



**Policy Owner:** Director Community, Planning & Environment

**Category:** Operational

**Direction:** 1. Our Living Environment

## 1. STATEMENT OF INTENT

- 1.1 This Policy aims to ensure that circuses occurring within the North Sydney local government area are managed in accordance with the required standards.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 The Policy applies to any Circus seeking approval to operate within the North Sydney local government area.

## 3. DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 Circus - an entertainment facility that is open to the public, established on a temporary basis within the Council area, which includes the display of performing animals.

## 4. PROVISIONS

- 4.1 Circus performances involving animals may be permitted in the North Sydney local government area. However, the applicant must first receive the landholders' consent for the area on which the circus is to operate and then lodge a Development Application for Council's consideration.
- 4.2 Council will only consider a Development Application on receipt of the appropriate permits from the relevant authorities regarding exhibiting the specific animals involved in the circus performance.
- 4.3 Council expects exhibitors that use domestic animals in exhibits, to keep the animals in accordance with all relevant legislation including the RSPCA Policy - C02 Performing Animals.
- 4.4 Council reserves the right to revoke its permission to operate a circus with domestic animals on Council land if it is found to be in breach of any legislation or regulation protecting the welfare of animals.

## 5. RESPONSIBILITY/ACCOUNTABILITY

- 5.1 Council's Director Community, Planning & Environment is responsible for administering this Policy.
- 5.2 Council's Development Services Department is responsible for assessing Development Applications.

## 6. RELATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS/LEGISLATION

The Policy should be read in conjunction with the following Council policies and documents:

- Community Strategic Plan

The Policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents/legislation:

- Environmental Assessment and Planning Act 1979
- Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986
- Exhibited Animals Protection Regulation 2021
- Local Government Act 1993
- RSPCA Policy - C02 Performing Animals
- Standards for Exhibiting Circus Animals in NSW 2019
- Standards for Exhibiting Animals at Mobile Establishments 2019

Version	Date Approved	Approved by	Resolution No.	Review Date
1	2 August 2004	Council	794	2008/09
2	16 February 2009	Council	61	2012/13
3	18 February 2013	Council	61	2016/17
4	25 June 2018	Council	214	2020/21
5	24 October 2022	A/General Manager	-	2021/22
6	14 November 2022	Council	364	2024/25