

FACT SHEET

Dog Control Amendment Bill 2017

Dog Control Amendment Bill 2017 (the Bill) amends the *Dog Control Act 2000* (the Act) to:

- require a dog owner to inform a council of their dog's microchip number;
- exempt greyhounds that have graduated from a suitability program approved by the Director of Racing from the requirement to wear a muzzle in a public place while on a lead;
- allow councils to declare areas of council controlled land from which dogs are restricted permanently;
- provide for a mandatory requirement that a dog owner is to inform the relevant council when a dangerous dog is transferred to its municipal area;
- extend the time required to respond to a destruction of a dangerous dog notice from 14 to 28 days in line with the *Magistrates Court (Administrative Appeals Division) Act 2001*;
- clarify section 42 of the Act to allow councils to seize and/or destroy a dog;
- clarify the relationship in the Act between section 4 dealing with the control of all dogs, section 18 dealing with the control of greyhounds and section 32 dealing with the control of dangerous or restricted breed dogs;
- provide clarity for persons carrying out primary production relating to livestock on rural land to destroy any dog found at large on that land;
- provide that council authorised officers can take DNA samples from a dog suspected of being involved in an attack;
- provide that council authorised officers must be trained and comply with procedures when taking a DNA sample from a dog suspected of being in an attack;
- provide that councils can recover the costs associated with the collection of DNA from a dog who is suspected of and proven to be involved in an attack;
- provide that tenants have the same exemption from removing dog faeces immediately as owners of land; and
- clarify that commercial dog minding services require kennel licences.