

Council Policy – Election Signs

Responsible Directorate	Corporate Services
Responsible Business Unit/s	Governance
Responsible Officer	Manager Governance
Affected Business Unit/s	Town Maintenance Roads and Civil Projects Regulatory Services

Objective

The objective of this policy is to establish a framework for the controls and standards for electoral material and signs displayed during Federal, State, and local government elections.

Scope

Applies to all land and property under the care, control or maintenance of the Shire of Ashburton (the Shire) and relates to any local, State or Federal election.

Policy Statement

The Shire recognises that decisions of the High Court of Australia and the Supreme Court of Western Australia protect the display of electoral material or signs on private property that are an implied constitutional freedom of political communication.

The Shire will implement appropriate controls and standards to exercise the extent of the Shire's legitimate ability to control the placement or display of electoral material and signs on private property.

To ensure amenity, prevent obstructions in public places and reduce the risk to public safety, the Shire will not permit the placement and display of any election signage on any facilities or land owned, managed, or controlled by the Shire (other than at an official polling place on election day, only).

In the event an election sign is placed where it is not permitted the Chief Executive Officer or persons authorised by them, will remove the electoral material or sign, dispose of it and, if appropriate, an infringement will be issued.

The placement or display of electoral material or signs on any State Road, or beyond the boundary of a State Road is guided and managed by Main Roads Western Australia, Refer to the Guidelines - Roadside Election Signs.

Definitions

Nil

Relevant policies/documents

Council Policy – Election Caretaker

Relevant legislation/local laws

Local Government Act 1995

Shire of Ashburton Public Places and Local Government Property Local Law 2023

Office use only				
Relevant delegations	Nil			
Council adoption	Date	14 February 2023	Resolution #	019/2023
Reviewed/modified	Date	20 May 2025	Resolution #	077/2025
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Next review due	2027			