

DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES

# *What is Effective control?*



Effective control means that your dog is trained and will always return to you when called, is never out of your sight and will not demonstrate hostility to people or other animals.



CITY OF  
**MARION**

Contact us on 08 8375 6600  
for more information



## **EFFECTIVE CONTROL**

It is your responsibility to ensure that your dog is kept under “effective control” when in public. This means you must keep your dog on a lead of no more than two metres when walking in public, unless in a designated off-lead area like a dog park or beach. Even when in an appropriate off-lead area, your dog must still be under effective control. That means it will respond to voice commands and come when called.

Do not allow your dog to chase, harass or attack a person or an animal. This constitutes an offence under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 and expiations and fines apply or could result in control orders or even a destruction order placed on your dog.

## **PICKING UP AFTER YOUR DOG**

Dog faeces can be a major health issue, both in your own garden and in public places. It can spread disease and infection to other dogs and humans and pollute waterways. Leaving dog faeces in public areas such as footpaths or parks is unhygienic and disrespectful to others who use these areas. Under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 a dog’s owner, or the person responsible for the dog, must immediately pick up and dispose of (in a lawful manner) that dog’s faeces from a public place.

Failure to do this constitutes an offence under the Act and expiations and fines apply. The issue is easy to manage by taking ‘dog poop’ bags with you when you are out with your dog. These bags are often available from dispensers in council managed public areas, but you should always carry your own. Please note that dog faeces cannot be placed in public bins unless securely wrapped.

## **RESPONSIBILITY**

All dog owners are responsible for their pet’s behaviour in the community.

Please ensure when walking your dog on the footpath, that it is always on a leash. When exercising your dog in a designated “off leash” reserve, it is a requirement your dog is under effective control.

Please take the time to check the signs prior to exercising your dog to understand the regulations for the specific area.

The above are requirements under the Dog and Cat Management Act and penalties may apply for owners of dogs not under effective control.