

KEEPING OF PIGEONS POULTRY & OTHER BIRDS

DEFINITIONS

- “Affiliated Person” – is a member of a properly constituted Pigeon Club.
- “Code of Practice” – means the Code of Practice - Pigeon Keeping and Pigeon Racing, approved by the Pigeon Racing Federation of WA (Incorporated).
- “Miscellaneous Birds” – includes all birds other than poultry and registered homing or racing pigeons.
- “Poultry” – includes fowls, peafowls, turkeys, geese, ducks and the like.
- “Young Birds” – means any birds under 24 days of age and are recognised as birds without feathers on the flesh under their wings.

How many birds may I have?

Poultry

A Person shall not keep poultry on any premises, except in the rural and special rural zones of the district, where up to 20 poultry may be kept. Upon application Council may grant an exemption from this requirement.

Roosters

Roosters shall not be kept on any premises in the district, except within the rural and special rural zones of the district.

Pigeons

Up to 20 pigeons may be kept on any premises in the district. Upon application Council may grant an exemption to an Affiliated Person to keep up to 150 pigeons (exclusive of the Young Birds).

An Affiliated Person who keeps pigeons shall ensure the pigeons are kept in a properly constructed weatherproof pigeon loft that does not exceed 3 metres in height and faces a yard with an unobstructed area of at least 30 square metres.

Miscellaneous Birds

No more than 20 Miscellaneous Birds may be kept on any premises in the district. Upon application Council may grant an exemption to this requirement.

Building Requirements

A building licence may be required for the erection of aviary/chicken coop. Please contact Council’s Building Department regarding specific requirements.

General requirements

- Enclosures shall be kept free from excrement, filth, food waste and all other matter, which is or is likely to become offensive or injurious to health or to attract rats, vermin or insects.
- Enclosures, as far as possible, are to be kept free from flies or insects by spraying with a residual insecticide or other effective means.
- Enclosures must be effectively drained and situated so as not to allow water to drain towards buildings/foundations.
- No enclosures are to be constructed closer than 10 metres to any dwelling, church, schoolroom, hall, factory, dairy or premises whatsoever wherein food is manufactured, packed or prepared for human consumption. Upon application an exemption may be granted to allow a lesser distance.

Noise

When deciding to keep birds of any sort, it is important to consider the type of bird and how much noise they produce. In some instances in the past, people have been instructed to reduce or cease keeping particular birds when the noise they have produced has created a nuisance.

Exemptions

In certain circumstances, the general restrictions imposed by the Health Local Laws relating to the keeping of Pigeons, Poultry and Other Birds can be varied/relaxed to the benefit of responsible persons without causing a nuisance to neighbours or creating a risk to health.

Certain discretionary and exemption provisions are contained within Council's Health Local-laws and applications for exercise of a discretionary provision or exemption shall only be considered where the Council is satisfied that the number of animals or birds to be kept will not be a nuisance, injurious, create a noise problem or dangerous to health.

To enable Council to determine if a nuisance or health risk would be likely to arise in respect of any application, the applicant must provide the following:

- Written comment from all contiguous land owners and/or occupiers;
- Details of the number and type of birds proposed to be kept;
- A plan of the proposed enclosure, which indicates the dimensions and location in relation to dwellings;
- Details of a management plan to be employed by the applicant to contain any potential nuisance or health risk;
- Acknowledgment in writing that the applicant understands that the Council may cancel an exemption should Council be of the opinion that such cancellation is warranted; and
- Acknowledgment in writing that the applicant will comply with any terms or conditions the Council may impose relating to an approval or exemption.
- Application fee for approval to keep poultry, pigeons is \$27.50.

For further details, please contact:

Health Services
City of Rockingham
Civic Boulevard / PO Box 2142
ROCKINGHAM WA 6168

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Fax: 9592 1705