

Local Planning Policy 3.17: Communications Antennae

INTRODUCTION

Communications antennae are provided for in the Town Planning Scheme, and are divided into two separate classes, being:

- domestic communications antennae; and
- commercial communications antennae.

The Scheme provides for discretionary control over both domestic and commercial communications antennae and also provides for the exemption from the requirement to obtain planning approval for those antennae identified clause 33 of the Town Planning Scheme and Local Planning Policy 1.1: Minor Use and Development Exempt from Development Approval.

DEFINITIONS

Communications antennae (domestic) means any mast, antennae, aerial, satellite dish and other associated equipment used for the reception or transmission of television or radio signals or for other electronic communications where such device is consistent with the predominant style and size of other such devices in the locality, and provided that neither its vertical nor horizontal dimensions exceed one metre.

Communications antennae (commercial) means any mast, antennae, aerial, satellite dish and other associated equipment used for the reception or transmission of television or radio signals or for other electronic communications where its vertical or horizontal dimensions exceed one metre but does not include telecommunications infrastructure.

AIMS

- To identify those circumstances in which communications antennae are exempt from the requirement to obtain the Council's planning approval.
- To provide guidance for the assessment of applications for communications antennae which involve the exercise of the Council's discretion under the Town Planning Scheme.

POLICY

1. Communications antennae exempt from planning approval

1.1 Communications antennae (commercial)

The erection of a communications antenna (commercial) in any non-residential zone is exempt from the requirement to obtain the Council's planning approval, provided it meets all of the following criteria:

- (a) the overall height of the structure does not exceed that of the building to which it is attached or with which it is associated;
- (b) neither its vertical nor horizontal dimension exceeds 2.5 metres; and
- (c) the antenna is not located on the façade or that portion of the roof which faces the street.

1.2 Communications antennae (domestic)

The erection of a communications antenna (domestic), other than a traditional television aerial, in a Residential or Residential/Commercial zone is exempt from the requirement to obtain the Council's planning approval, provided neither its vertical nor horizontal dimension exceeds 1.0 metre.

1.3 Other communications facilities

Other communications facilities exempt from the requirement to obtain the Council's planning approval, include:

- (a) television aerials provided they do not have a dimension greater than 2.5 metres or extend above the roof line by more than 2.5 metres;
- (b) mobile communication facilities temporarily located at any one place for a period not exceeding one week; and
- (c) emergency service communication equipment operated by a public authority acting in accordance with its statutory responsibilities.

2. Communications antennae requiring planning approval

In considering applications for communications antennae which fall outside the requirements for exemption as provided for above, applicants shall be required to address the following criteria, which shall be the basis for assessment and determination:

- (a) the size limitations (if any) which apply under the Town Planning Scheme;
- (b) the impact on the amenity of the area in which the communications antennae is to be erected, with particular reference to visual impact;
- (c) the potential impact on the reception of telecommunications signals by other owners and occupiers in the vicinity of the site;
- (d) the comments of any adjacent owners or occupiers in response to notification of the application in accordance with Local Planning Policy 1.2: Public Notification and Advertising Procedures; and
- (e) the statement of intent set out in the relevant precinct planning policy.

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