

11.4 Policy (Review) - Weddings on Public Land

POLICY NAME: DRAFT REVIEW
WEDDINGS ON PUBLIC LAND

POLICY REF: W03

MEETING ADOPTED: 13 December 2007
Resolution No. 131207/21

POLICY HISTORY:



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OBJECTIVE

To ensure that Council owned and controlled public land is retained for passive and active recreation for residents and visitors.

To enable the use of Council owned and controlled public land for weddings and to provide some certainty of the availability of a site for the wedding.

BACKGROUND

Conducting wedding ceremonies in parks, on beaches and headlands managed by Council is a popular option for many people. These ceremonies can be large and the very nature of the ceremony can impact on the use of public reserves by other people.

While permitting the use of public land for weddings it is considered to be desirable to manage the impact of the wedding on the general public but at the same time enabling the wedding to take place and to provide some certainty of the availability of the land for the ceremony.

DEFINITIONS

Council owned and controlled public land refers to land that is classified as either community land or operational land under the *Local Government Act 1993*, and Crown land of which Council is the Trust manager.

SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to (add or delete where necessary):

- Council employees
- Councillors
- Community members

RELATED DOCUMENTATION

Related legislation:

- Local Government Act 1993
- Crown Lands Act 1989

Related Council documents:

- Special Events Policy
- Ballina Coastal Reserve Plan of Management.
- Adopted Fees & Charges

POLICY

1. A written application is required to advise Council of the intention to conduct a wedding in a public place. It is not intended to make such applications compulsory however the

holder of consent from Council will have priority of use of an area should another person wish to use the same location at the same time.

2. The application should include a wedding date and time, duration of the ceremony, venue, approximate size of the wedding and any equipment such as chairs and small domestic scale shade structures.
3. A period of two hours is allowed for the ceremony and photos.
4. Should the applicant wish to have amplified music an application will need to be made to Council at the time of booking of the wedding.
5. Council's Management Plan shall provide through its fees and charges that a booking fee is required with all written applications. schedule of fees and charges will subscribe the booking fee required for all written applications.
6. Consent to conduct a wedding on public land does not provide exclusive use of the area nor does it obligate Council to carry out any works in preparation for the wedding.
7. Should the applicant wish to erect a marquee or hold a reception on public land the applicant will need to complete a Special Event application in accordance with Council's Special Event Policy and the event will be subject to the applicable fees and event fees. However, it is unlikely that approval would be given for such an event on the beaches, headlands or in coastal reserves as such activities are not permitted under the Ballina Coastal Reserve Plan of Management.
8. The intention of the booking system is to provide those wishing to hold weddings with some certainty that the site chosen will be available for their use and that their wedding will not conflict with other weddings.

REVIEW DATE

This policy is to be every four years.