



Roadside Cattle Grazing Policy

(Policy Number – K-INFPOL005)
(Policy Type – Council)

1 Aim

This policy outlines the process and conditions to be applied to owner/s in relation to access to the roadside for the purpose of cattle grazing.

The objectives of this policy are:

- to control and regulate the activity of grazing to maintain the safety of all roads users.
- to protect Council's assets from damage.
- to protect areas of native vegetation and rare and threatened species of flora within the road reserve.

2 Scope

This policy will apply in all situations where requests are received by Council to graze cattle on a road reserve within the municipal area.

Council has two types of permits:

2.1 Long-term roadside grazing.

This is when cattle are grazing within the Council's road reserve unsupervised for periods of time and are contained within a 2 strand electric fence. A long-term grazing permit has a cost and all parts of the roadside safety plan must be adhered to.

2.2 Short-term roadside grazing.

This is when cattle are moved along the roadside reserve for a short period of time for the purpose of clearing the roadside verge of vegetation. Cattle are to be always supervised. A short-term roadside grazing permit is available at no cost.



3 Policy Statement

3.1 Permit requirements

A person can only apply for a permit to graze cattle on a road reserve if they:

- hold a current public liability insurance.
- obtain written approval from land owners adjacent to grazing area.
- supply a road side safety plan for the area where the cattle are being grazed.
- provide a detailed map of the grazing location/s.
- complete the safety inspection checklist.

3.2 Public liability insurance

The value of at least \$10 million against liability for property damage which may arise as a result of grazing cattle on the road reserves.

A copy of the insurance policy must be supplied with the Permit Application.

The insurance policy must be maintained during the life of the grazing permit.

Proof of renewal must be provided to Council prior to expiry otherwise the permit will be cancelled.

3.3 Written approval from landowners

If the road reserve is not located on the boundary of the applicant's property, written approval must be provided from the property owner/s with the Permit Application.

3.4 Locations of grazing activity

A detailed map must be supplied to Council showing the locations where the cattle will be grazing and include detail of proposed temporary fence boundaries.

3.5 Risk management

Details of all hazards likely to arise during grazing activity in the road reserve, including signage installation, setting out temporary fencing, moving cattle and any other hazards are to be identified.

The applicant is to complete a worksite safety inspection checklist attached to the application form which identifies most risks associated with roadside cattle grazing which have been identified by the Council.

3.6 Control and warning devices

The permit holder must ensure that approved temporary stock zone warning signs (minimum 600mm x 900mm) are placed and maintained at 200 metres from either end of the permit area and at any road junctions within the permit area to warn motorists that cattle are being grazed on the roadside.

3.7 Erection of temporary fencing

Temporary fencing must be erected at no less than 1 metre from the road edge.

Person/s erecting the temporary fencing must:

- wear high visibility clothing/vest.
- not work within 1 metre of the road carriageway.

No grazing will be permitted where the 1 metre distance cannot be achieved.

3.8 Temporary fencing

The fence should consist of a minimum of two electric wires and comply with Australia Standards Electrical Installations – Electric Fences AS/NZS 3014.

Electric fences shall be constructed so that posts and wire are clearly visible to motorists and other road users. Standard electric fence pegs shall be used, not star pickets.

Warning signs are to be installed and visible to all road users at regular intervals, securely fastened to the fence posts or firmly clamped to the fence wires. A warning sign must be at least 100mm x 200mm. The background colour of both sides of the warning sign is to be yellow. The inscription on the sign is to be black and shall bare the words "ELECTRIC FENCE" and include the international warning logo.





3.9 Straying cattle

All cattle found wandering outside the temporary fencing will be deemed to be straying cattle. Council will respond to all reports of straying cattle and will contact the permit holder to seek containment immediately.

Complaints of straying cattle may result in a review of permit conditions and/or cancellation of the permit.

3.10 Cattle limit

The maximum number of animals for which a grazing permit will be issued will depend on the road reserve conditions.

No bulls shall be permitted to graze on any road reserve.

Calves older than 2 weeks can be grazed on the road reserve with their mothers.

3.11 Moving cattle

Road Rules Regulations 2009 Part 22 – Division 2 Livestock on Roads must be followed when moving cattle on all roads.

3.12 Night grazing

Application for night grazing will be considered on an individual basis and does not automatically apply to any permit.

3.13 Native vegetation and flora

No permit shall be issued for an area which has native vegetation and/or rare and threatened species of flora where grazing may have a detrimental effect.

3.14 Damage to road reserves

The permit holder is responsible for any restoration of damage to the road reserve caused by their cattle. This may include communications, power and/or table drains.

3.15 Grounds for refusal

Grounds for refusal of a permit include:

- a) unsuitable road reserve dimensions.



- b) the road reserve is scheduled for maintenance activities and Council requires unrestricted access.
- c) the possibility of introducing or spreading a declared weed, pest or notifiable disease.
- d) where cattle are likely to have an adverse effect on road safety.
- e) insurance is not current or coverage is inadequate.

3.16 Permit cancellation

A permit may be cancelled:

- i) if the original information supplied by the applicant is found to be false or misleading.
- ii) if the applicant has failed to comply with a condition of the permit.
- iii) if road works are required to ensure road safety.
- iv) at Council's discretion.

3.17 Permit period and application fee

The permit is valid for a period of 12 months from the date of issue and may be renewed at Council's discretion.

A long-term grazing permit application fee of \$110 (includes GST) applies.

The annual renewal fee is \$55 (includes GST).

The short-term grazing permit application will need to be supplied with all required documentation. There is no fee applicable for a short term grazing permit application.

4 Associated Documents and References

4.1 Strategic Plan Reference

Program	3	Infrastructure
Activity	3.1	Roads
Objective	3.1	To provide an appropriate, safe and well-maintained road network that caters for all road users throughout the municipality



APPENDIX A

<p>Any activities granted through this application must comply with the Kentish Council Roadside Cattle Grazing Policy.</p> <p>Please return this completed application form together with the following documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of your Public liability insurance \$10m <input type="checkbox"/> Written consent letter from all adjacent property owners <input type="checkbox"/> Detailed map of the grazing locations including temporary fencing <input type="checkbox"/> Roadside Safety Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Completed safety inspection checklist (attached) 	
Name:	Residential address:
	Postal address:
Phone:	
Email:	
Proposed dates:	From: To:
<p>List of the approved gazing properties:</p> <p>Is Short or Long Term Grazing Required?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Short term Long term</p>	
Number of cattle:	
<p>I hereby make application for use of road reserves under care and control of Kentish Council, for the purpose of cattle grazing for the period specified in this application. I acknowledge having received and read the Roadside Cattle Grazing Policy relevant to this application, and undertake to be bound by and comply with these permit conditions and any other requirements advised in the Policy.</p>	
Name	Signature
Date	



APPLICATION FOR ROADSIDE CATTLE GRAZING

APPENDIX B



Workplace Safety Inspection Checklist For Roadside Cattle Grazing

Area inspected: _____ Inspected by: _____ Date: _____

Place an **X** in the box if a problem is found, decide on appropriate corrective action required. Place a tick ✓ in the box if all is OK. If the inspections item is not applicable then place a **N/A**.

The numbers of crosses determines a rating for the area. If needed use back of page to provide additional comments.

Hazard	Inspection Item	Result	Comments Corrective Actions	Person Responsible
Electrical	Have all hazards associated with power lines overhead /underground been identified?			
	Do the electrical fencing units meet Australian standards?			
	Are temporary electric fences erected no less than 1 metre from the edge of the road where cattle will be grazing?			
	Are temporary electrical fences checked regularly to ensure operation?			



Hazard	Inspection Item	Result	Comments Corrective Actions	Person Responsible
Layout and Access	Have electric fences been erected with push-in pegs?			
	Is warning and safety signage in good condition and clearly visible 200 metres from each end of the grazing area?			
	Are electric fences clearly signed when in operation (e.g. "warning electric fence")?			
	Are temporary electric fences 2 strands as per requirements for calves?			
	Have you identified hazards associated with waterways, pits, steep grades and have these been addressed?			
	Will exposed unprotected, uncovered drains be regularly checked for damage and repaired if damaged by cattle?			
Processes	Is water available for cattle at all times?			
	Are cattle regularly checked throughout the grazing period?			
	Have the adjoining property owners given permission for cattle to graze on the verge of their property?			



Hazard	Inspection Item	Result	Comments Corrective Actions	Person Responsible
	When shifting cattle on roadways, is the correct signage used?			
	Are cattle shifted/led on the road ways between sunrise and sunset?			
	Is high visibility clothing worn when shifting cattle on road ways?			
	Do vehicles have amber flashing lights fitted when shifting cattle from behind?			
	Are bulls grazing on the road side verge?			
Related Hazards	Are all calves at least two weeks old and grazing alongside their mothers?			
	Is there native vegetation or rare threatened species of flora present on the roadside verge?			
	Have cattle been inspected for diseases that could be transferred to adjoining properties?			
	Will considerations be made for all types of weather conditions that may cause the cattle to become distressed?			



Hazard	Inspection Item	Result	Comments	Person Responsible
			Corrective Actions	
	Are there any unforeseen hazards that have not been identified by this inspection list? Please list these below.		Please comment on the corrective actions	
	Risk identified:			
	Risk Identified:			

APPENDIX C

PERMIT – ROADSIDE CATTLE GRAZING

Date of issue	
Permit number	
Permit Type	
Permit Holder	
Postal Address	

This permit is issued subject to the following conditions::

1. Insurance
 - a) The permit holder shall take out and maintain, during the permit period, insurance to the value of at least \$10,000,000 against liability for property damage which may arise.
 - b) The policy cannot be cancelled without notice to Council.
 - c) ***This permit becomes invalid should the applicant’s Public Liability Insurance lapse prior to the permit expiry date. Proof of renewal (Certificate of Currency) must be provided to Council prior to expiry in order for grazing to continue until permit expiry date.***

2. Road Rules Regulations 2009
Ensure that provisions of the Road Rules Regulations 2009 are complied with at all times when moving cattle.

3. Damage to Road Reserve
Repair to any roadside caused by or resulting from grazing or the erection of electric fences on the road reserve is the responsibility of the permit holder.



4. Written approval from landowners

Grazing on road reserves adjacent to a property owned by a person other than the permit holder shall require written permission from that person.

5. Grazing Locations

Council shall inspect the proposed grazing areas to ensure suitability.

6. Livestock

- a) Only cattle are permitted to graze on Council owned road reserves.
- b) No bulls shall be permitted to graze on any road reserve.
- c) Only calves older than 2 weeks shall be permitted to graze alongside their mother on any road reserve.

7. Fences

Long term grazing cattle shall be controlled by a temporary fence constructed and maintained to the requirements of Council Policy.

8. Warning Devices

- a) Advance warning signage to be displayed at all times.
- b) Warning signs must be reflective for both day and night time use.
- c) Signs must be easily visible to vehicular traffic.

9. Permit Period

The permit is valid for a period of twelve months and may be renewed. Council reserves the right to cancel the permit at any time.

10. Road Maintenance

Where planned road maintenance is scheduled, Council will give 1 week's notice to the permit holder. If emergency road reserve or other authority works are required, Council will contact permit holder for immediate removal of cattle.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL: 18 July 2023 Minute: 12.1

EFFECTIVE DATE: 18 July 2023

ADMINISTERED BY: Manager Infrastructure & Assets

This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure its relevance in terms of community needs and expectations and Council goals, targets, budget and statutory requirements.