



Policy Owner: Director Open Space & Infrastructure

Category: Operational

Direction: 2. Our Built Infrastructure

1. STATEMENT OF INTENT

- 1.1 The aim of this Policy is to create and maintain better neighbourhoods for residents, businesses and visitors by effectively preventing and managing graffiti and bill posters. Illegal graffiti is a concern to both North Sydney Council and the community. Graffiti incurs substantial social and economic costs to the community.
- 1.2 This Policy provides guidance to the implementation of Council's free graffiti removal program. With the active cooperation of property owners Council endeavours to quickly remove any graffiti from Council and privately owned properties.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 All property owners within the North Sydney local government area are eligible to enter into an agreement with Council to participate in the free graffiti removal service.

3. DEFINITION

- 3.1 Graffiti - defined as illegally applied markings and/or graphics in multiple forms including designs, words and images using chalk, paint, marking pens, acid etching, partially wiped dirty surfaces (e.g. dusty surfaces) or other material such as adhesive stickers and posters defacing private and public property without the owner's consent.

4. PROVISIONS

- 4.1 Removal of graffiti from surfaces on the subject property will be undertaken by Council at no cost to the property owner, under certain conditions.
- 4.2 Council's free graffiti removal service is an 'opt-in' program. Property owners must enter into an agreement with Council to allow Council to remove graffiti from their property. Under the agreement the property owner gives Council authority to remove any graffiti from surfaces on the property at the sole

discretion of Council and without prior consent from the property owner on each occasion. On each occasion Council's contractor will make reasonable attempts to inform the property owner of its intention to remove graffiti from the property prior to commencing any graffiti removal works.

- 4.3 This agreement excludes the removal of engraving or glass etching graffiti.
- 4.4 Under Council's free graffiti removal program, graffiti will only be removed by Council if:
- a) it can be seen from a public road, park or other land the general public is allowed to use;
 - b) its removal can safely be undertaken by the two-person crew without the aid of scaffolding or other specialised lifting equipment; and
 - c) its removal can safely be undertaken with limited traffic control equipment that can be reasonably carried in the vehicle being used by the two-person crew.

5. RESPONSIBILITY/ACCOUNTABILITY

- 5.1 Council's Open Space & Infrastructure Division is responsible for administering the graffiti removal service, including raising community awareness of the program and managing all communication with Council's graffiti removal contractor.

6. RELATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS/LEGISLATION

The Policy should be read in conjunction with the following Council policies and documents:

- Community Strategic Plan
- Graffiti Clean Up - website guidelines and information
- Graffiti Solutions - brochure

The Policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents/legislation:

- Graffiti Control Act 2008
- Summary Offences Act 1988
- Summary Offences Amendment Act 2006

Version	Date Approved	Approved by	Resolution No.	Review Date
1	18 February 2013	Council	61	2016/17
2	25 June 2018	Council	214	2020/21
3	6 April 2020	Council	68	2021/22
4	12 September 2022	Council	273	2024/25