



Ture-ā-rohe Tiaki Kararehe 2015 Animal Management Bylaw 2015

(as at 25 November 2021)

Made by the Governing Body of Auckland Council

in resolution GB/2015/22

on 30 April 2015

Bylaw made under [sections 145](#), [146](#) and [149](#) of the Local Government Act 2002 and [section 64](#) of the Health Act 1956.

Summary

This summary is not part of the Bylaw but explains the general effects.

Every day Aucklanders interact with animals in ways that benefit their mental and physical wellbeing: with their pets at home for companionship, with animals in public to connect with nature, or for recreation such as horse riding.

Sometimes the way people interact with animals causes a problem. For example, a poorly maintained chicken coop may create an odour nuisance or the feeding of wild animals may attract pests.

The purpose of this Bylaw is to minimise public health and safety risks, nuisance, offensive behaviour and the misuse of council controlled public places by –

- specifying obligations of animal owners to prevent their animal causing a health and safety risk, nuisance or damage (clauses 6, 7 and 9)
- requiring animal owners to obtain approval to keep stock in urban areas where prescribed limits are exceeded (clause 6 and 9)
- requiring animal owners to obtain approval to keep bees and graze stock in public and restricting access of animals to regional parks (clause 7)
- specifying people's obligations in relation to the feeding of wild animals at home, releasing animals in public places, hunting or taking animals from public places, animal remains and slaughtering (clause 8)

Other parts of this Bylaw assist with its administration by –

- stating its name, when it comes into force and where it applies (clauses 1, 2 and 3)
- stating the purpose of this Bylaw and defining terms used (clauses 4 and 5)
- providing transparency about the making of controls and approval process (clauses 9 and 11)
- referencing Council's powers to enforce this Bylaw, including powers to take property and penalties up to \$20,000 (clauses 12 and 13).

The Bylaw is part of a wider legislative framework. The Bylaw does not seek to duplicate or be inconsistent with this framework which includes rules about –

- beekeeping for farming purposes ('commercial beekeeping') in the [Auckland Unitary Plan](#)
- animal welfare in the [Animal Products Act](#), [Animal Welfare Act](#) and [Impounding Act](#)
- environmental concerns in the [Biosecurity Act](#), [Reserves Act](#), [Resource Management Act](#) and [Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan](#)
- public health and safety in the [Health Act](#)
- the use of land for farming in the [Auckland Council Unitary Plan](#)
- the use of public parks in the [Auckland Regional Parks Management Plan](#)
- the ownership, control and welfare of dogs in the [Dog Control Act](#), [Auckland Council Policy on Dogs](#) and [Dog Management Bylaw](#) 2019.

The Bylaw also complements other, non-regulatory guidelines for animal ownership, such as the [Auckland Council Guidelines for cat ownership](#).

Cover page amended and summary inserted in accordance with Clause 2(3).

Contents

1	Title	4
2	Commencement	4
3	Application	4

Part 1

Preliminary provisions

4	Purpose	4
5	Interpretation	4

Part 2

Responsibility of persons in relation to animals

6	Animal owners must be responsible for their animals at all times	7
7	Animal owners must control and if required obtain an approval for their animal to be in a council-controlled public place	7
8	A person must comply with certain requirements in relation to the feeding of wild animals, release of animals, animal remains and slaughter	8

Part 3

Controls and approvals

9	Council may make controls about animals	9
10	<i>[Repealed]</i>	9
11	Council may prescribe the approval system	9

Part 4

Enforcement powers, offences, and penalties

12	Statutory powers may be used to enforce this Bylaw	10
13	A person can be penalised for not complying with this Bylaw	11

Part 5

[repealed]

	<i>[Repealed]</i>	11
--	-------------------	----

1 Title

- (1) This Bylaw is the Ture-ā-rohe Tiaki Kararehe 2015 / Animal Management Bylaw 2015.

Clause 2 amended in accordance with Clause 2 (3).

2 Commencement

- (1) This Bylaw comes into force on 1 September 2015.
- (2) Amendments by resolution GB/2019/22 come into force on 01 October 2019.
- (3) Amendments by resolution GB/2021/148 come into force on 20 December 2021.

Related information

Council decided on 28 March 2019 to amend the Bylaw to incorporate rules from the Public Safety and Nuisance Bylaw 2013 about animals in public places (GB/2019/22).

Council decided on 25 November 2021 to amend the Bylaw following a statutory review (GB/2021/148) to incorporate rules from the Property Maintenance and Nuisance Bylaw 2015 about the feeding of animals on private property and to make the Bylaw easier to understand.

Clause 2 amended in accordance with Clause 2 (3).

3 Application

- (1) This Bylaw applies to Auckland.

Part 1

Preliminary provisions

4 Purpose

- (1) The purpose of this Bylaw is to provide for the ownership of and interaction with animals (excluding dogs) in way that minimises:
 - (a) public health and safety risks
 - (b) public nuisance
 - (c) offensive behaviour in council-controlled public places
 - (d) misuse of council-controlled public places

Clause 4 amended in accordance with Clause 2 (3).

5 Interpretation

- (1) In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires, –

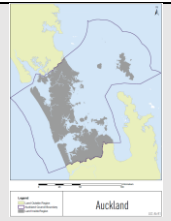
Animal means any member of the animal kingdom, including any mammal, bird, finfish, shellfish, reptile, amphibian, insect or invertebrate, and includes their young or eggs and the carcass or its constituent parts, but does not include humans or dogs.

Approval means a licence, permit or other form of approval granted under this Bylaw and includes all conditions to which the approval is subject.

Auckland has the meaning given by [section 4\(1\)](#) of the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009.

Related information

The Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009 enabled the Local Government Commission to determine Auckland's boundaries in a map titled [LGC-Ak-R1](#). The boundaries were formally adopted by [Order in Council](#) on 15 March 2010, and came into effect on 1 November 2010.



Council, for the purposes of this Bylaw, means the Governing Body of the Auckland Council or any person delegated or authorised to act on its behalf.

Related information

The Regulatory Committee has delegated authority for decision making regarding all bylaws and associated controls as at 12 November 2019 (GB/2019/109).

Local Boards have delegated authority for controls about horse riding in public places on parks and beaches that are not of regional significance as at 30 April 2015 (GB/2015/221).

Auckland Council's Licensing and Compliance Services Department has delegated authority to administer and enforce this Bylaw (excluding fee setting) as at September 2020 (GB/2011/123).

Council-controlled public place means –

- (a) a place that is under the control of Auckland Council; and
- (b) that, at any material time, is open to or is being used by the public, whether free or on payment of a charge; and
- (c) includes any park, reserve, recreational ground, sports field, public garden, public square, cemetery, beach, foreshore, dune, wharf, breakwater, boat ramp, pontoon, road, footpath, access way, grass verge, berm, and any part of a council-controlled public place; and
- (d) excludes any place under the control of the Maunga Authority.

Hunt means to search for any animal, and killing, taking, trapping, capturing, having in possession, tranquillising, or immobilising any such animal by any means for any reason.

Nuisance has the meaning given by [section 29](#) of the Health Act 1956 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 council-controlled public place.

Owner, in relation to any animal, means a person who has an animal in their possession or custody, or under that person's care, control, or supervision, and includes the parent or guardian of a person under the age of 16 years who –

- (a) owns the animal; and
- (b) is a member of the parent's or guardian's household, living with and dependant on the parent or guardian;

but does not include any person who has seized or taken custody of an animal under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 or the National Parks Act 1980 or the Conservation Act 1987 or any order made under the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

Park means —

- (a) any land vested in or administered by the Council under the provisions of the [Reserves Act 1977](#); or
- (b) any park, domain or recreational area under the control or ownership of the Council.

Parks management plan means a plan adopted by council for the management of any regional or local park.

Person includes a corporation sole, a body corporate, and an unincorporated body.

Poultry means any live bird that is kept or raised for the purpose of producing eggs, hatching eggs or poultry products or for the purpose of rearing on behalf of any other person, and includes chickens, ducks, geese, peacocks, peahens, pheasants, roosters and swans.

Premises means any private land that is occupied or unoccupied.

Stock means cattle, deer, llamas, alpacas, donkeys, mules, horses, sheep, goats, pigs, poultry and any other animal kept in captivity, or farmed, and dependant on humans for their care and sustenance.

Urban area means –

- (a) any land zoned Residential or Business as defined in the Auckland Council Unitary Plan, and
- (b) land zoned Island Residential 1 and 2 and Commercial 1 – 7 on Waiheke Island, as defined in the Hauraki Gulf Islands Operative District Plan 2013.

Related Information

Papakāinga within the Special Purpose - Māori Purpose Zone of the Auckland Council Unitary Plan are not residential or business for the purposes of this definition as at 15 November 2016. This means any restrictions on the keeping of bees and stock in urban areas do not apply.

- (2) Related information does not form part of this Bylaw and may be inserted, changed or removed without any formality.
- (3) The [Interpretation Act 1999](#) applies to this Bylaw.

Clause 5 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2) and Clause 2(3).

Part 2

Responsibility of persons in relation to animals

6 Animal owners must be responsible for their animals at all times

- (1) The owner of any animal must at all times –
 - (a) ensure that animal does not cause a risk to public health and safety;
 - (b) ensure that animal does not cause a nuisance to any other person;
 - (c) in relation to bees, comply with any keeping of bees control made by council in accordance with clauses 9 and 10; and
 - (d) in relation to stock, comply with any keeping of stock control made by council in accordance with clauses 9 and 10.

Related information about nuisance

Whether a nuisance is unreasonable will depend on the circumstances, for example animal odour and noise from rural areas to nearby residential areas is to be expected.

Clause 6 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2) and Clause 2(3)

7 Animal owners must control and if required obtain an approval for their animal to be in a council-controlled public place

- (1) The owner of any animal in a council controlled public place must at all times -
 - (a) ensure that animal does not intimidate or cause a nuisance to any other person;
 - (b) ensure that animal does not damage any property belonging to any other person;
 - (c) in relation to the presence of horses, comply with any control made by council in accordance with clause 9;
 - (d) hold an approval to keep bees; and
 - (e) hold an approval to graze stock.
- (2) A person must not intentionally bring an animal into a regional park unless –
 - (a) approval is obtained from the council; or
 - (b) signage indicates the animal is allowed; and
 - (c) the owner complies with any other reasonable conditions imposed by council in relation to the entry or presence of the animal.

Clause 7 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2) and Clause 2(3).

8 A person must comply with certain requirements in relation to the feeding of wild animals, release of animals, animal remains and slaughter

- (1) A person must not allow the deliberate feeding of any wild or feral animal on private property under their control in a manner that creates a nuisance to any other person.
- (2) A person must not release or abandon any animal in a council-controlled public place unless council has given an approval.
- (3) A person must not hunt or remove any animal in a council-controlled public place unless –
 - (a) fishing below mean high water springs;
 - (b) for customary food gathering by Māori under the [Fisheries \(Kaimoana Customary Fishing\) Regulations 1998](#); or
 - (c) council has given approval.
- (4) A person must not leave animal remains in any public place so as to create a risk to public health and safety or nuisance.
- (5) A person must not slaughter –
 - (a) any stock on any premises with an area less than 4000 square metres in an urban area, other than poultry; and
 - (b) any stock in a council controlled public place
 - (c) any stock on any premises in a manner that creates a nuisance to any person.
- (6) However, clause 8(5) does not apply to –
 - (a) a veterinarian registered under the Veterinarians Act 2005;
 - (b) an inspector appointed for the purpose of the Biosecurity Act 1993;
 - (c) an inspector appointed for the purposes of the Animal Welfare Act 1999;
 - (d) a person who is complying with the Animal Welfare Act 1999; and
 - (e) a person who is complying with the Animal Products Act 1999 where the animal is slaughtered and processed in a premises with a registered risk management programme.

Related information

This Bylaw focuses on animal owner obligations to protect the public. Animal owners must also comply with other rules, for example:

- the [Animal Welfare Act 1999](#) prohibits the ill-treatment of animals ([s12](#), [s29](#)) and deserting an animal without reasonable excuse and no provisions to meet its needs ([s14](#))
- the [Wild Animal Control Act 1977](#) ([s8](#)) and [Crimes Act 1961](#) ([s219](#)) also regulates the hunting or removal of certain animals, such as requirements to have permission to hunt on the land they are in.
- the [Auckland Council Public Safety and Nuisance Bylaw 2013](#) enables Council to impose fishing restrictions to protect the public from risks to public safety or nuisance.

- the [Fisheries Act 1996](#) enables the Ministry for Primary Industries to ensure the sustainability of New Zealand's fisheries, including setting rules about fishing limits and closures.
- Premises referred to in clause 8(6)(e) are registered with the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Clause 8 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2) and Clause 2(3).

Part 3

Controls and approvals

9 Council may make controls about animals

- (1) The Council may make controls for the following purposes -
- (a) the keeping of bees in an urban area, specifically –
 - (i) bee management;
 - (ii) flight path management; and
 - (iii) provision of water.
 - (b) the keeping of stock in urban areas, specifically –
 - (i) the number of stock that may be kept; and
 - (ii) the conditions in which the stock is kept.
 - (c) the presence of horses in a council controlled public place, including –
 - (i) general conditions;
 - (ii) specified public places where additional conditions apply; and
 - (iii) specified public places where horse riding is prohibited.

Related information about controls

Council made the Animal Management Bylaw (Bee, Stock and Horse Riding) Control 2015 to further regulate the keeping of bees and stock and riding of horses. These rules can be viewed on the [Auckland Council website](#).

In making a control, council must comply with the decision-making requirements under [Subpart 1 of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002](#).

Part 3 heading and Clause 9 amended in accordance with Clause 2(3).

10 [Repealed]

Clause 10 deleted in accordance with Clause 2(3).

11 Council may prescribe the approval system

- (1) The Council may make controls and set fees for the following matters with respect to any approval required in this Bylaw –
- (a) applying for an approval, including forms and information;
 - (b) assessing an application for an approval, including inspection;

- (c) granting or declining an application for an approval;
 - (d) the conditions that may be imposed on an approval;
 - (e) the duration of an approval;
 - (f) objecting to an approval decision, including the period to make an objection;
 - (g) objecting about a condition of an approval, including the objection period;
 - (h) conducting inspections to ensure that an approval and its conditions are complied with;
 - (i) reviewing an approval or its conditions;
 - (j) refunding or waiving fees;
 - (k) suspending or cancelling an approval; and
 - (l) objecting about a decision to suspend or cancel an approval, including the objection period.
- (2) If no controls are made about the duration or transferability of an approval (under clauses 11(1)(e) and 11(1)(j)), an approval has a duration of 12 months from the date granted and is not transferable.

Related information about approvals

An approval under this Bylaw is called an Animal Management Licence. To apply for a licence please visit council's [website](#).

Clause 11 amended in accordance with Clause 2(3).

Part 4

Enforcement powers, offences and penalties

12 Statutory powers may be used to enforce this Bylaw

- (1) The Council may use its powers under the [Local Government Act 2002](#) and the [Health Act 1956](#) to enforce this Bylaw.

Related information

As reprinted on 1 July 2018, enforcement powers under the Local Government Act 2002 included court injunction ([section 162](#)), seizure and disposal of property (sections [164](#), [165](#), [168](#)), powers of entry (sections [171](#), [172](#), [173](#)), cost recovery for damage (sections [175](#), [176](#)), and power to request name and address ([section 178](#)).

As reprinted on 2 March 2018, enforcement powers under the Health Act 1956 included court orders ([section 33](#)), cost recovery for council to abate nuisance ([section 34](#)), powers of entry ([section 128](#)), and power to request name and address ([section 134](#)).

Clause 12 amended in accordance with Clause 2(3).

13 A person can be penalised for not complying with this Bylaw

- (1) A person who fails to comply with Part 2 of this Bylaw commits a breach of this Bylaw and is liable to a penalty under the [Local Government Act 2002](#) or the [Health Act 1956](#).

Related information

As reprinted on 1 July 2018 under [section 242](#) of the Local Government Act 2002, a person who is convicted of an offence against a bylaw is liable to a fine not exceeding \$20,000.

As reprinted on 2 March 2018 under [section 66](#) of the Health Act 1956, a person who breaches a bylaw is liable to a \$500 maximum fine and where the offence is continuing, a further \$50 maximum fine for every day it continues.

Clause 13 amended in accordance with Clause 2(3).

Part 5

[Repealed]

Part 5 deleted in accordance with Clause 2(3).

Related information, Bylaw History

Date	Description
01 November 2010	Made legacy bylaws about animal management ¹ (Section 63 Local Government (Auckland Transitional Provisions) Act 2010))
01 November 2010	Commencement of legacy bylaws about animal management (Section 63 Local Government (Auckland Transitional Provisions) Act 2010)
22 July 2014	Review of legacy bylaws about animal management completed (RBC/2014/26)
31 July 2014	Proposal to make new bylaw about animal management and to revoke legacy bylaws (GB/2014/68)
30 April 2015	Made the Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw 2015 (GB/2015/22)
08 June 2015	Public notice of new Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw 2015
01 September 2015	Commencement of new Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw 2015 and revocation of legacy bylaws
27 September 2018	Proposal to amend the Bylaw following a review of the Auckland Council Public Safety and Nuisance Bylaw 2013 (GB/2018/148)
28 March 2019	Made amendments to the Bylaw (GB/2019/22)
May 2019	Public notice of amendments to the Bylaw
01 October 2019	Commencement of amendments to the Bylaw
17 March 2020	Review of Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw 2015 completed (REG/2020/17)
27 May 2021	Proposal to amend Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw 2015 (GB/2021/50)
25 November 2021	Amended the Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw 2015 (GB/2021/148)
15 December 2021	Public notice of amendments to Animal Management Bylaw 2015
20 December 2021	Commencement of amendments to Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw 2015 (GB/2021/148)

¹ Legacy bylaws made: Auckland Regional Parks Bylaw (2007); Auckland City Council No 3 – Animals Bylaw (2008); Auckland City Council No 20 – Public Places Bylaw (2008); Franklin District Council Keeping of Animals, Poultry and Bees Bylaw (2007); Franklin District Council Public Places Bylaw (2007); Franklin District Council Beach Control Bylaw (2007); Chapter 2 (Animals and Pest Management) of the Manukau City Consolidate Bylaw (2008); Part 5 (Keeping Animals Poultry Bees), Part 2 (Public Places), Part 7 (Environmental Protection: Nuisances Arising on Private Land) and Part 21 (Stock Slaughter) of the North Shore City Council Bylaw (2000); Papakura District Council Keeping of Animals, Poultry and Bees Bylaw (2008); Papakura District Council Public Places Bylaw (2008); Chapter 7 (Keeping Animals, Poultry and Bees), Chapter 8 (Public Places) and Chapter 6 (Stock on Roads) of the Rodney District Council General Bylaw (1998); Waitakere City Council Animals, Birds and Bees Bylaw (2010); and Waitakere City Council Public Places Bylaw (2010).

Related information, next bylaw review

This Bylaw must be reviewed by 17 March 2030. If not reviewed by this date, the Bylaw will expire on 17 March 2032.

Find out more: **phone 09 301 0101**
or visit **aucklandCouncil.govt.nz**





Animal Management Bylaw (Bee, Stock and Horse Riding) Control 2015

(as at 25 November 2021)

made by the Governing Body of Auckland Council

in resolution GB/2015/22

on 30 April 2015

Control made under clause 9 of the Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau Ture-ā-rohe
Tiaki Kararehe 2015 / Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw 2015.

Summary

This summary is not part of this Control but explains the general effects.

Every day Aucklanders interact with animals in a way that benefit their mental and physical wellbeing. Sometimes however, the way people interact with animals causes a problem.

The purpose of this Control is to help minimise public health and safety risks, nuisance, offensive behaviour and the misuse of council controlled public places from the keeping of **bees** and **stock** in urban areas and for **horse riding** in council controlled public places by –

- specifying minimum standards of best practice (specific rules)
- providing guidance (advice in related information boxes).

The rules and advice are in addition to:

- more general rules in the Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau Ture-ā-rohe Tiaki Kararehe 2015 / Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw 2015.
- rules in other legislation, for example animal welfare rules in the [Animal Welfare Act 1999](#).

Read the Bylaw for more information about general rules and other legislation.

1 Title

- (1) This control is the Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw (Bee, Stock and Horse Riding) Control 2015.

2 Issuing authority

- (1) This control is made under clause 9 of the Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau Ture-ā-rohe Tiaki Kararehe 2015 / Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw 2015.

3 Commencement

- (1) This control comes into force on 1 September 2015.
- (2) Amendments by resolution GB/2021/148 come into force on 20 December 2021.

Related information

Council decided on 25 November 2021 to amend this control to make it easier to read and understand (GB/2021/148).

4 Application

- (1) This control applies to Auckland.

5 Purpose

- (1) This control specifies additional rules about the keeping of bees and stock in urban areas and horse riding in council-controlled public places.

6 Interpretation

- (1) In this control, unless the context otherwise requires:

Apiary means land used for the keeping of bees in one or more beehives.

Beach means the foreshore and adjacent area that can reasonably be considered part of the beach environment, including areas of sand, pebbles, shingle, dunes or coastal vegetation, and includes the adjacent coastal marine area.

Beehive means any receptacle housing a honey bee colony.

Beekeeper means a person who keeps bees.

Bylaw means the Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau Ture-ā-rohe Tiaki Kararehe 2015 / Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw 2015.

Coastal marine area has the meaning given by [Section 2](#) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Flight path means the distinct route taken by many bees leaving from or returning to their hive.

Foreshore has the meaning given by the [Section 2](#) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Honey bee colony means a honey bee community consisting of a queen (lays eggs), drones (locate queens during swarms), and workers (range of duties including foraging for nectar).

Pollination means the transfer of pollen by honey bees from anthers to stigmas of flowers for plant fertilisation.

Swarm means a cluster or flying mass of honey bees, including workers, queens and drones.

- (2) Unless the context requires another meaning, a term or expression that is defined in the Bylaw and is used, but not defined in this control has the meaning given by the Bylaw.
- (3) Related information does not form part of this control and may be inserted, changed or removed without any formality.

Control One

Beekeeping in urban areas

7 Beekeepers must take reasonable steps to prevent public safety and nuisance risks

- (1) A person who keeps bees in an urban area must in relation to those bees and associated beehives:
 - (a) take all reasonable steps to ensure any beehive is positioned and managed in a way that has minimal impact to any other person;
 - (b) maintain any honey bee colony with a calm temperament;
 - (c) take all reasonable steps to control swarming;
 - (d) ensure that there is a suitable water source for the bees on the premises on which the beehives are kept;
 - (e) take all reasonable steps to minimise nuisance to any other person from bee excrement.

Related information about beekeeping for farming purposes

Beekeeping for farming purposes ('commercial beekeeping') is regulated under the [Auckland Unitary Plan](#). Resource consent (approval) may be required to keep bees for farming purposes in urban areas.

Related information about responsible beekeeping

Learn how to be a responsible beekeeper

Auckland Council advises every person wishing to keep bees in an urban area to participate in a beekeeping course. For more advice or information:

- on how to comply with this Control, contact your local beekeeping club or the National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand
- read the National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand guidelines "Starting with Bees" or contact the association
- contact the Auckland Beekeeper's, Franklin Beekeepers or Rodney Beekeepers Club.

Register your apiary

Beekeepers have a legal obligation to register their apiary under the Biosecurity (National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan) Order 1998. Registration:

- is intended to protect honey bees from American foulbrood disease
- allows the Ministry for Primary Industries to carry out surveillance for exotic pests and diseases of honey bees and respond to an incursion.

Registrations are processed by The Management Agency, National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan, through its online platform '[HiveHub](#)'. Registration codes are required to be displayed in a visible manner in each apiary, usually on a beehive.

Further information on American foulbrood disease can be found at www.afb.org.nz.

Manage flight paths to avoid public safety or nuisance risks

Honey bees will fly at head height for some distance from their hives unless their surrounding environment directs their flight path upwards. Honey bees can be encouraged to fly above head height if a flyway barrier, two or more metres tall, is placed 1-2 metres out from the front of the hive entrance. It is important that flight paths are not directed across public pathways on private and public land. Barriers that can be used include shrubs or trees, a wall, a hedge or a fence. Beehives can be placed on top of sheds or buildings but it may be more difficult to work with the bees in these restricted locations.

Like other animals, bees excrete waste products. Honey bees going on orientation, foraging or cleaning flights often excrete after exiting the hive. This can leave distinct trails of coloured bee excrement within a 500 metre radius of the hive and can cause a nuisance to neighbours. The colour of the excrement depends on the pollen sources the bees are foraging on but is typically yellow to brown. The excrement may be hard to remove from clothing, vehicles and buildings.

Hives can be re-positioned on the property or rotated so that flight paths can be encouraged in a direction away from neighbouring properties.

Minimise the occurrence of swarming

Although swarming is the natural means of dispersal of honey bee colonies, beekeepers can minimise the occurrence of swarms in urban areas by:

- re-queening on an annual basis
- taking a nucleus colony out of populous hives (artificial swarming)
- re-queening colonies that have been started from swarms.

Contact your local beekeeping club or the National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand for further advice on bee management.

Honey bee colonies are more likely to swarm if there are limited cells in the hive for the worker bees to store honey and pollen. Responsible bee management practices need to be undertaken during the seasonal build up to avoid such situations. Plenty of room should be provided for the queen to lay eggs and for the bees to store honey. Consider taking three-five frames of bees, brood and stores from the hive (nucleus hive) as an artificial swarm.

Collection of bee swarms

Although beekeepers can undertake responsible bee management practices to minimise the occurrence of swarms, swarming is part of the natural reproductive and dispersal cycle of honey bees. Bees which have recently swarmed are generally not inclined to sting unless provoked, as they are gorged full of honey and are homeless, which reduces their defensive behaviour. Swarms that have been confined by bad weather to the same bush or tree for several days may be more aggressive.

If a bee swarm is sighted, members of the public should not attempt to remove the swarm themselves, but arrange to have the swarm removed by a local beekeeper. To find a local beekeeper call your local beekeeping club, the National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand, or the Auckland Council call centre on 09 301 0101.

Maintain calm temperament of bees to avoid public safety or nuisance risks

Maintaining honey bee colonies with a calm temperament is important for minimising potential nuisance to neighbours and the risk of bee stings. Honey bees are generally docile and only sting as a defensive mechanism.

The genetics of the queen influences the nature of the hive, and aggressive bees release alarm pheromones to behave in a more defensive manner.

Queen bees should be culled from aggressive colonies and replaced with queens from a gentle strain. If the queen is coming into her second season, the colony is more likely to swarm.

Be considerate of neighbours when working with bees

Beekeepers in urban areas should be considerate of their neighbours and work with bees at appropriate times of the day. During the weekend an appropriate time may be earlier in the morning. Beekeepers should avoid working with bees in wet and cold weather conditions.

Consideration should be given to livestock near the apiary as well as in neighbouring properties. Beehives in paddocks with livestock should be protected from being disrupted by livestock and aggravating the bees. Bee flight paths should also be managed to protect livestock from the risk of bee stings.

Food and water for bees

Providing a source of clean water may reduce the number of bees foraging elsewhere for water and creating a nuisance to neighbours, especially if they own a swimming pool.

An adequate food source for bees is important for bee nutrition and preventing bee starvation. Bees rely on nectar and pollen for their food. Without adequate food sources bees can become weak or starve, are less able to resist diseases and pests, and cannot reproduce to build up strong colonies. The Trees for Bees programme aims to research bee-friendly plants and promote bee-friendly land management in order to provide adequate nutrition for bees in spring and autumn. For further information on bee-friendly plants visit the Trees for Bees NZ webpage at <http://www.treesforbeesnz.org/home>.

As well as the need for public awareness of bee-friendly plants, beekeepers should prevent overcrowding and manage bee stocking rates. A stocking rate is about managing the number of hives in an apiary or in an area in relation to the carrying capacity of food sources for bees in the foraging environment. Bees forage in a radius of up to five kilometres from the hive, and having too many bees in a single area can cause competition between honeybee colonies.

Control Two

Keeping stock in urban areas

8 Stock owners must ensure their stock are confined on the premises

- (1) The owner of any stock of a type in Table 1 kept in an urban area must ensure the stock is confined within the premises in such a manner that it cannot freely leave the premises.
- (2) The owner of any chicken kept in an urban area must:
 - (a) ensure the chicken is confined within the premises in such a manner that it cannot freely leave the premises (for example using an enclosed chicken coop and attached run or adequate fencing);
 - (b) ensure any chicken coop does not cause a nuisance to any other person; and
 - (c) regularly clean their chicken coop as appropriate to maintain the chicken coop in a dry, clean condition and state of good repair, free from any offensive smell, overflow and vermin.

9 Stock owners must obtain an approval to keep stock in certain circumstances

- (1) A person on a premises in an urban area may keep stock of a type in Table 1 within the limits specified in Table 1.
- (2) However, the limits specified in Table 1 do not apply if:
 - (a) that person holds an approval;
 - (b) the area of the premises is larger than 4000 square meters; or
 - (c) the stock is being kept for participation in a children's agricultural day event where:
 - (i) the event is registered with the council and event organisers provide participants with education on responsible animal ownership, and
 - (ii) the premises on which the stock is being kept is within the Aotea/Great Barrier, Franklin, Papakura, Rodney, Waiheke or Waitākere Ranges; and
 - (iii) the stock is less than 12 months of age and is being kept on the premises for no more than six months between 1 June and 30 November.

Table 1: Number of stock allowed to be kept in an urban area without an approval

Type of stock	Premises less than 2000 square metres in size	Premises 2000 square metres or larger in size
Cattle	0	0
Chickens	6	12
Deer	0	0
Donkeys	0	0
Ducks	0	6
Geese	0	6
Goats	0	0
Horses	0	0
Llamas	0	0
Peacocks	0	0
Peahens	0	0
Pheasants	0	6
Pigs	0	0
Ponies	0	0
Quail	6	12
Roosters	0	0
Sheep	0	0
Swans	0	0

Related information for the keeping of stock

Animal owners have an obligation under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 to ensure that the physical, health and behavioural needs of their animal are met. Minimum standards for the care and management of layer hens are stipulated by the Animal Welfare (Layer Hens) Code of Welfare 2012. Minimum standards are also contained in codes of welfare for meat chickens, dairy and beef cattle, sheep, deer, goats, pigs, llamas and alpacas.

The control is intended to ensure any potential nuisances or risks to public health and safety are minimised. When considering whether to issue an approval, the council considers various matters that may be likely to create nuisances. Such matters may include the type of stock, the suitability of size and site available for keeping stock, the suitability of fencing, housing, drainage, and waste disposal controls to limit the creation of potential nuisances.

Calf club and rural pet days

Event organisers of calf club and rural school pet days are required to register their event with the council. If an event is an annual event, organisers will only need to register with the council once and each season ensure participants are aware of their obligations under the bylaw.

Keeping a calf or lamb for calf club and rural pet days is a tradition in many rural communities and participants do not need to apply for an approval. Participants will still need to ensure stock are properly contained and that animals do not cause issues for neighbours.

Related information about responsible chicken keeping

Learn how to be a responsible chicken owner

Auckland Council advises every person wishing to keep chickens in an urban area to participate in a chicken keeping educational course. For advice on the keeping of chickens refer to the SPCA Auckland guidelines found at <http://spca.org.nz/AnimalCare/ChickenCare.aspx>.

Guidelines for the containment of chickens

The proper containment of chickens and provision of shelter is an important aspect of responsible animal ownership in urban areas. A chicken coop should always be set up prior to acquiring the chickens. The permitted number of chickens should have access to an area of land greater than 3m². As part of this space, an enclosed, rainproof chicken coop should be provided for sleeping and laying eggs, allowing at least 30cm of roost or perch per chicken with a minimum roof height of 60cm.

Chicken owners have an obligation under the Animal Welfare (Layer Hens) Code of Welfare 2012 to provide facilities for roosting (e.g. perches), a surface for pecking and scratching, and a secluded nesting area. Perches should be positioned at a height off the ground, and in a manner so that chickens are able to maintain a natural position on top of the perch when roosting.

Guidelines for locating chicken coops

The location of chicken coops can be very important for minimising potential nuisance to neighbours. When locating a chicken coop, owners should consider how this may affect their neighbours and locate the coop in a place that is least likely to cause a nuisance. Placing it right up against neighbouring properties or near outdoor living areas has the potential to cause a nuisance, as hens can be noisy when they lay and there is a risk of chicken coops becoming smelly in the summer months.

Chicken coops should also be located on well-drained land as standing water will promote public health risks.

Guidelines for keeping chicken coops clean

Keeping chicken coops clean is important for minimising potential smells and minimising health problems for both chickens and people. Chicken coops should be thoroughly cleaned out at least once a week. Nesting boxes and the floor of any chicken coop should be kept clean and dry and lined with hay, wood chips (untreated), sawdust, or shredded newspaper so that it can be easily removed when cleaned out. Chicken owners have an obligation under the Animal Welfare (Layer Hens) Code of Welfare 2012 to provide good quality litter material that is free from toxic contaminants. This lining should be removed often and cleaned out as appropriate to ensure compliance with the Keeping of Stock Control. In addition, egg nests should not be positioned beneath elevated perches as this can lead to excrement dropping on eggs.

Preventing vermin in chicken coops

Owners should not allow excess food and chicken bedding waste to accumulate on their property. This is because it can start to smell, provide somewhere for flies to breed, mice to shelter and may attract rats looking for food.

Scattering food across the ground can often lead to the attraction of rats and mice and should be scattered only for the purpose of immediate consumption. Owners will get more control by using vermin proof receptacles specifically for poultry feeding, which also keep out the rain, providing chickens with good access to dry pellets or grain. Once vermin realise there is an accessible food supply, they will continue to return, leaving excrement that can contaminate chicken feed and water. Owners would also be exposing themselves and their neighbours to the diseases that rats and mice carry in their excrement.

Owners need to ensure they do as much as possible to keep the area in and around a chicken coop clean.

Control 4

Horse riding in a public place

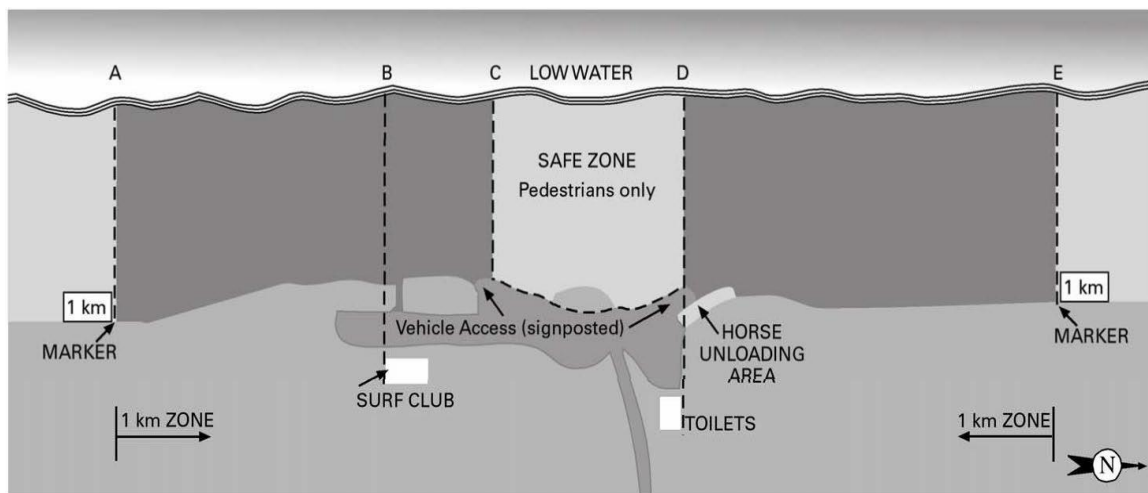
10 Owners of a horse being ridden in public must comply with certain conditions

- (2) The owner of a horse being ridden in a council controlled public place must:
- (a) remove or safely dispose of any horse manure that is deposited;
 - (b) show due consideration for other users at all times;
 - (c) when on a beach, ride or lead their horse in a manner that does not intimidate, cause a danger or cause a nuisance to other beach users; and
 - (d) must not ride or lead their horse on coastal dunes except when accessing the beach, an adjoining property, or road in a manner that does not cause, nor is likely to cause damage to any part of that dune, and that utilises the most direct route possible.

11 Additional conditions apply to the presence of horses on certain beaches

- (1) A person must comply with the following conditions about the presence of horses on Algies Beach, Hatfields Beach, Martins Bay Beach, Omaha Beach, Orewa Beach and Snells Beach –
 - (a) horses must only be ridden or lead along the beach between the times of mid and low tide, and must be ridden or lead along the beach below the high tide mark;
 - (b) between 1 December and 15 February (including weekends), horses are only allowed before 10:00am, and after 7:00pm; and
 - (c) horses are prohibited at Easter weekend (Friday to Monday inclusive) and Labour weekend (Saturday to Monday inclusive).
- (2) A person must comply with the following conditions about the presence of horses on Karioitahi Beach as shown in Figure 1 –
 - (a) during high use periods, horses are restricted to a walk within the 1km ZONE, at all other times horses are restricted to a walk within the Safe Zone;
 - (b) within the 1km ZONE, horses must remain within 10 metres of the water's edge wherever possible;
 - (c) horse manure must be removed from the 1km ZONE; and
 - (d) the unloading of horses is only permitted in the Horse Unloading Area.

Figure 1: Karioitahi Beach Special Restrictions



Related information on responsible horse riding

Further information on responsible horse riding can be obtained from the [New Zealand Horse Network](#) and the [New Zealand Bridleways Code](#).

Guidelines for general conditions

Consideration to other members of the public should be shown by removing or disposing of horse manure public places. Not all members of the public will feel comfortable around horses, so it may be appropriate to give people plenty of space and reduce speed as riders approach other members of the public.

Horse riders should also be aware of nesting birds. Horse trampling can damage dune vegetation, contribute to erosion and disturb nesting areas. Dunes, shell banks and beaches provide habitats for many rare and threatened bird species. If there is signage or notices about nesting birds, horse riders should pay particular attention and/or stay away completely from those areas. Some areas have signage showing where horse riding is prohibited. Additionally, if there are bridle trails across dunes to access the beach, horse riders should not veer off the trail.

Guidelines for horse riding conditions along the north eastern coast of Auckland

Beaches along the north eastern coast of Auckland are becoming increasingly developed by urban settlements. Conditions for horse riding at specified beaches are intended to protect public safety and minimise the potential for public nuisance. Horses are required to be ridden below the high tide mark so that any manure can be washed away. Horses are not to be ridden during high tide periods, so as to avoid potential conflict with other beach users.

Guidelines for horse riding conditions at Karioitahi Beach

Karioitahi Beach is located on the south western coast of Auckland. Conditions for horse riding at Karioitahi Beach are intended to protect public safety, manage beach access and manage different activities of beach users. High use periods in the specified conditions means the time between 10:00am and 6:00pm from the beginning of Labour Weekend to the end of March in the following year.

Horse riding on the road

Rules for horse riding on the road and driver care around horse riders are already contained in Part 11 of the Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004.

Horse riding in regional and local parks

Permitted horse riding areas at local and regional parks are set out in parks management plans such as reserve management plans and the Auckland Regional Parks Management Plan 2010. Permitted horse riding areas at regional parks and designated bridle trails can be seen in the regional park management plan maps accessible on the Auckland Council website. Riders must obtain council permission prior to riding in regional parks and are required to comply with conditions outlined in a code of conduct.

Auckland Unitary Plan

The Auckland Unitary Plan includes controls for horse riding in the coastal marine area (i.e. on a beach below the mean high water springs line). Horses must not be ridden or lead through bird breeding areas.

Related information, Controls History

Date	Description
30 April 2015	Made keeping of bees control, keeping of stock control, and horses in a public place control (GB/2015/22)
11 August 2015	Amended keeping of stock control (RBC/2015/30)
01 September 2015	Commencement of Auckland Council Animal Management Controls 2015 (GB/2015/22)
25 November 2021	Amended Auckland Council Animal Management Bylaw Control 2015 as part of Bylaw review
20 December 2021	Commencement of Auckland Council Animal Management Controls 2015 (GB/2021/148)

Find out more: **phone 09 301 0101**
or visit **aucklandCouncil.govt.nz**