

1. Policy Statement

Hinchinbrook Shire Council (Council) is committed to providing effective guidelines to manage the use of **recreational vehicles** and **off-road vehicles** on **Local Government Controlled Areas** to align with the expectations and interests of residents of the Hinchinbrook Shire.

2. Principles

This policy is designed to assist Council in fulfilling its legal obligation as manager of **Local Government Controlled Areas** and **local roads** in accordance with the *Local Government Act (Qld) 2009* and other relevant legislation and guidelines.

In particular and in accordance with *Local Law No.4 2012*, Council seeks to *protect the health and safety of persons using local government controlled land, facilities, infrastructure and roads and preserve features of the natural and built environment and other aspects of the amenity of local government controlled land, facilities, infrastructure and roads.*

3. Scope

This policy applies to the operation of recreational vehicles (such as ATVs) and off-road vehicles (such as four-wheel drives) on *local government controlled areas*. In particular, this policy provides a framework for where the abovementioned vehicles can access local government controlled areas and establishes conditions for how vehicles can be operated.

4. Responsibility

The Chief Executive Officer and Executive Management are responsible for ensuring that this policy is understood and adhered to by relevant Council staff and stakeholders within the Hinchinbrook Shire.

5. Definitions

Recreational vehicles means non-standard vehicles that are eligible for conditional registration and have limited access to the road network.

Off-road vehicles means vehicles capable of complying with the requirements for standard registration that are designed for off-road use (for example, four-wheel drive vehicles).

Local Government Controlled Areas means land held in trust or otherwise controlled by Hinchinbrook Shire Council, other than a road. The term includes parks, reserves, and gazetted foreshores.

Local roads means an area of land dedicated or declared to be a road for public use whether formed or unformed that is not a State-controlled road. The term includes a street, esplanade, Reserve for esplanade, pathway, thoroughfare, track and stock route.

6. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to effectively manage the use of **recreational vehicles** and **off-road vehicles** on **Local Government Controlled Areas** in a manner which aligns with the expectations and interests of residents of the Hinchinbrook Shire. The use of such vehicles is quintessential to the Hinchinbrook lifestyle, with regulation required to ensure safety and to protect environmental values and residential amenity.

7. Policy

Designated Access

Recreational vehicles and **off-road vehicles** may only access **Local Government Controlled Areas** by means of the designated and formalised access points where such signage is provided.

No Vehicle Access Areas

Where signage indicates that no vehicle access is permitted, **recreational vehicles** and **off-road vehicles** must not proceed beyond the relevant signage.

Recommended Maximum Speed

A maximum speed of 20km/h is recommended for all vehicles whilst accessing and utilising the beach.

Restricted Riparian Zone


Activity does not occur within the 'restricted riparian zone' as identified by the *Hinchinbrook Shire Council Foreshore Management Plan 2017* at Lucinda and Forrest Beach.

8. Legal Parameters

- *Local Government Act (Qld) 2009;*
- *Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995; and*
- *Transport Operations (Road Use Management – Vehicle Standards and Safety) Regulation 2010.*

9. Associated Documents

- *Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2012;*
- *Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2012;*
- *Guideline for Conditionally Registered Vehicles in Queensland 2019; and*
- *Hinchinbrook Shire Council Foreshore Management Plan 2017.*

DOCUMENT HISTORY AND STATUS						
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Approved by Council	Alan Rayment			CEO		29/10/2019
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