

# Public and Environmental Health Policy

<b>Policy Reference Number</b>	5977990
<b>Responsible Department</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Related Policies</b>	Public Interest Disclosure Policy
<b>Related Procedures</b>	Nil
<b>Date of Initial Adoption</b>	13 July 2004
<b>Last Reviewed by Council</b>	15 August 2023

## 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to define Council's role in providing public health services and in promoting and maintaining proper standards of public and environmental health for the local Community.

## 2. Power to Make the Policy

Section 7 (c) of the Local Government Act 1999 prescribes one of Council's functions as providing for the welfare and wellbeing of its Community.

The South Australian Public Health Act 2011 charges Council with the responsibilities to:

- Preserve, protect and promote public health within its area
- Identify risks to public health within its area,
- Take steps to prevent the occurrence and spread of notifiable disease
- Prevent any infestation or spread of vermin, rodents, or other pests within the municipality.

The Supported Residential Facilities Act 1992 requires Council to undertake the administration and enforcement of the provisions of the Act within the municipality including the licensing of supported residential facilities.

The Food Regulations 2017 prescribes Council and the Eastern Health Authority as Enforcement Agencies for the purposes of administration and enforcement of the provisions of the Food Act 2001.

## 3. Strategic Plan Link

This Policy has the following link to Council's Strategic Plan 2024:

- Supporting our Community (Goal 1)

## 4. Principles

Council recognises that the health of the Community is intrinsically linked to the social and physical environment that exists in its municipality.

Council will:

- Seek to minimise the spread of, and promote the control of, communicable and other diseases;
- Provide education and information on public and environmental health issues;
- Monitor and enforce legislative standards;
- Provide access without prejudice to its public and environmental health services, programs and facilities, and to those of other organisations to which it provides facilities or funding;
- Protect the Community and the environment from hazards where possible.

## 5. Definitions

Nil

## 6. Policy

### 6.1 Eastern Health Authority Inc

The Eastern Health Authority Inc is a regional subsidiary pursuant to Section 43 of the Local Government Act 1999.

The Authority undertakes, on behalf of constituent Councils, a wide range of environmental health responsibilities which are mandated in legislation that includes the South Australian Public Health Act 2011, Food Act 2001, the Food Regulations 2017, Supported Residential Facilities Act 1992, Environment Protection Act 1993 and Local Government Act 1999.

The responsibilities within these Acts include the prevention and control of disease, immunisation provision, hygiene and sanitation control, environmental protection, licensing and monitoring of supported residential facilities and surveillance of food premises to ensure appropriate food safety standards are maintained.

In accordance with Section 44 of the Local Government Act 1999, Council will continue to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer of the Eastern Health Authority Inc its powers and functions under the provisions of relevant legislation.

### 6.2 Regional Health Plan

Council has committed to work with other constituent Councils of the Eastern Health Authority to maintain and implement the Regional Health Plan in accordance with the requirements of the South Australian Public Health Act 2011.

### 6.3 Community Support

Council will support community initiatives designed to promote greater understanding and management of public and environmental health issues. This support will include, but not be limited to, the provision of advice and expertise,

funding, facilitation of networks and partnerships, and materials and publicity for approved projects in accordance with resource availability.

#### **6.4 Information Provision**

Through the Eastern Health Authority, Council will make information on public and environmental health issues available to the Community as required, and in a manner that is appropriate for its ethnically and culturally diverse population.

Council will have regard for relevant legislation and any other legal requirements in determining the terms and conditions under which it will make available any information contained in its databases.

#### **6.5 Event Management**

As part of its event management procedures, Council will ensure that all providers of food and/or activities to the public comply with the relevant regulations.

### **7. Review & Evaluation**

Within six months of each new Council term Council will review this policy. Following this initial review this policy will be reviewed annually by Employees with minor administrative adjustments being approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

### **8. Availability of the Policy**

Copies of this Policy will be available at Council's principal office during ordinary business hours and at Council's website [www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au](http://www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au).