



11 September 2026

CAPEXIT OBJECTION

COCT – ANIMAL KEEPING BY-LAW 2026

The Cape Independence Party - CAPEXIT is quite simply appalled by this new proposal from the DA-run City of Cape Town.

This new Animal Keeping By-law 2026 is some of the most tyrannical and fascist legislation we have seen attempted to be passed by either the DA, ANC or EFF in South Africa in the last 30 years.

If this proposed by-law is passed into law we will find ourselves living in the absurd environment where the following will be acceptable:

1) Warrantless Searches of Private Property:

Any City of Cape Town law enforcement officer could bash down your front door, at any time, for any reason, without any need for a court order or search warrant - just on the whimsical presumption that you may or may not have a cat or a dog in your house, and they want to inspect to see if you've got a licence to have a pet, and if so, if you have paid.

The potential of government abuse for such an unbelievable overreach of state control is ridiculous.

In a country where citizens have learnt, and are taught, that you do not trust police officers, or road blocks, until the full necessary paperwork and legal permission has been provided to show that such officers are allowed and permitted to be conducting whatever activity it is they are conducting.

This reality is due to the huge number of carjackings, hijackings, robberies, kidnappings, murder and assault that takes place on an annual basis across South Africa where criminals pretend to be police officers or law enforcement to get citizens to pull their cars over to the side of the road, to gain entry into private property, or to physically search and then rob people.

By passing this by-law it would give criminals the ability to trick and force Cape Town residents into allowing them onto their property, simply by saying that they are law enforcement and that they have a suspicion that there is a cat or a dog on your property.

This is absolutely absurd, and any competent court should throw this entire proposal out based on the bad faith of this clause alone.

2) Paying the Government for the Companion of a Pet:

The DA has taken its desire for totalitarian control over Cape Town residents to the next level with this one. To think that a young child to a poor family, or an elderly widow alone in her apartment, or any other type of animal lover who struggles with the already heavy tax burdens imposed on them by the City of Cape Town, will now be forced to pay the government yet another tax, for the simple right to having the companion of a pet.

The idea that Cape Town residents will be forced to register every single animal or pet they intend to adopt is inhumane and sick.

This will create more homeless animals, more petless humans, and more dogs and cats that would have gone to a loving home will now be euthanised because people under such tough economic conditions will choose to rather not have a pet, than be forced to pay yet another tax.

Besides the greediness of the DA to try manufacture another revenue income stream by taxing law abiding pet owners, the knock on effect of this proposed law will be more lonely humans, and more dead cats and dogs.

3) Licence Every Pet with the Government:

You will not be allowed to own a single pet, unless you licence it with the government. If you do not, you will be considered a criminal, and could be fined, or sent to prison for 2 years.

Does this even need explaining?

The DA claims to be a pro-free market, pro-middle class, federalist, pro-decentralisation, classic liberal political organisation. However, this is one of the most authoritarian, centrist, totalitarian, control hungry pieces of legislation we have ever seen.

The bureaucratic red tape burden that will be required to roll this new by-law out for millions of pet owners across Cape Town, and the already overburdened City of Cape Town staff who struggle to meet the demands for the most basic requirements of consistent service delivery for water, sewerage, sanitation, electricity, housing, policing, safety and security etc etc etc will now have to handle the additional bureaucratic task of policing every single pet owner, pet, or potential pet owner across the whole of Cape Town.

4) Mandatory sterilisation and vaccination of all cats and dogs over 6 months: The question is will cats and dogs also have to wear face masks and social distance next.

It is not for the government to decide the life or death of free citizens own beloved pets. This is a decision for the owners of the pets themselves. The right to allow ones own pets to procreate is not a decision for the government to make, nor at what age any of the above is safe or healthy for the animal itself.

5) The banning & restriction of urban farming, layer hens, and other food providing livestock or animal husbandry:

In a world where poverty, food scarcity, soaring petrol prices, and exploding taxes all place a tremendous burden on the poor and middle classes, the introduction of such extreme government regulations will essentially criminalise the means by which the poorest survive,

and by which the middle classes preserve a means of sustenance that is still rooted to mother nature, earth and the natural environment.

These regulations will threaten to destroy local organic urban farms, and the health conscious communities that have freely chosen to eat organically, to avoid pesticide laden GMO produce, hormone injected livestock, and the chemical, plastic and preservative filled food products that fill commercial supermarkets.

This reminds one of the famous quote: "Hello, I'm from the Government. I'm here to help."

The government is the single greatest source of incompetence, corruption, the stifling of innovation, the drain of resources, and death. It has no right to interfere in the very means of local community food production, and essentially the source of survival and life.

6) The permitting, regulating & restricting of bees and bee hives:

It is a well known fact that bees are at the very centre of the natural balance of nature, its biodiversity, and the procreation of plants, flowers, vegetables and all the primary food sources, which sustain the secondary food sources, which in turn sustain humans.

Everything a government subsidises, you get more of.
Everything a government regulates, you get less of.

The DA is proposing the regulation of bees.

This means, less people will be willing to pay for a licence to own a bee hive, less people will be able to comply with the new ridiculous regulations and restrictions to own a beehive, and as a result of these regulations there will be less bees and beehives in Cape Town.

Less bees in Cape Town, means less pollination of plants, flowers and vegetables, a greater pressure placed on the already under strain environment with the DA's intense policy of urban densification, and ultimately, the primary driving force at the base level of the eco system, will be weakened and reduced by these policies.

7) Government interference, regulation and overreach:

There is a consistent theme throughout this proposed Animal Keeping By-Law 2026, and it is to place the government at the centre of everything.

Pets, animal husbandry and agriculture, are at the very centre of human civilisation.

This proposed by-law threatens every aspect of human freedom surrounding these above principles.

Our companionship with animals and nature, our ability to feed ourselves, the types of food we eat, the quality of the foods we eat, and our human right to use our own labour and private property for the above.

A new regulation is always only the initial limitation.

Once the by-law has been passed, the initial limitations can be further restricted, tightened, and ultimately eventually destroyed.

5 urban organic farms, can become, 0 organic farms
2 dogs, becomes, 0 dogs.
4 cats, becomes, 0 cats.
1 beehive, becomes, 0 bees.

This Animal Keeping By-law is absolutely tyrannical, and unacceptable.
CAPEXIT opposes it.

Sincerely

The Cape Independence Party
CAPEXIT



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