

Nuisance Dog - Barking Diary

Council has a process for dealing with complaints about nuisance barking. Before lodging this form you should take the following steps:

1. Talk to the dog's owner - they may not have realised their dog is bothering you. In many cases, they will be happy to work with you to solve the problem.
2. Contact a Community Justice Centre (CJC) - If talking with the owner doesn't work, you may contact a CJC. These are government-funded, but independent centres, that specialise in settling differences between neighbours without entering into complicated legal processes. They will suggest mediation, where you meet with the dog's owner and a CJC representative to try and solve the problem. This process is free and has a high success rate. Visit the CJC website or call 1800 990 777 for more information.

If the above efforts fail, this form can be lodged with Council. The diary must have at least 14 consecutive days recorded, as we need evidence to start an investigation. If other neighbours are willing to complete a diary too, this will help substantiate the barking. Should the matter progress to Court, you will be asked to provide a formal statement and may be called to give evidence.

Under the Companion Animals Act 1998 nuisance barking is defined as a dog that makes a noise, by barking or otherwise, that persistently occurs or continues to such a degree or extent that it unreasonably interferes with the peace, comfort or convenience of any person in any other premises.

If you suspect the dog is being mistreated, contact the RSPCA on 1300 278 358 or online at <https://rspca.org.au/report-cruelty>

1 Your Details					
Full Name					
Street Address					
Town		State		Postcode	
Phone		Mobile			
Email					
Postal Address		<input type="checkbox"/> as above, or:			

Office use only		
Issue Date:	09/2021	

2	Dog Owner Details (if known)			
Full Name				
Address				
Town		State:		Postcode:
Phone		Mobile:		
3	Description of dog/s			
Dog 1 (if known)				
Breed				
Colour				
Name				
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown			
Approximate age				
Identifying features				
Dog 2 (if known)				
Breed				
Colour				
Name				
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown			
Approximate age				
Identifying features				
4	History			
Has the owner been directly contacted with your concern? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
If yes, how was communication made and what was the outcome?				
Has mediation been undertaken through a Community Justice Centre? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
If yes, what was the outcome?				

5	Factual Account
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In your own words tell us what is happening, ensuring your account is **factual, accurate and relevant**.

How long has the dog(s) barking been an issue?

Where is the dog(s) when he/she is barking?

What do you believe is causing the dog(s) to bark?

When is it occurring?

- ☐ When the owner is not home ☐ At night ☐ When you go outside
☐ Dog reacts to a disturbance e.g. another dog, lawn mower, car pulling into driveway
☐ Other:

How is it affecting you?

Date Completed

Important information

Privacy & Public Access to Information: Information supplied on this form will be managed in accordance with Council's Privacy Management Policy and relevant legislation. Certain information supplied to, and held by, Council may be made available to the public pursuant to the provisions of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act). Further information on privacy and public access to information can be found on [Council's website](#).

6 Dog Nuisance Barking Diary - Minimum 14 consecutive days required (please use a separate form for each dog & reprint page as required)

Address of animal:

Day	Date	Time from	Time to	Details: include frequency, likely cause etc
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For example:

Sun	01/01/2021	3:05 am	4:15 am	Consistent, 5 times per minute, locked outside
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