



RICHMOND SHIRE COUNCIL RURAL FENCE SUBSIDY SCHEME POLICY

POLICY NUMBER: 018
INFOPERT REF: 56154
TIME PERIOD OF REVIEW: 1 Year
DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: July 2024

1. OBJECTIVE

To encourage rural property owners that adjoin town commons/crown reserves/designated road reserves, for which Council is trustee, to fence the boundary line.

2. DEFINITIONS

Adjoining owner means the registered owner, lessee or trustee of rural land adjoining a crown reserve for which Council is the trustee.

Adjoining lands refers any land adjoining a town common/crown reserve/designated road reserves for which Council is the trustee.

Dividing fence means a fence separating the adjoining lands of different owners

Fence means a structure of posts and rails, galvanised iron, metal, or wire, or a combination of any of these, enclosing or bounding land.

3. PROCEDURE

- a) An adjoining owner may apply in writing to the Council for a fence subsidy for the erection of new fencing along the boundary line adjoining a town common or crown reserve or enclosing a designated road reserve for which Council is the trustee. The application must specify the location of the fence and length. The claim may be for all or part of fencing along the boundary line.
- b) The adjoining owner will be responsible for the removal or burial of any old fencing materials.
- c) Upon satisfactory inspection Council will contribute a fence subsidy of \$1,000.00 per kilometre (inclusive of GST).
- d) Council will grant approval of an application received where a road corridor is being fully fenced and grid removal on a local road by Council. This will only be backdated to 01 July 2018. This is only accepted on the below roads:
- e) Richmond-Croydon Road
- f) Council will approve up to 100km of fence subsidy per financial year within the Shire.
- g) Specifications required:
- h) A minimum of three barb fencing only, no more than 12mm spacings and there must not have been a fence before
- i) Will be assessed by the Rural Lands Officer on completion for approval
- j) Will need to meet Department of Transport and Main Roads standards
- k) Needs to be 30m from the centre line of the road
- l) The fence must be new and constructed from 2018 onwards. (Any fence prior to 2018 is not eligible)
- m) Enclosing Road Corridor
- n) Where the road is fenced on both sides of the road

- o) Council will only pay for one side if it adjoins a property border
- p) Where the road goes through the middle of a property Council will pay the subsidy on both sides of the road
- q) Maintenance of the fencing will be of the landowner
- r) If a landowner fences both sides of a road the grids within these sections will be removed by Council
- s) Council may refuse payment of the subsidy if the site is not to Council's satisfaction.
- t) An adjoining owner may not apply for the fence subsidy scheme where a claim for that part of fencing has already been made.
- u) This subsidy is not available to urban and residential landholders.

4. RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Grid Application
- 082 – Gates and Grids Policy

5. LEGISLATION

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Neighbourhood Disputes Resolution Act 2011*
- *Land Act 1994*

6. IMPLEMENTATION

This Policy will commence from the Policy reviewed date and will be made available to all corporate staff on Council's intranet site/network, and to all outdoor staff via their supervisor/coordinator. Council reserves the right to vary, replace or terminate this Policy from time to time. This Policy will typically be reviewed when a review has been deemed appropriate by organisational processes (e.g., audit recommendations), or when legislative requirements change.

7. APPROVAL

Date of Adoption: 26 April 2006
Policy Reviewed: General Council Meeting 15 August 2023
Resolution Number: 20230815.3

Policy Authorised: Peter Bennett
Chief Executive Officer