

Living with Poultry Information

Guidelines for Keeping Poultry

Poultry can provide you with fresh eggs and a good source of garden fertilizer from their droppings.

In an effort to promote the responsible keeping of poultry, the District Council of Robe suggests the following guidelines for people keeping poultry:

- Food storage containers for feeding the poultry should be vermin-proof, clean and in good order.
- Food should not be outside of the storage containers, unless the food is going to be immediately consumed.
- The shelter should be of a solid construction, easy to clean and have a solid floor of an area providing at least 0.4m² for each bird, and which is situated at least 0.6m from any boundary of the property.
*Note: Under the Development Regulations 1993, if your structure has a total floor area exceeding ten square metres, a span exceeding three metres, and a part of the building is higher than 2.5 metres above the natural surface of the ground, it will require development approval from the Council prior to construction.
- Bearing in mind weather conditions, construct the shelter to face in a north or east direction, with enough roof overhanging to prevent rain entering the shelter.
- The roof should be provided with efficient drainage so that all storm water is carried away from the structure.
- The floor should be finished to a height of at least 100 mm above the surrounding ground level.
- Provide for a ventilation opening in the back wall.
- Fly baits and flypaper should be placed inside the shelter, out of reach of the fowls. Check these regularly and replace when necessary.

Your assistance in providing a well-constructed and maintained enclosure will be beneficial to you and your poultry, not to mention helping to keep you neighbours happy.

It is suggested that roosters are not kept, due to the early morning noise created by these birds.

Complaints

From time to time Council receives complaints regarding poultry. The concerns can range from excessive noise, unpleasant odours, to fly and vermin attraction.

Council will assess the complaint and consult with the owner, providing information on how to rectify the nature of the concern. The owner will be given adequate time to carry out alterations to resolve the situation. Unfortunately, if this consultation fails, Council may place an Order on the owner to comply with specified requirements.