

Environmental (Vegetation) Offsets Delivery Policy

Policy Details

| Directorate: | Growth, Economy and Sustainability | | | |
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| Branch: | Health, Climate and Conservation | | | |
| Responsible Manager: | Health, Climate and Conservation Manager | | | |
| Date adopted: | 19/02/2020 (minute number 11/2020) | | | |
| Date for review: | 2 years from the date of adoption or date of last review | | | |
| Legislative basis: | Logan Planning Scheme 2015 Policy 3 - Environmental Management | | | |
| | Queensland Environmental Offsets Act 2014 | | | |
| | Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy 2014 | | | |
| Related Documents - forms and procedures | Land Acquisition for Environmental Offsets Prioritisation Mapping Methodology DM: 12703770 | | | |

1. Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the arrangements under which environmental (vegetation) offsets can be established within the City of Logan, in order to deliver the outcomes required under the Environmental Offsets Policy contained within the Logan Planning Scheme, and equivalent State and Federal offset legislation and policies.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all branches with a role in or responsibility for delivering environmental (vegetation) offsets within the City of Logan.

3. Policy Statement

In order to deliver environmental offsets under the Policy, Council is committed to establishing, or supporting the establishment of, offset sites across the City of Logan local government area. These offsets can be on:

- a proponent driven offset site; or
- Council owned/managed land managed for environmental (vegetation) offset purposes; or
- land acquired and managed by Council for environmental (vegetation) offset purposes; or
- private land managed for environmental (vegetation) offset purposes.

Offset sites will be delivered in line with the Environmental (Vegetation) Offsets Delivery Guideline.

4. Reporting

Council will maintain a publicly available register of all environmental (vegetation) offsets in the City of Logan. This register will be maintained in accordance with the requirements under the Queensland *Environmental Offsets Act 2014*.

5. Budget

The allocation of funds for the establishment of environmental offsets is available from the Environmental Offsets Constrained Income Reserve. Funds from the Reserve will be drawn down upon in accordance with the Delegation of Authority relating to Authorisation of Expenditure.

6. Definitions

The following definitions apply to this policy.

| TERM | DEFINITION | |
|---|--|--|
| Council owned/managed land managed for environmental (vegetation) offset purposes | Land which is either: owned by Council and following a consultation process, becomes an offset site; or managed by Council (owned by the Crown or State) and following a consultation process, becomes an offset site. | |
| Environmental Offset | The Environmental Offsets Policy contained with the Logan Planning Scheme identifies two types of environmental offsets: | |
| | a restoration offset on the same lot from which the vegetation is cleared; or an external offset consisting of: a financial settlement offset; or a proponent driven offset. | |
| Environmental (vegetation) offsets register | A record of all environmental (vegetation) offsets in the City of Logan local government area. | |
| Land acquired and managed by Council for environmental (vegetation) offset purposes | Land which is acquired by Council according to its Land Acquisition for Environmental Offsets Prioritisation Mapping Methodology transfers to Council ownership and becomes an offset site. | |
| Offset Site | An area where an environmental (vegetation) offset is established and maintained by Council, a proponent, or a private land owner and legally secured in perpetuity via an appropriate mechanism. | |

| Private land | Land which is privately owned and: | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| managed for environmental (vegetation) offset purposes | following analysis and assessment by Council, is deemed suitable to become an offset site; and is under an agreement, where Council and the land owner are signatories, which outlines the conditions associated with the offset site, its establishment and maintenance, as well as its legal security in perpetuity. | | |
| Proponent driven offset site | Land which is managed for environmental (vegetation) offset purposes by the proponent, as per the conditions set out in the Environmental Offsets Policy contained with the Logan Planning Scheme. | | |

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| Amendment History | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Version Number | Description of Change | Author / Branch | Date |
| 1.0 | Original version | Health, Environment & Waste | 19 February 2020 |
| 2.0 | Amended related documents | Corporate Governance | 26 February 2020 |

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