

# Birds - How many can I have at my property?

18 January 2024

The number of birds you can have been dependant on either the size of your property, or if it is an aviary bird, the size of the bird and the size and type of enclosure. The number of animals you can keep is regulated by council's local law. Animals must be kept in a way that does not cause a noise, smell or wandering nuisance to others.

If you own or keep 100 or more birds that have been released into free flight since they started being kept in captivity (e.g. pigeons) you must comply with the requirements of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* including identification and movement records.

Don't know the size of your property or want to know more about getting an approval for additional animals? Contact council on 07 3205 0555 for assistance.

For information on other animal types please visit [www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au](http://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au)

## Large parrots/large parakeets/cockatoos/galahs or other birds of similar size

| Property size   | How many can I have? |                          |
|---|----------------------|--------------------------|
|   | As of right          | With approval by Council |
| Dwelling in a multi dwelling complex                  | 0                    | No additional            |
| Properties of 0m <sup>2</sup> - 300m <sup>2</sup>     | 0                    | No additional            |
| Properties of 301m <sup>2</sup> - 1,000m <sup>2</sup> | 1                    | No additional            |
| Properties of 1,001m <sup>2</sup> or greater          | 2                    | No additional            |

## Pigeons (including show pigeons and doves)

| Property size   | How many can I have? |  |
|---|----------------------|--|
|   | As of right          | With approval by Council                               |
| Properties of 599m <sup>2</sup> or less                               | 0                    | No additional  |
| Properties of 600m <sup>2</sup> or greater, up to 1,000m <sup>2</sup> | 40                   | No maximum. Approval is required to keep more than 40  |
| Properties of 1,001m <sup>2</sup> or greater                          | 80                   | No maximum. Approval is required to keep more than 80. |

## Racing pigeons

| Property size   | How many can I have? |  |
|---|----------------------|--|
|   | As of right          | As of right  |
| Properties of 599m <sup>2</sup> or less                               | 0                    | No additional  |
| Properties of 600m <sup>2</sup> or greater, up to 1,000m <sup>2</sup> | 60                   | No maximum. Approval required to keep more than 60.  |
| Properties of 1,001m <sup>2</sup> or greater                          | 100                  | No maximum. Approval required to keep more than 100. |

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## Aviary birds (Budgerigar/canary/cockatiel/small parrot or similar)

| Indoor or Suspended Aviary                    |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Size of aviary bird<br>(approx. length in mm) | Minim enclosure requirements   | Maximum number as of right   |
| 100   | Minimum floor area of 0.1m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 340mm   | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 0.1m <sup>2</sup> of floor area  |
| 200   | Minimum floor area of 0.16m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 340mm  | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 0.1m <sup>2</sup> of floor area  |
| 300   | Minimum floor area of 0.5m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 900mm   | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 0.25m <sup>2</sup> of floor area |
| 400   | Minimum floor area of 1m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 900mm     | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 0.6m <sup>2</sup> of floor area  |
| 500   | Minimum floor area of 2.25m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 1800mm | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 0.85m <sup>2</sup> of floor area |
| 900   | Minimum floor area of 4m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 1500mm    | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 1.4m <sup>2</sup> of floor area  |
| Outdoor Aviary                                |  |  |
| Size of aviary bird<br>(approx. length in mm) | Minim enclosure requirements   | Maximum number as of right   |
| 100   | Minimum floor area of 0.37m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 1800mm | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 0.18m <sup>2</sup> of floor area |
| 200   | Minimum floor area of 0.72m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 1800mm | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 0.36m <sup>2</sup> of floor area |
| 300   | Minimum floor area of 1m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 1800mm    | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 0.5m <sup>2</sup> of floor area  |
| 400   | Minimum floor area of 1.5m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 1800mm  | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 0.75m <sup>2</sup> of floor area |
| 500   | Minimum floor area of 2.5m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 1800mm  | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 1.25m <sup>2</sup> of floor area |
| 900   | Minimum floor area of 5m <sup>2</sup><br>Minimum height of 1800mm    | 2 birds plus 1 additional bird for every additional 2.5m <sup>2</sup> of floor area  |

### Minimum standards for keeping animals

Animals must be kept in accordance with the requirements of any code of practice approved by resolution of the local government.

If you own or keep any of the following, you must comply with the requirements of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* including identification and movement records and be registered with Biosecurity Queensland as a biosecurity entity:

- 100 or more birds that are raised for human consumption (e.g. poultry), or the production of eggs for human consumption (e.g. poultry) or have been released into free flight since they started being kept in captivity (e.g. pigeons)

When you register as a biosecurity entity, you'll receive a unique Property identification code (PIC) birds/poultry.

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## Animal enclosures

- the enclosure must be of dimensions, quality, and type to comfortably and effectively prevent the animal from protruding or escaping, over, under or through the enclosure; and
- gates and other openings to the enclosure must be securely closed and latched when not in immediate use; and
- fencing for the enclosure must:
  - be constructed of material of sufficient height and strength to prevent the animal from escaping; and
  - include a barrier installed directly below the fence to prevent the animal digging its way out (where appropriate).
- Uneaten food scraps, manure, and any other material likely to become offensive and create a nuisance must be collected at least daily; and
  - immediately removed from the premises; or
  - kept in a suitable vermin proof container prior to disposal.
- Vermin and pests including fleas, flies, ticks, lice, and rodents must be controlled in and around the enclosure.
- Run off from animal enclosures must not be allowed to discharge to any neighbouring property.

## Animal identification

- Birds, excluding poultry, must have an identifying leg band or be micro-chipped.

## Minimum distance from boundary

- Roofed or fully enclosed (caged) structure for the housing of animals must be a minimum 1.5 metres from any property boundary.

## Minimum standards for keeping particular animals

The minimum standards for keeping particular animals are identified in the table below:

| Species or breed of animal                      | Minimum standards for keeping particular animals  |
|---|---|
| Racing pigeons                                  | Racing pigeons must be confined to their home loft after their designated race or exercise period.  |
| Ratites (ostrich, emu, and other similar birds) | A person must not on any premises keep ratites in densities greater than—<br>(a) Chicks 0 to 12 weeks of age - a shed density of not more than 3 chicks per m2 with an additional outside run of 5m2 per chick or<br>(b) Juveniles 12 weeks to 6 months of age – a maximum density of not more than two per m2 with an additional outside run of 40m2 per chick; or<br>(c) Yearlings 6 months to 18 months of age – a maximum density of not more than 100 per hectare; or<br>(d) Mature ratites over 18 months of age – a maximum density of not more than 18 per hectare. |
| Roosters  | (1) Where 1 rooster is being kept on a property, the rooster must be kept in an area of the property that is located at least 50m from any residential dwelling on a neighbouring property.<br>(2) Where 2 or more roosters are being kept on a property, the roosters must be kept in an area of the property that is located at least 250m from any residential dwelling on a neighbouring property.  |

## For more information

W [moretonbay.qld.gov.au](http://moretonbay.qld.gov.au) | T 07 3205 0555 | E [council@moretonbay.qld.gov.au](mailto:council@moretonbay.qld.gov.au)