

8. Environment and Sustainability Policy and Procedure

Summary

Lord Somers Camp and Power House (LSC&PH) Board, staff, and participants will be supported to look for and implement environmentally sustainable practices in its operations.

All individuals who work, volunteer, are members of, or represent Lord Somers Camp and Power House will ensure that resources are used efficiently and in a manner that minimises any impact on the environment.

Policy Statement

Lord Somers Camp and Power House (LSC&PH) is committed to being a responsible corporate citizen as well as seeking efficiencies in its operations. To this end, LSC&PH Board, employees, volunteers, members, and participants will demonstrate leadership on environmentally sustainable actions within the community and on behalf of LSC&PH members by ensuring that impacts on the environment, as a result of our programs and activities and our facilities, are minimised.

Principles

LSC&PH is committed to:

- Recognising the original custodians of the land, waterways and beaches on which we work and play and learning from their knowledge of working in an environmentally sustainable manner
- Understanding the environmental impacts of its actions and activities
- Complying with all environmental legislation and regulations
- Protecting and enhancing the natural and cultural environment wherever programs and activities are based
- Providing leadership to members and visitors by becoming a role model organisation that shows environmental initiative and incorporates environmental sustainability into all operations including facilities, programs and activities
- Seeking continual improvement in environmental performance
- Motivating staff, volunteers and campers to become more environmentally conscientious
- Reducing the unnecessary costs of inefficient building design and systems.

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Definitions

Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) principles	<p>Ecologically sustainable development (ESD) is an important concept in environmental law. The concept first emerged in the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, Our Common Future (the Brundtland Report) in 1987. The Brundtland Report defined sustainable development as: “Development that meets the needs of present generations while not compromising the ability of future generations to also meet their needs.”</p> <p>In Australia, ESD is notably enshrined in Section 3A of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth) (EPBC Act) as a set of principles, which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decision-making processes should effectively integrate both long-term and short-term economic, environmental, social and equitable considerations • if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation • the principle of inter-generational equity—that the present generation should ensure that the health, diversity and productivity of the environment is maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations • the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity should be a fundamental consideration in decision-making; and • improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms should be promoted.
Employee	Any person employed by Lord Somers Camp and Power House.
Environment	The natural world, as a whole or in a particular geographical area, especially as affected by human activity.
Environmental sustainability	Avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance.
Executive Team	A leadership team for a specific LSC&PH program or activity. Specific members/ roles of an Executive Team are at the discretion of the Program or Activity Leader.
Leader	Any person (paid or unpaid) over the age of 18 who is responsible for the control and safety of members/volunteers placed in their care whilst holding a

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	<p>formal position in Lord Somers Camp and Power House. A leader could include but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp Leaders • Deputy Camp Leaders • Executive Officers • Programs Leader • Slushie King and Slushee Queen • Heads of Departments
Member	Any person who has a current membership subscription to LSC&PH, including various life memberships, term membership or honorary life membership.
Participant	Any person who attends an LSC&PH program as a participant or a grouper.
Sustainability	The ability to be maintained at a certain rate or level.
Volunteer	Any Non-Member who attends LSC&PH activities as a member of the camp's staff under direction of a Camp Leader.

Responsibilities

Board	Establish and regularly review LSC&PH's commitment to environmentally sustainable and efficient practices.
CEO	Ensure that suitable processes and approaches are developed and implemented to achieve the outcomes established in this document.
Executive Teams	Ensure that this policy is applied within their programs and activities.
All staff (employees and volunteers)	

Scope

This policy and procedure applies to all people who work, volunteer, are members of, or represent Lord Somers Camp and Power House.

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Procedure

In applying the principles outlined above, LSC&PH will:

1. Minimise our carbon footprint resulting from our offices, facilities, programs and activities

This means that:

- 100% green power or carbon neutral power will be pursued through power supply contracts, where possible
- All facility maintenance activities and upgrades will be informed by Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) principles that the highest energy efficiency ratings will be pursued for all products and systems where feasible
- There will be clear guidance for all users on how to efficiently use the energy related products and systems (such as the heating).
- All programs, activities, and organisational practices will be reviewed regularly to identify and implement opportunities to minimise the use of energy and fuel consumption.

2. Minimise the generation of waste and maximise reuse and recycling

This means that:

- All purchasing contracts including through the kitchen, office and facilities will be reviewed regularly to identify and implement opportunities to maximise the proportion of recycled and recyclable products and to minimise the amount of packaging entering the facilities.
- Opportunities for composting all organic materials generated by the Somers camp facility (including during hiring periods and that of the organisation's activities) will continue to be pursued.
- The infrastructure for separating wastes streams from resources such as recyclables and organic materials will continue to be maintained consistent with the Australian standards for waste management.
- There will be clear guidance for all users on how to effectively use the waste infrastructure at all facilities to minimise waste and maximise the recovery of resources (e.g. signage on different bins).

3. Minimise our overall per capita consumption of water and improve water use efficiency

This means that:

- All facility maintenance activities and upgrades will be informed by ESD principles and that the highest water efficiency ratings will be pursued for all products and systems where feasible

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- Rainwater and greywater will be maximised for reuse at LSC&PH facilities where feasible
- All programs and activities and our organisation's practices will be reviewed regularly to identify and implement opportunities to minimise the use of water
- There will be clear guidance for all users on how to efficiently save water within the organisation's facilities

4. Minimising opportunities for pollution of the environment resulting from our programs and activities

This means that:

- Litter will be avoided by ensuring that waste bins are adequately placed around facilities in high risk or high usage areas and all users are encouraged to clean the facility following use
- The waste collection facility will routinely be checked to contain any escaping materials
- There will be clear guidance for all users to prevent any solid or liquid waste being discarded over fences bounding our facilities
- There will be clear guidance for all users on best practice strategies for managing paint and other pollutants.

5. Enhance the native vegetation associated with our facilities

This means that:

- A routine program of planting, protecting and maintaining the native vegetation on our land and waterways will be developed and implemented.

6. Establishing our facilities as demonstration sites where environmental practices and efficient facility design are communicated and explained

This means that:

- LSC&PH will strive to become leaders in environmental sustainability in the design of its facilities and the programs and activities that are run
- The organisation will provide information in induction packages to all users of its facility (including members and hirers) of the sustainable design elements of the facilities and of the most efficient usage of them.
- LSC&PH will install educational signage and displays on the sustainable design of its building and systems.

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7. Monitoring progress to understand our impacts, effectively manage our budget and regularly reporting on progress

This means that:

- LSC&PH will monitor energy and water use at its facilities to inform the organisation of its overall performance, the effectiveness of actions, and priority areas for further attention
- LSC&PH will monitor levels of waste disposal and resource separation to provide information on its overall performance, the effectiveness of actions, and priority areas for further attention.
- LSC&PH will report on environmental performance and on the implications for its budget annually.

8. Undertaking reviews to assess our environmental performance and embed environmental sustainability in all aspects of our activities

This means that:

- LSC&PH will target high priority areas of its facilities and programs for targeted assessments of performance (such as a review of progress on efficiently using resources, such as waste audits to determine contamination rates)

9. Actively engage staff, members and camp users in the delivery of our program

This means that:

- An Environment Officer will be appointed for each camp and program. The role will be defined by the role description for the Environment Officer.
- LSC&PH will regularly gauge the views of its staff through meetings, its members through surveys, and hirers through feedback forms with the view to continual improvement.

Resourcing

LSC&PH aims for environmentally sustainable practices to be part of everything the organisation does. Resourcing for improving the sustainability of facilities during routine maintenance and upgrades will be incorporated within the relevant business cases.

For significant upgrades to improve efficiencies (such as solar energy, hot water etc) appropriate payback periods will be considered in the first instance, with external funding to be pursued as an alternative.

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Other relevant policies and procedures

- Code of Conduct

Policy and Procedure review

This Policy and Procedure will be reviewed every three years by the Environment and Sustainability Committee or sooner if warranted by internal or external events or changes.

Changes to the Policy will be recommended by the Environment and Sustainability Committee to the Board.