



## GENERAL FINANCIAL POLICY

<b>Date Adopted:</b>	16 May 2000
<b>Council or Corporate Policy</b>	Council Policy
<b>Responsible Division:</b>	Corporate and Information Services
<b>Supporting documents, procedures &amp; forms of this policy:</b>	N/A
<b>References &amp; Legislation:</b>	<a href="#">Local Government Act 1993</a>

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## 1 Purpose of Policy

To outline the financial objectives of the Council's Budget.

## 2 General Objectives for the Council Budget

- That Council endeavour to maintain a balanced budget;
- Debt servicing ratio to be kept to a maximum of 8%;
- Fully funded employee leave entitlements in each financial year plus an appropriate amount in excess of the year's requirements;
- Council financial decisions are to be made in the context of information on long term impacts;
- Outstanding rates and charges should be no more than 8%; and
- Fees and charges should be full cost recovery except where the service is identified as an essential service which should be subsidised.

## 3 Parking Management Strategies relating to the Budget

Council's parking management strategies include:-

- ensure on-street parking turnover;
- parking meters generate a turnover of spaces for customers and visitors and provide them with convenient access to shops;
- introduce coin, credit card and tap'n'go (contactless) parking meters;
- 30 minute free parking on mainstreets (Ticket on-street parking areas) caters for short stay parking and increases parking turnover;
- provide improved access to on-street and off-street car parking spaces;
- provide free off-street parking in each business area to cater for longer stay parking;
- discourage overstay/illegal parking;
- better manage residential street parking;
- discourage commuter parking;
- actively promote car share and introduce additional on-street car share spaces;
- introduce a motorcycle and scooter parking and traffic strategy;
- encourage the use of public transport;
- improve the efficiency & effectiveness of parking restriction enforcement;
- substantially increase parking patrols;
- introduce free resident parking schemes throughout the municipality;
- introduce a fee for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Business Permits with 1<sup>st</sup> permit issued free;
- introduce a fee for temporary Business Permits;
- introduce an overall new parking permit and renewal process; and
- direct excess revenue to infrastructure improvements.

## 4 Major Issues

Council allocates funds each year to provide funding and/or in kind assistance for:

- Local, Regional, State and/or Federal issues and campaigns; and
- local projects not otherwise covered by Council's Community Funding and Community Events programs for schools, clubs, associations, charities and other community organisations;

Council as a part of its annual management plan and budget processes will identify local, regional, State and/or Federal issues and campaigns as well as determining specific funding allocations from time to time for emerging issues.

### Aim:

The aim of the Major Issues Program is to:

- assist local groups/organisations to undertake campaigns affecting the Leichhardt Local Government Area;
- fund council led local, regional, State and/or Federal issues and campaigns;
- raise local community awareness to identified local community threats;
- encourage community involvement in the campaigns; and
- fund local initiatives and/or donations from time to time which are not otherwise eligible for support under Council's Community Funding and Community Events programs;

#### Guidelines

Council will consider the following criteria when allocating Major Issues funding:

- the benefit that will be gained by residents of the Leichhardt Municipality;
- the benefit to the community as a whole;
- in line with adopted council policy and objectives within the Leichhardt 2020+ Strategic Plan e.g. integrated transport, or newly adopted policy
- the availability of local issue/campaign funding from other sources;
- the group requesting support;
  - being a non-profit making body providing a service to local residents;
  - acknowledging Leichhardt Council support in publicity attached to the funded activity;
  - committing to acquit the funding with a report to the General Manager on the usage of the funds; and
- malicious and personal slogans about any person being excluded from the campaign.

#### Other Conditions

- No decision making delegations other than urgent matters requiring a determination between Council meetings – all Councillors to be notified before any decision by the Mayor is made;
- The funds provided by Council in supporting a local community campaign to be expended only for the purpose outlined in the request and approved by Council;
- A financial statement on the funded issue/campaign is required;
- Acknowledgment of Council's support is required in all advertising material; and
- Quarterly reporting of all Major Issues expenditures to council (as currently occurs).

## 5 Policy Review

The Policy will be reviewed every 2 years.

## 6 Version Control and Change History

Version Control	Date Effective	Approved By	Amendment
1	16 May 2000	Council	Parking Management Strategies
2	23 May 2000	Council	Objectives of the Council Budget
3	24 March 2009	Council	Objectives of the Major Issues Budget
4	23 June 2015	Council	Parking Management Strategies amended