



Controlling barking dogs

Information for the dog owner

If you are aware that your dog's barking may be causing a nuisance in your neighbourhood, you must take steps to minimise the impact on others. Please read the information sheet on what Council will do, it will help you to understand your responsibilities in relation to this issue.

To provide a reasonable timeframe for this issue to be resolved amicably, Council allows a period of 14 days to elapse if a complaint is received before taking further action.

During this period, it is expected that you take some steps to resolve the issue, which may include:

- Reading the information sheet on why dogs bark may assist you in assessing the problem and controlling your dog's barking.
- Seeking professional assistance from your vet or an animal trainer.
- Discussing the issue directly with your adjoining neighbours to try and achieve a resolution. Talking with your neighbours may be the best way to resolve any recurring issues!
- This will enable you to determine if they have concerns and assess the impact of the nuisance within the immediate community.
- You should document details of any discussions for future reference.

To further progress discussions with your neighbours in a structured format, the Dispute Resolution Centre offers free advice and mediation services. Visit the Department of Justice and Attorney General's website at www.justice.qld.gov.au or alternatively you can contact the Central Queensland branch on 1800 817 927.

If further complaints are received after 14 days, Council will take further action. An investigation will be conducted and if the alleged nuisance is proven to be a breach of *Local Law No 2 (Animal Management) 2011*, compliance notice and/or penalty infringement notices may be issued.

**For more information contact
Council's Customer Service Centre on the below details**