

Recommendation release of Toby to existing owner 98 Mitchell Street, Cunderdin, owner Penny Bloodworth.

On the 12 September 2022, I conducted door knocks to neighbouring properties of 98 Mitchell St, Cunderdin. I attended to 102 Mitchell St and spoke to occupant Martia Hassett in relation to approval of dog application process for three dogs to be kept and contained at neighbouring house.

Martia informed me that she accepts and approves of three dogs to the property. Martia advised me that it was her nephew that was involved in the dog attack. She stated that this was the first time in 15 months that Toby was on the outside of property.

To her recollection she believed the gate was unlatched and he wasn't wearing his perimeter collar. Furthermore, stated that her dog was on heat at the time.

I Attended to 96 Mitchell St and spoke to Christine Heuston who stated she approves of the three dogs and stated they are an excellent reliant for property protection as she had issues in the past with people around her property.

She stated having the dogs next door allows her to be alerted to any suspicious activities in the neighbourhood. Christine stated her and her husband both feed the dogs bones and they have resided at the property for three years and have not had any issues with the dogs. She further stated that sometimes kids walk past Penny's property and stir the dogs up (Potential mitigating factors relative to recommendation).

I attended to 98 Mitchell St and spoke to Penny Bloodworth in relation to the application she had made. I conducted a perimeter check and inspection of the property. I obtained photographs of the fencing.

Penny stated that she was in the process of heightening the fences of the property to help assist in containment. She stated they always wear their collars, however on this one occasion she took Toby's off and forgot to place it on when she was headed out for the day. She also may have left the gate unlatched at the time of departing.

As a Ranger for the WA Contract Ranger Services, I place my recommendation forward that all parties have approved of the 3-6 dog permit application. I conducted the necessary inspections pursuant to the *Dog Regulations 2013*. There are nil concerns for an additional dog to be placed onto the property.

My recommendation for Toby, is that if he is approved and authorised by Chief Executive Officer of Cunderdin Shire that he is to be kept contained and controlled to the perimeter of 98 Mitchell St, Cunderdin and at all times is to wear an aided collar for boundary recognition.

Mitigating circumstances and evidence of the dog attack suggest that it was out of character for Toby to enter an aggressive manner and was overwhelmed by being outside of his property line. There were numerous children and other dogs present at the time of the attack with a female dog presenting and displaying "heat". This can cause for an entire male

dog to become overt and attentive, which may have indicated as to why his behaviour was forthcoming at the time.

I recommended dog permit to be approved with no further issues.

*Sincerely,*

*Amber Frankhuizen*

*WA Contract Ranger Services*

*12 September 2022*