



Unightly Allotments

Accumulations of objects and materials on properties is often an eye-sore, and can attract and harbour reptiles and other pests.

In accordance with *Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environment Management) 2011*, it is an offence for materials and objects to be brought onto, and allowed to accumulate on land to such a degree that it seriously affects the visual amenity of the allotment, or is likely to attract or harbour reptiles.

I have noticed a property I consider unightly, what can I do?

If you identify a property with accumulations of objects and materials which has become unightly, and you are unable to discuss this with the residents, a request can be logged with Council. To do this, please contact Council's Customer Contact Centre on 1300 268 624, ensuring you have full address details of the property. Please note that by logging this request, Council will not immediately enter the property and perform the works, as due process must be followed.

There are three phases to Council's standard response to such customer request. Following an initial request, Council will notify the owner of the property that Council has been notified their property is unightly, and request that the matter is resolved within a two (2) week period. At this time, you, as the requestor, will also receive notification of the date in which Council expects the works to be complete.

Following this time, should the property remain unightly, and you notify Council the property remains overgrown, a Council officer will conduct an inspection of the property to determine if the property is considered unightly in accordance with the local laws, or even a public health risk. If it is found that the property is breaching the local law or *Public Health Act 2005*, the owner will then receive a notice under the relevant legislation requiring the works to be complete within a defined time period. Again, you will receive notification of the expected completion date, unless the relevant officer deems the property is not unightly, at which time you will receive notification of this decision.

Following this request, should the property again remain unightly, and notification be received by Council, Council or its contractors may enter the property and complete the works.

It is important to note that whilst this is Council's standard practice, authorised officers have the discretion to undertake a different course of action, should they see fit.



I have received a notification my property is unightly, but cannot complete the works, can Council do it for me?

On most occasions, Council is unable to clean residents' properties for them. As such, if you are unable to maintain your property yourself, it is recommended that you engage the services of a gardening contractor or handyman on a regular basis to maintain the standard. Should you have extreme difficulties with this, please contact Council's Customer Contact Centre on 1300 268 624 to speak with the Engineering department and request a private works.

For further information in relation to unightly allotments, please contact Council's Environment and Health Section on 1300 268 624.

For further information,
contact Council:

Customer Service

1300 COUNCIL
www.wdrc.qld.gov.au

