



# Keeping of Bees

## FACT SHEET

Honeybees not only produce honey, but play a vital role in the balance of nature, especially the pollination of crops and the household garden.

Beekeeping is becoming increasingly popular in towns and cities throughout Queensland. This provides honey for home consumption, enjoyment in watching these highly social creatures and the opportunity to join an amateur beekeeping group.

However, honeybees possess a sting and therefore require proper and responsible management so they do not create a problem for neighbours.

### What Laws Apply?

Council's *Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* specifies requirements for maximum numbers and appropriate locations of bee hives, to help manage impacts on neighbours in the urban environment.

This local law also requires that bees be kept in accordance with relevant guidelines.

### Maximum Numbers

A maximum of two (2) beehives, may be kept on a property of less than 2 hectares in a town or village zone.

Hives are not permitted on allotments of less than 400m<sup>2</sup> in a town or village zone.

### Location Requirements

The beehives must be located:

- a) no closer than two (2) metres from the property boundary; and
- b) at the rear of the premises, behind the residence (if any) situated on the premises.



### Guidelines

The keeping of bees must be in accordance with the relevant guidelines.

*Guidelines for Beekeeping in Queensland* have been developed by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF).

A copy of this guideline as well as more information about bee keeping can be found on the DAF website:

[www.daf.qld.gov.au/animal-industries/bees](http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/animal-industries/bees)

### Mosquito Treatment Warning

Council occasionally operates misting equipment to treat adult mosquitoes within town areas in the interests of public health. The treatment involves a synthetic pyrethroid registered for the control of mosquitoes in the community. This product may be dangerous to bees, so please notify Council if you are concerned about an impact on your bee hives.