



City of Salisbury Values: Respectful, Accountable, Collaborative, Helpful

Extreme Heat Policy

Adopted by:	Council
Responsible Division:	Community Health and Wellbeing
First Issued/Adopted:	23 August 2010
Last Reviewed:	27 November 2023 (Resolution No. 0524/2023)
Next Review Date:	September 2025

1. Purpose

This Policy:

- a. Defines the City of Salisbury's commitment to supporting the community to manage the impact of extreme heat conditions.
- b. Sets out the role of Council in the provision of information and services to the Salisbury community during extreme heat conditions.

The City of Salisbury is committed to promoting awareness and education regarding the impacts associated with extreme heat conditions, and the measures that can be adopted to mitigate those impacts.

Climate Change is causing heatwaves to be longer, hotter and more frequent. The City recognises that conditions of extreme heat can have significant consequences for the health and wellbeing of community members, with certain population groups particularly vulnerable to health-related effects, including older people,

young children, those with pre-existing health conditions, and people who are homeless/rough sleeping, culturally and linguistically diverse and socially isolated, as well as pets and other animals.

The city also recognises that cost of living pressures – particularly in relation to energy costs – has placed significant strain upon all households to maintain healthy living environments during long periods of hot weather.

The City is committed to mitigating the effects of extreme heat through urban planning, waste management, infrastructure and asset management, animal management, natural environment, business continuity, health and safety and financial plans.

2. Scope

This Policy

- 2.1 Defines the City of Salisbury's commitment to supporting the community to manage the impact of extreme heat conditions.
- 2.2 Applies to all Staff, Volunteers, contractors and Elected Members of the City of Salisbury in the delivery of services to our community.

3. Legislative Requirements and Corporate Policy Context

- 3.1 Local Government Act 1999
- 3.2 Work health and Safety Act 2012
- 3.3 South Australian Public Health Act 2011
- 3.4 Emergency Management Act 2004

4. Interpretation/Definitions

Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) Heatwave classifications - A heatwave is three or more consecutive days of high maximum and high minimum temperatures that are unusual for that location. Heatwaves are calculated using the forecast maximum and minimum temperatures over the next three days, comparing this to actual temperatures over the previous thirty days, and then comparing these same three days to the 'normal' temperatures expected for that location. This provides a value called the excess heat factor (EHF). This calculation considers people's ability to adapt to the heat. Any day when the EHF is positive is a heatwave and classified as either a low intensity heatwave, severe heatwave or extreme heatwave.

South Australia State Emergency Service (SES) Warnings and Impacts – Heatwave warnings are issued by the South Australia State Emergency Service (SES) as the hazard leader and control agency for extreme weather.

The SES has developed a system of heatwave warnings based on the improved heatwave intensity forecasting system developed by the BoM and follows national warning protocols. An advice warning is issued for low intensity heatwaves, a watch and act warning for severe heatwaves and an emergency warning for extreme heatwaves.

5. Policy Statements

- 5.1 Council will provide support or assistance as requested by the SA State Emergency Service in response to extreme heat events and in accordance with the Extreme Heat Plan.
- 5.2 To ensure the best use of Council resources, emphasis will be placed on complementing and supporting existing services provided by State/Commonwealth Government Agencies and specialist organisations funded to support vulnerable members of the community, rather than the provision of 'duplicate' services.
- 5.3 Council will provide community awareness and emergency management information in local settings for vulnerable populations via existing programs and services. This will include the distribution of materials prepared by the SA State Emergency Service, State Government and specialist organisations in relation to extreme heat events, in addition to information made available on the City of Salisbury website, the Salisbury Aware Magazine, and other Council media channels as appropriate.
- 5.3 Council's community facilities provide a safe and comfortable environment for all members of the community during business hours. These air-conditioned facilities can offer respite from the elements, amenities including water and access to information and internet. Council may extend opening hours for the provision on direct authorisation by the Chief Executive Officer.
- 5.4 Council will systematically take proper account of risk assessments in policy considerations that inform infrastructure planning, and asset management and land use planning to reduce disaster risk, including the effects of extreme heat.
- 5.5 Council will work to reduce the urban heat island effect across the City through effective mapping, streetscape renewal programs and Irrigated Open Public Spaces, to help to mitigate the effects of extreme heat on the community.
- 5.6 Council will ensure the health and safety of its community and workforce, by implementing procedures that minimise their exposure to extreme heat, to enable continuity of services to our community.

6. Related Policies and Procedures

References:

- 6.1 South Australian State Emergency
- 6.2 Heatwave Guide for Local Government in South Australia Service – Be Prepared for a Heatwave
- 6.3 Community Health and Wellbeing – Extreme Heat Arrangement Strategy
- 6.4 City of Salisbury Sustainability Strategy
- 6.5 Inclement Weather Policy- Workforce

7. Approval and Change History

Version	Approval Date	Approval By	Change
7.00	22 March 2021	Council (878/2021)	
8.00	27 November 2023	Council (0524/2023)	Transfer to new policy template and minor wording changes

8. Availability

- 8.1 The Policy is available to be downloaded, free of charge, from Council's website www.salisbury.sa.gov.au
- 8.2 The Policy will be available for inspection without charge at the Civic Centre during ordinary business hours and a copy may be purchased at a fee as set annually by Council.

City of Salisbury Community Hub
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9. Review

This Policy will be reviewed every 2 years.

Further Information

For further information on this Policy please contact:

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