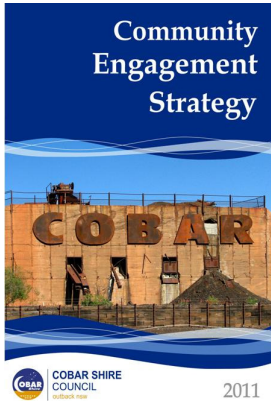


# Resource Strategy

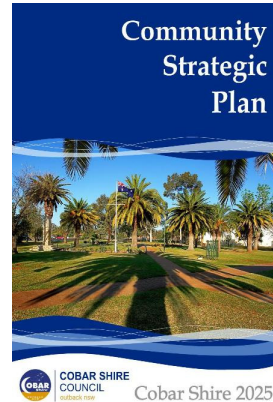
## Asset Management Policy



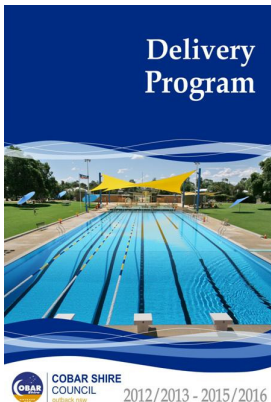
**COBAR SHIRE  
COUNCIL**  
outback nsw



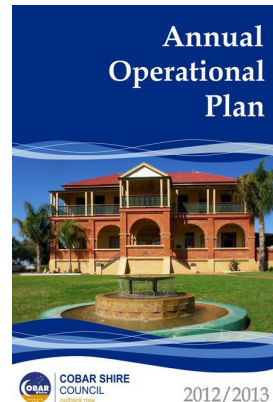
The **Community Engagement Strategy** outlines how Council will engage with its community and relevant stakeholders in developing and finalising the Community Strategic Plan. Over time it will be reviewed to outline how Council will ensure regular engagement and discussion with our community about their needs and aspirations for the town.



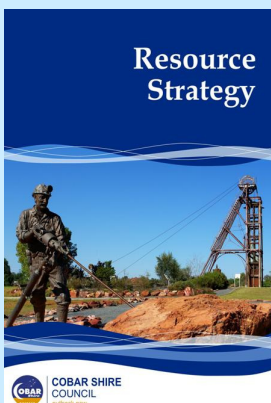
The **Community Strategic Plan** identifies the long term aspirations for our community. The Strategic Plan stretches beyond the next ten years, identifying the outcomes and long term strategic responses needed to achieve the agreed directions and meet the community's values. It demands strong leadership from Council in working with others to grow our Shire into the future.



The 4 Year **Delivery Program** links the 'planning' in the long term Strategic Plan with the 'implementing' in the Annual Operational Plan. It is the strategic document that guides the organisation's work program over the Councillor's four year elected term. The Delivery Program sets out clear priorities, ongoing activities and specific actions Council will undertake, within its responsibilities and capacity, towards achieving the community's outcomes.



The **Annual Operational Plan** is the 'implementing' part of Council's key strategic documents, and outlines all of Council's services and infrastructure activities and tasks for the year. Both ongoing activities and specific tasks contribute to the implementation of Council's Delivery Program.



The **Resource Strategy** outlines Council's capacity to manage assets and deliver services over the next ten years. The Resource Strategy includes three key elements – a Long Term Financial Plan, a Workforce Plan and Asset Management Plans. To prepare the Resource Strategy, Council determines its capacity and how to effectively manage its finances, the sustainability of its workforce, and the overall costs of its community assets.

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# Purpose

To set guidelines for implementing consistent Asset Management processes throughout Cobar Shire Council.

# Objective

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 an asset management awareness throughout the Council.
- 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 including but not exclusively to roads (regional and shire), streets, footpaths, water supplies, sewerage scheme, storm water drainage, parks and reserves, community buildings, housing and plant and equipment.

# Policy

Council is committed to implementing a systematic asset management methodology in order to apply appropriate asset management best practices across all areas of Council. This includes ensuring that assets are planned, created, operated, maintained, renewed and disposed of in accordance with Council's priorities for service delivery.

Council owns and uses approximately \$188 million of non-current assets to support its core business of delivery of service to the community.

Asset management practices impact directly on the core business of Council and appropriate asset management is required to achieve our strategic service delivery objectives.

Asset Management Plans will be prepared and adopted by Council after community consultation for all of Council's major assets including Transport (roads, streets, bridges footpaths etc.), Water Supplies, Sewerage Services, Stormwater, Recreation (parks, sports grounds, racecourse, swimming pool, cemeteries, street trees, and general landscaping), Buildings (community, commercial and housing) and Aerodromes as well as a 15 year Plant and Equipment Replacement Program.

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.

An ongoing regime of ensuring staff and councillors receive appropriate training in financial and asset management practices will be undertaken to continue to provide the best possible asset management for the community's assets.

## Principles

A consistent Asset Management Strategy must exist for implementing systematic asset management and appropriate asset management best practice throughout all Department of Council.

All relevant legislative requirements together with political, social and economic environments are to be taken into account in asset management.

Asset management principles will be integrated within existing planning and operational processes.

An inspection regime will be used as part of asset management to ensure agreed service levels are maintained and to identify asset renewal priorities.

Asset renewals required to meet agreed service levels and identified in infrastructure and asset management plans and long term financial plans will be fully funded in the annual budget estimates.

Service levels agreed through the budget process and defined in Infrastructure and Asset Management Plans will be fully funded in the annual budget estimates.

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.

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.

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.

Future service levels will be determined in consultation with the community.

## Related Documentation

Asset Management Strategy and associated Infrastructure and Asset Management Plans.

## Responsibility

**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
- Regulations under the Act

## Review

This policy has a life of 3 year. It will be reviewed in December 2014.

## Version Control

No.	Date Adopted	Minute No.	Date Commenced	Date notified in Local Paper
1	16.12.2010	213.12.2010	December 2010	No
2	15.12.2011	241.12.2011	December 2011	No