

COUNCIL POLICY

Building Permit Information Policy

Policy No:

Adopted by Council:

16/7/2015

Next review date:

July 2018

Responsible SM:

General Manager Infrastructure, Development & Works

Responsible
Officers:Planning and Environmental Manager
Municipal Building Surveyor

Functional Area:

Regulatory Services – Municipal Building Services

Introduction &
Background

Building Regulations require that a copy of the Building Approval Register be available for viewing only by government departments, agencies and private persons. This does not include the copying of data information in Building Approval files.

Information contained in Building Approval files can only be provided to government departments, agencies and private persons after a written request has been received stipulating the reason for the request and is accompanied by the prescribed fee as set out in the Building Regulations.

Purpose &
Objectives

To ensure that only those persons with a relevant interest in the Building Approval information have access to it.

Definitions

Policy Details

1.

Disclosure to government & privatised service authorities

The Building Approval Register is to be made available for viewing to government departments and agencies and private persons. Requests from government departments and agencies and private persons for details of Building Approvals must be made in writing and accompanied by the prescribed fee as set out in the Building Regulations.

2.

Commercial enquiries

The details of building approvals issued are not to be supplied to commercial interests.



POLICY MANUAL

Policy Adopted:	Ordinary Meeting 16/07/96	Minute Book Page 1404	
Policy Reviewed:	Ordinary Meeting 25/07/02	Minute Book Page 10300	
	Ordinary Meeting 06/04/06	Minute Book Page 13682	
	Ordinary Meeting 11/03/10	Minute Book Page 17759	
	Ordinary Meeting 16/7/2015	Minute Book Page 31431	RecFind 15/002913





Council Policy Manual

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

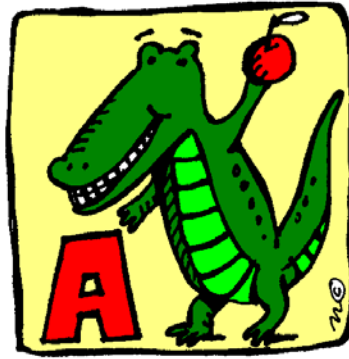
COUNCIL POLICY		
BUILDING FEE REFUNDS POLICY	Policy No:	
	Adopted by Council:	3 May 2007
	Next review date:	19 April 2017
Senior Manager:	General Manager Corporate & Community Services	
Responsible Officer:	Finance Manager	
Functional Area:	Finance	
Introduction & Background	Building developments which occur within the shire which fall within the scope of the <i>Building Act 1993</i> and associated Building Regulations will be subject to the necessary permits and associated fees. In certain circumstances an applicant may request Council refund or waive these fees.	
Purpose & Objectives	The purpose of this policy is to establish a consistent approach towards any requests for a reduction in the amount of fee payable for a building permit by any community-based organisation.	
Policy Details		
1.	Eligibility for Refund of fees applicable to a building permit	
	A refund/rebate on fees payable to Council for a building permit to be issued by the West Wimmera Shire Council will only apply in accordance with certain conditions as outlined in this policy.	
2.	Conditions attracting refund/rebate	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No reduction will apply to any Government department or agency• No reduction to any applicable building fee by any applicant where any Government funding applies to the full development• The building fee for any self funded community group project that is fully or partially funded by external Government sources, shall be not less than \$85 or 50% of the fee determined by Council at its annual review as payable for those building works• Any variation to this Policy will only be considered by Council on the recommendation of the Chief Executive Officer where exceptional circumstances are considered to exist.• The refund does not apply to the Building Levy component of the building permit fees. The Building Levy must be paid to the State government each month.	



Council Policy Manual

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

Policy Adopted:	Ordinary Meeting 03/05/07	Minute Book Page 14869	
Policy Reviewed:	Ordinary Meeting 11/03/10	Minute Book Page 17759	
	Ordinary Meeting 16/07/15	Minute Book Page 31431	RecFind 15/002912
	Ordinary Meeting 19/04/17		



APSLEY ALLIGATORS

'Learning and Growing as One'

Ages (0 – 6 years)

Meeting: Council Support for Apsley Alligators

Edenhope Shire Offices on 27th September 2016 at 11 am

Laurie Close: Apsley Alligators supporter

Freya Hawker: Apsley Alligators President

Monique Treglown: Apsley Alligators Treasurer

Main Points

- Apsley has a fantastic primary school but low numbers has meant it wasn't attracting new students as families were being put off by perceived lack of student social interactions.
- Many in the community view the Apsley Primary School as essential to keeping Apsley a viable and attractive town for people to live.
- Apsley Alligators is a high quality learning and play program for pre-school children which began one and a half years ago with the aim of attracting the next generation of students to the Apsley Primary School.
- Inadvertently it provides many other benefits such as a welcoming social environment for young mothers to get together and form a support network.
- The Apsley Alligators program is run by facilitator Keryn Smith whose salary costs are approximately \$6000 per annum.

- The Program currently relies on fundraising and donations.
- Keryn is the draw card of the Program as she has a proven track record of turning around schools struggling with numbers of students. A similar program she runs in Frances (S.A.) has more than doubled the School's student numbers and there is a waiting list for attendance to her program. We vigorously campaigned for Keryn to come and start this similar program at the Apsley Primary School.
- Once people attend the Program we find they almost always return because they see what a great learning experience Keryn is running. Sessions are fun, educational and each week there are new activities.
- Once at the School these families are getting exposed to what a great school the Apsley Primary School is, as there is an integration program that is run between the Apsley Alligators and the School.
- The Apsley Alligators program, in the short time it has been running, has proven effective in attracting participants
 - We have had over 30 different pre-school aged children through the door.
 - We get an average of 12 – 14 pre-school children each week.
 - And in any one session we have had up to 18 pre-schoolers.
- It is visible the program is offering something unique and in demand by the number of regular participants who travel from South Australia and neighbouring Victorian towns such as Gorokey, Dergholm, Edenhope, Connewirricoo and Chetwynd to attend.
- We now have such strong support we are considering limiting attendance to those children that are planning on coming to the School.
- More importantly, the program has been effective in attracting more students to the Apsley Primary School itself.

Apsley Primary School Student Numbers

Year	Without Apsley Alligators	With Apsley Alligators
2015 (actual)	13	13
2016 (actual)	12	16
2017 (known)	9	16
2018 (predicted)	6	17
2019 (predicted)	5	20

Please note the Apsley Primary School was top heavy. That is, most students were in the top few grades. As a result, each year the numbers were dropping dramatically as the year six grade left. Now that we are seeing an influx of preparatory students, the School's numbers are stabilising and then starting to grow, in a scenario which would have otherwise seen a sharp decline in overall numbers.

Already in 2017 it can be seen that the increase in the number of students at the Apsley Primary School which can be directly attributed to the Apsley Alligator program will be 78% higher than if the program had not commenced. This trend is expected to continue.

- The Program is well supported and clearly effective in growing student numbers at the Apsley Primary School which were at a critical level.
- The Committee have done extensive and varied fundraising but we are not able to keep up with the amount needed to support Keryn's salary. We are currently having discussions about where to next. All of the alternatives are undesirable and involve the cutting back of this critical program.
- In a Shire with a declining population, perhaps this is a shining light, as it is proven to be attracting people from far and wide including across from the South Australian border to the West Wimmera Shire.
- We will always continue to fundraise as there are also funds required to purchase learning resources, however, we need some sustained financial support in the way of Keryn's salary from the Council to continue this critical program.