

Title	Graffiti Management & Response
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Policy Type

Council

Policy Purpose

To define a policy by which the repair of vandalism as a result of graffiti to City property and the removal of graffiti from both City property and non-City owned property can be adequately and uniformly addressed in order for the City to demonstrate its commitment to creating an attractive environment.

For the purposes of this policy:

- “City property” refers to all equipment, property and structures that are owned, maintained or managed by the City of Cockburn.
- “Non-City owned property” refers to all property that is owned or managed by any other public or Government authority, or private owner and is located within the Municipality. It only refers to structures or equipment located on a property, which is clearly visible from a public area and where reasonable access is provided to the City’s contractor.

Policy Statement

(1) City owned property

1. Graffiti of an offensive nature will be removed from all City property within one (1) working day of notice being provided to Council, if possible.
2. Graffiti of a non-offensive nature will be removed from all City property within three (3) working days of notice being provided to the City, if possible.
3. Vandalism to City property which prevents the equipment from functioning will be made safe and/or repaired within one (1) working day of notice being provided to the City, if possible.
4. Vandal damage to City property of a minor nature will be repaired within five (5) working days of being notified to the City, if possible.
5. The City will provide a Graffiti/Vandalism number for the public reporting of incidents of vandalism and graffiti to City and public property.
6. All cases of graffiti and property damage made known to the City will be reported to the WA Police, through an established administrative process. This will enable Police Department records to be continually updated and susceptible areas targeted for Police response. This reporting process will

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involve the photography of all graffiti prior to its removal, as evidence for the Police.

7. The City’s Civil Infrastructure Services Budget will provide funds to remove graffiti from surfaces as deemed necessary.

(2) Non City owned Property

1. Subject to Clause (3) of this Policy, graffiti of an offensive nature will be removed from all non-City owned property within two (2) working days of notice being provided to the City, if possible.
2. Subject to Clause (3) of this Policy, graffiti of a non-offensive nature will be removed from all non-City owned property within five (5) working days of notice being provided to the City, if possible.
3. The City will remove graffiti free of charge (subject to the conditions set out in (4) to private property owners, in circumstances only where the Graffiti is applied to a surface, which is clearly visible from any public area and where the aesthetic of the area is compromised. In these circumstances, the City will require the property owner to provide it with a “Notice of Waiver” to enable the necessary repairs to be undertaken to pre-determined standards, without the potential for liability claims.
4. The cost of such graffiti removal will not exceed \$400.00 on any single occasion and a maximum of \$1200.00 in any one financial year. Should the costs exceed these stipulated amounts the owner will be required to contribute the outstanding amount or to cause the Graffiti to be removed in accordance with the City’s Local Laws.
5. The City will seek the cooperation of all government or publicly managed service providers for either an annual contribution or an as required pre-determined cost for service towards graffiti removal to their property if the incident results in the damage being able to be viewed from a public place. In these circumstances, the authority to deal with incidents of graffiti to non-City controlled public property will be delegated to the City from each authority involved. The City will endeavour to establish a pro-forma agreement with each authority in order to provide a consistent approach to this arrangement. A suitable costing and accounting system will be administratively established to manage this system.
6. Subject to the acceptance of the conditions outlined in (5) above by participating public services, the City will attend to the necessary repairs and maintenance associated with making good graffiti to non-City owned public property within the normally accepted time frames associated with this Position Statement.
7. All cases of graffiti damage made known to the City will be reported to the Police, through an established administrative process. This will enable Police Department records to be continually updated and susceptible areas targeted for Police response. This reporting process will involve the photography of all graffiti prior to its removal as evidence for the Police.

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8. The City’s Civil Infrastructure Service Unit will ensure that it stringently applies its Local Laws relating to graffiti removal on private property, in instances where a property owner opts not or fails to conform to the City’s requirements or standards.

9. The City’s Customer Experience Service Unit will support this initiative by ensuring extensive promotion of the City’s commitment in addressing incidents of graffiti and encouraging the public and community groups to report such instances through all channels available in accordance with this Policy.

Strategic Link:	Community Safety & CCTV Strategy
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