

Western Australian Transport Portfolio

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Framework

Our Vision

Our Transport Portfolio's vision is for *"a better future for Western Australians through connected, resilient, safe and sustainable transport solutions"*.

This Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Framework will help to shape and guide the strategic direction and achievement of our key objectives, particularly for a Sustainable Transport System to: *"deliver sustainable, integrated, accessible and safe transport solutions to meet current and future needs"*.

It will also highlight how we are responding to contemporary expectations, such as greater Aboriginal participation, workforce diversity and nature positive outcomes, as we deliver a sustainable integrated transport system.

Our ESG Commitments

To improve Environmental, Social and Governance outcomes across the Transport Portfolio as part of delivering an integrated sustainable transport system, we need to commit to:

- Continuing to improve our environmental outcomes by:
 - reducing energy and carbon emissions in transport infrastructure delivery and embracing opportunities for decarbonisation while embracing the concepts underpinned by adopting circular economy principles.
 - transitioning to a net zero emissions future for agency operations and the wider transport system
 - contributing to positive outcomes for the natural environment and protecting and enhancing cultural heritage
 - ensuring our transport networks and supply chains to be resilient to climate change
- Achieving social outcomes by:
 - enhancing performance in Aboriginal economic participation supporting employment and developing business capability for Aboriginal people.
 - supporting economic participation for people with disability through targeted programs
 - enhancing community liveability with investment across all types of transport infrastructure and services.
 - promoting improved worker health, safety and mental wellbeing
 - creating a workforce that embraces and supports equity, diversity and inclusion.
- Strengthen governance by:
 - ensuring we continuously engage with stakeholders and customers in an open, timely and genuine manner

- partnering with research institutes and universities to foster innovation and identify and test emerging and new opportunities
- creating opportunities for new employment and skills development.
- maintaining and ensuring our commitment to achieve the highest standards of integrity, accountability and ethical behaviour and decision making
- develop our capabilities to support and promote achieving a sustainable development mindset.

Framework scope

This Framework will ensure a consistent and transparent approach to improve sustainability performance across the Portfolio which includes:

- Department of Transport
- Main Roads
- Public Transport Authority
- METRONET
- Office of Major Transport Infrastructure Delivery (OMTID)
- Westport

Across the Portfolio there are a number of existing initiatives that complement and support the achievement of the Portfolio ESG Vision. This includes:

- METRONET Sustainability Strategy
- Westport ESG Strategy
- Main Roads' Sustainability Policy and Key Aspects.

The Office of Major Transport Infrastructure Delivery has a structured process to identify and report on best practice opportunities for reducing energy and carbon emissions in transport infrastructure delivery, including greater re-use and recycling of materials.


The Department of Transport and Public Transport Authority have undertaken some internal work as part of their current sustainability commitments.

Material Topics and Objectives

An analysis of sustainability initiatives and impacts across the portfolio identified eleven key material topics and objectives. These are summarised in the table below and have been aligned to the relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The Framework will be further developed into a detailed Transport Portfolio ESG Strategy with performance targets, actions and metrics set across the portfolio in key areas following further stakeholder engagement.

Transport Portfolio Material Topics & Objectives

Environmental	Social	Governance
<p>E1. Climate Risk and Adaptation</p> <p>Improve the resilience of transport facilities, services and infrastructure to climate risk and extreme weather events.</p> 	<p>S1. Health, safety, and wellbeing</p> <p>Ensure health, safety and wellbeing are central in all phases of transport from policy and planning to service delivery and operation.</p> 	<p>G1. Transparent and responsible engagement</p> <p>Actively engage with key stakeholders and the community to plan and deliver transport projects and services</p> 
<p>E2. Energy and emissions reduction</p> <p>Transition our agencies' operations and wider transport sector to a net zero emissions future.</p> 	<p>S2. Cultural Heritage and Indigenous Participation</p> <p>Protect cultural heritage.</p> <p>Increase Aboriginal peoples' participation in transport projects and access to equitable service delivery.</p> 	<p>G2. Research and innovation</p> <p>Create opportunities to identify, trial and adopt innovations</p> 
<p>E3. Natural environment and biodiversity</p> <p>Create nature positive outcomes for the natural environment over and above meeting environmental regulatory requirements.</p> 	<p>S3. Equity, equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI)</p> <p>Promote equity, equality, diversity and inclusion across the transport portfolio in employment and service delivery.</p> 	<p>G3. Job creation and added value</p> <p>Create and sustain new employment through workforce training and apprenticeship schemes.</p> 
<p>E4. Sustainable resource use</p> <p>Adopt circular economy practices and low carbon materials across the supply chain in asset investment programs.</p> 	<p>S4. Liveable communities</p> <p>Improve connectivity for communities with public transport services and active transport infrastructure.</p> 	

Governance

A Sustainability Forum, chaired by the Director General, has been established with executive level representatives from across the Portfolio. The Forum’s purpose is to demonstrate and create social, economic and environmental value for Western Australia by embedding and measuring sustainability and ESG commitments across the Transport Portfolio.

The Sustainability Forum is supported by a working group of senior officers.

Figure 1: Transport Portfolio Structure and Governance



Reporting

Sustainability data will be collated across the Transport Portfolio to create a baseline for future performance improvement. In addition to this, a knowledge sharing platform is being explored to enable better communication and access to best practice case studies, research, supplier mapping, material demand and material reuse and recycling across the entire transport construction and maintenance industry supply chain.

When benchmarks have been identified and specific actions and targets agreed, these will be reported on a quarterly basis to the Sustainability Forum with an annual summary report provided to Transport Portfolio Governance Council.



References

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