

Policy

Reward for Information



Reward for Information

Residents of the City of Kwinana take pride in the appearance of the City. In order to minimise any disturbance, unsightliness and cost of repair, community members are encouraged to report instances of vandalism, graffiti and other anti social behaviour within the City.

Adopted:	11/07/2012 #163
Last reviewed:	12/11/2014 #306
Legal Authority:	Local Government Act Section 2.7 – The Role of Council

Policy:

A reward of up to \$1000 is to be offered for information that leads to a court conviction for illegal or anti social behaviour within the City of Kwinana.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Vandalism to any property or structure in a public place.
- Illegal use of off-road vehicles.
- Graffiti to any property or structure in a public place.
- Antisocial behaviour in a public place

The reason for this reward system policy is to deter those people who destroy or deface the community's property, including verges, parks, and bushland and for those who endanger themselves and the general public, or cause a nuisance to residents. The reward system is not intended to penalise people who do the right thing, nor is it a forum for residents to make malicious or vexatious reports. The reward is only to be provided following a successful court conviction in a genuine situation.

Reward for Information Procedure

to be read in conjunction with 'Reward for Information Policy'

1. Policy Intent

The City of Kwinana has set a 'stretch goal' of eliminating any disturbance, unsightliness and cost of repair related to instances of vandalism, graffiti and other anti social behaviour within the City.

2. Purpose/Objective

This policy is designed to ensure that Council's approach to the issue of rewards for information concerning anti social behaviour is managed in a consistent, transparent and appropriate manner through the development of clearly defined eligibility criteria.

The eligibility criteria is to describe who and under what circumstances a person is eligible for a reward for information given regarding disturbance and or damage caused from anti social behaviour, together with their entitlement.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all requests for a reward for information concerning disturbance and/or damage caused from anti social behaviour on public land that is City owned or managed land.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

In evaluating a request for a reward for information under this policy, the Responsible Officer is to submit a report to their relevant Director when the prosecution, including all avenues of appeal have been completed and the alleged offender has been found guilty of the offence.

This report is to contain an executive summary of the proceeding together with details of any other relevant information to the nature of the offence and vandalism. Should the Director determine that a person could be eligible for a reward under this policy the Responsible Officer is to prepare a report for consideration and determination by Council.

Council is to consider each application on its own merits giving due consideration to the nature of the disturbance and or damage caused from anti social behaviour and the effect on the general amenity and aesthetics of the area.

5. Monitoring, Evaluation and Review Eligibility Criteria

In order for a person to be eligible for consideration of a reward for information concerning the disturbance and or damage caused from anti social behaviour on City owned or managed land:

- The alleged offender is to be found guilty of the alleged offence by a Court of competent jurisdiction from a prosecution launched by the City or WA Police.

- The applicant is to be willing to give written evidence and identifying information. This information may be considered confidential upon request.
- In the opinion of the Responsible Officer, the applicant did not knowingly allow the alleged offender to commit the act in order to obtain a reward.

Evaluation of an Application

In evaluating a request for a reward for information under this policy, the Responsible Officer is to submit a report to their relevant Director when the prosecution, including all avenues of appeal have been completed and the alleged offender has been found guilty of the offence.

The report is to contain an executive summary of the proceeding together with a report including an estimate of the value of any damage. In addition, the report should contain details of any other relevant information pertaining to the nature of the disturbance and/or damage caused from anti social behaviour.

The value of the reward is to be determined by a number of factors including but not limited to:

- Monetary value of the disturbance and or damage caused from anti social behaviour;
- Location of the disturbance and or damage caused;
- Amenity of the disturbance and or damage caused;
- The level of 'positive deterrent factor' publicity relating to the successful prosecution;
- The level of penalty/fine relating to the offence;
- Whether the offender has recidivist tendencies; and
- The amount of disturbance and or damage caused.

Should the Director determine that a person could be eligible for a reward under this policy, the Responsible Officer is to prepare a report for consideration and determination by Council.

Council is to consider each application on its own merits giving due consideration to the nature of disturbance and or damage caused from anti social behaviour and the effect on the general amenity and in accordance with the above criteria.

Notification of Application

All applications for reward are to be acknowledged in accordance with the City's Customer Service Charter.

The applicant is to be informed in writing of the outcome of their request and the method of payment if applicable.

6. Promotion of Policy

It is Council's intent to inform the community and media of any action taken regarding disturbance and or damage caused from anti social behaviour and rewards. To help achieve this signs may, for example, be erected in areas of disturbance and or damage caused from anti social behaviour, where possible, advising members of the community about the reward for information.

7. Reward Application of Policy up to \$1,000

A reward of up to \$1,000 is to be considered by Council for information relating to any unlawful action, which results in disturbance and or damage on public land that is City owned or managed land that results in a successful prosecution and/or fine.

The value of the reward is to be based on the criteria listed in section 5.

Please Note:

1. The above reward criteria are to be used as a guide and any allocation of a monetary reward and the amount offered is at the discretion of Council.
2. Where there is more than one applicant the reward amount may be divided at the discretion of Council, or where budgeted funds are exhausted in any financial year, payment of any reward allocated may be deferred until funds become available.
3. Whilst the intent of the policy is to address public property and public areas through the incentive of a reward, successful actions by private property owners for antisocial behaviour may also be considered for a reward contribution by Council if that is considered in the best overall community interest.