



Graffiti Policy

Reference Number:	4.18
Type:	Council
Category:	Safety and Community
Relevant Community Plan Outcome:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a safe, healthy and supportive community which encourages participation, creativity and diversity • Demonstrate effective leadership with strong community collaboration
Responsible Officer(s):	Manager Customer and Community Services and Manager Governance and Operational Support
First Issued/Approved:	February 1995
Minutes Reference:	CI 9/05/2016, Item 6.57
Last Reviewed:	May 2016
Next Review Due:	May 2018
Applicable Legislation:	Local Government Act 1999 and Graffiti Control Act 2001
Related Policies:	Volunteer Policy Public Art Policy Occupational Health, Safety, Welfare and Injury Management Policy Contractor Management Policy
Related Procedures:	Graffiti Removal Procedures and Guidelines

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Graffiti Policy is to:

- Reduce the incidence of graffiti on council owned, public and private property by both removal and prevention
- Encourage, promote and provide a clean city (graffiti free) environment
- Display a welcoming and safe City to all who visit, reside, relax and conduct business within the City.

2. Scope

This policy applies to council owned, public and private property within the City of Charles Sturt.

3. **Policy Statement**

Graffiti is generally considered illegal (excluding legal/authorised work), and causes intentional damage to other people's property. Graffiti is often symptomatic of other social problems, and can generally highlight and exacerbate a feeling of disunity and lack of harmony, reduced safety and pride in a local community, which in turn leads to further crime. In the event that graffiti vandals target property or specific areas, Council will support South Australian Police (SAPOL) with information and intelligence where necessary, and may take appropriate action under statutory provisions.

The City of Charles Sturt will actively support and participate in the formulation of Statewide and Metropolitan wide initiatives aimed at the reduction of graffiti.

The City of Charles Sturt supports and encourages a clean (graffiti free) environment.

The Graffiti program objectives are:

- To reduce the incidence of graffiti vandalism by rapid removal of:
 - (a) Racist and obscene graffiti from council owned and public property within 2 working days;
 - (b) Racist and obscene graffiti from private property within 2 working days;
 - (c) Other graffiti within 5 working days (once permission is gained for private properties).
- To improve community reporting by:
 - (a) Increasing awareness of reporting practices;
 - (b) Providing Graffiti Removal information on the Council web site;
 - (c) Advertising and promotion of the City's graffiti prevention program.
- To increase community participation and meaningful volunteering options in anti-graffiti programs.
- To encourage and support self-initiated removal practices.
- To work in partnership with commercial owners and contractors engaged by council to deliver the Graffiti removal service.
- To provide images to SAPOL for entry into the statewide database, as requested.
- To work collaboratively with South Australian Police and schools in early intervention programs.

4. Definitions

Key Term – Acronym	Definition and Inclusions	Exclusions
Graffiti	Graffiti is defined as an illegal drawing or inscription made on a wall or other surface, causing intentional damage to other people's property.	Authorised street art/public art
General categories of graffiti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unauthorised tags (including etching) • Unauthorised throw-ups (bubble style/small pieces) • Unauthorised pieces (short for masterpieces) • Racist or obscene content 	Authorised street art/public art