

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED AMENDED LOCAL LAWS

On 17 September 2025, Charters Towers Regional Council (“**Council**”) resolved to propose to amend the following Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws (“**Proposed Amended Local Laws**”):

1. *Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011*;
2. *Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2021*;
3. *Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011*;
4. *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011*;
5. *Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2011*;
6. *Subordinate Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2011*;
7. *Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2011*;
8. *Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2011*; and
9. *Local Law No. 8 (Waste Management) 2018*.

The general purpose of the proposed amendments are as follows:

1. To amend *Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011* to:
 - (a) enable Council to consider a request for stay of the operation of an original decision for an internal review application, which will alleviate the recipient of a notice having to make an application to the Court; and
 - (b) make changes to the definitions, including clarifying amendments and amendments to outdated legislative and other references.
2. To amend *Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2021* to:
 - (a) make minor changes to Schedule 6 to refine the list of public place activities that are prescribed activities, including identifying ‘busking’ as a public place activity (rather than a commercial activity on Council-controlled land);
 - (b) make changes to Schedule 10 to improve consistency and clarify the application of certain advertising device regulations which will apply only to buildings of sites used for non-residential purposes; and
 - (c) clarify, for the prescribed activity of a public place activity under Schedule 22, the circumstances where an approval is not required and the information that applicants must provide when applying for an approval, as well as refining the criteria to be considered when assessing an application and the conditions that will apply to approvals.
3. To amend *Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* to:
 - (a) clarify the requirements for maintaining a proper enclosure to prevent animals from wandering and the offence for a person whose animal is wandering at large;
 - (b) provide a discretion for an authorised person to determine that an animal that has been wandering at large, or seized for non-compliance with the local law on more than 3 occasions in a 12 month period can be rehomed under division 5 if considered appropriate, rather than a destruction order being issued under section 30; and

- (c) make changes to the definitions, including clarifying amendments and amendments to outdated legislative and other references.
4. To amend *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* to:
- (a) clarify the application of the minimum standards for keeping particular animals under Schedule 5 and the minimum general standards for keeping animals under Schedule 4;
 - (b) make changes to the prohibition of keeping cats and dogs under Schedule 1 by reference to specific areas to reflect changing residential development requirements and to enhance regulation;
 - (c) make changes to the threshold of the number of animals kept in specific areas that require approval from Council as a prescribed activity under Schedule 2 and including a new requirement to obtain an approval in relation to the keeping of pigs based on number and property size;
 - (d) clarify the general minimum standards for keeping animals and to ensure there is no inconsistency with the standards under the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* (to the extent they apply);
 - (e) make minor changes to the specific minimum standards in Schedule 5 by referring to relevant guidelines and codes of practice in a more generalised way;
 - (f) make minor changes to the areas under Schedules 6 and 7 for accuracy and consistency in relation to animal prohibited areas and dog off-leash areas;
 - (g) clarify the circumstances where the conditions for offering cats for sale apply; and
 - (h) make changes to update the mapping and definitions for 'city area' and 'designated town area' to clarify the specific areas in which the prohibition of animals and approvals are required.
5. To amend *Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2011* to:
- (a) enable Council to declare an animal or plant of a specified species to be a declared local pest by resolution of the local government in addition to declaring local pests under the subordinate local law;
 - (b) to update the advertising requirements to enable Council to advertise on its website, and in other ways, when the local government is required to make an emergency declaration; and
 - (c) make changes to the definitions, including clarifying amendments and amendments to outdated legislative and other references.
6. To amend *Subordinate Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2011* to:
- (a) make changes to outdated legislative references, codes of practice, and definitions;
 - (b) clarify the circumstances where fires are prohibited within Council's local government area, including the insertion of new definitions, to assist in interpretation and regulation; and
 - (c) include a new prescribed community safety hazard for vegetation, materials or soil placed near waterways or areas likely to cause flooding on local government controlled areas or roads.
7. To amend *Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2011* to:
- (a) amend the offence provision of undertaking a prohibited or restricted activity to enable an authorised person to consider if the person has a reasonable excuse;

- (b) enable an authorised person, instead of the local government, to require an owner of land adjoining a road to fence the land;
 - (c) enable Council to recover all costs associated with undertaking the work required by the owner or occupier adjoining or adjacent to a road, in the same way as Council recovers overdue rates, including interest; and
 - (d) make changes to outdated legislative and other references.
8. To amend *Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2011* to:
- (a) clarify that the areas specified in Schedule 6 does not limit the operation of matters regulated under the subordinate local law;
 - (b) update the areas identified as local government controlled areas; and
 - (c) to make changes to the definitions to update outdated legislative references.
9. To amend *Local Law No. 8 (Waste Management) 2018* to make amendments to outdated legislative and other references.

Public Consultation

Council invites the public to provide written submissions on the Proposed Amended Local Laws for the period commencing on **22nd September 2025** and ending on **20th October 2025** ("**Consultation Period**"). Written submissions made by any person, either supporting or objecting to the Proposed Amended Local Laws, must state:

1. The grounds of the submission; and
2. The facts and circumstances relied on in support of the grounds.

Written submissions may be provided to Council in writing during the Consultation Period and may be delivered to Council:

- (a) by email to mail@chartersowers.qld.gov.au
- (b) by post to PO Box 189, Charters Towers Qld 4820; or
- (c) by hand-delivery to the Council Administration Centre located at 12 Mosman Street, Charters Towers.

Written submissions may only be considered if they are received by Council **before 5.00pm on 20th October 2025**. Submissions received after this time and date, or not in the way specified above, may not be considered by Council.

Copies of the Proposed Amended Local Laws are available for inspection at the Council Administration Centre and on Council's website.

For more information, please contact mail@chartersowers.qld.gov.au.

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Charters Towers Regional Council