

Keeping Animals

Residents are entitled to keep domestic animals as pets provided they do not cause a nuisance through containment, noise or hygiene issues.



Controls may be considered where the following issues arise:

Containment

The animal is not positively contained. This means the property has not been provided with fencing or enclosures which will ensure that the types of animals kept on the premise are contained wholly within the property at all times.

Noise Control

Where animals kept on the premise are generating offensive noise as defined under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.

Hygiene

Where conditions exist which would unreasonably affect the health and wellbeing of occupants, nearby residents and/or the animal.

Such conditions may include:

- accumulation or inadequate disposal of faeces
- accumulation of stale, rotten food or bones
- attraction of rodents and/or flies
- the unreasonable existence of odours
- inadequate drainage causing animals to be kept or exercised on poorly drained surfaces
- infestations of fleas and ticks or other parasites
- unreasonable accumulations of hair, fur or skin.

Resolving Complaints

Where a problem is identified in relation to the keeping of animals and it cannot be resolved through consultation, Council may issue a Notice of Intention to serve an Order under the Local Government Act 1993.

An Order is an instruction from Council to comply with controls imposed. Normally the animal owner will be given every opportunity to make representation to Council prior to a formal Order being issued. In situations that constitute a serious risk to public health or safety, an emergency Order may be issued without prior notice.

In response to proven complaints, Council may impose controls on the number of animals and the manner in which they are kept

If you are planning to keep animals for commercial purposes you will likely be required to obtain development consent from Council. Please obtain advice from a Town Planner.

See Council's [Keeping of Poultry Factsheet](#) for specific requirements relating to the keeping of poultry.

Further Information

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