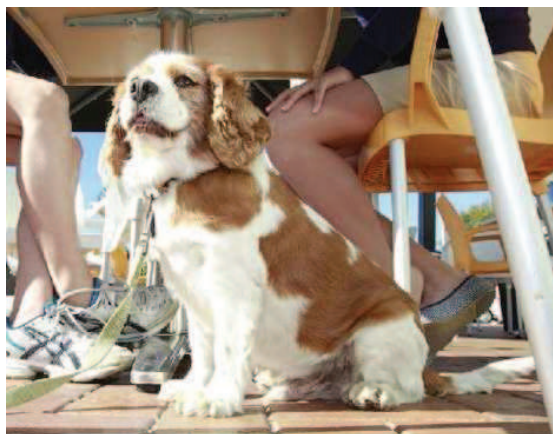




## Dogs in food premises



Did you know that the regulation of animals and pets in food premises was amended in 2013?

A food business may permit a dog that is not an assistance animal to be present in an outdoor dining area and may exclude, for any reason, a dog that is not an assistance animal.

However, food businesses that permit dogs in outdoor dining areas must still ensure they maintain high standard of food safety and personal hygiene. Food businesses that allow dogs in dining areas must consider and manage issues that may arise from the presence of dogs, to ensure that they maintain compliance with the Food Act 2006 and the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code), and do not handle food in an unsafe way.

Food businesses must ensure they continue to meet their obligations under other legislation, such as Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and Council Local Laws.

Issues to manage and consider include:

- ensuring that food service staff refrain from touching dogs, as this creates a risk of cross contamination;
- if food service staff touch a dog, they should wash their hands with soap and warm water and dry thoroughly, prior to further handling or service of food;
- the provision of water, storage of dog food and cleaning and storage of bowls for dog food or water;
- removal and disposal of dog urine/excrement;
- signage to designate or identify dog areas;
- barking and behavioural issues;
- possible trip hazards, e.g. leashes on pathways;
- availability of tether points and space; and
- insurance and public liability.

### Further information

For more information about the requirements visit the Queensland Department of Health's website [www.health.qld.gov.au/foodsafety](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/foodsafety) and review Fact Sheets #8 and #50.

Or contact Council's Environmental Health Team on 1300 79 49 29.

# STAY CONNECTED



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