



# Council Policy

## International Relations



# International Relations

## Policy scope

To:

- Facilitate the development and maintenance of effective international relations that promote and enhance Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan key focus areas;
- Foster, appreciate, and create awareness of the traditions, customs, and culture of Fremantle and of the cities/regions with a connection to Fremantle; and
- Outline the rationale and criteria for entering into a new, or terminating an existing, international relationship.

## Policy statement

The City of Fremantle is committed to establishing and maintaining effective relationships with international cities and regions to facilitate sustainable and continuous improvement in the development of its economic, social, and environmental objectives.

All international relationship initiatives must contribute to the achievement of a least one of the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034 key themes.

- **Liveable City**  
A liveable city that is vibrant, socially connected and desirable.
- **Thriving City**  
A thriving city with a prosperous and innovative economy.
- **Creative City**  
A creative city that is inspiring, diverse and dares to be different.
- **Resilient City**  
A resilient city that plans for the future and is empowered to take action.
- **Inclusive City**  
An inclusive city that welcomes, celebrates and cares for all people, cultures and abilities.

The City of Fremantle is also committed to fostering, appreciating, and creating awareness of the traditions, customs, and culture of Fremantle, and those of cities/regions with a connection to Fremantle through a formal or in-formal relationship.

### 1.0 Criteria

- 1.1 In keeping with the Strategic Community Plan key themes, an international relationship may only be entered into if it aligns with one or more of the following outcomes:



- **Cultural/Social**

- Significant historical, cultural, social or geographic similarities to Fremantle.
- Cultural enhancement.
- Attraction of sporting competitions and events.
- Improved governance, leadership and internal standing.

- **Economic**

- Tourism promotion opportunities.
- Trade, investment and export opportunities.
- Business partnerships and opportunities.
- Industry attraction and expansion.
- Introduction of new technologies.

- **Educational**

- Enhanced education and training opportunities.
- Attraction of new tertiary institutions and students.

- **Environmental**

- Ecosystem and biodiversity research and conservation partnerships.
- Environmental and climate change adaptation information exchange.
- Environmental technology and innovation exchange.

1.2 International relationships will be maintained where:

- a. One or more of the criteria outlined in clause 1.1 is applicable;
- b. Communication and interaction between the city/region is continued;
- c. The relationship has active community connections ; and
- d. The City of Fremantle administration have the capacity to support and facilitate the relationship.

## **2.0 International Relationship Types**

2.1 Depending on the level of engagement and commitment expected from both parties, there are different relationship types which can be entered into, including:

- **Sister City**

A formal, long-term relationship with multiple aims, goals, targets, and activities involved. A Sister City agreement fosters strong ties between two cities or regions.

- **Friendship City**

A less formal relationship, which is limited in scope and often time, depending on the intended outcome/s. A Friendship City agreement fosters collaboration and friendly relations between two cities or regions.

## **3.0 Existing International Relationships**

3.1 The City of Fremantle currently hold international relationship agreements with the following cities/regions\*:



City	Established	Objective	Type
Seberang Perai (Penang), Malaysia	19 August 1978	- To encourage trade and tourism.	Sister City
Yokosuka, Japan	25 April 1979	- To encourage trade and tourism. - To facilitate and participate in youth exchange programmes	Sister City
Capo D'Orlando, Italy	26 February 1983	- To encourage cultural and historical links and exchanges. - To maintain family associations which now exist. - To encourage trade and tourism.	Sister City
Molfetta, Italy	6 September 1984	- To encourage cultural and historical links and exchanges. - To maintain family associations which now exist. - To encourage trade and tourism.	Sister City
Funchal, Portugal	6 February 1996	- To encourage cultural and historical links and exchanges. - To maintain family associations which now exist. - To encourage trade and tourism.	Sister City
Surabaya, Indonesia	24 April 1996	- To encourage trade and tourism.	Friendship City
Padang, Indonesia	21 August 1996	- To encourage trade and tourism.	Friendship City
Korcula, Croatia	1999	- To encourage cultural and historical links and exchanges. - To maintain family associations which now exist.	Friendship City
Lushun District, City of Dalian, China	31 March 2011	- To encourage trade and tourism.	Friendship City

*\*The above list will be amended as required, separately to adopted policy amendments.*



#### **4.0 Establishment and Termination of Relationships**

- 4.1 The consideration of a new international relationship will be assessed in accordance with this policy, with approval to enter into an agreement provided by Council.
- 4.2 International relationship agreements will be subject to the Minister for Foreign Affairs approval.
- 4.3 Refusal to enter a new international relationship is at the discretion of Council.
- 4.4 Existing international relationships are to be reviewed every four years, in accordance with this policy.
- 4.5 Termination of an international relationship will be assessed in accordance with this policy, with approval to terminate an agreement provided by Council.
- 4.6 Where termination of an international relationship is initiated by the other party, Council will be notified accordingly.

#### **5.0 Expenditure**

- 5.1 The City of Fremantle may allocate funds within the annual budget to support international relation activities, subject to Council approval.
- 5.2 The allocation of funds for international relation activities does not preclude separate funds being allocated to initiatives, projects, events and activities that share a commonality with international relation activities.
- 5.3 Expenditure of international relation funds under delegation is subject to delegation limitations, assessed in accordance with this policy.
  - 5.3.1 Despite clause 5.3, all travel related expenses (excluding grants) require Council approval.
- 5.4 Expenditure of international relation funds outside of delegation is subject to the approval of Council, assessed in accordance with this policy.
  - 5.4.1 Recommendations to Council are to be made by the International Relations Working Group.
  - 5.4.2 Approval may be given for a total sum and/or given for itemised expenses.
- 5.5 Expenditure, subject to clause 5.2 and 5.3, may include, but is not limited to contribution to travel costs to sister or friendly cities, event sponsorship, hosting sister and friendly cities, and donations.



- 5.6 All expenditure requests are to be made in writing and address the criteria of this policy.
- 5.7 Priority will be given to expenditure made within the City of Fremantle and for international relationships which have reciprocated efforts.

## Definitions and abbreviations

Nil.

Responsibility and review information	
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