

## MEDIA RELEASE

27 August 2020

### **Save money by microchipping your animal at upcoming discount days**

Gladstone Regional Council will hold three discounted microchipping days from next week prior to animal registration renewal notices being issued from the first week of October.

This year Council will not be accepting registration unless the animal is microchipped (if born after April 2009) and the microchipping details are provided to Council.

Exemptions only apply if written evidence is provided from a veterinarian stating that microchipping would place the animal's health at risk.

Once the written evidence is received, Council will apply the microchipping discount the animal's annual registration. Approved Council-assessed working dogs are also exempt.

The three microchipping days will be held on:

- Wednesday 2 September, 8am to 6pm at Gladstone Region Pound (17 Albert Road, Callemondah)
- Wednesday 9 September, 11am to 6pm at Miriam Vale Community Centre (41 Blomfield Street)
- Saturday 12 September, 8am to 6pm at Gladstone Region Pound.

Cost is \$15 per animal with a limit of one person per animal. Bookings are essential and can be made by calling Council on 4970 0700.

Council asks residents paying by cash to bring the correct amount on the day with EFTPOS the preferred payment method.

Animals must be restrained on a leash or in a cage before and after attending an appointment.

Gladstone Region Councillor Chris Trevor said Council's animal registration fee structure includes incentives for responsible pet owners that have desexed or microchipped their pet.

"Microchipping your animal will further reduce your animals' annual registration with Council as desexed and microchipped animals can save up to \$18 per annum for their annual registration," Councillor Trevor said.

"Early payment discounts will also apply if paid within 37 days of the renewal notice issue.

**<MORE>**

MEDIA INFORMATION: For further information contact Council's Communications and Marketing Section on 4977 6803 or [media@gladstone.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@gladstone.qld.gov.au)

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“This is usually a 30-day period, but this year Council has allowed one extra week for payment of registration renewal to account for the possible delay in postage of notices to mailboxes due to COVID-19.”

Cr Trevor said it is a Queensland Government legislative requirement that all animals born after April 2009 be microchipped and the microchipping details updated with Council.

“The requirement states that dogs and cats aged 12 weeks and over must be registered and microchipped and the animal owners provide these details to their local council,” Cr Trevor said.

“Microchipping is the best way to reunite lost animals with their owners and we are encouraging residents to ensure their contact details are up to date leading up to animal registration renewal notices being issued.”

Cr Trevor said further microchipping dates and times were added to allow for more residents to take advantage of the discount.

“Extending the Wednesday microchipping hours until 6pm and adding a Saturday microchipping day allows workers who cannot make it during the workday to book an appointment outside business hours,” Cr Trevor said.

“All new registrations taken on each of the microchipping days includes complimentary registration for the remainder of the 2019/20 period.

“These new animal owners will be included in the registration renewal period and receive a renewal letter for the 2020/21 period. The animal’s registration tag will be issued once the renewal payment is made.

“Several animal registration payment options are available with a pensioner discount also offered.”

If animal owners have recently had their pet microchipped at a local veterinary clinic, and to ensure that they are receiving the discounted registration for their animal, can forward the microchipping certificate or microchip number to Council by visiting [www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/registration](http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/registration), emailing a copy of the certificate to [info@gladstone.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@gladstone.qld.gov.au), phoning Council on 4970 0700 or visiting a Council office.

Visit [www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/microchipping-day](http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/microchipping-day) for more information on the upcoming microchipping days.

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