

Keeping dogs under control

Under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 (the Act), as a dog owner you are responsible for ensuring your dog does not wander into a public or private place where it is not permitted to do so.

There are rules about places dogs can be allowed off-leash to run and play. These rules cover local streets, parks and beaches.

Your dog must be kept on a leash when being walked:

- on roads and streets
- in public places (other than parks and reserves)
- on any park or reserve during times when organised sport is being played
- St Georges Avenue Reserve
- Fulham Community Centre
- parks and reserves that are sign-posted as on-leash areas.

Your dog's lead can be a leash, chain or cord up to 2 metres in length.

If you are unsure whether your dog will return to you when encountering another animal, such as a cat or dog, this indicates that you do not have effective control over your dog. In such cases, your dog should remain on a leash.

If you do not have effective control of your dog, then it may be deemed to be wandering at large, which is an offence.



Provided your dog is under effective control, you can exercise your dog off-leash in the following areas:

- The section of beach within the West Torrens council area at any time of the day.
- On public parks and reserves including Torrens River Linear Park and similar bicycle/walking paths (unless otherwise sign-posted, or organised sport is being played).
- At designated dog parks including:
 - Pooch Park, Rowells Road, Flinders Park.
 - West Torrens Dog Park, Moss Avenue, Marleston.
 - Clifford Street Dog Park, Torrensville.

To clarify, effective control means your dog:

- is close to you at all times
- responds to all verbal commands
- can be seen by you at all times.

If your dog is not behaving in these ways, then it may be deemed to be wandering at large. Dogs wandering at large can also increase risk of a dog attack, harassment, or chasing incident, which can quickly escalate. It is an offence for a dog to wander at large or to attack, harass, or chase a person or animal.

Dog prohibited areas

Dogs are not permitted within the following areas in West Torrens:

- fenced playgrounds.
- Clifford Street Reserve (outside of the designated dog park), Torrensville.
- Plympton Community Gardens, Plympton.

Under the Act, dogs are also prohibited from all South Australian school grounds, kindergartens, child care centres and preschools without the permission of the person in charge of the site.

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