



Hawkesbury City Council

attachment 5
to
item 220

Draft Hawkesbury
Community Strategic Plan
- Public Exhibition
of Draft Plan

date of meeting: 13 October 2009
location: council chambers
time: 5:00 p.m.

Note: *This information is for inclusion in the Final Community Strategic Plan document (See Attachments 3 and 4 to Item 220)*

Sustainability principles.

In May 2008 Council adopted a process for Sustainability Planning which incorporated the following Sustainability Principles. These are based on leading-edge thinking about sustainability, and can be used to guide the high-level strategic approach to sustainability at Hawkesbury City Council. These principles would also function as a 'check' on planning and decision-making by assisting in determining which option will most effectively implement the sustainability aims of the Council and the community.

The principles and objectives were outcomes made possible through successful grant funding from the NSW Environmental Trust which was used to engage Institute for Sustainable Futures- UTS (ISF), to assist with the preparation of a sustainability strategy.

Principle 1: The extraction and use of non- renewable resources should be slowed down, and sustainable production and consumption promoted.

Principle 2: Cyclical rather than linear systems should be adopted, to prevent the accumulation of waste materials.

Principle 3: The productivity and diversity of nature must be protected and maintained.

Principle 4: Use of energy and other resources must be just and efficient, both across the globe and between generations

Principle 5: Even if there is doubt about the environmental impact that an action will have, one should err on the side of caution to protect the environment.

Principle 6: Expand and enable cooperative networks to work towards a common, sustainable future.

Principle 7: Educate and empower people and foster participation.

Principle 8: Continual improvement will be enabled, based on accountability, transparency and good governance.

A number of sustainability objectives for Hawkesbury City Council to work towards. The objectives can be seen as a series of high level goals that Council is working towards.

Objective 1: *Council builds and maintains local partnerships for sustainability.*

Objective 2: *Sustainability practices are built into Council's existing operations.*

Objective 3: *Sustainability practices are integrated into Council's existing plans.*

Objective 4: *Council staff and Councillors understand and are committed to sustainability.*

Objective 5: *Council engages and supports people in the community to work towards sustainability.*

Objective 6: *Council secures resources and makes them available to deliver good sustainability outcomes.*

Objective 7: *Sustainability objectives and achievements are communicated.*