

Banning Notices

Overview

This policy explains how we will issue, review, and extend banning notices to people engaging in consistent unlawful or antisocial behaviour or who cannot demonstrate a legitimate reason for being on properties that we own or manage, including SGCH offices and grounds.

Scope

This policy applies to all properties owned and managed by the St George Community Housing and its subsidiaries (we, our and us).

Banning Notices

We may issue a banning notice to any person who is engaging in consistent unlawful or antisocial activity or cannot demonstrate a reason to be in or enter a property that we own or manage, including SGCH offices and grounds. A banning notice may be issued to a person, even if they are invited as a guest by a resident and where the Residential Tenancy Act actions cannot be applied.

Examples of antisocial activity include verbal, physical or any other form of harassment, discrimination, threatening, or violent behaviour towards SGCH staff or other tenants.

Examples of unlawful activity include drug or weapon possession, home invasion, robberies, vandalism, storing of unlawful substances at the premises of another tenant.

Before Issuing a Banning Notice

We will consult with tenants, including witnesses, the alleged perpetrator and NSW Police before issuing the notice to ensure an informed decision is made.

Issuing a banning notice

When we issue a banning notice, we will notify the person in writing of the following:

- The inclosed property which the person is banned from entering (this area includes all buildings, common areas, stairwells, hallways, shared laundries, yards, entrances, lift areas, playgrounds, garbage rooms/areas within the inclosed land)
- The duration of the banning period
- Their right to request a review of the decision
- Consequences of breaching the banning notice

In most cases and where appropriate, we will undertake consultations with any tenants involved, witnesses, and the alleged perpetrator before issuing the banning notice. However, we are not required to issue a warning or undertake preventative measures before issuing a banning notice.

Duration of the banning notice

The notice will be issued for up to twelve months. The notice can be revoked at any time before the period expires.

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We will review banning notices that have been issued and may decide to revoke or extend the banning notice. If a banning notice is revoked or extended, we will advise both the NSW Police and the person who was issued the notice in writing.

Enforcement of banning notices

Once a banning notice is issued, the NSW Police will enforce the banning notice in accordance with the *Inclosed Lands Protection Act 1901* (NSW).

Review of a banning notice

Any person who has been issued a banning notice can request a review by submitting a written request within 30 days of the notice being issued to office@sgch.com.au. Head of Region will review banning notices issued and use current reports of Anti-Social Behaviour, interviews with previous complainants, the perpetrator (where possible) and NSW Police to make a decision on whether to extend or revoke the banning notice.

We will acknowledge a request for review within 3 business days, and we will assess and respond within 20 business days from the date we receive it.

Relevant Legislation, regulation and standards

- Inclosed Lands Protection Act 1901 (NSW)
- Residential Tenancy Act 2010 (NSW)
- Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) including the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs)

Policy Information

Version: 1

Approved: March 2024

Reviewed: March 2024

Review frequency: 24 months

Responsible team/position: Executive Director, Customers