



Gladstone Regional Council

Council Policy

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| Title | CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY |
| Policy Number | P-2015/28 |
| Responsible Directorate | PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT |
| Responsible Officer | DIRECTOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT |
| Date of Adoption | 6 OCTOBER 2015 |
| Resolution Number | G/15/2586 |
| Date Review Due | 6 OCTOBER 2018 |

1.0 PURPOSE:

This policy is to provide direction for Gladstone Regional Council's operations to enable sustainable, environmentally managed growth and the preservation and enhancement of environmental values for the Gladstone Region.

2.0 SCOPE:

Gladstone Regional Council's (Council) operations encompass a wide range of activities. This policy applies to all Council activities that are involved with or impact on any of the following:

- Climate Change
- Air Emissions
- Cultural Heritage Land Use
- Stormwater Management including Discharges to Waterways
- Flora and Fauna
- Ground Contamination
- Natural Resource Use
- Noise Emissions
- Spills and Leaks
- Waste to Landfill.

3.0 RELATED LEGISLATION:

- *Environmental Protection Act 1994 & Regulations*
- *Environmental Protection (Air) Policy 2008*
- *Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2008*
- *Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2008*
- *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwth)*
- *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 & Regulations*
- *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 & Regulations*
- *Local Government Act 2009 & Regulations*
- *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*

- *Vegetation Management Act 1999 & Regulations*
- *Nature Conservation Act 1992 & Regulations*
- *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995 & Regulations*
- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*
- *Fisheries Act 1994*
- *Water Act 2000 & Regulations*
- *Local Laws of Gladstone Regional Council*

4.0 RELATED DOCUMENTS:

- ISO 14000 - Environmental Management
- Gladstone Regional Council's Corporate Plan
- Gladstone Regional Council's Aspects and Impacts Register
- Gladstone Regional Council's EMS Manual
- Environmental Authorities EPPR00959913, EEPR00871913 & EPPR00826913

5.0 DEFINITIONS:

To assist in interpretation of this policy the following definitions apply:

Council means Gladstone Regional Council.

6.0 POLICY STATEMENT:

6.1 Overview

Council recognises its environmental responsibilities arising from the Gladstone Region's growth and sustainable development. Council will aim to manage all of its operations so as to reduce environmental impacts and promote a healthy environment for current and future generations.

6.1.1 Sustainable, Environmentally Managed Growth

Council aims to achieve sustainable, environmentally managed growth through the following actions:

- Maintenance of Council's Environmental Management System.
- Promotion of waste reduction, reuse and recycling to minimise the pollution potential of all activities in the Region.
- Prompt reporting of any pollution incidents to minimise impacts and take action to reduce further occurrences.
- Setting of measurable environmental objectives and targets when developing operational management plans.
- Including the use of recycled, reusable and environmentally friendly products and services in Council's purchasing and contract's policies.
- Actively reducing resource consumption and encouraging the use of renewable resources including a review of energy efficiencies throughout council.
- Ensuring that environmental, conservation; social, cultural and financial considerations are incorporated in planning for future development.
- Maintaining compliance with all statutory requirements.
- Promoting biodiversity protection and management.

6.1.2 Education, Programs and Partnerships

In advancing education programs and partnerships Council will:

- Educate all employees and contractors of Council to ensure they conduct all activities in an environmentally responsible manner.
- Work in partnership with the community to enhance and encourage a healthy balanced natural environment.
- Promote education programs to advocate the protection and enhancement of the environmental values of the Region.

6.1.3 Continual Improvement

Council will implement continuous improvement methods to achieve and, where possible, exceed compliance with all relevant permits, legislation, policies and standards.

This policy forms part of Council's Environmental Management System, which assists in the management and documentation of Council's environmental impacts and management methods.

Audits and reviews of the impacts of Council's activities and the effectiveness of mitigation methods in the Environmental Management System will be used in conjunction with relevant legislation, policies and standards to continually improve Council's Environmental Management System.

7.0 ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

8.0 REVIEW TRIGGER:

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

1. The related legislation/documents are amended or replaced.
2. Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council.
3. Periodic Review – 3 years from date of adoption.

| TABLE OF AMENDMENTS | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Originally Adopted | 6 April 2010 | 10/115 (formerly Policy P-5.02.01) |
| Amendment 1 | 1 October 2013 | G/13/1742 |
| Amendment 2 | 6 October 2015 | G/15/2586 |
| Amendment 2 | <INSERT DATE Council MEETING> | <INSERT RESOLUTION NUMBER> |

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STUART RANDLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER