

# GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT POLICY

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## 1. OBJECTIVE

The Graffiti Management Policy outlines the City's role in reducing the incidence and visibility of graffiti and additionally minimising the social, environmental and economic impacts within the City of Karratha.

This Policy supports the City's desire to create safe, healthy and liveable communities and reduce the economic impacts of graffiti on individuals, business, Council and the community.

## 2. PRINCIPLES

### 2.1 Purpose

The City of Karratha recognises that illegal graffiti is a community concern that adversely affects the social, environmental and economic fabric of the local community. It creates a negative perception of safety in the local community, impacting on the wellbeing and social cohesion of the community. Illegal graffiti has negative effects on the streetscape and urban environment and detracts from community pride of the local area.

Prompt graffiti removal is seen as best practice in reducing levels of graffiti as it diminishes the level of recognition and reward achieved by graffiti vandals. Prompt graffiti removal also prevents assets appearing uncared for.

### 2.2 Definitions

For the purpose of this Policy, the following definitions apply:

Graffiti: any drawing, writing, painting, symbol or mark applied to or marked on a property by:

- a) Spraying, writing, drawing, marking or otherwise applying paint or another marking substance; or
- b) Scratching or etching

Graffiti murals and artwork: is any form of approved graffiti visual art or design created through formal consultation and approval and with the permission of the property owner. This can include legal murals, street signage, street furniture and temporary installations.

### 2.3 Graffiti Management Principles

Council's overall goal and long-term commitment is to reduce the incidence of illegal graffiti through a multi-faceted and strategic approach incorporating five core elements:

#### 2.3.1 Removal

Rapid removal is acknowledged as the best deterrent to prevent graffiti.

Identified graffiti on Council owned property and property abutting Council owned property will be removed within the following timeframes:

- ~~Obscene, offensive~~ or racist graffiti within 48 hours of report to the Contractor
- ~~Non-offensive~~ Distinctive or highly visual graffiti within ~~15-14~~ working days of report to the Contractor
- Any other minor graffiti within 21 days of report to the Contractor
- ~~although target a quicker response.~~

Encourage and support other asset owners to promptly remove graffiti from their properties.

### 2.3.2 Prevention

Implement programs which focus on the reduction and prevention of graffiti.

### 2.3.3 Enforcement

Liaise and partner with stakeholders to ensure that offenders are held accountable and dealt with appropriately.

### 2.3.4 Education

Inform the community on actions that can be adopted to assist in minimising graffiti and proactive measures which can lessen the impact of graffiti.

### 2.3.5 Engagement

Support stakeholders to be actively involved in graffiti prevention and reduction strategies.

## 3. CONSEQUENCES

This policy represents the formal policy and expected standards of the Council. Appropriate approvals need to be obtained prior to any deviation from the policy. Elected Members and Employees are reminded of their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct to give full effect to the lawful policies, decisions and practices of the Council.

## 4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The ~~Community Safety~~Liveable Communities Coordinator is responsible for reviewing and managing operations of the policy and administering the day to day operations for graffiti removal in accordance with the contract in place with the graffiti removal Contractor and implementation of measures to assist in prevention of graffiti.

## 5. REFERENCES TO RELATED DOCUMENTS

- City of Karratha Strategic Community Plan 2016 - 2026
- Safer Communities Partnership ~~Strategic Plan 2015-2019~~ – ~~2018~~2022
- ~~City of Karratha Graffiti Management Plan 2016 – 2018~~
- Annual Safer Communities Partnership Operational Plan
- Graffiti Vandalism Act 2016
- ~~State Government Graffiti Taskforce Tough on Graffiti~~ Vandalism Strategy 2015-20172019 – 2021 Western Australia

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Responsible Officer:	<del>Community Safety</del> <u>Liveable Communities</u> -Coordinator

*This Policy takes effect from the date of adoption by Council and shall remain valid until it is amended or deleted.*