

"Political Advertising on Council Facilities" policy

PURPOSE:

To ensure a consistent and equitable treatment of signage by elected political members erected in Council controlled properties or reserves.

SCOPE:

The policy applies to Lessees, licence holders and tenants of Council controlled facilities, buildings and reserves.

POLICY:

That signage advertising a member of parliament shall:

- Be treated exactly the same as any other form of advertising and the same rules and restrictions by legislation or the Launceston Planning Scheme shall apply.
- Be limited to an individual although party identification is permissible provided that is not the primary purpose of the signage.
- Be allowed on Council property which is leased to an organisation at the discretion of the leasing organisation.
- Be allowed on Council property not specifically leased provided buildings or facilities within the broader complex are leased (and erection on the non-leased property is facilitated by a leasing organisation) and location approved by the Natural Environment Manager.
- Require the removal or covering of any sign in compliance with election requirements (between the dates of the call for nominations until declaration of the successful candidate).
- Not be allowed on a facility (fully managed by Council or sub-committee or Authority of Council) unless complying with all above conditions

PRINCIPLES:

This policy is developed on the premise that:

- An elected member of parliament provides an advocacy service and should be treated like any other consultancy.
- The legislation controlling political advertising is only active in the immediate period leading to an election.
- The erection or placement of signs is controlled by the Launceston Planning Scheme.
- Clubs and organisations are reliant on sponsorship and see political advertising as an income stream.

RELATED POLICIES & PROCEDURES:

Management of Signs in Road Reserves Procedure 32-HLPr-002

RELATED LEGISLATION:

Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2015
Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993
Local Government Act 1993
Local Government (General) regulations 2005

REFERENCES:

Not applicable.

DEFINITIONS:

Road shall mean any road reserve, public road, reserved road and private road marked on a title, plan of subdivision, parish plan or the like.

Public Place shall mean any Council land, reserve, building or place that is accessible to the public whether for no charge or a fee.

REVIEW:

This policy will be reviewed no more than 5 years after the date of approval (version) or more frequently, if dictated by operational demands and with Council's approval.