

Election Signs Factsheet

Legislation

Local Law No. 10 (Advertising Devices) 2022

Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2022

What is an election sign?

An election sign is a temporary advertising device that advertises a candidate and/or political party at a local, state or federal election.

How are election signs regulated?

Council regulates election signs on private property, Council controlled roadsides and some state controlled roads.

The Department of Transport & Main Roads (DTMR) also regulate election signs on state controlled roads.


Can election signs be installed without a permit?

Yes! For election signs in the Cassowary Coast Regional Council area, Section 11, *Local Law No. 10 (Advertising Devices) 2022* contains the specific requirements for election signage as follows:

- A sign must not to exceed total size of 0.6m².
- Signs must not be erected prior to an election date being announced for a Local, State or Federal election.
- Must not be earlier than 3 months before a local government election.
- Must be removed (7) days after an election.
- Must not be attached to local government infrastructure or sign.
- Must not be situated on the paved area of the road or on a traffic island.
- Be securely anchored to prevent becoming airborne in high winds.
- Not to be illuminated, flashing or revolving.
- Not located on a place of significance (eg: cemetery).
- Signs must be temporarily removed and securely stored in the event of a cyclone.

The installation, erection and display must not be likely to:

- Harm public health and safety,
- Cause property damage to public infrastructure,
- Cause a nuisance,
- Cause the distraction of pedestrian or vehicular traffic,
- Obscure a motorist's view that affects safe driving, particularly when an advertisement is proposed to be located on or near a street corner, intersection, medium strip or round-about.
- Cause environmental harm,
- Be a detrimental impact on the amenity of the area,
- Cause the unreasonable obstruction of an existing view or vista.



Signs are to be kept and always maintained in good order and free from graffiti and be structurally sound.

What happens with signs that don't comply?

Signs that don't comply with the requirements outlined above may lead to a Council authorised person:

- requesting the sign owner to remedy the non-compliance eg. remove or relocate the sign;
- removing and disposing of; or impounding any sign without notice if the sign is exhibited in contravention of the local law and the authorised person has adequate reason to remove the sign immediately;
- issuing the sign owner a Compliance Notice;
- issuing the sign owner an infringement notice of 5 penalty units (\$774.00)

If you are considering installing election signage that does not comply with the above requirements as per Part 4 *Local Law No. 10 (Advertising Devices) 2022*, please speak with Council's local laws team regarding obtaining approval for a permit. Please note that fees and charges apply to permit approval for an advertising device www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov/fees-charges.

DTMR requirements

DTMR have specific requirements regarding the **display period, construction, location and placement** of election signs. Please visit the DTMR website at <https://www.qld.gov.au/transport/safety/signs/election-signs> to complete their self-assessment checklist to ensure you comply with their requirements.

Other criteria

The candidate accepts full liability for any claims arising from the placement of election signs.

Further Information

For further information contact Council at 1300 763 903 or email enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au

