

ASSET MANAGEMENT

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 085

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the policy is to demonstrate Gannawarra Shire Council's whole-of-organisation commitment to the responsible management of Council's assets. The policy sets the guidelines for implementing consistent asset management processes throughout Council.

2. POLICY OBJECTIVES

This policy sets out Council's commitment to manage and care for its assets in a way that assists it to achieve its goal and meet the needs of the community.

"Enhance the wellbeing and liveability of the Gannawarra through creative infrastructure and services."

To achieve this, Council recognises that assets must be planned, provided, maintained, repurposed, refurbished and disposed of so that they continue to meet the present and future service delivery needs of the community.

To achieve the following objectives, Council applies an asset management framework to ensure that adequate provision is made for the long-term management of Council's assets by:

- Ensuring that Council's services and infrastructure are provided in a sustainable manner, with the appropriate levels of service to residents, visitors and the environment.
- Implementing appropriate asset management Plans and strategies and appropriate financial resources for the preservation of assets.
- Creating and sustaining asset management awareness across the organisation through training and development
- Meeting legislative requirements for asset management.
- Ensuring resources and operational capabilities are identified and responsibility for asset management is allocated.
- Demonstrating transparent and responsible asset management processes that align with best practice.
- Maintaining linkages to the Council Plan and the Financial Plan.
- Ensuring that the community consultation is appropriate to Asset Management decisions and commensurate with community expectations.

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to all asset classes owned by Council with particular respect to:

- Roads
- Bridges
- Footpaths
- Buildings
- Drainage
- Park, Playgrounds and Reserves

4. ASSET MANAGEMENT ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Council, management and employees all have the joint responsibility of making Asset Management a priority as they undertake tasks when conducting Council's business and achieving Council's objectives.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Road Management Act 2004*, the roles of Council as custodians of all Gannawarra Shire Council assets are to:

- Adopt an asset management plan in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices. Consider the impact of financial and service level decisions on Council's assets.

5. KEY ASSET MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

Council recognises that to achieve its vision for asset management, the following key principles will be an integral part of its "day to day" decision-making process:

- An Asset Management Strategy exists for implementing consistent and systematic asset management throughout Council.
- All relevant legislative requirements together with social, political and economic environments are to be taken into account in asset management.
- Asset management plans are developed and updated for each asset class. The plans will contain information about maintenance, renewal, acquisition, expansion, upgrade, disposal and decommissioning
- An inspection for each asset class will be undertaken to ensure agreed service levels are maintained and to identify asset renewal priorities.
- Service levels will be reviewed and defined in the asset management plans. The service levels will assist to inform the annual budget process.
- Future service levels will be determined in consultation with the community in accordance with the deliberative engagement practices
- Future life cycle costs will be reported and considered in all decisions relating to new services and assets and upgrading existing services and assets.

6. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Council's assets will be managed in the most cost effective manner, driven by defined service levels and best practice performance standards. This will require ongoing assessment of the following key issues:

- Customer and community expectations
- Strategic and corporate goals
- Long term financial modelling
- Legislative requirements.

7. POLICY REVIEW

Council will review this policy as required but always within two years after a general election of the Council.

At the time it was developed, this policy was compliant with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

8. FURTHER INFORMATION

Members of the public may inspect all Council policies at Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna office or online at www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au.

Any enquiries, in relation to this policy should be directed in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 287, Kerang VIC 3579.

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