

**22.05**

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**SPRAY DRIFT**

This policy applies to the use and development of land for accommodation or any other sensitive use in the Rural Living Zone and Farming Zone.

**Policy Basis**

This policy builds upon the Municipal Strategic Statement objectives in Clause 21.06 to minimise potential amenity impacts between rural agricultural uses and rural lifestyle or other sensitive uses.

Horticulture is an important component of the agricultural industry for the Shire. Apple and pear growing in Harcourt and the surrounding area has clearly established itself as a local and regional industry. The grape growing industry is an expanding industry. The protection of the industry from non-complementary uses and development is essential. Part of that protection will include residual effects caused by other agricultural production within the surrounding areas.

**Objective**

To locate new sensitive uses so that the impact of agricultural chemical spray drift on amenity and health is avoided or limited.

To ensure adequate assessment is made of the possible impact of agricultural chemical spray drift in terms of both the activity for which the agricultural chemicals are applied and the nearby uses which may be affected.

To ensure adequate measures are taken to avoid or limit the effects of spray drift of chemicals.

**Policy**

It is policy to:

- Advertise all applications to use and develop land for the purpose of a dwelling adjacent to an established horticultural land use or located within an established horticultural area in accordance with Section 52 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.
- Discourage residential development, sensitive agricultural uses and other uses that may be affected by agricultural chemical spray drift unless they are located such that chemical spray drift does not adversely affect community public health and safety or include measures to mitigate adverse effects from chemical spray drift.
- Maintain a minimum separation distance between dwellings and agricultural land of 300 metres. This distance may be reduced or increased depending on the environmental and topographical features of land separating the dwelling from the agricultural land use.