

Policy Title: Pro Rata Registration for Cats and New and Desexed Dogs

Policy No: 246

Directorate: Development and Environment
Responsible Officer: Manager Development Services

Adopted Date: Policy & Planning Meeting – 07/07/2015

Review Date: 07/07/2017

VERSION	MEETING APPROVED	MEETING DATE	HISTORY
1	Policy & Planning Meeting	02/05/2014	Biennial Review
2	Policy & Planning Meeting	07/07/2015	Biennial Review

Authorities: *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*

INTRODUCTION:

This policy applies to the fees paid/payable for the registration of cats and new and desexed dogs only within the North Burnett Region under the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008.

OBJECTIVES:

- To clarify Councils position on the Pro rata/payment of registration fees for new cats and new dogs registered during the registration year.
- To avoid penalising through the requirement to pay higher fees, keepers of dogs which are not old enough to be desexed at the time of registration, and which are subsequently desexed within a reasonable time after reaching a suitable age for desexing; and
- To provide an incentive for the keeper of an entire cat or dog to desex the dog as soon as possible after reaching a suitable age for desexing.

PRINCIPLES:

1. New dogs are:
 - A dog over 12 weeks old which, in terms of Section 44(2) of the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 is starting to be kept in the North Burnett Region (i.e. the local government area) during the registration year and which must be registered within 14 days after starting to be kept.

- NOT dogs which have been kept in the North Burnett Region for all of the registration year but have not been registered for that registration year.
- Working dogs are classed as a dog that is kept on rural land by an owner who is a primary producer, or employed by a primary producer with the dogs' primary function to drive, protect, tend or work stock.

2. Cats

- Domestic cats can be registered on a voluntary basis.

3. That it be policy to calculate pro rata registrations on a half yearly basis with:

- Registrations during the first half of the registration year being 100% of the applicable fee;
- Registrations during the second half of the registration year being 50% of the applicable fee with registrations in the last two months to incur no fee for the balance of the remaining registration year.

4. Desexed Dogs

- That it be policy that when a dog has been desexed after the payment of the current dog registration, and upon application by the owner, Council rebate the difference between the fee paid and the fee for a desexed dog (at the time of original registration) subject to proof that the cat or dog has been desexed being provided.
- That this rebate is only applied to dogs that were under the age of 6 months at the time of registration. That in order to receive a reduced fee concession for a desexed animal the owner is to complete an application form, and provide a copy of the desexing certificate or other proof acceptable to an authorised person that the animal has been desexed.