

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 electoral material and signs and signs on private property.

The Shire will not permit signage (including election signs) on any facilities or land owned, managed, or controlled by the Shire which detract from the amenity and/or pose a risk to public safety.

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

Definitions

Election sign has the meaning given to it in the *Shire of Ashburton Activities on Throughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2013*.

Relevant policies/documents

Council Policy – Election Caretaker

Relevant legislation/local laws

Shire of Ashburton Activities on Throughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2013

Office use only			
Relevant delegations			
Council adoption	Date	14 February 2023	Resolution # 019/2023
Reviewed/modified	Date		Resolution #
Next review due	Date		Resolution #