

PURPOSE

This Policy recognises that Council plays an important role in ensuring the safety of park users and maintenance of Council property by deterring the use of glass bottles and glass containers at recreation areas, sporting & leisure facilities and parks.

POLICY INTENT

To reduce or eliminate the risk of harm from broken glass to park users and maintenance of Council property.

The main objectives of this policy are to:

1. Maximise public safety at Council's Recreation areas, sports & leisure facilities, and parks and reserves
2. Provide community leadership in taking measures to protect the health and social wellbeing of the community.
3. Improve the public amenity and maintenance of Council property.

WOLLONGONG 2032 OBJECTIVES

This Policy contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong Our Future 2032 Community Strategic Plan Goal 5 "*We have a healthy community in a liveable city*".

It specifically contributes to the delivery of Objectives –

- 5.4 *Provide a variety of quality and accessible public places and opportunities for sport, play, leisure, recreation, learning and cultural activities in the community, and*
- 5.5 *Provide safe, well maintained and accessible beaches and aquatic recreation facilities.*

DEFINITIONS

Recreation area	The term 'recreation area' where stated in this policy, refers to Council owned or managed parks, playgrounds, skate parks, outdoor fitness equipment, public swimming pools, rock pools, patrolled beaches, leisure centres, and outdoor sporting facilities.
Sports & Leisure facilities	The term 'sports & leisure facilities' stated in this policy, refers to Council owned or managed (including leased and licensed) sports fields and sports facilities and associated infrastructure including amenities buildings and grandstands, and indoor leisure facilities (excluding cafeteria areas).
Events	The term 'events' refers to short term activations held on council owned or managed land.

POLICY

Signage

Install signage at prominent locations at Council's recreation areas, sports & leisure facilities, and parks and reserves to advise the prohibition of the use of glass bottles and glass containers.

Licences

Ensure conditions are included in Council lease & licences restricting or minimising sale or use of glass containers at Council's recreation areas.

Events

Ensure conditions are included in event approvals restricting sale of glass containers for consumption within approved event areas.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

This policy complies with and supports implementation and compliance with the following policies and instruments:

- *Local Government Act 1993*

REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed a minimum of once every term of Council, or more frequently as required.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Sport + Recreation is the Division responsible for the administration and review of this Policy.
- Property Services is the Division responsible for preparing lease & licenses.
- Regulation & Enforcement is the Division responsible for any compliance action if required.
- Events Unit is the team responsible for approving events.

RELATED STRATEGIES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Wollongong City Council's Compliance and Enforcement Policy will guide the enforcement of this Policy, with the view that this Policy will be supported by persuasion and self-policing in the first instance, and then punitive enforcement as required subject to resourcing.

APPROVAL AND REVIEW	
Responsible Division	Sport + Recreation
Date adopted by Council	24 June 2024
Date/s of previous adoptions	30 May 2016 ¹ , 8 April 2013, 6 July 2007
Date of next review	June 2027

¹ Previous title 'Glass Free Areas'