

	<h1>UNAUTHORISED VEGETATION DAMAGE SIGNAGE POLICY</h1>	Policy No. 5.7		
		<small>LAST REVIEWED</small> June 2017	<small>NEXT REVIEW</small> June 2019	<small>MINUTE REF</small> C316/14-17
POLICY STATEMENT:	<p>1.1 To support Council's vision and strategic objectives to protect and enhance the values of the natural environment.</p> <p>1.2 To provide clear direction as to the appropriate use and placement of signage to educate the public where illegal removal of vegetation has occurred on Council owned and/or managed land.</p>			
OBJECTIVE:	<p>2.1 To reduce and deter the illegal removal and/or damage of vegetation from public land within Kingborough by providing a framework for a consistent and timely response by Council.</p> <p>2.2 To provide an avenue to respond to breaches of the Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas By-law when other actions, such as infringement, are not available.</p>			
SCOPE:	<p>3.1 This policy applies to all public land in Kingborough that is owned and/or managed by Council.</p>			
PROCEDURE: (POLICY DETAIL)	<p>4.1 Educational signage will be erected at the site of the offence when clear breaches of the Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas By-law 2 of 2011, Division 2 12(1) 12(2) or 15(3) have been identified.</p> <p>4.2 Signage will be erected regardless of whether the identity of those responsible for the damage has been established.</p> <p>4.3 The damaged site shall be rehabilitated either by planting suitable replacement vegetation or through the use of other methods which aid natural regeneration.</p> <p>4.4 Signage</p> <p>There are two size categories:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Category A: 600mm x 900mm sign (approximately) on a post(s) to 3m high.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Category B: 1200mm x 900mm sign (approximately) on posts to 3m high</p> <p>Wording of Sign (noting that the wording may be amended from time to time to reflect changes in Council's By-laws).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THIS VEGETATION HAS BEEN ILLEGALLY DAMAGED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vegetation provides valuable wildlife habitat, visual amenity and resilience against landslips and erosion</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Damaging vegetation without a permit is an offence under Kingborough Council's Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas By- law 2 of 2011 <i>Penalties apply</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Report suspicious activity to Kingborough Council on 6211 8200</p>			

	<p>4.5 Signage placement and duration</p> <p>The category of sign to be used is dictated by the scale of the unauthorised vegetation removal and/or damage at the location. Where appropriate, more than one sign may be erected.</p> <p>Category A signage will be used where vegetation has been damaged and is deemed by an Authorised Officer to have been either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - between 0.1m and 1.5m in height and resulted in a cleared/modified area not exceeding 50m², or - up to three individual trees, or - a combination of the above. <p>Category B signage will be used at the discretion of the General Manager where vegetation has been damaged and is deemed by an Authorised Officer to have been either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - between 0.1m and 1.5m in height and resulted in a cleared/modified area exceeding 50m², or - one or more individual trees of high conservation value or scenic value - a combination of the above <p>4.6 Signage will remain in place until the site has regenerated to pre-damage status, has regenerated to the satisfaction of the General Manager, or for five years, whichever comes sooner.</p> <p>4.7 The site will be monitored annually by Council. This is to include a photographic record of the site up until the sign is removed.</p>
<p>GUIDELINES:</p>	<p>5.1 Category A signage is intended to be used where damage to natural or scenic values is minor in nature or impact and/or there is no clear evidence of a direct benefit to adjoining properties.</p> <p>5.2 Category B signage is intended to be used where there is a moderate or significant impact on natural values including high conservation value trees, threatened species and/or threatened species habitat, where there is high level of scenic disturbance and/or there is clear evidence of a direct benefit to adjoining properties such as improved sightlines.</p>
<p>COMMUNICATION:</p>	<p>6.1 This policy will be made available to the general public on the Council website and at the Customer Services counter.</p> <p>6.2 The following stakeholders have a direct interest in this Policy and should be notified of any amendments through direct communications: Council staff Kingborough residents</p>
<p>LEGISLATION:</p>	<p>Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas By-Law 2 of 2011 Division 2 12(1) 12(2) or 15(3)</p> <p><i>Kingborough Interim Planning Scheme 2015</i></p> <p><i>Threatened Species Protection Act 1995</i></p>
<p>DEFINITIONS:</p>	<p>Vegetation means plant life whether native or exotic (not including declared or environmental weeds).</p> <p>High conservation value tree means a tree that is of a species that is listed in the <i>Threatened Species Protection Act 1995</i> or the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>; and/or provides potential or significant habitat for a threatened species listed in either of those acts and/or is a native tree with a trunk circumference at 1.5m above the ground exceeding 220cm.</p>
<p>RELATED DOCUMENTS:</p>	