

Summary of Submissions
Dog Local Law 2023 – SJ1066

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
Unknown/Online	1.	Dog owners should be liable for attacks on other pets.	<p>Dog owners or a person liable for the control of a dog is required to ensure the dog does not attack a person or animal. infringements, court action, declaring a dog dangerous or in serious cases, destruction of the animal may be applicable.</p> <p>Civil action may be taken by any party to recover costs or damages.</p>	<i>Dog Act 1976</i> already has provisions.
Unknown/Online	2.	I am a Senior who walks as my main form of exercise. Unfortunately I have had to reduce my walking and the time that I walk purely because of dogs running free. I have had many uncomfortable experience and three near misses one of which jumped up at my face almost knocking me over while the owner just stood back and watched without doing anything. Unfortunately my wife was actually bitten by a dog escaping from its yard four years ago. It would be nice to be able to walk safely without the fear of being attacked or bitten by a dog and walk in the parks without all the dog droppings. It would also be nice if Dog owners where constantly reminded of the Laws. Maybe a few signs in the parks. I am not against dogs, I have had dogs most of my life but not at this time.	<p>Dogs are required to be on lead while in public - Ranger Services patrol the Shire regularly. If residents sight issues they should call 9526 1111 for attendance.</p> <p>Rangers regularly advise people of the laws when an issue is sighted or reported. Infringements are issued where necessary.</p> <p>Rangers have implemented signs that Officers relocate to reported issue areas, combined with regular patrols, more so to reported issue areas.</p>	<p>Continue community education and patrols.</p> <p>Near misses, dogs wandering and incidents are required to be reported to the Shire to be investigated.</p>
Unknown/Online	3.	I thought keeping a dog safely confined was law?	The <i>Dog Act 1976</i> required dogs to remain on a property where it has consent to be. The Dog Local Law will provide additional provisions to require certain fencing where a	N/A

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			dog has been shown to be a nuisance, regularly escaping.	
Unknown/Online	4.	Enforce the requirement that Dogs must be on a lead when out in Public places.	<p>Dogs are required to be on lead while in public - Ranger Services patrol the Shire regularly. If residents sight issues they should call 9526 1111 for attendance.</p> <p>Rangers regularly advise people of the laws when an issue is sighted or reported. Infringements are issued where necessary.</p> <p>Rangers have implemented signs that Officers relocate to reported issue areas, combined with regular patrols, more so to reported issue areas.</p>	<p>Continue community education and patrols.</p> <p>Near misses, dogs wandering and incidents are required to be reported to the Shire to be investigated.</p>
Unknown/Online	5.	I would like Number 1 above to be enforced. There seem to be a dog on the loose just about every week in Jarrahdale. I don't feel safe walking through the town.	<p>While Ranger Services patrol the Shire regularly, if residents sight issues they should call 9526 1111 for attendance. Call every time.</p> <p>Rangers have implemented signs that Officers relocate to reported issue areas, combined with regular patrols, more so to reported issue areas.</p> <p>Rangers regularly advise people of the laws when an issue is sighted or reported. Infringements are issued where necessary.</p>	<p>Continue community education and patrols.</p> <p>Near misses, dogs wandering, and incidents are required to be reported to the Shire to be investigated.</p>

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Unknown/Online	6.	<p>Where is there any detail about dogs that are a nuisance and in particular, nuisance barking/whining, making it unpleasant for a neighbour to even be anywhere in sight of the neighbours dog such that is howls, whines and is a general nuisance. It seems many owners don't train or seek any remedy for their dogs annoyance to others, ie. Bark Busters or dog trainer advice on how to make their dogs less anxious etc. Unfortunately, many neighbours are at the behest of limits to laws or enforcement, or adequate support from Councils under local laws to call nuisance behaviour of peoples pets out and seek a suitable remedy and continue to live with this annoyance. There should be some inclusion on responsibility of owners and what recourse neighbours have with regards to nuisance behaviours i.e charging at fences (even when they are in their own yards), barking or whining continuously and regularly etc.</p> <p>Also, this should be accompanied by a Local Law around the keeping of cats contained, not to roam on others property etc, and the ability to contain/trap them safely with the assistance of traps from the Ranger and get them collected by the ranger to deal with them appropriately.</p> <p>Many Councils are taking responsible action on cats and the harm they do to the environment and nuisance they cause, and I look forward to SJ Shire taking suitable action within this area also.</p> <p>Thanks kindly for your consideration.</p>	<p>The <i>Dog Act 1976</i> has provisions for nuisance dogs. Residents are required to complete a nuisance dog diary and return it to the Shire. If the dog is shown to be a nuisance, the owner is contacted and advised of the complaint and given advice to limit the issue. If the issue continues, the owner may be issued a nuisance abatement order, requiring the nuisance to stop, and continuing from here may result in infringement(s) / court action.</p> <p>Dogs are permitted to bark and anyone wanting full details can request a nuisance dog information pack with further details – contact 9526 1111.</p> <p>The nuisance reference within the Local Law relates to dogs that are repeat wanderers. This enables the Shire to implement fencing requirements.</p>	Continue enforcing nuisance barking dogs as per the <i>Dog Act 1976</i>

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Unknown/Online	7.	Of greater concern to me are horse riders who utilise the walking paths and fail to clean up the excrement left by their animals. All animal owners should be treated by the same rules when utilising public spaces.	This is considered Litter under the Litter Act and can be reported to the Shire if details are known – contact 9526 1111.	N/A
Unknown/Online	8.	I would like to know specific details for Number 2. Dogs are not a nuisance, where "nuisance" may refer to barking. A training method I use is to wait for a pet to stop barking before I go to it. For example, if I have been away from the residence, I wait for the dog to stop barking/whining before I greet it. This can take half to one hour but is affective as a training method.	<p>The <i>Dog Act 1976</i> has provisions for nuisance dogs. Residents are required to complete a nuisance dog diary and return it to the Shire. If the dog is shown to be a nuisance, the owner is contacted and advised of the complaint and given advice to limit the issue. If the issue continues, the owner may be issued a nuisance abatement order, requiring the nuisance to stop, and continuing from here may result in infringement(s)/court action.</p> <p>Dogs are permitted to bark and anyone wanting full details can request a nuisance dog information pack with further details – contact 9526 1111.</p> <p>The nuisance reference within the Local Law relates to dogs that are repeat wanderers. This enables the Shire to implement fencing requirements.</p> <p>The Rangers suggest many options for limiting the nuisance behaviour, including contacting professional help.</p>	Continue enforcing nuisance barking dogs as per the <i>Dog Act 1976</i>

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Unknown/Online	9.	Overdue, I've been bitten before by roaming dogs in Byford, and often don't walk my dog due to so many not being secured enough in their backyards - a lot in old Byford	<p>The provisions for dogs being required to be held on lead in public are already in place under the <i>Dog Act 1976</i>.</p> <p>Dog Attacks are also covered under the Act and both issues can be and are enforced.</p> <p>Reports must be made to Rangers - contact 9526 1111.</p> <p>The provisions in the proposed Local Law enable the Shire to require certain fencing to adequately contain the animal when the dog has been shown to repeatedly wander at large.</p>	Continue enforcement of wandering dogs and attacks as per the <i>Dog Act 1976</i> .
Unknown/Online	10.	The fence at the Byford Bark Park is broken and has been fixed by local dog park users which isn't safe.	Damage to Shire assets should be reported to the Shire, either online through the Shire website, email to the Shire - info@sjshire.wa.gov.au or 9526 1111	Customer Service Request Reference CS059190 raised for fence repair.
Unknown/Online	11.	Can you please clarify what you mean by nuisance?	<p>The <i>Dog Act 1976</i> has provisions for nuisance dogs and barking dogs.</p> <p>There are guidelines as to what is a nuisance dog, set out by State Government. Residents can request a nuisance dog information pack with further details – contact 9526 1111.</p> <p>The nuisance reference within the Local Law relates to dogs that are repeat wanderers. This enables the Shire to implement fencing requirements.</p>	N/A

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			<p>To report a nuisance dog, Residents are required to complete a nuisance dog diary and return it to the Shire. If the dog is shown to be a nuisance, the owner is contacted and advised of the complaint and given advice to limit the issue. If the issue continues, the owner may be issued a nuisance abatement order, requiring the nuisance to stop, and continuing from there may result in infringement(s) / court action.</p> <p>Dogs are permitted to bark and anyone wanting full details can request a nuisance dog information pack with further details - contact 9526 1111.</p>	
Unknown/Online	12.	<p>How do you actually enforce these laws because I walk my dog twice a day and always see dogs off lead in the grassy area on Gallipoli - between Doley and Kokoda. There is also lots of excrement that hasn't been picked up. Also I see dogs off-lead in the bush trail nature reserve on Warrington. Not only is it dangerous, my little Cavoodle is scared of other dogs, so being confronted by a dog off-lead is horrible for him but I'm also concerned about the children too. I've never once seen anyone patrolling and there needs to be more signs reminding people of the rules. I also have neighbours on both sides of me who have large dogs and regularly have them in their front yard off lead which means I can never take my dog for a walk from my house. I have to drive him to the local park to</p>	<p>Dogs are required to be on lead while in public. Ranger Services patrol the Shire regularly. If residents sight issues they should call 9526 1111 for attendance.</p> <p>Rangers regularly advise people of the laws when an issue is sighted or reported. Infringements are issued where necessary.</p> <p>Rangers have implemented signs that Officers relocate to reported issue areas, combined with regular patrols, more so to reported issue areas.</p>	<p>Continue community education and patrols.</p> <p>Near misses, dogs wandering and incidents are required to be reported to the Shire to be investigated.</p>

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		avoid issues. It's ridiculous. People will not follow rules that aren't enforced.		
Unknown/Online	13.	Rangers could be encouraged to receive modern dog training. e.g. you could contact IMDT Institute of Modern dog trainers as they could easily facilitate something. This would be useful as they could discuss escaping dogs, barking, control of dogs on/off leash, etc with members of the community. Another idea if the Shire linked in with IMDT to arrange community course events. This could improve community understanding of dogs/issues and improve any nuisance behaviours. The reason I suggest IMDT is because I know how they're run. Their ethics and continued education are all up to standard. I also know they run courses in Southern River, which is not too far from the Shire.	The Ranger Team promotes good training of animals and regularly make suggestions to residents that have issue dogs. Officers suggest multiple agencies that the owner can contact for direct, specific to their needs advice. Rangers do not engage directly in animal training. This is why Officers direct people to professionals for the best service.	Continue advising of local reputable businesses for dog training.
Unknown/Online	14.	I'm very interested to know how the Shire will police "nuisance". It seems to be up for interpretation. I hope this covers barking. Untrained dogs are quite an issue. I hope the new laws will force owners to have professional dog training.	The <i>Dog Act 1976</i> has provisions for nuisance dogs. Residents are required to complete a nuisance dog diary and return it to the Shire. If the dog is shown to be a nuisance the owner is contacted and advised of the complaint and given advice to limit the issue. If the issue continues, the owner may be issued a nuisance abatement order, requiring the nuisance to stop, and continuing from here may result in infringement(s) / court action. Dogs are permitted to bark and anyone wanting full details can request a nuisance	Continue enforcing nuisance barking dogs as per the <i>Dog Act 1976</i>

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			<p>dog information pack with further details – contact 9526 1111.</p> <p>The nuisance reference within the Local Law relates to dogs that are repeat wanderers. This enables the Shire to implement fencing requirements.</p> <p>There are no provisions requiring dogs have training, although there are provisions to stop a dog being a nuisance, with infringements applicable.</p>	
Unknown/Online	15.	I think there needs to be some very specific parameters around what is deemed to be a nuisance. A “nuisance” neighbour could complain about everything. It needs to be what a “reasonable person” would deem to be a nuisance.	<p>The <i>Dog Act 1976</i> has provisions for nuisance dogs and barking dogs.</p> <p>There are guidelines as to what is a nuisance dog, set out by State Government. Residents can request a nuisance dog information pack with further details – contact 9526 1111.</p> <p>The nuisance reference within the Local Law relates to dogs that are repeat wanderers. This enables the Shire to implement fencing requirements.</p>	N/A
Unknown/Online	16.	We have recently reported a neighbouring dog being a nuisance with constant barking. The Rangers have been excellent in tending to this matter but the diary keeping process is way too long and unfortunately the dog is still barking. Changing the process would be great.	<p>The first diary is required so the Ranger team can approach the dog owner with detailed times and evidence of the reported issue.</p> <p>The second diary is required to show the nuisance is ongoing and consistent (required</p>	Continue with court proven process.

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			<p>by the <i>Dog Act 1976</i>) and an abatement order may be issued off this.</p> <p>A third diary would be required to be able to issue and infringement or take court action.</p> <p>The Diary process is required, as the Ranger team are not there to witness the nuisance, and this is the evidence that is submitted if the matter goes to Court. The evidence is signed by the complainant to be true and is taken as fact. This process cannot be altered. If the offence is not correctly recorded and the matter was to proceed to Court, the evidence may not be admissible if not complete and comprehensive.</p> <p>Other evidence gathering methods have not been shown to be successful in Court, such as sound recording, bark counters or video due to multiple reasons.</p>	
Unknown/Online	17.	How would one go about in reporting nuisance dog activity?	<p>Residents wishing to report an issue should call 9526 1111, log an online report, or email info@sjshire.wa.gov.au</p> <p>The <i>Dog Act 1976</i> has provisions for nuisance dogs. Residents are required to complete a nuisance dog diary and return it to the Shire. If the dog is shown to be a nuisance, the owner is contacted and advised of the complaint and given advice to limit the issue. If the issue continues, the</p>	N/A

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			<p>owner may be issued a nuisance abatement order, requiring the nuisance to stop, and continuing from there, may result in infringement(s) / Court action.</p> <p>Dogs are permitted to bark and anyone wanting full details can request a nuisance dog information pack with further details – contact 9526 1111.</p> <p>The nuisance reference within the Local Law relates to dogs that are repeat wanderers. This enables the Shire to implement fencing requirements.</p>	
Unknown/Online	18.	Those who bring their dogs to the dog park need to control bad behaviour and remove their dog if it is inflicting hate towards other dogs.	<p>Dogs are required to remain under control while in a dog exercise area. Dogs are required to be on lead while in public. Ranger Services patrol the Shire regularly. If residents sight issues they should contact 9526 1111 for attendance.</p> <p>Rangers regularly advise people of the laws when an issue is sighted or reported. Infringements are issued where necessary.</p> <p>Rangers have implemented signs that Officers relocate to reported issue areas, combined with regular patrols, more so to reported issue areas.</p>	<p>Continue community education and patrols.</p> <p>Near misses, dogs wandering and incidents are required to be reported to the Shire to be investigated.</p>

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Unknown/Online	19.	Too many dogs walking off leads. When we had our dog, she was attacked twice through dogs off leads in front of their houses while owners sat and watched.	<p>Dogs are required to be on lead while in public. Ranger Services patrol the Shire regularly. If residents sight issues, they should call 9526 1111 for attendance.</p> <p>Rangers regularly advise people of the laws when an issue is sighted or reported. Infringements are issued where necessary.</p> <p>Rangers have implemented signs that Officers relocate to reported issue areas, combined with regular patrols, more so to reported issue areas.</p>	<p>Continue community education and patrols.</p> <p>Near misses, dogs wandering and incidents are required to be reported to the Shire to be investigated.</p>
Unknown/Online	20.	I thought these were already dog laws?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dogs are adequately confined by fence, gate, enclosure or other confinement measures. <p>The <i>Dog Act 1976</i> requires dogs to remain on their property unless held or tethered by lead.</p> <p>The proposed local law enables the Shire to specify certain fencing where a dog has shown to wander at large regularly.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Dogs are not a nuisance. Relates to Wandering/containment. Nuisance barking dogs are enforced as per the <i>Dog Act 1976</i>. 3. The requirement to pick up excrement after your dog. 	N/A

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			The specific offence of not picking up after your dog is not specified within the <i>Dog Act 1976</i> , but has provisions for implementation under a Local Law.	
Unknown/Online	21.	<p>Noting ruling about sign posting at an event that 'No Dogs Allowed'. Recent Shire street party was advertised as no dogs yet no sign posts reflecting this and many large and small dogs attended. Not aid dogs.</p> <p>This has happened many times at events I have attended that advertise no dogs, however no one polices it. I have no objections to dogs as such only that if it is no dogs then I don't expect to see them.</p> <p>It takes away my choice to attend or not and my expectation on attending. I don't like big dogs or aggressive ones either.</p>	Officers have held discussions with the Shire's Events Team and more prominent advertising of the matter may be required. Additionally, Council resolution may be required to prohibit dogs in these areas, enabling enforcement.	Shire Events Team to determine if further action is required.
Unknown/Online	22.	I would love to know how you will enforce these rules. In particular, nuisance barking and picking up excrement. I know bags and bins are provided but clearly many ignore this. I would also like to address dogs being walked off lead. It's unnecessary and dangerous in a built up area in our community.	<p>Dogs are required to be on lead while in public. Ranger Services patrol the Shire regularly. If residents sight issues, they should call 9526 1111 for attendance.</p> <p>Rangers regularly advise people of the laws when an issue is sighted or reported. Infringements are issued where necessary.</p> <p>Rangers have implemented signs that Officers relocate to reported issue areas relating to off lead and dog excrement,</p>	

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			<p>combined with regular patrols, more so to reported issue areas.</p> <p>The <i>Dog Act 1976</i> has provisions for nuisance dogs. Residents are required to complete a nuisance dog diary and return it to the Shire. If the dog is shown to be a nuisance, the owner is contacted and advised of the complaint and given advice to limit the issue. If the issue continues, the owner may be issued a nuisance abatement order, requiring the nuisance to stop, and continuing from there, may result in infringement(s) / court action.</p> <p>Dogs are permitted to bark and anyone wanting full details can request a nuisance dog information pack with further details – contact 9526 1111.</p> <p>The nuisance reference within the Local Law relates to dogs that are repeat wanderers. This enables the Shire to implement fencing requirements.</p>	
Unknown/Online	23.	Whilst a dog can be confined, big dogs can jump fences and with our rural fencing, it is impossible and very very costly to change fencing when this is the fencing that was supplied to us when building and had to be put up as part of the Council rules.	Dog owners are required to contain their dogs to the property unless held by lead in public. If the fencing is not suitable to contain the dog, the dog should not be brought onto the property, for both the dogs safety and public safety.	N/A

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			Under the proposed Local Law if a dog repeatedly wanders at large, a requirement for specific fencing may be enforced. A consideration for rural properties where fencing cannot be outside certain specifications, a dog enclosure may be required internally.	
Unknown/Online	24.	Dogs should only be allowed off leash at fenced dog parks and private property where fencing is adequate. Too many people are letting dogs off leash in on leash areas.	<p>As per the <i>Dog Act 1976</i> - dogs are required to be held on lead in public. The only exception is at a specified Dog Exercise area.</p> <p>Ranger Services patrol the Shire regularly. If residents sight issues they should contact 9526 1111 for attendance.</p> <p>Rangers regularly advise people of the laws when an issue is sighted or reported. Infringements are issued where necessary.</p> <p>Rangers have implemented signs that Officers relocate to reported issue areas relating to off lead and dog excrement, combined with regular patrols, more so to reported issue areas.</p>	N/A