



STRATEGIC POLICY
MOUNT ISA CITY COUNCIL
Graffiti Management Policy

RESOLUTION NO. **OM16/ 05/25** VERSION **V1**

APPLIES TO STRATEGIC POLICIES ONLY

This an official copy of the **Graffiti Management Policy**, made in accordance with the provisions of *Local Government Act 2009*, *Local Government Regulation 2012* and current Council Policies.

Strategic policies are adopted by Council due to its desire to influence the direction of an issue or assist in the delegated decision making of Council officers. Strategic policies should follow the jurisdiction provided to Council through its Corporate Plan; the **Graffiti Management Policy** is approved by the Mount Isa City Council for the operations and procedures of Council.

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 Tim Rose
Chief Executive Officer

DOCUMENT VERSION CONTROL				
Governance/Policies/Strategic Doc ID# 916925			POLICY TYPE	Strategic (Council)
VERSION	DATE	RESOLUTION NO.	DETAILS	
V1	28.05.2025	OM16/ 05/25	Responsible Officer – Director, Infrastructure Services	
			REVIEW DUE	05/2028

DISTRIBUTION AND DISSEMINATION			
Internal email to all employees	X	Section meetings / Toolbox talks	
Internal email to all Councillors		Included in employee inductions	
Employee noticeboards		Uploaded to Council website	X
Internal training to be provided		External training to be provided	
Registered in magiQ	X		



1. POLICY STATEMENT

Mount Isa City Council (“Council”) will ensure a managed response for removal and reporting of graffiti on Council assets and other areas where graffiti can be easily visible from a public place. Council will also promote preventative strategies to minimise graffiti across Mount Isa.

2. PRINCIPLES

This policy is to ensure support in Council’s operations concerning graffiti management across the Council region. This aims to:

- remove graffiti as quickly as practicable
- reduce the incidence and visibility of graffiti
- work with Police, the community and other government agencies in identifying graffiti offenders and deal with them via legal and remedial measures
- improve community perceptions of safety
- encourage community pride and a sense of ownership
- engage community support and participation in graffiti removal and prevention

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to the reporting and removal of all public graffiti within the Mount Isa LGA. It applies to graffiti on Council assets, assets owned by other governmental agencies and privately owned assets.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief Executive Officer, Director Infrastructure Services, Director Community Services, Manager Works and Operations, and Manager Economic and Community Development are responsible for ensuring this policy is understood by the necessary employees.

Council will coordinate graffiti management across all relevant Council departments to ensure efficient and effective removal and reporting of graffiti.

Managers and supervisors are responsible for ensuring their employees adhere to this policy. All Council employees and the public are encouraged to promptly report public graffiti.

5. DEFINITIONS

TERM/ACRONYM	MEANING
Employee	all persons employed by MICC on a permanent, temporary, or casual basis and include persons engaged under a contract of service, and volunteers
Public place	as defined in the Summary Offences Act 2005 (Queensland)
Private Property	property not owned by Council, within the Council boundaries, and for which rates are paid to Council.
Graffiti	destruction of property cause by spraying, writing, drawing, marking or otherwise applying paint or another marking substance, or scratching or etching, which has been done without the consent of the owner of the property



6. POLICY

6.1 Removal

This policy applies to reporting and removal of public graffiti within the Mount Isa LGA. It applies to graffiti on Council assets, assets owned by other governmental agencies, and privately owned assets.

This policy does not apply to urban or street art which has been commissioned privately or by Council.

It is mandatory that graffiti is photographed and reported to QPS prior to removal.

Council will remove public graffiti from the following, in accordance with its Graffiti Management Plan:

- Council property
- Private property boundaries including private commercial buildings which aligns with the boundary (where the graffiti is accessible from a public place)
- Community leasehold sites (in accordance with any applicable terms of the lease)
- Other publicly owned infrastructure in accordance with approved memorandums of understanding between Council and other asset owners

Removal within 1 working day	Removal within 3 working days	Removal within 5 working days
Applies to obscene, racist or other offensive material	Applies to high visibility sites	Applies to all other graffiti

Resource constraints may affect these timeframes in some instances.

6.2 Exceptions

Exceptions include, but are not limited to:

- Murals where an artist is required to repair the mural
- Sites that require a risk assessment or have access and/or workplace health and safety constraints (i.e., working at heights or on a roadway)
- Private property and signage, if Council deems the graffiti removal may cause more damage to the surface (Council will suggest the private owner seek specialist advice).
- Temporary memorials or heritage items where a sensitive approach may be appropriate, or specialist techniques are required.

6.3 Entry and consent to remove Graffiti

Council will obtain consent of the owner of private property prior to removal of the Graffiti where it is practicable to do so.

Where appropriate to do so under the *Summary Offences (Graffiti Removal Powers) Amendment Act 2008*, Council may remove graffiti without consent or notice to the owner of private property where the Graffiti Removal Crew, are in a public place and entry to the owner’s private place is limited to either of the following:

- leaning or reaching over into the private place
- working on property that creates a border along the public place

Other entries are permitted to remove graffiti under the *Summary Offences (Graffiti Removal Powers) Amendment Act 2008* with notice in an approved form or providing notice in an approved form.

6.4 Prevention

Council is committed to strategies that reduce and prevent graffiti. Council recognises the importance of developing and maintaining community partnerships to assist in the effort to reduce graffiti. This particularly applies to the reporting of graffiti, removal of graffiti, and the identification and implementation of potential reduction strategies.

Council recognises that strategy to reduce the incidence of graffiti should contain an enforcement element to ensure that serious offenders are appropriately dealt with through proper legal channels. Council will share information with the Queensland Police Service regarding graffiti offenders and graffiti “hotspots”.

Council will promote design strategies that reduce opportunities for graffiti on public and private assets. For example, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design.

Council will not provide walls or surfaces for unregulated ‘legal’ graffiti, as a prevention strategy.

6.5 Reporting

Graffiti can be reported in a variety of ways including:

- In person at Council’s administration building at 23 West Street, Mount Isa QLD
- By telephone to 07 4747 3200
- By email to city@mountisa.qld.gov.au
- Report a Problem on our Council website www.mountisa.qld.gov.au
- Council supports a partnership with the app Snap, Send, Solve to report graffiti instances

7. VARIATIONS

Council reserves the right to vary, replace or terminate this policy from time to time.

8. COMMUNICATION AND DISTRIBUTION

Council will make available to the public, the Graffiti Management Policy on our website at www.mountisa.qld.gov.au.

Supervisors will ensure the policy is distributed as per the Distribution and Dissemination table on this policy.

ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION AND POLICIES

- Criminal Code 1899
- Local Government Act 2009
- Local Government Regulation 2012
- Summary Offences Act 2005
- Summary Offences (Graffiti Removal Powers) Amendment Act 2008