



# BOULIA SHIRE COUNCIL

## SPELLING YARD POLICY

<b>Category:</b>	Policy
<b>Policy Number:</b>	142
<b>Document Version:</b>	1
<b>Obsolete Version:</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
<b>Keyword Classification:</b>	Spelling Yards, Racecourse Reserve, Town Common, Organic.
<b>Summary:</b>	The objective of this policy is to regulate the use of the Spelling Yards located at the Racecourse Reserve.
<b>Adoption Date:</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
<b>Resolution:</b>	2023/11.14
<b>Due for Revision:</b>	Every three years or as impacted by legislation or as required.
<b>Revision date:</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> November 2026
<b>Date revoked:</b>	n/a
<b>Related documents:</b>	Policy 124 – Town Common Policy Form 58 – Organic Spelling Yards Record
<b>Responsible Section:</b>	Executive
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Director of Works and Operations
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Law 1 (Administration) 2014 Local Law 2 (Animal Management) 2014 Local Law 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2014 Local Law 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2014 Subordinate Local Law 1 (Administration) 2014 Subordinate Local Law 2 (Animal Management) 2014 Subordinate Local Law 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2014

## PURPOSE

The objective of this policy is to regulate the use of the Boulia Shire Council (Council) Spelling Yards which provide short term stay for travelling stock either organic or non-organic.

Key objectives of this policy are:

- That Council have responsibility of the Spelling Yards and associated management and maintenance
- Manage sustainable use of Council resources
- Ensure that the use of the Spelling Yards does not have an environmental impact on the township of Boulia. The processing of large numbers of stock is expected to occur on a regular basis. Dust and strong odors may cause concern for the township of Boulia. These issues will be monitored and managed closely by Council staff.

To assist Council, achieve these key objectives, Council has power under its

Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws.

This policy will not apply to animals under either a Travelling Stock Permit issued for the Stock Route Network (where the Town Common forms a link between Stock Routes) or a permit issued to depasture animals on the Boulia Town Common.

## NON-COMMERICAL USE OF SPELLING YARDS

Non-commercial use of the Spelling Yards will only be permitted for the following:

- 1) Stock and camping arrangements may be permitted a week either side of any Rodeo, Campdraft, Horse Races or Camel Races event with a prior booking.
- 2) In relation to stock moving on/off the Boulia Town Common:
  - Prior to any non-Council arranged muster, owners of stock are to inform the Rural Lands Protection Officer 5 days prior to the commencement of the muster.
  - Boulia residents processing of adult stock depastured on the Town Common must be completed within 2 days of being received into the Spelling Yards. Stock to be sold will be exempt, the Rural Lands Protection Officer must be informed of any sale stock to remain in the Spelling Yards and their expected sale date.

- Residents who hold a permit to keep stock on the Town Common may use the Spelling Yards to wean permitted Town Common stock. The Rural Lands Protection Officer must be informed if this is to happen at least 7 days prior to the event. A maximum of seven days approval to wean stock is to be granted. All stock placed in the Spelling Yards for weaning must be removed after seven days.

## SPELLING YARDS FOR COMMERCIAL USE:

Commercial use (for travelling organic or non-organic cattle either via truck or via the Stock Routes) of the Spelling Yards is only available at the Racecourse Reserve Spelling Yards and incurs fees in accordance with Council's Fees and Charges.

Commercial use of the Spelling Yards will only be permitted under the following conditions:

- 1) Council is to be advised of the status of stock – either organic or non-organic at the time of booking and confirmed prior to arrival.
- 2) Stock is to be spelled on a 24-, 48- or 72-hour length for billing purposes. Longer spelling of stock may be sought either due to poor condition of stock or impassible roads caused by wet weather. This will be assessed by Council's Rural Lands Protection Officer upon request.
- 3) Council staff members, Caretaker of the Racecourse Reserve and the Town Foreman will be the primary monitors for trucks and stock movements. All bookings will be made through the Council Office. Prior bookings are essential due to the organic certification status.
- 4) If sick or injured stock are left in the yards, the Rural Lands Protection Officer will assess and possibly destroy the stock in a humane way. Any removal, humane destruction and/or burial of stock fees will be charged in accordance with Council's fees and charges.
- 5) The Spelling Yards will be unavailable for use during approved events (such as Camel Races, Campdraft, Rodeo, Races).

## OTHER USE

All other use of the Spelling Yards will be at Council discretion and should be requested in writing for consideration.