

Maintenance and care

Other important points for maintaining clean and healthy conditions are:-

- Ensure all food is stored in sealed containers.
- Ensure adequate clean water is available at all times.
- Regularly clean out poultry houses, pens, runs, stables or sleeping quarters ensuring all waste is removed.
- Take care not to wash waste products into adjoining properties or watercourses.
- Don't leave food or food scraps lying around to attract rodents or vermin.
- Ensure the land is adequately fenced and cages adequately vermin/rodent proof.
- Provide adequate shelter from sun, rain and wind.
- Limit the number of animals to a manageable size, and desexing is recommended.
 - Ensure no offensive odours are created.

Important

If you wish to erect a structure to house or contain the bird/animal eg stable, aviary, etc you must check with Council's Building Assessment and Compliance Section to see if a Development Application is required. This must be done prior to commencing building works.

Many people like to keep birds or animals on their residential properties but choosing to do this poses many responsibilities.

To ensure you keep your bird or animal in a happy and safe environment without upsetting or disturbing your neighbours, it is recommended that you follow these simple guidelines.



For further information about the keeping of birds and other animals in our LGA please contact Council's Ranger Team

Cessnock City Council

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Residential area BIRDS & ANIMALS

in

Cessnock LGA



Responsibilities of bird and animal ownership in

Cessnock LGA

Choosing a bird or animal

Before selecting your bird/animal you should give careful consideration to its suitability within your family and consider these points:

- Do you have sufficient land for the animals needs?
- Does the animal require a lot of grooming/ maintenance or exercise, and if so, do you have sufficient time for this?
- If possible buy from a reputable breeder and have a vet check the animal
- Will a noise nuisance be created eg roosters crowing?
- Will you be able to make suitable arrangements when taking holidays?
- Can you adequately contain the bird/animal within your yard?
- Can you afford the cost of food and vet bills?

Council may impose controls for the keeping of other birds or animals where circumstances warrant eg. pigeons, sheep, goats, rabbits, alpacas.

Legislative requirements

All birds/animals on any premises must be kept in such a way so they don't create a nuisance, an offensive odour or unhealthy conditions. Failure to do this can result in Council issuing an order limiting or preventing the keeping of birds or animals, or the order may place restrictions on the way in which the birds or animals are kept.

Part 5 Schedule 2 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 sets out standards for keeping birds or animals, which are summarised below.

Swine (Pigs)

Must not pollute water supplied for use:
(a) by a person for drinking or domestic purposes, or
(b) in a dairy.

Must not be kept within 60 metres of a dwelling, shop, office, factory, church or other place of public worship, workshop, school or public place in a city, town, village or other urban part of an area.

Council may set a greater distance by serving an order.

Poultry

Fowls (chickens) or guinea fowl must not be kept within 4.5 metres of a dwelling, public hall, school, or premises used for manufacture, preparation, sale or storage of food.

Poultry (eg ducks, geese, turkeys) other than fowl must not be kept within 30 metres of the abovementioned buildings.

The keeping of roosters is inappropriate in a residential area.

All poultry house floors must be paved with concrete or mineral asphalt unless the poultry house;
(a) is not within 15.2 metres of a dwelling, public hall or school, or
(b) is situated on clean sand.

The yard must be fully enclosed to prevent escape and poultry/bird seed must be kept in sealed containers.

Horses and Cattle

Must not be kept within 9 metres of a dwelling, school, shop, office, factory, workshop, church or other place of public worship, public hall or premises used for manufacture, preparation or storage of food.

Stable floors must be paved with concrete or mineral asphalt or similar impervious material and the floor must be graded to drain.

Yards must be fully enclosed to prevent escape.