

City of Greater Geraldton Council Policy

3.2 COASTAL ADAPTATION

SUSTAINABILITY THEME

Environment

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this policy is to provide direction for coastal management in Greater Geraldton through:

- Reference to State Planning Policy 2.6
- Reference to the City's CHRMAP adaptation pathways:
 - 'Avoid' is the preferred option for undeveloped land.
 - 'Planned or Managed Retreat' provides equity for the community.
 - 'Accommodate' for inundation areas.
- The option to 'Protect' assets and properties is considered in accordance with CHRMAP recommendations to:
 - Consider specified area rates.
 - Consider in the City's long-term financial plan.
 - Lobby State and Federal governments
- The creation of a Special Control Area.

POLICY STATEMENT

The vulnerability of assets within the coastal zone to hazards such as erosion and inundation is expected to increase in the future. The risk arising from vulnerability of assets is influenced by the level of preparedness and response of the community and its recovery capacity.

The *Local Government Act 1995* states:

"The general function of a local government must be performed having regard to the need to

- plan for, and to plan for mitigating, risks associated with climate change; and
- in making decisions, to consider potential long-term consequences and impacts on future generations."

The City recognises that it has an opportunity to play a leadership role in adapting to the impacts of climate change for land identified as being at risk in the City's CHRMAP.

POLICY DETAILS

1. Leadership

The City is supportive of:

- Best practice coastal management to create opportunities for current and future generations to use our shores, adjoining land and infrastructure as secure places for their enjoyment and enrichment.

- Global recognition for leadership in coastal management.
- Guiding and informing new and existing landholders in their investment decisions in the City region.

2. Prosperity

The City is supportive of:

- Supporting economic growth and prosperity within the coastal zone.
- Creating investment confidence.
- Creating enviable long-term coastal lifestyle opportunities.

3. Lifestyle

The City is supportive of:

- Continued development of our nationally recognised foreshore, which provides superior lifestyle opportunities.
- Giving generations now and into the future direction and support to safely grow and enjoy all liveable space within Geraldton's coastal zone.
- Recognising the community values of our beaches and lifestyle.

4. Equity

The City is supportive of:

- A 'no-regrets' approach to providing coastal resilience to vulnerable sections of the City's coastal zone.
- Analysing the distribution of benefits and costs when investigating options to 'Protect' assets within the coastal zone.
- Exploring grant-funding opportunities to fund coastal adaptation measures.

KEY TERM DEFINITION

CHRMAP means Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan.

Coastal Zone means the coastal the landward limit of potential coastal erosion and inundation as provided within the City's CHRMAP.

Distribution Analysis means how costs and benefits are distributed across different stakeholders in the coastal zone.

No Regrets Approach means adaptation measures that generate direct or indirect benefits that exceed the costs of implementing the adaptation measure. The benefits include climate risk and provide other social, economic, or environmental benefits.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This policy applies to everyone with a stake in the coastal zone.

WORKPLACE INFORMATION

Local Government Act 1995

State Planning Policy 2.6 – Coastal Planning

Geraldton Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan

POLICY ADMINISTRATION

Directorate		Officer	Review Cycle	Next Due
Infrastructure Services		Manager Climate Environment and Waste	Biennial	2026
Version	Decision Reference	Synopsis		
3.	ISXXX DATE	Policy Review		

DRAFT