

SWARTLAND WEST COAST SPCA
INSPECTOR REPORT

I4744

Complaint Reference No.

Building:
Street: 27 SKOOL STREET
Suburb: YZERFONTEIN
Postal Code:
Inspector: JAMESON OCTOBER
Date of Inspection: 2025-08-06
Time of Inspection: 10:30

RESPONDENT'S DETAILS

Name: ARNOLD PIENAAR
Company:
Identification:
Email:
Tel 1:
Tel 2: 0838917309

REPORT

Access Granted By: MR PIENAAR
Comment:
Were Animals Seen on the Property: Yes
Relationship to Property Owner: Owner
Captured By: LOUISE VAN ZYL 2025-08-06 12:03

CHECKLISTS

CONFINEMENT OF ANIMALS	Caged - adequate space	Racing Pigeons
ADEQUATE SPACE AVAILABLE	Yes	
CLEAN LIVING ENVIRONMENT	Yes	
WATER AVAILABLE	Yes	
ADEQUATE SHELTER AVAILABLE	Yes	
ANIMALS IN GOOD CONDITION	Yes	
VETERINARY PROBLEMS / HEALTH CO	No	

General Report Comments: Myself and Inspector Van Zyl conducted an inspection at 22 School Street as per the complainant's instruction; the person present identified himself as Hein Visagie and not Mr Pienaar . We then contacted our receptionist again, who contacted the complainant. The complainant then told her the correct address was number 5 School Street, where workers on site informed us that the property was a holiday home and the owner resides in Durban. We again contacted our receptionist, who phoned the complainant, and we were directed to the complainant's own residence in Buitekant Street, where there was no answer at the door. Once again, our receptionist contacted the complainant, who then instructed us to try number 21 School Street. The resident at 21 also confirmed he was not Mr Pienaar and advised us to try number 27. After no response at number 27, the resident at 21 provided us with a contact number for Mr Pienaar. We contacted him and he allowed us access to his property. Mr Pienaar took us to the back and showed us his six racing pigeons, which were housed in a built enclosure that was found to be sufficient, with food and water available, and the pigeons were in good condition. He explained that he releases the pigeons to fly every afternoon and that they return to the enclosure, as is typical behaviour for racing pigeons. Mr Pienaar stated that he recently noticed a cat on the property, which was unusual as he had never seen cats there before. We observed several cats in the street during our visit. He mentioned that some years ago there was an altercation involving individuals from the neighbouring property about his dogs barking, and that someone threatened to hit him, which led him to avoid further interaction with them. He was uncertain whether the current neighbours were the same people or new tenants. He informed us that two of his birds had recently been killed and proceeded to dig up one of the deceased birds to show us where it had been buried. He explained that he had tried to scare the cat away using a long stick but it kept returning. Mr Pienaar told us that SAPS had been to his property on Sunday and confirmed there was no case since the incident occurred on his premises, and they allegedly suggested he offer to buy the complainant a new cat, which he declined as he felt it would not resolve the situation. He expressed remorse for what happened but said he was extremely upset about his birds being killed and shot the cat out of anger, emphasising again that it happened on his property. He repeatedly stated that he is an animal lover, that he has had dogs, his children have cats, and he often looks after a friend's cat when they go away. He insisted he would never intentionally harm an animal and that he was only trying to protect his birds, which are very important to him. I educated Mr Pienaar about the appropriate procedure in such cases, including the option of contacting Law Enforcement, as the matter falls under municipal bylaws which would allow them to trap the cat and hand it over to the SPCA. He said he was unaware of this option but agreed to follow that process in future if something similar happens. Inspector Van Zyl contacted Neal Africa from Law Enforcement, who will issue Mr Pienaar with a warning about discharging a firearm in a residential area, as per the bylaws. Mr Pienaar again expressed regret and reiterated that he is an animal lover, that his birds are all he has left, that they keep him busy, and that he has lived peacefully on the property with his pigeons for many years without prior incidents.

ACTIONS

Warning Issued

W6960

REPORT OUTCOMES

Case finalised - NFA

INSPECTION ANIMALS

Description:

6 x BIRDS (RACING PIGEON) - CONDITION: UNSPECIFIED

Description:

21 x BIRDS (RACING PIGEON) - CONDITION: UNSPECIFIED