



Telecommunications & Electricity Infrastructure on Council Land Policy

Reference Number:	6.8
Type:	Council Policy
Category:	Development & Infrastructure
Relevant Community Plan Outcome:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business and industry sectors continue to grow and diversity
Responsible Officer(s):	Manager Open Space, Recreation & Property
First Issued/Approved:	May 1995
Minutes Reference:	CoS 7/08/2023, Item 4.34
Last Reviewed:	August 2023
Next Review Due:	August 2025
Applicable Legislation:	Local Government Act 1999
Related Policies:	Telecommunications Act 1997 (Federal) Development Act 1993
Related Procedures:	Public Consultation Policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to state Council's position in regard to the installation of telecommunication and electricity infrastructure on Council land.

2. Scope

Infrastructure includes that equipment which is necessary to set up and maintain a telecommunication and/or telephony network or an electricity distribution system.

The policy applies to installation of new infrastructure and renewal of existing infrastructure.

3. Policy Statement

3.1 Overhead Cabling

- Council gives in principle support to the upgrading of the infrastructure for the telecommunications and telephony systems and the electricity distribution system in its streets, roadways and public places, as long as it is not detrimental to the amenity of the local area.
- Council supports and encourages the shared use of telecommunications and telephony infrastructure by carriers and the shared use of electricity infrastructure by providers.
- Council considers overhead infrastructure inappropriate as the technology is now locally available for economical and tree-safe underground installation of infrastructure that was previously carried aboveground.
- Council will not accept open trenching methods for installation of underground cables within tree root zones.

3.2 Telecommunication Facilities on Council Land

In the event that Council receives a request to lease a portion of Council land for the purposes of constructing, maintaining and operating telecommunication and electricity infrastructure on Council-owned Land, Council will generally consider the proposal in the following circumstances:

- It has been clearly demonstrated that co-location with another existing facility has been fully explored by the applicant;
- That the Council-owned land and/or building is not being held by Council for a stated strategic purpose/future development;
- The site has not been identified for potential sale, disposal or other exclusive use by another party.

A report will then be prepared for Council consideration to discuss the application, seeking approval to undertake a public consultation process in respect to such changes, including any amendment(s), to the relevant Community Land Management Plan.

3.3 Development Act 1993

Telecommunication infrastructure that requires a development approval under the Development Act 1993 is subject to the statutory processes set out within this legislation. Assessment of the proposal will be against the relevant policies within Council's Development Plan. Depending on the circumstances, public notification of the proposal may also be required under the Development Act.

3.4 Telecommunications Act 1997

Telecommunications Code of Practice

- The existing 'Industry Code- Deployment of Radio Communications Infrastructure' also gives Council a further opportunity to comment on community consultation plans prepared by telecommunication carriers, and to submit comments on proposals for facilities not requiring approval under the Development Act.

4. Definitions

Key Term – Acronym	Definition
Code	Industry Code – Deployment of radio communications infrastructure