



Knysna

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MEDIA RELEASE

Embargo: Immediate

DATE: Thursday 4 September 2025

Knysna municipality investigates options to deal with roaming animals

Knysna Municipal Manager Lulamile Mapholoba announced that a task team has been established to investigate options for dealing with the problem of roaming animals, particularly livestock.

“The team includes representatives from both the administration and Council, small-scale farmers and owners, relevant provincial departments and SANRAL,” said Mapholoba. “They will explore ways to mitigate the risks associated with roaming animals and recommend long-term solutions to Council.”

The task team was established following numerous concerns regarding the risks associated with stray livestock roaming freely in residential areas and along busy roads. These risks include public safety hazards, road accidents and property damage.

“We face challenges related to informal livestock grazing, animal impoundments and fines, community demands for access to commonage land, and a lack of proper facilities for the management and care of stray animals,” Mapholoba explained. “We must ensure compliance with applicable legislation, improve the management of livestock and land use in the municipal area, and prioritise the safety of our residents.”

Informed by existing by-laws that govern the keeping and impoundment of animals, the task team has discussed a clear process which will be communicated to all small-scale farmers and owners. Should this approach not yield results, the by-laws will be implemented immediately.

“The task team will conduct their investigations and report to Council in six months’ time,” Mapholoba concluded. “I am confident that we can find effective solutions to this issue by working with our community. I ask residents to remain patient as we work to solve this problem.”

Residents should report roaming animals to the Fire Services Department at 044-302 8911.

All by-laws, including the by-law relating to the impoundment of animals and the by-law for the prevention of public nuisances and the keeping of animals, poultry, pigeons and bees, can be accessed at www.knysna.gov.za/government/important-documents/bylaws.

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