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A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

This policy applies to all land within the municipality.

MSS Context

Protect and conserve the environmental resources and assets of the City for the benefit of current and future communities.

Policy Basis

A high quality natural environment is a fundamental pre-requisite for a high standard of living. In this regard, Melton City Council has been a national leader in the development of environmental rating systems that reward land owners who maintain high environmental standards. The preservation and improvement of environmental features is a key goal, and all development applications will need to address these factors before any planning approval is given.

Policy Objectives

- To retain and integrate natural systems and features into development.
- To preserve and protect existing vegetation, wetlands, creeks and grasslands and encourage their incorporation into development designs.
- To encourage the creation of linear open spaces along creeks and drainage lines.
- To encourage the use of overland flow paths and retarding basins to control storm water run-off and to improve water quality.

Policy

It is local policy to:

- Identify areas of botanical, zoological and geomorphological significance and ultimately protect them through overlay controls in the planning scheme.
- Discourage use and development that would detrimentally impact upon these significant areas.
- Encourage developers to retain areas of extant vegetation, wetlands, creeks and grasslands and encourage the incorporation of these features in their design.
- Require all applications for use and development in the rural areas to include an Environmental Management Plan in accordance with the adopted Environmental Management Plan Guidelines (1996).
- Require that creek frontages be provided for public open space purposes in urban areas when abutting land is developed.
- Require that the operators of extractive industry sites contain all of the impacts of their operations within the boundaries of their land.
- Introduce appropriate flooding controls to land affected by flooding and overland flows, and manage development proposals to minimise the risks associated with flood events.