



## **Barking dogs**

Barking is a natural behaviour for dogs but dog owners must ensure that their dog's barking does not become a problem.

If a dog creates a noise that is persistent or unreasonably interferes with the peace, comfort or convenience of other people then the owner may be fined and a Control (Barking Dog) Order may be placed on the dog.

## **Barking dog Guidelines**

Barking is considered excessive when it exceeds:

- 240 barks per day between the hours of 7.00am and 9.00pm, or
- 35 barks per night between the hours of 9.00pm and 7.00am, or
- regularly exceeds 30 barks per hour during the day or
- 4 barks per hour during the night.

## **Dealing with the issue**

All dogs make noise at some time but if you are concerned about the level of noise a dog is making, try to resolve the issue by speaking to the owner first. Most dog owners are responsible and are willing to work with their neighbours. If you approach them in a friendly manner you may be able to reach a solution without having to take further action. Remember that dog owners may not be aware that their dog is causing a nuisance if they are not at home when the barking occurs.

## **Complaints**

If you decide to make a complaint to the Campbelltown City Council, please refer to Council's website to download a Barking Dog pack or contact Council on 8366 9222 and a Barking Dog pack will be provided. The pack contains detailed information that is required for Council to pursue the matter on your behalf. In the 1<sup>st</sup> instance a 7 day diary (included in the pack) will need to be completed.

## **Sufficient Evidence**

If there is sufficient evidence from your diary that a nuisance exists, Council will contact the dog owner to advise them of the allegation, including their obligations under the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act and provide advice to rectify the situation. Council will impose a 14 day monitoring period for the owners to address the barking issue.

## **Resolution**

Shortly after the 14 day monitoring period if the problem still persists Council will survey nearby residents to see if they are experiencing similar issues with the dog. Council will issue diaries to all parties willing to support Council.

Council will then review information from all sources to determine whether formal enforcement action will be undertaken. If the times recorded are occasional or irregular it may not be enough to class the dog as a nuisance.

However, if it can be established that the noise is persistent and is an unreasonable interference (as per the barking dog guidelines) Action will be taken.

## **Civil Action**

Any person can institute civil proceedings against a dog owner in a court. However, this course of action can only be handled by the person making the complaint and cannot be handled by Campbelltown City Council.

Further information can be obtained by phoning Councils General Inspectors on 8366 9252.







**NAME** .....

**ADDRESS** .....

.....

**ADDRESS OF DOG**

**Level of Nuisance**

Please prioritise the following times showing which you consider to be the most annoying times the dog barks:-

- 1 = High Level of Nuisance      2 = Medium Level of Nuisance      3 = Low Level of Nuisance
- 11.00 pm to 6.00 am       6.00 am to 7.00 pm       7.00 pm to 11.00 pm

**Legend**

Noise Level of Barking	Cause of Barking (if known)	Action Taken by Dog Owner	Nuisance Level (according to times indicated above)
Loud Whining Yapping Muffled	Nothing People Walking By Bored Owner Out Territorial of Fence Boundary	None Chastised Put Dog Inside	High Medium Low

**Please Note:**

- USE A NEW SHEET FOR EACH DAY
- SIGN AND DATE EACH SHEET
- BE ACCURATE AND PRECISE IN RECORDING TIMES
- UNTIDY, DILAPIDATED OR ILLEGIBLE RECORD SHEETS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

**Level of Involvement**

Are you prepared to attend Court as a witness on behalf of the City of Campbelltown in this matter?

Yes

No

*(Any complainant who fails to attend Court after indicating that he/she would substantiate their claim in Court, no further action will be taken, and he/she will be liable for all costs incurred by Council.)*

**Declaration**

I hereby declare that all particulars given by me in this document are true and correct.

Signature

Date



<b>Barking Times</b>	<b>Count the number of Barks (ie, ###)</b>	<b>(USE SAME WORDING AS IN LEGEND TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION)</b>			
<b>Start/Finish</b>	<b>No. of Barks</b>	<b>Total No. of Barks</b>	<b>Noise Level</b>	<b>Cause</b>	<b>Action</b>

Signature:

Date:

<b>Barking Times</b>	<b>Count the number of Barks (ie, ###)</b>	<b>(USE SAME WORDING AS IN LEGEND TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION)</b>			
<b>Start/Finish</b>	<b>No. of Barks</b>	<b>Total No. of Barks</b>	<b>Noise Level</b>	<b>Cause</b>	<b>Action</b>

Signature:

Date:









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<b>Start/Finish</b>	<b>No. of Barks</b>	<b>Total No. of Barks</b>	<b>Noise Level</b>	<b>Cause</b>	<b>Action</b>

Signature:

Date: