

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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Title

1. These by-laws may be cited as the Mberengwa Rural District Council (Meat) By-laws. 2023

Application

2. These by-laws shall apply within the Mberengwa Rural District Council area and any local government area the administration, control, and management of which is vested in Mberengwa Rural District Council.

Interpretation

3. In these by-laws
 - “Abattoir” means slaughter -house approved by the council;
 - “Authorised person” means the medical officer of health inspector employed by the council.
 - “Butcher” means any person who sells, handles, exposes, transmits, or supplies butcher’s meat for huma consumption from butcher’s shop; butcher’s means the flesh or offal of any domestic includes all products manufactured from, or containing such flesh or offal.
 - “Butcher’s shop” means any premises used for carrying on the business of a butcher.
 - “Council” means Mberengwa Rural District Council

“Food premises” means any premises on which meat is handled or sold and includes a hotel, boarding house or hostel, does not include a private dwelling;

“meat” means the flesh (including the offal and fat) of domestic animal or bird that is intended for human consumption.

“Graded and marked” means graded and marked by the state grader appointed under the Agricultural products marketing (livestock)(carcass classification and grading) Regulations 2000

“Livestock” means any domestic bovine, ovine, caprine, porcine or equine animals.

“Meat inspector” means an environmental health officer, or a veterinary surgeon, or a veterinary public health officer or a person registered as meat inspector by the health profession Council.

“Medical officer of health” means any registered medical officer appointed by council or a registered Government medical officer of the district.

“Vehicle” means a vehicle used for the transportation of meat in connection with the business carried on in the butcher’s shop or food-premises

Inspection and marking of meat

4 (1) No person shall keep, store, sell, supply or cause to be kept, stored, sold or supplied, any meat in a butcher’s shop or food premises within the council area unless it has been-

- (i) inspected by the meat inspector and passed as being sound, free from disease and fit for human consumption; and
- (ii) graded and marked by the state grader.

(2) No person shall keep, store, sell, supply or cause to be kept, stored, sold or supplied, any fresh butcher’s meat unless the livestock from which such meat was obtained has been slaughtered at an abattoir or slaughter-house approved by council.

(3) If any butcher’s meat which has not been inspected, graded, and marked is found in a butcher’s shop, food premises or vehicle, an authorised person may –

- (a) seize and detain such meat by affixing there to a label or labels bearing the words “SEIZED” and “DETAINED” and
- (b) remove such meat from the butcher’s shop or food premises or vehicle, and
- (c) arrange for the destruction of such meat or for its disposal in such manner as to prevent it from being used for human consumption; and
- (d) impose the prescribed penalty on the person found in contravention of section 4(1) of these by-laws

(4) Where any meat has been seized or detained in accordance with the provisions of section 4(3), no person other than the authorised person shall interfere with the meat in any manner, either by removing a label affixed by any authorised person or by removing the meat from the butcher’s shop or food premises.

(5) No person shall keep, handle, sell or expose for sell, butcher's meat from any other premises other than a butcher's shop or food premises.

Slaughter of livestock

5. No person shall slaughter any livestock in the council area other than at an abattoir or slaughter-house approved by council.

Registration of sellers of meat

6. (1) No meat shall be sold in the council area unless it has been supplied by a person registered with the council.

(2) No person shall be registered with the council unless the facilities and the premises which he or she uses for the handling and dressing of meat have been approved by the Medical Officer of Health or any other person authorised by council .

Transportation of meat

7.(1) No person shall use, or permit or authorise the use of any vehicle for the purpose of conveying or transporting meat unless such vehicle-

(a) is constructed in a manner approved by the Medical Officer of Health; and

(b) is kept and maintained in a clean and sanitary condition; and

(c) bears the full names and address of its owner, legibly painted or affixed in a conspicuous position.

(2) The Medical Officer of Health shall not give his or her approval in terms of sections 6 and 7 unless he or she is satisfied that the facilities, premises or vehicles, as the case may be, are such as to ensure that the meat or will be kept in a clean and wholesome condition and protected from contamination.

Offences and penalties

8. Any person who—

(a) contravenes any provision of these by-laws; or

(b) fails to comply with any lawful requirements made by an authorised person in terms of these by-laws;

shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding level five or six months imprisonment or to both such fine and imprisonment.