

Keywords: *vehicle, abandoned*

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| Corporate Plan: | N/A |
| Classification: | Environment and Regulatory Services |
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| Last Reviewed: | September 2023 |
| Next Review Due: | January 2025 |
| Responsible Officer(s): | MERS, CSO |
| Council File Reference: | Council Policies (P) |
| Applicable Legislation: | Sections 236 and 237 of the Local Government Act 1999 |
| Relevant Policies: | N/A |
| Related Procedures: | This Policy is not subject to Public Consultation |
| Delegations: | Berri Barmera Council Delegations Register |

1. Purpose

Council Officers are authorised under sections 236 and 237 of the Local Government Act 1999 to impound vehicles that have been left on a road within the Council area in excess of 48 hours that have been deemed as abandoned.

2. Definitions

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| Council | Berri Barmera Council |
| Public road | any road that is part of the state highway system, or any road, street, or right of way dedicated or maintained for public use |
| Impounded | the vehicle will be towed and stored at a secure location |
| Abandoned | A vehicle being left or deserted in excess of 48 hours |
| Fees | fees payable for the towing, storing and retrieval of impounded vehicle |

3. Principles

This policy aims to ensure Council keeps the streets clear of vehicles that present a danger to residents, are unregistered, unsafe or that are deemed to be abandoned.

4. Policy Statement

Vehicles cannot be left on a public road or public places in excess of 24 hours. Most vehicles left on a public road in excess of 24 hours are usually in such a state as to be unroadworthy, and where they are dumped will compromise road and public safety.

Council staff when contacted by the Police or public will attempt to notify the owner of the vehicle and if the vehicle is not removed after a minimum 24 hour period, Council may remove the vehicle and impound it. Vehicles that have been impounded are held for 1 calendar month. Council can sell or dispose of any unclaimed vehicle after 1 calendar month.

Please note that fees for towing, registration searches, advertising, administration and storage may be incurred for impounded vehicles. 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

5. Confidentiality

Any information provided will be treated as strictly confidential. Information provided to the Council's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will be securely retained within Council's records.

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