

Barking Dog(s) Complaint Form

Section 55, Dog Control Act 1996



Please complete this form to ensure Council has the necessary information for us to proceed with your complaint(s). Documenting the times, dates and duration of the barking will help us establish the nature and extent of the problem, and what action is required. The procedure for investigating a barking dog complaint is determined by the Dog Control Act 1996. Please note that in order to prove the complaint, the dog(s) barking or howling must be both loud and persistent.

Complainant's Details

Full Name (or spokesperson's name if a petition): _____

Address: _____

Phone: Daytime: _____ Mobile: _____

Signature: _____

Note: one complaint form per address please

Dog Owner's Details (please complete as much as possible)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Dog's Details (please complete as much as possible)

Name: _____ Sex: M F Unknown

Breed/Type: _____

Colour: _____

Approx Age: (e.g. Adult/9-18months/0-9 months): _____

Outline Complaint:

Please provide a brief factual account of the situation, including the type of noise, (e.g. howling, barking), when it happens (e.g. after the owners go out), possible causes (e.g. when it sees people), and any other information that may be helpful.

Declaration From Complainant

Witness and/or Co-Complainants

I/we, the undersigned, will appear at a Council hearing and/or a District Court hearing upon request in support of the complainant and complaint. I/we may also be similarly requested to support this complaint at a Council Meeting:

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Ph: _____ Mobile: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Ph: _____ Mobile: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Ph: _____ Mobile: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Ph: _____ Mobile: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

<p>Office Use Only</p> <p>Owner ID: _____</p> <p>File: _____</p> <p>CRM: _____</p>	<p>(Date Received)</p>
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For your reference:

The following is the Section in the Dog Act 1996 outlining the powers and procedures for resolving a barking Dog Complaint.

1. Where a dog control officer or dog ranger has received a complaint and has reasonable grounds for believing that a nuisance is being created by the persistent and loud barking or howling of any dog, the dog control officer or dog ranger may –
 - a. Enter at any reasonable time upon the land or premises, other than a dwellinghouse, on which the dog is kept, to inspect the conditions under which the dog is kept; and
 - b. Whether or not the dog control officer or dog ranger makes such entry, give the owner of the dog a written notice requiring that person provision on the property to abate the nuisance as shall be specified in the notice or, if considered necessary, to remove the dog from land or premises.
2. Any person on whom the notice is served under subsection (1) of this section may, within 7 days of the receipt of the notice, object in writing to the territorial authority against the requirements of that notice.
3. The territorial authority shall consider the objection and may confirm, modify, or cancel the notice.
4. No objection under this section shall be considered unless 7 days' notice of the date and time when and the place at which it is to be considered have been given to the objector, who shall be entitled to be represented and to be heard and may submit evidence and call witnesses in support of his or her objection.
5. Upon the determination of the objection, the territorial authority shall give to the objector a further notice stating the decision of the authority, and, if the effect of the decision is to modify the requirements of the dog control officer or dog ranger, shall set out those requirements as so modified.
6. As from lodging of an objection with the territorial authority, and pending receipt of a further notice upon the determination of the objection, the notice setting out the requirements that are the subject of the objection shall be deemed to be suspended.
7. Every person commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,500 who, having been served with a notice under this section, -
 - a. Fails or neglects to comply with that notice (not being a notice that has been suspended under subsection (6) of this section) within 7 days of its receipt by that person.
 - b. Fails or neglects to comply with any notice as modified or confirmed by a territorial authority under subsection (3) of this section within the time specified by the territorial authority.