



## **KEEPING OF ANIMALS, POULTRY AND BEES BYLAW 2020**

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**Date in force:** 9 December 2020

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**Purpose:** The Stratford District Council acknowledges that the keeping of animals, poultry or bees has benefits for the wellbeing of the owner and members of the household. This bylaw regulates the keeping of animals (including pigs, poultry, bees, livestock and cats) within the district to ensure they do not create a nuisance or endanger health.

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**Review date:** 9 December 2030

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## 1 Title

- 1.1 This bylaw is made pursuant to section 145 of the Local Government Act and shall be known as the Stratford District Council, the Keeping of Animals, Poultry and Bees Bylaw 2020.

## 2 Commencement

- 2.1 This Bylaw shall come into force on

## 3 Repeal

- 3.1 As from the day this Bylaw comes into force, the previous Keeping of Animals and Poultry Bylaw 2008 shall be repealed.

## 4 Application of Bylaw

- 4.1 This Bylaw shall apply to the Stratford District.

## 5 Scope

- 5.1 This bylaw is made pursuant to section 145 of the Local Government Act 2002, which gives authority to the Council to adopt bylaws for the following general purposes:

- (a) Protecting the public from nuisance;
- (b) Protecting, promoting, and maintaining public health and safety;
- (c) Minimising the potential for offensive behaviour in public places.

And any other authority enabling the Council to make bylaws and regulate the keeping of animals, bees and poultry makes this Bylaw.

## 6 Exclusions

- 6.1 This Bylaw does not apply to dogs. This Bylaw does not address Animal Welfare matters. Animal welfare is dealt with by the Ministry of Primary Industries and the SPCA.

## 7 Interpretation:

- 7.1 In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

**“Authorised Officer”** means any person authorised by Council to carry out or exercise any powers, duties or functions under this Bylaw or any part thereof and includes any Police Officer.

**“Animal”** means any live member of the animal kingdom (excluding dogs) that is a mammal, a bird or any other member of the animal kingdom which is declared from time to time by the Governor-General, by Order of Council, to be an animal for the purposes of the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

**“Hive”** means a box or container for the keeping or housing of bees.

**“Keep or Keeping”** means:

- (a) in respect of all animals, the owning, looking after, caring for, being in charge of, a custodian or in possession of any Animal and includes their young; and
- (b) in respect of bees, the keeping of one or more occupied hives.

**“Kitten”** means any cat less than six months of age.

**“Livestock”** means farm and herd animals, including but not limited to, cattle, horses, goats, and sheep.

**“Nuisance”** shall have the meaning assigned to it by the Health Act 1956 and any amendments to it and includes a person, animal, thing or circumstance causing unreasonable interference with the peace, comfort or convenience of another person, whether or not that person is in a public place.

**“Person”** includes a natural person, a corporation sole, and a body or persons whether incorporated or not.

**“Pigsty”** means a pen or enclosure for a pig or pigs.

**“Public Place”** means a place that is:

- (a) Under the control of the Council; and
- (b) Open to, or being used by, the public whether or not there is a charge for admission; and includes:
  - (i) Any part of a public place; and
  - (ii) Any reserve; or
- (c) A road, whether or not the road is under the control of the Council;

**“Noise”** means any noise of such a nature as to unreasonably interfere with the peace, comfort, and convenience of any person (other than a person in or at the place from which the noise is being emitted).

**“Tethering”** means the action of tying an animal with a rope, or chain or similar object, so as to restrict its movement.

**“Urban area”** means an area used mainly for residential or commercial purposes. The current Stratford District Urban area map is attached. Boundaries within the Stratford District are subject to change by resolution of the Council.

## 8 **General Provisions**

- 8.1 No person shall keep any animal, poultry, birds or bees, which causes, a nuisance or threat to public health by, but not limited to, noise, odour, and dust or through the attraction of flies or vermin.

## 9 **Pig Keeping**

- 9.1 Pigs shall be permitted in areas zoned Rural where they can be kept in accordance with all other applicable clauses in this bylaw. The Council may permit the keeping of pigs in areas zoned Rural/Residential. This will be determined on a case by case basis upon the receipt of a written application.
- 9.2 No person shall keep any pigs or offensive matter from pigsties in such a manner, where it is likely to create a nuisance, or be injurious to health.
- 9.3 Except with the approval of the Council, no person shall:
- (a) Construct or allow to remain any pigsty within 50 metres of a Public Place or any place used for the preparation, storage or sale of food for human consumption; and
  - (b) Place a pigsty, pig swill or manure within 50 metres of an adjoining property boundary.
- 9.4 All pigs must be controlled by way of fencing so as to contain the pigs from any roadway or other property. The fencing of pigs must be adequate to prevent any pigs from wandering.
- 9.5 An Authorised Officer may order the relocation or removal of pigs or a pigsty, where:
- (a) The Council has received a complaint about the location of the pigs or pigsty; and
  - (b) The Authorised Officer is satisfied that the location or number of the pigs or location of the pigsty has resulted in a nuisance being caused on any neighbouring property.

Note: The Stratford District Plan provides rules for the control of intensive pig farming.

## 10 **Poultry Keeping**

- 10.1 No person shall keep any poultry on any private land in an urban area except in a properly constructed poultry house or secure enclosure. Further, no person shall keep any poultry on any land unless they have the means to contain them within that property.
- 10.2 No person shall construct or maintain any poultry house, poultry run, aviary or pigeon coop within two metres of any adjoining property boundary or within 10m of any dwelling on any adjoining property.
- 10.3 No person shall keep more than 12 head of poultry in any poultry house or poultry run without the prior consent of an Authorised Officer, except in a Rural Zone.

- 10.4 No person may keep a rooster or cockerel in an urban area.
- 10.5 An Authorised Officer may order the relocation or removal of poultry or a poultry house, where:
- (a) The Council has received a complaint about the location of the poultry or poultry house and;
  - (b) The Authorised Officer is satisfied that the location or number of the poultry or location of the poultry house has resulted in a nuisance being caused on any neighbouring property or;
  - (c) The Council has received a complaint regarding the number of poultry creating a nuisance and
  - (d) The person keeping the poultry fails to comply with any reasonable request of an Authorised Officer to abate or prevent the nuisance.

## 11 **Keeping of Cats and Kittens**

- 11.1 There is no limit to the number of cats permitted to be kept on any premises provided the cats are sufficiently cared for and the keeping of such cats does not cause, or is likely to cause a health nuisance to the occupant or to visitors to the property or to neighbouring properties.
- 11.2 An Authorised Officer may impose a limit on the number of cats and kittens which may be kept on private land, where:
- (a) The Council has received a complaint about the number of cats kept on the private land; and
  - (b) The Authorised Officer considers the number of cats is creating a nuisance or is likely to create a public health nuisance; and
  - (b) The person keeping those cats fails to comply with any reasonable request of an Authorised Officer to abate or prevent the nuisance.

## 12 **Beekeeping**

- 12.1 The Council recognises the benefit of bees to the community as a whole.
- 12.2 No person shall continue to keep bees in an urban area, if the keeping of such bees is, or is likely to become dangerous, injurious to health or a nuisance to any person.
- 12.3 An Authorised Officer may prescribe conditions limiting the number of hives kept and prescribe the location of such hives on private land.
- 12.4 An Authorised Officer may order the relocation or removal of a hive or hives, where:
- (a) The Council has received a complaint about the location of a hive or hives and;

- (b) An Authorised Officer is satisfied that the location of the hive or hives has resulted in bees causing a nuisance on any property in the vicinity of the hives.
- 12.5 No person shall keep any bees on any road or road reserve that is under the control of the Stratford District Council without written approval from an Authorised Officer.
- 12.6 No person shall keep any bees, on, adjacent to, or in close proximity to any parks or reserves that is under the control of Stratford District Council without written approval from an Authorised Officer.

*Please note – If you keep bees in New Zealand it is a legal requirement that you register your hive(s).*

### 13 **Keeping of Livestock**

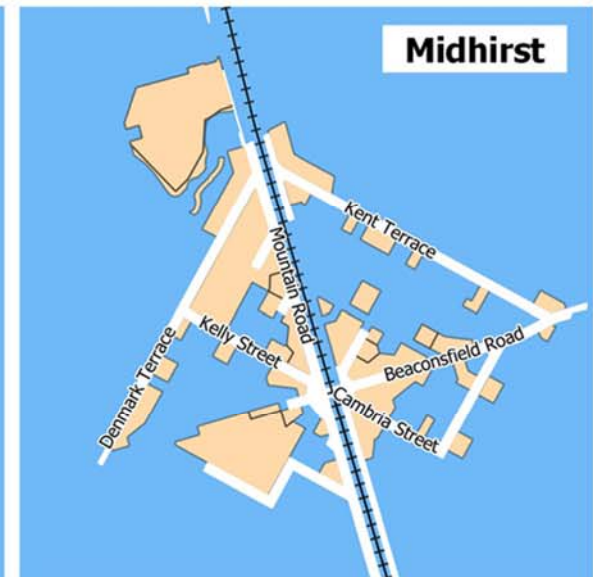
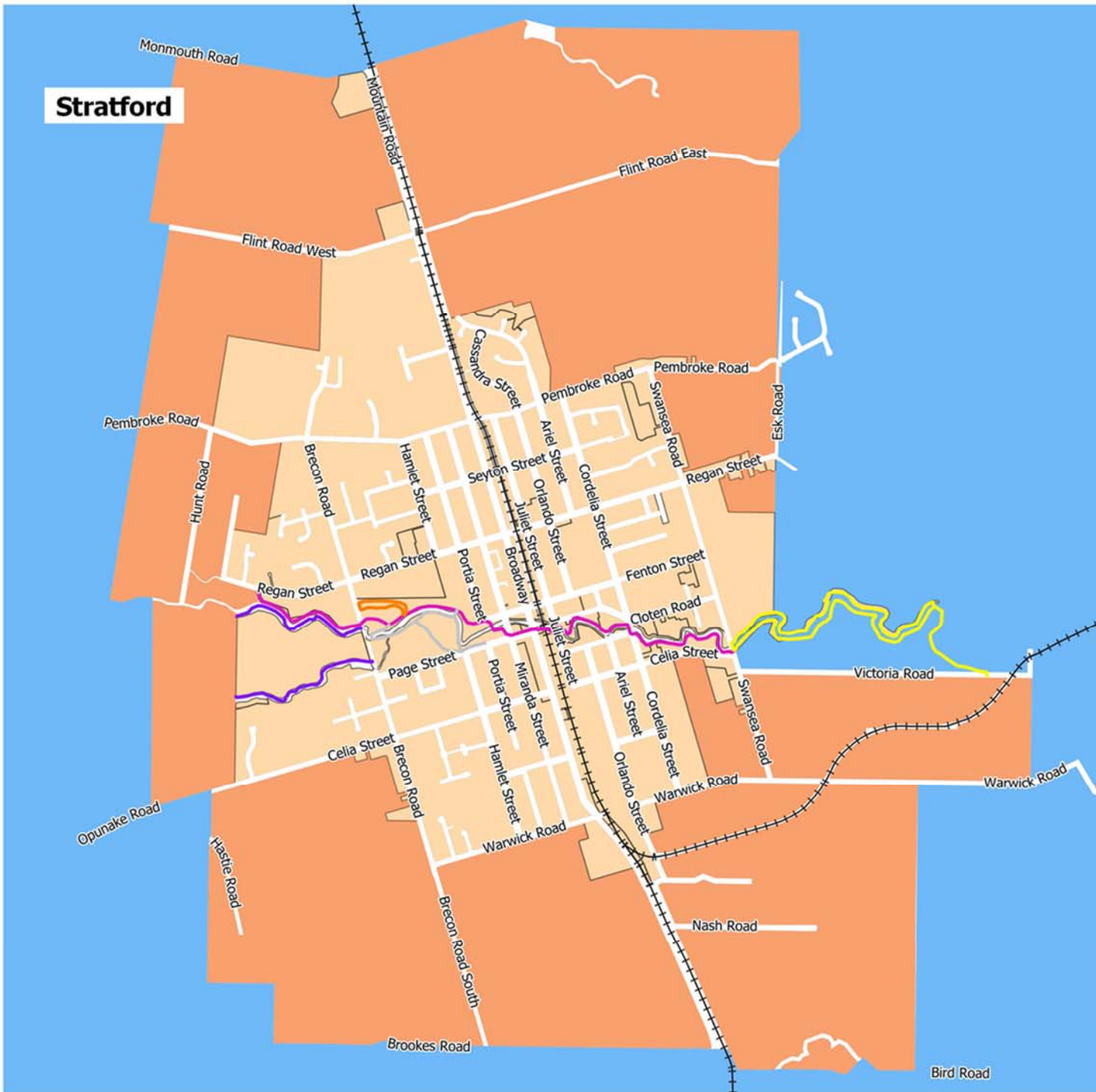
- 13.1 An Authorised Officer may impose a limit on the number of livestock which may be kept on private land, where:
  - (a) The Council has received a complaint about the livestock being kept on the private land and;
  - (b) The keeping of livestock is creating a nuisance or is likely to create a nuisance; and
  - (c) The person keeping the livestock fails to comply with any reasonable request of an Authorised Officer to abate or prevent the nuisance.
- 13.2 The fencing or tethering of animals along any road reserve or on private land must be adequate to prevent all livestock from wandering into a public place, carriageway or neighbouring property.
- 13.3 All road gates to paddocks must be able to be securely closed to prevent all livestock from wandering.

### 14 **Slaughter of Animals**

- 14.1 No person shall slaughter an Animal or dismember, handle, process or dispose of the carcass or remains of an Animal, on any premises so as to cause or be likely to cause:
  - (a) A Nuisance;
  - (b) Be a threat to public health and safety; or
  - (c) Be offensive.

### 15 **Leaving Dead Animals or Depositing Offensive Matter**

- 15.1 No person shall fail to dispose of in a proper manner or leave any dead animal, or animal remains, or offensive matter of any kind, in any public place.



**Legend**

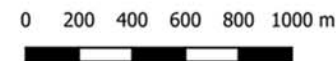
**Walkways**

- Cardiff Walkway
- Cardiff Walkway Extension
- Carrington Walkway
- Carrington Walkway Eastern Loop
- Carrington Walkway Western Loop
- Clemow Loop Track
- Three Bridges Trail

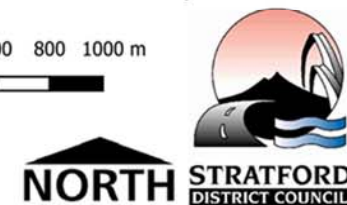
**Planning Boundaries**

- Urban
- Rural
- Rural/Residential
- Railway

**The Keeping of Animals, Poultry, and Bees Bylaw 2020  
Urban Boundary**



October 2020  
Version 2



**This Bylaw was made by the Stratford District Council on 9 December 2020.**

THE COMMON SEAL of the STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereto affixed by resolution of the said Council in the presence of:

  
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**Mayor**

  
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**Chief Executive**

