



**District Council of the Copper Coast**

**CATS BY-LAW 2016**

**BY-LAW NO. 6 OF 2016**

A By-law to limit the number of cats kept on premises and for the management and control of cats in the Council area.

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## PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

### 1. Title

This By-law may be cited as the *Cats By-law 2016* and is By-law No. 6 of the District Council of the Copper Coast.

### 2. Authorising law

This By-law is made under section 90(5) of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* and section 246 of the Act.

### 3. Purpose

The objects of this By-law are to control and manage cats in the Council area:

- 3.1. to promote responsible cat ownership;
- 3.2. to reduce the incidence of public and environmental nuisance caused by cats;
- 3.3. to protect the comfort and safety of members of the public; and
- 3.4. for the good rule and government of the Council area.

### 4. Commencement, revocation and expiry

4.1. The following By-law previously made by the Council is revoked from the day on which this By-law comes into operation<sup>1</sup>:

4.1.1 By-law No. 6 – Cats 2009.<sup>2</sup>

4.2. This By-law will expire on 1 January 2024.<sup>3</sup>

#### 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

This By-law applies throughout the Council's area and operates subject to the Council's *Permits and Penalties By-law 2016*.

### 6. Interpretation

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

- 6.1. **Act** means the *Local Government Act 1999*;
- 6.2. **authorised Person** has the same meaning as in the Act;
- 6.3. **cat** means an animal of the species *felis catus* which is three months of age or has lost its juvenile canine teeth;

- 6.4. **Council** means District Council of the Copper Coast;
- 6.5. **identified cat** means a cat identified as follows;
- 6.5.1 by having a collar around its neck where the collar, or a tag securely attached to the collar, is marked with the current address or telephone number of the owner or other person entitled to possession of the cat; or
- 6.5.2 by means of a microchip implanted in its body containing information that may be used to obtain the current address or telephone number of the owner or other person entitled to possession of the cat.
- 6.6. **keep** includes the provision of food or shelter;
- 6.7. **nuisance** means:
- 6.7.1 unreasonably interfering with the peace, comfort or convenience of a person, including but not limited to a cat(s) displaying aggressive nature or creating unpleasant noise or odour;
- 6.7.2 injurious to a person's real or personal property; or
- 6.7.3 obnoxious, offensive or hazardous to health;
- 6.7.4 wandering onto land without the consent of the owner or occupier of the land.
- 6.8. **premises** includes land whether used or occupied for domestic or non-domestic purposes.

**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 Acts under which the By-law is made.

## **PART 2 – LIMITS ON CAT NUMBERS**

### **7. Limits on cat numbers**

- 7.1. Subject to clause 7.2, a person must not, without the Council's permission, keep or cause, suffer or permit to be kept on any premises:
- 7.1.1 more than two cats; or
- 7.1.2 a cat of or over the age of 3 months, or which has lost its juvenile canine teeth, unless the cat is an identified cat.
- 7.2. Clause 7.1 does not apply to premises comprising a business involving the keeping of cats provided that the business is operating in accordance with all required approvals and consents.

### **8. Cats not to be a nuisance**

An owner or occupier of premises is guilty of an offence if a cat (or cats) kept or allowed to remain on the premises causes a nuisance.

## PART 4 – ENFORCEMENT

### 9. Orders

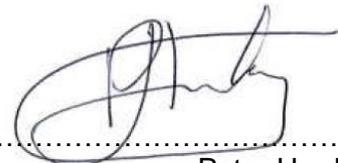
- 9.1. If a person engages in conduct that is a contravention of this By-law, an authorised person may order that person:
- 9.1.1 if the conduct is still continuing – to stop the conduct; and
  - 9.1.2 whether or not the conduct is still continuing – to take specified action to remedy the contravention.
- 9.2. A person must comply with an order under this clause.
- 9.3. If a person does not comply with an order, the authorised person may take action reasonably required to have the order carried out, and the Council may seek to recover its costs of any action so taken from the person to whom the order was directed.
- 9.4. However, an authorised person may not use force against a person under this section.

**Note-**

For example, an authorised person may order a person to:

- cease keeping more than the permitted number of cats on that person's premises; or
- take the necessary steps to mitigate a nuisance caused by cats.

This By-law was duly made and passed at a meeting of the Council of the District Council of the Copper Coast held on the **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.



Peter Harder  
Chief Executive Officer