

## DIRECTIONAL SIGNS GENERAL POLICY

### Intent

A policy for directional signs within the Douglas Shire Council Area

### Scope

This policy covers the installation of directional signs.

### Provisions

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Douglas Shire Council is committed to providing information that assists both the local community and visiting persons to further appreciate the assets of the region. Directional signage is intended to inform and advise road users and pedestrians about the direction of destinations on the route they are following, or along other roads which intersect their route.

Directional signage is also known as finger pointer signs. They are a useful tool to assist the general public find their way to and between public places and other destinations. They have the potential to enrich community awareness and experiences within the region.

#### 2.0 INTENT

This policy intends to regulate the installation, maintenance and removal of directional signage so that:

- Signs are consistent with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Device Queensland and Department of Transport & Main Roads (DTMR) Guidelines on Tourist Signs for Commercial tourist attractions on State controlled roads;
- Increase awareness of facilities and public places;
- The potential adverse impact of a proliferation of signs is avoided; and
- Safety risk for road users is minimised.

#### 3.0 DEMONSTRATION OF NEED

The approval of directional signage must meet the following criteria:

- Signs are not to be erected unless they can be shown to fulfil a need for guidance to a service or facility open to the public;
- The directional signage must only provide direction and not constitute a form of advertising. If the application is deemed to be advertising it should be referred to Council's Advertising Local Law;
- Should only be permitted where they provide additional directional information that is not readily obtainable from alternative signage, street directories and city maps and the location is not readily apparent to a traveller;
- Signs to private or commercial establishments will not be favoured except where they are of service to travellers and meet the criteria set out by DTMR guidelines for Tourist Signs for Commercial tourist attractions on State controlled roads.

#### 4.0 LOCATION OF SIGNAGE

The location of directional signage must meet the requirements and specifications as set out in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices and Austroads publications for specific road classes and speed environments. Deviations from these standards are only permitted where approved by a suitably qualified Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland.

**5.0 SIGN CHARGES**

Commercial activities (including churches and other places of religious worship) shall be liable to meeting the full cost of purchase and installation of signs. In addition to a bond equal to twice the installation cost to cover future maintenance, the signs when erected on roads or road related areas controlled by Douglas Shire Council, are a council asset and may be removed by council at any time should the need for removal be established on safety grounds. No refund or partial refund or other compensation or restitution shall be payable by Council should removal be necessary on safety grounds.

Should the facility close or for any other reason the sign be no longer required or appropriate it may be removed with No refund or partial refund or other compensation or restitution shall be payable by Council.

Signs provided for not for profit organisations or charitable institutions may be exempt from all or part of the fees and charges at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer Douglas Shire Council.

Signs directing to an area or precinct shall be installed at the discretion and expense of Douglas Shire Council.

**6.0 SPECIFICATIONS OF SIGNAGE**

All signs are to be installed in accordance with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Installation is to take into account the fixings, clearances, orientation, design and number of signs on each pole.

**7.0 MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL OF SIGNS**

Should a sign be damaged or need replacement, the Applicant must meet the cost of those works. Council reserves the right to remove signs for safety reasons. Council must be notified if and when the use ceases. Council will be responsible for the removal of the signs once notification is received that a use has ceased. Any directional signs which have not obtained Council's approval may be removed. Signs to developing residential estates will only be allowed to be maintained for one year following the last stage of on-maintenance.

This policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.

Manager Responsible for Review:

Manager Infrastructure Services

ORIGINALLY ADOPTED: 16/06/2015

CURRENT ADOPTION:

DUE FOR REVISION: 16/06/2019