

Statutory Instrument No. 114 of 2025

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT
(Cap. 40:01)

RAMOTSWA DISTRICT COUNCIL (CONTROL OF LIVESTOCK AND OTHER
ANIMALS) BYE-LAWS, 2025
(Published on 12th September, 2025)

ARRANGEMENT OF BYE-LAWS

BYE-LAW

1. Citation
2. Interpretation
3. Application
4. Prohibition of use of certain habitat
5. Troublesome or dangerous animals
6. Yapping etc. of dogs and female dogs in season, and any other nuisance by livestock or other animals
7. Establishment of habitat for livestock and other animals
8. Power to detain stray livestock or other animals
9. Period of detention
10. Claiming of livestock and other animals
11. Destruction of certain animals
12. Enforcement
13. Offences and penalties

SCHEDULE

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by sections 44 and 45 of the Local Government Act, and after consultation with the community living within the council area, and with the approval of the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, the Ramotswa District Council hereby makes the following Bye-laws —

1. These Bye-laws may be cited as the Ramotswa District Council (Control of Livestock and Other Animals) Bye-laws, 2025. Citation
2. In these Bye-laws, unless the context otherwise requires — Interpretation
 - “authorised officer” means any person authorised by the Council in writing, for the purposes of giving effect to or enforcing these Bye-laws, or a law enforcement officer in terms of the Act; Cap. 03:02
 - “Council” means the Ramotswa District Council;
 - “council area” means the area defined as the Ramotswa District under the Administrative Districts Act, and include Ramotswa, Taung, Boatle, Mogobane, Otse, Lobatse Farms or any other area within the administrative boundaries of Ramotswa District;
 - “council habitat” means any place identified by the Council for purposes of these Bye-laws, including the Council matimela kraals;
 - “day” means any day of the week including Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday;
 - “habitat” means any enclosure or shelter, including a kraal, stall, stable, cowshed, pen, coop, sty, burrow, kennel, hive, or any site which is used for the purpose of keeping livestock and other animals;

“livestock” means any domesticated animal including cow, goat, sheep, pig, donkey, horse, and mule;

“other animals” includes poultry, dogs, rabbits, bees and any other domesticated animal not listed in these Bye-laws;

“owner” means any person having the charge, custody or control of livestock or other animal, and the occupier of any premises where such livestock or other animal is kept or permitted to remain;

“poultry” means chicken or fowl, turkey, goose, duck, peacock, pigeon or any captive bird under human control; and

“veterinary officer” includes a veterinary officer, livestock officer or stock inspector employed by Government, or a veterinary surgeon under the Veterinary Surgeons Act.

Cap. 61:04
Application

3. (1) These Bye-laws shall apply to Ramotswa, Taung and Boatle Villages for the first five years after commencement, and thereafter shall apply to the entire council area.

(2) These Bye-laws shall not apply to any animal subject to the provisions of the Matimela Act.

Cap. 36:06
Prohibition of
use of certain
habitat

4. (1) The Council may prohibit the use of any habitat or shelter which in the opinion of the Council is unfit, undesirable and objectionable by reasons of its locality, construction, condition or manner of use, for the keeping of livestock or other animals.

(2) Where the Council prohibits the use of a habitat or shelter in terms of subbye-law (1), the Council shall notify the owner of such habitat or shelter in writing.

(3) Any person who continues to use a habitat or shelter that has been prohibited for use commits an offence.

Troublesome
or dangerous
animals

5. (1) A person shall not allow a troublesome, destructive, or ferocious livestock or other animal to be at large, off the premises on which such animal is normally kept unless under the proper control of its owner.

(2) Any person who contravenes subbye-law (1) commits an offence.

Yapping etc.
of dogs and
female dogs
in season,
and any other
nuisance by
livestock or
other animals

6. (1) A person in charge of a dog shall take all steps necessary to ensure that the yapping, whining or barking of the dog does not disturb the comfort of other people in a council area.

(2) A person shall not allow any female dog to be at large at such time when such dog is in heat or in season.

(3) A person shall not keep any livestock or other animal, or permit such livestock or other animal to be at large so as to cause a nuisance or disturb the comfort of the people in the council area.

(4) Any person who contravenes any provision under this bye-law commits an offence.

Establishment
of habitat for
livestock and
other animals

7. The Council may by resolution establish any habitat or shelter as a holding ground for livestock or other animal found at large.

Power to
detain stray
livestock or
other animals

8. (1) An authorised officer may seize and detain in any council habitat or shelter any livestock or other animal found or reported wandering within a council area.

(2) An authorised officer shall keep a register which contains a list of the detained livestock or other animal and bears information about such detained livestock or other animal, and disposal or transfer of the livestock or other animal.

(3) An Authorised officer shall publish the list under subbye-law (2) on public notice boards within the District and through various media including the *Gazette*, radio and a newspaper of national circulation.

(4) Any person who wilfully obstructs an authorised officer in the exercise of powers conferred by subbye-law (1) commits an offence.

9. (1) Any livestock or other animal detained under these Bye-laws shall, if not claimed within a period of 14 days, be handed over to *matimela kraal* and the provisions of the Matimela Act shall apply.

Period of detention

(2) Any person who claims any livestock or other animal which has been handed over in accordance with subbye-law (1), shall make a payment as set out in the Schedule for the 14 days which his or her livestock was detained under these Bye-laws.

10. (1) A person entitled to take possession of any livestock or other animal, detained under these Bye-laws in a habitat, enclosure or shelter established in accordance with these Bye-laws may, upon production of certified documents and payment of a fee set out in the Schedule, claim and take possession of such livestock or other animal.

Claiming of livestock or other animals

(2) Any person who removes or attempts to remove any livestock or other animal detained under these Bye-laws without payment of the prescribed fee commits an offence.

11. An authorised officer may, subject to the consent by a veterinary officer, destroy in terms of the Public Health Act and without compensation, any detained livestock or other animal where the livestock or other animal –

Destruction of certain animals
Cap. 63:01

- (a) suffers from a contagious disease;
- (b) is likely to prove dangerous to human life; or
- (c) is destructive to livestock or other animals in detention.

12. The Council may by resolution request the assistance of any authorised officer for the better carrying out of the provisions of these Bye-laws.

Enforcement

13. (1) Any person who obstructs or hinders an authorised officer's function under these Bye-laws commits an offence and is liable, –

Offences and penalties

- (a) to a fine not exceeding P500 or, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two months, or to both; and
- (b) for a second or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding P1 000, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding four months, or to both.

(2) Any person who commits an offence under these Bye-laws, for which no specified penalty is set out is liable –

- (a) to a fine not exceeding P1 000, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding four months, or to both; and
- (b) for a second or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding P2 000, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding eight months, or to both.

SCHEDULE
Fees
(bye-law 10 (1))

<i>Animal</i>	<i>Fees</i>
Cattle, donkeys, mules and horses	P50 per head per day
Pigs	P35 per head per day
Goats and sheep	P20 per head per day
Dogs	P20 per head per day
Poultry	P10 per head per day
Bees	P5 per hive per day
Other animals	P5 per head per day

MADE this 11th day of August, 2025.

*Council Secretary,
Ramotswa District Council.*

APPROVED this 21st day of August, 2025.

KETLHALEFILE F. C. MOTSHGWA,
*Minister of Local Government and
Traditional Affairs.*