Horse keeping requires development approval from Council where;
- More than one horse is kept per three hectares (7.4 acres) of land used for such purposes, or
- Hand feeding of a horse is involved.

**EXISTING USE RIGHTS**

Existing use rights may apply where a use was lawfully established in the first instance, and has been continued since that time. For Council to determine whether existing use rights for horse keeping apply, a body of evidence including a statutory declaration needs to be supplied to Council which confirms that horse keeping was being undertaken on the land prior to 1 November 1973 when planning controls were introduced, and has continued since that time (without discontinuing for a period exceeding 2 years).

**EXISTING APPROVAL**

If existing uses rights are not available but approval has been obtained for horse keeping after the 1 November 1973, then a copy of the approval would satisfy Council that the use is approved and may continue.

**NEW ACTIVITIES**

If no evidence is available to support existing use rights and no approval has been obtained for horse keeping, then a Development Application needs to be lodged with Council. This Development Application should be supported by plans, fees and the following details:
- An outline of the reasons for the keeping of horses on the land;
- Number of horses kept on the land;
- Management strategies for the horses in relation to the prevention of land degradation, eg. horse exercise facilities, tracks, weed control, manure management, hand feeding, use of stables etc.; and
- A sketch or aerial photo indicating fencing and improvements relative to horse keeping, including size of paddocks.

Other than within the District’s Rural Living Zone, horse keeping is generally a non-complying development which may require public notification, referrals to the Environment Protection Authority and Soil Conservation Board, and the approval of both Council and the Development Assessment Commission.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

Can be obtained from the Duty Planner on (08) 8391 7200, Fax (08) 8391 7299, or e-mail council@dcmbarker.sa.gov.au.