



Upcoming Local Law Changes for Animal Owners

Do you own an animal in the City of Whittlesea?

It's important to stay informed about the new Community Local Law 2024-2034 and understand how it will impact you. It takes effect from 1 July 2024.

Understanding the new Community Local Law

The Community Local Law 2024 is designed to balance safety, personal freedom, and community responsibility, ensuring the City of Whittlesea remains a welcoming *'A Place For All'*. It covers a wide range of areas including fire safety, animals, and the upkeep of public spaces to enhance community safety and neighbourhood amenities.

Important changes for animal owners

Changes have been made regarding the keeping of animals, responsible pet ownership, and the number of animals allowed per property without a permit. New requirements may include permits for housing poultry, pigeons, rabbits, ferrets, guinea pigs, and rodents. Additionally, changes have been made to the importance of obeying signage at sporting grounds and ensuring properties are secure to prevent dog attacks.



Type of animal	Maximum allowed without a permit		
	Flats, apartments, units or townhouses	Land less than 4,000 m ²	Land between 4,000m ² and 20,000m ²
Dogs	2	2	4
Cats	2	2	4
Poultry	not allowed	12	24
Pigs	not allowed	not allowed	not allowed
Large and/or noisy Birds (including Roosters)	not allowed	not allowed	5
Pigeons	not allowed	12 pairs	20 pairs
Domestic Birds (caged excluding large and/or noisy Birds)	6	30	not regulated by this local law
Domestic Rabbits, Ferrets, Guinea Pigs and Mice	2	4	not regulated by this local law
Horses, Donkeys and Camels	not allowed	not allowed	1
Cattle	not allowed	not allowed	1
Sheep, Goats and Alpacas	not allowed	not allowed	2
Large introduced animal	not allowed	not allowed	not allowed

Some changes that may affect you

- **Keeping dogs safe:** Owners must ensure their dogs cannot escape through, over, or under fences or gates to prevent attacks.
- **Sporting reserve:** Dog owners are required to adhere to all signage at sporting reserves.
- **How many animals you can have:** There are changes to the number of animals you can have on your property without a permit (refer to the attached table for details).
- **Looking after animals:** Animal shelters including birds and other livestock must be properly maintained and kept clean.
- **Noise and odour:** Noise or smells of animals must not cause offense to neighbours.
- **Cleaning up:** Animal excrement must be promptly removed from Council land and managed appropriately on private property.
- **Deceased animals:** Any deceased animals on a property must be buried or otherwise disposed of to prevent public health issues.
- **Livestock permits:** Livestock owners are now required to obtain a permit to drive or graze livestock on Council roads.

What this means for you

- **Plan ahead:** Understand how the new Local Laws affect your animal ownership to ensure compliance by the 1 July 2024 deadline.
- **Community responsibility:** Community responsibility: These changes were driven by community feedback and aim to improve safety, protect public spaces, and enhance the quality of our neighbourhoods.
- **Stay Informed:** read the Community Local Law by visiting engage.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/LocalLawReview to ensure you're prepared for any changes that may affect you.



Let's work together to keep our community safe, clean, and welcoming for all.

