



Keeping of Domestic Animals

Application	All Staff and Community Members
Responsible Officer	Compliance Officer
File No	CM:POL:CWP
Authorised by	Council
Effective Date	19.09.2023
Distribution	Internet / Intranet / Public Exhibition

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to inform the community of the statutory restrictions and acceptable limits which apply to the keeping of certain animals for domestic purposes, to identify which animals are prohibited within Carrathool Shire Council and to give guidance and advice to persons inquiring about the keeping of animals for domestic purposes.

Definitions

Council: Carrathool Shire Council

Companion Animal: A dog, a cat, or any other animal that is prescribed by the Companion Animal Regulations (the Regulations) as a companion animal. As at the date of the implementation of this Policy, no other animals have been classified as companion animals.

Reference

This policy compliments other legislation and where is it silent on matters referred to in the following legislation such matters must be followed in accordance with the legislation.

- Companion Animals Act, 1998
- Local Government Act, 1993
- Local Government (General) Regulation, 2021
- Protection of the Environment Operations Act, 1997
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979
- The Impounding Act, 1993

Policy statements

Introduction

This policy applies to animals kept for domestic reasons and include companion animals, pets or those animals kept for hobby interests. This Policy is not intended to replace or supersede the requirements of the *Companion Animals Act 1998* or the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979*.

Where it is intended to keep animals for any commercial purposes, it is necessary that a development application be submitted to Council and planning consent obtained. Consent to the operation of Commercial Animal Establishments may not be allowed where the Council considers that the proposal would be harmful to the amenity of the locality.

Special provisions may be given to people who temporarily house certain animals as part of a legitimate foster care arrangement or care for pets of family and friends while they are on holidays etc. so long as health and amenity of the neighbourhood is preserved.

	Effective Date:	19.09.2023
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Basic Requirements

The number of animals that may be kept at a premise should not exceed the number prescribed as appropriate to the kind of animal listed in the Table of Requirements included in this policy.

The kind of animal that is suitable to be kept at any premises will be determined having regard for the size of the available yard area and the distance to the nearest dwelling or other prescribed building. Certain statutory requirements also apply as noted in the table.

It should not be assumed that animals of all kinds may be kept on premises that are part of a multiple dwelling development.

Animals should be kept in a manner which does not:

- create unclean or unhealthy conditions for people or for the animals.
- attract or provide a harbourage for vermin.
- create offensive noise or odours.
- cause a drainage or dust nuisance.
- create waste disposal or pollution problems.
- create an unreasonable annoyance to neighbouring residents or fear or safety.
- cause nuisance due to proliferation of flies, lice, fleas or other insects.

Animals should not be kept at premises used for the manufacture, preparation, sale or storage of food for human consumption.

Suitable shelter(s) should be provided for all animals. Certain species of animals are required to be kept in cages to prevent escape or attack by predators. Generally, other animals are to be securely enclosed with adequate fencing to prevent escape.

Dogs Leash Free Areas

To work alongside the Companion Animals policy following areas are designated leash free areas in accordance with the Companion Animals Act:

Hillston	the area known as "Desathlon" (Dinosaur) Park, or the Lachlan River Walking Trail on the western side of the Lachlan River.
Goolgowi	from the eastern side of Cobram Street, north from 60km road sign near the intersection at the water storage tanks, to the intersection with Brady's Road, then back towards town to the 60km road sign which will include the area known as Bunyip Walk.
Rankins Springs	the area bounded by Mon Road and Lake Street from Main Road 371 (Lake Cargelligo Road) to the point where Suburb Street would intersect with Mon Road.
Carrathool	the area surrounding the Carrathool Waste depot to the south of town.
Merriwagga	the area bounded by the railway land to the west and Devon Street between Lallat and Marne Streets and Charney and Fleury Streets, and Aix Street between Marne and Charney Streets."



HORSES

Council may permit upon application the keeping of horses within towns and villages in accordance with the Horse Free Areas shown in the attached maps.

ADDITIONAL ANIMALS

Any cattle, goats and sheep shall not be kept on premises within the town and village boundaries without the prior approval of the Council.

Council will not permit the keeping of pigs within the town and village boundaries.

Revision Table

Minute /Date	Amendment Reason or Reference
1056./20.08.2019	Combine Policies: Policy 59 Keeping of Animals Policy 64 Horse Free Areas Policy 65 Horse Keeping in Goolgowi Policy 66 Horses Keeping in Hillston Policy 76 Dogs Leash Free Areas
0654/19.09.2023	Review with minor changes

Review

This policy may be amended from time to time and will be reviewed within four years of its adoption (or latest amendment) with reference to any relevant legislation and best practice guides.

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	Kind of Animal	Max Number (Excluding Offspring to 3 months of age)	Minimum Area & Zone	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings)	Applicable Regulations & Other Advisory Matters
1	Dogs & cats	-	-	-	As per Companion Animals Act 1998
2	Poultry & domestic guinea fowl, ducks, geese, turkeys, peafowl & other pheasants	10 5	-	4.5m – poultry & guinea fowl 30m – all others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 applies. Hard paving must be provided under roosts in poultry house if within 15.2m of a dwelling, public hall or school Poultry yard must be enclosed to prevent escape and must be kept free of rats and mice Roosters should not be kept where crowing will cause offensive noise
3	Pigeons	<10 >10 Development application must be submitted, accompanied by a statement of Environmental Effects.	-	6m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NSW 'Exempt and Complying Development Codes SEPP 2008' – outlines design particulars for the construction of aviaries that do not require Development Consent of the Council. Nuisance noise and also free flight of pigeons is to be minimised. Lofts must be kept clean at all times. Manure is to be cleaned up daily and disposed of correctly. On no account should birds be allowed to roost on neighbouring buildings. Open lofts are not permitted.
4	Sulphur crested cockatoo, galah & long billed corella	2 (portable cages) 4 (aviary)	-	3m 6m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely to be noisy if kept as single cage birds
5	All birds except those mentioned in 3 & 4	As appropriate for species, size of cage/aviary or bird room. 30 budgerigars per cubic metre of aviary 30+	-	3m 6m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cages and aviaries must be of appropriate size and regularly cleaned All birds should be kept in accordance with the Code of Ethics produced by the Associated Bird keepers and Traders Inc. Noisy birds should be restricted in number A Department of Environment & Conservation (national Parks & Wildlife) permit is required to keep many native birds. Exemptions include budgerigar, zebra finch, galah and sulphur crested cockatoo



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6	Rabbits	2 2-100 Permit required from DPI >100 Permit required and fee payable to DPI	-	3m 6m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be domestic breed and kept in suitable enclosure • Must not be released into the environment • Restriction of number is imposed by the Department of Primary Industries (Agriculture) under the Rural Lands Protection Act 1998
7	Ferrets Undesexed hobs (males)	4	-	- 6m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If ferrets are exercised outdoors adequate fencing to prevent escape is essential • Undesexed hobs should be caged outdoors during the months October-February when females are on heat
8	Pet rats, mice & guinea pigs	12 (any combination)	-	3m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be kept in appropriate cages and not released into the environment. Should be kept outside of dwelling
9	Sheep & goats	1	1,500m ²	6m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Billy goats should not ordinarily be kept on residential premises • Prior approval of Council is required for areas inside of town and village boundaries • No restrictions apply to rural residential or rural zones
10	Pigs	1	2 hectares (rural land only)	60m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The keeping of pigs is not appropriate in residential areas • Developmental consent is required for developments involving the keeping of more than 20 breeding sows or 200 pigs (under State Environmental Planning Policy 30 – Intensive Agriculture) • Note: An EIS is required where proposed in environmentally sensitive areas or where more than 200 sows/2,000 pigs are proposed
11	Bees	12 Hives	3,000m ² (rural residential/rural land)	As appropriate to ensure flight paths are a minimum of 2m above neighbouring properties Hives should not be located within the vicinity of Schools, childcare centres, hospitals or other public facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each hive is required to be registered with the Department of Primary Industries (Agriculture) • Hives should be constructed and kept in accordance with the Code of Practice for Beekeeping in NSW (see DPI or www.agric.nsw.gov.au) • Bee flight paths to and from hive should be kept distant from outdoor areas frequently used by humans • There is no limit on number of bee hives situated on land >3,000m²

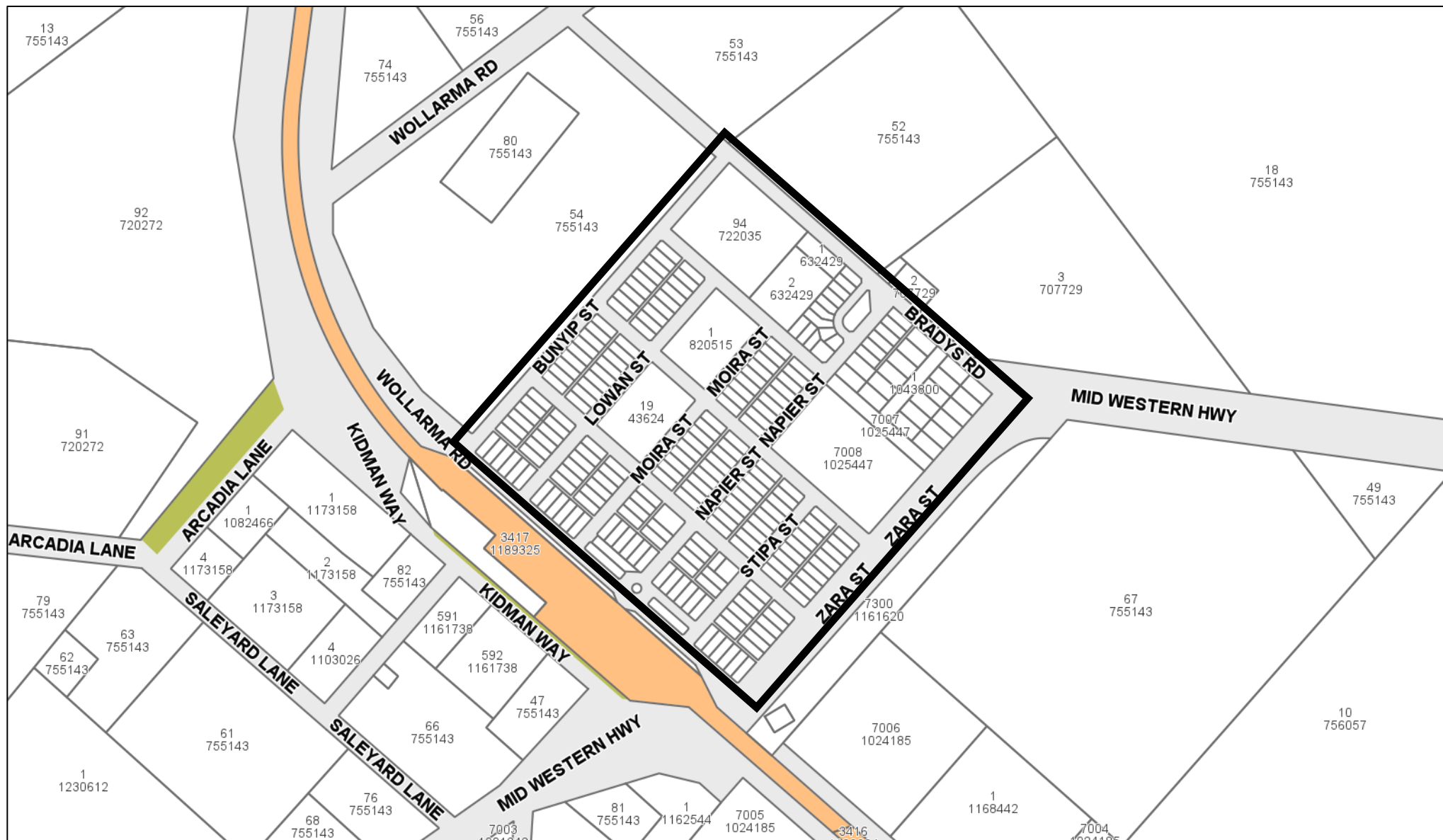


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12	Horses	1	3,000m ²	9m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The keeping of horses on residential properties is not considered appropriate Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 applies See other relevant exclusion areas listed in this policy
13	Cattle	1	3,000m ²	9m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The keeping of cattle on residential properties is not considered appropriate Prior approval of Council is required for areas inside of town and village boundaries
14	Reptiles	As appropriate	-	As appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advice on keeping reptiles should be sought from the Department of Environment & Conservation (National Parks & Wildlife) in all cases National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974 applies All species must be adequately housed to prevent escape
15	Fish, aquarium & pond	As appropriate	-	As appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water is to be maintained at a clean and sufficient level Ponds are to be made child-safe if more than 300, in depth by appropriate fencing. Must comply with AS 1926



GOOLGOWI HORSE FREE AREA





HILLSTON HORSE FREE AREAS

