

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish a framework for the rehoming of impounded dogs and cats in accordance with the relevant legislation and established Memorandums of Understanding.

**SCOPE**

Where a dog or cat has been impounded into the City's Animal Care Facility and has not been claimed within the period prescribed by the applicable Act (*Dog Act 1976* or *Cat Act 2011*) the City may dispose of the animal in accordance with the provisions of the appropriate Act.

**POLICY CONTENT**

The City supports the rehoming of suitable impounded and unclaimed dogs and cats and will facilitate this through the use established Memorandums of Understanding with approved animal rescue and welfare organisations. Through these arrangements the rescue and/or welfare organisation will ensure that dogs and cats are sterilised, microchipped and vaccinated prior to rehoming.

In doing so, the Council acknowledges that these organisations are non-for-profit and volunteer based, and as such will consider waiving registration fees for a maximum of 12 months for dogs and cats under the immediate care of foster carers representing the organisation. This would be conditional on the animal being both microchipped and sterilised.

**Policy Background**

Policy Reference No – 243

Owner Unit – Ranger and Emergency Services

Originator – Ranger and Emergency Services Coordinator

Policy Approved by – Council

Date Approved – 22 August 2007

Review Frequency – as required

Related Documents – *Dog Act 1976*

*Cat Act 2011*

**History**

<b>Council Resolution</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Information</b>
		Policy updated to make reference to established Memorandums of Understanding, and the implementation of the <i>Cat Act 2011</i> Policy acknowledges registration fees may be waived for a maximum period of 12 months Version 3
C1012/415	8 December 2010	Policy re-adopted in the new standard format Version 2
C0708/195	22 August 2007	Date of implementation Version 1