



WOOD ENCOURAGEMENT POLICY – GENERAL

Policy Number:	Policy 3.1.8
Type:	Built and Natural Environment
Legislation:	N/A
Delegation:	N/A
Other Related Document:	ToEF Residential Design Guidelines Policy

Objective

- (a) To reinforce Council's preference for quality wood buildings in the development of briefs for residential development within the Town.
- (b) To encourage the design of residential development in a manner that promotes the use of wood within the built form.
- (c) To recognise all of the benefits that make sustainably sourced wood a smart choice for residential buildings and infrastructure;
- (d) To encourage the use of sustainably sourced wood in the construction and fit out of any development/ redevelopment of a property within the Local Government area, where it is practical to do so.

This Wood Encouragement Policy for the Council has been developed to clearly articulate how the Town of East Fremantle will encourage the use of sustainably sourced wood in the construction/ development/ redevelopment of a dwelling within the Town of East Fremantle.

The vision is to develop a policy that is an environmental policy that encourages the sustainable use of wood within East Fremantle and is responsive to environmental issues such as climate change and environmental protection.

Policy Scope

The Policy relates to any sustainably sourced wood, where feasible and practical, to be utilised as a building material in the construction and fit out of new dwellings and additions and alterations of existing dwellings in the Town.

This Policy applies to any site where new dwellings or additions to an existing dwelling are proposed.

Policy

Trees provide environmental, health and amenity benefits in relation to solar and privacy screening, microclimate, carbon absorption, bird and animal habitat, air quality and visual attractiveness. The use of sustainably sourced wood as a construction material is also considered to have mutual environmental, health, ecological and sustainable benefits which provide economic and urban design benefits for the local community and State as a whole.

Sustainably sourced wood is the only major building material that helps tackle climate change. It is renewable and stores carbon for its life in use. In addition, wood uses much less energy - known as embodied energy - than most other building materials, giving wood products a significantly lower carbon footprint. As a result wood can be used as a low-emission substitute for materials that require larger amounts of fossil fuels to be produced.

The Town of East Fremantle Policy: Residential Design Guidelines Section 3.7.9 Materials and Colours states:

3.7.9.1 Statement

Residences in the Policy Area are predominantly of timber, brick and limestone construction with corrugated iron and Marseille tiled roofs. Face brick, rendered brick and painted brick finishes are evident throughout the Policy Area. Some corrugated iron roofs have been replaced with Colorbond or Zinalume.

For a specific existing material palette for each Precinct refer to the Town of East Fremantle Precinct Survey.

External face brick or stone walls are defining elements or characteristics of a building and should not be coated, rendered or painted. Full authentic restoration of original colour schemes is not required in the Policy Area. Original cladding materials should not be removed. Where repairs or replacement are necessary, this should be undertaken using materials consistent with the existing fabric.

3.7.9.2 Desired Development Outcomes

- i. For existing contributory buildings, retain original materials where possible. Where materials require replacement, the policy of replacing 'like for like' should be applied;*
- ii. External colour schemes to existing buildings should be appropriate to the architectural period and style of the building, based on historical evidence where possible;*
- iii. New materials and colours that are compatible but distinguish the addition and alteration from the existing building are preferred; and,*
- iv. New materials should be easily distinguishable from existing materials without detracting from the character and heritage significance of the Precinct.*

This Policy further elaborates on the preferred use of construction materials within the Town, with a preference for wood products and finishes to be utilised where practical. This Wood Encouragement Policy does not in any way mandate the use of wood, only that wood should at least be considered as a preferred choice of material for construction and fit out in any development or redevelopment of a property.

Council recognises the importance of forestry and the timber products industry to the broader West Australian region. Central to Council's desire to be environmentally and ecologically sustainable is to enable wood to be utilised as a preferred material, where deemed appropriate.

Council will encourage the increased utilisation of wood in any development/ redevelopment within the Local Government area by:

- Facilitating the wider use of wood as a construction and fit out material in the Local Government area in any development/ redevelopment
- Giving preference to the use of wood as a construction material, where deemed appropriate
- Where possible, promote the sourcing of locally (West Australian) produced wood products for construction and fit out purposes
- Encouraging designers/ architects/ engineers or similar professions to use new, innovative wood design, products and/ or materials to work with the existing built environment to enhance the urban fabric of the Local Government Area.

In facilitating the use of wood as a preferred construction material for new developments/ redevelopments within the Local Government Area, Council will have regard to:

- The utilisation of wood products that meet the Australian Forest Standard, Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification and/or Forest Stewardship Council certifications; maintenance required throughout the life of the project
- Maintenance required throughout the life of the project
- Pest and fungus protection
- Using wood only when it is the right material for the selected application

Responsible Directorate:	Planning Services
Reviewing Officer:	Executive Manager Regulatory Services
Decision making Authority:	Council
Policy Adopted:	12/12/17
Policy Amended/Reviewed:	
Next Review Date:	