

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

SCOPE

This Policy applies to all Banana Shire Council (Council) operations, employees, councillors, contractors and volunteers, and in all decisions and activities undertaken.

LEGISLATION

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003
Banana Shire Council Local Laws
Biosecurity Act 2014
Environmental Protection Act 1994
Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
Fisheries Act 1994
Forestry Act 1959
Local Government Act 2009
National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007
Native Title (Queensland) Act 1993
Nature Conservation Act 1992
Planning Act 2016
Public Health Act 2005
Queensland Heritage Act 1992
Stock Route Management Act 2002
Vegetation Management Act 1999
Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011
Water Act 2000
Work Health and Safety Act 2011

OBJECTIVE

This Environmental Sustainability Policy aims to integrate a philosophy of ecologically sustainable development into all Council activities and to establish and promote sound environmental practice in our operations.

Council aspires to minimise its impact on the environment and maximise the effective use of resources. This will be achieved by fostering responsible environmental behaviour amongst staff, community members and our business partners. Environmental controls and values will be integrated into Council general business to drive innovation and encourage collaboration between staff and departments.

This Policy commits Council to the development of robust, documented systems that comply with applicable legislation, minimise risk and manage impact. The result will drive continuous improvement and enhance environmental performance.

DEFINITIONS

Ecologically sustainable development

“using, conserving and enhancing the community's resources so that ecological processes, on which life depends, are maintained, and the total quality of life, now and in the future, can be increased”
(Australia's National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development, 1992)

POLICY

Banana Shire Council is committed to protecting the environment through:

- Providing a safe and healthy workplace.
- Preventing pollution and the unintended release of substances that could cause harm to air, water or land.
- Assigning roles and responsibilities to promote a culture of environmental sustainability.
- Conserving natural resources and minimising waste.
- Ensuring the responsible use of energy.
- Conducting rigorous audits, inspections, and self-assessments of the implementation of this Policy to continuously improve and institute positive change.
- The responsible management of biosecurity threats.
- The recognition and conservation of the Shire's cultural heritage.
- Working with suppliers and contractors to promote sound environmental practices; and
- Enhancing awareness among employees and our community by educating and motivating them to act in an environmentally responsible manner.

CERTIFICATION



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
BANANA SHIRE COUNCIL

9/11/20

DATE