



ANIMAL MANAGEMENT STANDARD

Adopted: 12 February 2021

TRIM 001948.2021



1. PURPOSE/ OBJECTIVE

1.1 To provide information on the keeping of animals within Liverpool Local Government Area (LGA) to:

- a) Ensure residents' amenity is not impacted adversely by the keeping of animals;
- b) Safeguard wildlife and the environment;
- c) Promote responsible animal ownership.

1.2 The Standard aims to:

- a) Inform the community of the main statutory restrictions and acceptable limits which apply to the keeping of certain animals for domestic purposes;
- b) Give guidance and advice to persons inquiring as to the keeping of animals for domestic purposes;
- c) Minimise local nuisance and maximise residential amenity;
- d) Ensure the keeping of animals does not compromise minimum standards of public health, safety and convenience;
- e) Establish local standards, acceptable to the Community, for the keeping of animals.

2. SCOPE

The Standard applies to animals kept within the Liverpool LGA.

3. DEFINITIONS

Residential zones as listed in the Liverpool Local Environment Plan 2008 or another Environmental Planning Instrument applying to the Liverpool Local Government Area .

Rural zones as listed in the Liverpool Local Environment Plan 2008 or another Environmental Planning Instrument applying to the Liverpool Local Government Area.

Wildlife Protection Area – specifically declared land which allows Council to control domestic animals (cats and dogs) in accordance with the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

4. STANDARD REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Animal numbers should be kept in accordance with the requirements detailed in **Appendix 1**.

- 4.2 The kind of animals that are 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.
- 4.3 It should not be assumed that animals of all kinds may be kept on the premises which are part of a multiple dwelling allotment. Where a dwelling is owned within a Strata Plan, it will be necessary for the rules of the Body Corporate to be examined for requirements relevant to the keeping of animals and approval obtained.
- 4.4 Animals should be kept in a manner which does not:
- a) Create unsanitary or unhealthy conditions;
 - b) Attract or provide harbourage for vermin;
 - c) Create offensive noise or odours;
 - d) Cause a drainage or dust nuisance;
 - e) Create a waste disposal problem;
 - f) Create an unreasonable annoyance to neighbouring residents or fear for safety;
 - g) Cause nuisance due to proliferation of flies, lice, fleas or other insects ; and,
 - h) Cause any ill health or distress to the animals.
- 4.5 Suitable facilities and shelter should be provided for all animals. Certain kinds of animals are required to be kept in enclosed locations to prevent escape or attack by predators. Generally other animals are to be securely enclosed with adequate fencing to prevent escape.
- 4.6 Certain animal shelters and facilities should not be erected or located without prior approval of the Council. Residents should refer to the Liverpool Local Environment Plan, any other or another Environmental Planning Instrument applying to the Liverpool Local Government Area and *State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008* to determine which structures require development approval.
- 4.7 Design guidelines for the size, layout and construction of animal shelters are produced by the various animal welfare organisations and the Department of Agriculture. These may be adopted from time to time as supplements to this standard.
- 4.8 Where the number of animals owned by a person before the coming into force of this standard exceeds that shown in Appendix 1, no further or replacement animals should be acquired or bred, with the number to be reduced over time to no more than the maximum as some of the animals die, are given away or sold. This allowance does not prevent the Council from issuing orders to reduce numbers where the circumstances make it appropriate.

4.9 Unleashed Dog Exercise Areas

- 4.9.1 Under the *Companion Animals Act 1998* Council is required to provide at least one area designated for unleashed dog exercise at all times.
- 4.9.2 Before designating an area as an unleashed exercise area Council must:
- a) Ensure the use of that area does not compromise the environment with particular reference to threatened species;
 - b) Undertake appropriate consultation with current users and stakeholders to ensure there is no conflict with these groups; and
 - c) Adequately signpost all unleashed dog exercise areas.
- 4.9.3 Users of the unleashed dog exercise areas must:
- a) Ensure their dog is under supervision and effective control of a person age 16 or above; and
 - b) Remove any dog faeces (poo) and waste produced by their dog(s) and dispose of in a waste bin.
- 4.9.4 Council may allocate areas on either a permanent basis or restricted time basis.
- 4.9.5 Council may terminate the use of any area as an unleashed exercise area where deemed appropriate.
- 4.9.6 Approved unleashed dog exercise areas are listed in [Off Leash Dog Areas | Liverpool City Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.liverpoolcitycouncil.nsw.gov.au/off-leash-dog-areas)

4.10 Prohibited Areas

4.10.1 Cats are prohibited from:

- a) All Wildlife Protection Areas within Liverpool Local Government Area; and
- b) Within 10 metres of food preparation areas provided in a public place.

4.10.2 Dogs are prohibited from:

- a) Rivers and creeks (unless signposted otherwise);
- b) Schools, preschools and childcare centres;
- c) Within 10 meters of children's playgrounds;
- d) Within 10 metres of food preparation areas provided in a public place (except on a public thoroughfare).

4.10.3 Horses and other livestock are prohibited from:

- a) Rivers and Creeks;

- b) Sporting fields, parks and reserves.

4.11 Dogs in outdoor dining areas

4.11.1 Under the *Companion Animals Act 1998*, dogs are allowed in outdoor dining areas of cafes and restaurants under the following conditions:

- a) Consent of café or restaurant owner;
- b) The area must not be enclosed and must be able to be entered by the public without passing through an enclosed area;
- c) Dogs must be on a leash at all times;
- d) Dogs must be on the ground at all times;
- e) Dogs may be provided with drink but not food;
- f) Dangerous and restricted dogs are prohibited.

4.12 Animals prohibited within residential areas

4.12.1 The following animals are not permitted to be kept in residential areas due to likely impact on health and amenity:

- a) Roosters;
- b) Pigs;
- c) Goats;
- d) Sheep;
- e) Horses;
- f) Cattle;
- g) Peacocks;
- h) Llamas; and
- i) Alpacas.

4.13 Compliance

4.13.1 Compliance with this standard will be managed under relevant legislation.

AUTHORISED BY

Chief Executive Officer

EFFECTIVE FROM

12 February 2021

DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE

Community Standards

City Economy & Growth

REVIEW DATE

VERSIONS

Version	Amended by	Changes made	Date	TRIM Number
1	Newly created	NIL	12 February 2021	001948.2021

REFERENCES

Warringah Council: Animal Management Policy

Hurstville City Council: Companion Animal Management Plan

Attachment

Appendix 1

APPENDIX 1

Kind of Animal	Maximum Number (excluding off spring to 3 months of age)	Minimum Distance from Certain buildings)	Applicable regulations and other advisory matters
Poultry domestic and guinea fowl	5	4.5m*	<i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2005</i> applies. Council may, by resolution, insist on greater distances than specified in particular cases.
Poultry other than fowls, including ducks, geese, turkeys, peafowl and other pheasants	5	30*	Hard paving must be provided under roosts in poultry. Be located at least three metres from each lot boundary Poultry yards must be enclosed to prevent escape of poultry. Yards must be kept free of rats and mice. NOTE: Check with Council officers as to whether Development Consent is required. Roosters are not permitted in residential zones.
*located from any dwelling, public hall, school or premises used for the manufacturing, preparation, sale or storage of food.			

Kind of Animal	Maximum Number (excluding off spring to 3 months of age)	Minimum Distance from Certain buildings)	Applicable regulations and other advisory matters
Pigeons	<p>Racing pigeons: including high flyers, rollers</p> <p>Up to 60 provided that the keeper is a certified member of a recognised pigeon racing club, federation or association and is an active member of the sport. If the keeper is not a certified member of a recognised pigeon racing club, federation or association or is not an active member of the sport, then the number of birds shall be limited to 20 (see below Domestic or other pigeons for further information).</p>		<p>Keeping of pigeons is only permissible on properties that have single dwelling or dual occupancy development. Pigeons are not permitted on any other type of residential accommodation, which includes but is not limited to flat buildings and multi dwelling housing.</p> <p>Aviaries (lofts) must be constructed to Council approval on hard paving of a smooth surface.</p> <p>Aviaries (lofts) are to be kept clean at all times. Manure is to be cleaned up daily and disposed of correctly.</p> <p>To minimise odours, owners must design and manage lofts to prevent manure becoming wet in rain or during cleaning.</p> <p>Pigeons must be fed within lofts after exercise. All feed must be kept in vermin proof containers.</p> <p>Racing pigeon aviaries (lofts) should have adequate visible landing platforms.</p> <p>All pigeons must have a leg band with the club name, and unique ID number.</p> <p>Exercising/ free flight should occur between 7:00am and 8.00am and between 4.00pm and 5:00pm give or take 15</p>

Kind of Animal	Maximum Number (excluding off spring to 3 months of age)	Minimum Distance from Certain buildings)	Applicable regulations and other advisory matters
			<p>mins either side of the time restrictions, other times the pigeons must be kept within their enclosure. All exercise should be conducted under close supervision by the owner.</p> <p>The exit and entry of these birds from the Aviary (loft) must be fully controlled. Provision must be made for all released birds to return through a one-way entrance that will not permit uncontrolled exit.</p> <p>On no account should pigeons be allowed to roost on neighbouring buildings.</p> <p>Aviary (loft) doors and traps must be locked at all times with the exception of exercising/free flight time.</p> <p>Free lofting of pigeons outside of free flight time (that is allowing pigeons to freely roam outside of their loft) in a residential area is not permitted. NOTE: Check with Council officers as to whether Development Consent is required for the enclosure.</p>
Pigeons	<p>Domestic other pigeons including fancy pigeons:</p> <p>Up to 20</p>		<p>Keeping of pigeons is only permissible on properties that have single dwelling or dual occupancy development. Pigeons are not permitted on any other type of residential accommodation, which includes</p>

Kind of Animal	Maximum Number (excluding off spring to 3 months of age)	Minimum Distance from Certain buildings)	Applicable regulations and other advisory matters
			<p>but is not limited to flat buildings and multi dwelling housing.</p> <p>Aviaries (Lofts) must be constructed to Council approval on hard paving of a smooth surface or must be an enclosed structure.</p> <p>Aviaries (Lofts) are to be kept clean at all times. Manure is to be cleaned up daily and disposed of correctly.</p> <p>To minimise odours owners must design and manage lofts to prevent manure becoming wet in rain or during cleaning.</p> <p>Pigeons must be fed within the loft. All feed must be kept in vermin proof containers.</p> <p>Free lofting of pigeons (that is allowing pigeons to freely roam outside of their loft) in a residential area is not permitted at any time.</p> <p>On no account should Pigeons be allowed to roost on neighbouring buildings. Aviary (Loft) doors and traps must be locked at all times.</p> <p>NOTE: Check with Council officers as to whether Development Consent is required for the enclosure.</p>

Kind of Animal	Maximum Number (excluding off spring to 3 months of age)	Minimum Distance from Certain buildings)	Applicable regulations and other advisory matters
All birds except for pigeons, sulphur- crested cockatoo, long-billed Corella, poultry and domestic and guinea fowl	As appropriate to species, size of cage/aviary or bird room. Keepers of more than 50 birds should be members of official Agricultural Societies.	Distance appropriate to noise of species and/or sound proofing measures taken.	<p>Aviaries must be of an appropriate size and regularly cleaned. Allow a maximum of 30 budgerigars per cubic meter of aviary.</p> <p>All birds should be kept in accordance with NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice No 4 - Keeping and Trading of Birds. National Parks and Wildlife permit is required to keep many native birds. Exemptions include budgerigar, zebra finch, galah and sulphur-crested cockatoo.</p> <p>NSW Agriculture permit is required for some exotic species.</p> <p>Noisy birds should be restricted in number.</p> <p>NOTE: Check with Council officers as to whether Development Consent is required for the enclosure.</p>
Sulphur-crested cockatoo and long-billed Corella	2 if in portable cages. 4 if in aviary.	Within owners dwelling or at least 3m from rear and each side boundary.	<p>Sulphur-crested cockatoo and long-billed Corella are likely to be noisy if kept as single caged birds.</p> <p>NOTE: Check with Council officers as to whether Development Consent is required for the enclosure.</p>

Kind of Animal	Maximum Number (excluding off spring to 3 months of age)	Minimum Distance from Certain buildings)	Applicable regulations and other advisory matters
Rabbits	1	At least 3m from rear boundary and each side boundary.	<p>Must be domestic breed and kept in cage. Do not release into environment. Restriction on number is imposed by the NSW Agriculture Dept. under the <i>Rural Lands Production Act</i> 1989</p> <p>Hutches and runs are to be kept clean. No smells or pest species are present.</p>
<p>Ferrets</p> <p>Undesexed hobs (mates)</p>	4	At least 3m from rear boundary and each side boundary.	<p>Compliance with de-sexing, proper care, and provision of secure enclosures of adequate size will be relevant factors in assessing requests to keep more than four ferrets. If ferrets are exercised outdoors adequate fencing to prevent escape is essential.</p> <p>Undesexed hobs should be caged outdoors during the months of October-February when females are on heat.</p> <p>NOTE: Check with Council officers as to whether Development Consent is required for the enclosure.</p>
Pet rats, mice and guinea pigs	4	At least 3m from rear boundary and each side boundary.	<p>Must be kept in appropriate cages and not released into the environment. Should be kept outside of dwelling</p> <p>NOTE: Check with Council officers as to whether Development Consent is required for the enclosure.</p>

Kind of Animal	Maximum Number (excluding off spring to 3 months of age)	Minimum Distance from Certain buildings)	Applicable regulations and other advisory matters
Sheep and goats	0		Not permitted in residential zones.
Pigs	0		Not permitted in residential zones.
Horses and cattle	0		Not permitted in residential zones.
Reptiles	As appropriate in the circumstances	As appropriate in the circumstances	<p>Advice on the keeping of reptiles should be sought from National Parks and Wildlife Service in all cases.</p> <p>All species must be adequately housed to prevent escape. The keeping of snakes will cause concern to neighbours.</p>
Fish, aquarium and pond	As appropriate in the circumstances	As appropriate in the circumstances	<p>Water is to be maintained clean and at sufficient levels.</p> <p>Ponds are to be made child - safe if more than 300mm in depth by fencing complying with AS 1926.</p> <p>NOTE: Check with Council officers as to whether Development Consent is required.</p>

Kind of Animal	Maximum Number (excluding off spring to 3 months of age)	Minimum Distance from Certain buildings)	Applicable regulations and other advisory matters
Dogs	Residential Properties - 4 (excluding townhouses units or land area 400m ² or less) Units, townhouses & small land holdings -1 Rural Properties (properties in excess of one hectare) - 6		The <i>Companion Animals Act</i> 1998 requires permanent identification of animals and life time registration. Note: Approval is required from the Body Corporate for Strata Buildings.
Cats	4		Compliance with de-sexing, use of approved identity collars with multiple bells, proper care, restriction of access to outdoors at night will be relevant factors in determining whether more than four cats may be kept at a premises.

Kind of Animal	Maximum Number (excluding off spring to 3 months of age)	Minimum Distance from Certain buildings)	Applicable regulations and other advisory matters
Bees	Maximum 2 hives	As far as practicable from doors or windows of dwellings, paths or outdoor resting areas.	Regulated by the NSW Agriculture Department. (Permit required from Department to locate hives.) Bee flight paths to and from hive should be kept distant from outdoor areas frequently used by humans. Screens may be necessary to raise flight paths. An ample supply of water near to hive is required in summer months. Hives should be constructed to approved guidelines issued by the Department of Primary Industries.

Notes:

(A) Details may change prior to review date due to legislative changes.