

Pets in Community Housing

Coast2Bay Housing Group Ltd. recognises that pets contribute to the health and wellbeing of tenants. You can keep a pet in Community Housing if:

- Approval is obtained from Coast2Bay Housing Group **first**, and
- The type of housing you live in is **suited** for the type of pet you are applying for, and
- Keeping the pet is allowed under the local government laws, and
- The pet does not interfere with the reasonable peace, comfort and privacy of neighbours.

Written approval must be obtained prior to bringing any pet onto the property. Generally, approvals will only be given for **one de-sexed cat or one small de-sexed dog no heavier than 10 kilograms when fully grown and all cats and dogs must be registered with local council and copy of registration provided to Coast2Bay before approval will be given.** Tenant can also apply for approval for up to two small birds in a cage or fish in a small aquarium. You must also comply with your local government laws. You are responsible for checking your local government laws regarding these requirements as well as seeking approval under Coast2Bay Housing Group pet policy guidelines.

Snakes and reptiles will not be approved in any Coast2Bay managed property.

Special circumstances to keep a pet

If you have special circumstances or a medical need to keep a pet, complete a Pet Application form and attach supporting evidence outlining your needs, for example, a letter from a medical practitioner, psychologist, support worker or other suitably qualified person explaining why you need to keep a pet.

Applying for approval to keep a pet

1. Check your local government laws about keeping a pet in your type of housing and the area where you live.
2. Complete a *Pet Application* form available from nearest Coast2Bay Housing Group office
3. Attach a veterinarian's certificate confirming your pet has been de-sexed. If your pet is too young to be de-sexed, approval may be given subject to your pet being de-sexed when it is older. Please note that:
 - Dogs must be de-sexed by seven months of age, and
 - Cats must be de-sexed by three months of age

It should be noted that if a property is managed under a Body Corporate arrangement Coast2Bay are required to seek approval through Body Corporate Management, this process can take up to 21 days.

When completed, send the Pet Application form and any other documentation required to your nearest Coast2Bay Housing Group office. We will advise you in writing of the outcome of your application.

Withdrawing approval to keep a pet

As a tenant, you must ensure that you keep your pet according to your General Tenancy Agreement, and local government laws.

Coast2Bay Housing requires that all pets be registered, micro-chipped and have all vaccinations. Proof of the above must be provided to nearest Coast2Bay Housing Group office within 21 days of receiving your conditional approval to keep a pet. Failure to provide the requested information will result in approval to keep a pet withdrawn and may place your tenancy at risk.

If complaints are received that your pet is interfering with the reasonable peace, comfort and privacy of neighbours, we will investigate. If you are in breach of your General Tenancy Agreement or of local government laws, we may withdraw our approval to keep a pet. We may also take action under the *Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation Act 2008* or refer the matter to the local government authority.