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| 030 | Environment Policy | Current V3 |
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1. PURPOSE

The City of Busselton will undertake its activities and ensure its decision-making considers the impacts on the environment and identifies measures to adequately manage them. The City will therefore obtain adequate levels of information required to properly assess proposals, activities and works programmes to achieve acceptable environmental standards and statutory compliance.

The City of Busselton will demonstrate a commitment towards continuous improvement in environmental management and progress towards creating a sustainable balance between environmental, social and economic values in the City.

2. SCOPE

Decisions and activities will have regard to relevant environmental legislation and will be based upon recognised best practice environmental management standards. The most up to date information on environmental impacts, and their management, will be used to assess the acceptability of proposals and activities. Where applicable it will be the responsibility of the proponent to provide sufficient information to enable this to occur.

Where information is not available, the precautionary principle will be used by the City and the Council to assist in decision-making and advice will be sought from relevant government agencies or other recognised experts with suitable qualifications and experience on the environmental issues being considered.

3. POLICY CONTENT

Implementation of the policy will be achieved through the following activities:

Manage natural areas under City ownership, management or control to retain and enhance their environmental values and functions by:

- implementing the Environment Strategy and adopted Management Plans;
- complying with all environmental legislation; and,
- conforming to best practice management standards.

Establish effective working relationships and partnerships with the community and other stakeholders to undertake environmental management activities;

Provide the opportunity for active stakeholder involvement, ownership and participation through:

- the provision of clear and consistent information to stakeholders;
- consultation with the broader community where applicable; and
- participation in the City Environmental Reference Group.

Ensure that City activities do not lead to unacceptable environmental impacts and are undertaken in accordance with current best practice standards. This will be achieved by:

- good governance and sound decision making;
- providing opportunities for staff training;

- placing the onus on the proponent of any proposals, activities and work programmes to identify and assess environmental impacts and propose measures to manage these or modify the proposal; and
- ensuring stakeholders are aware of the City's activities and how potential environmental impacts are being managed.

Plan, design, operate and conduct operations in a manner that minimises waste and the demand on natural resources and energy.

Policy Background

Policy Reference No. 030
Owner Unit – Environmental Planning
Originator – Environment Strategy Consultancy
Policy approved by – Council
Date Approved – 9 November 2016
Review Frequency – As required
Related Documents – Environment Strategy

Background/History –

| Council Resolution | Date | Information |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---|
| C1611/128 | 9 November 2016 | Policy revised as part of the Environment Strategy review Version 3 |
| C1103/070 | 9 March 2011 | Policy updated after adoption in 2004 as part of the Environment Strategy Version 2 |