



District Council of the Copper Coast
PERMITS AND PENALTIES BY-LAW 2016
BY-LAW NO. 1 OF 2016

A By-law to create a permit system for Council By-laws, to fix maximum and continuing penalties for offences, and for the construction of Council By-laws.

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PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

1. Title

This By-law may be cited as the *Permits and Penalties By-law 2016* and is By-law No. 1 of the District Council of the Copper Coast.

2. Authorising law

This By-law is made under section 246 of the Act.

3. Purpose

The objects of this By-law are to provide for the good rule and government of the Council area, and for the convenience, comfort and safety of its inhabitants by:

- 3.1. creating a permit system for Council By-laws;
- 3.2. providing for the enforcement of breaches of Council By-laws and fixing penalties; and
- 3.3. clarifying the construction of Council By-laws.

4. Commencement, revocation and expiry

4.1. The following By-laws previously made by the Council are revoked from the day on which this By-law comes into operation¹:

4.1.1 By-law No. 1 – Permits and Penalties 2009.²

4.2. This By-law will expire on 1 January 2024.³

Note-

1. Generally a By-law comes into operation 4 months after the day on which it is gazetted: section 249(5) of the Act.
2. Section 253 of the Act provides that the revocation of a By-law by another By-law that contains substantially the same provisions, does not affect certain resolutions such as those applying a By-law to a part or parts of the Council area.
3. Pursuant to section 251 of the Act, a By-law will expire on 1 January following the seventh anniversary of the gazettal of the By-law.

5. Application

5.1. This By-law applies throughout the Council's area.

6. Interpretation

In this By-law, unless the contrary intention appears;

- 6.1. **Act** means the *Local Government Act 1999*;
- 6.2. **Council** means District Council of the Copper Coast;
- 6.3. **person** includes a body corporate.

Note-

Section 14 of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1915* provides that an expression used in this By-law has, unless the contrary intention appears, the same meaning as in the Act.

7. Construction of By-laws generally

- 7.1. Every By-law of the Council is subject to any Act of Parliament and Regulations made thereunder.
- 7.2. In any By-law of the Council, unless the contrary intention appears **permission** means permission of the Council, or such other person authorised by Council, granted in writing prior to the act, event or activity to which it relates.

PART 2 – PERMITS AND PENALTIES

8. Permits

- 8.1. Where a By-law requires that permission be obtained, any person seeking the grant of permission must submit a written application to the Council in the form (if any) and accompanied by the fee (if any) prescribed by the Council.
- 8.2. The Council, or such other person authorised by the Council, may attach such conditions as it thinks fit to a grant of permission and may vary or revoke such conditions, or impose new conditions by notice in writing to the person granted permission.
- 8.3. A person granted permission must comply with every such condition. Failure to do so is an offence (to the extent it gives rise to a contravention of a By-law).
- 8.4. The Council, or such other person authorised by the Council, may suspend or revoke a grant of permission at any time by notice in writing to the person granted permission.

9. Offences and penalties

- 9.1. A person who acts in contravention of any By-law of the Council is guilty of an offence and may be liable to pay:
- 9.1.1 the maximum penalty, being the maximum penalty referred to in the Act that may be fixed by a By-law for any breach of a By-law; or
- 9.1.2 subject to any resolution of the Council to the contrary, the expiation fee fixed by the Act for alleged offences against By-laws, being a fee equivalent to 25 per cent of the maximum penalty fixed for any breach of a By-law.
- 9.2. A person who commits a breach of a By-law of the Council of a continuing nature is guilty of an offence and, in addition to any other penalty that may be imposed, is liable to a further penalty for every day on which the offence continues, such penalty being the maximum amount referred to in the Act that may be fixed by a By-law for a breach of a By-law of a continuing nature.

Note-

The maximum penalty for a breach of a By-law is currently \$750.00, and the maximum penalty for every day in which a breach of a continuing nature continues is currently \$50.00 – see section 246(3)(g) of the Act.

Pursuant to section 246(5) of the Act, expiation fees may be fixed for alleged offences against by-laws either by a by-law or by resolution of the Council. However, an expiation fee fixed by the Council cannot exceed 25 per cent of the maximum penalty for the offence to which it relates.

This By-law was duly made and passed at a meeting of the Council of the District Council of the Copper Coast held on **1 June 2016** by an absolute majority of the members for the time being constituting the Council, there being at least two thirds of the members present.



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Peter Harder
Chief Executive Officer