

Title: **Environment - General**  
Policy No: 006  
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Responsibility: General Manager City Futures  
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Version	Decision Number	Adoption Date	History
1	20\2501	23/02/2010	Adopted
2	21\2426	29/07/2014	Adopted

## 1 Policy Summary

The City of Darwin is committed to lead and advocate for sustainability and the protection of our environment. Council values biodiversity, the natural environment and the green open spaces that all contribute to the tropical lifestyle of this capital city. Council will strive to continually improve on its environmental performance and to foster a culture of environmental awareness and sustainability among its staff and the community.

This policy addresses environmental matters associated with Council operations including waste management and water management.

## 2 Policy Objectives

Through the implementation of this policy, Council aims to be a leader and champion of sustainability and environmental best practice.

The Darwin community will be well informed of Council initiatives and strategies that enhance and protect the environment.

Council will resource the implementation of this policy and monitor its environmental performance.

## 3 Background

City of Darwin has a commitment to reducing water consumption, improving resource recovery and generally to enhance preserve and protect the Darwin environment.

The *Evolving Darwin Towards 2020 Strategic Plan* (adopted in 2012) identifies Goal 3 –Environmentally Sustainable City

## 4 Policy Statement

To lead and advocate for environmental sustainability, the City of Darwin will:

- comply with and where possible, exceed the requirements of relevant legislation, policy and standards to continually improve its environmental performance
- work with the Darwin community to enhance the city's environmental quality, while respecting cultural, social and economic values
- regularly assess and audit its environmental performance and the effectiveness of its environmental management systems
- improve its environmental performance through setting measurable targets and key performance indicators
- ensure its employees, suppliers and contractors are aware of and able to respond to their environmental responsibilities
- support and implement waste reduction, reuse and recycling programs
- reduce resource consumption, including energy and water use

The City of Darwin will encourage the Darwin community to adopt a culture of environmental responsibility at work and at home and promote sustainable practices such as waste minimisation, water efficiency and sustainable transport.

## **5 Related Documents**

Policy No. 059 - Climate Change  
Policy No. 068 - Green Fleet  
Policy No. 054 - Waste Management  
Procedure No. 009 - Domestic Waste Reporting

## **6 Legislation**

*Water Act*  
*Weeds Management Act*  
*Environment Protection (Beverage Containers and Plastic Bags) Act*  
*Environmental Assessment Act*  
*Environmental Offences and Penalties Act*  
*Waste Management and Pollution Control Act*

*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*  
*National Environment Protection Measures (Implementation) Act 1998*

## **7 Evaluation and review**

On-going evaluation of environmental performance is monitored by an external assessment process.