

HOBSONS BAY RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN





JUNE 2022

Acknowledgements

Council acknowledges and respects the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of these municipal lands and waterways and their unique ability to care for Country.

First Nations people have an unbroken custodianship of the land and waterways that extends back thousands of years. Their knowledge, understanding and relationship with Country are fundamental to the health of the environment and the success of any strategy to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Council recognises the First Nations' vast spiritual and sustainable relationship with this landscape, honouring Elders past, present and emerging leaders whose wisdom enriches us all.

This plan commits Council to genuinely partnering with and engaging meaningfully with First Nations communities and expert representatives to learn and collaborate, to protect and enhance our natural environment.



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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Climate change is the defining issue of our time and we are at a defining moment.

- Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary General

As a coastal community with several unique and fragile habitats, Hobsons Bay is at the frontline of the fight against climate change. The effects of climate change are already being felt, with rising sea levels and an increase in flooding and other extreme weather events threatening our rare and endangered wildlife.

As the current custodians of the land, we have an obligation to generations past and future, to take strong and decisive action to protect our community.

Council recognises that the current state of the climate requires urgent action from all levels of government. However, governments cannot do it alone; we all have a part to play in addressing this issue. As a community, we need to live more sustainably, to be mindful of the resources we consume and the waste that we create, and to take responsibility for the everyday choices we make that affect our planet.

Council must work in partnership with our traditional owner groups and the broader community to encourage and enable responsible stewardship of our part of this planet. Local government must lead by

example, using innovation and technology to reduce our energy use, potable water consumption and waste generation.

Hobsons Bay City Council has developed the Response to Climate Change Action Plan to guide our work, together with the community, to build resilience to climate change, with a focus on mitigation, adaptation, integrated water management, and community participation.

This plan provides a framework to deliver on our commitment to:

- **prepare for the effects of climate change**
- **reduce Council's greenhouse gas emissions**
- **protect and enhance the natural environment and green spaces**
- **strengthen our community's capacity to respond to changing weather**

Council is pleased to present the Response to Climate Change Action Plan and looks forward to working with the community to build a more resilient, healthier future for Hobsons Bay.

PURPOSE



Hobsons Bay City Council recognises that climate change is a current and significant challenge that will only become worse unless we all work together to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for a changing climate.

Council has a vision to:

- dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations
- inspire and support residents and businesses to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions
- provide future-proofed public spaces, facilities and services that are resilient to extreme weather events and changing coastline conditions
- create a greener, healthier municipality through an Integrated Water Management approach
- support net zero and climate resilient buildings in the private realm

This Plan outlines the actions that Council will take to achieve this Vision.

Council has committed to both **mitigation** and **adaptation** actions for Council's own operations as well as for supporting our community.

Mitigation – reducing the emission of greenhouse gases to prevent future increases in global temperatures and other climate impacts

Adaptation – taking actions to protect human health and wellbeing, physical assets and the natural environment from the impacts of a changing climate such as rising sea levels and extreme weather events

BACKGROUND



This Plan outlines the tangible actions that Council will take to achieve its vision. In addition, the actions will ensure that Council complies with legislation, meets the commitments in the Council Plan (2021-25) and Community Vision 2030 and supports the delivery of Council’s suite of environment and climate related policies.

Legislation and legal responsibilities

Council is required to promote environmental sustainability and to plan for climate change risks. Through *the Local Government Act 2020* and the *Climate Change Act 2017*, climate change and its impacts must be considered when making a decision.

The *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* gives councils an important role to “seek to protect, improve and promote public health and wellbeing”.

In addition, Council has committed to a ‘climate pledge’ under the *Climate Change Act 2017*.

Not taking action to address climate change places Council at risk of future legal action or litigation.

Council plan

Council’s commitments to climate action are outlined in the Council Plan (2021-25) in objective 2 – environment with a vision to “foster a sustainable way of living in response to climate change through active involvement in alternative energy use, reduction of waste, enhancement and conservation of our natural environment”.

Community vision

The community have told Council that environmental action is important with the Community Vision 2030 including priorities to have ‘proactive enrichment, expansion and conservation of the natural and urban environment’ and to ‘activate sustainable practices’.

Policy update

This plan updates and replaces the Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2013-18, the Corporate Greenhouse Strategy 2013-2020, Community Greenhouse Strategy 2013-2030 and the Integrated Water Management Plan 2014-2019.

Climate emergency

Council’s declaration of a climate emergency in 2019 further confirms Council’s commitment to taking meaningful action to address climate change.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS IN HOBSONS BAY

The impacts of climate change are already being experienced in Hobsons Bay.

Council's risk assessment for the Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2013-18 identified four major climate risks for Hobsons Bay:

- Higher average temperatures
- Less rainfall
- Rising sea levels

- More intense heavy downpours

This assessment has been reinforced by the latest climate projections for Victoria developed by the Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO in their report, Victorian Climate Projections 2019.

Table 1 Climate projections for Greater Melbourne¹

Climate risk	Summary of change	Description of impacts*
Temperature	<p>Increase in median temperatures of 1.2°C by 2030s</p> <p>Number of days over 35°C are expected to increase from the current average of 8.3 per year, to 21 days per year by the 2050s[#]</p> <p>[#]Currently experience 8.3 days per year over 35°C</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased frequency of critical infrastructure failure - Increased risk of heat-related illnesses, work accidents and death - More localised hot spots where heat is trapped in concrete, asphalt and other hard surfaces
Sea level rise	<p>Rise in sea level and storm surge by median value of 0.24m by 2050</p> <p>Global sea level rise increases by an average of 0.84m by 2100 under high emission scenarios²</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased erosion on beaches - Damage to seaside infrastructure and property - Decrease in foreshore habitats
Less rainfall and drought	<p>Extent and frequency of droughts more than double</p> <p>Annual rainfall totals are likely to decline with the greatest drying in spring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased risk of fires - More water restrictions - More expensive to maintain parks and sports grounds
Intense rainfall	<p>Increase in rainfall intensity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flood damage to private and public property and assets - Increased cost of insurance premiums - More significant long-term psychological impacts caused by flood events

These impacts are disproportionately experienced by the most vulnerable members of our community. Council recognises that poor quality housing, health conditions and low incomes make it difficult for some residents to manage their wellbeing.

* List is not exhaustive but intended for illustration of some possibilities Hobsons Bay will face.

1. Based on global greenhouse gas emissions scenarios and models used in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)
 2. From the IPCC 2019 report "The ocean and cryosphere in a changing climate"

HOBSONS BAY ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND DIRECT ACTION

This Plan has been developed as an overarching guide to responding to climate change that also complements Council's other environment and climate related policies, strategies and plans. This ensures a cohesive approach to responding to climate change through capital works, service delivery and behaviour change initiatives across all disciplines.

Urban Forest Strategy 2020

The Urban Forest Strategy includes an ambitious target to increase Hobsons Bay's tree canopy in public spaces from 7.5% to 30% by 2040.

Additional trees will help the community to adapt to climate change as they provide an effective buffer against the expected higher average temperatures and increased number of heat waves. Trees in cities have been found to reduce temperatures by up to 10 degrees Celsius. The Strategy also acknowledges the impact that climate change will have on trees and seeks to plant a diverse range of hardy species that will improve biodiversity and withstand changing weather conditions.

There were over 8,500 advanced trees planted across the municipality in 2021.

Council's Green Street program, to be delivered from 2022, will include replacing trees due for removal or at end of life with a more holistic view of the street. Water sensitive urban design (WSUD) elements will be incorporated where possible and the program rolled out with the road rehabilitation program, other capital works or whole street projects.

Integrated Transport Plan 2017-30

The Integrated Transport Plan is underpinned by five principles including sustainability which is delivered through a commitment to "Support travel methods and projects that reduce car dependency and complement the natural environment, underpinned by environmentally friendly design and construction" The plan includes education and infrastructure actions that encourage low emissions and zero emissions transport including walking, riding, public transport and electric vehicles.

Council currently has 15 electric vehicles within its fleet with one additional vehicle planned for purchase late in 2021-22. Council has installed a total of 14 electric vehicle chargers with three of these being available for public use.

In 2021-22 road safety improvements have been delivered for pedestrian and bike riding safety. This included crossing upgrades in the Williamstown Primary School precinct and buffered bicycle lanes along Mason Street, Newport and Altona North.

Coastal and Marine Management Plan (2021)

The Plan includes two objectives that respond to climate change. "Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment" and "Strengthen resilience to climate change". These objectives are supported by actions to increase biodiversity, improve water quality and to use the latest data to inform investment and planning decisions to protect assets from sea level rise and extreme weather events.

Since the Plan's adoption Council has completed a series of preliminary assessments and design for rising sea levels and rock revetment works at Gloucester Reserve, Hatt and Cyril Reserve and Burgoyne Reserve. Council has also completed extensive dune revegetation at PA Burns Reserve

Biodiversity Strategy 2017-22

The Strategy has a vision to "Value and protect our unique biodiversity for current and future generations" and notes the significant threat that climate change poses to biodiversity. The Strategy outlines a range of actions to protect and enhance biodiversity across the municipality. Key achievements include:

- Delivery of a Pest Animal Management Plan which has included implementing fox and rabbit control measures as well as a cat monitoring program
- A total of 93 households participate in the Habitat Gardens program and 3,200 local indigenous plants supplied to residents to use in their garden
- Approximately 138,000 tube-stock plantings into Hobsons Bay's conservation reserves since 2017



Waste and Litter Strategy 2025

The Strategy outlines a range of actions that reduce waste to landfill and the associated greenhouse gas emissions. It also targets waste avoidance and reuse which reduces emissions from the manufacture and transport of new goods. The strategy outlined a number of key actions to reduce landfill volumes including introduction of a four bin service which Council brought forward in response to the recycling crisis through the introduction of Recycling 2.0.

Open Space Strategy 2018–28

The Strategy includes an 'Environment' principle that "The network of open spaces supports biodiversity and habitat links, while being resource-efficient, sustainable and resilient to climate change". Actions to support this principle include considering irrigation options for open spaces and delivering on the Biodiversity and Urban Forest strategies.

Almost a quarter (23.67%) of Hobsons Bay's total area in open space within Council's ownership, while a third of all land in the municipality is open space. Compared to other middle ring municipalities, in Melbourne, this more than double the average rate of 13.4%.

Despite this impressive figure, a large proportion of this open space is encumbered (i.e. constrained in terms of use or development for recreational purposes). Here, the proportion of encumbered open space is 13.68%, while the metropolitan average is 5.9%.

Key achievements include:

- Upgrade of 8 community parks including selection of sustainable and upcycled materials, recycling of play equipment and inclusion of drought tolerant indigenous plant species and advanced tree planting at all locations.
- Development of Community Gardens framework and guidelines for community groups
- Development and adoption of Landscape Development Guidelines
- Completion of open space and conservation plans for Newport Lakes Parkland and Hosken Reserve Parkland (Kororoit Creek Shared Trail)

Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Policy Statement 2018

The ESD Policy Statement commits Council to leading the community towards a sustainable urban environment that responds to climate change and

enhances the health and wellbeing of its community. This will be achieved through:

- incorporating ESD within Council's own developments
- building the capacity of Council staff to implement the principles of ESD when planning, building or redesigning Council buildings and the public realm
- advocating for sustainable design to be enforced through the regulatory framework and ensure that environmental performance is considered in the assessment of development proposals
- encouraging and supporting private developers to lead by example
- developing ESD awareness in the community and showcasing best practice examples

Council is developing a sustainable design toolkit to support the consistent application of ESD principles in all Council capital works projects.

Integrated Water Management

Council has also committed to responding to the increasing challenges of managing water using an approach called Integrated Water Management (IWM). This is a collaborative approach to water planning and management that brings together all aspects of the water cycle, including waterways and bays, wastewater management, alternative and potable water supply, stormwater management and water treatment. IWM considers environment, social and economic benefits, and enables Council and the community to use water more efficiently and effectively and to improve the quality of local recreational areas, the natural environment, local waterways and Port Phillip Bay. Council is part of the regional Maribyrnong and Werribee IWM forums.

Virtual Power

Council is rolling out a large-scale rooftop solar project across over 40 Council-owned buildings. When completed, the project will include approximately 4MW of solar panels that will be connected via a Virtual Energy Network (VEN). The VEN will interact with the electricity grid so that excess renewable energy generated from individual sites can be allocated to other sites that have higher electricity use at different times of the day. This will maximise the use of renewable energy and provide cost savings. It is estimated that the project will reduce Council's emissions by over 4,000 tonnes per year.

COUNCIL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



Council’s greenhouse gas emissions are measured and monitored through the development of an emissions inventory. Emissions inventories are developed following strict protocols with data assessed against operational control, financial control, materiality and relevance.

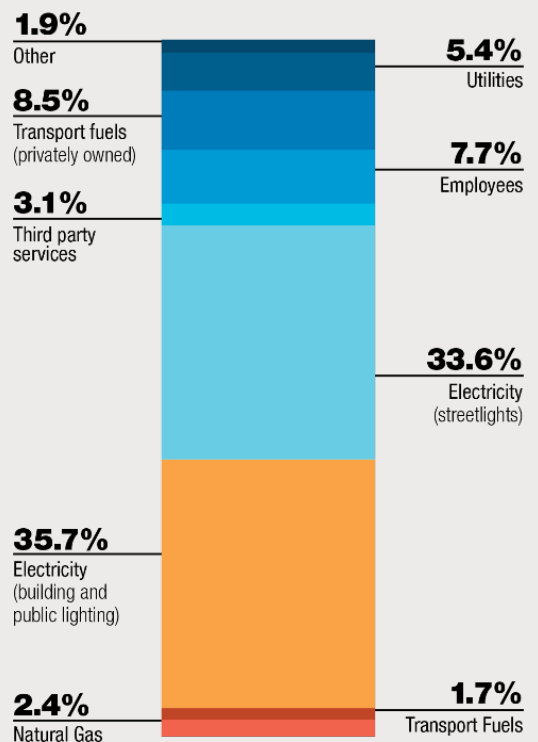
In 2018-19 the inventory demonstrated that Council was responsible for emitting 9,342 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂-e). As shown in Figure 1, electricity use in buildings and street lighting represents the majority of emissions followed by transport.

It is noted that the 9,342 tCO₂-e includes emissions that would require mitigation actions that are outside Council’s direct control. Figure 2 outlines mitigation actions Council will prioritise that are within Council’s direct control.

Figure 1 Council’s greenhouse gas emissions inventory FY2018/19

Total 2018–19 emissions

9,342.2 tonnes CO₂-e



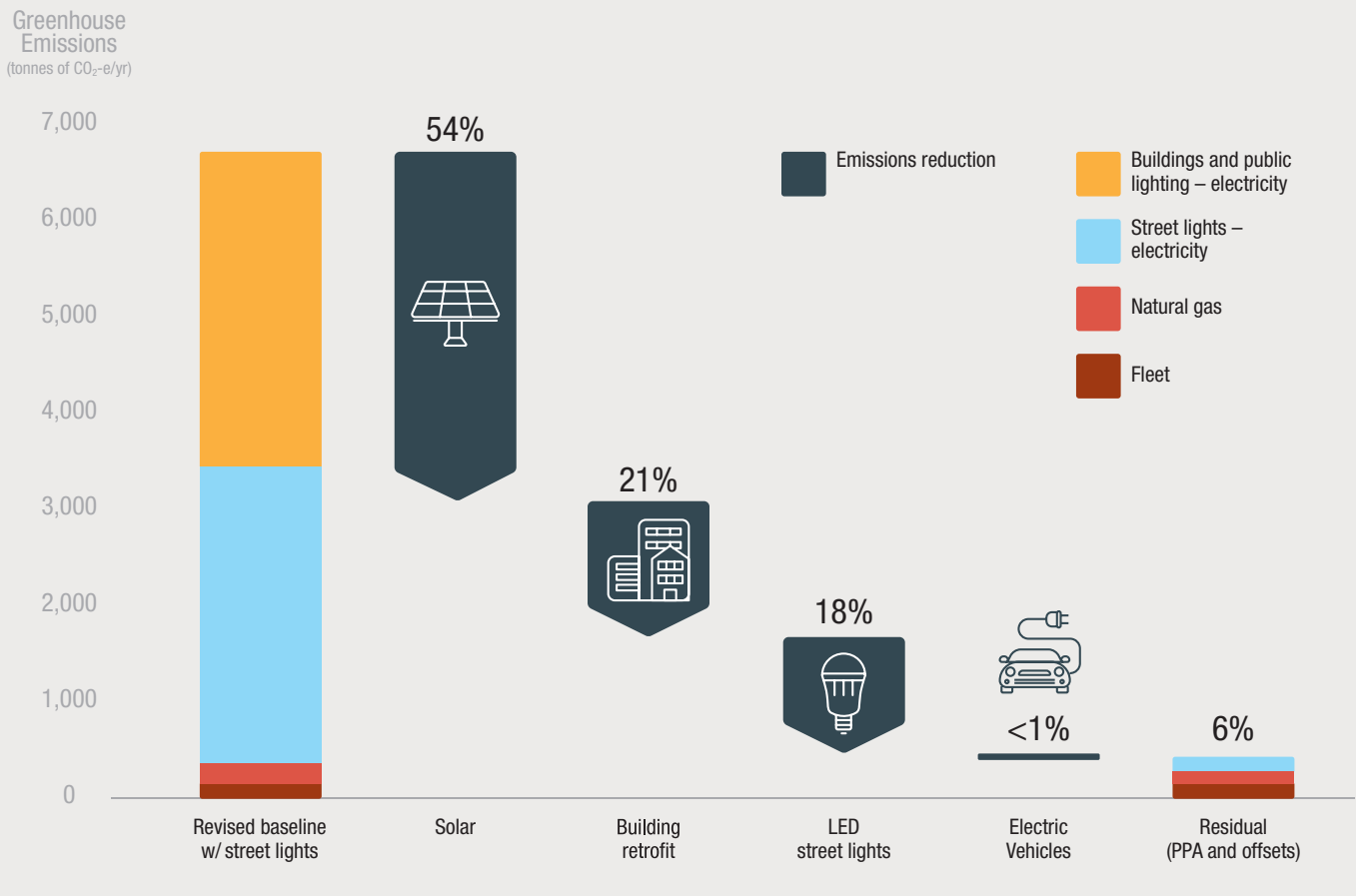
COUNCIL'S EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACTION PLAN

Council has developed a Climate Change Action Plan based around four key themes (Mitigation, Adaptation, Integrated Water Management and Community).

Emissions reduction of approximately 7,000 tCO₂-e will be achieved through the successful delivery of the actions in the Mitigation theme as represented in Figure 2 below. Council is currently investigating

further emissions reduction opportunities to reduce the remaining emissions (approximately 2,000 tCO₂-e).

Figure 2 Council's greenhouse gas emissions reduction program



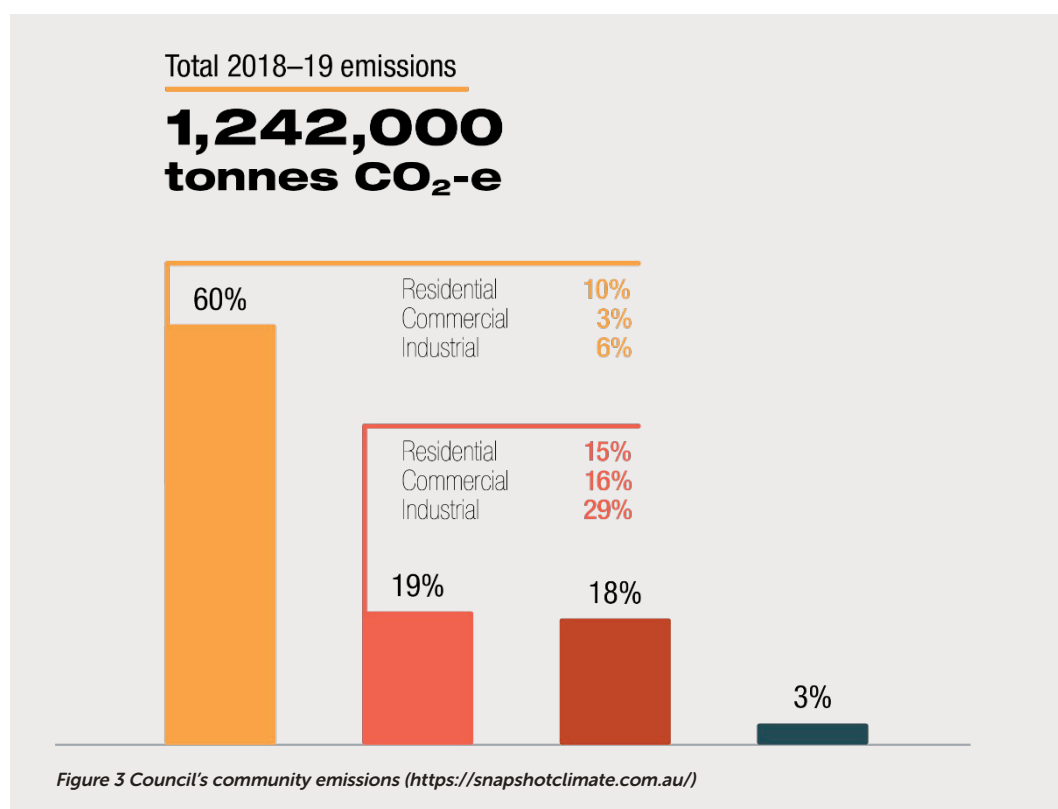
COMMUNITY GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

The wider Hobsons Bay community emissions are estimated through the development of an emissions profile which includes a combination of actual and modelled data. The profile estimates emissions that are generated within the municipal boundaries.

It is estimated that 1,242,000 tCO₂-e were emitted in 2018-19 with 79 per cent of emissions being generated by electricity and gas use in buildings, represented in Figure 3 below. Actions to address these emissions are outlined in the Community Theme Action Plan table at the end of this document.

It should be noted that they don't include all emissions that are generated elsewhere to support Council operations, local business activity and community. For example emissions generated in other locations from the manufacture of goods, production of food and community air travel.

Inventories and profiles are developed differently and include different data sources.



COMMITMENTS AND PRIORITIES



Council is committed to achieving:

- Emissions reduction of 7,000 tCO₂-e from Council operations
- Increase tree canopy on public land to 30 per cent by 2040
- Increase water use sourced from alternative sources by 20 per cent

Further, Council aims to support the community to achieve:

- Increased waste diversion from landfill rate to 66 per cent by 2025
- Community greenhouse gas emissions of net zero by 2030

Council's response to climate change is centred around four themes:

1. Implementation of Council's emissions reduction action plan (mitigation)

2. Managing risk and preparing for a changing climate (adaptation)

3. Integrated Water Management (water)

4. Supporting the community to respond to climate change (community)

Previous targets and new commitments

Council had previously aimed to achieve net zero corporate emissions by 2020. However, this would have required the use of purchased offsets. Instead, Council

has committed to significant investment in renewable electricity and energy efficiency to dramatically reduce emissions before having to rely on offsets.

Council's role

Responding to climate change is a collective responsibility that can't be managed by Council alone. Council aspires to be a leader in climate change action and seeks to inspire the community and other stakeholders to take action.

This plan includes strong action for Council to reduce its own greenhouse gas emissions and prepare services and assets for a changing climate. However, the community goals can only be met if residents and businesses commit to taking their own climate actions. The actions in this Plan are based on a Council partnership with the community to provide leadership, education, support, advice and facilitation services to residents and businesses.

Council will also collaborate with and advocate to the Victorian and Australian governments on behalf of the community to deliver climate action and investment in mitigation and adaptation activities. This includes calling for support to address related issues such as housing, energy security, cost of living, and access to community infrastructure and spaces.

Council will continue to build strong relationships with Traditional Owners, drawing upon their knowledge, understanding and relationship with our lands, waterways and coast.

Council will continue participating in existing partnerships to maximise collective efforts including the Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA), Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE), Association of Bayside Municipalities, Greening the West, and Victoria's Integrated Water Management Forum.

IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION



This plan will be delivered from 2022-2030 with regular reviews to ensure that Council responds to new opportunities, new challenges and the latest climate data over the life of the plan. Council will actively monitor the emergence of new technologies and innovative approaches and take a leadership role in implementation to maximise the benefits to the organisation and the community

Responding to climate change and integrated water management is a whole of organisation commitment that will be delivered by all areas of Council with technical support from internal sustainability experts.

Actions will be overseen by a multi departmental Steering Group and Working Group with progress reported in the

Hobsons Bay City Council Annual Report and on Council's website.

Council will utilise the best available tools to monitor progress towards emissions reduction and climate adaptation including periodic formal emissions inventories, vulnerability assessments and evaluation frameworks.



CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

The actions on the following pages have been informed by data and the latest research to maximise Council's impact as well as to support and facilitate climate change response from our partners. They support Council's vision and commitments to not only reduce emissions but to make the changes needed to protect health, wellbeing and assets in a changing climate.

Some actions will require a financial investment by Council. These actions will be reconfirmed through Council's annual budget processes to ensure that the investment also results in future cost

savings and risk mitigation for Council and community. For example, reduced utilities costs or long-lasting climate resilient infrastructure












Each action is:

- **Within the control of Council**
- **Measurable**
- **Impactful**
- **Deliverable**
- **Financially responsible**



THEME: MITIGATION

Council's emissions reduction action plan

	Action	Timeframe	Funding - Confirmed or subject to future funding considerations
	Complete the large scale roof top solar installation program on Council's building portfolio	2022-24	Endorsed Program
	Implement building energy efficiency improvements including insulation; draught proofing; LED lighting; and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning during building renewals.	2022-2025	Individual Project Budgets
	Deliver high standards of energy performance in new buildings as per Council's Environmentally Sustainable Development Policy Statement.	Ongoing	Individual Building Budgets
	Use site and program specific energy consumption data to prioritise and monitor emissions reduction activities and to manage asset performance.	Commence 2022	Established Operational Budget
	Replace all existing streetlights with energy efficient LED lamps.	2023-2025	Extent TBC - Budget Allocated Annually
	Develop a plan to transition the remaining Council fleet to zero emissions vehicles with a focus on heavy vehicles.	2022-2024	Established Operational Budget
	Embed emissions reduction principles and actions into Council's policy and strategy suite as they are due for renewal.	Ongoing	Established Operational Budget
	Include emissions reduction potential as a criterion for project investment approval and prioritisation.	Commence 2023-2024	Established Operational Budget
	Purchase renewable energy to meet all of Council's remaining electricity requirements outside of the VEN generation.	2023-2024	Established Operational Budget
	Enhance existing procurement guidelines to further facilitate the purchase of sustainable products and services and encourage suppliers to improve their own environmental performance.	Develop 2022-2023 Implement from 2023-2024	Established Operational Budget
	Purchase carbon offsets for remaining emissions, as identified in Figure 2.	2025-2026	Subject to Budget Allocation

THEME: ADAPTATION

Manage risk and prepare for a changing climate

Action	Timeframe	Funding - Confirmed or subject to future funding considerations
Implement relevant recommendations from the Victorian Government's Local Government Roles and Responsibilities Guidance to assess and manage Climate Risk.	Ongoing	Scalable - Extent and timing subject to annual Budget Allocation
Assess recommendations from the state-led Port Phillip Bay Coastal Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and use them to inform foreshore and coastal adaptation responses.	Commence 2022	Established Operational Budget
Assess and address climate change risk in business and service planning, investment decisions and business continuity planning.	Commence 2022	Established Operational Budget
Conduct climate vulnerability assessments and financial risk modelling of Council's assets, prioritising those in high risk areas.	Ongoing	Scalable - Number of assessments subject to annual Budget Allocation
Deliver fit for purpose responses to sea level rise that also deliver habitat and amenity benefits.	Ongoing	Within Individual Project Budgets
Include historical wisdom, latest climate data and best practice adaptation principles in Council's operations, particularly Asset Management Plans as they are updated.	Ongoing	Established Operational Budget
Embed cooling, greening and permeability into Masterplans, Urban Design Frameworks, Structure Plans and streetscape plans for all major activity centres including the Better Places program.	Commence 2022	Established Operational Budget
Deliver increased greening and cooling of public open spaces through planting of trees in line with Council's Urban Forest Strategy.	Continuous	Delivered within Annual Urban Forest Budget
Continue to collaborate with Council Alliance for Sustainable Built Environment and other organisations to progress and advocate for improved ESD outcomes from new developments.	2021-2025	Established Operational Budget
Collaborate with Melbourne Water, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Municipal Association of Victoria and other Bayside municipalities to ensure flooding and inundation data consider climate change and are reflected in the planning scheme.	2022-2025	Costs to be shared with project partners. Possible Planning Scheme Amendment subject to Annual Budget Allocation Grant funding may also be available
Review and update guidelines to facilitate sustainable outcomes in our industrial areas in particular to support increased private open space and a higher proportion of impervious surfaces.	Commence 2022-2023	Established Operational Budget
Continue to investigate alternative funding sources for replaced and new foreshore treatments where appropriate.	Continuous	Established Operational Budget
Work with partners including Traditional Owners to monitor, conserve and enhance coastal ecosystems such as wetlands, mangroves and salt marshes.	Continuous	Established Operational Budget. Individual projects subject to partnership funding
Establish an Environmentally Sustainable Development and Integrated Water Management verification and compliance program to support consistent delivery and achievement of Council's sustainability and statutory planning standards.	Commence 2022-2023	Scalable – Extent of compliance program subject to Budget Allocation for additional staffing resources
Review and update the Biodiversity Strategy to protect and enhance flora and fauna.	Commence 2022-2023	Timing is subject to Annual Budget Allocation

THEME: WATER

Integrated Water Management (IWM)

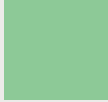
Action	Timeframe	Funding - Confirmed or subject to future funding considerations
Develop and deliver training to build capacity across the organisation to facilitate the delivery of Integrated Water Management.	Commence 2022	Established Operational Budget
Collect, analyse, and report on site specific water use and stormwater data. Use this data to inform appropriate targets and interventions.	Commence 2022	Established Operational Budget
Reduce Council's use of potable water through incorporating water efficiency measures and effective controls in Council projects and operations; and through seeking alternative water sources to meet functional requirements.	Ongoing	Established operational and additional within individual project budgets
Undertake an inventory of Council stormwater and irrigation assets and invest in technology or systems to record, improve and monitor performance.	Commence 2023	Established Operational Budget
Include Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) elements in all Council building, infrastructure, open space and civil works projects in the form of rainwater tanks, rain gardens, passive watering, smart irrigation, permeable surfaces and landscape design.	Continuous	Within Individual Project Budgetsa
Support the delivery of the Werribee and Maribyrnong Integrated Water Management (IWM) Forums' Strategic Directions Statements.	Continuous	Established Operational Budget
Capitalise on existing projects and seek partnership opportunities to progress stormwater harvesting initiatives that provide alternatives to potable water use for Council open spaces.	Continuous	Subject to Partnership Funding



THEME: COMMUNITY

Support the community to respond to climate change

Action	Timeframe	Funding - Confirmed or subject to future funding considerations
Deliver a cohesive and proactive overarching communications and engagement plan that provides information and education to residents, businesses and schools	Ongoing	Established Operational Budget
Provide advice services and programs that support residents, businesses and schools to take their own climate actions and participate in aligned activities from other relevant Council programs including urban forest, biodiversity, marine and coastal management, transport waste and community support.	Ongoing	Established Operational Budget
Seek partnership and funding opportunities that support the community to increase access to climate change programs.	Ongoing	Established Operational Budget
Promote access to existing programs delivered by other organisations including the Victorian and Australian governments and Greenhouse Alliances.	Ongoing	Established Operational Budget
Design and deliver a community participation initiative to support increased access to renewable energy aligned with Council's Virtual Power Project.	Commence 2022-23	Subject to Initiative Design
Provide proactive support to local businesses and community organisations that occupy Council's buildings to reduce emissions and respond to climate change through leasing arrangements and education.	Continuous	Established Operational Budget
Develop and deliver sustainable business initiatives that support the business community to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of their operations while reducing emissions, managing water and responding to climate change.	Continuous	Established Operational Budget
Promote and facilitate Environmental Upgrade Finance for local businesses to retrofit their premises to be more environmentally sustainable.	Continuous	Established Operational Budget
Deliver the My Smart Garden program to help residents become more resilient to climate change impacts and build community networks.	Continuous	Established Operational Budget
Provide targeted advice and support through existing communication channels and social support programs to vulnerable residents who are at greatest risk from the impacts of climate change.	Continuous	Scalable – Subject to Annual Budget Allocation



This policy will be reviewed three years from the date of Council endorsement unless it is required to be updated sooner.

For further information concerning this policy please contact Hobsons Bay City Council on **1300 179 944** or email **sustainability@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**

Date adopted by Council **28 June 2022**





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