

Environment Policy

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1. INTENT

To affirm the ongoing commitment of Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) to the principles of environmental responsibility and sustainability of resources.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all FRV related activities and operations.

3. REFERENCES

Environment Protection Act (1970)

Environment Protection Amendment Act (2018)

Emergency Management Act (1986)

Emergency Management Act (2013)

Climate Change Act (2017)

Australian/New Zealand Standards ISO 14001:2004

Australian/New Zealand Standards ISO 14004:2004

Fire Rescue Victoria Act (1958)

Emergency Management Manual Victoria, Part 6

FRV operational procedures and guidelines

Other legislation, guidelines and codes of practice as they arise from time to time.

4. DEFINITIONS

N/A

5. RESPONSIBILITY

Fire Rescue Commissioner, Deputy Fire Rescue Commissioners and Deputy Secretary

The Fire Rescue Commissioner, Deputy Fire Rescue Commissioners and Deputy Secretary are responsible for demonstrating leadership in compliance with this policy and ensure the business has the capability and support to implement it.

Managers and Supervisors

Managers and Supervisors at all levels are responsible for demonstrating leadership within the scope of their authority, and for ensuring that the objectives of this policy are implemented via departmental plans and activities.

Employees and Contractors

Employees and contractors are responsible for carrying out their duties in a manner which minimises harm and improves environmental performance.

6. POLICY

Fire Rescue Victoria is a statutory authority within the Department of Justice and Community Safety, responsible for providing emergency response, fire suppression and prevention services in the Metropolitan Fire District.

FRV is committed to providing these services in a safe, sustainable and environmentally conscious manner that enables us to continue to work effectively within the community.

This policy and FRV's Environmental Strategy (with targets and actions) are governed by the following principles:

- To be resource efficient by decreasing energy, water consumption and the generation of waste within our corporate and firefighting operations as best possible.
- To continually improve our Environmental Management Systems (EMS) to enhance environmental performance and to fulfil our compliance obligations.
- To undertake robust monitoring and regularly review our targets, objectives, actions and policies to align with both government and community expectations.
- Increasing adaptation and resilience of FRV and the community, resulting in the growing awareness of the effects of climate change, and in the aftermath of a series of recent natural disasters.
- Promotion of sustainable development and sustainable behaviours within our own organisation, our emergency services partners and the community.

To support these principles we commit, in a cost effective and practical manner to:

- Comply with applicable legislation and other requirements that FRV has committed to.
- Actions to reduce the environmental impact of our operations.
- Minimise consumption, the amount of waste production onsite and maximise recycling as best possible.
- Aim to reduce total waste produced by minimising our use of resources, increasing re-use, recycling and by using recycled products and materials where possible.
- Encourage all waste management facilities to improve their site management practices to reduce the risk of fire.
- Utilise sustainable purchasing principles when purchasing products and services and encourage our suppliers and contractors to meet high standards of environmental management and performance.
- Encourage our suppliers and contractors to continually improve their own environmental performance.
- Embed ecological sustainable design (ESD) in station and building works, including consideration to research and innovative technologies.

- Build partnerships and share knowledge within the emergency services sector and the community.
- Set targets, measures and actions to deliver our policy commitments.
- Annually report on our environmental performance internally and externally.
- Undergo periodic independent EMS audits and other benchmarking tools.
- Manage our hazardous material where they cannot be avoided, aiming to reduce their use and potential harm to the environment.
- Adopt sustainable practices within our operational, technical and corporate buildings to reduce our carbon footprint. We aim to continually improve our environmental performance and to review this policy and our objectives and targets on an annual basis.

7. DOCUMENTATION

N/A

8. VERIFICATION

N/A