

Policy number	Policy 210
Policy title	Free trade area
Strategic outcomes supported	EC2 – Connecting businesses and people to our local activity centres through place planning and activation

Policy objective:

- To enable footpaths or other designated areas to be used by local businesses for outdoor eating purposes, as well as the display of goods and signs.
- To designate area(s) of footpath or other appropriate locations within the public thoroughfare as a “Free Trade Area”, permitting the use of the Free Trade Area for outdoor eating areas, as well as the display of goods relating to the business.
- To promote and enhance the vibrancy and diversity of the streetscape and surrounding area.

Policy scope:

This policy applies across the Town.

Policy definitions:

Nil.

Policy statement:

1. The Town supports and encourages activity to be undertaken within the Free Trade Area which:
 - a. Enhances the amenity, vitality and ambience of the Town’s trading precincts;
 - b. Comply with the Local Law; and
 - c. Do not interfere with the safe and reasonable movement of pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
2. The Town has a legal obligation to keep footpaths safe and unobstructed and has developed this policy to outline the requirements associated with obtaining a Free Trade Area permit and operating within a Free Trade Area, to ensure that safe access for pedestrians is maintained.
3. This policy applies to occupiers of premises within the Town who are eligible to undertake activity within the Free Trade Area, in accordance with the *Town of Victoria Park Activities on Thoroughfares and Trading in Thoroughfares and Public Places Local Law 2000* (the Local Law).
4. Applicants are required to agree with the terms and conditions associated with the Free Trade Area permit application process.
5. Any proposals by Business owners/proprietors to extend the footprint of the free trade area or alter levels within the public thoroughfare directly in front of the business shall be assessed on a case by case basis. If approved, costs for modifications shall be borne by the applicant.

6. Public liability insurance, with a minimum of \$10 million coverage that specifically includes using the footpath for free trade purposes must be kept current and valid whilst the business is operating and is an approved use.

Related documents

[Town of Victoria Park Activities on Thoroughfares and Trading in Thoroughfares and Public Places Local Law 2000](#)

[Policy 211 – Parklets and Alfresclets](#)

[Webform link to application process](#)

Responsible officers	-
Policy manager	Manager – Technical Services
Approval authority	Council
Next evaluation date	February 2027

Revision history

Version	Action	Date	Authority	Resolution number	Report number
1	Adopted	09/05/2017	Council	-	Item 15.3
2	Reviewed and amended	20/08/2019	Council	148/2019	Item 10.1
3	Reviewed and amended	15/12/2020	Council	597/2020	Item 15.4
4	Administratively amended	24/08/2023	Delegation		
5	Reviewed and amended	20/02/2024	Council	7/2024	Item 11.3