

ASSET MANAGEMENT

Policy No. 055

1 Purpose

This Policy provides guidelines for implementing consistent asset management processes for City of Darwin.

2 Scope

To ensure adequate provision is made for the long-term management and replacement of major assets by:

- Ensuring that Council's services and infrastructure are provided in a sustainable manner, with the appropriate levels of service to the community.
- Managing Council assets by implementing appropriate asset management strategies and allocating appropriate financial resources for those assets.
- Ensuring all Council employees take part in the overall management of Council assets.
- Providing access to appropriate training resources.
- Meeting legislative requirements for asset management.
- Ensuring resources and operational capacity are identified and responsibility for asset management is allocated.
- Demonstrating transparent and responsible asset management processes that align with demonstrated best practice

Background

2.1 Council is committed to implementing a systematic asset management methodology in order to apply appropriate asset management best practices across all areas of the organisation. This includes ensuring that assets are planned, created, operated, maintained, renewed and disposed of in accordance with Council's priorities for service delivery.

2.2 Council infrastructure assets are categorised by the following classes:

- Land
- Transport (including roads and car parking facilities)
- Pathways
- Buildings and Structures
- Stormwater Infrastructure
- Land Under Roads
- Plant and Equipment
- Waste Management
- Street and Public Lighting
- Parks and Reserves Infrastructure
- Public Art and Heritage

Council Policy No. 055 – Asset Management				
Version	Decision Number	Adoption Date	Responsible Officer: General Manager Engineering and City Services	Next Review Date
3	22\1361	12/03/2019		12/03/2023



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- 2.3 Asset management practices impact directly on the core business of the organisation and appropriate asset management is required to achieve its strategic service delivery objectives.
- 2.4 Adopting asset management principles will assist Council in achieving its strategic plan and long-term financial objectives.
- 2.5 A strategic approach to asset management will ensure that Council delivers the appropriate level of service through its assets. This will provide positive impact on the community and Council.

3 Policy Statement

City of Darwin recognises that assets exist to provide services and value to the community and this recognition underpins Council's asset management policy and practices.

Council will apply a total asset management approach as one of its key strategies in demonstrating effective governance through the application of the following principles:

- 3.1 Undertake asset management activities within a strategic framework which is integrated with broader corporate and business planning, and operational processes.
- 3.2 A consistent Asset Management Strategy must exist for implementing systematic asset management and appropriate asset management best-practice throughout all Departments of Council.
- 3.3 All relevant legislative requirements together with political, social, environmental, cultural and economic considerations are to be taken into account in asset management.
- 3.4 Asset Management Plans will be developed for major asset categories. The plans will be informed by community consultation and technical levels of service as required and financial planning and reporting.
- 3.5 An inspection regime will be used as part of asset management to ensure agreed service levels are maintained and to identify asset renewal priorities.
- 3.6 Asset renewals and replacements required to meet agreed service levels and identified in adopted asset management plans and long-term financial plans will form the basis of annual budget estimates with the service and risk consequences of variations in defined asset renewals and budget resources documented in budget documentation.
- 3.7 Asset renewal and replacement programmes will be prioritised and implemented progressively based on agreed service levels and the effectiveness of the current assets to provide that level of service.
- 3.8 Systematic and cyclic reviews will be applied to all asset classes and are to ensure that the assets are managed, valued and depreciated in accordance with appropriate best practice and applicable Australian Standards.

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- 3.9 Future life cycle costs should be considered in all decisions relating to new services and assets and upgrading of existing services and assets.
- 3.10 Training in asset and financial management will be provided for relevant staff.
- 3.11 Asset Management Plans will incorporate sustainable practices wherever possible to ensure consistency with Council's environmental policies and plans.

4 Definitions

For the purposes of this policy an asset is physical infrastructure defined under the asset classes of land, transport, stormwater drainage, parks and reserves, pathways and buildings and is owned or controlled by Council.

5 Legislative References

Local Government Act

6 Procedures / Related Documents

Asset capitalisation and depreciation procedure
 Asset disposal procedure
 Asset revaluation procedure
 Contributed assets procedure

7 Responsibility / Application

Asset management plans, associated documentation and the management of infrastructure assets are the responsibility of the General Managers. The management of assets is undertaken by the relevant sections and financial asset management will be overseen by the Asset Accountant.

This policy should be reviewed once in the term of each Council or more often as required.

8 Document Control

Council Policy			Responsible Officer: Chief Operating Officer	
Version	Decision Number	Adoption Date	History	Next Review Date
1	20\2600	30/03/2010	Adopted	
2	21\2321	24/06/2014	Adopted	
3	22\1361	12/03/2019	Revised and Adopted	2023

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