

Policy: FALLS PREVENTION POLICY

ENG-POL-6

Service: Engineering

Responsible Officer: Director of Engineering

1. OBJECTIVE

To adopt a set of principles that will promote the development of Yass Valley as a falls-safe community for all people, particularly for older people who are most at risk of experiencing a fall and suffering disabling injury.

2. DEFINITION

A falls-safe community is one in which the physical environment is constructed/modified to be as safe as possible, the transport system follows falls prevention procedures and bureaucratic, corporate and social institutions provide the necessary infrastructure support.

3. PRINCIPLES

3.1 All people living, working and visiting the Yass Valley are entitled to use public spaces, council facilities, programs and services without fear of falling, because of some preventable environmental hazard.

3.2 All people have the same entitlements, regardless of age, infirmity or disability.

3.3 Council recognises that older people have particular problems in regard to hazards in the public environment because of age related physical deficits. It recognises therefore that older people have particular needs, which must be addressed.

3.4 All new facilities operated by Council shall be designed to be as falls-safe as possible.

3.5 Existing Council operated facilities shall be progressively modified to make them as falls-safe as possible.

3.6 Programs and services provided will have operating guidelines which optimise their falls-safety and these guidelines will be publicised.

3.7 Council staff shall be provided with the opportunity to undertake in-service training in relation to falls prevention.

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- 3.8 Council shall make available its resources to assist in wider community awareness of the problems of falls and will encourage community education in falls prevention.
- 3.9 Developers shall be encouraged to optimise the safety of their projects.
- 3.10 Non-council bodies shall be encouraged to optimise the safety of their facilities, programs and services.
- 3.11 Building regulations shall be enforced to ensure that new and existing buildings are as falls-safe as possible.

4. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS/LEGISLATION

Previously known as Policy F.4, COP-POL-5 and ASS-POL-6.

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HISTORY

<i>Minute No</i>	<i>Date of Issue</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Checked By</i>
	<i>11 July 2001</i>			
	<i>14 March 2007</i>	<i>Amended</i>	<i>David Rowe</i>	<i>EMT</i>
<i>247</i>	<i>13 June 2007</i>	<i>Adopted</i>		<i>PP&R Meeting</i>
<i>475</i>	<i>11 November 2009</i>	<i>Reviewed</i>		<i>Special Planning Committee Meeting</i>