

**POLICY NO: RS/AC/1**

**FORMER POLICY NO:**

**RELEASE OF IMPOUNDED ANIMALS**

<b>DIVISION</b>	<b>BUSINESS UNIT</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY AREA</b>
Works and Services	Regulatory Services	Animal Control

**OBJECTIVE**

To provide clear guidelines to pet/livestock owners about conditions that must be met prior to the release of impounded animals into their care.

**POLICY**

1. Scope

This policy applies to impounded livestock, dogs and cats.

2. Legislation

Dog Act 1976, Part VI – ‘Control of dogs’

Cat Act 2011, Part 3 – ‘Management of cats’

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960, Part XX – ‘Cattle trespass, pounds, poundkeepers and rangers’

3. Application of Policy

3.1 Cats or dogs impounded under the Dog Act 1976 and Cat Act 2011 are only to be released into the custody of their owner/s if the animal/s is/are microchipped, sterilised (cats over six months of age) and registered.

3.2 Livestock impounded under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960 Part XX will be subject to impoundment and sustenance fees as set under the Council’s adopted Schedule of Fees and Charges.

3.3 Impoundment, sustenance fees and charges and fines levied under the appropriate acts are to be paid prior to the release of any animal. Sustenance fees will accumulate on a daily basis until the day of release.

**ADOPTED: 3 MARCH 2015**

**LAST REVIEWED: 24 MAY 2022**

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