



POLICY No: WSC051

POLICY FOR REWARD FOR REPORTING VANDALISM

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ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Rob Noble		
MAYOR (IF APPLICABLE)			

History of Revisions:

Version	Date	TRIM Doc. #
1	13/7/2007	D00917003
2	27/11/2013	D03505999
3	7/10/2015	D12104446

A. POLICY SUMMARY

A1 To encourage and reward public reporting of the vandalism of Council property and any environmental damage that occurs throughout the Shire.

B. POLICY BACKGROUND

B1 Vandalism is an issue of community concern for those living, working in and visiting Wyong Shire Council due to its negative impact on public amenity, perceptions on public safety, and the overall financial cost to the community.

B2 Council has identified vandalism as a priority issue for Wyong Shire, one which requires a response from Council in conjunction with key stakeholders, including the police, local businesses, residents and the wider community.

B3 The public reporting of vandalism by the community which then leads to the apprehension of vandals is seen as an important measure in reducing the prevalence of vandalism in the Shire.

B4 Under The Act Council can make provision to encourage such reporting through a reward based system.

C. DEFINITIONS

C1 **Council** means the elected representatives, Councillors, who form the governing body of Wyong Shire Council and the organisation responsible for the administration of Council affairs and operations and the implementation of Council policy and strategies.

C2 **The Act** means the *Local Government Act NSW 1993*.

C3 **Vandalism** means any act where Council property is damaged, defaced or requires remedial action to restore it to its former state or function.

D. POLICY STATEMENTS

Jurisdiction

D1 This Policy covers all elected members of Council, all personnel employed by Council, any person or organisation contracted to or acting on behalf of Council, any person or organisation employed to work on Council premises or facilities and all activities of the Council.

D2 This policy does not confer any delegated authority upon any person. All delegations to staff are issued by the General Manager.

General

D3 Council offers a reward up to a maximum of \$20,000 to persons providing information leading to the apprehension of vandals, in addition to any of the following conditions:

- The offender(s) being convicted by the courts
- The courts finding the case against offender(s) proven but not proceeding to conviction

Reward for Reporting Vandalism Policy

- The offence is not proceeded with due to agreement being reached to pay appropriate restitution costs to Council
 - The offender(s) is a juvenile too young to be prosecuted but the offence is admitted
- D4 The maximum amount of the reward will only be paid where the restitution exceeds twice the maximum reward that can be paid under this policy.
- D5 Where the maximum reward cannot be paid due to the above limitation, the reward payable will be commensurate with the cost of damage incurred but still at the discretion of the office holders referred to in clause E3.
- D6 Where any charge, fee, supply of products or services under this policy is subject to a goods and services tax (GST), an amount equal to the GST paid or payable in respect of the charge, fee, supply of products or services, shall be included in the amount of consideration paid or payable under this policy.

E. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION - PROCEDURES

- E1 It is the personal responsibility of all Council employees and agents thereof to have knowledge of, and to ensure compliance with this policy.
- E2 This Policy should be read in conjunction with Council's Code of Conduct.
- E3 The amount of the reward payable under this policy will be determined by any two of the Mayor, the General Manager or the Director Infrastructure and Operations acting together.
- E4 All sources of reporting will be kept confidential.
- E5 Associated documents**
- Local Government Act 1993, sections 24 & 356(1).
 - Wyong Council Code of Conduct