

NORTH BURNETT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Planning Scheme

Uses involving the keeping of animals

Info Sheet

This info sheet explains the 2014 planning scheme as it applies to uses involving the keeping of animals—‘**Intensive animal industry**’ (e.g. feedlots, piggeries, and poultry farms), ‘**Animal keeping**’ (e.g. aviaries, catteries, kennels, stables, wildlife refuge), ‘**Animal husbandry**’ (e.g. grazing), ‘**Aquaculture**’ and ‘**Veterinary services**’. The North Burnett provides some unique incentives to encourage these activities to establish or expand.

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ANIMAL-RELATED USES EXPLAINED

The North Burnett is an attractive region to establish and operate intensive animal uses such as feedlots, piggeries and kennels.

Scheme definitions

There are several planning scheme uses involving the keeping of animals—

The definition of ‘**Animal husbandry**’ is—

Premises used for production of animals or animal products on either native or improved pastures or vegetation.

The use includes ancillary yards, stables and temporary holding facilities and the repair and servicing of machinery.

This use should not be confused with a related one, ‘**Animal keeping**’ which the scheme defines as—

Premises used for boarding, breeding, or training of animals.

The use may include ancillary temporary or permanent holding facilities on the same site and ancillary repair and servicing of machinery.

The definition of ‘**Aquaculture**’ is—

Premises used for the cultivation of aquatic animals or plants in a confined area that may require the provision of food either mechanically or by hand.

‘**Intensive animal industry**’ means—

Premises used for the intensive production of animals or animal products in an enclosure that requires the provision of food and water either mechanically or by hand.

The use includes the ancillary storage and packing of feed and produce.

‘**Veterinary services**’ means—

Premises used for veterinary care, surgery and treatment of animals that may include provision for the short-term accommodation of the animals on the premises.

While the previous definitions are mandatory standard planning scheme definitions applying across Queensland, the explanation or views expressed in this information sheet may be different to those of other Councils.

Defined use	Keeping what animals	Purpose of keeping	Further explanation
Animal husbandry	any animal other than aquatic animals	Production of animals or animal products on pasture or vegetation	For example, livestock grazing, bee-keeping, weaning pens, drought feeding
Animal keeping	any animal other than aquatic animals	Boarding, breeding, training	For example catteries, kennels, stables—for commercial purposes
Aquaculture	aquatic animals only	Cultivation in confined	Fish farming, hatcheries, crayfish aquaculture—cultured
Intensive animal industry	any animal other than aquatic animals	Intensive production in enclosures where food and water provided mechanically or by hand	Feedlots, piggeries, chicken meat production Keeping less than 150 standard cattle units of cattle is not an ERA. For the planning scheme keeping any number of animals in enclosures is 'Intensive animal industry' however these smaller feedlots are accepted subject to
Veterinary services	any animal other than aquatic animals	Only ancillary to the veterinary care, surgery or treatment	For example a Vet surgery or Vet hospital

PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

For the Rural zone—

- Animal husbandry is accepted and therefore does not need any planning approval.
- Animal keeping is assessable requiring code assessment and therefore needs a development permit; there is no public notification.
- Aquaculture is accepted subject to requirements under certain circumstances but is otherwise assessable requiring code assessment.
- Intensive animal industry for a cattle feedlot of less than 150 SCU is accepted subject to requirements. No approval is necessary if complying with the acceptable outcomes of the Intensive animal uses code. (See the outcomes list for small feedlots on the last page.)
- Intensive animal industry is assessable requiring code assessment in the 'Hinterland precinct' but otherwise requires impact assessment and public notification.
- Veterinary services is assessable requiring code assessment.

These categories of development and assessment are relatively facilitative—noting for example that intensive animal industry mostly requires impact assessment in other local government areas.

INTENSIVE ANIMAL USES CODE

One of the key codes applying to animal uses is the *Intensive animal uses code* contained in section 9.3.6. Council uses that code to assess applications for *Intensive animal industry* or *Animal keeping*. Its purpose is to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on water, air, soil, vegetation, amenity, or productive agricultural land.

The code refers to complying with the separation distances in several external standards and guidelines as a means for complying with the code. These include—

- Reference Manual for the Establishment and Operation of Beef Cattle Feedlots in Queensland;
- Interim Guideline—Sheep Feedlot Assessment in Queensland May 2010
- National Environmental Guidelines for Piggeries 2nd Edition (Revised) 2010.

SMALL FEEDLOTS

The *Intensive animal uses code* contains acceptable outcomes that apply to feedlots less than 150 'Standard Cattle Units'.

These are—

- ☑ In the Rural Zone (Hinterland Precinct)
- ☑ more than 200 metres from a road frontage
- ☑ more than 100 metres from any another boundary
- ☑ more than 2000 metres from a Township zone or General residential zone

- ☑ more than 700 metres from a sensitive land use (like a house, school, or tourist park)

- ☑ more than 200 metres from a 'referable wetland'

- ☑ more than 100 metres from a water course

- ☑ on a site more than 20 hectares.

(See AO1.1, AO2.1 and AO2.2 of the Intensive Animal uses code for the full detail.)

Council does not require an approval if the 150 SCU feedlot



Still need help?

This information sheet summarises the key matters to consider for people considering carrying out development. The process and legal aspects relating to property and development can be complex and confusing. Council's development services staff may be able to help.

Sometimes however it may be advisable for you to obtain your own professional help from a qualified practitioner such as a Lawyer, Surveyor, Town Planner, Architect, Building Designer, or Engineer.

Encouraging economic development

The North Burnett Regional Council is a small rural local government but it is big on facilitating good economic development. That is why the planning scheme seeks to enable business growth and expansion while simultaneously creating and protecting the appeal of living in a *naturally beautiful* area. While the Council can encourage or enable good development projects it is up to locals to see opportunities and then to take the initiative.

Make contact with Council's Development Services staff to find out how to streamline your next development project.

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about the planning scheme and making an application.

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North Burnett—Naturally beautiful

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