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ANIMALS LOCAL LAWS 2001

KEEPING OF PIGEONS

Birds and Poultry

Before a person may keep pigeons on a property, the person must apply to the local government and obtain a Certificate of Registration. The applicant is obliged to obtain the written opinion of his neighbours, which will be taken into account when processing the application to allow the keeping of pigeons. This law also addresses the issue of numbers of pigeons, loft construction and flight times.

Approval Limitations

Unless previously approved prior to the 2001 Local Laws pigeons are not to be kept on a property of less than 600m².

Limit on Number of Pigeons

- Subject to the next provision, the maximum number of pigeons which shall be kept on land the subject of a certificate of registration shall not exceed 20, excluding young birds.
- Providing satisfactory proof has been presented that a person is a financial member of a recognised incorporated racing body or a registered pigeon fancier permission to keep up to 150 pigeons (excluding young) may be given.

Exercise of Pigeons

- Racing or homing pigeons can only be released for exercise between sunrise & 0900hours and between 1530 hours and 1900hrs as outlined in the code of practice.
- No more than 60 registered racing/homing pigeons are to be released for exercise at any one time.
- Only a pigeon keeper registered with the City's Health Services may release pigeons for exercise.
- A registered Certificate holder releasing pigeons must practice the no aerial soiling policy and discourage roof sitting.

The City's Health Services may impose and amend conditions on a certificate of registration necessary required to minimise any nuisance associated with the keeping of pigeons.

Cage, enclosure or loft requirements

A cage, enclosure or loft must blend in with its surrounds, constructed of new material and to the following minimum requirements:

- Floor to have a minimum of 50mm thick concrete
- Cladding of the loft, including roof to be a smooth material
- Loft height is not to exceed 2.4 metres
- Where the loft roof has a gable the height shall not exceed 3 metres
- Building approval required for structures a minimum of 3m x 3m x 2.1m high.

A loft is not to be located nearer than:

- 1.2 metres from the boundary of any adjacent land
- 9 metres from any dwelling or food premises
- 9 metres from any road reserve or street.

How to apply for a certificate of registration

Any person who wishes to keep pigeons on their property should apply in writing to the City.

The following information must be attached before the issue of a certificate of registration is considered:

- Name of the person applying to keep pigeons.
- Address of the person applying to keep pigeons and addresses where the pigeons will be kept.
- Phone number of the person applying to keep pigeons.
- Plan of the premises showing the location of the pigeon loft in relation to all other buildings, structures and fences.
- Plans and specifications of the proposed loft.
- Written opinion of all owner/occupiers whose land is adjacent to the land where the pigeons are to be kept.
- The proposed number of adult pigeons to be kept.
- Relevant application fee (currently \$50.00).

If you intend to keep more than 20 pigeons or wish to release the pigeons for exercise, then you must provide evidence that you are a current financial member of a recognised incorporated racing pigeon body or evidence that you are a registered pigeon fancier.

The annual renewal fee is currently \$25.00 for approved pigeon keepers.

**** DISCLAIMER ****

This information sheet is a guide only. Verification with original Local Laws, Acts, Planning Schemes, and other relevant documents is recommended for detailed references. The City of Albany accepts no responsibility for errors or omissions.

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