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<b>Responsible Officer(s):</b>	<i>MERS, CSO, PO</i>
<b>Council File Reference:</b>	<i>Council Policies (P)</i>
<b>Applicable Legislation:</b>	<i>Local Government Act 1999 Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 and Regulations Dog and Cat Management Act 1995</i>
<b>Relevant Policies:</b>	<i>Council By-law 3 – Local Government Land</i>
<b>Related Procedures:</b>	
<b>Delegations:</b>	<i>Berri Barmera Council Delegations Register</i>

### 1. Purpose

The Berri Barmera Council area is a significant tourist destination for regional travellers and the Council seeks to utilise this opportunity to support local business. Tourists to our region seek many forms of accommodation, including camping, caravans and the use of Recreational Vehicles (RV's). There is an opportunity for Council to provide the low cost facilities that these forms of travellers look for without competing with existing commercial operations.

It is also acknowledged that tourist development at inappropriate locations can detrimentally impact on our environment and this is to be avoided by establishing facilities in suitable areas.

Within our region there are other locations provided for camping purposes, both public and private. The purpose of this policy is not to compete with the commercial operations that exist within our area, rather to supplement these activities.

This policy shall guide Council in the establishment of any Local Government land for camping and the appropriate fees and charges that would be applicable. Council can then identify land which it believes is suitable for camping, caravanning and RV use.

### 2. Definitions

Council	Berri Barmera Council
Local Government Land	As per the meaning in the Local Government Act 1999 Chapter 11
By-Law	As per the meaning in the Local Government Act 1999 Chapter 12
Authorised Officers	A person appointed as an authorised person under Chapter 12, Part 3 of the Local Government Act 1999
Camping	Includes the occupation or placement of a sleeping bag, tent, vehicle, caravan or other makeshift structure as or for the purpose of temporary accommodation

Recreational Vehicle (RV)	A vehicle that is fully self-contained with respect to shower, toilet, washing, cooking and sleeping facilities and must have holding tanks for all toilet waste and sullage water, sufficient for at least 48 hours use by the occupants and to be disposed of at an authorised dump point.
Duration of stay	The length of time permitted to stay within the Berri Barmera Council area in a 3 month period
Booking Platform	Camp sites are required to be booked using the Bookeasy Platform
Effective Control	A person is exercising control of a dog either – (i) by means of physical restraint (a chain, cord or leash that does not exceed 2 metres in length restraining the dog, a cage, vehicle or other object or structure); or (ii) by command, the dog being in close proximity to the person and the person being able to see the dog at all times.
Permit	Either a permit or a confirmation from the online booking system

### 3. Principles

To provide low cost camping as a supplement to the other camping opportunities within our area. Under Council By-law No 3 – Local Government Land, camping or staying on Local Government land is prohibited unless otherwise identified.

### 4. Policy Statement

#### RV Friendly Locations

It is Council's desire to provide RV Friendly status to the townships of Barmera, Berri and Monash.

Council will seek to provide day use only areas for vehicles in the townships to allow the parking of vehicles towing either a trailer or caravan, as well as RV's. These areas will not allow for overnight stays to occur but will provide travellers access to the services provided within the towns. These locations will not require a fee once established.

Council may identify sites where overnight stays shall be permitted. Sites may specifically be chosen for RV's and a charge will be incorporated based on the level of facilities provided as described in the later section of this policy.

Any such locations shall be clearly identified with signage acknowledging that a permit is required for a stay and any regulations. Permits shall be collected with payment of any associated fees.

#### Traditional Camping

Council may establish areas on Local Government Land for day use only in out of town areas. These areas shall provide safe access and egress from the road and will provide only minimal rest facilities. No overnight stays shall be permitted and no charges shall be incorporated.

Council may identify land in out of town areas that are suitable for traditional camping as well as caravans and RV's if desired. These locations will provide minimum facilities to cater for overnight stays with fees to be charged based on the facilities provided as defined in the table below.

Any such locations shall be clearly identified with signage acknowledging that a permit is required for a stay and any regulations. Permits shall be issued with payment of any associated fees.

#### Facilities

Council may choose to include a various range of facilities at any location identified to provide overnight accommodation to visitors. These will generally include a range from the following:

- Toilets;
- Dump point; and
- Water.

### **Duration of stays**

Council shall provide access to accommodation on Local Government Land for a duration of up to fourteen (14) days within a 3 month period at Lake Bonney and Martin Bend. Camping at Barmera RV Park is for a duration of 4 days. Any person who wishes to extend their stay longer than this limit shall submit their request in writing to Council prior to the completion of their time at the facility for consideration.

### **Limit on Numbers**

Council shall determine the number of sites at any given location. Bookings are to be made through the online booking platform at [www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au](http://www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au)

For the duration of large events that are based within the region, Council may determine that the provision of overflow sites may be appropriate. These shall only be established after consultation with commercial providers and event organisers to determine the nature and scale of any overflow area.

### **Nature of Accommodation**

Council shall determine what sort of accommodation is provided and may nominate an area for one or more forms of stay only. Any other form of stay would not be permitted. For example, if an area is identified as an “RV only site” then no camping shall be permitted. This shall be clearly identified with signage at any site.

Council may also choose to utilise land for accommodation purposes during large local events. These sites shall be established immediately prior to and during events only and shall only be considered where there is determined to be a significant visitor influx that local facilities will not sufficiently cater for.

### **Charges**

Any fees and charges will be listed in Council’s Fees and Charges Register, which is available for viewing at [www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au](http://www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au)

### **First People**

The Council acknowledges the connection of the first people with the land and water. All efforts shall be made to ensure that the application of this policy is in accord with any agreements between First Peoples and Council, the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 and other relevant legislation, with specific consideration given to Native Title.

### **Enforcement**

Authorised Officers are responsible for the enforcement of the policy. Those who breach the rules prescribed for any location may be fined as appropriate. Council shall place signage at each location stating the rules of occupancy. Any person staying in conflict to Council’s By-law No. 3 in areas that are not identified for overnight stays may also be subject to appropriate enforcement action.

### **Cancellation of Accommodation**

- a full refund will apply in the case of cancellation requests received at least five (5) business days before the booking arrival date;
- in the event of the government or any other authorised agency enforcing travel restrictions, or a lockdown and your booking is unable to be fulfilled we will refund the full amount of monies paid (less the online payment fee);

- no refunds or credits will be applicable in relation to cancellation requests that are received less than five (5) business days before the booking arrival date (unless the stipulated RV Park or Campsite has been closed by Council);
- bookings can be amended with a minimum two (2) business days' notice before the booking arrival date. Bookings cannot be changed on the day of arrival. Booking amendments include
  - change of vehicle registration number(s)
  - change of arrival and or departure date/s
  - change of preferred campsite (subject to availability)
  - change in the length of stay (more or less nights)
- once amended, a revised booking will be sent from booking platform confirming the changes. If a booking amendment to change the length of stay is requested less than five (5) business days before the booking arrival date, you will not be eligible for a refund or partial refund as per our Cancellation Policy.
  - The Council reserves the right to cancel or terminate a booking in the following circumstances:
    - in the case of a breach of any law, including the Council's Local Government Land By-law, in connection with the use of a campsite;
    - a breach of these terms and conditions;
    - if an annoyance or nuisance is caused to others in connection with your use of a campsite; or
    - if any behaviour at a campsite is deemed unacceptable by the Council (including drunken or uncontrolled behaviour, offensive language, malicious or negligent use of facilities, theft or any other form of behaviour deemed unacceptable by the Council).

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