

Draft Keeping of Animals Policy **FAQs**



Central
Coast
Council

Frequently asked questions

When will the policy come into effect?

Council will review all submissions following the public exhibition period. The policy will then be finalised, and a report put back to Council with a recommendation to adopt the policy. If adopted the policy is then in force. This process can take up to 8 weeks to complete.

How do I report tree and vegetation vandalism to Council?

You can report an incident through the following options:

- Online at https://centralcoastcouncil.custhelp.com/app/report_problem
- Email: ask@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au
- Contact Council's customer service team
Phone: 1300 463 954

What happens if the trees or vegetation is not on public land that is managed by Council?

Council will advise you in writing of the correct land authority to contact and provide you their contact details. You will need to report the matter directly as the land authority will need to be able to contact you. Council cannot provide your details to another agency under privacy law.

What happens if the trees or vegetation is on private land that is outside Council's delegated responsibility?

Council will advise you in writing of the correct land authority to contact and provide you their contact details. You will need to report the matter directly as the land authority will need to be able to contact you. Council cannot provide your details to another agency under privacy law.

How long will it take Council to investigate my report?

Council is unable to provide time frames for when compliance investigations will be completed, as each circumstance is different. It is not unusual for investigations to take several months to complete.

What if the tree or vegetation is damaged by accident?

All investigations consider a range of factors to determine the appropriate compliance action. Council will consider all the facts prior to determining a compliance action.

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Does the Policy cover Dogs and Cats?

No the Policy does not include the keeping of dogs and cats as they are managed under the Companion Animals Act which sets out specific criteria for the keeping of companion animals. The Policy covers animals not listed under the Companion animals Act such as Bees, Caged Birds, Horses, pigs sheep, goats, pet rats, mice and guinea pigs, Pigeons Poultry, Rabbits, Ferrets, Reptiles.

Why are Roosters not recommended in residential areas?

Roosters have a habit of crowing during the early hours of the morning, causing sleep disturbance to neighbours, Roosters can be a nuisance in residential areas.

My neighbour keeps chickens and they smell, what can be done?

All animals must be kept in a manner that is clean and healthy for both the animal and neighbours. You can make a report to Council and an Environmental Health Officer can assess the impacts of the keeping of chickens at the premises.

Why can't I keep a pig or miniature horse in my backyard?

The keeping of small farm animals is not recommended in residential areas due to the likely impacts of odour and noise on neighbours. These animals are more suited to small farms and acreages where there is more space to keep these animals without impacts on neighbours.

Are the requirements of the Policy mandatory?

The Policy is a guide and enforcement action may be taken where less than the number of animals are kept but they are deemed to be in an unhealthy or unsafe condition.