

## 7.2 Adoption of Policy 261 Sustainable events

<b>Location</b>	<b>Town-wide</b>
<b>Reporting officer</b>	Brendan Nock
<b>Responsible officer</b>	Ben Killigrew
<b>Voting requirement</b>	Simple majority
<b>Attachments</b>	1. Policy 261 Sustainable Events [7.2.1 - 4 pages]

### Recommendation

That the Policy Committee recommends to Council that it adopts Policy 261 Sustainable events.

### Purpose

In response to a Council Resolution in December 2019 and June 2020, this report seeks Committee and Council endorsement for the proposed Sustainable Events Policy.

### In brief

- The Town investigated the feasibility of developing a Sustainable Events Policy for the Town relating primarily to environmental sustainability.
- A proposed Sustainable Events Policy was drafted for consideration by the Policy Committee and Council.
- Applying to all Council-run events and Council-approved external events on Town land or in Town-owned facilities, the Sustainable Events Policy aims to reduce waste, improve resource recovery and promote sustainable transport options for events coordinated or approved by the Town.
- The draft policy was advertised for community consultation, the outcomes of which are presented in the body of this report.

### Background

1. At the 17 December 2019 Council meeting, in response to a notice of motion put forward to remove balloons from Town public open spaces and events, the following resolution was passed:

*That Council:*

1. Requests the Policy Committee to investigate the merits of a Sustainable Events policy and provide a recommendation back to Council.
2. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to present a report to the Policy Committee to assist the Committee with recommendation 1 by June 2020.

2. Historically the Town itself has explored environmentally sustainability in events run or supported by the Town. In 2016 the Town piloted a Sustainability Fair. This event was the first of its kind to focus on sustainability and to be run sustainably.

3. The Town has also established as a part of core business other environmental sustainability initiatives related to events, such as non-permissible balloon releases and a policy banning single-use plastic and polystyrene on Town land or at Town events.
4. The Town has researched what other Councils are undertaking in the sustainable event space. The City of Fremantle has a dedicated Sustainable Events Policy (attached).
5. At the 16 June 2020 Council meeting the following resolution was made:

*That Council:*

1. *Receives the report and draft Sustainable Events Policy for consideration*
2. *Advertises the draft Sustainable Events Policy for public comment, with the following changes made to the Policy:*
  - a. *removal of clauses 2(c) and 2(d) and the Policy renumbered accordingly; and*
  - b. *amendment of clauses 2(a)(ii) and 6(a)(ii) to delete the words "bottled water or".*
3. *Requests that the Chief Executive Officer presents a further report back to the Policy Committee with the results of the public comment and any proposed amendments to the Sustainable Events Policy by October 2020.*

6. The draft Sustainable Events Policy was released for public comment from 9<sup>th</sup> July – 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020.

## Strategic alignment

Economic	
Strategic outcome	Intended public value outcome or impact
EC02 - A clean, safe and accessible place to visit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in the amount of waste generated from events and subsequently disposed to landfill or ending up as litter in our community.</li> <li>• Reduction of the impacts on the Town's environment and human health.</li> </ul>

Environment	
Strategic outcome	Intended public value outcome or impact
EN04 - A clean place where everyone knows the value of waste, water and energy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education of the Town's community to integrate sustainable practices into everyday life.</li> <li>• Support and encourage businesses to embrace sustainable practices.</li> <li>• Help to reduce the degradation of our environment.</li> <li>• Reduce the carbon emissions associated with creating unsustainable products.</li> </ul>

## Engagement

### Internal engagement

Stakeholder	Comments
Community Development	Community development team have been engaged in the investigation into the feasibility of a Sustainable Events policy. The team are supportive of the development of said Policy.
Town of Victoria Park staff	Town staff were invited to comment during the public comment period 9th July – 2nd August 2020.

### External engagement

Stakeholders	What groups of people within the community did you engage with? E.g. business owners, residents.
Period of engagement	9 <sup>th</sup> July – 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2020.
Level of engagement	2. Consult
Methods of engagement	Written submissions invited.
Advertising	Newspaper advertisement, Town website, social media, Your Thoughts.
Submission summary	Two submissions received, both in support of policy.

#### Key findings

Below is a summary of information resulting from engagement:

Policy Statement	Policy Scope	Town Events	Approved Events	Encouraged Provisions
The Sustainable Events Policy should be supported by all residents, so that they join in the whole item to reduce waste matter at events	The scope should be to encourage all the residents of the area to take leading action in maintaining the matter of waste management.	All town events should follow the Sustainable Events Policy and it should be emphasised at all times, including in pre-advertising	Whether events are held by the Council or approved by Council, the events should be under the same policy.	Any possible provision which may assist in getting the message across should be promoted, especially if the Town is serious about dropping its waste

held in the district.		material.		management overall.
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## Legal compliance

Not applicable.

## Risk management consideration

Risk impact category	Risk event description	Consequence rating	Likelihood rating	Overall risk level score	Council's risk appetite	Risk treatment option and rationale for actions
Reputational	Negative public perception towards the Town by vendors, public with the implementation of the Policy; or if there is little community buy-in.	Moderate	Likely	High	Low	Robust community education, communication about the Policy and acceptable sustainable options.  Allow an appropriate transition period before implementing the Policy.
Environmental	Not Applicable				Medium	
Health and safety	Not Applicable				Low	
Infrastructure/ ICT systems/ utilities	Not Applicable				Medium	
Legislative compliance	Not Applicable				Low	

Service delivery	Not Applicable	Medium
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## Financial implications

<b>Current budget impact</b>	<p>The extent of financial impact depends on the cost difference to transition to the alternative that is available. As part of event planning in the current fiscal year, these costs could be accommodated.</p> <p>It is anticipated that there will not be a significant financial impact to service areas across the Town. For instance, bans on single-use plastic and polystyrene are now part of the Town's core business and budget, so alternatives have already been sourced in accordance with the Town's Policy 260 Single Use Plastic and Polystyrene.</p>
<b>Future budget impact</b>	<p>If the Town implements a Sustainable Events Policy then it is likely that costs will be incurred. It is suggested that the relevant operating budgets reflect this and be considered during the annual budget process.</p> <p>There is evidence that the cost of sustainable alternatives are reducing as their demand rises.</p>

## Analysis

7. The proposed Sustainable Events Policy builds on the principles from the 2016 Sustainability Fair and the provisions of Policy 260 Single-use Plastic and Polystyrene.
8. Applying to all Council-run events and Council-approved external events on Town land or in Town-owned facilities – except those events that do not require Town approval or activities operating under a current lease agreement from the Town – the Sustainable Events Policy will help the Town to reduce its ecological footprint and minimise impacts on the environment by incorporating:
  - a. Sustainability principles into event planning and management.
  - b. Implementing waste avoidance strategies and maximising resource recovery for events.
  - c. Implementing efficiency measures to reduce water consumption.
  - d. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions through sustainable transport options.
  - e. Enhancing environmental awareness and fostering environmentally responsible behaviour in all relevant stakeholders to build their capacity to plan, organise, deliver or participate in a sustainable event.
9. The feedback from public consultation was supportive of the policy. The community commentary has been considered. Whilst the Town acknowledges the suggestion that the policy scope encourage to all residents to take the lead in waste management, the policy in question is currently focused on events only.

## Relevant documents

[Local Government Act 1995 \(WA\)](#)

Town of Victoria Park Activities and Trading Thoroughfares Public Places Local Law 2000 Amended.

RECN1 RECREATION RESERVES – HIRE  
Policy 260 Single-use Plastic and Polystyrene  
Plastic Free Vic Park guideline  
Strategic Waste Management Plan.