

RICHMOND SHIRE COUNCIL



POLICY

TITLE:	COMMERCIAL AGISTMENT POLICY.
DATE OF ADOPTION:	19 September 2006
REVIEW DATE:	Reviewed yearly dependant on wet season. Policy Amended 17 October 2006 Policy Amended 17 June 2008

OBJECTIVES:

To raise income to improve council managed commons with the provision of fencing, water and contribute to the ongoing costs of managing Council's commons and reserves.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

*Local Government Act, 1993
Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002
Land Act 1994*

PROCEDURE:

Dependant on the wet season each year the Council may determine from year to year to offer any one of the Commons or reserves under its management for commercial agistment.

1. All persons wishing to agist stock on a commercial basis on Commons or Reserves under the control of the Richmond Shire Council should satisfy each of the conditions listed hereunder:
 - a) Residents or ratepayers (for a minimum of twelve months) of the Richmond Shire shall be given first preference. The agistee, if a resident or ratepayer of the Richmond Shire, shall pay normal Council agistment costs and not commercial prices. The agistee will forego the household limit but must stock at the rate nominated. Anyone with more than 640 acres should be paying commercial agistment prices.
 - b) If no resident or ratepayer applies by the due date Council will consider applications from residents outside the Shire. Commercial charges will apply.
 - c) Must be a BONA FIDE owner of the stock to be agisted.

- d) Must hold a registered brand in applicant's name.
 - e) Must be over eighteen (18) years of age.
 - f) Must be ear tagged at the owner's expense and comply with NLIS provisions. Such tags to be individually numbered and carry the endorsement R.S.C. Tags to be supplied by Council at owner's expense. **NLIS for appropriate PICs are available from the Common Ranger/Shire Office.**
2. The commercial agistment stock rate will be set at a minimum allowed under Council's agistment policy and may be increased dependant on the wet season each year. The number of horses/cattle agisted must not exceed the maximum stocking rate per reserve/common.
 3. The term of commercial agistment shall be six months with an option to renew for a further six months (dependant on the wet season), or as otherwise agreed to by Council.
 4. Any person or persons appointed by the Council, may muster the whole of the stock running on the reserve at any time for any purpose and may put such stock in any yard or yards and draft and otherwise manage such stock as deemed necessary.
 5. Council will call for applications and select the successful applicant based on the criteria listed at 1.above. If more than one application is received the final determination will be via a public ballot.
 6. Agistment fees and charges payable thirteen weeks in advance.
 7. Agistment fees and regulations are subject to review from time to time.