

## **2.19 COMMUNICATIONS ANTENNAE**

(ADOPTED 1999)

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Communications antennae are provided for under the Town Planning Scheme, and have been divided into two separate classes, being:

- Domestic communications antennae; and
- Commercial Communications antennae.

*Communications antennae* means any mast, antennae, aerial, satellite dish and other associated equipment used for the reception or transmission of television or radio signals or for other electronic communications. *Domestic* antennae must be consistent with the predominant style and size of other such devices in the locality, and neither its vertical nor horizontal dimensions is to exceed one metre. *Commercial* antennae are defined as those exceeding one metre in dimension, but do not include telecommunications infrastructure, which relate to network services.

The Scheme provides for discretionary control over both commercial and domestic antennae and also provides for the exemption of antennae from the requirement to obtain planning approval for those antennae identified in planning policy. (Refer clause 33 of the Town Planning Scheme.)

### **2. AIM**

The aim of this policy is:

- to identify those circumstances in which communications antennae are exempt from the requirement to obtain the Council's development approval; and
- to provide guidance for the assessment of applications for communications antennae which involve the exercise of the Council's discretion under the Town Planning Scheme.

### **3. POLICY**

**3.1** The erection of a communications antenna (commercial) in any non-residential zone, is exempt from the requirement to obtain the Council's Development Approval, provided it meets all of the following criteria:

- (a) the overall height of the structure does not exceed that of the building to which it is attached or with which it is associated;
- (b) neither its vertical nor horizontal dimension exceeds 2.5 metres; and
- (c) the antenna is not located on the facade or that portion of the roof which faces the street.

**3.2** The erection of a communications antenna (domestic), other than a traditional television aerial, in a Residential or Residential/Commercial zone is exempt from the requirement to obtain the Council's Development Approval, provided:

- (a) it is not readily visible from any street or public place to which the site has frontage;
- (b) it does not extend above the roof line of the building to which it is attached or with which it is associated; and
- (c) neither its vertical nor horizontal dimension exceeds 1 metre.

**3.3** Other communications facilities exempt from the requirement to obtain the Council's Development Approval, include:

- (a) television aerials provided they do not have a dimension greater than 2.5 metres or extend above the roof line by more than 2.5 metres;
- (b) mobile communication facilities temporarily located at any one place for a period not exceeding 1 week;
- (c) emergency service communication equipment operated by a public authority acting in accordance with its statutory responsibilities.

**3.4** In considering applications for communications antennae which fall outside the requirements for exemption as provided for above, applicants shall be required to address the following criteria, which shall be the basis for assessment and determination:

- (a) The size limitations (if any) which apply under the Town Planning Scheme;
- (b) The impact on the amenity of the area in which the antennae is to be erected, with particular reference to visual impact;
- (c) The potential impact on the reception of telecommunications signals by other owners and occupiers in the vicinity of the site;
- (d) Whether or not the antennae is used for transmission of telecommunication signals and if so, the level and wavelength of such transmission;
- (e) The comments of any adjacent owners or occupiers in response to notification of the application in accordance with policy 2.3 *Public Notification and Advertising Procedures*; and
- (f) The statement of intent set out in the relevant precinct planning policy.