

Responsible Pet Ownership

Information for Veterinary Graduates

The Law

The *Companion Animals Act 1998* and the Companion Animals Regulation 2008 provide for the identification and registration of cats and dogs, how they are managed and the duties and responsibilities of their owners.

The Companion Animals Act also establishes the Companion Animals Register, for which the Office of Local Government is responsible, and on which all cats and dogs are registered.

Authorised Identifiers

The Companion Animals Regulation specifies who can identify (or microchip) a cat or dog and how the microchip should be implanted.

To become an Authorised Identifier, you will need to be the operator or employee of a veterinary practice, be registered with the Veterinary Practitioners Board of NSW, and submit an application form to the Office of Local Government for approval.

Once approved as an Authorised Identifier, you will be given access to the Register to enter the identification number of animals you have microchipped.

Approved Persons

Approved Persons are authorised to access information on the Companion Animals Register to reunite injured and/or lost cats and dogs with their owners.

Approved Persons are operators or employees of Approved Premises which include veterinary clinics, approved animal welfare organisations and national private microchip registers.

To become an Approved Person, you will need to complete and return an Approved Person Application Form to the Office of Local Government.

Once your application has been approved, you will be given access to the Companion Animals Register to carry out identification (or microchip) number searches to obtain the contact details of owners of injured and/or lost cats and dogs.

Further information

For more information, including guidelines and application forms, go to the website of the Office of Local Government at www.olg.nsw.gov.au (FOR THE PUBLIC>>DOGS & CATS>>Information for professionals>>Vets and identifiers).



Office of
Local Government