

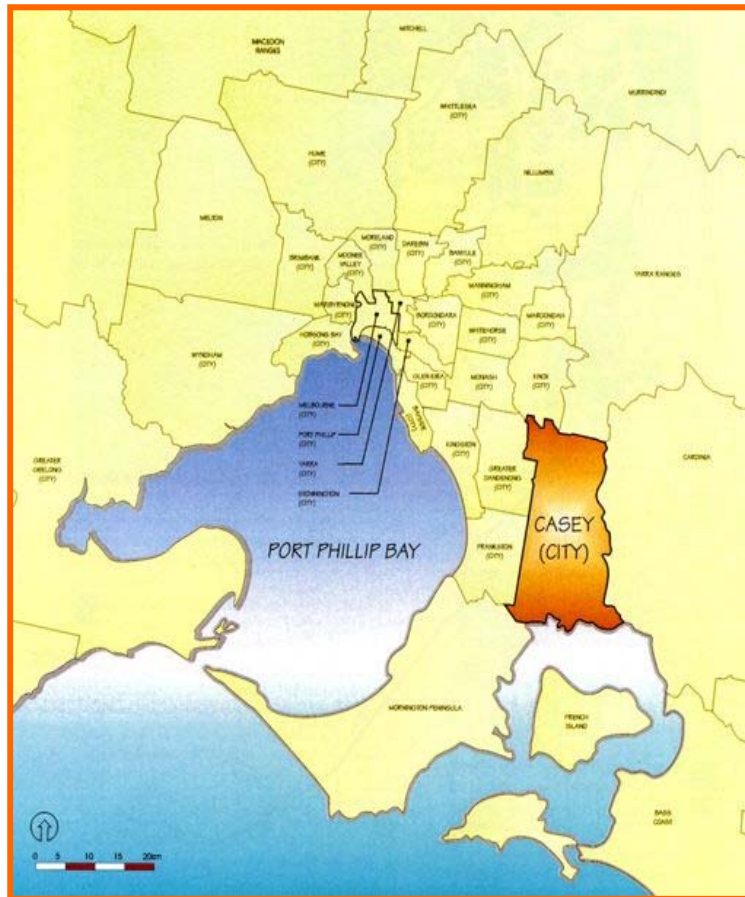
# Inquiry Into Declared Dog Breeds

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# Council Overview



Situated 40kms south east of Melbourne

Victoria's most populous municipality

Population 288,756 with a projected population of 459,000 by 2036

Casey has one of the highest number of registered dogs within the State, 25,327 as at June 2015

# Statistics

	Dog Registrations	Declared Restricted	Declared Menacing	Declared Dangerous	Dog Impounds	Dog Attacks	Prosecutions	Hospital Admissions
2013	25,474	16	12	10	2521	205	7	35
2014	25,289	11	9	8	2393	209	9	34
2015	25,327	6	8	7	2621	164	12	

- » Even though reported as such, no investigated attacks were caused by restricted breed/s.
- » Declared restricted breeds numbers have declined due to natural attrition
- » Prosecutions have increased due to serious nature of injuries

# Challenges

- » Complex process
  - Lack of available training
  - Five of sixteen AMO's have ability to declare
  - Time and cost restraints
  - Applying the standard
- » Breed experts evidence against authorised officers
- » Community understanding of differences of a dangerous dog opposed to a restricted breed dog
- » Media focus on particular breeds

# Case Study

- » VCAT appeal
- » Breed experts evidence against authorised officers
- » Declaration was set aside
- » Restricted breed operation report

# Council Process

- » 202 new registrations of dogs perceived to be of restricted type during 2011 amnesty
- » Council adopted a declared dog portfolio system
- » Each animal was tested against restricted breed standard
- » Operation order implemented during and post amnesty period

# Opportunities

- » Enhance menacing dog provisions
- » National identification database
- » Increased level of staff training
- » Include ministers approved training into industry standard certificate IV animal control & regulation
- » Council & state level education programs
- » DELWP to provide
  - Legal advice on behalf of councils
  - Breed experts to assess and give evidence on restricted breed/s

# Summary

- » Council support inquiry into breed specific legislation
- » Difficulty in applying the standard
- » Authorised officers are not breed experts
- » Community engagement & education of declared types



# Questions?