

POLICY STATEMENT

CLIMATE CHANGE AND LANDCORP

Climate change can be defined as: change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.

While climate change has occurred naturally in the past, the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concluded that there was a greater than 90% chance the increases of greenhouse gas emissions since the mid century were from human activities rather than natural processes.

The increase of carbon dioxide emissions through fossil fuel combustion is a significant issue. Other factors, such as land use and deforestation also contribute.

The potential impacts of climate change in the State include major shifts in temperature and rainfall. There could also be increased frequency of extreme events, such as cyclones and coastal flooding, as well as sea level rises across Western Australia.

As the Western Australian Government's land and infrastructure development agency, LandCorp is committed to addressing climate change through mitigation and adaptation in the following focus areas.

- ✔ Higher density transit oriented urban development to maximise the use of public transport, walking and cycling.
- ✔ Climate responsive urban design to reduce energy use and increase energy efficiency by reducing the need for mechanical heating, cooling and maximising access to natural light and ventilation.
- ✔ Working with other stakeholders to incorporate, plan and respond to future climate change impacts in coastal areas, such as sea level rise, coastal flooding, and other extreme events.
- ✔ Exploring strategies to incorporate renewable energy sources such as geothermal, wind and solar energy into development.
- ✔ Developments which create local employment centres and opportunities to minimise the carbon impacts associated with commuting and transportation.
- ✔ Retaining vegetation and re-vegetation to offset carbon emissions.
- ✔ Reduction of water use through efficiency measures (e.g. fixtures and fittings, waterwise landscapes and efficient irrigation systems).
- ✔ Exploring opportunities to reduce potable water use through the secondary supplies such as recycled water and stormwater.
- ✔ Measuring and reporting on energy use and Carbon emissions as part of corporate sustainability performance.
- ✔ Encouraging sustainable behaviors at work and home through education.