

Policy

Roadside tributes

Version 1.2

Adopted by Council at its meeting on 15 September 2022

Division:
Section:
File Reference:
Historical Reference:

Engineering
Roads and Stormwater
Council Policies/Protocols/Procedures
See Version Control

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1. Policy objective

This policy provides guidance for operational staff in advising on, or removing, roadside tributes such as flowers or small crosses of similar size.

1.1. Definitions

Not applicable.

1.2. Policy background

This Policy is being developed for the community to outline Council's Policy on roadside tributes

2. Policy

The placement of roadside flowers is a matter for individual families. Tweed Shire Council respects their wishes and will provide sympathetic advice for those seeking it. Anything more substantial than flowers or small, lightweight wooden crosses of similar size to a floral tribute should not be placed in the road reserve. Families should be advised that anything larger could itself become a road or pedestrian safety hazard. Advice should be given that, although there is no limit to the time a tribute can remain, the Council will remove any tribute that appears to have been neglected. Those memorials that are currently in place remain so.

Removal

In the event that there are concerns regarding a tribute, it can be removed subject to the following processes being adopted. These concerns may arise from Council staff or contractors or may be as a result of representations from the public.

- 1 Concerns are considered and a recommendation for removal is prepared for approval by the Director Engineering providing either of the following criteria are met:-
 - The size or material of the tribute has the potential to cause adverse road safety impact, or
 - Deterioration of the floral tribute indicates that it may no longer be maintained and may soon pose a hazard or drainage problem etc.
 - The nature or size of the tribute has the potential to be a pedestrian hazard in urban footpath areas
 - The owner of the property fronting the tribute or those in the near vicinity objects to its placement for periods longer than considered is reasonable.
2. If possible, the approved recommendation is discussed with the family or other persons responsible for placing the tribute.
3. Agreement is reached regarding the action to be taken and whether it should be done by Council or the family. Should agreement not be reached then the Director Engineering will make the final decision on necessary action.
4. If it is agreed that the Council will undertake the removal, the final recommendation is submitted for the approval of the Director Engineering.
5. In undertaking removal, Council staff and / or contractors will show respect for the feelings of the bereaved and every effort will be made to return any materials removed to the family in an appropriate manner, time and place.

3. Related legislation

Not applicable.

4. Compliance

Not applicable.

5. Forms

Not applicable.

6. Review period

This policy will be reviewed within 12 months of the election of each new Council or more frequently in the event of any legislative changes or change in circumstances.

7. Useful links

[Tweed Shire Council website](#)

8. Version control

Version #	Summary of changes made	Date changes made
1.1	Incorporated into new policy template.	20/06/2013
1.2	Updated and adopted by Council and incorporated into the new policy template	15/09/2022