ANIMAL KEEPING AND RACING DOG TRAINING

This policy applies to the use and development of land for animal keeping and racing dog training.

Policy Basis

Many animal keeping facilities are located in the Mount Alexander Shire. They represent an important local industry. The proper siting and design of this form of use and development is needed to ensure residential amenity and environmental quality is protected.

This policy builds upon the Municipal Strategic Statement objective in Clause 21.06 to minimise potential amenity impacts between agricultural uses and rural lifestyle or other sensitive uses.

Objective

To ensure the use and development of land for animal keeping (animal boarding, dog breeding and racing dog keeping) and racing dog training does not impact on the environment.

To maintain and protect residential amenity in residential zones.

To ensure quality design and appropriate siting of animal keeping and racing dog training developments.

Policy

It is policy to discourage the use and development of land for animal keeping unless the performance criteria below are met.

Location and siting criteria

- The site should be located 500m from a dwelling on another lot that is in a residential zone.
- The site should have an area of not less than 2 hectares.
- The maximum density of animals kept on the site should not exceed the ratio of 10 animals per hectare (not including animals less than 6 months old).
- Not more than 10 per cent of the area of the site should be occupied by animal keeping facilities (kennels, associated buildings, dog runs and the like).
- Animal keeping facilities (kennels, associated buildings, dog runs and the like) should be setback a minimum of 30 metres from any road (whether or not such road forms the frontage) and setback a minimum distance of 10 metres from any dwelling on the land.

Design and management criteria

- Landscaping and screening of the site should be undertaken to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.
- All animal keeping facilities should be constructed of such materials and/or components as are necessary to prevent noise disturbance to adjoining or nearby properties by animals kept in the facilities.
- No untreated animal waste should be stored on the land and all animal keeping facilities should be regularly washed-down and maintained in a clean and hygienic manner to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.
- All animal waste, manure and wash-down water should be treated and disposed of either within the boundaries of the site or in an alternative manner approved by the responsible authority.
- All feed rooms and treatment rooms should be constructed to have impervious walls and floors.
- All dog food should be stored in vermin proof containers.
- An area should be set aside on the site for parking visitors’ cars, and such area should be drained, treated and maintained to the satisfaction of the responsible authority to minimise the emission of dust.
- The use, including the times and methods of exercising, feeding and kennelling should at all times be conducted to the satisfaction of the responsible authority so as to prevent nuisance or disturbance to nearby properties by reason of noise, smell or otherwise.

- The land should not be used for displays or exhibitions attended by members of the public, or for meetings or exhibitions organised by a dog club or kennel club or the like, except with the consent of the responsible authority.