



# cats & dogs

## Regulated dogs

*Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*



### Laws across Queensland

The *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* introduced a statewide approach to the declaration and control of dangerous, menacing and restricted dogs, collectively designated as regulated dogs on 1 July 2009.

The Act outlines conditions for keeping regulated dogs including requirements for enclosures, muzzling and effective control in public.

A statewide regulated dog register has been established by the Department of Infrastructure and Planning for local governments to more effectively manage and monitor regulated dogs.

For more information visit [www.dip.qld.gov.au](http://www.dip.qld.gov.au)

In Queensland there are three types of regulated dogs:

- dangerous dogs
- menacing dogs
- restricted dogs.

### Dangerous dogs

A dog that has attacked a person or animal or has behaved in a threatening manner can be reported to the local council and may—after assessment by an authorised local government officer—be declared dangerous.

A dog that was declared to be a dangerous dog under a council local law before 1 July 2009 continues to be a dangerous dog under the new Act.

### Menacing dogs

If you know of a dog that shows menacing behaviour you can report it to your local council. After assessing its behaviour the authorised local government officer can declare it as a menacing dog.

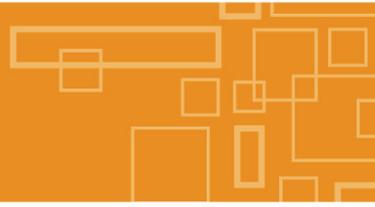
The classification of menacing dogs is new to Queensland, and is aimed at preventing attacks from dogs that demonstrate aggressive behaviour.

### Restricted dogs

A restricted dog declaration can only be made if the local government is satisfied the dog is of a breed prohibited from importation into Australia under the *Customs Act 1901*. To keep a restricted dog, the owner must apply for a permit from their local government.

A dog that was declared to be a restricted breed under Chapter 17A of the *Local Government Act 1993* before 1 July 2009 remains a restricted dog under the new Act.

A local government can also prohibit certain breeds (or cross breeds) of dogs in the local government area under a local law. The decision to make such a local law is at the discretion of each local government.



**To ensure the safety of the community, owners of regulated dogs are required to meet certain conditions.**

**Menacing dogs must:**

- be microchipped
- wear an ID tag
- be kept in a prescribed enclosure with a sign
- be kept under effective control.

**Note:** While a Proposed Declaration Notice is in place, all dogs must be muzzled in a public place.

**Dangerous dogs must:**

- be microchipped
- wear an ID tag
- be kept in a prescribed enclosure with a sign
- be kept under effective control
- be desexed
- wear a muzzle in public.

**Restricted dogs must:**

- be microchipped
- wear an ID tag
- be kept in a prescribed enclosure with a sign
- be kept under effective control
- be desexed
- wear a muzzle in public
- have a permit issued by council.

### Requirements for regulated dog enclosures

The regulated dog must—unless there is a reasonable excuse—be usually kept in the enclosure, which must:

- (a) be childproof
- (b) stop the dog from leaving the enclosure
- (c) must not be built or situated in a way that requires a member of the public seeking access to the front entrance of a dwelling house to go into the enclosed area
- (d) must be at least 10 square metres and can not include any area that is a swimming pool or area surrounding a swimming pool or all or part of a building usually used for residential purposes
- (e) the walls of the enclosure must be at least 1 m high above ground level (if the dog is 8 kg or less) or at least 1.8 m high above ground level (if the dog is more than 8 kg)
- (f) the enclosure must be made of firm and strong materials
- (g) the walls may include a perimeter fence for the relevant place or an exterior wall of a structure if it complies with the other enclosure requirements
- (h) the enclosure must include a weatherproof area appropriate for a dog
- (i) the enclosure must include a gate and must not have a vehicle entry gate
- (j) the gate must be childproof, self-closing and self-latching and comply with the other enclosure requirements
- (k) the enclosure may have another gate that is not self-closing and self-latching if it is not a vehicle gate and complies with the requirements for enclosure walls and is kept securely locked whenever it is not in immediate use
- (l) a sign/notice must be placed at or near each entrance to the place where the dog is usually kept notifying the public that a regulated dog is kept there.

### Review and appeal

If you receive a regulated dog declaration notice you can apply to your council for an internal review of the decision. You also have the right of appeal to the Queensland Animal and Administrative Tribunal if you are not satisfied with the internal review.

### For more information

Call 1800 467 561 or visit [www.dip.qld.gov.au](http://www.dip.qld.gov.au)

