

# GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT POLICY

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT



## PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this project was to consult with internal and external stakeholders on the newly devised Graffiti Management Policy by gathering feedback on key aspects of the policy as well as to provide an opportunity for general feedback and suggestions.

Graffiti vandalism not only affects the visual appearance of neighbourhoods and influences perceptions of public safety, it is also costly for communities and property owners to remove and prevent. Other problems associated with graffiti include antisocial behaviour and loitering.

Consultation was open via The Loop from Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February until Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022, a duration of four (4) weeks.

## METHODOLOGY:

The below table outlines the various methods and techniques used to engage with the community.

Community engagement activities / tools	
Method / technique	Stakeholders engaged
Project page on The Loop	776 total visitors to the page 834 page views
Online survey	27 surveys completed
Direct emails	56 emails sent to stakeholders 4 feedback emails received

Communications / marketing activities	
Method / technique	Stakeholders engaged
Online promotion (Facebook, 4 posts)	Engagement: 382 community members engaged
Facebook video	Engagement: 5,300 views
Media Release and Star Weekly article	Local residents and community members

# SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK:

The following feedback will help to shape the final Policy.

We Asked	You Said	We did
Do you think the Draft Graffiti Management Policy provides clear direction for the management of graffiti within Wyndham?	Yes – 89% No – 11%	In relation to the management of graffiti within Wyndham, Council's graffiti team send out letters on an annual basis to businesses who sell spray cans which detail the restrictions of selling spray cans and the penalties that can be faced for selling to minors. Our team also works closely with Victoria Police to assist in the prosecution of offenders where possible by supplying information such as tagging reports.

We Asked	You Said
<p>How well do you think the Draft Graffiti Management Policy addresses the key guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevention</li> <li>• Removal</li> <li>• Enforcement</li> </ul>	<p><b>Prevention:</b></p> <p>Strongly Agree – 37%</p> <p>Agree – 52%</p> <p>Neutral – 7%</p> <p>Disagree – 4%</p> <p>Strongly Disagree – 0%</p> <p><b>Removal:</b></p> <p>Strongly Agree – 37%</p> <p>Agree – 45%</p> <p>Neutral – 7%</p> <p>Disagree – 7%</p> <p>Strongly Disagree – 4%</p> <p><b>Enforcement:</b></p> <p>Strongly Agree – 41%</p> <p>Agree – 29%</p> <p>Neutral – 19%</p> <p>Disagree – 7%</p> <p>Strongly Disagree – 4%</p>

**Further feedback:**

**You said:** Greater financial support for removal is required 'now' rather than twice a year especially in hot spots. More should be offered to help with the removal process.

**We did:** The two free removals can be used anytime throughout each 12-month period, however, in addition to this service the graffiti team are also able to provide graffiti removal kits free of charge and can also offer the assistance of Corrections Victoria who are able to paint over graffiti, also free of charge. Contact [graffiti@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:graffiti@wyndham.vic.gov.au) for further information.

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**You said:** Instead of removing illegal graffiti every time it occurs and spending time and resources, maybe think of putting in legal graffiti instead.

**We did:** Council must remove illegal graffiti in order to ensure the community feel safe as well as proud to live in Wyndham. Our team regularly install anti-graffiti murals in hot-spot locations and in addition, we have two legal areas where people of all ages can freely express their passion for spray paint and art without impacting negatively upon the community. More information on our legal art spaces can be found on the Wyndham City Council Website.

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**You said:** The railway corridor within Wyndham (and Hobsons Bay) on the Werribee line has considerable graffiti which looks awful and never gets cleaned up. Hopefully this improves under the new plan.

**We did:** The management of graffiti throughout rail corridors is the responsibility of Vic Track who (as a separate government organisation) have their own policies regarding the clean-up of graffiti. Council do however pass on reports received by residents regarding graffiti on Vic Track property and liaise with them regularly regarding graffiti matters.



## NEXT STEPS:

- Council will use the feedback provided by this consultation to finalise the Policy.
- The new Graffiti Management Policy will be adopted on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and will guide our management of graffiti including graffiti prevention initiatives through until May 2027.

## HOW CAN PARTICIPANTS STAY INVOLVED/INFORMED?

Participants can stay informed with updates available on Council's website or by contacting the Graffiti Team directly via [graffiti@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:graffiti@wyndham.vic.gov.au).