

Policy Document

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY

Policy No: DCSB-EM.05.03	Version No: 2.1	Administered by: Manager, Community and Economic Development
Approved by: Council/Senior Management	Approved on: 19 November 2020	Agenda Item/Minute Book No or Approval Ref: 353/20
Last Reviewed: December 2014	Review Date November / 2023	File No: F16/164

Classification:
Environmental Management

Strategic Plan link:
A Healthy Natural Environment and an Attractive Built Environment
3.1 A changing climate is considered in holistic (whole of Council and community) policy, planning and infrastructure development

References and related Policies & Procedures:

Local Government Act 1999
Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2018
Landscape South Australia Act 2019
Environment Protection Act 1993
Coast Protection Act 1972
Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act 2007
Crown Land Management Act 2009
Marine Parks Act 2007
Native Vegetation Act 1991
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
DCSB Strategic Plan
Streaky Bay Stormwater Management Plan
DCSB Tree Management Policy
Streaky Bay District Management Plan
DCSB Waste Management Policy
DCSB Risk Management Framework and Policy

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2. Background

This Policy supercedes the former DCSB EM 05.03 Environmental Management Policy.

3. Definitions

Adaptation taking action to avoid, withstand or benefit from current and projected climate changes and impacts.

Climate Change refers to any change in climate over time, whether due to natural variability or because of human activity.

Low Carbon Economy an economy based on low carbon power resources that has a minimal output of greenhouse gas emissions into the environment.

Mitigation taking action to reduce or prevent emission of greenhouse gases.

Resilience the ability of a social or ecological system to absorb disturbances while retaining the same basic structure and ways of functioning, the capacity for self-organisation, and the capacity to adapt to stress and change.

4. Introduction

The District Council of Streaky Bay shall ensure environmental performance in all activities and is committed to environmental sustainability and aims to integrate environmental considerations with economic, social, and cultural factors.

This policy outlines Council's position in relation to its duties and obligations imposed through environmental legislation and Council's Strategic Plan.

5. Objectives

The Council will promote positive environmental outcomes by undertaking the following within Council's financial and legislative abilities;

- Protect existing natural environments and biodiversity
- Enhancing the condition and extent of natural environments
- Avoiding impacts from excessive resource use, waste generation, pollution, and pest species
- Adapting to a changing environment and developing resilience to changes in our climate
- Mitigation and adaptation to a changing climate through statutory responsibilities and regulatory powers relating to land use planning, asset and infrastructure management, environmental planning
- Building human connections to the natural world whilst respecting cultural, social, and economic values
- Community support through education and encouraging behaviour change and build resilience to changes in our climate
- Council will work regionally and at a state and federal level to increase the resilience of our communities to climate change and support appropriate policies and strategies that support a low carbon economy

6. Scope

The policy applies to all activities, services, actions, and decisions taken by Council and staff in relation to the environment within the Council district.

7. Policy Statement

The District Council of Streaky Bay will endeavour to manage the environment in an ecologically sustainable manner and avoid where possible negative impacts during Council operations.

8. Policy Detail

Council is committed to

- a. compliance with legislation and regulations.
- b. continual desire for improvement in environmental performance.
- c. training and educating its employees and advising contractors in respect of environmental policies and objectives.
- d. promoting decision making that protects and enhances the quality of the environment; and
- e. investigating the merit in developing plans that set objectives and targets for environmental performance.

Environmental Protection

The prevention of environmental degradation and adverse risks to human and ecosystem health with promotion of pollution prevention, clean production technology, reuse and recycling of materials and waste minimisation programs where appropriate and efficient.

Waste Management

Promoting control of the generation, storage, collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of waste with a view to reducing, minimising and where practicable and costs efficient eliminating harm to the environment

Council Works and Activities

- a. Adopting appropriate work practices that minimise the effects the Council has on the environment
- b. Avoidance of environmental harm and minimisation of impacts

Open Spaces and Reserves

Open spaces and reserves will be designed and managed to

- a. provide a range of environments to suit the community.
- b. use indigenous plants wherever possible.
- c. use appropriate water retention techniques and materials; and
- d. minimise the use of chemicals where possible.

Buildings and Infrastructure

- a. Design and construction will meet energy efficiency requirements and include consideration of energy consumption, materials, waste, and water at the design phase.

- b. Consider and where appropriate and affordable, install solar panels to off-set our carbon footprint
- c. Use where appropriate, recycled, or high proportionate recycled materials for projects

Stormwater Management

Implement Council's Stormwater Management Plan with the objectives of;

- a. minimising the risk of flooding.
- b. maximising stormwater reuse; and
- c. utilising where practicable, Water Sensitive Urban Design Principles.

Recycled Water

Implement and Maintain the Streaky Bay Community Wastewater Management System to

- a. Maximise the use of reuse water
- b. Ensure water quality is of an appropriate standard

Environmental Health

Enforcing regulations and providing advice on matters of public and environmental health to local business, industry, and the local community

Planning and Development

Implement policies which seek to balance development requirements with the protection and conservation of the natural and built environment

Bushfire Prevention Management

- a. Council shall continue to adopt continuous improvement in bushfire management.
- b. Council shall continue to promote bushfire management requirements as appropriate.

Support and Advocacy

- a. Promoting the sharing of responsibility for resource management and planning between the different spheres of government, community, and industry.
- b. Encourage public involvement in resource management and planning
- c. Promoting public education about protection, restoration, and enhancement of the environment

9. Delegations

There are no delegations listed under this policy.

10. Records

All records relating to this Policy shall be kept and disposed of in accordance with Council's Document Control Policy, Records Management Policy and Procedure and the Local Government General Disposal Schedule.

11. Review and Evaluation

The Policy shall be reviewed at least once per election cycle and recommended every four (4) years unless otherwise required by legislative or regulatory change that adversely or otherwise impacts this Policy.

12. Further Information and Policy Availability

This policy will be available for inspection at the Council offices listed below during ordinary business hours and available to be downloaded, free of charge, from Council's internet site: www.streakbay.sa.gov.au

District Council of Streaky Bay
29 Alfred Tce
Streaky Bay SA 5680

Copies will be provided to interested parties upon request. Email dcstreaky@streakybay.sa.gov.au

13. Version History

VERSION	DATE ADOPTED	MINUTE BOOK NUMBER
V1.0	December 2014	Unknown
V2.0	November 2020	353/20