

Wood First Policy

Policy Number: SVC-EXE-PO-007-01

Aim

This policy aims to encourage the use of wood as Council's preferred material for both the construction and fit out of Council buildings and infrastructure, where it is appropriate to do so.

It recognises the importance of the timber manufacturing and forestry product industries, not only to the area, but to the wider Eastern Riverina region and the state and national economies. It aims to support sustainable economic development in the Snowy Valleys and region, and encourage value adding products within the timber industry.

Definitions

Wood is defined as responsibly and sustainably sourced timber with the logo of a chain of custody certification scheme such as the Australian Forestry Standard / Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes.



Scope

This policy applies to all of the Snowy Valleys Council Local Government Area.

Overview

Snowy Valleys Council sits at the heart of NSW's softwood timber and forestry industries. Snowy Valleys Council will encourage increased utilisation of wood in Council construction and refurbishment projects, by:

- Sourcing locally produced wood products for construction and fit out, where possible.
- Including in design briefs, Council's preference is for using wood as the preferred material for construction and fit out, where wood is a suitable material for the project.
- Seeking out design or architectural expertise in creating practical, efficient, versatile and cost-effective building and design solutions using wood.
- Ensuring that all comparisons to the cost of building with other materials will take into account all long-term and life cycle benefits and maintenance costs of using wood.
- Actively working to attract new, innovative wood products manufacturers to the Snowy Valleys area.
- Using responsibly sourced timber that meets relevant responsibly sourced standards.
- Encouraging contractors to include wood options in their proposals to Council.

- Demonstrating leadership by advocating for other councils in NSW to implement their own 'wood first' policies.

The actions listed above will assist in demonstrating Council's commitment to supporting the timber and forestry industries, and will help to showcase the economic, environmental and construction benefits of using wood as a 'first choice' building material.

Responsibilities

Council – Elected members of Council

Elected members of Council are responsible for the adoption of this Council policy and the consideration of resources towards the implementation of this policy.

General Manager

The General Manager is generally responsible for the efficient and effective operation of the Council's organisation and for ensuring the implementation, without undue delay, of decisions of the council.

Contact Officer: General Manager

Superseding Policy No. and Title:

Wood First Policy – ENV.14 v1.0 – Tumut Shire Council

Wood First Policy – TSC-EXE-PO-128-0 – Tumbarumba Shire Council

Policy prepared by: General Manager

History table:

Version Control No	Development /Amendment Date	Approval Date	Resolution Number	Activity log
0	15.03.2017			Prepared by Corporate Support Officer (Tumut Office)
0		30.03.2017		Presented to Policy Review Committee
		27.04.2017		Adopted Ordinary Council Meeting for Public Exhibition
		29.06.2017	M92/17	Adopted Extraordinary Council meeting