

Exemption to Keep More than the Prescribed Number of Cats / Dogs

The Shire of Esperance has a limitation of how many cats / dogs can reside at any one property within the Shire boundaries.

According to [Shire of Esperance Cat Local Law 2024](#) s. 3.2 (1):

3.2 Cats for which a permit is required

- (1) *Subject to clause 3.2(2) a person is required to have a permit –*
- to keep more than two(2) cats on any single dwelling or grouped dwelling premises to a maximum of six(6) cats;*
 - to keep more than two(2) cats on any multiple dwelling property to a maximum of three(3) cats; or*
 - to use any premises as a cattery*

According to [Shire of Esperance Dog Local Law 2024](#) s. 3.2(3):

- (3) *For the purpose of section 26(4) of the Act, a person must not, without a permit keep or permit to be kept –*
- on premises situated on a lot having an area of 4 hectares or more – 4 dogs over the ages of 3 months and the young of those dogs under that age; or*
 - on premises situated on any other lot – 2 dogs over the age of 3 months and the young of those dogs under that age.*

If you have more than the above stated cats / dogs, an application for an exemption is required. The application form is available from Ranger Services. The approval process includes:

- **Neighbour submission** - Rangers will invite them to lodge a submission regarding your application. This will help the Shire make an informed decision whether to approve or reject your application.
- **Property inspection** - This is to determine if your property is suitable for the keeping of the cats / dogs listed in the application. If recommendations for some changes are made, Rangers may have to schedule a re-inspection to ensure suitability of the property.
- **Payment of Application Fee** – this is a one-time fee and covers administration and property inspection/s.

The approved Exemption is **not** transferable and only applies to the listed animals and the address where all the animals will reside. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to advise the Shire within 7 days of any changes to those that have been approved. A new application form and fee may be required.

If you wish to become an animal breeder, please contact Ranger Services.

For more information read:

[Dog Act 1976 / Cat Act 2011](#)
[Shire of Esperance Dog Local Law 2024](#)
[Shire of Esperance Cat Local Law 2024](#)

Ranger Services

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