



1. Intention

The purpose of this policy is to formalise the Shire of Waroona's commitment to becoming an Owl-Friendly Shire by phasing out the use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs) within its operations and promoting safer, wildlife-friendly alternatives throughout the community.

The policy aims to reduce the risk of secondary poisoning to native fauna, particularly owls and other natural rodent predators, while supporting environmental stewardship and community awareness.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All departments, contractors, and employees involved in Shire operations and procurement;
- Shire-owned or managed properties and facilities;
- Any pest management activities undertaken or authorised by the Shire;
- Community education and engagement initiatives supported or delivered by the Shire.

The policy does not apply to privately undertaken rodent control by residents or businesses, although it encourages education and awareness within the broader community.

3. Definitions (remove if irrelevant)

First-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (FGARs) are less toxic rodenticides that require multiple feedings to be lethal and break down more readily in the body. Common FGARs include warfarin and coumatetralyl.

Owl Friendly Shire is a local government that actively phases out SGARs in its operations, promotes safer alternatives, and educates its community about the risks of rodenticides to wildlife.

Secondary Poisoning is the unintentional poisoning of non-target wildlife species (e.g. owls, hawks, goannas) that consume poisoned rodents or animals affected by rodenticide exposure.

Second-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) are highly toxic rodent poisons that can cause death after a single dose and persist in animal tissues for extended periods. Common SGAR ingredients include brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difenacoum, difethialone, and flocoumafen.

4. Statement

The Shire of Waroona recognises the environmental threat posed by SGARs to native wildlife, particularly owl species and other predators that provide natural rodent control. To mitigate this risk, the Shire commits to the following actions:

- Phasing out the use of SGARs in all Shire operations, including procurement practices, pest control contracts, and property management activities.
- Promoting the use of safer alternatives, including FGARs and non-toxic rodent control methods, where chemical control is deemed necessary.

- Supporting and delivering education and awareness initiatives to inform the community about the impacts of SGARs and the availability of wildlife-friendly alternatives.
- Collaborating with local wildlife organisations and stakeholders to monitor the effects of rodenticides on native fauna and promote best practices.
- Displaying signage and communication materials to identify the Shire as an Owl Friendly community and reinforce its environmental leadership.

5. Legislative and Strategic Context

This policy aligns with the Shire of Waroona Strategic Community Plan and Shire of Waroona Risk Framework.

There are currently no statutory obligations mandating the adoption of this policy, however, it demonstrates the Shire's commitment to best practice environmental management and responsible community leadership.

6. Review

This policy will be reviewed for applicability and effectiveness, and consistency with relevant legislation, Council resolutions, and other Council documents triennially or as required.

7. Associated Documents

Nil

8. Document Control

Division	Environmental		
Policy Number	EP002		
Contact Officer	Director Customer & Development Services Executive Manager Infrastructure Services		
Related Legislation	Nil.		
Related Shire Documents	Nil.		
File Number	<<enter file number for records registration>>		
Risk Rating	Moderate	Review Frequency	Triennially
Next Review	July 28	Date Adopted	22/07/2025
OCM Number	OCM25/07/102		

9. Previous Policy No's.

Policy No.	Title
	Nil

10. Amendments

Date	Details of Amendment	Reference	Record Number

