

Public Street Lighting Procedure

TO ACCOMPANY - COUNCIL POLICY NO. 149

This Procedure should be read in conjunction with Gannawarra Shire Council Policy No. 149 – Public Street Lighting, which sets the guidelines for lighting assets design and installation in accordance with AS/NZS 1158.3.1:2020. The procedure applies when selecting / approving / managing complaints / undertaking community consultations in relation to lighting assets – street lighting or off-street lighting at public open spaces within the Gannawarra Shire.

THE “NEED FOR LIGHTING” CHECK

Prior to installing the lighting assets, the Council should validate the need for lighting. Sometimes the new lighting may not be required for reasons, as follows:

- Adequate lighting is already available at the location from a source such as adjacent street lighting, car park or public building.
- The area where lighting is not recommended. Examples include (but not limited to) nature reserves, recreation areas / sporting facilities not used for organised competitive sporting events, playgrounds, laneways and areas of high vandalism (if economically not viable or the likelihood of it being an effective deterrent was not confirmed).

Additionally, lighting may not be needed at some locations for safety reasons. While this may seem contradictory, it is important to not light spaces that may be inherently dangerous with or without lighting. Examples include:

- Areas which don't have sufficient (passive) surveillance looking into the space from residential houses facing the space or passing vehicles / pedestrian traffic looking into the area.
- Areas which lead to a dead end or otherwise unsafe area with little (passive) surveillance.

Further considerations should also include an assessment of:

- Whether the area can support the required infrastructure.
- Environmental and cultural heritage considerations.
- Whether a new metered supply is required.
- Suitability of environmentally sustainable lighting options for the location (e.g. solar lighting units).
- Use of dimming and timers for the areas where usage is intermittent and lighting is not required during a portion of the night.

Also, where the need for the new lighting had been confirmed, the Council may deviate from the categories prescribed by the standard at its discretion. This includes situations such as (but not limited to) where there are confirmed special circumstances applicable to the specific area (for example: limited availability of suitable poles), or in situations where a custom lighting design may be more appropriate.

REQUESTS AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES

The Council staff will process and address all requests / complaints as follows:

- **Street Light Fault Report** – requests in relation to all unmetered (standard street lighting) should be made to Powercor on **13 24 12** or via the web portal <https://publiclighting.portal.powercor.com.au/PublicLightFault>. Please submit your lighting fault complaint to Council only if your fault report is in relation to one of the unmetered lights managed by Council.
- Requests for New Street Lighting (Existing Lighting) – such requests will be limited to validation of functionality of the existing lighting system. In general, requests for installation of new lighting will not be supported.
- Requests for New Street Lighting (No Existing Lighting) – in general, requests for installation of new lighting will not be supported for sites / locations which historically were developed without the installation of public lighting systems.
- Requests for Removal of Street Lighting – in general, such requests will not be supported.
- Complaints About Over Lighting or Light Spill – these requests will be assessed against the requirements of the AS 4282:2019 Control of the Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting. The Council will provide feedback detailing the assessment outcomes and whether light spill control measures will be applied.
- Complaints About Shading of Lighting by Trees – will be addressed via on-site inspection and tree trimming, as required. Feedback can be provided if requested.

