

# Grey District Council Public Places Bylaw

**This bylaw was adopted by the Grey District Council on 9 June 2008 and amended on 9 March 2020.**

**The bylaw was amended on 26 November 2020, following resolution to amend by Council.**

This bylaw was adapted from the Standards New Zealand model bylaw NZS 9201:Part 2:1999: Public Places. © [1999 Standards Council] The Crown in right of New Zealand, administered by the New Zealand Standards Executive.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. FOREWORD .....	3
-------------------	---

2.	SCOPE .....	3
3.	DEFINITIONS .....	3
4.	PUBLIC SAFETY AND NUISANCES .....	4
5.	OBSTRUCTING PUBLIC PLACES .....	5
6.	DAMAGE TO PUBLIC PLACES.....	5
7.	PLACING OF ARTICLES ON AND DAMAGE TO PUBLIC PLACES.....	6
8.	CONTROL OF SKATEBOARDS .....	6
9.	EXPOSING ARTICLES FOR SALE .....	6
10.	VEHICULAR CROSSINGS .....	6
11.	ASSEMBLY.....	7
12.	AWNINGS AND BLINDS.....	7
13.	PROJECTIONS ON PUBLIC PLACES NOT PERMITTED .....	7
14.	RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF BARBED WIRE AND ELECTRIFIED FENCES .....	8
15.	ROADING AND BUILDING IDENTIFICATION.....	8
16.	ANIMALS AND STOCK ON PUBLIC PLACES .....	8
17.	OVERHANGING VEGETATION LIABLE TO OBSTRUCT .....	9
18.	ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR RESERVES .....	9
19.	RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND RELATED DOCUMENTS.....	10

# GREY DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC PLACES BYLAW

## 1. FOREWORD

This Bylaw is based on the NZS 9201 series of model bylaws covering various matters under local authority jurisdiction. Local authorities are empowered under the Local Government Act 2002 to make bylaws.

The Standard superseded NZS 9201:Chapter 2:1972 *Public places*. The revision of the 1972 bylaw has been necessary to reflect the legislative changes, particularly the Local Government Act 1974, the Building Act 2004, the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Dog Control Act 1996. Also over the past ten years there has been a gradual evolution of local authority procedures and operating styles.

This Part now contains provisions for previous NZS 9201:Chapter 17 *Parks and reserves*, and Chapter 19 *Beaches: bathing and control* which are superseded. It also includes new provisions for skateboards.

Reference should be made to The Grey District Council Introductory Bylaw for any other definitions not included in this Part.

## 2. SCOPE

The Local Government Act 2002 gives authority to the Council to adopt bylaws to regulate activities which can be carried out in roads, public places and reserves. This Part of the bylaw controls a diverse range of activities to ensure that acceptable standards of convenience, safety, visual amenity and civic values are maintained for the wellbeing and enjoyment of citizens, visitors and businesses within the district. In particular this Part addresses damage to public facilities such as roads, grass verges, garden areas and reserves. It also addresses activities within public places and reserves which may have an adverse effect on other users of these facilities.

The Local Government Act 2002 and other relevant Acts e.g. Reserves Act 1977, Health Act 1956, Litter Act 1979 outline some of the powers and requirements of the Council in regard to streets, public places and reserves. Areas of control so prescribed by this legislation are not necessarily repeated within this bylaw, and therefore the relevant sections of the Local Government Act 2002 and other Acts should be read in conjunction with it.

This Bylaw is made under the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002.

## 3. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this bylaw the following definitions shall apply:

**MATERIAL or THING** means any material of whatever kind and includes jumbo bins and other containers for waste material but excludes vehicles.

**MIND ALTERING SUBSTANCE** means a substance whether synthetic or naturally occurring which may alter consciousness, mood or emotions, or which might intoxicate or induce pleasurable sensations. It includes what is commonly known as glue sniffing, but does not include:

- (a) Medically prescribed substances ingested by the person for whom they were prescribed;

- (b) Substances purchased from a pharmacy without a medical prescription;
- (c) Nicotine;
- (d) Alcohol as defined in the Sale and Supply of Alcohol 2012.

PUBLIC PLACE means as well as those places defined in Part 1 every reserve, park, domain, beach, foreshore, and recreational ground under the control of the Council.

ROAD means as well as that defined in Part 1 all land lying between the boundaries of a road including footpaths and berms.

RIDE A SKATEBOARD means having either one or both feet, or any other part of the body of any person, on the skateboard when it is moving.

SKATEBOARD means a wheeled device controlled or propelled by gravity or by the muscular energy of the rider, including roller skates, in-line skates, or similar recreational devices. The definition does not include any wheelchair, baby or invalid carriage or bicycles.

#### **4. PUBLIC SAFETY AND NUISANCES**

4.1 Except with the prior permission of Council or an authorised officer a person shall not on any public place:

- (a) Place or leave litter or any materials or thing or substance which are likely to be hazardous or injurious to any person, or likely to create a nuisance;
- (b) Deposit in or around a public litter receptacle any household or trade refuse;
- (c) Interfere with any refuse which is awaiting collection by an authorised collector;
- (d) Drive any vehicle except on a formed road, or drive in a manner that is dangerous or inconsiderate to pedestrians or other vehicles in the public place;
- (e) Cause or allow any material or thing to be deposited onto a public place or road;
- (f) Leave any work, hole or excavation in a public place in a manner that could be a danger to anyone entering or using that public place;
- (g) Solicit any subscription, collection or donation, preach or undertake any busking;
- (h) Distribute any printed or written material advertising any product, service or entertainment;
- (j) Fly from or land any aeroplane including model aeroplanes, a hot air balloon or hang glider, parachutes or similar except in an emergency;
- (k) Consume, inject or inhale any mind-altering substances or offer or sell such substances to any person;
- (m) Play any game or use any object including skateboards, roller blades, roller skates, bicycles or motorised scooters, recklessly or in a manner which may intimidate, be dangerous or injurious or cause a nuisance to persons in the public place, or damage the public place;

- (n) Erect or place any structure on, over or under the public place except in compliance with any other Part of this bylaw.

4.2 Where any fence, wall, retaining wall or land adjacent to a public place is in a condition or state of disrepair which in the opinion of an authorised officer could cause damage or injury to persons passing, the authorised officer may give notice requiring the owner or occupier to repair or remove the fence, wall or retaining wall, or make the land safe.

4.3 Notwithstanding the requirements of any other clause of this Part of the bylaw a person shall not in any public place:

- (a) Light any fire except at fireplaces specially provided, or in an appliance designed for outdoor cooking; subject to any restriction imposed by Council on the lighting of fires;

## **5. OBSTRUCTING PUBLIC PLACES**

5.1 A person shall not:

- (a) Obstruct the entrances to or exits from a public place;
- (b) Place or leave any material or thing, including signage, on a public place that could obstruct the public right of passage, without the permission of an authorised officer and then only in accordance with such conditions as may be imposed;
- (c) Allow any gate or door on property abutting a public place, to swing over or across the public place or any part thereof;
- (d) Carry out any work on any motor vehicle in a public place, except in the case of any accident or emergency when repairs are necessary to allow the vehicle to be removed.

## **6. DAMAGE TO PUBLIC PLACES**

6.1 Except with the permission of the Council or an authorised officer a person shall not in any public place:

- (a) Damage, interfere with, destroy or remove any grass plot, flower bed, tree, shrub or plant or any inscription or label relating to it;
- (b) Pollute, damage, deface or disfigure, apply graffiti, posters or advertising devices to, or interfere with any ornament, statue, building, structure, or facilities;

Nothing in this sub-clause shall prevent the Council from supplying or approving the installation of display boards in any public place for the purpose of allowing posters to be displayed announcing forthcoming functions or events;

- (c) Cause or permit to be done any act whatsoever by which damage is caused to any public place, or any work or thing in, on, over or under the public place;
- (d) Damage or interfere with any natural feature, animal or plant;
- (e) Use any vehicle or be in control of an animal in any manner so that it damages any part of a public place;

- (f) Drive or park any vehicle in a public place except in an area set aside for the driving or parking of vehicles;
- (g) Remove any sand, soil or other naturally occurring material found in a public place;
- (h) Open any drain or sewer on, or disturb or remove the surface of, any public place.

6.2 Any person carrying out authorised works on a public place shall provide reinstatement of the works to a standard approved by an authorised officer.

6.3 Any person wishing to gain access to a beach shall use a designated access where this is available.

## **7. PLACING OF ARTICLES ON AND DAMAGE TO PUBLIC PLACES**

7.1 A person shall not place or leave or cause or permit to be placed or left any material or thing, including signage, amusement devices or items for sale or hire, on any public place unless:

- (a) Such action has first been approved by Council or an authorised officer, and then only in accordance with such conditions as he or she may impose; or
- (b) Such action is taken for the purpose of regular refuse or other collections authorised by the Council or is otherwise authorised by law; or
- (c) Such action is permitted pursuant to any other Part of this bylaw.

7.2 A person shall not do, cause or permit to be done any act whatsoever by which damage is caused to any public place, or any work or thing in, on, over or under the public place.

## **8. CONTROL OF SKATEBOARDS**

8.1 No person shall ride a skateboard in any area defined in the First Schedule attached to this Part of the bylaw.

8.2 No person shall ride a skateboard on any footpath outside areas defined in the First Schedule, without due care to ensure no damage is caused to any property or without reasonable consideration for other persons using the footpath.

8.3 The Council may from time to time by resolution publicly notified, amend the First Schedule, to add, delete or amend the areas to which the provisions of this bylaw shall apply.

## **9. EXPOSING ARTICLES FOR SALE**

9.1 Except as provided for by any other Part of this bylaw no person shall expose for sale any article whatsoever on any footpath, or outside of any shop, shop window, or doorway abutting on any public place, so as to encroach on or over that public place, without the prior permission of Council, and then only in accordance with such conditions as Council may think fit to impose.

## **10. VEHICULAR CROSSINGS**

10.1 Any person wishing to construct, repair, remove or widen any vehicular crossing shall first obtain a permit from the Council.

- 10.2 A permit issued by the Council under 10.1 may be subject to such conditions concerning dimensions and materials as the Council may consider reasonably necessary to protect the road (including any footpath or berm) adjacent to the vehicular crossing, and to ensure safe and convenient use of the road by pedestrians and vehicles.
- 10.3 No person shall drive, ride, propel, or wheel any motor vehicle across any footpath or water channel in any public place otherwise than upon a crossing properly constructed under the provisions of this bylaw.
- 10.4 If in the opinion of the Council any crossing is in a bad or unsafe state of repair, Council may by notice in writing, require the owner of the land which the crossing provides access to, to repair, reconstruct, or renew such crossing to the satisfaction of Council. Every such owner or occupier who fails to comply with any such notice within the period specified shall commit an offence against this Part of this bylaw.

## **11. ASSEMBLY**

- 11.1 A person shall not, without the prior consent of an authorised officer:
- (a) Participate in any assembly or associate with other persons in a public place in such a way as to impede pedestrian or vehicular traffic or to prevent or hinder ready access to shops or premises facing onto the public place;
  - (b) Organise or conduct any meeting, gathering, demonstration, parade, procession or competition in a public place.

## **12. AWNINGS AND BLINDS**

- 12.1 No person shall erect or maintain, or cause to be erected or maintained, any awning over any public place, or hang any awning, blind, or screen from any portico on any public place except with the permission of an authorised officer. In granting such permission an authorised officer may set such conditions as is deemed appropriate. Any such permission may be revoked at any time by an authorised officer.

## **13. PROJECTIONS ON PUBLIC PLACES NOT PERMITTED**

- 13.1 Except where permitted by any other Part of this bylaw or by Council consent no person shall put any portico, projecting window, balcony, wall, lamp, door step, cellar door, lamp post, signboard, window shutter, gate post, or other obstruction or projection of any kind whatsoever in, on, over or under a public place or in such a position as to interfere with or obstruct in any way the free passage of pedestrians or traffic upon any public place.

This restriction shall not apply to any veranda or awning erected pursuant to a requirement of a District Plan.

- 13.2 If any such projection or obstruction as aforesaid has been placed against or in front of any building before the coming into operation of this bylaw and which is contrary to any bylaw in force, Council may give notice to the owner or occupier of such building to remove, or to alter such projection or obstruction, and such owner or occupier shall, within the time stated in such notice, remove, or alter such projection or obstruction.
- 13.3 No person shall stand on any veranda erected over a public place except for the purpose of inspection, maintenance or egress in the case of fire.

## **14. RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF BARBED WIRE AND ELECTRIFIED FENCES**

14.1 Except with the permission of an authorised officer:

No person shall erect or permit to be erected any electrified fencing or barbed wire along, or within 1 metre of any boundary line between any land or building on the one side, and any public place on the other side.

Provided that this sub-clause shall not prohibit the placing of such barbed wire at a height of not less than 2 metre or electrified fencing not less than 3 metres from the level of the ground of any such public place.

14.2 Sub-clause 14.1 shall not apply within any area which has a predominantly rural character under the District Plan prepared by Council, except when the fence abuts or adjoins a footpath; provided that Council may from time to time by resolution specify conditions that will apply to temporary electric fences.

## **15. ROADING AND BUILDING IDENTIFICATION**

15.1 The Council shall have the exclusive right to cause to be painted or affixed on a conspicuous part of a building, the name of the road, private road or public place to which it has frontage.

15.2 Notwithstanding that a building or property is identified by other means, the owner or occupier of every building or group of buildings forming part of a complex or of the property shall mark such building or complex with numbers no less than 50 mm in height for residential buildings and not less than 150 mm in height for all other buildings. Numbers shall be as allocated or approved by an authorised officer and displayed in a position so as to be readily visible from the road to which it has frontage.

15.3 Numbers required by 15.2 shall be maintained by the owner or occupier in such a manner as to readily identify the property at all times.

15.4 Council shall have power at any time to alter the number of any building where in the Council's opinion it may be necessary or advisable to do so.

## **16. ANIMALS AND STOCK ON PUBLIC PLACES**

16.1 No person shall take or allow any animal under their care or control onto any public place if the Council has by resolution or public notice prohibited entry of that type of animal to that public place.

See also the Dog Control Bylaw.

16.2 Any person having control of stock on any public place shall ensure that the stock is kept under proper control, with consideration for other persons using the public place.

16.3 No person shall drive any stock on any road during the period between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise unless sufficient warning is provided and maintained by such person by the use of lights or other effective devices or means to ensure that other persons using such road shall have adequate notice of the presence of such animals on the road.

16.4 No person shall:



- (a) Permit stock to be driven across or along any public place unless an alternative route is not reasonably available;
  - (b) Permit any stock to be on a reserve, beach or other area designated as an area prohibited to stock without the prior consent of an authorised officer;
  - (c) Graze stock in any public place except in accordance with Council policy.
- 16.5 Any person having control of stock in any public place shall ensure that the stock are driven in such a manner and by such points of access to an exit from the road as to ensure that damage is not caused to the public place.
- 16.6 Council may from time to time by special order publicly notified declare certain roads to be stock routes and prohibit or restrict the use of any other roads, public places or urban areas for the driving of stock. Any such declaration, prohibition or restriction may from time to time in like manner be altered or revoked. This requirement shall not apply to any person who rides or leads a horse under proper control on a road.
- 16.7 Any person having control of stock being driven on any public place shall ensure that excrement, urine or other matter deposited upon the public place from such stock is removed and disposed of in an appropriate manner.
- 16.8 Any person being the owner of or having control of any horse in a public place shall immediately remove any faeces deposited by that horse from any public place.
- 16.9 Subject to the requirements of sub-clauses 16.1 to 16.8 every person being the owner or having the care, custody, or control of any animal shall keep and prevent the same from wandering or being at large without proper guidance on any public place.

See also the Dog Control Bylaw/Policy.

## **17. OVERHANGING VEGETATION LIABLE TO OBSTRUCT**

- 17.1 No person shall permit or allow vegetation to encroach on to or over any public place so as to obstruct or interfere with the free movement of persons using that public place.

## **18. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR RESERVES**

- 18.1 Subject to the provisions of this Part of this bylaw every reserve shall be open to the public at all times except during such hours as the Council or an authorised officer may determine that any reserve shall be closed to the public.
- 18.2 An authorised officer may from time to time and for such periods as he or she thinks fit, set aside areas of a reserve, for the exclusive use of particular groups or for particular kinds of recreational activities thereon. Council may charge for the right to have exclusive use of a reserve.
- 18.3 The Council may fix charges for the entry to a reserve in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977, and it shall be an offence against this Part of the bylaw to enter a reserve without having paid the proper charge for entry, if a charge is payable.
- 18.4 An authorised officer may close or restrict entry to all of, or any portion of, a reserve at such times as are considered necessary to prevent damage to or allow maintenance of the reserve.

Such closure shall be advertised by signs at the entrances to the reserve. It shall be an offence against this Part of the bylaw to be found on a reserve at any time when the reserve is closed to public entry.

18.5 Every person committing a breach of the provisions of this Part of the bylaw shall, upon request by an authorised officer, immediately leave the reserve, and shall be prohibited from appearing on the reserve for such period as the authorised officer deems fit. Any person so ordered to leave shall still be liable to be prosecuted for the breach of the bylaw, and any person failing to leave with reasonable speed, to comply with a request to leave, shall commit a further offence.

## **19. RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND RELATED DOCUMENTS**

- Building Act 2004
- Dog Control Act 1996
- Land Transport Act 1998
- Local Government Act 1974
- Local Government Act 2002
- Reserves Act 1977
- Resource Management Act 1991
- Sale and Supply of Alcohol 2012
- Transport Act 1962
- The Grey District Council Introductory Bylaw