

SCS-024 Election Advertising Signage on Council Land Policy

TRIM Reference: D22/113153 Due for Review: September 2026
 Responsible Officer: Manager Community Safety

Purpose

This policy outlines Surf Coast Shire Council's (Council) commitment to remaining totally impartial in all levels of Government elections and to avoid excessive sign clutter, Council will not allow temporary election advertising signage to be placed on any Council land, municipal buildings or roads.

Policy Principles

This policy assists Surf Coast Shire Council in adopting a consistent approach to election advertising on Council land. Through refusing all temporary election advertising signage on Council land, Council demonstrates its neutral position towards all candidates in government elections.

Scope

This policy applies to all electoral candidates in all Federal, State and Local Government elections. It applies to all election advertising signage on Council land, municipal buildings and roads.

Policy

Council has the responsibility for approving an application for the placement of temporary signage on Council land, roads and in or on municipal buildings.

As Council wishes to take a stance of being totally impartial in relation to the promotion of candidates at any democratic election at either Federal, State or Local Government level, it is the policy of Council to refuse any application for the location of a temporary election signage on any Council land, roads or municipal buildings within the Surf Coast Shire.

Local Government Act 2020 Principles

Principles	Applicable to policy	If yes, provide details
Governance Principles (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes	9(a) Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law. 9(i) The transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.
Community Engagement (Consideration of Community Engagement Principles under s.56 LGA 2020)	No	
Public Transparency (Consideration of Public Transparency Principles under s.58 of LGA 2020)	Yes	56(b) Council must specify which Council information must be publicly available, including all policies, plans and reports required under this Act or any other Act.
Strategies and Plans (Consideration of Strategic Planning Principles under s.89 of LGA 2020)	No	
Financial Management (Consideration of Financial Management Principles under s.101 of LGA 2020)	No	

Service Performance (Consideration of Service Performance Principles under s.106 of LGA 2020)	Yes	106(e) Service delivery must include a fair and effective process for considering and responding to complaints about service provision.
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Definitions

Council land	All land vested in or under the control of Council, including a reserve, watercourse, jetty, reservation and the like, but excludes a road except that part of the road which is a nature strip or footpath. Council land does not include the face of a boundary fence adjoining Council land.
Municipal building	Any building that is owned, occupied and under the management or control of Council. This includes any recreation centre which is owned, occupied or under the management or control of Council.
Reserve	Any land which is owned, occupied or managed or controlled by Council and dedicated or used for outdoor cultural, environmental, sporting or recreational purposes.
Road	Has the meaning ascribed to it by Section 3 of the Road Management Act 2004.

Related Procedure

Nil.

References

Local Government Act 2020 – S.69
 Surf Coast Shire Council Governance Rules 2020 – Chapter 4 Election Period Policy
 Community Amenity Local Law 2021
 SCS-012 Signage on Council Owned or Managed Land Policy
 Surf Coast Planning Scheme Clause 52.05
 Surf Coast Planning Scheme Clause 52.05 (Schedule)

Document History

Version	Document History	Approved by – Date
1	<i>Amended</i>	<i>Council Resolution – 15 September 2020</i>
2	<i>Reviewed and amended</i>	<i>Council Resolution – 23 August 2022</i>