
POLICY TITLE: STREET LIBRARY ON PUBLIC LAND

FOLDER NUMBER: F2007/00307

POLICY OWNER / DIVISION: Community and Environment

POLICY OWNER / BRANCH: Library and Community Services

FUNCTION: Library

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

POLICY ADOPTION/AMENDMENT DATE: 12 October 2022 **REPORT NUMBER:** CE3/22

REVIEW YEAR: 2024

AMENDMENT HISTORY: 8 August 2018 (EH15/18)

RELATED POLICIES:

POLICY PURPOSE / OBJECTIVES:

To encourage the development of a network of street libraries across Hornsby Shire.

POLICY STATEMENT:

1. In the first instance, Council encourages the development of street libraries on areas of private land with an interface to the public footpath. This allows the property owner to have more control over the management of their street library and reduces the risks and compliance associated with installations on public land.
2. Where it is not possible to install a street library on private land, Council will consent to the placement of a street library on public land subject to the following considerations:
 - (a) the street library is to be located directly adjacent to the private property boundary (as indicated in Figures 1 and 2),
 - (b) the street library is not to interfere with parked cars or pedestrians moving in the area,
 - (c) the street library is not to: obstruct the footpath or pedestrian traffic; block sight lines; impede the use of the footpath especially for pedestrians with wheelchairs, prams or who have low vision,
 - (d) the street library is not to have any sharp edges,
 - (e) the street library is to be affixed to the boundary fence or sufficiently secured into the ground to prevent it falling over,

- (f) the resident is required to contact dial-before-you-dig on 1100 or visit 1100.com.au and have identified any underground services before deciding on the location of the street library,
 - (g) the resident is required to identify the location of any underground water, sewer, gas, electricity and telecommunication services which exit the private property and connect to public utility services in the street.
 - (h) the resident is fully responsible for the installation works and for the cost of repairs to damage to any underground or adjoining infrastructure,
 - (i) the street library is to be located a distance of 1 metre from tree trunks that are less than 300mm in diameter or a distance of 2 metres from tree trunks greater than 300mm in diameter, to protect the health of trees and root systems,
 - (j) the resident shall not cut, damage or remove tree roots to facilitate installation of the street library,
 - (k) the resident is required to speak with the occupants of neighbouring properties and/or the Owner's Corporation of their strata scheme and have obtained their agreement to the installation of the street library,
 - (l) the resident is to ensure the street library is well maintained, that the reading materials are appropriate, and any dumped items placed in or around the library will be removed as soon as possible,
 - (m) should the library need to be removed the resident is responsible for removal of the street library and is responsible for removing and disposing of all materials and restoring the ground and surrounding area to a safe condition,
 - (n) the resident is required to register their street library on the website – www.streetlibrary.org.au
3. Upon installation the resident is required to notify Council by submission of the completed Self Assessment Checklist and Notification form.
4. Council reserves the right to withdraw its consent to the installation of a street library on public land at any time if the applicant does not exercise his/her responsibilities (outlined above). Council also reserves its right to apply further conditions, vary its consent at any time, or to remove the street library if the circumstances require this action to be undertaken. Noting that such action shall not be unreasonably undertaken.
5. Council has purchased Public & Products Liability insurance in an amount \$20 million on behalf of applicants who have installed a street library on public land. Any indemnity provided is granted subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of the policy. If a claim is made in respect of a street library on public land, the applicant is required to contact Council's Risk & Insurance Officer on 9847-6035.



Figure 1 – Indicative street view of street library placement.

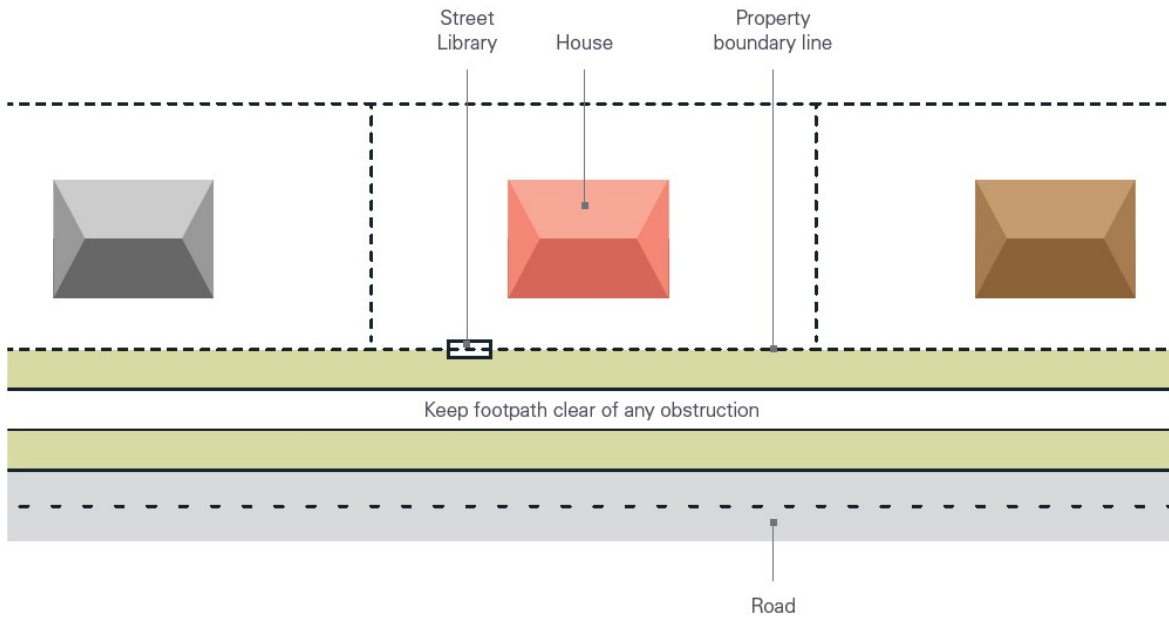


Figure 2 – Indicative plan view of street library placement.