



Policy 7 – Contribution to Boundary Fences

Ref: **15/9889**
Adopted: **6 October 2003**
Minute 208/03
Version: **6**
Reviewed Date: **20 November 2023**
Council Minute No: **197/23**

OBJECTIVE

To define the circumstances in which Council will share the cost of boundary fences with other property owners.

POLICY

Council will share the cost of erection/replacement of boundary fences where Council owned land abuts privately owned land in accordance with the *Boundary Fences Act 1908*.

Application

This Policy only applies to the erection/replacement of boundary fences where privately owned land abuts Council owned land that is utilised for any of the following purposes:

- A Council park, reserve, recreation grounds or public hall
- A Council car park or depot

The Policy does not apply to the following circumstances:

- Where Council owned land is a roadway which includes a public highway, street, right-of-way, reserve or public place, whether it be an access, horse-way or foot-way;
- The repair/maintenance of boundary fences (which is the responsibility of the landholder);
- The erection/replacement of boundary fences abutting undeveloped Crown land that is leased or licenced by Council; and
- Retaining walls and other structures intended by the landowner to support land or to extend the usefulness and enjoyment of private land.

A written application for a contribution to fencing erection/replacement is to be made to the Council by the landowner.

Approval of the works and extent of Council contribution is to be determined prior to the works commencing.

The landowner is responsible for obtaining all necessary approvals applicable to the erection/replacement of the fence.

Contribution

For approved applications, a financial contribution will be made by Council towards the cost of erection/replacement of boundary fencing.

Council's contribution will be calculated at the rate of 50% of the total cost (materials and labour inclusive), providing fencing is constructed in accordance with Council's standard fences being:

- Urban Fence – Treated pine, three rail paling fence at 1.8m in height.
- Rural Fence – Two wire and ring lock type fence (cattle and sheep – seven wire)

A landowner may erect a boundary fence of a standard greater than that of the Council's standard fence, however Council's contribution will not exceed that otherwise required for a fence erected in accordance with this policy.

Fence construction must be completed and the claim for a refund lodged with Council within six (6) months of the date a contribution to the fence is approved.

Approval / Refusal

The Director of Infrastructure is authorised to administer this policy, and to have discretion to grant or refuse a contribution (subject to budget constraints).

Responsibility for the operation of this policy rests with the Director of Infrastructure.