

DIT004 - Abandoned Vehicle Policy

1. POLICY CERTIFICATION

Policy title:	Abandoned Vehicle Policy
Policy number:	004
Category:	Policy
Classification:	DIT
Status:	Approved

2. PURPOSE

The Roper Gulf Regional Council recognises their responsibilities under the *Local Government Act NT* to provide residents of the Roper Gulf Regional Council with waste management services, inclusive of the management of abandoned vehicles.

This policy provides Council Officers with direction to ensure correct legal process occurs with regards to the removal of abandoned vehicles pursuant to Council's responsibilities under the *Local Government Act* and *Part 5A Division 4 of the Traffic Regulations*.

3. DEFINITIONS

Abandoned Vehicle	Any motorised vehicle, caravan, and trailer or similar found on any road, park or other land controlled by Council which appears to be abandoned or discarded.
Council	Roper Gulf Regional Council
Council Officer	A person that Roper Gulf Regional Council has provided the authority to act on its behalf to carry out this policy.
RGRC	Roper Gulf Regional Council
Shall	Will

4. POLICY SCOPE

4.1 This policy applies to all RGRC employe/es and contractors that are required to work on /or manage any of RGRC's Waste Management Facilities and waste management processes.

5. PRINCIPLES

5.1 Council may be required or requested to remove vehicles in the following circumstances:

- The vehicle is abandoned
- At the written request of landowner of "public" facility (ie: recreation reserve, other council land, etc – not private residence).

DIT004 - Abandoned Vehicle Policy

- 5.2 Council Officers shall follow the process described in this policy to ensure that necessary checks, notifications and legal process are complied with. Council Officers shall read this policy in conjunction with *SOP 103-204 Abandoned Vehicles Procedure*.

6. POLICY CONTENT

- 6.1 The Council shall endeavour to recover abandoned vehicles within the Roper Gulf region at the earliest opportunity and store them at the nearest appropriate Council facility. When the owner of the vehicle can be traced, efforts will be made to recover costs associated with collection and disposal of the vehicle, and when approval to dispose of an abandoned vehicle is obtained through this policy and the *SOP 103-204 Abandoned Vehicle Procedure*, the vehicle shall be disposed in the most cost efficient manner.
- 6.2 Council Officers will not allow an abandoned vehicle that is unregistered to be taken from Council's care unless that vehicle is transported on a truck, trailer or similar. Under no circumstances will a Council Officer allow an unregistered vehicle to be driven from the Council Storage Location as this places unreasonable onus on Council and public safety.
- 6.3 Council takes no responsibility for any damage that occurs to a vehicle while transporting the vehicle, storing the vehicle or while the vehicle is in the care of Council. The costs of repairing any damage that occurs to the vehicle while it is being transported by Council, being stored by Council or in the care of Council is the responsibility of the owner of the vehicle.

7. DELEGATIONS

- 7.1 Authorised Officers as appointed by Council will have the required delegation to act upon this policy.
- 7.2 Fees and costs may be waived by the Chief Executive Officer, or a delegated officer upon written application from the registered owner of the abandoned vehicle.

8. REFERENCES

Acknowledgements (original author/source documents)	Central Desert Regional Council
Related Policies	
Related Publications	<i>Local Government Act</i> <i>Northern Territory Traffic Act</i> <i>Northern Territory Traffic Regulations</i>

9. DOCUMENT CONTROL

Policy number	004
Policy Owner	DCSI

DIT004 - Abandoned Vehicle Policy

Endorsed by	OCM
Date approved	29/01/2016
Revisions	
Amendments	
Next revision due	February 2017

10. CONTACT PERSON

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