



## Sustainability Policy

<b>Policy Type: Council Policy</b> <b>Policy Owner: Director Environment and Infrastructure</b>	<b>Policy No. CP- 057</b> <b>Last Review Date: 16 April 2024</b>
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### Policy Objectives

The Council is committed to abide by the requirements of the Local Government Act 1995 (WA) and recognises its responsibility to demonstrate leadership and work with community by delivering governance excellence leading towards an integrated environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable future.

The Local Government Act 1995 (WA) Section 3.1(1A) states:

*Without limiting subsection (1), the general function of a local government must be performed having regard to the following:*

- (a) *the need:*
- (i) *to promote the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of the district; and*
  - (ii) *to plan for, and to plan for mitigating, risks associated with climate change; and*
  - (iii) *in making decisions, to consider potential long-term consequences and impacts on future generations.*

The objectives of this policy are to:

- provide a clear statement of Council's intent to make City of Melville a sustainable organisation (the City) and a sustainable community with the City to exercise leadership on sustainable development;
- provide guidance to City Officers on the information to be provided to the Council, that highlights the associated sustainability aspects, for decision making.
- acknowledge that sustainability is an ongoing strategic and operational objective and to provide a commitment to ensure sustainability consideration across City's functions; and
- embedding sustainability aspects and considerations in City's existing and new frameworks, projects, plans, products and services and developing sustainability focused programs.

### Policy Scope

This policy is applicable to the City of Melville, Council, corporate and community. This policy is applied for all of the City's functions, operations, procurement, products and services.



## Definitions / Abbreviations Used In Policy

### **Sustainability** means

To meet the needs of current and future generations through integration of environmental protection, and adaptation, social advancement, and economic prosperity, ensuring excellence in governance whilst also achieving value for money outcomes.

### **Externality** means

The unintentional consequences (positive or negative) of an activity affecting others than those directly involved in the activity.

## Policy Statement

The Council defines Sustainability with respect to the City as follows:

*Delivering to the needs and aspirations of current and future generations through integration of environmental protection and adaptation, social advancement, and economic prosperity, ensuring excellence in governance whilst also achieving value for money outcomes.*

The Council recognises that pursuing sustainability is a continuing process and therefore supports its integration with the city's approach towards continual improvement. The Council acknowledges the different roles that City plays in the community and its responsibility to demonstrate leadership, therefore accepts it as the City's responsibility to promote and support sustainable development across the community through focused programs, education and enabling services. The City will consider all positive or negative externalities when budgeting and decision making.

The City will:

- maintain and strengthen the approach of sustainability considerations across its strategic frameworks, planning and operations ensuring community well-being.
- identify and monitor indicators across business strategies, informing plans and operations that reflect the City's performance on sustainability and set targets across these indicators for short and long term.
- utilise the Organisational Environment Sustainability Initiatives Reserve funds to support sustainability initiatives that provide additional benefits through associated externalities. Use of the fund should clearly link back to achieving the short and medium term actions outlined in the adopted Climate Action Plans.
- establish new and improve existing plans, programs, products, and services to ensure provision of sustainable development in the community and across the City's operations and assets.
- proactively engage the staff and the community in upskilling and innovation by enabling programs that provide ecosystem to nurture for future needs and use of technology to drive sustainability.
- strengthen the City's adaptation and resilience efforts and engender them as critical aspects to all the city's future plans, assets and service.
- engage with other governments and businesses to explore opportunities and strengthen their performance on sustainability subjects.
- strengthen its monitoring, and verification systems to ensure performance and proactive management as and when required.
- establish and maintain sustainability reporting framework for the City (internationally benchmarked) to disclose its performance.

**References that may be applicable to this Policy**

Legislative Requirements:	Local Government Act 1995
Procedures, Process Maps, Work Instructions:	N/A
Other Plans, Frameworks, Documents Applicable to Policy:	N/A
Delegated Authority No:	N/A

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