



Version Control and Objective ID	Version No: 2	Objective ID: A8236092
Adopted at Growth Infrastructure and Waste Committee on	11 August 2022	
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1. Statement

This policy will provide guidance to Council and the community on the management and removal of graffiti on Council and private property within the Ipswich Local Government Area (ILGA).

2. Purpose and Principles

Ipswich City Council recognises that graffiti management throughout the ILGA area is an important component of the aesthetic and environmental value. The objective of this policy is to guide the development, management and maintenance of graffiti in Ipswich.

3. Strategic Plan Links

This policy aligns with the following iFuture 2021-2026 Corporate Plan theme/s:

- Safe, Inclusive and Creative
- A Trusted and Leading Organisation

4. Regulatory Authority

- *Summary Offences Act 2005*
- *Local Government Act 2009*

5. Human Rights Commitment

Ipswich City Council (Council) has considered the human rights protected under the *Human Rights Act 2019 (Qld)* (the Act) when adopting and/or amending this policy. When applying this policy, Council will act and make decisions in a way that is compatible with human rights and give proper consideration to a human right relevant to the decision in accordance with the Act.

6. Scope

This policy applies to all councillors, council staff, contractors, and others that act on Council's behalf to ensure they work in accordance with the policy principles and relevant legislation. The core matters addressed by the policy include graffiti management and removal of graffiti on Council owned and private property within the ILGA.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

- The General Manager (Infrastructure and Environment) is the custodian of this policy and is responsible for maintaining its currency.

8. Key Stakeholders

The following will be consulted during the review process:

- Works and Field Services Branch, Infrastructure and Environment Department
- Private property owners or commercial lessees of Council assets
- Infrastructure/Service Providers

9. Graffiti on Council Property

Ipswich City Council acknowledges and accepts sole responsibility for the management of graffiti on Council owned or controlled assets under the following guidelines:

- All public assets under the ownership or control of Council will be the responsibility of Council.
- Assets leased to community organisations will be the responsibility of Council.
- Commercial leases of any Council property will be determined by the terms and conditions stated within the lease agreement.

10. Graffiti on Private Property

Ipswich City Council will not take the role of asset manager for private assets including private access roads into private properties. The sole responsibility remains with the private owners of the asset. However, Council will provide a range of support options from a whole of ILGA image. The support options available to private owners are listed below.

- Council will undertake management of any fences that face a major thoroughfare where there is no practical landowner access.

11. Support to Asset Owners

Support to private owners or commercial lessees of Council assets can be by way of any of or a combination of the following:

- Advice to owners if graffiti is detected by Council or reported by the community. The advice will be to the owner and/or the tenant. Council will provide advice within 24 hours for offensive graffiti and within 7 days for non-offensive graffiti.
- Free Graffiti Removal Kit.
- Graffiti trailer for free use.

12. Contracts and Leases

Where construction is underway and graffiti is reported on-site fences, signs and temporary site building, the relevant contractor will be required to remove graffiti as per nominated time frames is reasonable.

Where Council leases a facility or other locations (eg. bus stop signs) then the lessee is required to remove graffiti as per nominated time frames.

13. Infrastructure/Service Providers

A range of sites and facilities within the ILGA subject to graffiti are under the management of other service providers such as Telstra, Energex, etc.

Council will pursue formal Memoranda of Understandings with the major infrastructure and service providers within the ILGA to set agreed and accepted response time frames for the removal of graffiti.

14. Alternative Control Strategies

Council will continue to review and implement alternative control strategies for graffiti which may include:

- Alternative materials (e.g. fencing types).
- Anti-graffiti coatings.
- Plants as screening.
- Lighting of key areas.
- Active monitoring.

15. Reporting Process

The need to maintain a current and ongoing database of tags and incident locations is critical to understanding the nature of the problem. The recording and sharing of such information with other agencies and partners is a key part of any response.

- Continue the reporting and information sharing with the Queensland Police Service.
- Advise property owners/lessees of graffiti within 24 hours or identification.
- Encourage property owners/lessees to record and submit evidence of graffiti.
- Encourage infrastructure and service providers to record and submit evidence of graffiti.

16. Enforcement Options

Ultimately there will be both the individuals who will perform the graffiti and property owners who also have a responsibility to remove graffiti. In the former situation, Council should actively participate in the investigation, prosecution and rectification actions for a perpetrator. Council should also consider ways to force property owners to respond to graffiti for the sake of the ILGA overall.

17. Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with Council’s four (4) year review cycle or sooner if required.

18. Definitions

N/A

19. Related Documents

N/A

20. Policy Owner

The General Manager Infrastructure and Environment is the policy owner and the Manager, Works and Field Services is responsible for authoring and reviewing this policy.