

Overarching Sustainability Policy



July 2018

This Policy as adopted by Council to set governing principles in place that align the strategic direction of the organisation through all five key focus areas of the Community Strategic Plan 2036.

Objectives

The objectives of the Policy are:

- a) An understanding that without a healthy and sustainable environment, continuous economic prosperity and community well-being is not achievable.
- b) Demonstration by the Shire of its understanding of, commitment to, and leadership in sustainability.
- c) Incorporation of relevant sustainability policy objectives in all of the Shire's policies, strategies and plans.
- d) Incorporation of the "Precautionary Principle" into decision-making processes to ensure long-term protection of the environment.

This *Overarching Sustainability Policy* (the Policy) recognises the United Nations *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) adopted by world leaders including Australia in September 2015. Relevant SDG, the Community Strategic Plan 2036 and the Sustainability Policy Reference Paper (2017) will inform strategies and measures (Key Performance Indicators) by which this Policy is put into effect.

Policy

The Shire will at all times:

- 1. Demonstrate a commitment to the protection and enhancement of the unique natural environment and biodiversity of the region.**

Council recognises that all life has intrinsic value, is interconnected and that biodiversity and ecological integrity are part of irreplaceable life support systems and are the foundation for our region's lifestyles and economy, and that the Shire occupies a key place in Australia's only internationally accredited Biodiversity Hotspot.

2. Demonstrate a commitment to minimising the effects of climate change and to sustainable resource use

Council's vision is to reduce its ecological footprint and that of the community as a whole. The Shire will minimise its ecological footprint through encouraging avoidance of waste, sustainable use of resources and uptake of socially responsible and sustainable planning and lifestyle practices. The community's values will be taken into account in balancing competing demands for growth and maintaining a distinctive country character in a healthy well-managed environment.

Council will show leadership and actively engage with the community to reduce carbon emissions and increase the resilience of the environment, community, culture and economy in the face of changing climate.

3. Demonstrate a commitment to social and cultural sustainability

Council's vision is to develop resilient, welcoming, safe, and inclusive communities that contribute towards social equality and justice and provide support to Aboriginal community peoples, disadvantaged groups and the ageing community. Council will work to ensure that the rights of all people are respected, regardless of gender, age, religion, race or other factors. Council will also recognise and uphold local and diverse cultural beliefs, cultural practices and heritage, as they align with Council's environmental, social and economic values. Council acknowledges the culture of Aboriginal people and nature are inextricably linked inextricable link between the cultures of Wadandi and Pibulman Traditional Owners and nature, and will ensure that Aboriginal culture this connection is acknowledged and respected in its Council decisions.

4. Demonstrate a commitment to sustainable economic development

Council's vision is to develop a prosperous economy with a sustainable range of business and job opportunities to meet the needs of the Shire's growing population. This will be achieved through the promotion and implementation of sustainable development based on the values of the local environment, products and creative capital, that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Application

Responsibility for the implementation of this Policy rests with all Councillors, staff, volunteers and contractors of the Shire of Augusta Margaret River. Sustainability is to be measured and reported upon in the annual report. The policy is to be reviewed every three years.

Terms used

“sustainability” means meeting the needs of current and future generations through an integration of environmental protection, social advancement, and economic prosperity.

“sustainable development” development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

“precautionary principle” When an activity raises threats of harm to human health or the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause and effect relationships are not fully established scientifically.

Document and version control table

Strategic outcome	Goals 1 -5	
Responsible Directorate	CEO	
Authority of original issue	Council	
Date of original issue	Council meeting date 11 June 2009	
Contact officer	Sustainability Planning Officer	
Date of next review	July 2021	
Document No.	AM1122	
Version	Date issued	Brief description
1.0	11/6/09	Initial Issue
2.0	23/01/13	Full review
3.0	25/07/18	Full review

APPENDIX 1

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

REFERENCE PAPER



SAC REVIEW 11 September 2017

SUSTAINABILITY FOR THE SHIRE OF AUGUSTA MARGARET RIVER

1. OVERVIEW

The Augusta Margaret River Shire Council's *Overarching Sustainability Policy* (the Policy) recognises that all life has intrinsic value, is interconnected and that biodiversity and ecological integrity are part of irreplaceable life support systems and are the foundation for our region's lifestyles and economy, and that the Shire occupies a key place in Australia's only internationally accredited Biodiversity Hotspot.

The Policy demonstrates a commitment to

- protection and enhancement of the unique natural environment and biodiversity of the region;
- minimising the effects of climate change;
- sustainable resource use;
- social and cultural sustainability;
- sustainable economic development.

The Policy recognises the United Nations *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) adopted by world leaders including Australia in September 2015. Relevant SDG will inform strategies and measures (Key Performance Indicators) by which the Policy is put into effect.

The Policy update in 2017 was informed by the *Community Strategic Plan 2036*, developed with wide community input, and by Council's Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) review of sustainability issues for the Augusta Margaret River Region (this Paper).

In reviewing sustainability issues, the SAC recognises that:

- (i) the rights of people and nature are inextricably linked;
- (ii) population growth and the impacts of climate change are significant challenges to achieving a sustainable future in the Augusta Margaret River Region;
- (iii) climate change, social justice and innovation/technology are among key issues that span many areas of Council operations;
- (iv) to achieve the Objectives of the Policy requires an integrated approach that is economically viable, socially just, environmentally responsible and culturally responsive;
- (v) the community looks to Council to show leadership and actively engage with them to reduce carbon emissions and increase the resilience of the environment, community, culture and economy in the face of changing climate.

2. Purpose of this Paper

The objectives of this Paper are to:

- e) articulate the SAC's understanding of the issues and the responses needed to move towards a sustainable future for the Shire;
- f) show how these issues, especially the overarching issue of climate change, interlink across environmental, social, cultural and economic sustainability (Appendix 1);
- g) provide a reference for incorporating relevant sustainability measures in all of the Shire's Policies, Strategies and Plans through a set of guiding principles (derived from the *Community Strategic Plan 2036*) and specific policy measures to implement the principles;
- h) provide a summary of significant issues at the regional level (Appendix 2) and main focus areas for the SAC (Appendix 3) in order to assist the SAC to establish priorities for its deliberation and advice to Council.

This Paper aligns to the Key Result Areas of the *Community Strategic Plan 2036*.

3. GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR SUSTAINABILITY

PRINCIPLE 1:

The unique natural environment and biodiversity of the region will be valued, protected and enhanced.

PRINCIPLE 2:

Cultural heritage and landscapes will be conserved and support provided for strong communities that are welcoming, safe and enjoy quality lifestyles that celebrate their local identities, diversities, cultures and histories.

PRINCIPLE 3:

The community's environmental, cultural and social values are integral to the future and will be considered when balancing the competing demands for growth and ensuring vibrant, sustainable townships which maintain their distinctive country character within a healthy, managed environment.

PRINCIPLE 4:

The community will be supported to be resilient and independent, based on self-sufficiency in food, water, energy and services, and ensuring that the economic development framework is built upon natural environment, tourism, viticulture, agriculture and rural and retail sectors that provide a sustainable range of business and job opportunities.

PRINCIPLE 5:

Council leadership will be visionary, effective, transparent and trustworthy, actively engaging and consulting the community to understand their aspirations for the future, driving positive change and diversity, and adding measurable value.

PRINCIPLE 6:

Council and community carbon emissions will be reduced and the precautionary principle will guide Council in showing leadership and engaging with the community to increase the resilience of the environment, community and economy in the face of changing climate.

4. **Putting the principles into practice**

4.1 **VALUING, PROTECTING AND ENHANCING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

Value, protect and enhance the unique natural environment and biodiversity of the region by:

- Maintaining and enhancing the Shire's ecology and biodiversity through planning, zoning, reserve management, partnerships, community engagement and engaging Wadandi people and their knowledge in land and water management.
- Planning, forming partnerships and undertaking proactive responses to key environmental issues including fire, weeds, ferals and endangered species.
- Developing an overall strategy to ensure that habitats, corridors and climate change refugia are identified and protected in planning.
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- Protecting the Shire's catchments, waterways, wetlands and foreshores, in particular the Margaret and Blackwood Rivers, through Shire measures and partnerships to protect water quality and environmental flows, protect foreshores from development and increase protective vegetation in riparian zones.
- Maintaining ecosystems, healthy forests, natural landscapes and the coast through planning, incentives, collaboration, employing best-practice land use management for parks and reserves, managing access and development, and developing partnerships.
- Including biodiversity protection in bushfire management.
- Supporting retention of native forest and remnant vegetation.
- Advocating for locally-supported conservation outcomes that are subject to State and Federal policy and planning decisions.
- Planning to increase ecological resilience and respond to climate change impacts on the coast, biodiversity and the ecology.
- Monitoring updated climate predictions for the south west and encouraging research on environmental impacts and environmental management responses.
- Encouraging land-owners and the community to protect the Shire's biodiversity through community education, participation, partnerships and volunteering.

4.2 **WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES**

Conserve cultural heritage and landscapes and support strong communities that are welcoming, safe and enjoy quality lifestyles that celebrate their local identities, diversities, cultures and histories, by:

- Respecting and adopting evolving cultural values.
- Fostering community resilience, connection and wellbeing through social planning, recreation, safety, education, preventative health and social justice strategies.
- Celebrating diversity and supporting participation in cultural and community events, festivals and activities that encourage a sense of local identity, justice and universal belonging.
- Supporting reconciliation and community respect for Aboriginal peoples.
- Supporting community groups, networks and volunteers.
- Taking action for equal opportunities for all, addressing services for disadvantaged sectors of the community (irrespective of age, race, religion, physical or mental abilities), gender mainstreaming across all policies and strategies, and ensuring Shire facilities and services are accessible by all.
- Fostering lifelong learning in the community.
- Promoting active, healthy and safe lifestyles and providing facilities that maximise participation in physical activity.

- Promoting safer communities through initiatives to prevent crime, address violence against women, reduce the impact of drugs, enhance emergency and disaster management, and protect public health.
- Fostering community resilience and protecting community health, safety and social justice in the face of changing climate.
- Acknowledging and promoting Aboriginal rights, land, wisdom, knowledge, participation and leadership.
- Providing youth services and promoting youth engagement in Shire governance processes and leadership.
- Fostering community groups who promote social inclusion, community care, education and cultural development.
- Welcoming and supporting refugees and asylum seekers as a Refugee Welcome Zone.
- Monitoring changing public health, mental health, infrastructure and vector control needs in response to changing climate/environment including increasing heatwaves, bushfires, southern movement of diseases such as Ross River Virus.

4.3 ENSURING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(a) Lead by example and play our part in solving the global challenges of sustainability by:

- Proactively planning for potential population growth and demographic change.
- Clearly defining areas for growth, renewal and protection.
- Encouraging sustainably-managed tourism operations, ecotourism and low-impact tourism experiences based on the local environment and culture in the Shire and Region and following a Sustainable Visitor Capacity approach to coastal and tourism planning.
- Planning for liveable, sustainable and well-designed places that are inclusive for all culture and demographics.
- Participating in initiatives to limit and manage wider urban and regional growth.
- Revitalising Shire centres, neighbourhoods and hamlets on sustainable and social justice principles.
- Implementing best-practice sustainable design principles including Water Sensitive Urban Design, water conservation, water recycling and energy efficiency for new communities, Shire facilities and projects.
- Integrating land use with transport modes to provide pedestrian and bike friendly towns and a connected and safe transport network, including connected cycleway and pedestrian pathways throughout the Shire, and encouraging public transport to meet the needs of visitors and an aging population.
- Encouraging the sound management of freight and regional transport in the Shire.
- Encouraging innovation in sustainable design for housing and buildings, its application across Shire properties, and business and community education to improve sustainability in new and retrofitted buildings
- Planning to respond to climate change impacts including reduced water supplies, increasing bushfires and severe weather/marine events.

(b) Ensure the sustainable management and use of natural resources (water, energy, food, soil) and encourage our community to reduce its ecological footprint and enhance its quality of life by:

- Promoting the wisdom and leadership of Aboriginal peoples in sustainable management of natural resources.
- Supporting the development and implementation of innovative environmental technology.

- Ensuring products and services used by the Shire to support sustainable and regenerative agriculture, viticulture, fisheries and aquaculture, forestry, plantations, local food producers and sustainable mining.
- Partnering with industry organisations to encourage agricultural innovation.
- Encouraging local food production and industries, secure distribution channels and community initiatives such as food hubs.
- Achieving sustainable waste management through reducing environmental impact of waste disposal, reducing waste to landfill and encouraging and supporting community initiatives and the wider community to reduce, reuse and recycle.
- Achieving sustainable water management through reducing water consumption, improving water quality and engaging the community in water conservation.
- Liaising with State Government organisations and developing partnerships and community education programs for water conservation and total water cycle management.
- Achieving sustainable energy management through energy conservation, increasing use of renewable energy sources and supporting community renewable energy projects.
- Setting an example in reducing greenhouse gas emissions (climate change mitigation), educating businesses and the community about energy conservation and renewable energy and supporting community-led renewable energy initiatives and uptake.
- Promoting a connected and safe transport network and raising awareness of the transition to low-carbon transport.
- Responding to changing climate impacts on resources through partnerships, community education and participation.
- Implementing Council strategies and supporting community groups and activities that increase community resilience and improve water, energy and food security for the future.

4.4 VIBRANT AND DIVERSE ECONOMY

Support the community to be resilient and independent, based on self-sufficiency in food, energy and services, and ensure that the economic development framework will be built upon natural environment, tourism, viticulture, agriculture and rural and retail sectors that provide a sustainable range of business and job opportunities, by:

- Encouraging diversity, innovation and value-adding in economic development including renewable energy technologies, climate change adaptation, biodiversity conservation, Aboriginal employment, creative industries and education, while also addressing income inequality and poverty, in line with the Economic Development Strategy 2017-27.
- Supporting strong, diverse and sustainable agriculture and viticulture sectors, small agricultural holdings, small-scale food production, regenerative agriculture and food processing enterprises.
- Working with the tourism sector and local industries to promote ecologically and socially sustainable tourism and other industries based on innovative, low-impact nature experiences and on local produce, culture, wine, food and creativity.
- Developing infrastructure, communication networks and technology to support sustainable economic growth.
- Fostering a competitive and sustainable business environment.
- Working collaboratively to improve educational and learning infrastructure.
- Facilitating networking activities for business sustainability.
- Creating a sustainable, business-friendly Council and developing a policy for sustainable economic development.

- Fostering cleaner production in the Shire and Region.
- Encouraging corporate social responsibility, industry sustainability, economic equality and fair distribution of resources.
- Encouraging inclusion of Aboriginal peoples in job creation and innovation across all economic industries.
- Encouraging sustainable entrepreneurship, especially young entrepreneurs.
- Acknowledging women's disproportionate responsibilities in the unpaid care economy and promoting opportunities for shared care, workplace flexibility, and equal wages for people of all genders.
- Encouraging affordable housing options in planning and provision of low-cost accommodation by private providers.
- Fostering innovation and creative capital through facilities, support for locally-organised events, community participation and partnerships.
- Ensuring economic costs to the Shire arising from changing climate are minimised and opportunities identified including regularly reviewing risk assessment as climate predictions and measured changes are updated.
- Developing partnerships and community programs to mitigate the economic impacts of climate events on the community especially low-income and vulnerable community members.

4.5 EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Ensure that the way Council governs is driving the transition to a sustainable future by:

- Providing stable, ethical, transparent and sound government for the Shire's residents and ratepayers.
- Taking responsible ownership of outcomes including providing training for Councillors and staff on good governance, ethical decision-making processes and community involvement and raising awareness and building capacity in Councillors, staff and the community in achieving sustainable outcomes.
- Implementing effective and integrated strategy and planning and asset management.
- Using sustainability assessment to inform decision making.
- Planning for sustainable long-term outcomes for the community.
- Forming partnerships and strategic alliances to foster sustainability.
- Leading by example in implementing sustainable design principles and practices in Shire buildings and operations.
- Managing financial resources in a prudent manner to safeguard a sustainable future.
- Fostering a culture of community and customer focus, innovation, quality and continuous improvement.
- Measuring and reporting on success and sustainability.
- Developing an approach to holistic sustainability assessment that includes measuring and reporting on sustainability using relevant measures from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and other indicators that link the Shire's performance assessment to implementation of this Policy.
- Fostering community participation through deliberative democracy and participatory governance, including ensuring participation of Aboriginal peoples and disadvantaged/underrepresented groups, and open forums to enable diverse representation.
- Fostering community members in all their diversities to have leadership positions in Council, its advisory bodies and Shire staff, including equitable representation of women.

- Ensuring Shire contracting and procurement preferentially support local businesses and employment and adhere to sustainable procurement guidelines.
- Showing leadership in climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Ensuring inclusive disaster response planning and procedures are in place to effectively respond to increasing threats of bushfires and severe weather and marine events.

1.

4.6 MITIGATING AND RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Show leadership and take action to mitigate and respond to climate change across all goal (focus) areas of the *Community Strategic Plan 2036* by:

- Reducing greenhouse gas (especially carbon) Shire (corporate) to meet adopted targets, and assisting businesses and the community to adopt renewable energy and reduce carbon emissions through Council's **Local Energy Action Plan (LEAP)**.
- Regularly updating the Shire's **Climate Change Response Plan** in consultation with the community to respond to changing climate and associated environmental conditions and implementing across all Shire work areas.

2. **SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL ISSUES FOR SUSTAINABILITY**

Issue	Key elements
1. Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire and biodiversity• Consultation, community education, participation and partnerships including Wadandi• Ecology and biodiversity protection and enhancement• Ecosystem conservation (bushland, forest, coastal, marine, rivers, streams, riparian environment, caves)• Nature conservation• Weeds, feral animals• Proactive response to impacts of climate change on biodiversity and promoting ecological resilience
2. Land and waterway conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proactively responding to impacts of climate change• Healthy waterways and foreshores• Unique and iconic coastal landscapes• Consultation, community education, participation and partnerships, Wadandi• Healthy forests and natural landscapes• Forest management for highest uses

<p>3. Renewable energy and energy conservation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for community renewable energy projects • Climate change mitigation - Reducing Greenhouse gas emissions to agreed targets, renewable energy • Social justice (energy costs) • Energy conservation • Renewable energy and energy conservation in Shire buildings and facilities • Individual uptake of renewable energy • Energy security • Consultation, community education, participation and partnerships • Business education and training • Innovation
<p>4. Sustainable planning, subdivision and development – built environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable design principles in Shire buildings, infrastructure, projects • Proactively planning for population increase and change • Sustainable planning and building practices • Consultation, community education, participation and partnerships • Water Sensitive Urban Design and Stormwater management • Social justice • Planning and approvals for sustainable urban expansion, subdivision and development, sustainable buildings • Towns, hamlets, neighbourhoods, ecovillages • Responding to impacts of climate change
<p>5. Sustainable resource use: food, soil and sustainable agriculture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regenerative agriculture • Eco-agriculture • Food Hubs • Sustainable agriculture • Food security • Soil health • Responding to impacts of climate change – growing conditions, industry and producer impacts, economic impacts, food prices, • Social justice

<p>6. Social sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal • Youth • Equality and social justice • Affordable housing • Connected communities • Welcoming and inclusive communities • Disadvantaged groups • Aging community • Responding to impacts of climate change – community health and resilience, impacts on disadvantaged groups, impacts on recreation, safety, mental health, emergency and disaster response
<p>7. Sustainable Economic Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation, new sustainable industries • Responding to economic impacts of climate change • Economic equality, social justice • Innovative events, festivals, business and industries, based on local products, culture • Tourism development based on local values – environment, wine and food, products and creativity • Education • Local employment • Shire procurement support local businesses • Affordable housing • Consultation, community education, participation and partnerships
<p>8. Waste management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter and illegal dumping • Community projects eg Boomerang Bags, Cape to Cape Plastic Free, Responsible Cafes • Agriculture and viticulture waste • Reducing waste to landfill • Plastic • Recycling, 'reduce, re-use, recycle' • Green waste and organics processing • Composting and worm farms • Business education and training

<p>9. Governance for sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation • Measuring and reporting on sustainability (reflected in KPIs) • Good governance, ethical decision making processes, open and transparent • Ethical investment and procurement • Deliberative democracy • Sustainability assessment to aid decision-making
<p>10. Cultural sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal participation • History, heritage protection and management • Protection and management of sacred, heritage and historic sites • Arts and creativity, Creative capital • Refugees, Diversity and multi-culturalism • Responding to impacts of climate change – impacts on cultural landscapes, heritage buildings and structures • Social justice
<p>11. Sustainable tourism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting biodiversity, landscapes and natural environments in accordance with community values • Innovative tourist experiences based on local environment, culture, heritage, creative capital, food, wine, produce • Sustainable Visitor Capacity • Responding to impacts of climate change including facilities, health, safety, increasing visitor numbers • Social justice • Pedestrian and bike friendly town
<p>12. Sustainable water management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water conservation • Responding to impacts of climate change – water availability • Water sensitive urban design • Consultation, community education, participation and partnerships • Downstream flows • Stormwater management • Recycling • Private water supplies • Business, landowner education and training • Social justice
<p>13. Sustainable transport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrian and bike friendly town • Sustainable transport – roads, tracks and trails • Public transport • Electric vehicles, low-carbon transport

CURRENT SAC PRIORITIES

(i) Sustainability issues linked to Community Strategic Plan (Vision 2036) Key Result Areas/Goals:

- 1. Biodiversity**
- 2. Sustainable planning, subdivision and development – built environment**
- 3. Renewable energy and energy conservation**
- 4. Land and waterway conservation**
- 5. Waste management**
- 6. Governance for sustainability** (Sustainability Policy, strategies, policies and measures)
- 7. Food, soil and sustainable agriculture**
- 8. Social sustainability** (particularly climate change impacts and response)
- 9. Sustainable water management**

(ii) Across-goal (overarching) issues:

- 1. Climate change**
- 2. Community education, participation and partnerships**

HOLISTIC APPROACH TO SUSTAINABILITY

MATRIX OF ISSUES SHOWING INTER-RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN ELEMENTS

Community Strategic Plan 2036 Goals	Sustainability issues				Shire	
	Environmental sustainability	Social and cultural sustainability	Economic sustainability	Climate change	Major documents/activities	Community involvement
<p>VALUING, PROTECTING AND ENHANCING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>Biodiversity and habitat protection and enhancement</p> <p>Landscape protection and enhancement</p> <p>Ecosystem conservation (bushland, forest, coastal, marine, rivers, streams, riparian environment, caves)</p> <p>Healthy waterways and foreshores</p> <p>Unique and iconic coastal landscapes</p> <p>Healthy forests and natural landscapes</p> <p>Endangered species</p> <p>Weeds, feral animals</p> <p>Fire and biodiversity</p>	<p>Protecting biodiversity, habitats and landscapes, ecosystems and connecting corridors as part of urban, regional and infrastructure planning</p> <p>Conservation of endangered species – e.g. Ringtails, Cockatoos</p> <p>Weed control Reducing Round Up/pesticide/weedicide use</p> <p>Feral animal control</p> <p>Fire and biodiversity</p>	<p>Protecting biodiversity, and landscapes, and natural environments for community values</p> <p>Forest management for highest use</p>	<p>Conserving environment, biodiversity and landscapes as underpinning tourism and economy</p> <p>Developing environmentally-based and compatible attractions, businesses, tourism ventures</p>	<p>Proactive response to impacts of climate change on biodiversity and promoting ecological resilience</p> <p>Climate Change Response</p> <p>Managing ecosystems for resilience</p> <p>Corridors and refugia</p> <p>Fire and biodiversity</p> <p>Research and evaluation</p>	<p><i>Government Policies</i></p> <p><i>Community Strategic Plan 2036</i></p> <p><i>Sustainability Policy</i></p> <p><i>Environmental Elements of Sustainability Strategy</i></p> <p><i>Environmental Management Fund</i></p> <p><i>Climate Change Response Plan</i></p> <p><i>Economic Devel. Strategy</i></p> <p><i>Shire policies, planning and strategies</i></p> <p><i>Reserve management</i></p> <p><i>Parks and gardens</i></p> <p><i>Coastal development and management</i></p> <p><i>Weed control</i></p> <p><i>Feral animal control</i></p> <p><i>Fire mgt</i></p> <p><i>Waterways and foreshores</i></p>	<p>Consultation and Participation in Shire policies and planning</p> <p>Partnerships</p> <p>Aboriginal Nature Conservation Margaret River Region MOU Curtin Uni MOU Margaret River Busselton Tourism Association</p> <p>Shire-Community partnerships & projects</p> <p>Curtin Uni, NCMRR, consultants Ringtail possum project</p> <p>Support for Rivercare Groups, environment groups</p> <p>Community awareness and education, Behaviour change</p> <p>Fire and biodiversity Weeds, Ferals (eg cats)</p> <p>Research, evaluation</p> <p>KPIs Nature Conservation Margaret River Region Curtin Uni, Consultants State of the Environment Report Sustainability assessment to aid decision-making</p>
Community Strategic Plan 2036 Goals	Sustainability issues				Shire	

	Environmental sustainability	Social and cultural sustainability	Economic sustainability	Climate change	Major documents/activities	Community involvement
ENSURING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT Sustainable development Sustainable tourism Sustainable transport Sustainable resource use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • water • energy • waste • soil • food 	Managing population and urban growth to protect environmental values Managing tourism and visitor growth to protect environmental values Low carbon transport (incl. electric vehicles) to reduce emissions Water sensitive design (total water cycle management, stormwater management) Renewable energy Energy conservation Reducing waste to landfill Litter and illegal dumping Recycling and reducing plastic Sustainable design principles in Shire buildings, projects infrastructure Soil health	Pedestrian and bike friendly town Tracks and trails Public transport Pedestrian and bike friendly town Managing population and urban growth to protect social, cultural, Indigenous values Managing tourism and visitor growth to protect social, cultural, Indigenous values (sustainable visitor capacity planning, Aboriginal involvement) Social justice e.g. energy costs, affordable housing Sustainable urban expansion-community values Food hubs, markets, support for local producers	Tourism based on local values – environment, produce, products and creativity Innovative business and industries, based on local products, creative capital, sustainable practices Buy local Innovation, technology Sustainable Visitor Capacity	Climate change mitigation – reducing greenhouse gas emissions (LEAP) Water security Energy security Food security Climate Response Community safety – settlements, bushfires, infrastructure, services Responding to impacts of climate change on agriculture and viticulture – growing conditions, industry and producer impacts, economic impacts, food prices Responding to impacts of climate change on tourism including facilities, health, safety, increasing visitor numbers Research and evaluation	<i>Government Policies</i> <i>Community Strategic Plan 2036</i> <i>Sustainability Policy Shire Policies</i> <i>Environmental Sustainability Strategy (Environmental Management Fund)</i> <i>LEAP</i> <i>Climate Change Response Plan</i> <i>Economic Dev Strategy</i> <i>Other Shire policies, planning and strategies and activities.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Shire buildings and facilities mgt</i> • <i>planning and development</i> • <i>asset management</i> • <i>infrastructure management</i> • <i>waste management</i> • <i>water conservation and quality</i> • <i>transport, roads, paths and trails</i> • <i>carbon pollution and reduction</i> • <i>agriculture</i> 	<i>Community Participation in policies, planning</i> Your Say, Consultation <i>Shire-Community projects and partnerships:</i> MOU Curtin University Support for community groups eg <i>AMR Clean Community Energy</i> TMR, MRREC, Boomerang Bags, Cape to Cape Plastic Free Working with MRBTA, MR Chamber of Commerce <i>Behaviour change:</i> Community awareness, education, training for sustainable living, renewable energy, waste, recycling (eg Living Smart, Sustainability Pavilion) Sustainable subdivision and building practices (eg by-laws) Business education and training – water, energy, waste Reducing ag., viticulture, food waste, green waste, plastic Promoting regenerative and eco-agriculture <i>Research and evaluation</i> Measuring and reporting on sustainability (KPIs)
Community Strategic Plan 2036 Goals	Sustainability issues				Shire	
	Environmental sustainability	Social and cultural sustainability	Economic sustainability	Climate change	Major documents/activities	Community involvement

<p>WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES</p> <p>Connected communities</p> <p>Welcoming and inclusive communities</p> <p>Community facilities</p> <p>Equality and social justice</p> <p>Health and wellbeing</p> <p>Education</p> <p>History, heritage</p> <p>Aboriginal issues</p> <p>Arts and creativity</p> <p>International connections</p>	<p>Protecting biodiversity, landscapes, and natural environments for community values</p> <p>Sustainable Visitor Capacity</p>	<p>Community development</p> <p>Cultural development</p> <p>Community and sporting facilities</p> <p>Community health</p> <p>Community safety</p> <p>Educational infrastructure</p> <p>Protection and management of heritage, historic and sacred sites</p> <p>Social justice and equity, Disadvantaged groups</p> <p>Affordable housing</p> <p>Youth</p> <p>Aboriginal community</p> <p>Aging community</p> <p>Refugees, Diversity and multi-culturalism</p> <p>Refugee Friendly Shire</p>	<p>Heritage, cultural, wine and food tourism</p> <p>Creative capital</p> <p>Education/Tertiary Campus</p> <p>International relations</p>	<p>Climate Response</p> <p>Community safety, health and wellbeing</p> <p>Responding to social impacts of climate change – community health and resilience, impacts on disadvantaged groups, impacts on recreation, safety, mental health, emergency and disaster response</p> <p>Responding to cultural impacts of climate change – impacts on cultural landscapes, heritage buildings and structures</p>	<p><i>Government Policies</i></p> <p><i>Community Strategic Plan 2036</i></p> <p><i>Sustainability Policy</i></p> <p><i>Shire Policies</i></p> <p><i>Climate Change Response Plan</i></p> <p><i>Economic Development Strategy</i></p> <p><i>Shire policies, planning and strategies:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>planning and development</i> • <i>cultural development</i> • <i>community development</i> • <i>recreation</i> • <i>heritage conservation</i> • <i>youth</i> • <i>Aboriginal</i> • <i>community health and safety</i> • <i>social justice and equity</i> • <i>affordable housing</i> • <i>accessibility</i> <p><i>Code of Conduct</i></p> <p><i>Customer Service Charter</i></p>	<p>Participation in policies and planning</p> <p>Your Say, Consultation</p> <p>Aboriginal participation</p> <p>Partnerships</p> <p>Curtin University MOU</p> <p>Shire-Community projects</p> <p>Just Housing MR</p> <p>Transition Margaret River</p> <p>Community groups and networks</p> <p>Arts MR</p> <p>Community awareness and education</p> <p>Behaviour change</p> <p>Community involvement</p> <p>Women</p> <p>Youth</p> <p>Aboriginal</p> <p>Lifelong learning</p> <p>Research, evaluation</p> <p>KPIs</p> <p>Social research</p>
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Community Strategic Plan 2036 Goals	Sustainability issues				Shire	
	Environmental sustainability	Social and cultural sustainability	Economic sustainability	Climate change	Major documents/activities	Community involvement
<p>VIBRANT AND DIVERSE ECONOMY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wine and food • Tourism development • Economic infrastructure • Creative industries • Competitive business • International plans <p>Innovation</p> <p>Events and festivals</p> <p>Ethical investment and procurement</p> <p>Economic equality, Affordable housing</p>	<p>Environment underpinning economic and tourism development</p>	<p>Support for creative capital, arts and culture</p> <p>Economic equality, Affordable housing, Social justice</p> <p>Innovative events, festivals, business and industries, based on local products, produce, culture, creativity</p> <p>Tourism development based on local values – environment, heritage, history, culture, wine and food, products and creativity</p> <p>Local employment</p> <p>Shire procurement support local businesses</p>	<p>Wine and food</p> <p>Tourism development</p> <p>Economic infrastructure</p> <p>Creative industries</p> <p>Competitive business</p> <p>International plans</p> <p>Innovation, technology, new sustainable industries</p> <p>Education, Tertiary Campus</p> <p>Opportunities eg renewable energy</p>	<p>Responding to economic impacts of climate change</p> <p>Increasing economic costs of climate change to:</p> <p>Shire tourism agriculture viticulture businesses services eg water supply community</p> <p>Funding insurance, risk management, adaptation, disaster response</p>	<p><i>Government Policies</i></p> <p><i>Community Strategic Plan 2036</i></p> <p><i>Sustainability Policy</i></p> <p><i>Shire Policies</i></p> <p><i>Economic Development Strategy</i></p> <p><i>Business Excellence and Innovation</i></p> <p><i>Ethical investment and procurement</i></p> <p><i>Climate Change Response Plan</i></p> <p><i>Shire policies, planning and strategies:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Economic Development</i> • <i>Tourism Strategy</i> • <i>Events</i> • <i>Buy local</i> • <i>Procurement</i> • <i>Contracts</i> <p><i>International ESD principles</i></p>	<p>Participation in policies and planning</p> <p>Your Say, Consultation</p> <p>Partnerships</p> <p>Curtin University MOU</p> <p>MRBTA</p> <p>MR Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>Wine industry</p> <p>Ag/food industry</p> <p>Shire-Community projects</p> <p>MR Clean Community Energy</p> <p>Community awareness and education</p> <p>Behaviour change</p> <p>Community involvement</p> <p>Research, evaluation</p> <p>Measuring and reporting on sustainability (reflected in KPIs)</p> <p>Sustainability assessment to aid decision-making</p>

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	Environmental sustainability	Social and cultural sustainability	Economic sustainability	Climate change	Major documents/activities	Community involvement
<p>CLIMATE CHANGE</p> <p>Climate change Mitigation</p> <p>Climate change Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Coastal zone • Water resources • Agriculture, viticulture, , forestry, food security • Settlements, infrastructure and assets • Tourism • Health and wellbeing • Natural disaster response incl. bushfire • Economic impacts <p>Community education</p> <p>Research</p>	<p>Climate Change Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Rivers and streams • Forest health • Coastal zone • Water resources <p>Fire and biodiversity</p>	<p>Climate Change Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture, viticulture, , forestry, food security • Water security • Settlements, infrastructure and assets • Tourism • Health and wellbeing • Community safety: natural disaster response incl. bushfire 	<p>Climate Change Response</p> <p>Increasing economic costs of climate change to Shire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • environmental management • risk management • infrastructure and asset repair and replacement • disaster response • increased community services eg health • community education and involvement • research, monitoring and evaluation • insurance <p>Increasing economic costs of climate change to tourism, agriculture, viticulture, businesses and community</p>		<p><i>Government Policies</i></p> <p><i>Community Strategic Plan 2036</i></p> <p><i>Sustainability Policy</i></p> <p>LEAP</p> <p><i>Climate change response plan</i></p>	<p>Participation in policies and planning</p> <p><i>Participation in LEAP, Developing and implementing Climate Change Response Plan</i></p> <p>Partnerships</p> <p>Nature Conservation Margaret River Region Curtin University MOU</p> <p>Shire-Community projects</p> <p>MR Clean Community Energy Transition Margaret River MRREC</p> <p>Community awareness and education</p> <p>LEAP</p> <p><i>Impacts and adaptation to changing climate including community safety and health</i></p> <p>Behaviour change</p> <p>Energy – LEAP</p> <p><i>water conservation, energy conservation, waste reduction, fire management, food production</i></p> <p>Research, evaluation</p> <p>Nature Conservation MRR Curtin University MOU Universities</p>