



Infrastructure Asset Management Policy

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Related Documents	
Delegations of Authority	

Purpose and Scope

Uralla Shire Council is governed by the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework that:

- Ensures that Council's services and infrastructure are provided reliably, with the appropriate quality levels of service to residents, visitors and the environment.
- Safeguard Councils assets including physical assets and employees by implementing appropriate asset management strategies and appropriate financial treatment of those assets.
- Creates an environment where all Council employees take an integral part in overall management of Council assets (create and sustain an asset management awareness throughout the Council).
- Meets and surpasses legislative requirements for asset management.
- Ensures resources and operational capabilities are identified and responsibility for asset management is allocated.
- Demonstrates transparent and responsible asset management processes that align with best practice.

Legislation, Standards and Guidelines

- *NSW Local Government Act 1993*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*
- Uralla Shire Council Operating Policies

Definitions

Asset

A physical component of a facility which has value, enables services to be provided, and has an economic life greater than 12 months. Council's assets include roads, bridges, footpaths, parks, buildings, drainage, water supply, sewerage, waste, stormwater, caravan park, swimming pool, and heritage items. These assets are generally called infrastructure assets. The principles in this Policy apply to all assets. The financial modelling and conclusions only apply to infrastructure assets.

Asset Management

The process applied to assets from their planning, acquisition by Council, operation, maintenance, renewal and disposal, to ensure that the assets meet Council's priorities for service delivery.

Appropriate Best Practice

The application of best practice processes in asset management, taking into account the costs and systems that are appropriate to meet the required service levels.

Policy Statement

A consistent framework must exist for implementing systematic asset management and appropriate asset management best practice throughout all departments of Council. Uralla Shire Council's asset management framework should incorporate an Asset Management Strategy (AMS) and Asset Management Plans (AMP's) for each class of Council assets.

The National Asset Management Guidelines and the Division of Local Government Framework for Integrated Planning and Reporting, inform Council's day to day asset management practices including:

Asset Management practices should include:

- A planned maintenance, renewal, replacement and disposals scheduling process for new and existing assets.
- Effectiveness in spending, using life cycle methods to identify the lowest cost life cycle options.
- Reducing future life cycle costs by applying an optimised level of maintenance and renewal.
 - Reducing future asset loss by adopting optimal intervention phases.
 - The AMS and AMP's should cover a minimum period of 10 years and have a focus on long term sustainability for the benefit of current and future generations.
 - The AMS and AMP's should be reviewed annually and modified as required based on community consultation feedback and objectives as part of the Community Plan process.
 - The asset management framework must rely on an up to date Asset Management System which should incorporate the following information:
 - Asset registers;
 - Asset condition assessments;
 - Asset maintenance and management systems;
 - Strategic planning capabilities;
 - Predictive modelling;
 - Deterioration modelling; and

- Lifecycle costing.
- Relevant legislative requirements and political, social and economic environments are to be taken into account in asset management.
- Asset management is to be integrated with existing planning and operational processes.
- Asset renewal plans will be prioritised and implemented progressively based on the level of service required and the effectiveness of the current assets to provide that level of service.
- Systematic and cyclic renewal reviews will be applied to all asset classes to ensure that the assets are managed, valued and depreciated in accordance with appropriate best practice, applicable Australian Standards and legislative requirements.
- Council’s financial asset information shall be audited annually as part of the external financial audit, and Councils Asset Management Systems shall be reviewed and internally audited, at least annually, to ensure data; modelling and planning is accurate and relevant to Council and community needs.

Responsibility

Councillors adopt the Policy and ensure sufficient resources are applied to manage the assets.

The General Manager has overall responsibility for developing asset management systems, policies and procedures and reporting on the status and effectiveness of asset management with Council.

Managers are responsible for implementing asset management systems, policies and procedures.

Employees with management or supervisory responsibility are responsible for the management of assets within the area of responsibility as determined under asset management plans.

Employees will be tasked under implementation plans, and will be responsible for the timely completion of those activities contained within those plans, and shall be familiar with asset management and how it is applied within Uralla Shire Council.

Accountability, Roles and Responsibility

The Asset Management Policy prescribes the standards and provides guidelines to ensure that Council has information, knowledge and understanding about the long term and cumulative consequences of being the custodian of public infrastructure.

This will be done by ensuring systems processes and people are able to make informed decisions on the most effective and efficient options for delivering related services whilst controlling exposure to risk and loss.

Attachments

Nil

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