

POLICY NAME

Managing Abandoned Shopping Trolleys Policy

POLICY NUMBER

[Click here to enter text.](#)

DATE ADOPTED

[Click here to enter a date.](#)

COUNCIL MINUTE NUMBER

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ECM NUMBER

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POLICY TYPE

Council

REVIEW DATE

December 2021

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT

Environmental Health and Compliance

RELATED DOCUMENTS

[Compliance and Enforcement Policy](#)

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1. PURPOSE

This policy provides a guide to Penrith City Council staff to effectively address the ongoing amenity and safety issues related to shopping trolleys being continually abandoned or otherwise left unattended in public places and provides the community with an understanding of Council's role and expectations in relation to this matter

2. OBJECTIVE

To mitigate the safety risks associated with the abandonment and/or careless placement of shopping trolleys in public places and to preserve the visual amenity of the Penrith City Council Local Government Area.

3. INTRODUCTION

Unattended and or abandoned shopping trolleys may have an adverse effect upon community amenity and the environment. Trolleys when left unattended may become a hazard to both pedestrians and motorists or may find their way into our creeks, waterways and bushland environments.

Council's powers to impound trolleys are contained in the *Impounding Act 1993* (the Act).

4. SCOPE

4.1. In scope

Public places and places owned or under the control of public authorities within the Penrith Local Government Area.

4.2 Out of scope

Private property, strata unit blocks, commercial premises within the Penrith City Council Local Government Area.

5. DEFINITIONS

Abandoned means having been deserted or left.

Unattended means not noticed or dealt with.

Public Authority means a public or local authority constituted by or under an Act and includes:

- a) A government department
- b) A statutory body representing the Crown, a state owner corporation or a local Council
- c) A member of staff or other person who exercises functions on behalf of a public authority.

6. ENFORCEMENT AND IMPOUNDING

Council may undertake reactive or proactive enforcement as per the Abandoned Shopping Trolleys – Operating Procedures in Attachment 1.

All reports of abandoned and/or unattended shopping trolleys will be assessed and actioned by Council's City Presentation and Ranger Service staff.

Where Council's staff identify a public safety concern, priority will be given to mitigate the safety concern, thereby allowing the subsequent follow up procedure to be implemented within a reasonable timeframe or impounding the shopping trolley if mitigation is not possible.

If the shopping trolley is impounded, the nominated owner will be informed by written notice and issued with a sundry debtor invoice for costs incurred during impounding and storage (as per Council fees and charges policy).

The trolley can be returned to the retailer upon payment of fees and charges.

If the trolley is not released within statutory period, Penrith City Council may dispose of the trolley in accordance with Impounding Act 1993 and pursue cost recovery with the retailer.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES

Council staff delegations for taking action under this policy are included in Council's Delegation Register.