



FIN10 WITTENOOM TOWNSITE, WITTENOOM GORGE AND YAMPIRE GORGE RATES AND SERVICES

Aim	To cease providing all physical services to Wittenoom and Yampire Gorge. To cease waiving rates for Wittenoom properties. To cease the promotion of Wittenoom and Yampire Gorge
Application	Residents of Wittenoom
Statutory Environment	<i>Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Part 5 - Rates and Service charges</i>
Principles	Strategic Community Plan 2017 – 2027 (Desktop Review Goal 05 Inspiring Governance Objective 3 Council leadership
Approval Date	OMC 17 December 2019 (MINUTE: 722/2019)

PURPOSE

- To cease providing all physical services to Wittenoom and Yampire Gorge.
- To cease waiving rates for Wittenoom properties; take possession of land where rates remain outstanding; and dispose of such properties taken possession of to the Crown.
- To cease the promotion of Wittenoom and Yampire Gorge.
- To work in harmony with the State Government, residents and industry to achieve the outcomes of this policy.
- The policy acknowledges the intention of the Council to minimise its exposure to future claims for compensation or damages.

OBJECTIVE

The town of Wittenoom and mine sites in Wittenoom Gorge and Yampire Gorge based upon latest information (or lack of it to the contrary) represent a hazard to human health due to the considered presence of airborne blue asbestos fibres (crocidolite).



The current areas to be avoided are defined as the entire township of Wittenoom as shown on the attached plan (comprising the roads bounded by Forrest Street, Carey Street, Seventh Avenue, the former King Street to Third Avenue, Burgess Street, Windell Avenue and First Avenue and including those roads and all properties adjacent to them) and within 1km of the mine sites located within the Wittenoom Gorge. In Yampire Gorge the area to be avoided is defined as lengths along the Yampire Gorge Road from three (3) kilometres north of the Banjima Road intersection to ten (10) kilometres south of the Nanutarra – Munjina Road.

The Council discontinues the provision of any services to the township of Wittenoom. The Council shall do everything within its power to encourage remaining residents of Wittenoom to relocate to other areas.

No promotion of Wittenoom or the mine sites by the Council or any person acting on its behalf shall take place. On the contrary, Council advocates the avoidance of these areas.

Council shall work with the State Government to eliminate all promotion by tourism bodies and other third parties of these areas.

Irrespective of the zoning or purpose of the land Council will rate all properties in Wittenoom at the Residential Rate level set annually by Council in the Budget. This is in acknowledgement that local government rates do not pertain specifically to property but also relate to a range of services provided to the community on a non-geographic basis such as sporting facilities, libraries, roads, governance and economic development.

With regard to any outstanding rates and charges Council will take action in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995 Section 6.64* to take possession of the land to which the outstanding rates pertain. Any land so claimed is to be transferred to the Crown for the outstanding rates.



IMAGE: Township of Wittenoom

