



**muswellbrook
shire council**

Asset Management Policy

Policy No A40-1

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Policy Objective

This policy provides the overall framework to guide the sustainable management of Council's infrastructure asset portfolio.

Policy Statement

Council is committed to providing the best possible value services delivered from its infrastructure assets and continually improving its asset management systems. Council is developing systems so as to comply with the principles established by ISO 55000:2014 (international standard for asset management systems).

Best value service is delivered when Council's infrastructure assets:

- perform in a way that meets the needs and aspirations of the community as expressed in the Muswellbrook Shire Community Strategic Plan (as far as possible within the resources Council has available to provide them, considering competing priorities)
- are sustainable (in that the social, environmental and economic costs of providing infrastructure assets over the long term are minimised);
- have an acceptable level of risk (as defined in Council's risk management system) and are resilient (wherever possible, increasing the capacity of the community to withstand external shocks and adapt to changing circumstances).
- are acquired, upgraded or renewed when necessary to meet community service demands or growth and are of such a quality that meet specifications, technical standards, requirements for public safety, WH&S and maintainability to ensure best value life cycle costs;
- gained from the development of land by third parties meet acquisition requirements and are provided in a logical and orderly manner.

Responsibility

Council as a governing body has responsibilities under the NSW Local Government Act for the responsible and sustainable management of infrastructure assets. The primary means by which these are satisfied is by implementing the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, particularly requirements for asset management planning in Council's Resourcing Strategy which informs the Delivery Program.

The General Manager has responsibility for preparation of Integrated Planning and Reporting framework documentation in consultation with the mayor and governing body (councillors), and for its implementation after council adopts the IP & R documents.

The Asset Management Steering Group monitors the implementation and improvement of the asset management system, which supports the achievement of asset management objectives within the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

Asset management responsibilities will be clearly and appropriately allocated throughout the organisation.

References

- Local Government Act 1993 (including the amended guiding principles introduced in 2016)
- Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009
- Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines and Manual (NSW Office of Local Government, 2010)
- ISO 55000:2014 Asset Management – Overview, principles and terminology
- ISO 55001:2014 Asset Management – Management systems – Requirements).

Procedure

Asset management is a dynamic process that affects all areas of Council service delivery and as such this policy will impact upon and relate to a number of policies and strategies throughout the organisation.

A series of Service Dashboards (one for each theme in Council's Delivery Program) form the centrepiece of Council's Strategic Asset Management Plan. The Dashboards highlight key concerns with the value Council can provide both now and in 12 years' time (based on funding available in the Long Term Financial Plan) in order to facilitate an ongoing conversation between Council and the community about priorities for the allocation of Council's limited resources to provide the best possible value across all functions of Council.

Asset management activities are aligned with the outcomes in the Muswellbrook Shire Community Strategic Plan so that Council is clear about how its functions are helping to facilitate a strong, healthy and prosperous local community (the objective of the principles established by the NSW Local Government Act).

The asset management system is designed to foster leadership within Council by clarifying the outcomes that Council's activities are intended to deliver and establishing responsibilities for achieving these. The system is also intended to provide assurance that infrastructure assets will fulfil their required purpose and to satisfy audits of Council's asset management performance that are to be introduced in the future.

The Asset Management Steering Group performs the management review function for the asset management system, driving continual improvement based on the principles of ISO 55000:2014.

Authorisation Details

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Details History

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