

<b>Policy Number</b>	P000482.1
<b>Subject</b>	Environmental Sustainability Policy
<b>Subject Area</b>	ENVIRONMENT
<b>Strategy</b>	Environmental sustainability
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<b>Reports</b>	PO1446 SL290144
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Director Sustainable Living - DSL, General Manager - GM
<b>Policy</b>	

#### **City Vision**

To be a vibrant, healthy and safe City - a City of excellence.

#### **Environmental Sustainability Policy Vision**

To lead by example by embedding environmental sustainability best practice into Blacktown City Council's core business and support the community to conserve and enhance our local environment.

#### **Policy Statement**

Blacktown City Council is committed to the conservation, restoration and enhancement of our environment. In keeping with ecologically sustainable development principles, Council works to balance social, economic and environmental values and imperatives.

We are working to rehabilitate our waterways, conserve and protect local bushland and wildlife, extend native habitat, improve air quality, and reduce waste and our carbon emissions to provide a healthy environment for residents of Blacktown now and in the future.

We are committed to enhancing our environmental awareness and to engaging with our community to improve environmental outcomes throughout Blacktown City. We work in partnership with our community, our suppliers and other stakeholders to continuously advance our journey toward sustainability.

This journey involves striving to:

- protect and enhance biodiversity
- reduce our consumption of resources
- take action to reduce our waste and carbon pollution
- engage with our community to support and encourage improved environmental outcomes.

#### **Purpose/Objectives**

The purpose of this Policy is to provide a rationale, set of objectives and focus areas by which Council undertakes to conserve and enhance the local environment.

The objectives of this Environmental Sustainability Policy are to:

- Identify, implement and promote best practice environmental

management across Blacktown

- Ensure Council operates in an ecologically sustainable manner by reducing resource consumption, waste production and environmental pollution
- Enable, encourage and support all staff to participate in environmental conservation initiatives by providing effective training and education opportunities
- Encourage a holistic view of Council operations to enable us to link and balance our economic, social and environmental responsibilities
- Ensure compliance with relevant legislation

### **Focus Areas**

This Policy will focus on the following areas:

#### **a. Our Assets**

- Consider energy and water conservation in our existing buildings, the installation of energy and water reduction initiatives and staff awareness
- Consider environmentally sustainable options during the design and development of new buildings
- When considering the procurement of fixed plant for our building consider the most practical, economical and environmentally sustainable option
- When considering the procurement of plant and equipment consider the most practical, economical and environmentally sustainable option

#### **b. Our People & Settlements**

- Council leads by example through integrating sustainability into core business and reducing its ecological footprint in its day-to-day operations
- Enhancement of the health and wellbeing of the Blacktown community by promoting public health best practice, encouraging physical activity, healthy eating and enforcement of legislation
- Reduce the consumption of resources, minimise the environmental impacts of waste and improve recovery and diversion rates
- Actively encourage the community to become involved at the local level to move towards sustainability and reduce the ecological footprint in homes, businesses, schools and recreational pursuits

#### **c. Our Water & Catchments**

- Protect and improve the water quality of our local waterways
- Promote water and energy conservation initiatives to reduce consumption
- Pursue sustainable water management through opportunities such as stormwater harvesting, water sensitive urban design and alternative water sources

#### **d. Our Land & Biodiversity**

- Support local food initiatives and strengthen existing local food networks and community gardens
- Protect, restore and enhance Blacktown City's biodiversity
- Extend biodiversity corridors through native planting

**e. Our Climate & Atmosphere**

- Pursue opportunities to reduce atmospheric pollutants and improve air quality in the Western Sydney Basin
  - Pursue opportunities to sequester carbon through planting locally native trees
  - Advocate and address climate change, including reducing our greenhouse gas emissions and working towards becoming carbon neutral
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**Procedure**

**Related Delegations**

**Related Documents**

**History**

This new policy was adopted on 25/112009.

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