

2.27 Constructed Footpath Risk Management

POLICY TITLE: CONSTRUCTED FOOTPATH RISK MANAGEMENT

FILE REF: SC228

EXPIRY DATE: JULY 2026

OBJECTIVES

To establish a simple, systematic and readily useable footpath inspection program for maintaining constructed footpaths in the Lockhart Shire Council area, to minimise the incidence of injury to pedestrians and furthermore to establish a strategy of regular and routine inspections to demonstrate due diligence.

POLICY STATEMENT

The policy titled "*Constructed Footpath Risk Management Policy*" has been prepared to comply with the *Best Practice Manual – Footpaths, Nature Strips and Medians* issued by Statewide Mutual and provide guidelines for ensuring Councils constructed footpaths are properly maintained and repaired.

Pedestrian safety has in the past been perceived as a complex issue, which in part arises from the highly variable nature of their physical characteristics; this is exacerbated by the dynamic nature of pedestrian behavioural and attitude patterns. Councils have limited resources and cannot repair or remedy all low-risk hazards.

Council has considered these variables in determining the risk management procedures outlined in this *Constructed Footpath Risk Management Policy* and the associated procedure entitled "*Standard Operating Procedure for Maintenance and Repair of Constructed Footpaths*".

Identification

The identification of footpath defects is brought to Councils attention through inspections and written and verbal requests.

Inspections are to be carried out on all constructed footpaths at the time and using the procedure outlined in the *Standard Operating Procedure for Maintenance and Repair of Constructed Footpaths*.

Implementation of this inspection program is the responsibility of the Director of Engineering or delegate.

Assessment

Risk ratings are determined using the *Standard Operating Procedure for Maintenance and Repair of Constructed Footpaths*.

Control

The control and response time is determined using the *Standard Operating Procedure for Maintenance and Repair of Constructed Footpaths*.

The defects identified shall be remedied as soon as possible having regard to the risk rating, available resources and the footpath area use.

Adopted by Council – 21 August 2023

Refer Minute No. 151/23

Adopted by Council – 17 August 2020

Refer Minute No. 161/20

Adopted by Council – 18 December 2000

Refer Minute No. 22461