



PARRAMATTA
CITY
COUNCIL



Local Orders Policy 2003– Keeping of Animals (Order 18) Fact Sheet

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 SECTION 124

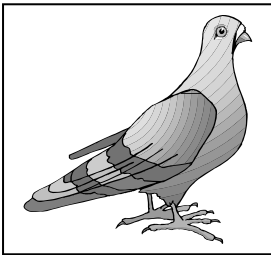
ORDER 18(14) – The keeping of pigeons

Criteria

- 14.1 All pigeons must be housed in purpose built facilities. Aviculture conditions will apply where bird numbers exceed 40 in residential areas. Council consent is required for the construction of the loft.
- 14.2 Enclosed housing must use deep litter or other appropriate substrate.
- 14.3 Rodents and other vermin must be vigorously controlled.
- 14.4 All offensive odours must be controlled.
- 14.5 All food must be stored in sealed vermin proof containers and must not be left uncovered.
- 14.6 Pigeons must not be kept within 9 metres of any property used for the sale, preparation, handling or storage of food for sale.
- 14.7 Adequate protection from predators must be provided.
- 14.8 Positioning of pigeon lofts must be such that the amenity of adjoining premises is preserved, with no inconvenience or nuisance resulting from this activity or from flying birds.
- 14.9 The pigeons' owner or the occupier of those premises must control feral pigeons attracted to captive managed flocks.
- 14.10 Waste must be disposed of in an approved manner.
- 14.11 The slaughtering of pigeons in residential areas is prohibited.
- 14.12 The keeping of domestic pigeons by hobbyists and racing enthusiasts in the Parramatta Local Government Area shall be permitted with the following control conditions applying:

Residential Areas

- (a) Pigeons kept in the groups consisting of homing, show and fancy classes must not exceed 40 birds.
- (b) The keeping of pigeons within unit or townhouse developments is not permitted.
- (c) Persons wishing to keep more than 40 pigeons require specific council approval to do so. In this case avicultural conditions apply.



- (d) Development consent is required for any activity not considered to be a hobby.

Racing Pigeons

- (e) The maximum number of racing pigeons that may be kept on premises within a residential area is 150 birds, provided that the keeper is a certified member of a recognised pigeon racing club, federation or association and is an active member of the sport.
- (f) An additional 50 stock birds may be kept as required.

Liberation of Pigeons (General)

Note – *This section relates to the practice commonly referred to as A homing*



- (g) The uncontrolled release of pigeons (free lofting) in a residential area is not permitted.
- (h) Free flight exercise must be conducted on a planned basis, with duration time typically from 30 to 90 minutes and performed no more than twice daily.
- (i) Free non-flight time must be conducted under close supervision by the owner.
- (j) The exit and entry of these birds from a loft, aviary or cage must be fully controlled. Provision must be made for all released birds to return through a one-way entrance that will not permit uncontrolled exit.
- (k) Appropriate landing boards must be provided to encourage the uninterrupted return of birds to the loft, aviary or cage.
- (l) Every reasonable attempt must be made to retrieve birds that do not return.
- (m) Birds must not be permitted to roost on neighbours' premises.
- (n) Birds must be appropriately conditioned in their behaviour to ensure rapid and voluntary return to their enclosure after liberation.