

POL	CONTROL MEASURES FOR PROTECTING WATER RESOURCES IN RECEIVING ENVIRONMENTS	LPP 5.3
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DIRECTORATE:	Planning and Development
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RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Senior Planning Officer, Strategic
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BACKGROUND:

A reduction in water quality is one of the main threats to wetlands of the Swan Coastal Plain. The major cause of deteriorating water quality in wetlands is due to the transport of nutrients and pollutants such as hydrocarbons via stormwater.

There is a need for water and drainage management that ensures:

- Water quality and quantity is tied to long term community needs; and
- The ecological integrity of the receiving environment and the quality of water is preserved and enhanced; and
- Provision is made for local groundwater recharge.

PURPOSE:

To establish procedures by which drainage generated from subdivision can be controlled through best practice water sensitive urban design, so as to ensure the protection of water resources in receiving environments. This Policy also integrates the Better Urban Water Management Publication (Western Australian Planning Commission 2008) as the primary policy guidance for the City in relation to achieving better management and use of urban water resources.

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POLICY:

- (1) The City aims to minimise the amount of water pollution occurring as a result of subdivision, and that best management practice water sensitive urban design takes place in all situations.
- (2) This Policy adopts the Better Urban Water Management Publication (Western Australian Planning Commission 2008) as the primary policy guidance in relation to facilitating better management and use of urban water resources, in conjunction with protecting water resources in sensitive receiving environments. The framework provided within the publication applies to each stage of the planning system, so as to ensure an appropriate level of consideration is given to total water cycle management. The publication importantly provides guidance to the City in relation to implementing its statutory responsibilities pursuant to State Planning Policy No. 2.9 (*Water Resources*).
- (3) This Policy also adopts the Stormwater Management Manual of Western Australia (Department of Water) as the document setting out current best management principles and practices in relation to stormwater management. Chapter 7 and Chapter 9 are specifically to be used in providing the minimum standards of non-structural and structural controls for stormwater management. These chapters are focussed on best management practice water sensitive urban design, particularly where sensitive receiving environments (wetlands, bushland) exist nearby.
- (4) This Policy also adopts elements and principles of Liveable Neighbourhoods in relation to guiding the design and application of urban water management within structure plans and subdivision processes.
- (5) The City recognises that in a drying climate, drainage generated from urban areas may in some cases be seen as an important source of water to direct towards wetland environment/s. Any consideration of this must demonstrate through an associated Local Water Management Strategy and/or Urban Water Management Plan that an adequate treatment train exists for drainage so that gross pollutants and nutrients are removed prior to the water entering the wetland to the satisfaction of the City, Department of Water and/or Department of Environment and Conservation.