

VANDALISM GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT COUNCIL POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

The City of Bunbury recognises vandalism, (including graffiti, tagging and public asset destruction) is a costly community problem, not only in monetary terms but also in environmental and social terms. In recognition of this the City of Bunbury adopts a Vandalism and Graffiti Management Policy comprising of four elements: damage repair and graffiti removal, reward for information, community education, and providing activities for young people.

POLICY SCOPE

1. To provide a service to repair, clean, remove or cover incidences of vandalism that is subject to public notice within the City of Bunbury.
2. To provide community members with information to empower them to deal with vandalism in a proactive manner.
3. To provide youth with a range of activities that contribute to the alleviation of boredom and feeling of alienation that may lead to petty crimes such as graffiti vandalism.
4. The aim of the Policy is:
 - a) To reduce vandalism in the City of Bunbury.
 - b) To demonstrate to the Community that Council is playing an active part in reducing vandalism.
 - c) To encourage people to provide information which leads to the conviction of vandals who commit vandalism within the City of Bunbury.

POLICY DETAILS

1. *Damage Repair and Graffiti Removal*

Damage Repair

- Council to repair vandalism damage to Council property
- Council to consult with relevant parties to encourage repair of vandalism damage to private property

Graffiti Removal

Council will remove graffiti from the following:

- Council Property

- Private property abutting council property may be considered, subject to the following factors:
 - Access to graffiti site / location
 - Visibility of graffiti from the public thoroughfare
 - Impact to the amenity of the area, including murals or art installations
 - Full or part cost recovery may apply to reoccurring sites and is to be agreed in advance of removal with the property owner

Private property: Council where possible, will encourage property owners to remove graffiti from private property.

Timeframes

Council staff will endeavour to remove graffiti in accordance with the following rapid removal timeframes:

- Priority 1: Removal within one working day of Council being notified, any racist, obscene, or otherwise offensive graffiti.
- Priority 2: Removal within two working days of Council being notified, applies to all other graffiti sites.

2. Vandalism Rewards

Procedure

- a) A reward to a maximum of \$1000 may be paid for information, which leads to the conviction of persons committing acts of vandalism against Council property.
- b) Where two or more persons are eligible for a reward under paragraph a) above, the reward will be split equally between them. Any advertisement regarding the offer of rewards shall state that the sum named is a maximum figure, which would be divided between persons forwarding information relating to any one act of vandalism.
- c) Council will not divulge the name/s of any person giving information without permission.

However, any person eligible for or wishing to receive a reward must be prepared to act as a witness if legal proceedings are commenced and if independent evidence is not readily available.

Payment of the reward, providing the above conditions are met, is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer.

Rewards will not be paid to City employees, Elected Members or members of the WA Police Service.

3. Community Education

Procedure

Council will:

- a) Promote vandalism repair and Graffiti removal services to encourage ratepayers to make use of this service.

- b) Promote the State Graffiti Task Force education packages to schools, to educate on issues surrounding graffiti and other types of vandalism.
- c) Inform businesses of initiatives to allow them to decrease the potential for graffiti vandalism and urge businesses to take up such initiatives.
- d) Supply information to retail outlets on request of vandalism management.
- e) Promote Neighbourhood watch displays and information initiatives through the State Graffiti Task Force
- f) Encourage the use of the Graffiti Reporting Form provided by the State Graffiti Taskforce

4. Providing Activities for Young People

Procedure

- a) The City of Bunbury Youth Strategy, events program and the development of the Koolabidi Woola precinct and activities supports opportunities for low cost recreational and leisure activities and opportunities for youth art/culture expression.
- b) Collaborate with existing agencies, programs to address graffiti hot spots through activities such as:
 - Adopt a bus shelter school project
 - Mural arts projects

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

LEGISLATION

- Section 65 Police Amendment Act 1998 [POLICE ACT 1892 - \[09-00-02\].pdf \(legislation.wa.gov.au\)](#)
- Graffiti Vandalism Act 2016

INDUSTRY

- State Graffiti Taskforce: [Graffiti Vandalism Strategy | Goodbye Graffiti](#)

ORGANISATIONAL

- DOC/724080 Youth Advisory Strategy Map

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