



# NORTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL

## POLICY MANUAL

### FIREWORKS POLICY

**Originated Date:** Adopted 19 November 2007 – Min. No. 357/07 (as Policy 54)

**Amended Date/s:** Revised 19 August 2013 – Min. No. 214/13  
Revised 20 February 2017 – Min. No. 57/17  
Reviewed 1 April 2021  
Reviewed 19 January 2026 – Min. No. 26/022

**Applicable Legislation:** *Explosives Act 2012*  
*Explosives Regulations 2012*

**Objective** To establish a policy to guide Council response to fireworks display permits

**Administration:** Governance

**Review Cycle/Date:** Next review 2029

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

This policy is to ensure that any fireworks displays within the built-up and rural residential areas of the Northern Midlands are conducted in such a manner to minimise any impact on residential amenity and the safety of horses and domestic animals.

This policy is intended to qualify Council's blanket objection to all fireworks displays within built-up and rural residential areas.

#### 2. DEFINITIONS

<i>Act</i>	means the <i>Explosives Act 2012</i>
<i>Regulations</i>	means the <i>Explosives Regulations 2012</i>
<i>Type 1 fireworks</i>	means a cap, party popper, snap for bonbon or sparkler as defined in the Regulations.
<i>Type 2 fireworks</i>	means fireworks that are Shopgoods fireworks within the meaning of AS 2187.3 and are not Type 1 fireworks.
<i>Type 3 fireworks</i>	means fireworks other than Type 1 fireworks or Type 2 fireworks and are also known as professional display or large event fireworks.
<i>Fireworks display permit</i>	means a permit issued under regulation 88 of the Regulations.
<i>Residential area</i>	Includes rural residential areas.
<i>Secretary</i>	means the Secretary of the Department administering the Explosives Act and Regulations (Department of Justice).

#### 3. BACKGROUND

The Northern Midlands Council respects the concerns of residents that fireworks displays, involving fireworks with a report, are potentially disturbing to domestic animals and horses. Such displays are generally discouraged within residential (including low density) areas.

The Northern Midlands Council endorses the RSPCA document "Fireworks are no Fun for Animals" attached to this policy.



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### 4. OPERATION

Where complaints are made to Council about a fireworks display, Council will review the complaint and decide whether to lodge an objection against the display with the Secretary.

Where Council becomes aware that a fireworks display was conducted within 5.5 km of the Launceston Airport, it will lodge an objection against the display with the Secretary.

### 5. PROPOSED DISPLAYS

- Displays, within residential areas, involving rockets and/or other air burst style fireworks are considered inappropriate and likely to distress domestic animals. Such displays shall not be supported;
- Council shall forward an objection in response to all applications including rockets and/or other air burst style fireworks in residential areas;
- Displays, within residential areas, not including rockets or other air burst fireworks and displays not within residential areas will not be opposed, provided:
  - Neighbours and pet owners in the immediate vicinity are given appropriate notification;
  - Previous displays for the site, or by the applicant, have been satisfactory (i.e. have not resulted in multiple complaints).

### 6. APPROPRIATE NOTIFICATION

In accordance with WorkSafe Tasmania's Application for Type 2 Fireworks Permits, a person issued a permit must give at least 7 clear days' notice of the display to the council's general manager and the owner or occupier of each property adjoining the site, **OR** give public notice of the display in a daily newspaper published and circulating generally in the region that the display is to be held in.

### 7. FAILURE TO NOTIFY

If Council becomes aware that notification was not given as required, it will lodge an objection with the Secretary.