

# DOMESTIC ANIMAL KEEPING FACT SHEET

## CATS

[www.logan.qld.gov.au](http://www.logan.qld.gov.au)

Local Law No. 4 (Animal Management) 2002 and Subordinate Local Law No. 4.1 (Animal Management) 2002 provide residents with consistent rules and recognise our urban, rural and semi-rural lifestyles.

- **All properties in Logan may have two desexed cats without approval from Logan City Council.**
- **All cats must be registered annually with Logan City Council.**
- **Desexing of cats is now mandatory in Logan City (registered breeders excluded).**

<b>Without Logan City Council approval</b>	All properties: 2 desexed cats (registered with Logan City Council)
<b>With Logan City Council approval</b>	All properties: 3-4 cats Approval is for life unless your circumstances change, such as you move house within Logan All cats must still be registered with Logan City Council
	Registered breeders: up to 25 cats (more than 25 cats requires a cattery licence).
	Foster carers: Logan City Council foster carers require approval - see below.

### Enclosure requirements

The enclosure must be constructed in such a way that it prevents the cat from escaping the property boundary.

#### Why has Council introduced enclosure requirements?

Roaming cats create nuisance by:

- causing dogs to bark
- fighting with other cats
- mating
- menacing or killing domestic birds, poultry and native animals
- sleeping on neighbours vehicles
- urinating and defecating

Even well fed cats hunt instinctively.

Allergies to pets with fur are common and symptoms range from mild to severe. Some reactions can be life threatening. Cat containment minimises human allergic reactions caused by cat dander.

#### How do I keep my cat enclosed?

Whether a cat should be kept as an outdoor, indoor or a mix really depends on the individual cat, the owner and lifestyle. Cats can happily live indoors. There is a variety of enclosures and specialised fencing options to keep cats enclosed.

### What are the benefits of mandatory desexing and enclosures?

For cats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in number of cats impounded.</li> <li>• Cats are not put through the stress of being trapped.</li> <li>• Reduction in cat injuries.</li> <li>• Reduction in diseases transfer.</li> <li>• Reduction in vehicle accidents.</li> </ul>
For owners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced registration fees for desexed cats. If a registered, desexed and microchipped cat is impounded, the registration makes it possible to identify the owner quickly. On the first impound, cats that are registered, desexed and microchipped are released free of charge.</li> </ul>
For the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced nuisance caused by wandering cats.</li> </ul>
For the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced impact caused by cats hunting native birds and animals.</li> </ul>

### Recreation cats (e.g. show cats, breeder)

Up to nine cats may be kept with Logan City Council approval subject to standards and membership of approved bodies.



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### Registered breeders

Breeders keeping more than 4 animals and up to 25 (maximum allowable subject to land size, site facilities and conditions) are subject to Logan City Council approval and must have current membership of Queensland Feline Association, Independent Cat Council of Queensland or Feline Control Council of Australia. Application fees apply.

The breeder identification number issued by Council with the approval is required to be used on all advertising in relation to the sale of any progeny.

### Foster carers

Foster carers may keep up to nine cats for a determined length of time with Logan City Council approval.

Foster carers must be registered with and recognised by Council. Logan City Council foster carers are required to obtain Council approval (but are exempt from approval fees).

Foster carers registered with other relevant agencies (RSPCA, AWL, Little Paws, etc) must obtain Logan City Council approval and abide by Logan City Council Subordinate Local law 4.1.

Approval fees for foster carers with other relevant agencies will be determined by negotiation between Logan City Council and the agency.

### Approvals

To apply for an approval or download an application form, visit [www.logan.qld.gov.au](http://www.logan.qld.gov.au) or phone 3412 5397.

### Development Approvals

Assessment is required under Council's planning scheme to keep more than the approved numbers, as this is considered a development activity.

Licensing requirements may also exist under Logan's Licensing Local Law or state law.

### General requirements

The owner and keeper must ensure that keeping the cat does not result in:

- animal faeces build up
- breeding or harbouring of flies or vermin
- damage to property
- harm to human health or safety or personal injury
- nuisance
- significant disturbance, inconvenience or annoyance to a person's enjoyment of their place of residence

### Additional requirements

To reduce the number of cats being euthanised each year, the new local laws require cat owners to:

- display contact details of the owners
- enclose their cat/s in a way that prevents the animal from escaping the premises
- desex their cats prior to reproductive maturity (breeding)

### Frequently asked questions

#### Why has Logan City Council introduced mandatory de-sexing for cats?

Logan City Council euthanised a large quantity of cats last year. Some of these cats were kittens, some were feral and some were the result of medical or behavioural conditions that prevented them from being rehomed. It's important to understand that whilst Council takes a proactive approach to rehoming surrendered or unwanted animals, irresponsible pet ownership contributes to increased rates of euthanasia due to the ability of cats to prolifically breed.

Cats can reach reproductive maturity at five months of age and can go into season two to three times each year. With up to five kittens in each litter, a single entire cat can produce up to 150 kittens in its breeding life. Unwanted kittens can become sick and/or feral and often end up as strays. Council experiences an annual increase in the number of unwanted cats at the Animal Management Centre. For this reason Logan City Council introduced mandatory de-sexing for cats. Owners' who do not de-sex their cat may be fined for non-compliance

#### Do I have to register my cat?

Although it is law under the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 that every cat be registered, Logan City Council only has approximately 6,500 registered cats. Clearly there are more cats than this in Logan. Without registration Council is unable to locate an owner of a lost cat in the majority of cases. If an owner cannot be found and the cat is unsuitable for rehoming, euthanasia is the inevitable outcome.

#### Who owns the neighbourhood cat?

Every owned, un-desexed cat that wanders, even for short periods, has the potential to breed from five months of age and contribute to the unowned cat population. Although most cats entering the Animal Management Centre appear to be socialised with humans, the majority are unregistered and therefore "unowned".

Many neighbours feed cats that they do not own. Residents should cease feeding neighbourhood cats to discourage cats from wandering.