

Water Sensitive Urban Design

Classification:	Council Policy
Policy Name:	Water Sensitive Urban Design
First Issued / Approved:	27 September 2011, PHI 0064
Last Reviewed:	24 February 2015 C10062 19 September 2017 C11392 12 November 2019 C12349
Next Review:	November 2023
ECM tracking number:	1317434
Responsible Officer:	General Manager Urban and Community
Relevant Legislation:	Development Act 1993 Environment Protection Act 1993 Environment Protection (Water Quality) Policy 2003 Local Government Act 1999 Native Vegetation Act 1991 Natural Resources Management Act 2004
Related Policies:	Asset Management Policy Environment and Biodiversity Policy Footpath Policy Open Space Policy Streetscape Policy Urban Tree Management Policy Watercourse Management Policy Procurement Policy Verge Development Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this Policy is to promote and sustain the use of water sensitive urban design (WSUD), including stormwater re-use across relevant aspects of Council business.
- 1.2 Council recognises that adopting WSUD principles at a regional or local level can help reduce impacts such as, climate change, flooding, pollutants and potable water demand, as well as supporting the health of our City's community, flora, fauna, open spaces and watercourses.

2. Strategic Plan Desired Outcomes

- 2.1 Environmentally sustainable development which complements the City's character
- 2.2 Sustainable, engaging, healthy and functional public spaces and streetscapes
- 2.3 Fit for purpose and cost-effective infrastructure that meets community needs
- 2.4 Natural environments and watercourses protected, conserved and enjoyed
- 2.5 Sustainable use of natural resources and minimisation of waste to address climate change
- 2.6 An empowered Council and Administration that is visionary and innovative in meeting community needs

3. Our Approach

- 3.1 Manage and re-use stormwater where practicable, to improve water management, water quality and reduce flooding impacts within and outside the City.
- 3.2 Identify opportunities to minimise reliance on potable water through effective planning, design and implementation
- 3.3 Advocate and promote safe, sustainable use of rainwater and recycled water within the public realm.
- 3.4 Actively participate in and remain open to, opportunities to use, investigate and trial new technologies which assist in saving or re-using water both locally and regionally.
- 3.5 Acknowledge the use of WSUD as both a climate change mitigation and adaptation outcome.

4. Legislative Requirements and Corporate Policy Context

- 4.1. Council is the owner of public realm assets, such as roads, footpaths, verges, trees and open space and as such has responsibilities under the Local Government Act and the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.
- 4.2. Responsibilities for water resource management are also documented in the Development Act, Environmental Protection Act, Native Vegetation Act and Natural Resources Management Act.

5. Interpretation

- 5.1 For the purpose of this Policy:
 - 5.1.1 "WSUD" means Water Sensitive Urban Design, defined as "an approach to urban planning and design that integrates the management of the

total water cycle into the land use and development process”
(Stormwater Strategy – The Future of Stormwater Management,
Government of South Australia, 2011)

6. Policy

- 6.1 The following WSUD guiding principles are embedded in what we do:
 - 6.1.1 Advocate for and incorporate water resource management considerations as early as possible in land use and infrastructure planning processes;
 - 6.1.2 Address water resources management issues and conservation of biodiversity at the allotment, sub-catchment and catchment level;
 - 6.1.3 Ensure water management planning is precautionary and recognises inter-generational equity, conservation of biodiversity and ecological integrity;
 - 6.1.4 Recognise water as a valuable resource and ensure its protection, conservation and re-use;
 - 6.1.5 Recognise the need for site-specific solutions and consider appropriate non-structural solutions and/or or complementary treatments;
 - 6.1.6 Protect ecological and hydrological integrity; and
 - 6.1.7 Integrate good science and community values in decision making.
- 6.2 These principles are in line with those developed by the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (2013)¹.
- 6.3 Develop and implement a suitability analysis on the use, type and location of WSUD including the evaluation of non-monetary benefits and value and practical application.

7. Review and Authority

- 7.1. This Policy will be reviewed every four years in line with Council’s Policies and Protocols Framework.

¹ Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (2013), “Water Sensitive Urban Design: Creating more liveable and water sensitive cities in South Australia”

8. Availability

- 8.1. The Policy is available to be downloaded, free of charge, from Council's website www.burnside.sa.gov.au
- 8.2. The Policy will be available for inspection without charge at the Civic Centre during ordinary business hours and a copy may be purchased at a fee as set annually by Council.

City of Burnside Civic Centre

401 Greenhill Road, Tasmore SA 5065

Telephone: 8366 4200

Fax: 8366 4299

Email: burnside@burnside.sa.gov.au

Office hours: Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.00pm (except public holidays)