



# **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

Corporate Document

Version: 2 / ECM: Fixed Reference No.: 6506401

Adopted by: Council on the 5 September 2023

Ownership: Environment and Planning

## Purpose

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This policy demonstrates Council's commitment to sustainability and sound environmental management. It also highlights how the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) and sustainability should be integrated into Council's planning, operations, activities, service delivery and advocated to the Mosman community.

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires all councils, councillors, and council employees to have regard to the principles of ESD.

## Objectives

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- Enhance environmental awareness of employees, contractors, councillors, volunteers and the community to build their capacity to protect the environment;
- Protect and conserve the environment, including natural resources, landscapes, ecological processes, biological diversity, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage and relics;
- Reduce the ecological footprint of Council and the community through the encouragement of avoidance of waste, sustainable use of resources, resource recovery and uptake of social responsibility and sustainable lifestyles practices;
- Prevent and minimise human impacts on the environment by incorporating the principles of ESD into planning, asset management, policy, and procedures; and
- Continually improve environmental management, sustainability, utilising current best practices where possible and applying expertise within Council to contribute to managing environmental issues where applicable.

## Scope

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This Policy applies to all Council staff, Contractors and Councillors.

## Implementation

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The objectives of this policy will be achieved by:

- 1) Enhancing the environmental awareness of employees through relevant training.
- 2) Fostering an environmentally responsible culture in the Council workplace by maintaining qualified environmental staff.
- 3) Clearly identifying the environmental roles and responsibilities of staff and providing staff with appropriate knowledge, resources and training opportunities;
- 4) Where applicable, ensuring all Council plans, policies and decision-making processes consider the principles of ESD and minimise adverse environmental effects;
- 5) Identifying and addressing environmental issues through timely investigations and robust analysis
- 6) Remediating adverse environmental effects including those caused by environmental pollution incidents and accidents, in a timely and responsible manner;
- 7) Where applicable applying sustainability principles to the purchasing and procurement of goods and services.
- 8) Where applicable. requiring suppliers and independent contractors to demonstrate environmentally responsible behavior

- 9) Ensuring responsible use of resources including water and energy, and implementing efficiency measures to reduce water and energy use on Council owned property and in the Local Government Area;
- 10) Carrying out the actions and objectives of Council's Climate Action Plans.
- 11) Striving for ongoing improvement in environmental performance through monitoring and evaluation.

## Review

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This policy will be evaluated and reviewed by the Manager Environment and Open Space every four years to ensure it remains up-to-date and relevant unless otherwise directed by the Executive team.

## Related Documents

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- MOSPLAN;
- State of the Environment Report;
- Climate Action Plans – Mitigation Strategy and Resilience and Adaptation Strategy;
- Council's Statement of Business Ethics; and
- Council's Purchasing Management Corporate Practice and Procedure.

## Contact

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Enquiries should be directed to the Manager Environment and Open Space on 99784025.

## Amendments

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Amendment</b>	<b>Reference</b>
7 July 2009	Adopted	EP/111
July 2023	Reviewed and revised into new policy format	
5 September 2023	Adopted	EP/34