



Animals in the Library Policy

Adoption Date:	July 2019
Review Date:	July 2021
Policy Classification:	Operational
Version:	1
Division/Department:	Community Services/Woollahra Libraries
HPECM Record Number:	17/164992

1 Policy Statement

As a risk minimisation initiative, Woollahra Libraries requires that, in accordance with section 16 of the Library Regulation 2010 and as part of the Library Act 1939, customers must not bring animal/s into the library.

The only exception will be an assistance animal trained to alleviate the effect of a disability as defined in section 9 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth).

Councils are entitled to request reasonable proof that your animal is a genuine assistance animal. This means proof: that the person has a disability; or that the animal has been trained to alleviate the effect of the disability.

Woollahra Libraries may allow animals for a particular program or event.

Staff at all service points are required to enforce the terms of this policy. The emphasis being the continuous minimization of risk and the provision of a safe library environment for all.

2 Objective

The provision of a safe environment, where risk is minimised at all times as part of Woollahra Libraries' commitment to the ongoing safety and wellbeing of the community.

3 Definitions

Term	Meaning
Assistance Animal	An assistance animal in NSW is a dog or other animal that is either: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. accredited under a law of a State or Territory that provides for the accreditation of animals trained to assist a person with a disability to alleviate the effect of that disability; OR

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. accredited by an animal training organisation prescribed by the Commonwealth; OR 3. trained to assist a person with a disability to alleviate the effect of that disability, and, to meet standards of hygiene and behaviour appropriate for an animal in a public place.
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4 Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operation Plan

This Policy relates to Themes, Goals and Strategies outlined in Council's Community Strategic Plan Woollahra 2030 and Priorities outlined in Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan, specifically:

Theme: Community leadership and participation

Goal: 11 Well managed Council

Strategy: 11.6 Minimise risk for Council and the community

5 Relevant Legislation

Library Act 1939 (NSW)

Library Regulation 2010 (NSW)

Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Clth)

6 Related Policies and Procedures

	HPECM Reference

This Policy will be reviewed every two years or as required in the event of legislative changes. This Policy may also be changed as a result of other amendments that are to the advantage of Council and in the spirit of this Policy.

Any amendment to this Policy must be by way of the approval of the General Manager.

Policy Amendments

Date	Responsible Officer	Description