

ANIMAL KEEPING

This policy applies to all land in the Shire

Policy Basis

This policy addresses key issues associated with the use and development of land for animal keeping in particular the keeping and breeding of dogs, which includes animal boarding, dog breeding and greyhound training.

Animal keeping facilities are an important local industry; however the keeping and breeding of dogs can have an adverse effect on the extensive animal husbandry industry and can compromise the amenity of nearby residents.

Careful consideration needs to be given to the location, siting, design, and management of dog keep and breeding facilities and in this regard the policy draws from guidelines prepared by the Environment Protection Authority (Noise Control Guidelines TG 302/29).

Objectives

To ensure that animal keeping establishments are appropriately located, sited, designed, and managed so they will not have an adverse effect on the environment, the amenity of nearby residents, and the operation of surrounding animal husbandry enterprises.

Policy

It is policy to:

- Discourage the keeping and breeding of dogs in areas that are:
 - predominantly used for extensive animal husbandry;
 - have a significant number of dwellings in close proximity; and
 - adjacent to significant wildlife habitats.
- Require the following measures to be applied in the siting and design of dog keeping and breeding establishments:
 - facilities should be located at least 500 metres away from residential areas and a substantial proportion of this buffer must be provided within the boundary of the subject site;
 - facilities should be sited to use the surrounding topography to reduce noise;
 - facilities should be fully contained by appropriate fencing including a fully enclosed or acoustically baffled area to house particularly noisy animals at a ratio of 1:15;
 - facilities should be constructed or landscaped as appropriate to visually screen stimuli from other dogs, animals, traffic or passers-by; and
 - kennels should be constructed in materials that reduce the emission of noise;
- Electronic masking or other noise suppressing measures may be required to reduce audible stimuli to the dogs.
- Reference the EPA Guidelines (TG302/92) in applying conditions relating to the management, control of noise and the siting and design of kennels.
- Ensure adequate effluent treatment facilities are provided to contain, treat, and dispose of effluent within the boundaries of the site; to prevent the pollution of any surface or ground water; and to prevent the emission of offsite odours.