



The *Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016–2021* sets out how we will improve environmental sustainability from Council operations and how we will support and advocate on behalf of the community. Each year Council develops an action plan to put the recommendations from the *Strategy* into practice.

Climate change — Council infrastructure and operations

Objective CI: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Council managed or owned buildings by at least 25 percent by 2021 by investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy

Number	Recommendation	Actions
CI.1	Build any new Council buildings to be very low carbon and continue to allocate five percent of capital budgets for sustainability measures.	<p>Incorporate Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) and other sustainability measures in the design of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carnegie Swim Centre • Elsternwick Community Hub • Bleazby Street, Bentleigh, and Stanley Street, Elsternwick, multi-deck carparks • Safe Cycling Corridor Pilot. <p>Incorporate Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) and other sustainability measures in the construction of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lord Reserve Pavilion • Koornang Park Pavilion • Murrumbeena Park Community Hub • Bentleigh Library • Bentleigh Eat Street • Neerim Road Streetscape • Victory Pavilion. <p>Develop an Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) policy and embed in procurement policies and project management processes.</p>
CI.2	Continue to reduce emissions generated from existing buildings, including through an annual rolling program of energy efficiency and renewable energy works.	<p>Implement energy efficiency upgrades and solar photovoltaic installations at a range of Council buildings, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar photovoltaic at Victory Park Pavilion; Bailey and Moorleigh Reserve Pavilions; Bentleigh East, Centre Road, Caulfield South and Caulfield Kindergartens/ELCs; and Curraweena/Marara ILU's • LED lighting upgrade at GESAC • Double glazing at Oak Tree House • Insulation at Mackie Road, Bailey Reserve and Moorleigh Pavilion.

		Seek independent verification of Council's 2019/20 carbon inventory.
C1.3	Continue to purchase at least 1,900,000 kilowatt hours per year of GreenPower or equivalent product.	Purchase at least 1,900,000 kilowatt hours of GreenPower or equivalent.
		Participate in the Local Government Power Purchase Agreement tender process to procure 100% renewable energy from 1 July 2021.
C1.4	Investigate and incorporate further lower emissions alternatives for use in construction.	As part of the Drainage Renewal Program, use recycled concrete for backfill in drainage trenches.
		As part of the Road Renewal Program, trial the use of green asphalt.
C1.5	Further develop energy monitoring and reporting practises to allow automation and support behaviour change.	Further customise the Building Management Systems (BMS) at Glen Eira Town Hall, Booran Reserve, GESAC, Centenary Park, Duncan McKinnon Pavilion and Aged Care Facilities to maximise energy efficiency.
Objective C2: Reduce Council greenhouse gas emissions from Council managed street lighting by 30 per cent		
C2.1	Further improve efficiency of streetlights significantly, prioritising high pressure sodium type lights, in collaboration and with funding from VicRoads.	Continue to advocate to State Government for funding for the upgrade of cost-shared streetlights.
		Undertake advocacy to the appropriate regulatory bodies so that energy savings from smart street lighting technology can be realised.
C2.2	Replace any remaining older type Council outdoor lights, including mercury vapour lights with more efficient alternatives.	Upgrade sportsground lighting at Caulfield Park Oval 2.
Objective C3: Reduce emissions from vehicles used in Council operations and services		
C3.1	Review options to reduce emissions from vehicles used by Council and contractors and encourage use of active and public transport.	Purchase at least two hybrid/electric fleet vehicles.
		Install one electric vehicle charging station.
		Encourage staff to use active or public transport.
Objective C4: Adapt Council managed open space, infrastructure and services over time to cope with climate change		

C4.1	Consider climate change impacts, such as storm frequency and peak stormwater flows, on open space, infrastructure and services and adapt these over time, usually during design or service reviews.	Upgrade sports ground drainage at Lord Reserve Oval 3.
		As part of the Drainage Renewal Program, undertake flood mitigation works at least three sites.
C4.2	Ensure staff have access to regular training to stay up-to-date with rapidly changing knowledge and technology change.	Host at least four staff sustainability workshops or webinars.
		Train staff on emerging products and technologies.
C4.3	Incorporate features to minimise the urban heat island effect in the design of buildings, streetscapes and open space.	See actions C1.1 and C1.2
		Participate in How Well Are We Adapting to guide Council's climate change adaptation initiatives.
		Through the Resilient Relief Centres project, identify the risks and vulnerabilities of Council's emergency relief centres.
		Undertake a risk assessment to understand how climate change will impact Council assets, expenditure and income streams.
		See action B1.1
		Plant 1,000 street trees.
		Develop an Urban Forest Strategy.
		As part the Narrow Nature Strip Planting Program, improve tree canopy cover in streets without nature strips.
Subject to grant funding opportunities, develop one community green wall.		

Climate change - Supporting the community

Objective C5: Advocate for higher efficiency standards for buildings, better public transport and other measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the community

C5.1	Advocate state and federal governments to support the community in reducing emissions from buildings, appliances and transport, and to incorporate emissions reduction initiatives into their own projects and programs.	As part of Council's Public Transport Advocacy Reference Document and Integrated Transport Strategy, advocate for better public transport routes and connections.
		Advocate to State and Federal Governments to incorporate more Environmentally Sustainable Design features in the Building Code of Australia.
		Advocate to the State Government for Environmentally Sustainable Design features in Level Crossing Removal projects.
		Develop formal advocacy submissions through the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (EAGA).
Objective C6: Support the community to cope during hotter weather and extreme weather events		
C6.1	Regularly review Council's <i>Heat Wave Response Plan</i> and <i>Emergency Response Plan</i> for currency and implement the plans when triggered.	Review the heatwave sub-plan of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan.
		Identify who in the community suffers from 'energy poverty' and thus most at risk of the adverse impacts of climate change, particularly during heatwaves and extreme heat days.
Objective C7: Support the community to access active and public transport, improve the efficiency of their homes and to increase their use of renewable energy		
C7.1	Celebrate the sustainability features at Council buildings and facilities as part of community education activities to demonstrate energy efficiency and renewable energy, for example, by running tours or promoting case studies.	Promote case studies of sustainability features on Council buildings in various communication channels and on-site educational displays.
C7.2	Help residents access practical solutions and rebates available from other levels of government, including reviewing and expanding the <i>Energy Saving Program</i> .	Through the re-write of the Planning Scheme, incorporate Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) in developments of at least two dwellings.
		Investigate the delivery of Solar Savers via Environmental Upgrade Agreements to increase the uptake of solar PVs in the community.
		Deliver Australian Energy Foundation and Solar Savers programs to help residents improve energy efficiency and increase their use of renewable energy.

		Support schools to reduce their carbon emissions by offering free solar assessments and an educational workshop.
		Investigate Environmental Upgrade Agreements as a method of funding energy-efficiency and renewable energy projects for businesses.
		Promote community and government initiatives that may assist the community.
C7.3	Run ongoing community education programs on reducing carbon emissions in the home, supporting sustainable transport and activities to increase walking and riding support.	Run at least three free community workshops or webinars on energy efficiency, solar and other emissions reduction topics.
		Deliver a Schools Sustainability Program that includes incursions on various sustainability topics.
		Promote energy efficiency, solar or other emissions reduction topics in various communication channels.
		As part of Council's Integrated Transport Strategy, undertake community consultation for the Safe School Pilot #1 Coatesville Primary School Catchment to provide a safer environment for active travel.
		As part of Council's Integrated Transport Strategy, install a network of cyclist counters to evaluate the success of cycling projects and infrastructure.
		As part of Council's Integrated Transport Strategy, develop a bicycle parking strategy to guide improvements to bicycle parking in Glen Eira.
		Develop a design guide for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in Council carparks.
		Support a range of community and government initiatives, such as Earth Hour, Ride2Work and Walk to School. Promote the environmental benefits of Walk to School by delivering a 'total carbon emissions avoided' competition.
Recycling and waste - Council infrastructure and operations		
Objective RI: Increase the recycling rate at Council buildings by at least 10 percent		
RI.1		Provide signed garbage, recycling and green bins at all Council events.

	Continue to provide and improve recycling services at Council events and most community used buildings. Align signage and systems with waste and recycling services for the community.	Develop a Plastic free Events Policy to ensure that all Council events and events held on Council owned land are free of single-use plastics.
R1.2	Extend education for staff and community users of Council buildings on how to recycle.	Implement a staff education campaign to encourage waste minimisation and good recycling behaviour.
		Hold a staff tour to recycling and/or organic waste processing facilities.
		Ensure that recycling and waste signage is consistent across all Council buildings.
R1.3	Integrate recycling services in new buildings and facilities.	Provide bin enclosure facilities at new Council buildings.
Objective R2: Reduce use of new materials in Council operations		
R2.1	Continue to require recycling of building and road construction waste in Council construction projects, continue to use recycled paper products and explore opportunities to increase use of recycled products as technology and products improve.	Adapt Council's purchasing system to measure sustainable procurement.
		Improve standard tender specifications in construction projects to use recycled products.
		Use sustainably sourced or recycled paper for at least 95 percent of copy paper and printed materials.
		See actions C1.4 and C1.5
R2.2	Identify standard recycled products for common procurement categories and establish as standard in procurement procedures.	Deliver a staff education campaign and develop guidelines on sustainable procurement.
R2.3	Review options to reduce and reuse materials, furniture and supplies used by Council.	Implement measures to increase use of recycled or sustainably sourced furniture in office fit-out.
		Where possible, use only recycled or sustainably sourced material for outdoor furniture and streetscape projects.

Recycling and waste - Supporting the community

Objective R3: Increase the community recycling rate by at least 30 percent by 2021		
R3.1	Introduce food waste recycling for the community, as part of the existing organic waste recycling service by end 2017.	Undertake a communications campaign to promote the food waste recycling service and as well as generally reducing food waste.
R3.2	Investigate whether changes to frequency of kerbside bin collections could reduce garbage and increase recycling.	Present report to Council on outcome of the weekly green bin trial and provide recommendations.
R3.3	Work with <i>Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group</i> and other local governments to secure access to new generation garbage disposal facilities that minimise greenhouse gas emissions from waste.	Continue to work with the Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group (MWRRG) to develop a South East Advanced Waste Processing procurement process to access new generation garbage disposal facilities.
R3.4	Investigate, and if feasible, offer Council run waste and recycling services specifically designed for higher density areas and larger businesses.	Undertake a desktop audit of Multi-Unit Developments to better inform future waste service planning.
		Investigate organics recycling hubs in activity centres.
R3.5	Increase recycling from hard rubbish and street sweeping.	Improve Councils understanding of the 'end to end' process around the hard rubbish service.
		Develop robust waste data reports, including accurate baseline measures, in order to better measure diversion rates.
Objective R4: Support the community to minimise and correctly sort waste and recycling in homes and businesses		
R4.1	Run a long-term and ongoing recycling and waste education program for residents, including encouraging volunteer litter collection.	Promote local community litter collection groups such as Love Our Street and Clean Up Australia Day.
		Update website information on waste and recycling, including the A-Z Recycling Guide.
		Run at least two community workshops or webinars on waste reduction and recycling.

		Deliver a Plastic free Glen Eira program to support businesses in Glen Eira to eliminate or reduce their use of single-use plastics.
		Develop sound processes for all Waste Management Plan (WMP) applications.
R4.2	Encourage use of specialist disposal options, including those available to the community, but not run by Council (for example, for batteries or clothes).	Promote specialist disposal options for items such as plastic bags, chemicals and paint in various communication channels.
		Promote e-waste collection stations and deliver an e-waste education campaign.
		Deliver and promote Garage Sale Trail.
R4.3	Continue to advocate for policy settings and services at state and federal levels that improve options for disposal of special items, such as batteries, light bulbs, chemicals and small e-waste	Advocate in relevant forums and consultation processes for waste avoidance in light of COVID-19.

Biodiversity - Council infrastructure and operations

Objective BI: Protect or enhance biodiversity and environmental heritage on Council managed land in Glen Eira

BI.1	In line with Council's <i>Open Space Strategy</i> , protect and over time enhance areas of remnant vegetation and other native plant communities and trees.	Subject to the objectives and requirements set out in the Urban Forest Strategy, undertake landscape enhancement works that includes the use of indigenous plants at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aileen Avenue, Caulfield South • Carnegie Early Learning Centre • Lirrewa Grove, Caulfield • Bailey Reserve, Bentleigh East • Rosanna Street Reserve, Carnegie • Hopetoun Gardens, Elsternwick.
		Consider landscaping opportunities that include indigenous species during the design of Boyd Park.
		Protect and enhance remnant vegetation in Master Plan implementation for East Caulfield, Lord Reserve and Koornang Park and Caulfield Park.
		Protect significant trees through the Classified Tree Local Law and Classified Tree Register.

		See action R2.1
BI.2	Ensure sufficient seed stock is available to replant remnant indigenous vegetation in the event of its loss (ie. a result of wind, fire, and pests).	Continue to monitor seed stock levels.
		Plant River Red Gum and Swamp Gum seedlings that were grown from seed stock from trees removed as part of Level Crossing Removal and drainage works.
BI.3	Explore practical management options to improve biodiversity, such as increasing diversity of insects and habitats within some open spaces and streetscapes with nesting boxes and retaining woody debris in some cases.	As part of the Biodiversity Implementation Plan, deliver practical management recommendations.
BI.4	Incorporate natural features and natural heritage during design of buildings, urban areas and masterplans.	As part of Bentleigh Eat Street, plant indigenous tree species with an aim to significantly increase tree canopy cover.
BI.5	Manage Council's tree population of more than 60,000 to keep it healthy and long lived and fill all appropriate vacant street tree spots on nature strips in the City (around 4,000).	See actions C4.3 and W3.2
Objective B2: Increase the proportion of materials Council uses that are recycled or sustainably sourced		
B2.1	Investigate options to further reduce impacts on biodiversity through procurement, including reviewing the source of products containing wood to ensure products are recycled or sustainably sourced.	See action R2.3
Biodiversity - Supporting the community		
Objective B3: Support the community to protect and enhance biodiversity including their gardens and connection with natural values		

B3.1	Support residents with education and information to protect and enhance biodiversity in the local area and introduce and maintain habitat in their own property.	Revamp the <i>Neighbourhood Sustainable Gardening Program</i> to upskill local volunteers to provide gardening advice to the community to enhance biodiversity and increase food security.
		Run at least three free community workshops or webinars for <i>Neighbourhood Sustainable Gardening Program</i> participants to foster knowledge sharing and tap into their skills and expertise.
		Partner with National Trust Victoria to deliver the <i>Nature Next Door</i> citizen science program.
		Partner with community gardens and other key stakeholders to develop local seed banks and street libraries.
		Partner with community gardens to encourage the community to grow more food through food swaps, workshops and events.
B3.2	Encourage community volunteerism and community research in the local area to further understand current populations of birds, insects and plants and also to provide practical support in conserving natural areas.	Encourage the community to participate in initiatives like the Aussie Backyard Bird Count and Frog Census.
		As part of National Tree Day, provide indigenous trees and shrubs to schools.
		See action B3.1
Objective B4: Advocate for protection of biodiversity and natural heritage on non-Council land in the City		
B4.1	Advocate for protection of natural heritage in major development projects in the City of Glen Eira, including level crossing removals.	Advocate to the State Government for increased tree canopy cover at Glen Huntly Station and other level crossing removal projects.
		As part of the Biodiversity Implementation Plan, implement advocacy actions.
Water - Council infrastructure and operations		
Objective W1: Increase efficiency of Council's water use		
W1.1	Continue to optimise Council's irrigation systems to ensure they are efficient and effective and that leaks are identified and rectified quickly if they occur. Annually review options and continually improve.	Upgrade irrigation systems at sports grounds with smart technology to optimise efficiency.
		Undertake audit of underground watering systems and pumps to identify and fix leaks.

W1.2	Continue the changeover to warm-season grasses in sportsgrounds in line with Council's <i>Open Space Strategy</i> .	There are no plans to convert any new ground to warm season grass this year.
W1.3	When updating irrigation systems and sportsgrounds, consider cost-effective opportunities to reduce potable water use.	Include aeration in turf management practices.
		See action W1.1
Objective W2: Increase the amount of rainwater and stormwater Council captures or treats for use in parks, buildings or for trees		
W2.1	During infrastructure planning and design, introduce features to reduce water use and reduce pollution that flows to Port Phillip Bay and seek appropriate partnerships and grants to support projects.	Install raingardens at Bentleigh Eat Street.
W2.2	Model locations of sources of water-borne pollution in the City of Glen Eira to help inform priority locations for water saving, capture and treatment options in Council works and for education.	See action C4.1
W2.3	To reduce pollutants that enter the stormwater system, review street sweeping schedules to identify opportunities to adjust schedules in target areas to account for differing times that leaves fall.	Sweep streets regularly, including frequent sweeping in shopping precincts and extra sweeping during autumn to minimise pollution.
Objective W3: Ensure green infrastructure can survive drought		
W3.1	Use drought-tolerant trees and plants in the majority of plantings.	In line with Council's <i>Open Space Strategy</i> , continue to use drought-tolerant species in new plantings.

		See action C4.3
W3.2	Explore options for the community to assist with tree watering during times of drought.	Encourage residents to assist with tree watering during summer months and after planting new trees.
Water - Supporting the community		
Objective W4: Support the community to reduce its impact on water quality in Port Phillip Bay and to use water efficiently		
W4.1	Develop and implement an education and enforcement program to ensure compliance at building sites in regards to sediment control and stormwater runoff.	Provide stormwater management information packs to at least 90 percent of major building works permit holders.
		Inspect 750 construction sites and intervene with appropriate education or enforcement.
W4.2	As part of Council's communication and education activities, encourage water saving and pollution reduction initiatives in the community including promoting and leveraging government; utility and community water saving; and pollution reduction initiatives.	Promote 'Choose tap' fountains.
		Promote the Target 155 campaign to support the community to reduce potable water use.
		Investigate and map accessible water bottle refill stations for all municipal and neighbourhood parks and develop a four-year plan for conversion upgrades.
		Include four water saving articles in various communication channels.
		See action R4.1