



MEDIA RELEASE

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Stray livestock a danger for motorists and residents

It has been brought to the municipality's attention that livestock, such as cattle and pigs, has been roaming the streets of residential areas in upper town. Not only is this extremely dangerous for motorists but it is also hazardous for the animals involved.

Chairperson of the Community Services Committee, Councillor Irene Grootboom pleaded with owners to make certain that their livestock is kept in secure enclosures. She said, "Owners need to ensure that these animals are kept out of harm's way and that they do not pose as a threat to other residents and members of the public. In order to find a long-term solution for this problem the municipality is asking for cooperation from owners".

Under the Road Traffic and Road Transport Legislation, if livestock is found roaming a public road, owners can face a R 1000 fine. According to the Road Traffic Act, a date for payment or a court date is established to either pay the fine or appear in court. Any animal which is found trespassing on private property may be sent to the pound by the owner of the property. The animal may then only be released upon the payment of the pound fees.

"The safety of our residents is our number one priority in this matter" said Councillor Grootboom. "We do not want stray animals endangering the lives of motorists or residents. These animals have owners and it is those owners who must take responsibility for the upkeep of their livestock". She continued, "And it is only through working together that the municipality and owners can come to an agreement about the handling of livestock", she concluded.

Residents must please report any incidents to Knysna Municipal Law Enforcement on 044 302 6551 or the Fire Department on 044 302 8911 to remove animals off private or public property.

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