

## Local Laws Assisting with Disputes

South Gippsland Shire Council understands that barking dogs can become a nuisance to residents. In accordance with the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, a process has been developed to help with these matters.

Those needing to report a barking dog will be asked to provide some basic information such as; name, contact number, the property where the dog is located and the type/breed of the dog.

Once the request has been lodged with Customer Service they will be provided with a Customer Request Number to assist with any enquiries, their details will remain confidential.

Local Laws will then review the request and contact the owner of the dog to discuss the complaint. It is requested that those who make a complaint to allow two weeks for any new training techniques to be introduced to the dog.

Local Laws is available in further circumstance where continual barking occurs and will discuss next steps as appropriate.

South Gippsland Shire Council Local Laws Coordinator Bruce Gardiner wanted to ensure the community was aware this assistance was available.

“We encourage and thank the community for their ongoing participation and support, these processes are aimed to help settle disputes.

“Local Laws wants to help the community and this is just a small way in which we can help provide clarity and recommend resources to affected owners,” said Mr Gardiner.

Individuals who need to register a nuisance are encouraged to contact Council’s Customer Service team on 5662 9200

For further information regarding dispute resolution please contact the Dispute Settlement Centre on 1800 658 528 or visit [www.disputes.vic.gov.au](http://www.disputes.vic.gov.au)

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