

















Evaluation of ESD in Buildings & Infrastructure

Regional Summary



Objectives

- > Evaluate the extent to which ESD policies and practices are being implemented in building projects and infrastructure delivery across all EAGA councils
- > Undertake an evidence-based assessment of existing approaches, to assist and support councils adopt a new policy, or improve an existing policy
- ldentify best practice approaches, pre-conditions for successful ESD integration, and tools/methods for overcoming barriers
- Build and enhance cross-divisional working relationships and collaborative capacity within and between councils to ensure that ESD policies and practices are successfully delivered
- Develop council-specific recommendations and consistent policy templates and guidance materials



Approach

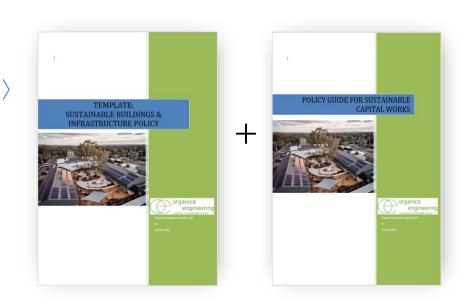
- A desktop review examining the policies, strategies and related documentation from each EAGA council
- > Two online surveys for relevant staff (sustainability, assets, engineering etc.) to determine what's working and what is not, and identify areas of need for the template policy
- Development of a gap analysis progress report to inform subsequent stakeholder engagement activities
- Workshops and/or interviews in each council to bring together cross divisional staff to discuss and capture the views and insights of stakeholders in greater detail
- > Drafting and finalisation of outputs in collaboration with EAGA members



Outputs

Policy Template + Guide

Individual evaluation reports





Outputs

Policy Template + Guide

Individual evaluation reports





Evaluation framework

Evaluation criteria	Explanation of best practice
ESD is inherent in council's vision and decision-making.	Council adopts and adheres to an ambitious ESD policy covering both buildings and infrastructure.
Commitments to ESD outcomes are clearly communicated through SMART objectives and targets.	Targets are understood by all stakeholders, and clearly aligned and linked to broader organisational objectives (e.g. carbon neutrality).
ESD is imbedded into organisational governance and associated policies, plans, procedures and supporting project management systems.	ESD outcomes specified in all short and long-term Capital Works and Asset Renewal Plans. Staff (and other relevant stakeholders) are accountable for achieving ESD outcomes through KPIs and positions descriptions.



Evaluation framework (cont...)

Evaluation criteria	Explanation of best practice
Adequate budget is allocated to ESD in the delivery of projects.	A minimum of 10% of all project budget allocated to ESD.
Capacity and capability of the team to successfully deliver ESD outcomes.	Responsible staff do not require ongoing advice and support from sustainability team and/or external advisors. Staff undertake regular training.
Evaluation, monitoring and transparently reporting on ESD outcomes in projects	Validation and verification of the impacts of the ESD measures (versus BAU) is undertaken in all projects and transparently reported to stakeholders, ideally using recognised accreditations (i.e. Green Star)



Common Themes

- Further staff engagement required to support new policy, or revision to existing policy to secure buy-in around targets
- Internal governance with cross departmental working group, chaired by Director with ultimate responsibility for the policy
- Implement a Sustainability Management Plans (SMP) to improve process across functional areas
- > Budgeting for ESD applied inconsistently, generally life cycle costing not used
- In-house capability and capacity to deliver ESD is mixed, additional expertise/resources required in some members
- Reporting on ESD outcomes generally not undertaken. Should be linked to the governance model and to team and individual KPIs



Collaborative opportunities

Training

- > Staff involved in project delivery
- Life cycle costing and budgeting

Shared staff resource

- > Potential across 3-4 councils
- > Other Alliances exploring this option

Shared tools and templates

- > Brief Ezy, cost sharing model
- > SMP templates