

# Pets Policy

## 1. Policy

Uniting Vic.Tas (Uniting) acknowledges the value of pets to renter’s health and well-being, and the responsibilities renters have to those pets and others in the community.

Uniting will manage renter’s applications to keep a pet at a Uniting residence in accordance with relevant legislation.

Depending on the jurisdiction, in this policy:

In this document		Victoria	Tasmania
Renter	shall mean	Renter	Tenant
Rental agreement	Shall mean	Rental agreement	Tenancy agreement

## 2. Scope

This information applies to all rental properties owned and managed by Uniting.

## 3. Procedure

**Uniting representatives will:**

- require renters to:
  - apply to Uniting to keep an animal in a property owned by Uniting on the [Pet request form](#)
  - apply for third party permission, for example when a property is in a head leased arrangement with Uniting and provide evidence of the outcome of the application on request.
  - only keep an animal as permitted in legislation, for example Local Laws requirements for registering and keeping pets
- when assessing applications to keep a pet, consider:
  - any rule, like strata rules, that control pet ownership
  - the type and number of animals. In most situations, Uniting will not permit more than two pets per household.
  - the suitability and welfare of the animal
  - if the animal is an assistance or service animal in terms of relevant legislation
  - the potential or history of the animal interfering with the reasonable peace, comfort, and privacy of neighbours
  - professional advice, as appropriate

Document Name: <i>Uniting Housing Pets Policy</i>	Policy Area: <i>Quality, Risk &amp; Compliance</i>	
Document Number: <i>UP-UHA-025</i>	Classification: <i>Internal/External</i>	
Version Number: <i>1.0</i>	Document Owner: <i>General Manager, Housing &amp; Property</i>	
Publication date: <i>23/06/2023</i>	Endorsed by: <i>General Manager, Housing &amp; Property</i>	
CMS embedded: <i>n/a</i>	<i>Printed copies of this document are considered uncontrolled.</i>	Page <b>1</b> of <b>2</b>

- manage complaints or damage caused by an animal in accordance with relevant policy and procedure.
- withdraw permission to keep an animal on the basis of following relevant policy and procedure.

## 4. Legislation/Regulations

### National

*Age Discrimination Act 2004 (Cth)*  
*Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth)*  
*Sex Discrimination Act 1984 (Cth)*  
*National Rental Affordability Scheme Act 2008 (Cth)*  
*National Rental Affordability Scheme Regulations 2020 (Cth)*

### Tasmania

*Community Housing Providers National Law (Tasmania) Act 2013 (Tas)*  
*Family Violence Act 2004 (Tas)*

### Victoria

*Housing Act 1983 (Vic)*  
*Residential Tenancies Act 1997 (Vic)*  
*Residential Tenancies Regulations 2021 (Vic)*  
*Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)*  
*Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 (Vic)*  
*Public Health and Wellbeing (Prescribed Accommodation) Regulations 2020 (Vic)*  
*Noise (Residential) Accommodation Services; Environment Protection (Residential Noise) Regulations 2018 (Vic)*  
*Environment Protection Act 2017 (Vic); Environment Protection Regulations 2021 (Vic)*  
 Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework (MARAM)  
 Charter of Human Rights

## 5. Related documents

Eligibility and Allocations Policy  
 Breach of rental agreement Policy  
[Pet request form](#)

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