**Fact Sheet 3**

**Excessive Barking: What to do**

If you are living near a dog that barks excessively:

**Approach the owner:**
We encourage the public to try and resolve problems with their neighbour's dogs by firstly approaching the dog owner when the problem arises, stating your case clearly and politely. They may not be aware of the issue. It may help to provide them with times the dog is barking.

**Unapproachable owners:**
If the problem persists after a week or two, speak to the owner again to provide feedback on the control method. If your neighbour is unapproachable or does not agree that the problem exists, then a Nuisance Dog Complaint should be submitted, or hard copy delivered to reception at the Council administration offices on 41 Peko Road, Tennant Creek.

**Continuous barking:**
If the barking problem continues, and further complaints are lodged, the Animal Health Officer may issue a noise abatement notice which requires the owner to abate the noise. This notice is effective for six (6) months.

**Failure to comply:**
If the owner does not comply with the notice, they may be issued an infringement notice of $200 or be taken to court.

**False reports:**
Complainants who make false reports, for whatever reason, may incur civil court action for false declaration.