



# Do you own a Commercial Security Dog?

For the first time, the *Dog Act 1976* recognises that some dogs are required to demonstrate aggressive behaviour when working and are specifically trained to do so. The Act introduces provisions to ensure that members of the public are protected when these dogs are not working.

## What is a commercial security dog?

This is a dog that is kept for the purpose of guarding or protecting premises that are not dwellings.

## How will the dog be identified?

A commercial security dog must wear a collar with yellow and red diagonal stripes of 25mm in width. One of these colours must be fluorescent.

The width of the collar is dependent on the weight of the dog.

## What protection measures apply?

When the dog is not working,

- it must be confined to an enclosure that prevents
  - its escape; and
  - its release without permission; and
  - a child less than 7 years old from entering or inserting part of its body.
- There must be a prescribed warning sign at each entrance to the premises (see reverse).
- If not in the enclosure, it must:
  - be muzzled; and

- held by means of a chain, cord, lease or harness of not more than 2 metres in length by an adult capable of controlling the dog or temporarily tethered in the same way.

## What about when the dog is working?

- The dog must be confined to the premises.
- The enclosure must be constructed to prevent the dog from escaping and from being removed or released without permission.
- If a person other than the handler has lawful access to the area, the dog must be:
  - securely tethered temporarily using a chain, cord, lease or harness of not more than 2 metres in length; or
  - held by means of a chain, cord, lease or harness of not more than 2 metres in length by an adult capable of controlling the dog; or
  - confined in an enclosure as described in the previous section.

Both the person who arranges for the dog to guard the premises and the person liable for the control of the dog can be held responsible.

## Commercial Security Dog Fact Sheet:

Important information on how  
the dog laws affect you.



### What penalties apply?

A maximum court-imposed fine is \$10,000 with a minimum fine of \$500 for each offence.

An authorised officer can issue an infringement notice with a modified penalty of \$400.

### Who is responsible for the implementation of the Act?

The relevant local government is.

### Where can I get more information?

For more information visit the Department of Local Government and Communities' website at

[www.dlgc.wa.gov.au/dogs](http://www.dlgc.wa.gov.au/dogs)

or contact your local government.

For a description of the collar and sign requirements, visit the State Law Publisher's website and access the *Dog Regulations 2013*:

[www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/main\\_subsisf.html](http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/main_subsisf.html)

