

## Fact sheet: Keeping animals in Indigo Shire

An owner or occupier of a property in town must not, without a permit, keep or allow to be kept, more than four different kinds of animals on any one property at any time, nor keep or allow to be kept any more in number for each kind of animal, than as set out in the following table:

Type of animal	Maximum allowed in residential areas
Dogs	2
Cats	4
Poultry	12 hens only (no roosters)
Domestic birds	20
Large birds	2 (excluding peacocks)
Pigeons	Permit required
Domestic rabbits	2
Horses, donkeys	Permit required
Cattle	Permit required
Sheep	Permit required
Goats	Permit required
Pigs	Not permitted
Other agricultural animals	Not permitted

People wishing to keep more animals than those set out in the above table must apply to Council in writing stating how many animals are to be kept and the purpose for which the animals are to be kept.

The applicant must also obtain the written consent of immediate neighbours to the permit application. All dogs and cats over three months of age must be registered with Council.

Once your dog or cat is registered, they receive a lifetime Council identification number.

Registration must be renewed by April 10 each year. This date is set by the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

Council encourages cat owners to desex their animal if they do not wish to breed from them.

The owners of a dog or cat who fail to register their animal may be liable for a fine in excess of \$317.

The keeping of animals in Indigo Shire must be in accordance with the rules set out in *Local Law No. 2 (Environmental Local Law)*. Those who do not adhere to these controls or irresponsible owners may face infringements and/or face charges.

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) may require native wildlife owners to possess a wildlife licence. Please contact them on 136 186 for information relating to owning and keeping native animals. It is illegal to take wildlife from the wild in Victoria.

For further information on keeping animals in Indigo Shire, please contact the Ranger on 02 6028 1100 or 0407 201 002 during business hours.