

ASSET MANAGEMENT

Objective

- To set guidelines for implementing consistent asset management processes throughout Gilgandra Council.
- To ensure adequate provision is made for the long-term replacement of major assets by:
 - Ensuring that Council's services and infrastructure are provided in a sustainable manner, with the appropriate levels of service to residents, visitors and the environment.
 - Safeguarding Council assets including physical assets and employees by implementing appropriate asset management strategies and appropriate financial resources for those assets.
 - Creating an environment where all Council employees take an integral part in overall management of Council assets by creating and sustaining asset management awareness throughout the organisation by training and development.
 - Meeting legislative requirements for asset management.
 - Ensuring resources and operational capabilities are identified and responsibility for asset management is allocated.
 - Demonstrating transparent and responsible asset management processes that align with demonstrated best practice.

Scope

This policy applies to all Council activities

Policy

Background

1. Council is committed to implementing a systematic asset management methodology in order to apply appropriate asset management best practices across all areas of the organisation. This includes ensuring that assets are planned, created, operated, maintained, renewed and disposed of in accordance with Council's priorities for service delivery.
2. Asset management practices impact directly on the core business of the organisation and appropriate asset management is required to achieve our strategic service delivery objectives.
3. Adopting asset management principles will assist Council in achieving its Strategic Longer-Term Plan and Long Term Financial objectives.

4. A strategic approach to asset management will ensure that the Council delivers the highest appropriate level of service through its assets. This will provide positive impact on:
 - Members of the public and staff;
 - Council's financial position;
 - The ability of Council to deliver the expected level of service and infrastructure;
 - The political environment in which Council operates; and
 - The legal liabilities of Council.

Principles

1. A consistent Asset Management Strategy must exist for implementing systematic asset management and appropriate asset management best-practice throughout all Departments of Council.
2. All relevant legislative requirements together with political, social and economic environments are to be taken into account in asset management.
3. Asset management principles will be integrated within existing planning and operational processes.
4. Asset Management Plans will be developed for major service/asset categories. The plans will be informed by community consultation and financial planning and reporting.
5. An inspection regime will be used as part of asset management to ensure agreed service levels are maintained and to identify asset renewal priorities.
6. Asset renewals required to meet agreed service levels and identified in adopted asset management plans and long term financial plans will be fully funded in the annual budget estimates.
7. Service levels agreed through the budget process and defined in adopted Asset Management Plans will be fully funded in the annual budget estimates.
8. Asset renewal plans will be prioritised and implemented progressively based on agreed service levels and the effectiveness of the current assets to provide that level of service.
9. Systematic and cyclic reviews will be applied to all asset classes and are to ensure that the assets are managed, valued and depreciated in accordance with appropriate best practice and applicable Australian Standards.
10. Future life cycle costs will be reported and considered in all decisions relating to new services and assets and upgrading of existing services and assets.
11. Future service levels will be determined in consultation with the community.
12. Training in asset and financial management will be provided for councillors and relevant staff.

Roles and Responsibilities

Councillors are responsible for adopting the policy and ensuring that sufficient resources are applied to manage the assets.

The **GENERAL MANAGER** has overall responsibility for developing an asset management strategy, plans and procedures and reporting on the status and effectiveness of asset management within Council.

Relevant Legislation

Local Government Act 1993

Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009

(The Act sets out role, purpose, responsibilities and powers of local governments including the preparation of a long term financial plan supported by asset management plans for sustainable service delivery. The amendments to the Act give effect to the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework.)

Associated Documents

Asset Management Strategy

Asset Management Plans

Long Term Financial Plan

Workforce Plan

Community Strategic Plan

Responsible Officer:	Director Corporate Services		
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