you are able to tick 'Yes' on all of the assessment questions, and 'No' on the dangerous or menacing declaration, then your dog is eligible for free registration. Once registered, keep your details up to date to ensure we can contact you should your animal ever become lost. If your dog retires and becomes a pet, you simply need to update your dog's status with Council and the registration fee will be charged from the next registration period.

## ARE PIG-DOGS CONSIDERED TO BE A 'WORKING DOG'?

No. Under the Act, the definition of a working dog is limited to working dogs kept on rural land

for droving, protecting, tending or working stock. It does not include dogs kept for managing feral animals.

## WHAT OTHER LAWS APPLY TO MY WORKING DOG?

### Containment

Working dogs do need to be contained to their property when they are not on a leash or actually engaged in moving livestock under the control of their owner. When dogs are in a vehicle they should be contained in such a way that it cannot reach beyond the extremities of the vehicle.

### Microchipping

While microchipping is not required for working dogs, Council recommends microchipping for all dogs. Microchipping is a great way for Council to reunite dogs with their owners if they wander from home. Your vet can assist you with microchipping. After microchipping your dog it is essential you keep your contact details up to date.

### Other local laws relating to animals

Your dog cannot cause a nuisance to the local community. This includes noise such as barking, excessive roaming, attacking other animals or people when not protecting stock (such as other stock, dogs on public land etc.).

### Further Information

For further information contact Council at 1300 763 903 or email [enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au).



**Cassowary Coast**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

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