

City of Canterbury Environmentally Sustainable Development

There is no doubt that Canterbury is working towards developing sustainable practices.

I believe that the following guidelines will enable Council to put the theory of sustainability into practice by encouraging consideration of what should be included or excluded at the design stage. It is much easier and cheaper to install environmental products when a project is in the design stage than to add to, or alter once the project is completed.

All guidelines are not mandatory for every building or project. They would not all be suitable for every one, but of the ones that are: most will offer financial savings; all will reduce greenhouse emissions; and importantly, they will demonstrate our willingness to lead in best practice to the community.

All we need to do is look at Fraser's 6 star precinct at Broadway; Workplace 6's 5 and 6 star buildings at Sydney Harbour Foreshore; Rouse Hill's water recycling; and Stockland's who claim more of their customers are demanding minimum 4 star buildings. If we look overseas we can see Woking that has gone off the grid. It supplies all its energy needs. The cities of London and Sydney are looking to follow Woking's lead.

It has been suggested to me that the extra cost to a building becoming green is 6-8%. When carbon credits are introduced that cost will come down. The future is demanding we become sustainable.

These guidelines ask the Council Directors to see what they can put in place before building. It is asking them to develop an Environmentally Sustainable Policy.

There's plenty of information readily available and once it is developed it is not time consuming. It is part of the routine. Guidelines are already in place and have to be considered with all projects and developments. We need to make them sustainable guidelines.