INTENSIVE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY POLICY

Where the policy applies

This policy applies to all land zoned Green Wedge.

Policy basis

The City of Casey has a long established intensive farming industry with areas in Pearcedale and Devon Meadows specifically identified for intensive land use. Council’s Farm Strategy (June 1998) identifies the need for policy to manage intensive uses and encourages them to locate with in rural areas. Intensive uses include greyhound/dog breeding, rearing, training and boarding, the equine industry (agistment and training), ostrich, goat and deer farming.

The MSS encourages the retention of farming activities including animal boarding and dog breeding in the Farm Region. The canine industry in particular makes a significant contribution to the local and metropolitan economy.

This policy acknowledges intensive farming activities and the conflict the activities may have on residential and urban lifestyles. The policy aims to facilitate the establishment of these types of uses in specific areas where their wider impact is minimised.

Policy objectives

- To recognise the significance of intensive farming.
- To protect intensive farming activities.
- To ensure that land use conflict does not arise between existing intensive farming uses and rural residential development.
- To contain noise and odours in designated areas.
- To encourage intensive uses to locate in identified areas.
- To encourage responsible dog ownership and land management practices.

Policy

It is policy that:

- Intensive animal husbandry be encouraged to locate on land shown on Plan 1 to Clause 22.10.
- Land used for intensive uses is of an appropriate lot size to minimise detriment to adjoining residents.
- The positioning of kennels minimise detriment to adjoining residents.
- The lot coverage of kennels and ancillary buildings be less than 5%.
- Fences 1.75 metres high and extending into the ground by 0.4 metres surround the external boundary of the dog keeping area. Internal fences be 1.2 metres high.
- Landscaping be provided surrounding and within the dog keeping area to provide shade and windbreaks and to provide privacy screens and noise barriers.
- No more than 10 dogs older than 6 months are to be kept per hectare unless it can be demonstrated that no detriment is caused as a result of increasing this ratio and the land is within the area identified on Plan 22.10.
- Kennels be constructed to minimise noise by using concrete slab floors and brick walls.
- The use of land not causes pollution to the air, watercourse or groundwater systems.

22.10-4 Policy references

- Code of Practice for the operation of Dog Training Establishments, Agriculture Victoria
- Code of Practice for the operation of Breeding and Rearing Establishments, Agriculture Victoria
- Code of Practice for the operation of Boarding Establishments, Agriculture Victoria

Plan 1 to Clause 22.10 – Intensive Agricultural Uses

Area to which Policy applies