



VANDALISM REWARDS SCHEME POLICY

Adopted By Council 8 March 2023

Resolution No 2023/238

Created By:	Governance Department
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Background

Council is committed to providing services to its community. Vandalism costs Council thousands of dollars each year. To minimise the increasing cost of vandalism the community is encouraged to report vandalism as soon as possible. This policy seeks to provide a financial reward to community members where information regarding a vandalism event is reported to the NSW Police Force and results in legal action being taken against the offender.

Policy Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to:-

- Encourage community members to report information about vandals to the NSW Police Force.
- Reduce acts of vandalism on Council property by increasing the risk of detection and apprehension.
- Encourage a coordinated approach between the NSW Police Force, Council and the Narromine Shire community to address the issues of vandalism.
- Strengthen community pride.
- Emphasise to our community that vandalism is an act of crime.

Scope

This policy covers the intentional or reckless destruction, defacement, disfigurement or damage to Council owned or managed property without the consent of Council.

Policy Statement

1. That Council offer a reward to persons providing information on vandalism to Council owned or managed property that results in legal action being taken i.e. criminal proceeding resulting in a conviction, finding of guilt or offence; formal caution/warning issued by a NSW Police Force Officer; or a juvenile justice conference administered under the Young Offenders Act 1997.
2. That the amount of the reward is equal to the remediation costs of the vandalism capped at a maximum of \$5,000 per event.
3. That the vandalism rewards scheme be subject to an annual maximum cap of \$15,000 per financial year.

Policy Statement (continued)

4. In order to make a claim for a reward under this policy, the Vandalism Rewards Scheme Policy Claim Form (Annexure A) is to be completed.
5. The General Manager be delegated authority to assess and approve reward claims.
6. All reward claims will be verified with the NSW Police Force to ensure compliance with the conditions of the Rewards Policy.
7. The General Manager's assessment and decision in relation to reward claims is final.
8. Persons providing information must be aware that they may be required to appear in court to give evidence.
9. Fraudulent and/or misleading claims will be ineligible for payment of the reward. Council may seek to recover the reward and associated costs should a claim be found to be fraudulent or misleading.
10. All documentation created and held in relation to applications for reward claims shall be marked confidential. For the purposes of protecting the safety of individuals and reward claim applicants, information will not be released to the public unless Council is obliged to by law.
11. Reward claim applicants need to be made aware that Council cannot always guarantee the applicant's anonymity.

Relevant Legislation

- Local Government Act 1993
- Crimes Act 1900
- Young Offenders Act 1997
- Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009
- Summary Offences Act 1988

**NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL
VANDALISM REWARDS SCHEME POLICY CLAIM FORM
CONFIDENTIAL**

Personal Details		
Name:		
Physical Address:		
Telephone Number:	Mobile Number:	
Email Address:		
Preferred Contact Method:		
Incident Details		
Date and/or time of incident (<i>if known</i>):		
Location of Incident:		
Details of Damage (<i>e.g. damage to fence, BBQ, Graffiti etc.</i>):		
Reporting Details		
Did you report the incident to the Police? (<i>Please circle</i>)	Yes	No
How was incident reported:-		
Police Station <input type="checkbox"/>	Crime Stoppers Online <input type="checkbox"/>	Crime Stoppers Phone <input type="checkbox"/>
Emergency Services <input type="checkbox"/>	Police Assistance Line <input type="checkbox"/>	
Police Event Number:		
Date You Reported:		
Officer's/Report Taker's Name:		
Did you provide information to Police regarding offender/s?	Yes	No
Do you know of the outcome of Police investigations?	Yes	No
Details of outcome:		

Declaration

I (Name) declare that:

- The information I have provided is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- I will contact Narromine Shire Council in the event that any information contained in this report changes
- I understand that I may be required to attend a Police Station to make a formal statement and/or appear in court to give evidence.
- I understand that Narromine Shire Council may seek compensation from an identified offender for damage caused to Council-owned or managed property through civil litigation or other remedies.
- I understand that the decision of the General Manager (Under the Local Government Act 1993) regarding eligibility for, and amount of any reward is final.
- I understand that this Vandalism Rewards Scheme Policy may be altered at any time.
- I understand that Narromine Shire Council collects this information for the purpose of administering the Vandalism Rewards Scheme Policy and personal information will not be used for any other purpose.
- I understand that any reward must be paid into the account of a person who is aged 18 years and over.

Signed

Date

Signature of parent or guardian (only if the claimant is under 18 years old):

.....

Bank Details

Name of Bank or Credit Union:

BSB Number:

Account Number:

Account Name:

(Please note that parent or guardian's bank account details must be provided for claimants under the age of 18)

RETURNING YOUR CLAIM FORM

Please place the completed claim form in an envelope marked "**Confidential**" and

Post to:-

The General Manager
Vandalism Rewards Scheme
Narromine Shire Council
PO Box 115, Narromine, NSW, 2821

Return in person to:-

The General Manager
Vandalism Rewards Scheme
Narromine Shire Council Chambers
124 Dandaloo Street, Narromine, NSW, 2821