



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

## **Open Space Reserve Fund Policy**

Adopted by:	Council
Responsible Division:	Finance & Procurement Services
First Issued/Adopted:	27 April 2011
Last Reviewed:	26 May 2025 (Resolution No. 0895/2025)
Next Review Date:	May 2027

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1. This policy sets out the basis on which the Open Space Reserve Fund (OSRF) is to be administered and for what purpose the funds can be applied.
- 1.2. Council and the community value open space for leisure and recreation, biodiversity, fresh air and the amenity and aesthetics it provides. The City is relatively abundant with open space compared with many cities and this establishes a positive point of difference which the community appreciates.
- 1.3. The Salisbury City Plan 2040 contains the following foundations relevant to the provision of open space:
  - A welcoming and liveable city
  - A sustainable city
- 1.4. The City of Salisbury has a balance of green spaces and natural environments that support biodiversity. The City operates an Open Space Reserve Fund for the purpose of receiving cash contributions from developers in lieu of the provision of actual open space as required under Section 198 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

## 2. Scope

- 2.1. This policy applies to the operation of the OSRF.
- 2.2. Open Space is integral to the character of the City of Salisbury and is a major contributor to the lifestyle experienced by the Community. As part of subdivision and residential infill developments across the City, it is a requirement that open space or open space assets are provided for the community within these developments, or alternatively that financial contributions are made to Council to be used to enhance the existing open space within the City.
- 2.3. The legislative requirements recognise that having open space and open space assets, such as reserves and parks, enhances the quality of life of residents through recreation and play, positive physical and mental health impacts, diversity in flora and fauna, aesthetic and economic value and social interaction opportunities.

## 3. Legislative Requirements and Corporate Policy Context

- 3.1. *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*
- 3.2. *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*

## 4. Interpretation/Definitions

- 4.1. **Financial Reserve** – an accounting treatment that ‘reserves’ (sets aside) part of Council’s equity for a specific purpose.
- 4.2. **Open Space** – Council owned or controlled areas which are permanently set aside and/or used for public recreation and/or reserved to protect or buffer natural areas.

## 5. Policy Statements

- 5.1. Section 198.11(a) of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* states:  
*“In the case of money received by a Council - must be immediately paid into a fund established for the purposes of this section and applied by the Council for the purpose of acquiring or developing land as open space.”*
- 5.2. All open space cash contributions received under Section 198.11(a) of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* are initially received as contributions in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards. They are then allocated to the financial reserve account known as the ‘Open Space Reserve’, being the ‘special fund’ as required by the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.
- 5.3. Interest is applied to the monthly balance of the OSRF at the end of each month using the Local Government Finance Authority’s twenty-four hour at call rate applicable on the first of each month.
- 5.4. The funds may only be applied to projects following formal approval by Council resolution and / or, either through the budget process, or budget review and for the purposes of acquisition and development of land for open space, which include:

- The purchase of land for parks or open space generally.
- Developing land as open space may include:
  - Seating/spectator cover
  - Grass areas/ovals
  - Public toilets
  - Landscaping
  - Barbeque facilities
  - Play equipment
  - Pathways/walking trails
  - Fencing
  - Carparking
  - Signs relating to recreation pursuits
  - Reticulation/irrigation systems
- Other purposes designed to increase the use and unrestricted access by the community.

## **6. Related Policies and Procedures**

### 6.1. Treasury Policy

## **7. Approval and History**

Version	Approval Date	Approval By	Change
1	27 April 2011	Council 2011/0327	Initial Policy
2	23 September 2013	Council 2013/1927	
3	26 October 2015	Council 2015/0688	Minor formatting
4	27 November 2017	Council 2183/2017	Minor formatting
5	25 November 2019	Council 0334/2019	Updated City Plan Linkages, Scope paragraph included detailing the importance of open space, direct quotation from Development Act
6	26 May 2025	Council 0895/2025	Updated City Plan 2040 reference, minor formatting and word changes, additional of the word 'resolution' to paragraph 5.4

## **8. Availability**

- 8.1. The Policy is available to be downloaded, free of charge, from Council's website [www.salisbury.sa.gov.au](http://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.

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34 Church Street, Salisbury SA 5108  
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## **9. Review**

- 9.1. This Policy will be reviewed within 12 months of a Council election and thereafter as necessary; or if deemed necessary by Council.

## **Further Information**

For further information on this Policy please contact:

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