

# Responsible Cat Ownership

Fraser Coast Regional Council Local Law No.2 (Animal Management) 2011

## FACT SHEET

*Cat owners are required by law to ensure their cats are kept in a suitable enclosure and always contained to their property unless they are under effective control.*



### **What is effective control?**

A cat is considered to be wandering or not under effective control if it is outside its enclosure and in a public place (including private property without the consent of the owner) and not under the direct control of a person, i.e. on a lead or in a carrier.

### **Do I need to register my cat?**

There is currently no requirement for cats to be registered in the Fraser Coast. However, there are some rules about the keeping of them.

### **How many cats can I have on my property?**

Council's Local Laws allow the keeping of two (2) cats. An additional animal application is required for keeping more than two (2) cats.

Applications can be made in person at Councils Customer Service Centres on the approved form - [www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/1406/approval-to-keep-additional-cat-or-dog](http://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/1406/approval-to-keep-additional-cat-or-dog)

*Application fees apply.*

### **Does my cat need to be desexed?**

Council Local Laws require all cats to be de-sexed by 22 weeks of age. The following exemptions may apply:

- The owner of the cat is a member of a registered show association and exhibits the cat, or
- The owner is a member of a breeder association and breeds the cat, or
- The owner holds a current Council breeder approval, or
- Desexing the cat is likely to be of serious risk to the health of the cat (confirmed in writing by a veterinarian).

It is compulsory for cats to be de-sexed when they are sold or given away. The above exemptions may apply in certain circumstances.

A de-sexed pet is generally more content, less aggressive, has fewer health problems and does not contribute to the production of excess and unwanted litters.

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### **Does my cat need to be microchipped?**

All cats born after October 2010 must be microchipped. This includes any cats given away or sold.

A 'Change of Ownership' notification must be completed with the relevant microchipping registry if a cat is given away or sold. You can locate your microchip registry details by visiting [www.petaddress.com](http://www.petaddress.com).

Having up to date microchipping information can assist Council and other agencies in locating the owner if a cat is lost or stolen and get the microchipped cat returned.

### **Compliance with requirements**

Council's Community Rangers action complaints and conduct regular patrols across the region.

If your cat is found to be outside of its enclosure and wandering at large, is not microchipped or de-sexed Council may impound your cat and may also commence enforcement action; and on-the-spot fines may apply.

### **Additional Information**

To obtain additional information about Cats, please feel free to reach out to the Council using any of the following methods:

- Visit the website:  
<https://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/animals-and-pets>
- Contact us by phone at 1300 79 49 29.
- Send an email to:  
[enquiry@frasercoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:enquiry@frasercoast.qld.gov.au)