

Keeping Chickens In Residential Areas

Residents are permitted to keep chickens on their property in the City of Armadale. They do not need to inform the City that they keep chickens but there are Local Laws that set the conditions in which the poultry may be kept.

What is the Definition of Poultry?

With respect to the keeping of poultry in residential areas the term includes fowls, ducks and other birds kept commonly for the production of eggs for domestic consumption, but DOES NOT include peafowls, geese, guinea fowls, turkeys or roosters.

How Many Chickens Are Permitted on a Single Property?

Other than a rural zone, the occupier of the property can keep up to 20 poultry.

How Many Roosters Are Permitted?

If the property is not in a rural zone - **no roosters are permitted.**

Geese, peafowl, guinea fowl and turkeys are also not permitted on a non-rural property.

Conditions for Keeping Poultry

A person who keeps or permits poultry to be kept must follow these conditions.

- a. No poultry to be able to approach within nine (9) metres from:
 - any dwelling
 - public building/premises where people are employed
 - public building/premises where food is stored, prepared, manufactured or sold.

- b. No poultry to be able to approach within 15 metres from any roads except where the land is on a corner block in which case Council may approve a lesser distance.
- c. Poultry to be kept in a properly constructed and securely fastened enclosure whose area is equal to at least one square metre for each bird.
- d. The enclosure is to be one metre from any boundary.
- e. The roof structure within the enclosure should be sufficient to enable all poultry to obtain shade and shelter.
- f. The floor of the enclosure is to be constructed of a smooth, impervious material with a gradient of at least 1 in 50 to the front of the structure.
- g. Enclosure to be kept clean at all times, with effective measures taken to control flies and prevent offensive odours.
 - *If the enclosure does not comply with these conditions, the owner or occupier may be directed to remove it.*
 - *The owner or occupier may also be given a direction to modify, repair or clean the enclosure.*

Keeping Chickens In Residential Areas (continued)

Legislation

The City of Armadale Environment, Animals and Nuisance Local Laws 2002 are made under the Local Government Act, and aim to provide an enjoyable and healthy lifestyle for all the City's residents.

Have a problem with a neighbour?

Cooperation between neighbours is the basis for a relaxed home life. Occasionally the City's Environmental Health Officers become involved in resolving any local law issues. Cooperation with neighbours and the officer is essential in resolving issues.

If you had no success in resolving a poultry or rooster issue with your neighbour, then you can write to the City of Armadale. In your letter state:

- *Where the poultry or rooster is*
- *What the specific problem is*
- *How is it effecting you*
- *Give your name and contact details so you can be advised of the progress.*

A City Environmental Health Officer will follow up the issue. As with any complaint dealt with by the City, your details are kept confidential.

General Conditions

- ✗ **Do not** keep roosters - crowing is what most people complain to the City about.
- ✗ **Do not** keep geese, peafowl, guinea fowl or turkeys - they are a noise issue.
- ✗ **Do not** accidentally feed local rats and mice by leaving out bird feed.

- ✓ **Do** store feed in sealed containers.
- ✓ **Do** regularly clean the enclosure to avoid smell, rat and fly problems.
- ✓ **Consider** the effect of your activities on your neighbours.