

NORTHERN MIDLANDS LOCAL PROVISIONS SCHEDULE

INSTRUMENT OF CERTIFICATION

The Northern Midlands Council at its meeting of 29 June 2026 certified that **Draft Amendment 24-2026** to insert NOR-S9.0 Ross Dark Sky Specific Area Plan to the *Northern Midlands Local Provisions Schedule* meets the requirements specified in sections 32 and 34 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

The **COMMON SEAL** of the)
Northern Midlands Council is)
hereunto affixed, pursuant to the)
Council's resolution of)
29 June 2026 in the presence of:)



M Knowles OAM

Mayor

Mark Brackenell

Acting General Manager

DRAFT AMENDMENT 24-2026

NOR-S9.0 Ross Dark Sky Specific Area Plan

NOR-S9.1 Plan Purpose

The purpose of the Ross Dark Sky Specific Area Plan is:

- NOR-S9.1.1 To recognise the Dark Sky qualities of Ross.
- NOR-S9.1.2 To minimise the impact of external lighting on the natural night sky.
- NOR-S9.1.3 To protect the natural night sky of Ross from the impact of artificial external lighting by requiring external lighting to be:
 - (a) useful, by having a clear purpose and only illuminating the intended area;
 - (b) targeted, by being directed entirely downwards and completely shielded so no light escapes above the horizontal plane;
 - (c) of a low light level, so that lights are no brighter than necessary to perform their intended task;
 - (d) controlled, so that lights are used only when needed; and
 - (e) of a warm colour temperature.

NOR-S9.2 Application of this Plan

NOR-S9.2.1 The specific area plan applies to the area of land designated as NOR-S9.0 Ross Dark Sky Specific Area Plan on the overlay map and in Figure S9.2.1.

NOR-S9.2.2 In the area of land this plan applies to, the provisions of the specific area plan are in addition to the provisions of:

- | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| (a) | 8.0 General Residential Zone; |
| (b) | 11.0 Rural Living Zone; |
| (c) | 14.0 Local Business Zone |
| (d) | 21.0 Agriculture Zone |
| (e) | 26.0 Utilities Zone; |
| (f) | 27.0 Community Purpose Zone |
| (g) | 28.0 Recreation Zone; |
| (h) | 29.0 Open Space Zone; and |
| (i) | C1.0 Signs Code, |

as specified in the relevant provision.

NOR-S9.3 Local Area Objectives

This sub-clause is not used in this specific area plan.

NOR-S9.4 Definition of Terms

Correlated colour temperature A measure, in kelvins, of the warmth or coolness of the appearance of a light source.

Dark Sky Means a place where the darkness of the night sky is relatively free of interference from artificial light.

NOR-S9.5 Use Table

No Uses.

NOR-S9.6 Use Standards

NOR-S9.6.1 External lighting for all uses

This clause is in addition to General Residential Zone – clause 8.3 Use Standards, Rural Living Zone – clause 10.3 Use Standards, Local Business Zone – clause 14.3 Use Standards, Agriculture Zone – clause 21.3 Use Standards, Utilities Zone – clause 26.3 Use Standards, Community Purpose Zone – clause 27.3 Use Standards, Recreation Zone – clause 28.3 Use Standards, and Open Space Zone – clause 29.3 Use Standards.

Objective:	That external lighting for a use: (a) is shielded to prevent upward light spill to minimise skyglow
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	(b) has a colour temperature that limits adverse impacts on night-sky visibility (c) maintains the dark-sky qualities of the area by avoiding lighting forms or fittings that emit light above the horizontal plane
Acceptable Solutions	Performance Criteria
A1 External lighting for a use must be fully shielded so that fixtures over 1,000 initial lamp lumens emit zero light above the horizontal.	P1 No Performance Criterion.
A2 External lighting for a use must have a correlated colour temperature not exceeding 3000 kelvins.	P1 No Performance Criterion.

NOR-S9.6.2 Illuminated signs

This clause is in substitution for C1.0 Signs Code – clause C1.5.1 Use Standards

Objective:	That signs do impact dark sky qualities by being illuminated only when necessary.
Acceptable Solutions	Performance Criteria
A1 Signs must not be illuminated outside of the hours of operation of the activity associated with the sign.	P1 No Performance Criterion.

NOR-S9.7 Development Standards for Buildings and Works

NOR-S9.7.1 External Lighting for all development

This clause is in addition to General Residential Zone – clause 8.4 Development Standards for Dwellings and clause 8.5 Development Standards for Non-dwellings, Rural Living Zone – clause 10.4 Development Standards for Dwellings and clause 10.5 Development Standards for Non-dwellings, Local Business Zone – clause 14.4 Development Standards for Buildings and Works , Agriculture Zone – clause 21.4 Development Standards for Buildings and Works, Utilities Zone – clause 26.4 Development Standards for Buildings and Works, Community Purpose Zone – clause 27.4 Development Standards for Buildings and Works, Recreation Zone – clause 28.4 Development Standards for Buildings and Works, and Open Space Zone – clause 29.4 Development Standards for Buildings and Works.

Objective:	That the development of external lighting:
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	(d) is shielded to prevent upward light spill to minimise skyglow (e) has a colour temperature that limits adverse impacts on night-sky visibility (f) maintains the dark-sky qualities of the area by avoiding lighting forms or fittings that emit light above the horizontal plane
Acceptable Solutions	Performance Criteria
A1 External lighting must be fully shielded so that fixtures over 1,000 initial lamp lumens emit zero light above the horizontal.	P1 No Performance Criterion.
A2 External lighting must have a correlated colour temperature not exceeding 3000 kelvins.	P1 No Performance Criterion.

NOR-S9.7.2 Illuminated signs

This clause is in addition to C1.0 Signs Code – clause C1.6.2 Illuminated signs

Objective:	That signs are not excessively illuminated, and do not impact dark-sky qualities.	
Acceptable Solutions	Performance Criteria	
A1 Sign luminance must not exceed 100 candelas per square metre, measuring a full white display using a luminance meter or photometer.	P1 No Performance Criterion.	

NOR-S9.8 Development Standards for Subdivision

NOR-S9.8.1 Lighting to subdivisions

This clause is in addition to General Residential Zone – clause 8.6 Development Standards for Subdivision, Rural Living Zone – clause 10.6 Development Standards for Subdivision, Local Business Zone – clause 14.5 Development Standards for Subdivision, Agriculture Zone – clause 21.5 Development Standards for Subdivision, Utilities Zone – clause 26.5 Development Standards for Subdivision, Community Purpose Zone – clause 27.5 Development Standards for Subdivision, Recreation Zone – clause 28.5 Development Standards for Subdivision, and Open Space Zone – clause 29.5 Development Standards for Subdivision.

Objective:	That street lighting is operated only during necessary hours
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Acceptable Solutions	Performance Criteria
A1 Streetlighting is fitted with adaptive lighting controls capable of automatic dimming in response to time of night.	P1 No Performance Criterion.
A2 Streetlighting includes curfew controls that switch lights off, or dim them to the lowest safe level, during periods of low or no activity.	P2 No Performance Criterion.
A3 Streetlighting is designed and installed so that no light is emitted above the horizontal plane, consistent with full cut-off or fully shielded luminaires.	P3 No Performance Criterion.
A4 Streetlighting has a correlated colour temperature of 3000 K or lower.	P4 No Performance Criterion.

NOR-S8.9 Tables

This sub-clause is not used in this specific area plan.



^Figure NOR-S9.2.1 Ross Dark Sky Specific Area Plan as required by clause NOR-S9.2.1.

Legend



Ross Dark Sky Specific Area Plan

The **COMMON SEAL** of the
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