



# **Blackall-Tambo** Regional Council

## **Blackall Showgrounds Camping Policy**

Policy Number: Stat 25	Effective Date: 15.9.2021
Version Number: Three	Review Date: 15.9.2026
Policy Compiled by: Chief Executive Officer	
Policy Approved by: Chief Executive Officer	

### **PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

This policy outlines how Blackall-Tambo Regional Council will manage camping at the Blackall Showgrounds.

Blackall Showgrounds is located on a Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve, Salvia Street, Blackall, owned by the Queensland Government and held in Trust by Blackall-Tambo Regional Council. Camping at the Blackall Showgrounds is a Secondary Use of the Trust Land.

The Queensland Government has a Secondary Use of Trust Land policy and a Caravan Park policy which guides the use of the Land and the development of this policy.

This Policy is an attachment to and must be read in conjunction with the Trust Land Management Plan: Blackall Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve.

### **BACKGROUND**

Council recognises the value of tourism to the economic and social fabric of the region. Council is committed to ensuring there is a diversity of camping options for visitors to the Regional Council area.

This policy provides processes for the effective management of overflow camping at the Blackall Showgrounds.

Council does not favour the use of the Blackall Showgrounds over privately operated caravan parks in the area and the Blackall Showgrounds will only be accessible to those vehicles that cannot access Caravan Park sites due to size or in peak times once commercial facilities are full.

Exemption will be made at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer for large groups and persons with animals.

### **LEGISLATION**

*The Land Act 1994*

*The Local Government Act 2009*

*Work Health and Safety Act 2011*

DNRME Secondary Use of Trust Land SLM/2013/493 V6.01

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DNRME Caravan Park Policy SLM/2013/490 V3.06  
Trust Land Management Plan: Blackall Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve  
Blackall-Tambo Regional Council Local Law No. 4 – Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads

## DEFINITIONS

<b>Camping</b>	Use by a person or persons of a tent, caravan, campervan, motorhome or similar portable/mobile structure or vehicle for dwelling purposes.
<b>DNRME</b>	Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
<b>BTRC</b>	Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
<b>Primary Use</b>	Use of the land for showgrounds (Blackall annual show, Blackall Campdraft etc) and for recreation purposes (swimming, football, racing, campdraft etc)
<b>Secondary Use</b>	Use of the land for any purpose other than Primary Use (e.g., camping)

## CONDITIONS OF USE

Camping at the Blackall Showgrounds will be permitted subject to the following conditions:

- Camping must be for short term stays in accordance with DNRME policy SLM/2013/493 Secondary Use of Trust Land under the *Land Act*.
- A 'per night' camping fee will apply, as set annually by Council at its budget meeting and as detailed in the Schedule of Fees and Charges. Council may vary this charging method upon written application (e.g., charitable event).
- Council will take into account commercial fees set by the private caravan park owners when deciding its annual fees and charges.
- Payment of camping fees shall be made, where possible, at the Blackall Visitor Information Centre, Shamrock Street, Blackall. Outside of business hours, payment of fees should be made at the honesty box.
- The camping area is to be left in a clean and tidy condition to the satisfaction of the Council Officer responsible for the facility.
- Council may close the Blackall Showgrounds to camping for the purposes of significant community events (e.g., annual show, campdraft etc).
- Advance bookings will not be taken however, provision has been made for advance bookings of large groups including the army.
- Primary Use activities at the Showgrounds will take precedence at all times.

## EXEMPTIONS

Unless otherwise determined, camping as per the Camping on Council Controlled Land Policy will be deemed as approved.

## GENERAL

**Policy Review:** This policy will be reviewed annually in line the BTRC budget deliberations.

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**Risk Management:** A regular Risk Management review will be carried out at the Showgrounds to ensure that all the infrastructure components required in the camping areas, comply with the requirements of legislation, Australian Standards, Government policies and BTRC local laws.

**Maintenance:** A maintenance routine is the responsibility of the delegated Council officer and is to be set in place to ensure camping infrastructure facilities are inspected and maintained to ensure the safety and comfort of patrons.

**Brochure:** A brochure will be published and regularly updated, to be handed out to campers on arrival, containing the Showground camping rules, the BTRC contact person and emergency contact numbers.

**Duration of Stay:** The normal duration of stay for casual campers will be in accordance with the DNRME Policy SLM/2013/493 Secondary Use of Trust Land under the Land Act.

**Fiscal Accountability:** All fees collected must be acknowledged by the issue of a receipt, containing the payer's name, date, vehicle registration number and amount paid. The fees will be collected by an assigned BTRC employee. The money collected must be handed in at the Council Administration Office at least weekly.

**Responsible Person:** BTRC will notify campers by the brochure and by appropriate signage of Emergency Service Numbers (i.e., police, ambulance, fire and Blackall Hospital) in the event of an incident or accident. Campers should be warned that there may be a call out fee and other costs if the incident was because of their actions.

**Public Liability Insurance:** The BTRC will arrange Public Risk Insurance to protect ratepayers from any and all costs incurred by any accident or incident involving campers that may result in claims against the Council.

**Electrical Compliance:** All power outlets are to be enclosed in IP4 compliant enclosures and be protected by Residual Current Devices. All electrical systems used for camping are to be visually inspected monthly for damage and tested every six months. All power outlets for camping use are to be compliant 15amp protected power outlets.

**Fire Separation Zones:** Individual caravans, motorhomes or tents are to be sited on 6-metre-wide sites to ensure a 3-metre fire access separation from the next caravan, motorhome, tent or building to ensure fire safety.

**Open Fires:** No open fires are to be lit, or fireworks discharged inside the showgrounds at any time without prior BTRC approval.

**Vehicle Maintenance:** No vehicle maintenance is to be carried out at the showgrounds, except for topping up of fluids for daily maintenance only, without the express approval of the BTRC. Petroleum products are not to be decanted without prior BTRC approval.

**Waste Management:** Waste disposal bins are to be regularly serviced to ensure there is no build-up of waste.

**Asset Protection:** The Showground buildings and other assets will be monitored by BTRC staff for damage caused by camping activities.

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**Grounds Maintenance:** All grounds maintenance will be carried out by BTRC staff or contractors. Vegetation clearing and mowing will be carried out by BTRC staff as needed to ensure bushfire protection is maintained.

**Dangerous Goods:** No dangerous goods or other hazardous substances are to be brought into the Showgrounds.

**Use of Roads:** Vehicular traffic should be contained to the hard surface roads to minimise damage to the environment inside the Showgrounds. A clear path must be maintained at all times to allow emergency vehicle access to the Showgrounds. Speed restrictions must be adhered to at all times.

**Out of Bounds Area:** The BTRC may limit access to areas of the Showgrounds in the interest of safety. These areas are to be clearly marked on a map attached to this policy, included in the brochure and monitored by Council staff.

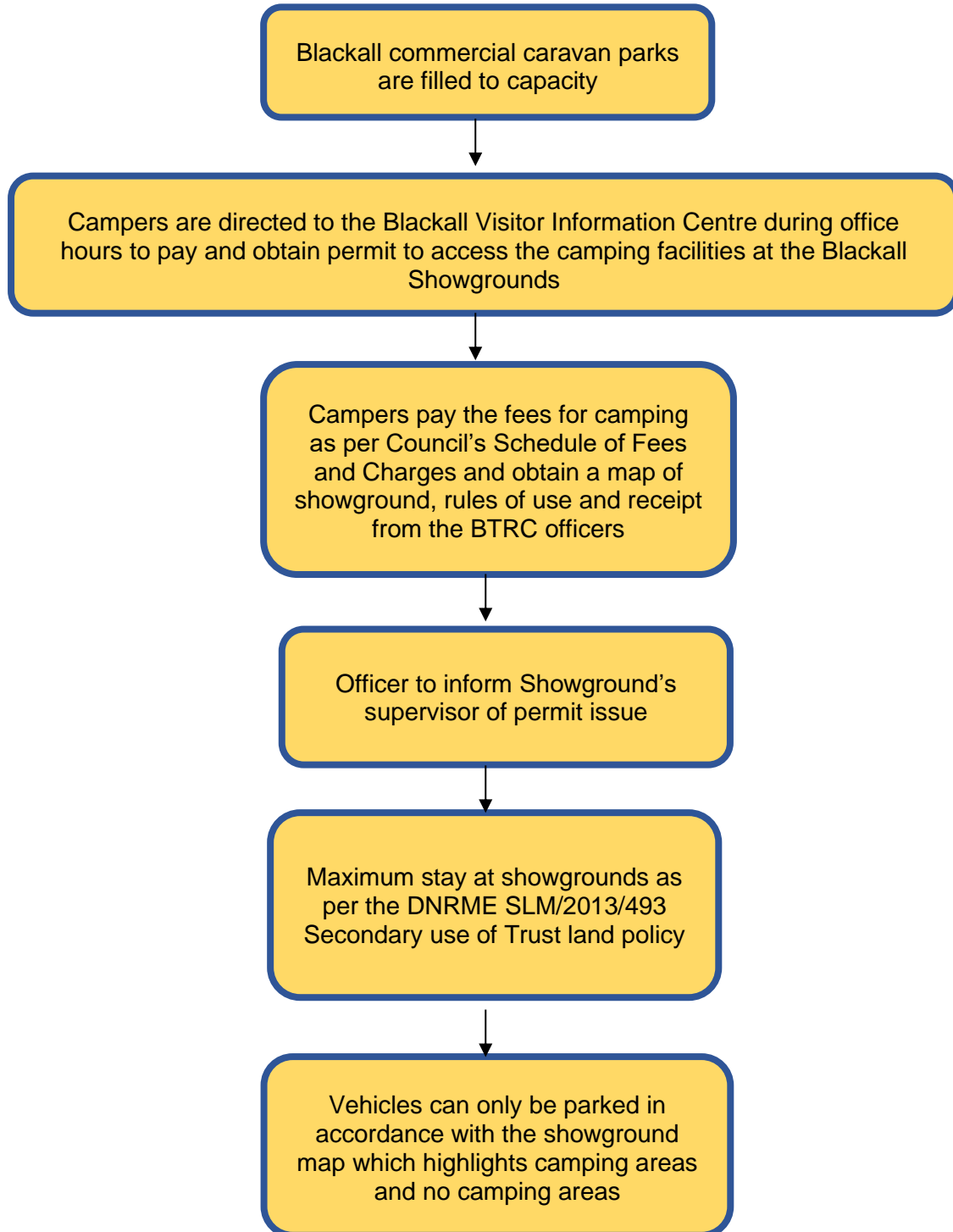
**Monitoring Numbers:** The total number of persons admitted to the camping area will be monitored so that the appropriate ratio of showers and toilets is available and to ensure hygiene standards are maintained.

**Primary Use Activities:** Campers will be advised in the brochure and through signage that camping may be terminated at any time to allow other activities related to the Primary Use of the Showground to take place. Campers will also be notified that Primary Use of the Showgrounds takes precedence and that these activities may create noise and light nuisances.

**Relocation/Termination:** Campers may be asked to relocate to more appropriate sites at the discretion of BTRC. Camping may be terminated or suspended at any time at the discretion of BTRC.

**Signage:** Signage will be prepared and located at the entrance to the Blackall Showgrounds referring campers to the privately owned and operated caravan parks in the first instance.

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## Blackall Showgrounds Complex





**Blackall Showgrounds Complex Map Showing Permitted Camping Areas**



-  Camping Overflow Area
-  Ablution Block (showers and toilets)