

Mberengwa Rural District Council (Animal Drawn Vehicles) By-laws, 2023

Arrangement of Sections

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1. Citation

These regulations may be cited as Mberengwa Rural District Council (Animal Drawn Vehicles) By - Law

2. Interpretation

(a) In these by - laws, “animal drawn vehicle” means a vehicle built to be drawn, or being drawn, by an animal;

(b) “pole-type trailer” means a conveyance built to be drawn by animal and is attached to the animal by a pole, or an

attachment fitted to a pole; and is ordinarily used for transporting loads, such as logs, pipes, structural members, or

other long objects, that can generally support themselves like beams between supports;

(c) “Visibility” means its capacity to be visible, under normal atmospheric conditions, at any time between sunset and sunrise.

(d) In these by – laws, “reins” means ropes attached to the vehicle used to control the animal-drawn vehicle

(e) “authorised person” means Council staff members under the relevant department deployed at each designated

area to enforce these by-laws

(f) “council area” means the area under the jurisdiction of the local authority

3. Application

- (1) No person shall operate an animal – drawn vehicle on any road during the night, unless:
 - (a) there is a person in front of the vehicle team to control the vehicle and the team.
 - (b) the person in front of the vehicle including the rest of the team are wearing reflective clothing
 - (c) the animal-drawn vehicle has a front and rear reflector visible by other road users.
- (2) An animal – drawn vehicle shall be registered with the council for easy identification and the following information captured:
 - (a) Name and physical address of the owner of the animal – drawn vehicle
 - (b) Postal address of the owner of the animal – drawn vehicle
 - (c) The full description of the animal – drawn vehicle and its colour
- (3) No person shall operate an animal-drawn vehicle on a public road unless the name and address of the owner thereof is affixed or painted in a conspicuous position on the left side of such vehicle in letters not less than 25 millimetres high: Provided that nothing herein contained shall apply in respect of a vehicle used solely for the conveyance of persons otherwise than for hire or reward.
- (4) No person shall operate an animal-drawn vehicle on a public road unless the vehicle and the harness and other equipment thereof are in an efficient and safe condition.
- (5) The owner of an animal-drawn vehicle shall not cause or permit such vehicle to be used on a public road by any person who is not competent whether by reason of his or her age or otherwise to drive and control such vehicle.
- (6) The driver of an animal-drawn vehicle on a public road shall at all times give his or her undivided attention to the driving of the vehicle under his or her control, and if the vehicle is standing on a public road, the driver shall not cease to retain control over every animal which is still harnessed to the vehicle, unless some other person competent to do so takes charge of every such animal, or every such animal is so fastened that it cannot move from the place where it has been left.
- (7) No person shall operate on a public road a vehicle drawn by a team of animals not controlled by reins, unless there is a person leading the team and exercising control over such team.
- (8) The driver or other person in charge of a vehicle drawn by any animal shall not, on a public road outside an urban area, permit such vehicle to follow any other vehicle similarly drawn at a distance of less than 150 metres calculated from the foremost animal of such first-mentioned vehicle, except for the purpose of overtaking a vehicle travelling at a slower speed or when a vehicle travelling at a greater speed, having overtaken such vehicle, is drawing away from it.

4. Projecting loads

(1) No part of an animal drawn vehicle or its load must project

(a) past the head of a horse or other animal drawing the vehicle;

(b) more than 1.2 m backward of the body of a 2 wheeled vehicle, or more than 1.2 m backward of the body, or the rear wheels, of a 4 wheeled vehicle; or

(c) more than 500 mm from the outer side of the wheels or body of the vehicle.

(2) Despite the other provisions of this regulation, a load not exceeding 8 m in length, may project more than 1.2 m to the rear of an animal drawn vehicle, if a red flag of not less than 300 mm squared, or a red metal disc, of not less than 225 mm in diameter, is carried at the extreme rear end of the load and the flag or disc is kept clearly visible to persons on the road, in the near vicinity of the vehicle.

5. Penalties

Any person found in contravention of these by-laws shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding level five or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or both such fine and such imprisonment.

Offences and Penalties

<i>Item</i>	<i>Description of offence</i>	<i>Penalty in usd or equivalent zwd</i>
1	Operation of an unregistered animal - drawn vehicle.	US\$ 50.00
2	Stop or park an animal – drawn vehicle in a manner so as to obstruct other traffic.	US\$ 30.00
3	Overloading of the animal – drawn vehicle such that the goods would obstruct clear vision of the road ahead	US\$ 30.00
4	Operation of an animal – drawn vehicle without a flag	US\$ 15.00
5	Wrong harnessing of animals	US\$ 15.00