

# POLICY



**Date adopted:** 30/05/2017  
**File no:** 273343-1  
**Minute number:** 148/2017

**Policy title:** WATERWAYS PROTECTION

**Directorate:** STRATEGY & SUSTAINABILITY

**Branch:** DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT

**Policy objective:**

- (a) To achieve sustainability in waterway management consistent with the 'general environmental duty' pursuant to s.319 (general environmental duty) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (Qld).
- (b) To protect the health of waterways in Logan City consistent with agreed environmental values developed for the lower Logan sub-catchment.
- (c) To facilitate a process of familiarisation of the contents of the Waterways Protection Manual for Council supervisory employees.

**Policy scope:**

This policy applies where a Council employee, branch or department undertakes relevant operational activities in or around a natural or modified watercourse.

**Definitions:**

Not applicable.

**Policy statement:**

1. The Waterways Protection Manual provides a framework for undertaking that activity based on standard environmental guidelines and information on "best practice" waterway management. This framework includes identification of:
  - (a) typical environmental risks associated with various operational activities
  - (b) relevant legislative, policy and other statutory requirements
  - (c) processes to be followed to ensure that appropriate consultation is undertaken and required statutory approvals obtained
  - (d) key stakeholders and their contact details, including their specific areas of expertise and interest
  - (e) standard and best practice environmental guidelines to be followed for each major category of operational works affecting waterways, wetlands and open drains in the City.

2. The manual (ID: 1749840) will be managed and regularly updated by the City Standards & Animal Care branch. As best practices, new technologies and procedures emerge which contribute to the goal of sustainable management of waterways, the manual will be amended to include this information.
3. It is also anticipated that following the procedures in the manual would provide a level of defence in the event of prosecution should 'environmental harm' (as defined in sections 14 (environmental harm) to 17 (serious environmental harm) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*) be caused to the environment by the Council's operational works. Section 320 (duty to notify environmental harm) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* is also relevant in this respect.

**Related policies/legislation/other documents:**

DOC ID	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOCUMENT NAME
<a href="http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/Acts_SLs/Acts_SL.htm">http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/Acts_SLs/Acts_SL.htm</a>	Legislation	<i>Environmental Protection Act (Qld) 1994</i>
<a href="#">1749840</a>	Manual	Waterways Protection Manual