



POLICY – 8.2 – LIGHTING MANAGEMENT AND DARK SKY

Relevant Delegation

N/A

Objective

This policy seeks to:

- Preserve and protect the night sky for future generations through environmentally-responsible outdoor lighting and dust management.
- Provide a basis for decision-making and establishment of principles to achieve night sky protection.
- To identify and protect wildlife from the effects of light pollution.

Policy Statement

To provide guidance on light spill and dust management for development proposals located within identified dark sky and astrotourism locations, or in locations where Shire of Menzies deems applicable.

This policy is adopted under deemed provisions of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* which enables Shire of Menzies to prepare local planning policies for any matter related to the planning and development of the Scheme area. The local planning policy can only have effect where consistent with the deemed provisions and local planning scheme.

Definitions/Abbreviations

Name of area	Additional Provisions
Asymmetric	Asymmetric beams allow light to be concentrated in one direction and prevents the need for light fittings to be mounted such that they are aimed above the horizontal.
Colour temperature	The correlated colour of a light source ranging from cool (blue) to warm (red), measured in Kelvin (K). A low correlated colour temperature such as 2500K will have a warm appearance whilst 6500K will appear cold.
Dark Sky Principles	Principle 1: Eliminate light spill Principle 2: Avoid over lighting Principle 3: Use energy efficient bulbs Principle 4: Ensure lights are not directed towards reflective surfaces Principle 5: Use warm white colours
Development	As defined in the <i>Planning and Development Act (2005)</i> .
Observatory	Any structure or land containing permanent optical and/or radio telescopes that are fixed or erected and used for scientific, tourism, business, defence and/or educational purposes. Includes permanent observatories, land that

	is frequently used for the above purposes, and those observatories listed in the Dark Sky and Astrotourism Position Statement.
Regulations	Means the <i>Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015</i> .
Scheme	Means the [INSERT SCHEME].
Symmetric	Symmetric beams are produced by fittings that distribute light equally in all directions and is typically seen in floodlighting. Flood lighting can be detrimental to the night sky and contribute toward artificial sky glow.

Policy Provisions

1. Specified exemptions

This policy does not apply to:

- 1.1 Development exempt under Clause 61 of the Regulations.
- 1.2 Residential development of Single Houses (including the development, extension or ancillary structures on the same lot).
- 1.3 A change of land use unless there is a works component, which is not exempt under this policy.

Unless located within a special control area.

2. Development standards

2.1 General

Lighting Management

- 2.1.1 A lighting management plan is to be submitted with all applications subject to this policy. Where a lighting management plan is not submitted, Shire of Menzies may, at its discretion, refuse to accept the application under clause 63 of the Regulations. Alternatively, Shire of Menzies may apply a condition requiring a lighting management plan, prior to commencement of development. This may include any details relevant to the ensuring that the application is consistent with Dark Sky Principles, at the Local Government's discretion. Where no external lighting is proposed, this should be stated.

2.1.2 All lighting must:

- be pointed downward to prevent upward light spill
- be shielded such that only the intended area to be lit is illuminated, and any light spill created by the luminaire which is not directed to the intended area is effectively shrouded. (see the Western Australian Planning Commission's Dark Sky Position Statement for examples)
- be commensurate with the intended use of the land and to the minimum standard to ensure safety and security, but no greater
- be switched off or on a timer so that lighting is off/minimal between the hours of 10pm and 4am
- use energy-efficient lighting bulbs/systems (i.e. LED)
- use warm white or filtered LEDs with a correlated colour temperature (CCT) of less than 2500K
- be asymmetric (when floodlighting is required)

- only face surfaces with low reflective properties in accordance with **Table 1**.

Table 1: Surface reflectivity

Surface	Reflective properties	Surface	Reflective properties
Natural grass and vegetation	Low	Uncoloured concrete	High
Painted surface (dark)	Low	Painted surface (light)	High
Pre-coloured factory metal (dark)	Low	Artificial grass (sand base)	High
Brick (dark)	Low	Pre-coloured factory metal (light)	High
Raw or stained timber	Medium	Brick (light)	High
Stone surface	Medium	Zincalume steel (unpainted)	High

Dust Management

- 2.1.3 Where development may result in the generation of dust, applications should include a dust management plan as part of an application for development approval. Where a dust management plan is not submitted, Shire of Menzies may apply a dust condition requiring a management plan, prior to commencement of development. The dust management plan should be consistent with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's *A guideline for managing the impacts of dust and associated contaminants from land development sites, contaminated sites remediation and other related activities* (March 2011).

2.2 Commercial/Industrial/Mixed Use/Non-residential

- 2.2.1 In addition to the general provisions of this policy, a condition will be applied requiring compliance with *Australian Standard 4282-2019: Control of obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting*.

2.3 Signage

- 2.3.1 In addition to the general provisions of this policy, internally or externally lit signage should comply with the internationally accepted limits in accordance with Table 2.

Table 2: Signage luminosity

Illuminated areas (square metres)	Maximum luminance at a point (candela per square metre)
More than 10	300
2 to 10	600
0.5 to 2	800
Less than 0.5	1000

Maintenance of Policy

An official copy of the updated Council Policy Manual is to be retained by the Chief Executive Officer, and all Council policies must be updated on the Shire's website.

– *End of Policy*

ADOPTED: 20 AUGUST 2026