



LOCAL ORDERS POLICY - KEEPING OF ANIMALS

Policy No. 14/2021-2024

DATE

- Ordinary Meeting of Council 28.08.2018 and 27.09.2022

POLICY NO:	14/2021-2024
LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS	Local Government Act 1993
RESPONSIBILITY:	DEVELOPMENT & COMPLIANCE
OBJECTIVE:	<p>a) To inform the community of the statutory restrictions and acceptable limits which apply to the keeping of certain animals for domestic purposes.</p> <p>b) To give guidance and advice to persons inquiring as to the keeping of animals for domestic purposes.</p> <p>c) To establish standards, acceptable to the community, for the keeping of animals.</p> <p>d) To publicly notify the circumstances that the Council will consider in determining whether to serve an Order under Section 124 of the Local Government Act, 1993 to prohibit, restrict or in some other way, require things to be done regarding the keeping of animals.</p> <p>e) To identify which animals are prohibited within The Hills Shire Council and the circumstances in which such animals are prohibited.</p>
REVIEW	Within the first 12 months of each term of Council or as required.

Contents

Section	Subject	Page
1	Overview	4
2	Introduction	4
3	Purpose of the Policy	5
4	Policy Objectives	5
5	Principles	5
6	Policy requirements	5
7	Unleashed Dog Exercise Areas	6
8	Prohibited Areas	7
9	Dogs in Outdoor Dining Areas	7
10	Animals Prohibited within Residential Areas	7
11	Variation to the Policy	8
12	Residential Land	8
13	Compliance – Councils Power to Regulate and Control the Keeping of Animals	8
14	Low Kill Policy	9
15	Related Council Policy	9
16	Legislation and References	9

1. Overview

The intention of this policy is to allow the keeping of animals expected to be kept within the Council area within understood guidelines that can be administered equitably and easily by Council Officers. Council acknowledges that animals are an important part of any community.

There are, however, a number of issues of which we must be aware, especially where this concern the care, control and management responsibilities that we have as individuals and animal owners. The repercussions of poor management and inappropriate care can impact on neighbourhood amenity in terms of noise, odours, property damage, health and safety.

The Policy seeks to:

- Balance the rights of property owners and the rights of others to enjoy their own property free from external impacts of nuisance; and
- Ensure that animals kept on residential and rural lands are of an appropriate kind and in appropriate numbers and maintained in satisfactory conditions so as to not result in unhealthy or unsafe conditions and do not cause a nuisance to others.

2. Introduction

The Policy aims to:

- a) Minimise the incidence of nuisance being caused to persons.
- b) Protect the welfare of companion and farm animals.
- c) Protect the welfare and habitat of wildlife; and
- d) Minimise the disturbance of or damage to protected vegetation.

It is well documented that the keeping of companion animals and/or pet animals can be beneficial to the well-being of people. Nevertheless, on occasions, complaints are made to Council where animals of an inappropriate species or number are being kept or where the animals and their accommodation are not being cared for properly.

This policy informs the reasonable limits (both statutory and advisory) which apply concerning the maximum number of animals and the circumstances under which they may be kept on premises.

Responsible ownership is a very important component of nuisance control and this document also contains advice to the animal owner regarding their responsibilities to prevent a nuisance from occurring.

This policy applies to animals kept for domestic purposes, as companion animals or pets kept for hobby interests.

The principles contained in the prescriptive requirements will also apply to the keeping of animals for commercial purposes, including boarding, breeding, grooming, caring, treatment, training, racing, exhibiting, trading or selling. However, where it is intended to keep animals for any commercial purposes, it is necessary that a development application be submitted to Council and planning approval be obtained. Consent to the operation of animal establishments may not be permitted where Council considers that the proposal would be detrimental to the amenity of the locality.

3. Purpose of the Policy

To provide information on the keeping of animals within The Hills Shire Council Local Government Area:

- a) ensure resident's amenity is not impacted adversely by the keeping of animals
- b) minimise the incidence of nuisance being caused to persons
- c) safeguard wildlife and the environment
- d) promote responsible animal ownership

4. Policy Objectives

- a) To inform the community of the statutory restrictions and acceptable limits which apply to the keeping of certain animals for domestic purposes.
- b) To give guidance and advice to persons inquiring as to the keeping of animals for domestic purposes.
- c) To establish standards, acceptable to the community, for the keeping of animals.
- d) To publicly notify the circumstances that the Council will consider in determining whether to serve an Order under Section 124 of the Local Government Act, 1993 to prohibit, restrict or in some other way, require things to be done regarding the keeping of animals.
- e) To identify which animals are prohibited within The Hills Shire Council and the circumstances in which such animals are prohibited.

5. Principles

The principles by which Council will control and regulate the number of animals kept on premises are primarily in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

The policy aims to:

- Inform the community of legal restrictions and acceptable limits which apply to keeping certain animals for domestic purposes.
- Provide guidance and advice to people on keeping animals within The Hills Shire Council.
- Provide advice on where animals are restricted or prohibited within The Hills Shire Council.
- To establish acceptable standards for the keeping of animals.
- Define criteria for unleashed dog exercise areas.

6. Policy Requirements

Animal numbers should not exceed certain numbers and be kept in accordance with the requirements detailed in **Appendix One**.

Animals should be kept in a manner which does not:

- Create unclean or unhealthy conditions for people or animals

- Attract or provide a harbourage for vermin
- Create offensive noise or odours
- Cause a dust or drainage nuisance
- Create waste disposal problems or pollution problems
- Create an unreasonable annoyance to neighbouring residents or fear for safety
- Cause nuisance due to proliferation of flies, lice, fleas or other parasites.
- Cause harm to wildlife

Suitable shelter should be provided for all animals. The animals should be contained to prevent escape, and in some cases predation, by suitable fencing or caging depending on the species.

Certain animal shelters and facilities should not be erected or located without the prior approval of the Council. Residents should consult with the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 to determine which structures require development consent.

Note: 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. Council does not enforce property by laws.

Development Consent is required to be obtained from Council for a commercial activity involving the keeping of animals.

7. Unleashed Dog Exercise Areas

Under the Companion Animals Act 1998 Council is required to provide at least one area designated for unleashed dog exercise at all times. Before designating an area as an unleashed exercise area Council must:

- ensure the use of that area does not compromise the environment with particular reference to threatened species
- undertake appropriate consultation with current users and stakeholders to ensure there is no conflict with these groups; and
- adequately signpost all unleashed dog exercise areas. Users of the unleashed dog exercise areas must
- ensure their dog is under supervision and effective control of a person age 16 or above; and
- remove any dog waste and dispose of in a waste bin.

Council may allocate areas on either a permanent basis or restricted time basis.

Council may terminate the use of any area as an unleashed exercise area where deemed appropriate.

Approved unleashed dog exercise areas are listed in **Appendix Two**.

8. Prohibited Areas

Cats are prohibited from all wildlife protection areas within The Hills Shire Council. Under the terms of the Companion Animals Act (s14) the following public places are prohibited for dogs off OR on leash:

- Within 10 metres of children's playground equipment
- Within 10 metres of food preparation areas such as public barbeques and kiosks
- Active recreation areas such as sports fields, ovals and courts (during the playing of organised sport)
- Public bathing areas
- School grounds unless with the permission of the principal
- Child care centres unless with the permission of the director
- Shopping areas unless with permission
- Wildlife Protection areas

Horses and other livestock are prohibited from:

- Sporting fields
- Where signage indicates otherwise

9. Dogs in Outdoor Dining Areas

Under the Companion Animals Act 1998, since 2010, dogs are allowed in outdoor dining areas of cafes and restaurants under the following conditions:

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

10. Animals Prohibited within Residential Areas

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

- Roosters
- Poultry, including peafowl, turkey, pheasant, guinea fowl, peacocks, geese
- Pigs
- Goats/Sheep
- Horses (blocks less than 1000m²)
- Cattle
- Alpacas

11. Variation to the Policy

Variations to this policy may be sought by the occupier of the land making written representation to The Hills Shire Council. Any proposal to for a variation will be considered on a case by case basis and must provide the following information as a minimum:

- Size of the property
- Site plan showing location where animals will be kept and any proposed structures
- Type of animal
- Number of animals
- Owners consent
- Likely impact of the animals on the environment and amenity of the area written support from neighbouring properties would also be beneficial.

12. Residential Land

Residential land referred to under this policy includes land that is located within the 2(a), 2(b), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) zones, or any other land that is used for residential purposes and has an area less than 1200m². Residential land with an area greater than 1200m² may be considered as rural under the provisions of this policy only.

13. Compliance – Councils Power to Regulate and Control the Keeping of Animals

Compliance with this policy will be managed under the appropriate Acts and legislation and in line with Council Enforcement Policy.

Generally, Council's powers to control and regulate the keeping of animals are provided under Section 124 of the Local Government Act, 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation, 2005.

The Council may, in the appropriate circumstances, issue an Order to:

- prohibit the keeping of various kinds of animals;
- restrict the number of various kinds of animals to be kept at a premises;
- require that animals be kept in a specific manner.

The Council may also issue Orders requiring:

- demolition of animal shelters built without approval.
- the occupier to do or refrain from doing such things as are specified so as to ensure that land or premises are placed or kept in a safe or healthy condition.

It is advised that Council can exercise further controls over animals under the following Acts:

- Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
- The Impounding Act, 1993
- Companion Animals Act 1998

GIVING OF ORDERS BY COUNCIL

Generally, where a problem is identified with the keeping of animals and it cannot be resolved by consultation, Council Officers may proceed to issue a notice of intention to serve an Order. Normally a person will be given opportunity to make representation to Council prior to a formal Order being issued. In situations where urgency is required, an emergency Order may be issued without prior notice

14. Low Kill Policy

Council outsources its shelter facilities through Hawkesbury City Council and utilises Council's website to promote the re-homing of companion animals. Educational brochures are available to residents contemplating adopting a pet and how to care for the animal once they have taken their new dog or cat home. Mandatory de-sexing has been introduced for all animals that are sold from Hawkesbury Animal shelter

The shelter operates under a "low euthanasia" policy, whereby only those dogs or cats assessed to be either dangerous/restricted or as having an illness that would affect its quality of life are euthanased. All dogs and cats rehoused are de-sexed, lifetime registered, vaccinated and micro chipped. In some circumstances dogs that have been declared 'dangerous' are euthanased at the request of their owners as the shelter is unable to rehome or sell them.

15. Related Council Policy

- a) Council's Enforcement Policy

16. Legislation and References

- a) Local Government Act 1993
- b) Companion Animals Act 1998
- c) Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
- d) The Hills Shire Council Local Environment Plan 2019
- e) Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- f) State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008

Appendix One.

Animal Species	Maximum Number Recommended	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings including dwellings, public halls, schools, shops)	Applicable Regulations and Other Advisory Matters
<p>Dogs (excluding dogs under 6 months of age)</p>	<p>Residential properties:</p> <p>Dogs in excess of 25 Kilograms – 2 dogs</p> <p>Dogs between 11 and 25 kilograms – 3 dogs</p> <p>Dogs less than 11 kilograms – 4 dogs</p> <p>Units and townhouses</p> <p>2 dogs less than 11 kilograms or 1 dog - otherwise with the written permission of the body corporate</p> <p>Rural properties:</p> <p>As appropriate to size of property</p>	<p>Appropriate distance to avoid nuisance to adjoining premises.</p> <p>Dog kennels must be at least 450mm from a boundary fence.</p>	<p>Dogs should be kept in numbers and breeds appropriate to the size of the property.</p> <p>Dog owners must be responsible for ensuring that yards are kept in healthy condition and faeces are suitably disposed of at all times.</p> <p>Owners should remain aware any noise nuisance created by barking dogs as they are subject to noise restrictions under the <i>Protection of the Environment and Operations Act 1997</i> and also the <i>Companion Animals Act 1998</i>.</p> <p><i>The Companion Animals Act 1998</i> requires all dogs to be microchipped by 12 weeks of age and registered at 6 months of age.</p> <p>Dogs must wear a collar with tag displaying the dogs' name and the owner's phone number.</p> <p>Council encourages all dog owners to desex their pet.</p> <p>No attack-trained dog shall be held in a residential area unless managed by a registered owner/security company, Police Force or other approved Government agency.</p> <p>Waste matter, including litter and bedding, must be disposed of in an approved manner.</p> <p>All odours must be controlled.</p>

Animal Species	Maximum Number Recommended	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings including dwellings, public halls, schools, shops)	Applicable Regulations and Other Advisory Matters
			<p>The health of all dogs is to be regularly monitored and appropriate veterinary treatment obtained in the event of illness.</p> <p>Wildlife must be protected where possible from dogs.</p> <p>Dog breeding and/or boarding kennels are subject to Council approval.</p>
Cats (excluding cats under six months of age)	4	Appropriate distance to avoid nuisance to adjoining premises.	<p>Cats should be kept in numbers and breeds appropriate to the size of the property.</p> <p>Council encourages owners to keep their cat inside particularly at night.</p> <p>The Companion Animals Act 1998 requires all cats born after 1 July 1999 to be microchipped by 12 weeks of age and registered at 6 months of age.</p> <p>Council encourages all cat owners to desex their pet and provide adequate holding facilities for all non de-sexed male cats.</p> <p>Cats must not be permitted to create a nuisance in the form of noise nuisance or damaging the properties of others.</p> <p>The owner must have the ability to control all odours and waste.</p> <p>The health of all cats is to be monitored and appropriate veterinary treatment obtained in the event of illness.</p> <p>Wildlife must be protected where possible from cats.</p>
Rabbits	Residential Properties - 4	3 metres	A licence is not required to keep domestic rabbits in NSW. It remains illegal to keep wild rabbits

Animal Species	Maximum Number Recommended	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings including dwellings, public halls, schools, shops)	Applicable Regulations and Other Advisory Matters
	Rural - Appropriate to location and breed. Care should be taken to prevent excessive breeding (e.g. desex your rabbit)		<p>in captivity without the approval of the Rural Lands Protection Board.</p> <p>Rabbits must be kept in a rabbit-proof enclosure and are not permitted to be 'free-range'.</p> <p>Rabbits must not be released, abandoned or left in any situation, which would allow them to roam outside of their enclosure.</p> <p>Rabbit enclosures should be fly meshed to prevent spread of Myxomatosis and Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV)</p> <p>Council recommends vaccination of pet rabbits against RHDV</p> <p>Rabbits must not be vaccinated with the fibroma (myxomatosis) vaccine. It is illegal to possess fibroma vaccine.</p> <p>Rabbit farming is not permitted without approval and must comply with NSW Department of Primary Industries guidelines.</p>
Ferrets	2	Appropriate distance to avoid nuisance to adjoining premises.	The keeping of ferrets is not recommended. However where proper care, including secure caging, the keeping of ferrets may be undertaken provided no nuisance is created. Cages must be adequate to prevent escape.
Pet rats, mice and guinea pigs	4 of each variety	Not applicable	<p>Rats and mice are to be kept indoors and in appropriate cages which are to be kept odour free. Care should be taken to prevent excessive breeding and release into the environment.</p> <p>Guinea Pigs kept outside need to be in secure enclosure to prevent escape and also protect them from</p>

Animal Species	Maximum Number Recommended	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings including dwellings, public halls, schools, shops)	Applicable Regulations and Other Advisory Matters
			dogs and foxes.
Poultry, (Chickens) domestic & Roosters	<p>Residential Properties</p> <p>10</p> <p>Roosters are not permitted in residential zones</p> <p>Rural properties Roosters permitted appropriate to size of property</p>	4.5 metres	<p>Certain poultry are not to be kept due to some birds vocalisation abilities. The following species are considered inappropriate to kept in a residential environment. Peacocks, roosters, guinea fowls, peafowl, geese, pheasants and turkeys.</p> <p>Keeping of poultry must not create a nuisance or be dangerous or injurious to health. Poultry yards must be kept clean and free of offensive odours</p>
Poultry, including peafowl, turkey, pheasants, Guinea fowl, peacocks and geese	<p>Not permitted in residential zones</p> <p>Rural properties As appropriate to size of property</p>	30 metres	<p>Must be at least 900mm from a boundary. Council may insist on keeping of poultry at a greater distance in particular cases.</p> <p>Poultry yards must be enclosed to prevent escape.</p> <p>Yards must be kept free from mice and rates.</p>

Animal Species	Maximum Number Recommended	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings including dwellings, public halls, schools, shops)	Applicable Regulations and Other Advisory Matters
Ducks	2		<p>All food must be stored in sealed vermin proof containers and must not be left uncovered.</p> <p>Vermin and other pests must be controlled.</p> <p>All poultry must be housed in purpose built facilities. Council approval may be required for certain structures.</p> <p>The base of poultry enclosures must be paved with concrete or mineral asphalt unless situated on clean sand.</p> <p>If located on bush fire prone land and is less than 5m from a dwelling, they must be constructed of non-combustible material.</p> <p>In residential areas must be located in a rear yard, be no more than 15m² in area and not be higher than 3m above ground level. Metal components of housing must be of low reflective material.</p> <p>In rural areas be no more than 50m² in area and no more than 7m above ground level.</p>
Birds other than cockatoos and domestic pigeons	Appropriate to location and breed and with appropriate licenses for native birds	Appropriate distance to avoid nuisance to adjoining premises	<p>Compliance with the NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice No. 4 – Keeping and Trading of Birds is required.</p> <p>Aviaries must be designed to be vermin proof, well ventilated, have an impervious surface and not cause or be likely to cause injury to birds. They must be constructed or installed so that roof water is disposed of without causing a</p>

Animal Species	Maximum Number Recommended	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings including dwellings, public halls, schools, shops)	Applicable Regulations and Other Advisory Matters
			<p>nuisance to adjoining owners. There must not be more than two aviaries per property.</p> <p>If located on bush fire prone land and is less than 5m from a dwelling they must be constructed of non-combustible material.</p> <p>In residential properties aviaries must not have a floor area of more than 10m², be located in the rear yard at least 900mm for each side and rear boundary, not be higher than 2.4m, metal components must be low reflective, factory pre-coloured materials.</p> <p>In rural areas they must not have a floor area of more than 30m², not higher than 3m, be at least 20m from the road boundary and 5m from each other lot boundary.</p> <p>The Code of Ethics produced by the Associated Bird-Keepers of Australia Incorporated, approved by the Canary and Bird Federation of Australia, must be complied with at all times.</p> <p>Flooring must be constructed of an impervious material or in some external situations, sand or gravel with a rodent proof mesh underlay.</p> <p>Enclosed buildings for the primary purpose of holding caged birds require Council consent.</p>

Animal Species	Maximum Number Recommended	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings including dwellings, public halls, schools, shops)	Applicable Regulations and Other Advisory Matters
			<p>An animal trade must not be conducted without prior consent.</p> <p>An adequate rodent and pest control program must be in place. Excessive noise and odour must be controlled by the use of sound proofing materials, distance and choice of bird species.</p>
Domestic Pigeons	<p>10 Pairs - Non registered owners</p> <p>60 pairs - registered racing pigeon owners</p> <p>Keeping of pigeons is not permitted in medium and high density residential developments</p>	4.5 metres	<p>All pigeons must be housed in purpose built facilities. The construction of a pigeon loft will require Council approval with plans detailing ventilation, waterproofing and drainage. Cladding on the loft should be unobtrusive in colour.</p> <p>Lofts should be kept clean and insect free. No feathers or droppings to escape from subject land. Open lofts are not permitted.</p> <p>Food must be stored in vermin proof containers.</p> <p>Owners should remain aware any noise nuisance created by the pigeons as they are subject to noise restrictions under the <i>Protection of the Environment and Operations Act 1997</i></p> <p>Enclosed housing must use deep litter or other appropriate substrate.</p> <p>Rodents and other vermin must be vigorously controlled.</p> <p>All offensive odours must be controlled.</p>

Animal Species	Maximum Number Recommended	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings including dwellings, public halls, schools, shops)	Applicable Regulations and Other Advisory Matters
			<p>Pigeons must not be kept within 9 metres of any property used for the sale, preparation, handling or storage of food for sale.</p> <p>Adequate protection from predators must be provided.</p> <p>Waste must be disposed of in an approved manner.</p> <p>The keeping of domestic pigeons by hobbyists and racing enthusiasts in The Hills Shire Council Local Government Area shall be permitted with the following control conditions apply in residential areas.</p> <p>Liberation of Pigeons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The uncontrolled release of pigeons (free lofting) in a residential area is not permitted. • Free flight exercise must be conducted on a planned basis, with duration time typically from 30 to 90 minutes and performed no more than twice daily. • The exit and entry of birds from a loft, aviary or cage 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. • Appropriate landing boards must be provided to encourage the uninterrupted return of birds to the loft, aviary or cage.

Animal Species	Maximum Number Recommended	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings including dwellings, public halls, schools, shops)	Applicable Regulations and Other Advisory Matters
Cockatoos (including Corellas)	2	Appropriate distance to avoid nuisance to adjoining premises	<p>Cockatoos and corellas are generally not appropriate as domestic pets as they often present a significant noise nuisance. Appropriate enrichment and training should be provided to minimise noise.</p> <p>Owners should remain aware any noise nuisance created by the cockatoos as they are subject to noise restrictions under the <i>Protection of the Environment and Operations Act 1997</i></p> <p>Conditions for aviaries applies as per above.</p>
Horses, donkeys and Cattle	<p>Rural properties as appropriate to size of property</p> <p>Residential properties</p> <p>1 horse with a minimum property size of 1000m².</p> <p>Cattle not permitted in residential zones.</p>	9 Metres	<p>Fencing must be strong and durable to prevent escape.</p> <p>Stables and sheds must be hard paved and graded to drain.</p> <p>Any structure is subject to the housing of horses, donkeys and cattle will be subject to Development Consent.</p>
Sheep, Goats and Alpacas	<p>Rural properties as appropriate to size of property</p> <p>Residential properties – not permitted in residential zones</p>	10 metres	<p>Sheep, Goats and Alpacas are not permitted to be kept on residential properties.</p> <p>These animals are not to be slaughtered at the properties where they are kept.</p>
Pigs	<p>Rural properties as appropriate to size of property</p> <p>Residential properties not permitted in residential zones</p>	60 metres	<p>The keeping of pigs is not permitted in residential areas. This applies to all breeds of pigs, including miniature pigs.</p>

Animal Species	Maximum Number Recommended	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings including dwellings, public halls, schools, shops)	Applicable Regulations and Other Advisory Matters
Fish	As appropriate in the circumstances	Appropriate distance to avoid nuisance to adjoining premises.	Unwanted pet fish must not be released into waterways. Aquarium weed must not enter waterways.
Bees	Residential areas 2 hives. Rural properties as appropriate to the size of property	Hives should not be located in view of the public. Hives should not be located within the vicinity of schools, childcare centres, hospitals or other public facilities. Flight paths must be a minimum of 2 m above neighbouring properties.	Registration must be undertaken with the NSW Department of Primary Industries. Beekeepers must comply with the Beekeeping Code of Practice for NSW produced by NSW Department of Primary Industries.
Foxes, including European Red Fox	Nil As of 31st March 2015, it is an offence to keep or be in charge of pest animals identified by a gazetted Pest Control Order in NSW without a permit		Consideration may be given to keep a European Red Fox in captivity if the following conditions have been met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fox(s) have been in your possession prior to March 31st 2015. • An application has been made and a permit has been granted under section 156- <i>Approval to keep pests in captivity of the Local Land Services Act 2013</i>, in accordance with the European Red Fox, pest Control Order 2014. • Anyone wishing to apply for a permit under Section 156 of the <i>Local Land Services (LLS) Act 2013</i> to keep a European Red Fox in captivity must complete The Captive European Red Fox Permit application form with supporting documentation and send via post to Local

Animal Species	Maximum Number Recommended	Minimum Distance (from certain buildings including dwellings, public halls, schools, shops)	Applicable Regulations and Other Advisory Matters
			Land Services, PO Box 4515, Penrith Westfield NSW 2750 or email fox.permit@lls.nsw.gov.au

Appendix two – Unleashed Dog Exercise Areas

Designated off-leash or free run areas are at the following reserves:

- Balcombe Heights Reserve, Seven Hills Road, Baulkham Hills (within the fenced area)
- Castle Hill Showground (lower dog arenas)
- Connie Lowe Reserve, Adelphi Street, Rouse Hill (within the fenced area)
- Coolong Reserve, Coolong Street, Castle Hill (within the fenced area)
- Crestwood Reserve, Peel Road, Baulkham Hills (within the fenced area)
- Bernie Mullane Sports Complex, Marella Avenue Kellyville (within the fenced area)
- Rutherford Avenue Reserve, Rutherford Avenue North Kellyville (within the fenced area)
- Parraweena Avenue Reserve Baulkham Hills. *On trial and subject to change*

In all other parks and public places dogs must be on-leash at all times.

All dogs within a designated off-leash area must be supervised. This person MUST:

- Be a competent person over 16 years of age
- Be able to control the dog/s by voice command
- Remove and dispose of all dog waste
- Have no more than four dogs under their control
- Not allow restricted breeds or dogs declared as dangerous to use off-leash areas