



**Policy Subject/Title:** Therapeutic Dogs Policy

**Policy Number:** C030

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**Responsible Officer:** Director Corporate and Community Services

**Legislative or Regulatory Reference:** *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2009*  
and Subordinate Local Law 2 (Animal Management)

**Authorised by:** Somerset Regional Council

**Authorised on:** 24 May 2017 (Doc Id 958310)

**Review / Amendment dates:**

## **1. OBJECTIVE**

To provide assistance dogs' status to dogs kept in facilities such as Aged Care Centres.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

During recent consultation on changes to the animal management local laws, representations were made regarding the therapeutic value of dogs in facilities such as aged care centres.

## **3. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to Council officers in ensuring compliance with the animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2009 and Subordinate Local Law 2 (Animal Management).

## **4. SCOPE**

This policy applies throughout the Somerset Regional Council area, but is limited in its application to dogs kept on those properties included in the schedule.

## **5. POLICY**

For the purposes of the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2009 and Subordinate local law 2 ( Animal Management) a dog left for therapeutic purposes on properties included in the following Schedule shall have the same status as an assistance dog. As such, this policy provides that –

- For the purposes of registration, the fee payable is equivalent to that payable for an assistance dog.
- The dog is not included when calculating the number of dogs kept on the property.
- Such status ceases to exist if the dog is removed from the property.

### *Schedule*

Lot 4 F33610	58-64 Clive Street, Fernvale
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## **6. EFFECTIVE FROM**

This policy is effective from 24 May 2017.

## **7. CONTROLS**

Not applicable.

**8. DATE OF RESOLUTION**

This policy was approved by the Chief Executive Officer and adopted by the Somerset Regional Council at the Ordinary Meeting of 24 May 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Bai', is positioned above the 'Signed:' label.

Signed:

Date: 24 May 2017