

Council

**POLICY REVIEW – ROAD VERGE BURNING**

**Draft Amended Policy I/R/15 – Road Verge Burning**

**Meeting Date: 24 August 2021**

**Number of Pages: 3**

POLICY NO: I/R/15

FORMER POLICY NO

ROAD VERGE BURNING POLICY

DIVISION	BUSINESS UNIT	RESPONSIBILITY AREA
Works and Services	Regulatory Services	Road Verge Burning

**OBJECTIVE:**

To provide clear guidelines to residents / landowners about conditions which must be met when making an application to burn a road verge within the Shire of Plantagenet. The objective of this Policy is to determine under what conditions the burning of road verges throughout the Shire of Plantagenet will be authorised.

**POLICY:**

1. Scope

This policy applies to the burning of vegetative matter on any thoroughfare (road, street or way) under the care, control and management of the Shire of Plantagenet.

2. Legislation

Bush Fire Act 1954

Land Administration Act 1997

Shire of Plantagenet Activities in Thoroughfares and Public Places Trading Local Law 2008

3. Application of Policy

The application must be authorised by the Council (under delegation to the Chief Executive Officer). Authorisation will be conditional upon the following conditions being met:

~~The burning of vegetative matter on any roads, streets or ways under the care and control of the Shire of Plantagenet must be authorised by the Council (under delegation to the Chief Executive Officer). Authorisation will be conditional upon the following:~~

3.1a. Roadside burning should only be carried out if no other practical options for fire hazard management are available.

3.2b. Roadside burning is not permitted within the Prohibited Burning Period.

3.3e. Burning is permitted within the Restricted Burning Period and at other times of the year provided a permit is obtained from a Shire of Plantagenet Fire Control Officer.

3.4d. The fire must be attended at all times until the burn is completely safe and the fire is extinguished.

3.5e. All sites of verge that are planned to be burnt must be inspected by a Shire of Plantagenet ~~Bush Fire Brigade~~ Fire Control Officer (FCO) ~~and, if necessary, any requirements detailed by the FCO (recorded on the application form) adhered to.~~

- 3.6 Permits are to detail all of the conditions for the verge to be burnt and all conditions are to be adhered to.
- 3.7f. The applicant ensures the protection of standing timber and complies with the Council's policy to protect and preserve natural vegetation on road reserves wherever possible. No burning of well-conserved or semi-conserved bush areas may occur without authorisation from the Council.
- 3.8g. Applications require Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions Parks and Wildlife or the Shire of Plantagenet Environmental Officer's authorisation to ensure burning road verge will not cause any direct or indirect damage to declared rare flora or fauna.
- 3.9h. No damage is caused to fences, roads, road furniture, drainage structures, public utilities or other property in the vicinity.
- 3.10i. Road verge burning may only occur on vegetation adjoining that resident/ land-owner's property.
- 3.11 ~~Bushfire Brigades may be in attendance with warning devices activated (Red and Blue Lights).~~
- 3.12j. For environmental considerations a maximum two kilometres be burnt per rateable property annually.
- 3.13k. ~~The applicant installs the appropriate traffic warning devices to indicate potential smoke hazard. Appropriate signage is to be installed at each end of the planned verge burn detailing the possible smoke and fallen tree hazards prior to any lighting.~~
- 3.14 ~~Verge burns are to be recorded by the Shire of Plantagenet on a specific register and verges will not be authorised to be burnt more often than seven years.~~
- 3.15l. No obstruction of roadways or drainage channels by fallen trees or other debris results.<sup>2</sup> The Shire must be notified immediately if this occurs. Every effort shall be made, by the permit holder, to remove the obstruction as early as possible.
- 3.16 ~~Actions on escape or out of control will be in accordance with Section 18, Sub-Section 11 of the Bush Fire Act 1954.~~

**ADOPTED: 22 AUGUST 2006**

**LAST REVIEWED: 24 MAY 2016**

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