

## **Dogs in Public Places and Dog Exercise Areas Information Sheet**

### **General**

For the enjoyment and safety of everyone, when walking your dog in a public space such as along the street or in a park or reserve, you must keep your dog on a leash and under effective control. This means keeping your dog securely tethered and not allowing it to wander or bother other people, animals or wildlife.

If you are in a designated 'Off-leash Dog Exercise Area' your dog may be exercised off the leash, however you must still have it under effective control. The dog must be responsive to verbal command, must still be in close proximity to you and you must carry a leash capable of restraining the dog with you.

Even though you think your dog is being playful, others may feel uneasy with its behaviour. Remember, many people do not like to be approached by unrestrained dogs. Not every dog is dog friendly, and you must not allow your dog to harass or disturb other people or animals.

Dogs are not under effective control if they:

- Chase or disturb any person or wildlife
- Act in a threatening or aggressive manner
- Cause damage to flora

### **On-leash and Off-leash Areas**

When in a reserve that is not a designated 'off-leash exercise' area, all dogs must be kept on the leash. This includes footpaths, car parks and children's playgrounds. A list of on and off lease exercise areas is attached.

### **Picking up after your pet**

Whilst the Town encourages dog owners to take their dog on daily walks, pet owners are required, in accordance with legislation, to clean up after their dogs by collecting the faeces and placing it into a waste bin when they get home or in a public litter bin.

To assist you with this, the Town employs a number of techniques to reduce the impact of dog litter on the amenity of public open space and also protect public health, safety and the environment. These measures include public education, enforcement, dog litter bins and compostable dog poo bags strategically placed throughout the Town.

Picking up after your pet means we can keep our environment and waterways healthy and safe. Dog faeces contain many pollutants that can cause the spread of toxic blue/green algae, which can be harmful to marine life. Appropriately removing the waste also assists in the control of animal-borne diseases, some of which can be zoonotic, which means they are transferable to humans.

## **What to do if you find a dog**

Call the Rangers on 9377 7480 and advise them of as many details as possible, such as size, colour, breed, behaviour of the dog, any visible collar or tag and last known location of the dog.

It is not recommended to approach or try to capture the dog as not all dogs will be friendly and they may not understand that you are trying to help them. The capture of wandering dogs should be left for the Rangers as they are trained, experienced and equipped to deal with dogs.

Here are some basic tips to remember when dealing with dogs:

- Do not directly approach a dog you are not familiar with
- Always seek permission from the dog owner prior to touching a dog, particularly when the dog is on a leash
- Do not put your hand or face near the face of the dog
- Avoid standing or leaning over the dog
- If you cannot avoid approaching an unknown dog do so calmly and slowly, approaching side on to reduce your physical size
- Avoid making direct eye contact with the dog as this may be seen as a threat
- Do not yell, scream, wave your arms/kick your legs or run away as this may be seen as a threat or enticement to the dog
- Even if given permission from an owner, if the dog appears tense or nervous, do not touch or approach the dog

## **What will the Ranger do with the dog?**

All dogs will be checked for a collar, registration tag, identification tag and microchip as soon as the Ranger is able to safely do so. They will also be given a quick visual check to ensure they are not showing any signs of injury or disease that may require veterinarian attention.

In the case where a dog is identifiable, the Ranger will attempt to contact the owner on the information available at the time. In the first instance and where possible, the dog may be returned directly to the owner.

In the case where the dog is not identifiable, the owner is not contactable or if the dog has a history of not being contained to the property, the dog may be impounded at our Animal Care Facility. The owner will be notified of the impounding of their dog, any registration or microchipping requirements to meet and any fees payable to reclaim their dog.

If a dog is not identifiable and an owner does not come forward, the dog will be assessed for any health and behavioural concerns. All dogs that are identified as appropriate for rehoming will be placed in a suitable rehoming program.

## **How to report a dog attack**

If you would like to report a dog attack or if you are not sure if what you have experienced would be considered a dog attack, please call the Rangers on 9377 7480 to report the incident.

You will be requested to complete a statement regarding the details of what occurred, such as date, time, description of the dog, location of the incident etc. The Rangers will gather all the available evidence, including any photos of the injuries and animals involved, any dog owner details and will determine the most appropriate course of enforcement action, depending on the circumstances of the incident and the provisions of the relevant legislation.

<b>On-Leash Areas</b>	
<b>Parks and Reserves</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Location (bound by or accessed from)</b>
Abell Reserve	Reid Street/Clarke Way
Ashfield Reserve	Colstoun Road/Haig Street/Fisher Street (Haig Street side, up to line of trees in middle of Reserve)
Bassendean Oval	West Road/Guildford Road/Old Perth Road
BIC Reserve	Guildford Road/Wilson Street/James Street/Hamilton Street
Bindaring Park	Bassendean Parade/Watson Street/Hyland Street/Carnegie Road/Anstey Road/Harcourt Street
Bradshaw Reserve	Bradshaw Street
Bridson/Elder Reserve	Bridson Street/Elder Parade
Broadway Arboretum	Broadway/Hanwell Way/Centenary Court
Carman Way Reserve	Carman Way
Christie Park	Old Perth Road/Briggs Street
Colin Smith Reserve	Blackthorn Road/Littlemore Way
Culworth/Mickleton Reserve	Culworth Road/Culworth Place/Mickleton Terrace
Freiberg Reserve	Geraldine Street/Cyril Street/Shackleton Street
Hamilton Street Reserve	Reid Street/Hamilton Street/Whitfield Street
Hatton Court Reserve (Pinzone Park)	Hatton Court
Iveson Place Reserve	Iveson Place/Reid Street
Jubilee Reserve	Jubilee Avenue/Robinson Road/May Road/Northmoor Road
Kelly Park	Railway Parade/Anzac Terrace
Link Park	Prospector Loop/Atlantic Bend/Perway Lane
Lord Schofield Reserve	Lord Street/Bradshaw Street/Schofield Street
Park Estate Reserve	Prospector Loop
Sandy Beach Reserve	West Road
Success Hill Reserve	Seventh Avenue
Third Avenue Reserve	Third Avenue
<b>Public Places</b>	
The <i>Dog Act 1976</i> defines a 'public place' as any place to which the public may lawfully have access. This includes but is not limited to footpaths, verges and other public spaces.	

<b>On-Leash Areas</b>	
<b>Off-Leash Dog Exercise Areas</b>	
<b>Parks and Reserves</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Location (bound by or accessed from)</b>
Anzac Terrace Reserve	Anzac Terrace/Ivanhoe Street
Ashfield Reserve	Guildford Road/Colstoun Road/Fisher Street (Guildford Road side up to line of trees in middle of Reserve)
Freeland Square	Freeland Square
Gary Blanch Reserve	Pearson Street/Hardy Road
Mary Crescent Reserve	Ivanhoe Street/Mary Crescen/Kirk Street/Gallagher Street
May Holman Reserve	Mann Way
Padbury Way Reserve	Padbury Way
Palmerston Square Reserve	Palmerston Street/Hamilton Street/Whitfield Street
Parmelia Way Reserve	Parmelia Way/Iolanthe Street/Penzance Street
Pickering Park	Bassendean Parade
Troy Street Reserve	Troy Street/Chesterton Road
<b>Exclusions</b>	
Off-leash Dog exercise areas do not include land which has been set aside as a children's playground, a car park or areas being used for sporting or other activities, as permitted by the Local Government during times of such use.	

<b>Dog Prohibited Areas</b>	
<b>Parks and Reserves</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Location (bound by or accessed from)</b>
Point Reserve	North Road