

Date First Adopted: 8 June 2006

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Division: All Divisions**Status:**Administrative: Business Unit: Parks & Environment Service Unit: Environment Services**Background:**

Local Governments have a key role to play in sustainable development as stated in the Local Government Act 1995 S1.3(3).

In carrying out its functions a local government is to use its best endeavours to meet the needs of current and future generations through an integration of environmental protection, social advancement and economic prosperity.'

The City of Cockburn's definition of sustainability is:

Pursuing governance excellence to meet the needs of current and future generations through an integration of the environment, society and economy.

The City of Cockburn recognises its responsibility to work with its community towards an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable future.

Purpose:

To provide a strategic framework for embedding sustainability in the City's planning, development, reporting and decision-making processes.

Policy:

The City is committed to achieving sustainability in the following ways:

(1) Governance

1. Implement an integrated sustainability strategy, which is embedded in planning and development, the City's Annual Report and decision-making processes.
2. Assess the environmental, social and economic impacts of City activities and operations through an integrated consideration of these areas in all Council approvals processes.
3. Commitment to regular monitoring, evaluation and improvement of services and facilities delivered to staff and the community.

4. Promote the integration of the City's sustainability strategy into the community through the provision of ongoing opportunities to support community engagement.
5. Development of needs based infrastructure plans that deliver major capital works in a timely manner, while maintaining the financial sustainability of the City.
6. Provide ongoing opportunities for City staff to implement sustainability practices in the workplace.
7. Develop partnerships and collaborate with the community to achieve sustainable development in the area of public transport, buildings and infrastructure.
8. To ensure the City integrates best practice sustainable design principles into all Council initiated planning, building and development projects.
9. Annually review, and update when required, the City's sustainability policy to ensure it is relevant, up to date and reflects the City's corporate approach to sustainability.
10. Annually review, and update when required, the City's sustainability strategy to ensure it guides action toward sustainability.

(2) Environment

1. Maintain, conserve and enhance ecosystems within the City's responsibility for present and future generations.
2. Set targets for reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, energy, water use and waste from the City's operations.
3. Facilitate the sustainable use of natural resources within the community.
4. Facilitate increased recycling and reduced waste contamination and generation across City households.
5. Prioritise public transport as part of the continued planning of retail and commercial areas.
6. Ensure the development of a robust transportation system that provides for the needs of residents and industry, whilst minimising

environmental consequences.

7. Facilitate community protection and conservation of the natural environment.
8. Provide services that enhance the social and economic wellbeing of all residents.

(3) Society

1. Value and celebrate Indigenous culture, heritage and participation.
2. Value and celebrate cultural diversity within the City.
3. Provide accessible community facilities and services that meet a range of identified community needs.
4. Facilitate a local sense of community identity for all residents of the City.
5. Provide residents with a sense of safety and security.
6. Create and enhance meeting places which promote leisure and lifestyle; and
7. Enable the community to integrate sustainability into their way of life through best practice planning and development.

(4) Economy

1. Facilitate the development of local enterprise.
2. Facilitate the improvement of local employment opportunities.
3. Making financial decisions that consider the best outcomes for society and the environment and are able to be delivered in an economically viable manner.
4. Ensuring the City's development and delivery of services does not diminish its economic capital.
5. Aspiring to a level of financial sustainability whereby long term plans are delivered without having to increase rates or reduce services in a way that significantly impacts on a resident's cost of living or the social wellbeing of the community.