



Dear Community Member,

A member of our community has downloaded this letter to send to you on the basis that they believe **your dog has been barking excessively and disturbing neighbours.**

While I don't get involved in such matters directly, I can say with confidence that peaceful, well-maintained neighbourhoods bring stronger prices when it comes time to sell. As a local real estate agent with over 20 years of experience in Liverpool and South-West Sydney, I've seen firsthand how ongoing noise issues can impact buyer perception and property values across an entire street.

The sender of this letter just wanted to bring the matter to your attention in a way that can build a stronger community, rather than escalate the situation or involve council authorities.

Excessive dog barking creates several problems:

- **Sleep disruption** — affects health, work performance, and quality of life for your neighbours
- **Stress and anxiety** — constant barking creates tension for families, children, and other pets
- **Community relationships** — ongoing noise issues damage trust between neighbours
- **Street reputation** — buyers ask about noise issues when considering properties
- **Property values** — streets known for barking problems might sell for less

Perhaps you're unaware of how often your dog barks when you're not home, or maybe you didn't realize the impact it's having on neighbours who work from home, have young children, or are trying to rest.

What Would Help

- **Identify the trigger** — is your dog barking when alone, bored, or responding to other dogs?
- **Provide mental stimulation** — toys, puzzles, and exercise can reduce anxiety-driven barking
- **Consider training** — professional dog trainers can help address excessive barking
- **Bring your dog inside** during peak quiet times (early morning, late evening)
- **Check with your vet** — sometimes barking is caused by pain, anxiety, or medical issues
- **Speak to neighbours** — they may be able to tell you when the barking is worst

The sender has chosen to approach this respectfully and privately, rather than making a formal complaint to your local council. They're hoping this letter will be enough to resolve the issue and maintain good relationships in our street.

Our community is a great place to live, and small actions from each of us can make a big difference in keeping it that way.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

BJ Gregory

Real Estate Agent & Community Advocate

This letter is part of The Good Neighbour Project — a community initiative providing free, non-confrontational letter templates to help residents address common neighbourhood issues with respect and empathy.

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Dear Community Member,

A member of our community sent you a letter approximately two weeks ago regarding **excessive barking from your dog**. Unfortunately, they've advised that the issue is still occurring, which is why you're receiving this follow-up.

While I don't get involved in such matters directly, I can tell you that ongoing noise complaints do affect community perception and property values. As a local real estate agent, I've seen buyers walk away from streets where barking dog issues are known problems — even when individual properties are well-presented.

The sender has been patient and understanding, but they're now at the point where they need to see a change. This letter is a final courtesy before they escalate the matter to your local council.

The sender wants to assume the best:

- Perhaps you didn't receive the first letter
- Maybe you're unaware of how often your dog barks when you're not home
- It's possible you're working on the issue but haven't found a solution yet
- You might not realize the impact it's having on neighbours' sleep, work, and family life

However, the reality is that continued excessive barking is affecting your neighbours' quality of life, creating stress and tension, and making the street less peaceful for everyone.

If a complaint is made to council, they will:

- **Investigate the complaint** by contacting you and potentially monitoring the barking
- **Issue a nuisance order** requiring you to control your dog
- **May Impose fines** up to \$3,300 for failure to comply with a nuisance order
- **Take court action** in extreme cases, which can result in higher penalties or orders to rehome the dog

The sender doesn't want to make a formal complaint, but they will if the barking continues.

Here's what they're asking:

- Take immediate action to identify why your dog is barking (boredom, anxiety, lack of exercise)
- Consult a professional dog trainer or veterinarian for advice
- Bring your dog inside during peak quiet times (early morning, late evening, overnight)
- Provide mental stimulation and exercise to reduce anxiety-driven barking
- Be mindful that your dog's behaviour is affecting multiple families in the street

The sender has tried to be patient, respectful, and understanding. They've given you time to address this privately. But if the barking continues after this letter, they will have no choice but to make a formal complaint to council. **Improving your neighbourhood value is the responsibility of all residents, and we would appreciate your help to make our area more enjoyable.**

Our community works best when we all take responsibility for our actions and respect our neighbours.

Thank you for taking this seriously.

BJ Gregory

Real Estate Agent

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