

## Council Policy

### 2.9 Water Sensitive Urban Design and Water Conservation Policy

Australia is the driest inhabited continent in the world and Australian Local Governments have a significant role to play in minimising the impact on our limited water resources.

Our changing climate has become more noticeable in the past 10 years with altered rainfall intensity, reduced rainfall occurrences and changes in rainfall timing.

To manage the stormwater received the Town will apply Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principles.

#### Objective

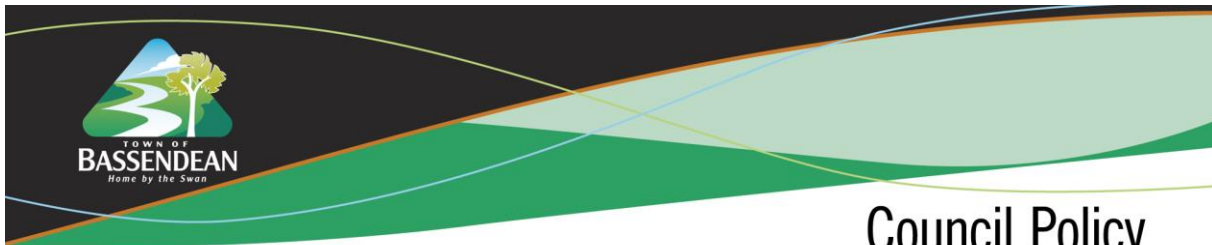
The Town of Bassendean's objectives for Water Sensitive Urban Design and Water Conservation Policy are:

- Ensure that water sensitive urban design and water conservation best management practices are implemented in all new development and redevelopment proposals;
- Raise awareness about the environmental impacts of water waste;
- Assist in protecting the values of the Swan and Canning River and watercourses, consistent with the requirements of the Environmental Protection (Swan and Canning Rivers) Policy 1998;
- Protect and where possible restore and enhance the environmental, economic and social (i.e. recreation and scenic) values of waterways and wetlands; and
- Retain or enhance open drains where possible by converting them to "living streams" in multiple use corridors that provide habitat for wildlife and passive recreation opportunities wherever possible.

#### Strategies

The Town of Bassendean strives to achieve these objectives by:

- Assessing the Town's entire stormwater drainage network to identify water quality improvement opportunities;
- Incorporating the Building Code of Australia (BCA) 2010 "6 Star" minimum energy efficiency standards early on in the land use planning;



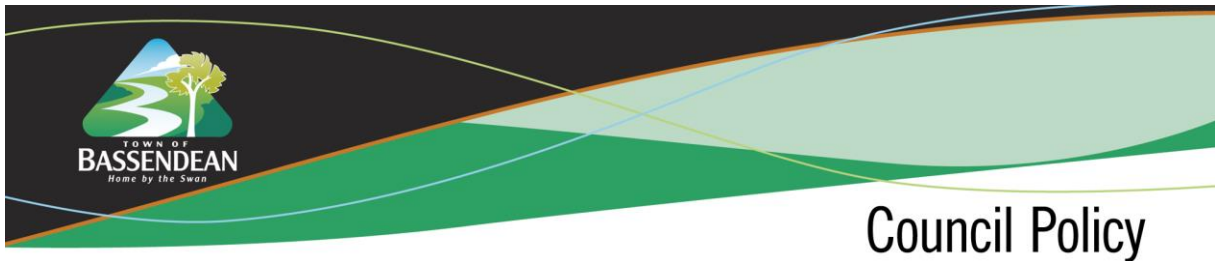
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- Addressing water resource management at the catchment and sub-catchment level;
- Storing and reusing stormwater and stormwater treatment in the drainage catchment prior to water discharging into water bodies such as the Swan and Canning Rivers; Ensuring stormwater system design incorporates features of waterways that improve water quality;
- Establishing vegetation (particularly native riparian vegetation) in stormwater management to promote filtering and slowing of runoff to maximise settling of particulate-bound pollutants;
- Ensuring structural best management practices which encompass the above principles;
- To protect property from flooding or damage by surface water or groundwater; and
- To ensure post-urban development conditions in watercourses approximate pre urban conditions (i.e. water level and flow regimes are maintained).

A comprehensive approach to stormwater management also involves the promotion of non-structural best management practices. These include source controls such as:

- Education to residents on water conservation, appropriate plant species, fertiliser and water use, street sweeping regimes; and
- Improved waste and stormwater management for industrial premises.

Selection of best management practices should follow Town of Bassendean, Local Planning Policy No. 3 – Water Sensitive Design, Local Planning Policy No. 4 – Flood Plain Management & Development, Local Planning Policy No. 14 – On-Storm Water, Local Planning Policy No. 18 - Landscaping with Local Plants, the Department of Water Stormwater Management Manual for Western Australia, the Building Code of Australia (BCA) 2010 “6” star requirements and the Natural Resource Management (NRM) Policy Manual .



## Detail

- Council has adopted Local Planning Policy No. 3 – Water Sensitive Design and Local Planning Policy No. 14 - On-Site Stormwater Policy;
- Providing training to all relevant employees to ensure that they are aware and are involved in assisting Council to implement this policy;
- Educating and promoting the Building Code of Australia (BCA) 2010 “6 Star” requirements.

## Application

Responsibility for the implementation of this policy rests with the Mayor, Councillors, Council delegates and the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer (ECO) has the authority to administer the requirements of this policy. This policy is to be reviewed every three years

<p><b>Policy Type:</b> Strategic Policy</p> <p><b>Link to Strategic Community Plan:</b> Environmental sustainability and adaption to climate change</p>	<p><b>Responsible Officer:</b> Director Operational Services</p> <p><b>First Adopted:</b> June 2011</p> <p><b>Last Reviewed:</b> March 2014</p> <p><b>Version</b></p> <p><b>Next Review due by:</b> December 2016</p>
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