

Title	Public Open Space Reserve and Expenditure Policy
Council Resolution	Item 17 (19 Dec 2016) as per Council Minutes
Responsible Directorate	City Services and Infrastructure
Due for Review	Four (4) years from Council Resolution Date
Strategic Plan Reference	<u>Leading our Community</u> 4.2 Manage our resources to achieve community outcomes
ECM	Council Policy

PURPOSE

This policy provides guidance on the receipt and expenditure of funds contributed to Council as open space contributions, as permitted under the *Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993*, and establishes the 'Open Space Reserve' for that purpose.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all funds required as cash provided in lieu of the provision of public open space through Council's planning processes.

It does not apply to any other revenue collected by Council.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The *Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993* empowers Council to acquire public open space as part of any new subdivision proposal, to require cash in lieu of open space, or to refuse a subdivision application because it should include or omit public open space.

Acts	<i>Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993</i>
Regulations	N/A
Australian/International Standards	N/A

POLICY STATEMENT

Establishment and maintenance of Open Space Reserve

Council will establish an 'Open Space Reserve' into which any cash provided in lieu of public open space as a result of Council's planning processes will be paid.

Guidance as to when the provision of cash in lieu will be sought and permitted is provided in Council's '*Subdivisions – Public Open Space Acquisitions and Contributions*' policy.

Interest will be applied to any unexpended balance in the Open Space Reserve on an annual basis. Interest will be calculated at June 30 each year and will be applied against the average balance of the reserve throughout the year.

The interest rate used will be the average rate achieved by Council on its cash investments throughout the year.

Expenditure from Open Space Reserve

Expenditure from the Open Space Reserve:

- a) will occur as part of the annual budget process and will be based on joint recommendations from the Planning, Property and the Environment sections of Council;
- b) is to be allocated to Council properties classified as Community Parks as defined in the Recreation Plan and Open Space Strategy; and
- c) is only to be for new capital works accounts.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with its powers under the *Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993*, Council has adopted its *Subdivisions - Public Open Space Acquisitions and Contributions* policy, which provides guidance on the circumstances under which cash may be provided in lieu of public open space.

A further policy (this policy) is required to provide guidance on how funds collected under the *Subdivisions - Public Open Space Acquisitions and Contributions* policy are to be receipted and allocated to future projects.