



## Staff Report

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**Report To:** Council Meeting  
**From:** Terri Towstiuc, Clerk  
**Date:** 2024-12-19  
**Subject:** Backyard Urban Hens – Final Report and By-law

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### **Recommendation:**

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Terri Towstiuc, Clerk, Re: Backyard Urban Hens, Final Report and By-law; And

That Council approve the application package as presented; And

Further that Council approve the By-law as presented, in the By-law portion of the December 19, 2024 agenda.

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the application package for Backyard Urban Hens, to “go live” on the Municipal Website on January 2, 2024. The application package and by-law will be provided to every applicant, with the onus on the applicant to declare they have reviewed and will comply with the regulations.

### **Background:**

At the Regular Meeting on November 28, 2024, Council approved the draft “Backyard Urban Hens” by-law, as amended, which amended the recommended amount of application to one hundred (100) for the year 2025, for the purpose of the pilot project.

However, it was also brought to the attention of the Clerk that the zoning Hamlet Residential (HR) was missing from the by-law. This amendment was added to the final by-law for Council consideration and approval.

If no further amendments are required, residents will be able to apply to the Municipal Office on January 2, 2024 (once staff activate the form, upon arrival to the office after the holidays), via the Municipal Website. Hard Copies can also be available at the Municipal Office, for those who may not have access to the internet.

Note has been made on a November 2025 agenda, to provide Council with a full report on the 2025 Pilot project, and to obtain direction to proceed or eliminate the project.

### **Financial Implications:**

\$125 Application Fee

Potential increased By-law hours – to be reported in November 2025.

**Policies/Legislation:**

By-law 2024-84, Backyard Urban Hens

**Alignment with Strategic Priorities:**

| Infrastructure Improvement   | Recreation  | Economic Development  | Community Engagement  |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> To improve West Elgin’s infrastructure to support long-term growth. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To provide recreation and leisure activities to attract and retain residents. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To ensure a strong economy that supports growth and maintains a lower cost of living. | <input type="checkbox"/> To enhance communication with residents. |

Respectfully submitted by,

Terri Towstiuć  
Clerk