

## Policy Type

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Council

## Policy Purpose

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Sustainability is one of the City of Cockburn's core values. Council seeks to have all employees think and act with sustainability at the forefront of their decision making.

This Policy seeks to address the requirements of section 3.1 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, relating to sustainability and climate change.

The City defines sustainability as:

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

This policy forms part of Council's integrated reporting framework which incorporates the Strategic Community Plan 2025-2035, Climate Change Strategy 2020-2030 and the Climate Change and Sustainability Snapshot in the City's Annual Report.

This policy applies to all Elected Members in decision-making and staff in all aspects of planning, operations and program delivery.

## Policy Statement

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Council is committed to achieving sustainability by directing the City to follow eleven principles to decision-making processes across the City's operations:

(1) Integrated decision-making

The Council will consider both the long and short term implications of all decisions on the local economy, environment, and society.

(2) Environmental Conservation

The City will protect strategically identified remnant bushland, wetlands, the coastal environment, ecological corridors and associated eco-systems to ensure the integrity of these systems is conserved and enhanced for future generations.

(3) Sustainable Procurement

The City will implement sustainable procurement practices that minimise unnecessary resource consumption, consider whole-of-life costs, circular economy principles, and deliver beneficial environmental, social and economic outcomes.

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| <b>Title</b> | <b>Sustainability</b> |
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(4) Responsible Waste Management

The City will manage waste according to the waste hierarchy with the highest priority given to waste avoidance, followed by reuse and recycling, with 'energy from waste' and landfill as a last resort.

(5) Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD)

The City will design, construct and operate all community facilities and civic infrastructure in a sustainable manner. All new City facilities exceeding a budget of \$1 million will set aside a minimum of three percent (3%) of the total project cost for innovative ESD initiatives that are beyond business as usual.

(6) Climate Change Action

The City is committed to acting on climate change and ensuring that mitigation and adaptation actions are equitable and consistent with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

(7) Sustainable City Growth

The City will plan for population growth in accordance with the planning framework to ensure high density living is balanced with the provision of open space, urban greening and tree canopy, connected shared pathways, accessible community facilities and integrated transport infrastructure.

(8) Social Equity and Inclusion

The City recognises the First Nations people as the traditional owners of the land. The City embraces cultural diversity and celebrates the significance of the City's social and built heritage. Council will take action to improve universal accessibility, create welcoming and inclusive communities for everyone.

(9) Community Health and Wellbeing

The City will minimise risks to human health by managing the natural and built environment, delivering programs and infrastructure to reduce preventative illness, encourage healthy lifestyles and enable active transport.

(10) Economic Advancement

The City is committed to long term sustainable financial management and will deliver value for money for ratepayers. Council will strive for a diverse workforce and create opportunities for local employment, support the sustainable development of business through building capacity and capability and help empower the community.

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## (11) Leadership and Governance

The City will regularly review its performance, publicly report progress and continuously strive for excellence and to demonstrate leadership in sustainability. Consultation opportunities will be provided to the community and stakeholders on decisions that impact them.

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|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Strategic Link:                               | Strategic Community Plan 2025-2035<br>Climate Change Strategy 2020-2030 |
| Category                                      | Environment & Sustainability                                            |
| Lead Business Unit:                           | Growth and Sustainability                                               |
| Public Consultation:<br>(Yes or No)           | Yes                                                                     |
| Adoption Date:<br>(Governance Purpose Only)   | 8 September 2026                                                        |
| Next Review Due:<br>(Governance Purpose Only) | September 2028                                                          |
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