

RESTAURANT / CAFÉ / COFFEE SHOP

QUICK ANSWERS FOR SMALL BUSINESS INFORMATION SHEET No: HE-02

WHERE CAN I OPEN A RESTAURANT / CAFÉ / COFFEE SHOP IN DUNGOG SHIRE?

In Dungog Shire, Cafés and Coffee Shops are classed as 'Restaurants'. A 'Restaurant' is defined as a building or place where the main function is to provide food for people to consume on the premise. A restaurant may be licensed to sell alcohol.

A restaurant (and therefore a Café or Coffee Shop) is a permissible use in areas within the Shire that are zoned Rural 1(a), Rural Enterprise 1(e), Village 2(v), Business 3(a), Employment 4(a) and Recreation 6(a).

You may also operate a small refreshment bar / eatery as an extension to an existing business provided that you only sell light refreshments. This refreshment bar / eatery may be classified as a 'Kiosk'. Kiosks can be operated in areas zoned Rural 1(a), Rural Enterprise 1(e), Village 2(v), Business 3(a), Employment 4(a), Recreation 6(a) and Environment 7(a).

DO I NEED COUNCIL APPROVAL?

Yes... The operation of a café, coffee shop, restaurant or kiosk requires development consent and registration from Council.

- For Development Consent - You need to lodge a Development Application with Council. You cannot commence operating your business until Council has granted Development Consent.
- For Registration - once you have Development Consent, you need to contact Council to register your business. You must provide the following details:
 - Registered Name of Business and the full name of the Business Owner
 - Details of the business
 - Location where you will be conducting the business.
 - Your Business Licence details

A registration fee is payable. Council is also required by law to undertake an annual inspection of your business to ensure that you meet Public Health requirements. The registration fee and the annual inspection fee are listed in Council's Schedule of Fees & Charges - Section 42 Public Health & Licensing, which is available from Council's website: www.dungog.nsw.gov.au.

If you are proposing to undertake building works you must apply and have approved a Construction Certificate before you can commence any work - see Construction Certificate Information Sheet.

WHAT OTHER REGULATIONS DO I NEED TO CONSIDER?

Restaurants and Kiosks must comply with:

- Australian and New Zealand Food Standards Code - available from www.foodstandards.gov.au
- Australian Standard 4674 (2000) which relates to construction and fitout, and is available from www.standards.com.au
- Building Code of Australia – technical requirements and standards for design and construction of buildings.
- Dungog Shire Car Parking Policy
- For a licensed premises, the Liquor Act 2005.

If your proposal is located in a heritage building or within a designated Heritage Precinct, you will also need to comply with Council's Heritage requirements.

In addition you may need specific approvals such as connecting to the sewer or establishing a waste management system (septic) or if you want to have footpath dining, approval to use the footpath.

Further Information:

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