



WEDDIN SHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY NUMBER: 3.6.2

POLICY FOR WEEDS INSPECTION PROGRAMME

Adopted: 20 April 2017

POLICY FOR WEEDS INSPECTION PROGRAMME (NO. 3.6.2)

1. **Title:** Policy for Weeds Inspection Programme

2. **Number:** Policy Number 3.6.2

Purpose

The purpose of the Weeds Inspection Programme Policy is to achieve inspectorial targets for Lachlan Valley Regional Weed Management Project by being a participating partner of Lachlan Valley Weeds Advisory Committee

4. **Application**

Employees dealing with weeds must comply with this policy in their conduct of official business for Council.

5. **Associated legislation and Other References**

- Noxious Weeds Act 1993
- Local Government Act 1993
- Lachlan Regional Weed Strategy

6. **Definitions**

- Noxious Weed: A Noxious Weed is a plant that (is the subject of a weed control order is a *noxious weed* for the purposes of Noxious Weeds Act 1993) has been recognized as having an adverse effect on human health, agriculture and the environment.
- Weeds Inspector: Council's Noxious Weeds Officer is referred as Weeds Inspector in this Policy.

7. **Policy**

7.1 **Employment of Inspectors**

Council will employ one (1) appropriately qualified weed inspector at all times, or make every effort to ensure the position is filled as soon as possible after becoming vacant.

7.2 **Property Inspections**

Council weed inspector will ensure every residential and rural property within the Council area is inspected for weeds at least once every five years.

The target number of inspections of properties, as well as businesses and Council managed lands, per year are set out in Council's submission to the Lachlan Regional Weed Management Project under the Weeds Action Program. Council will make every effort to reach these targets each year.

7.3 **High Risk Sites & Path Ways of Weed Spread**

Council will ensure inspections of high risk sites and pathways are carried out and the targets set in the Council's submission to the Lachlan Regional Weed Management Project under the Weeds Action Program are met. High risks and pathways included but are not limited to:

Pathways		Sites
Roads (Road Sides)	State Highways Regional Roads Residential Streets Collector Roads Local sealed roads Local unsealed roads Local formed roads	Travelling Stock Routes (TSRs) Nurseries Landscapes/gravel suppliers Dams Wetland/marsh areas Bridge Crossings Public parks adjacent to water
Water Courses	Creeks	bodies/courses
Infrastructure Lines	Railway Corridors	Others

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8. Responsibilities

8.1 General Manager

- Ensures that Council complies with the requirements of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 and the standards and requirements issued under the Act
- Ensures that Council complies with other legislation relating to weeds inspections

8.2 Director Engineering

- Ensures that the Weeds inspection Programme is adequately resourced
- Represents Weeds Inspection interests on the Executive
- Has ownership of the Weeds inspection Programme Policy

8.3 Weeds Inspector

- Compiles Weeds Inspection Programme Policy and standards in relation to all aspects of weeds inspections
- Monitors compliance with the Weeds Inspections Programme Policy, procedures and standards across Council and makes recommendations for improvement or modification of practices
- Has responsibility for the conduct of weeds inspections.
- Reports to the Lachlan Valley Weeds Advisory Committee on the Weeds inspection Program

9. Review and Amendment

- This policy shall be reviewed in April 2021 to ensure it meets all statutory requirements and the needs of Council.
- This policy may be amended or cancelled by Council at any time without prior notice or obligation to any employee.

10. Adoption

- This policy commences as from the date of adoption by Council, being 20 April 2017.

11. History

Version	Details
3.6.1	Adopted 16 May 2013
3.6.2	Adopted 20 April 2017