



HORSE AGISTMENT POLICY

Adopted Date: 18th December 2013
Policy Number: GRC 0068
Policy Type: Administrative
Responsible Officer: Director Community & Corporate Services
Department: Community & Corporate Services

Version	Decision Number or CEO Approval	Decision Date	History
1	GRC0068	18 December 2013	Review September 2015
2	Reviewed and Amended	July 2015	September 2016
3	Reviewed and Amended OM-081/19	24 April 2019	Review March 2020
4	Reviewed	August 2020	August 2023

1. BACKGROUND

The Goondiwindi Regional Council receives many requests for the medium to long term agistment of horses for local residents involved in horse sports, recreational riding or in some cases the use of horses for business.

Council has allocated parcels of land for the medium to long term agistment of horses; which are in close proximity to the towns of the region. Council has determined the maximum carrying capacity for each parcel of land for the purpose of agistment; ensuring that the use of the land does not conflict with surrounding uses and meets the general requirements of relevant planning schemes, local laws and any state legislation. The following policy is established to ensure that the allocation of land and its use is managed effectively.

Types of Applicants

- Local Residents who require medium to long term agistment for horses

Conditions of Approval

- An application form must be completed before a permit can be issued. The following details are required to complete the application:
 - Contact details
 - Street address or PO Box details
 - Landline
 - Mobile
 - Email address
- Description details and Photograph of horse.
- Details of Public Liability Insurance Cover to the value of \$20,000,000.00

- A Permit may be granted but is dependent upon the maximum determined carrying capacity for the parcel of land.
- Applications received that exceed the maximum carrying capacity will be considered for other parcels of land offered for the purpose and added to a waiting list should no other suitable space be available.
- No person, other than a bona fide resident of the adjacent Township and over the age of seventeen (17), shall be permitted to depasture stock on the Reserve or Town Common.
- Permits are to include conditions and notifications informing the permit holder that Council accepts **no liability** for the agistment of horses or other stock nor any damage or injury that may occur to the horse or other stock or the permit holder arising from activities associated with the permit.
- Council accepts no responsibility for any damage arising from the horses escaping from the permit area.
- No stallions are permitted on any reserves.
- Permit holders are not to erect any structures or introduce drums, feed troughs or other implements on to the permit areas.

Duration of Permit

- Access to agistment will be provided for a maximum of 6 months at any one time and shall be evidenced through the granting of a permit.
- Permit holders will have access to the permitted area for depasturing for 6 months or part thereof if the permitted period has already begun. Permit periods are from 1st January to 30th June and 1st July to 31st December.

Renewal of Permit

- A permit will not be reviewed without reference to the waiting list.
- Should any applicant on the waiting list wish to take up a permit which would result in the total number of permits issued exceeding the determined maximum carrying capacity for the parcel of land, the existing permit holder will be required to vacate the parcel and reapply for a permit.
- Permits will not be renewed should the land become degraded or any conditions of earlier permits not be met.

Cancellation of Permit

- It is the permit holders responsibility to ensure that permits remain current; if the permit lapses Council may refuse to renew the permit

Fees & Charges

- Charges are applied as per Council's Fees and Charges Schedule.
- Permit fees must be paid for the entire permit period at the commencement of the permit period.

- Fees are applied per 6 months or part thereof. Permit periods are from 1st January to 30th June and 1st July to 31 December.

3. PURPOSE

This policy has been developed to ensure that local residents and individuals in the community have fair access and use of Reserves for the use of land for the agistment of horses.

By using this policy and the guidelines within it, Council can ensure that all applications for a permit are assessed in an open and fair manner.

4. POLICY OBJECTIVE

- To provide guidelines and standards when assessing applicants for permits
- To control the management of Town Commons and reserves made available for the purpose of agistment to ensure that adequate maintenance and management throughout the growing season is achieved

5. REVIEW DATE

August 2023

6. ATTACHMENTS

Nil