

Title:	<b>Green Information Technology Policy</b>
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Adopted By:	Council
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Responsibility:	General Manager City Performance
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## 1 Policy Summary

The City of Darwin (hereafter Council) is committed to ensuring that the design, procurement, use and disposal of Information Technology (IT) systems including computers, servers, monitors, printers, storage devices, networking & communication systems, components and consumables are completed in an economically and environmentally sustainable manner.

## 2 Policy Objectives

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the sustainability of all IT systems during the product lifecycle from system design, procurement, use and disposal.

## 3 Background

Council recognises the need for environmental sustainability to be built into the decision making process for procurement, use and disposal of all IT hardware and software.

## 4 Policy Statement

Council procures hardware and software to meet the needs of the organisation in a cost effective and efficient manner whilst integrating the element of environmental sustainability into the decision making process.

Replacement of Council's desktop infrastructure (desktop computers and laptops) occurs every four years to ensure Council is utilising up to date and energy efficient technology whilst still meeting the required business needs. Support and maintenance warranties are purchased for the full projected life of the desktop infrastructure to reduce Council's need to purchase additional items in the event of equipment failure.

Replacement of Council's data centre infrastructure (server and network communication equipment) occurs every five years to ensure Council is utilising up to date and energy efficient server and network communication technology whilst still meeting the required business needs. Support and maintenance warranties are purchased for the full projected life of the data centre infrastructure to protect Council in the event of equipment failure and ensure availability of IT systems and for risk management purposes.

Council encourages all IT desktop infrastructure (desktop computers and laptops) to be shut down at the end of each day, and has facilitated the installation of eco switches on all desktop infrastructure (desktop computers and laptops) to also reduce standby power. Eco switches reduce greenhouse gas emissions, result in cost savings for Council, and bring awareness to sustainability within the organisation.

Council will continue its implementation and use of virtualisation technologies to minimise physical IT infrastructure whilst also reducing power and cooling consumption.

Council is reducing its carbon footprint with the implementation of remote access software that enables staff to access network systems offsite, as well as providing teleconferencing and web streaming facilities.

Council will continue to implement actions to ensure sustainability of print devices. Centralised, energy efficient multifunction print devices are located within Council buildings. Printer default settings are set for duplex printing, and 100% recycled paper is used.

Council configures procured data centre infrastructure (servers and network communication hardware) to be energy and performance efficient, and to take advantage of the improved energy efficient technology.

Council utilises appropriate cooling systems within the data centre that is deliberately run at an energy efficient level to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Council continually works with vendors in relation to the recycling of toners, other printer consumables and mobile phones to have a reduced impact on the environment.

Council encourages the appropriate disposal of IT hardware that guarantees data security.

Waste from the product packaging we deploy is recycled where possible.

## **5 Legislation, terminology and references**

City of Darwin Climate Change Policy 2011-2020 and Action Plan.

## **6 Implementation and delegation**

Implementation of the Green IT Policy sits with the Information Technology section whilst governance of the Green IT Policy sits with the General Manager City Performance.

## **7 Evaluation and review**

Evaluation of this policy will be undertaken by the Information Technology section in consultation with the Climate Change and Environment section of Council, to align with reviews of the Climate Change Policy action plan.