

Policy # 2112 - Election Hoardings

Date Reviewed: 12 July 2007

1 BACKGROUND

Council has adopted a policy for the erection of election hoardings (signs). The policy gives clear direction to those wishing to erect hoardings and clear authority to remove hoardings that are contravening the policy.

The Electoral Act 1993 (which applies to national elections) was recently amended, and new regulations promulgated, regarding the size shape and features of election hoardings. The Policy has been amended to incorporate these requirements, so that the same rules apply to local and national election hoardings.

The policy will be distributed to candidates prior to each election.

2 POLICY STATEMENT

The Far North District Council considers election hoardings as temporary signs. Council's bylaws (Chapter Eight, Control of Advertising Signs) exclude "temporary signs" from the requirements of needing a resource or building consent, or fees to be paid, from the Council, to erect such hoardings.

All election hoardings erected on a public place must comply with the conditions detailed in section 3 "Compliance Conditions" of this policy.

3 COMPLIANCE CONDITIONS

- 1 No election hoardings shall be permitted on Council property including roads (including road reserve), street, street furniture, bus shelters, public toilets, power light or telephone poles and parks.
- 2 Structures and hoardings must be removed if they are considered by Council to be unsafe or constitute a traffic hazard.
- 3 The period of display of election hoardings shall be restricted to two months prior to any election, by-election or poll. All such signs must be removed before the election day.
- 4 If the Chief Executive is of the opinion that any hoarding contravenes the above policy he may, without further authority from the Council, take whatever action he considers appropriate to remove the hoarding.
- 5 No election hoarding may use reflective materials or illuminations, or moving parts and must not look like a traffic sign in shape or colour (see section 5-8 of the Electoral (Advertising of a Specified Kind) Regulation 2005).