

# FACT SHEET

## Abandoned Vehicles

Abandoned Vehicles are unsightly and dangerous, look untidy and can encourage vandalism and arson endangering property, lives and the environment.

Council works quickly to remove abandoned vehicles that have been reported or been sighted.

Any registered or unregistered vehicle, trailer, caravan, horse float etc that is parked on any road or public place under the control of Council can be removed if it is considered to be abandoned or causes a safety risk to the public.

### What is considered "abandoned"

A vehicle is deemed to be "abandoned" if;

- It has been there for a period of time or
- It has a derelict appearance and appears to be inoperable (i.e. no wheels, vandalised) or
- The owner cannot be easily located or
- The vehicle does not have number plates or
- Is not currently registered

### Reporting an abandoned vehicle

Report an abandoned vehicle by contacting Council on 1300 308 461 or emailing [info@msc.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@msc.qld.gov.au).

Please have the following details available to provide to Council:-

- location of the vehicle
- number plates,
- make, model, colour, condition,
- how long it has been there and
- whether it creates a hazard for motorists

### What action does Council take?

Council's Authorised Officers will inspect the vehicle and if it is considered abandoned or a safety issue, a notice to remove an apparently abandoned vehicle issued under the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995* will be placed on the vehicle giving owners a minimum of 24 hours to remove the vehicle or it will be towed.

All impounded vehicles are transported to a secure facility for storage.

### Claiming an abandoned vehicle

To claim of an impounded vehicle proof of ownership must be provided. This may be by providing a copy of registration papers, sale documents or other suitable documentation.

Owners will be required to pay all costs associated with the towing and storage of the vehicle. Costs will be assessed on application and will include an administration charge in addition as well as any other costs accrued while abandoned.

### Unclaimed vehicles

Abandoned vehicles are advertised in the public notice section of the local newspapers and on Council's website. If unclaimed a further public notice will be placed in the local newspapers advertising an auction date. Vehicles that are not sold are crushed.

### What if the vehicle is registered?

If the vehicle is still registered, Council will only take action where the vehicle is parked in a position that creates a hazard for motorists or shows signs of being abandoned.

### What should I do if I breakdown?

Contact Council with a location and an estimated timeframe of removal of the vehicle.

A copy of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995* is available at [www.legislation.qld.gov.au](http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au)

For more information, contact Council on 1300 308 461 or visit [www.msc.qld.gov.au](http://www.msc.qld.gov.au).

