



Council Policy

Circular Economy Policy

Version 1 - 26 April 2021

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Policy - external Circular Economy Policy

Introduction

Purpose

The NSW Government has developed a Circular Economy (CE) Policy:

“to deliver positive economic, social and environmental outcomes. The circular economy is about changing the way we produce, assemble, sell and use products to minimise waste and to reduce our environmental impact. The circular economy can also be great for business; by maximising the use of our valuable resources, and by contributing to innovation, growth and job creation. Moving to a circular economy will provide long-term economic, social, and environmental benefits for NSW. This transition will generate jobs, increase the robustness of the economy, increase the accessibility of goods, maximise the value of resources, and reduce waste”.

There is significant global momentum behind the transition to a Circular Economy with international agreement on three key Circular Economy principles listed below:

1. Design out waste and pollution
2. Keep products and materials in use at their highest possible value
3. Regenerate natural systems.

Scope

Council staff and contractors and consultants working on behalf of Council are required to comply with this policy.

Policy statement

Supporting the transition to a circular economy enables Council to be a sustainable and resilient organisation, responsive to economic and environmental challenges and changing community expectations.

This policy aligns to the state-wide circular economy policy and sets the foundation for a strategic and integrated approach to a circular economy within Council and Lake Macquarie City.

We will demonstrate leadership by committing to the development of a Circular Economy Framework. The framework will include a strategy and action plans to operationalise this policy in alignment with Lake Macquarie City Council's Sustainability Policy which delivers a whole of Council approach to sustainable policy, infrastructure and services.

We will share responsibility for our performance with all who work for and with us, and regularly report on our progress.

Objectives

This policy's objective is to establish a long-term commitment that results in the embedding of a Circular Economy mindset into Council's strategic and operational practices so that it becomes a business-as-usual within the next 10 years.

Controlled Document Information

Authorisation Details

Folder No:	F2020/00535	TRIM Record No:	D09656800
Audience:	External - External and Internal Customers		
Department:	Environmental Systems	Officer:	Circular Economy Lead - Debbie O'Byrne
Key focus area(s):	Waste and environmental impact		
Review Timeframe: Max < 4 years	3 years	Next Scheduled Review Date:	26 April 2024
Authorisation:	Adopted by Council - 26 April 2021		
Authorisation - Council Adoption Date:	26 April 2021		

Related Document Information, Standards & References

Related Legislation:	(Legislation Name) NSW Local Government Act 1993 No 30LGA 1993 Chapter 3 Principles of Local Government, Sections 8 (A, B&C)	(Relationship/Context) NSW LGA 1993 - requirement to council decision making to consider; sound financial management, investment in responsible and sustainable infrastructure, principles of ecologically sustainable development and social justice principles.
Related Policies:	(Policy Name) Procurement Policy	(Relationship/Context) The procurement policy outlines the principles under which Council makes its procurement decisions and conducts its procurement activities relating to economic sustainability.
Related Procedures, Guidelines, Forms, WHS Modules/PCD's, Risk Assessments, Work Method Statements:	(Document Name) Environmental Sustainability Action Plan	(Relationship/Context) Councils strategy to outline and achieve environmental sustainability aspects of this policy.
Standards, COP's & Other References	(Standard, COP or Other References)	(Relationship/Context)

Definitions

Term / Abbreviation	Definition
Council	Lake Macquarie City Council
Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)	<p>The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015 for the year 2030. The SDGs are part of Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly, the 2030 Agenda.</p> <p>The Sustainable Development Goals are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No Poverty: 2. Zero Hunger 3. Good Health and Well-being 4. Quality Education 5. Gender Equality 6. Clean Water and Sanitation 7. Affordable and Clean Energy

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Policy - external Circular Economy Policy

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth 9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure 10. Reducing Inequality 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities 12. Responsible Consumption and Production 13. Climate Action 14. Life Below Water 15. Life On Land 16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions 17. Partnerships for the Goals <p>The goals are broad based and interdependent. The 17 Sustainable Development Goal's each have a list of targets that are measured with indicators.</p>
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Consultation (update for each version created)

Key Departments, Teams, Positions, Meetings:	Sustainability Engagement team, Environmental Systems, People Support, Asset Management, Finance Department
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Version History

Version No	Date Changed	Modified By	Details and Comments
1	Dec 2020	Debbie O'Byrne	Initial version prepared by project team.