

ATTACHMENT B

**LORD MAYOR'S LETTER TO THE
MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Lord Mayor of Sydney

CLOVER MOORE

24 September 2013

The Hon. Donald Page MP
Minister for Local Government
Level 33
Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Minister

Companion Animals Regulation 2008 and Dogs Declared Dangerous

I write about the *Companion Animals Act 1998* and *Companion Animals Regulation 2008* and the requirement to provide a secure enclosure for a dog declared to be dangerous.

Under the legislation, the owner of a dog declared as dangerous must comply with a number of requirements, including keeping the dog in a fully enclosed structure on the property. The *Companion Animals Regulation 2008* prescribes requirements in relation to the enclosure, including a minimum height and width of 1.8 metres and an area of not less than 10 square metres. The Regulation requires the enclosure to be fixed to the floor and constructed of brick, timber, iron or thick chain mesh with a sealed concrete floor.

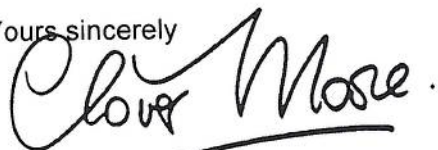
The Act states that a dog owner who doesn't comply with the requirements is guilty of an offence.

The City of Sydney is a high-density area. Many residents live in apartments or terraces houses without private open space or verandas. Residents of high or medium-density housing couldn't accommodate an enclosure as stipulated in the Regulation without significant alterations to the house or property.

I ask that the Regulations be amended to provide flexibility so owners living in apartments or small houses can sufficiently restrain the dog while on the property without significant costs or alterations to the property or the risk of penalties for non-compliance.

If your staff would like to speak with a Council officer about this issue, they can contact Alan Coleman, Manager – City Rangers, on 9265 9333 or at acoleman@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Clover Moore
Lord Mayor of Sydney

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city of villages