



Sustainable Events Policy

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Policy Objective

The Shire is committed to ensuring all Shire events, and events held on Shire-managed land or with Shire support are conducted using sustainable practices. For these events, this policy seeks to:

- reduce waste and increase resource recovery;
- improve energy and water performance;
- promote local, ethical and sustainable food and products;
- protect land, marine and coastal environments; and,
- encourage walking, cycling and low-carbon transport.

Policy

This policy applies to all events:

- coordinated by the Shire of Denmark or its contractors;
- on Shire of Denmark managed land, excluding land leased to third-parties; and/or;
- funded by the Shire of Denmark.

‘Event’ includes, but is not limited to: civic, community or commercial events; large and small scale events; meetings; functions; workshops; markets; festivals; expos; parties; information sessions; conferences; sporting; and, recreational events.

‘Funded’ includes financial (cash) and/or in-kind contributions.

The policy applies to the entire event, including purchasing, packaging, sales, distribution, transportation and clean up practices associated with the event.

Notwithstanding the above, all events held in the Denmark Local Government Area are encouraged to adhere to this policy.

Mandatory Provisions

1.1 It is **COMPULSORY** that all Shire events, events held on Shire-managed land, or held with Shire funding ensure the following requirements are met:

- *Waste Minimisation and Resource Recovery*
 - Single-use plastics must not be sold or distributed. This includes but is not limited to: straws, cutlery, plates, cups, bags and cling wrap. This does not include dog-waste disposal bags or food-safe gloves.
 - Water in single-use plastic bottles must not be provided, sold or distributed. Alternative, free access to water must to be provided.
 - Balloons must not be used, sold or distributed.
 - Polystyrene must not be sold or distributed.

- Recycling and waste bins must be provided at all events. Bins must be clearly labelled.

Best Practice Provisions

- 2.1 It is strongly ENCOURAGED that all Shire events, events held on Shire-managed land, or held with Shire funding meet the following requirements wherever practicable:
- *Protection of the Environment*
 - Minimise the negative impact on environment values of the land, coast and marine areas.
 - *Waste Minimisation and Resource Recovery*
 - Promotional material, decorations and supplies should be recyclable and/or contain a recycled content and/or be reusable.
 - *Water and Energy Use*
 - Implement measures to minimise water and energy use during the event.
 - *Local and Sustainable Food and Products*
 - Food and products used in the event should be sourced locally and in-season.
 - *Sustainable Transport*
 - Walking, riding, public transport and ride-share options should be promoted to reduce associated greenhouse gas emissions.
 - Bike racks should be provided.
- 2.2 Purchasing and clean-up
Whilst polystyrene and single-use plastics, such as cling wrap, are not excluded from purchase and clean-up operations, organisers should seek out reusable and more sustainable alternatives to these products at every opportunity.
- 2.3 Event organisers are encouraged to promote sustainable practices.
- 2.4 The *Information Sheet - Sustainable Events* provides guidance on implementing this policy.

Exemptions

- 3.1 Exemptions to this policy may be made for health and safety reasons or where there is no other practical alternative product or distribution method available. All applications for exemptions should be made in writing and directed to the Director Corporate and Community Services.

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