

**ATTACHMENT C**

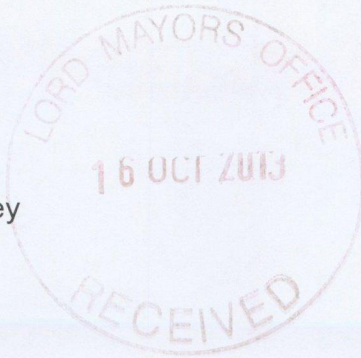
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE DIVISION OF  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S REPLY**



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Our Reference: A351376  
Your Reference:  
Contact: Innovation  
Phone: 02 4428 4100

Clr Clover Moore  
Lord Mayor  
Council of the City of Sydney  
GPO Box 1591  
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Dear Clr Moore

**Companion Animals Regulation 2008 and Declared Dangerous Dogs**

Thank you for your letter of 24 September 2013 to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Don Page MP, concerning the requirement under the Companion Animals Act 1998 (The Act) to provide a secure enclosure for a dog declared to be dangerous. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

I have noted the concerns of residents in the City of Sydney who reside in high or medium-density housing and who have difficulty complying with the minimum enclosure requirements for declared dangerous dogs under the Act and regulations.

However, the minimum enclosure requirements for keeping a dangerous dog have been determined by considering the amount of space required to protect the safety of residents, and to ensure that the dog can occupy the enclosure without causing a risk to the dog's welfare and wellbeing.

You will be aware that the Government has recently announced its intention to introduce a 'menacing' dog control category allowing councils to declare a dog 'menacing' where a council officer determines it to be 'potentially dangerous.' Legislation is being finalised to implement this measure.

The new category will give council officers some discretion to declare a dog as menacing where it has been involved in a less serious incident, thereby avoiding the need to declare the dog as dangerous and impose the enclosure requirements relating to dangerous dogs. The control requirements for menacing dogs will be outlined in the legislation.

The Division of Local Government will continue reviewing dog controls and will take your concerns into account during this process.

Yours sincerely

*Ross Woodward 10/10/13*

**Ross Woodward**  
Chief Executive, Local Government  
A Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet

