

Attachment 1:

Summary of high level actions Council has taken to respond to climate change

Council has comprehensive response to climate change which includes aspirational targets and fully funded projects to respond to the climate emergency. This includes:

- A zero-net emissions target for the organisation in the 2020-21 financial year which is on track to be achieved.
- All of Council's electricity comes from renewable sources including 559kW of rooftop solar and a power purchase agreement with the Crowlands wind farm.
- An ongoing energy efficiency retrofit program for Council owned buildings.
- An extensive planting program to achieve ten percent increase in street by 2027-28. In 2018-19 Council planted 1,325 trees in streets and parks.
- An alternative water use program to reduce reliance on potable water while keeping parks green. In October 2019, the Alma Park Stormwater Harvesting project was completed. It has the capacity to capture and reuse up to 18 million litres of stormwater annually.
- Divesting from fossil fuels. In February 2020 84% of investments were fossil fuel free, exceeding the target range of 60%-80%.
- Installing raingardens to treat stormwater and reduce pollution entering Port Phillip bay. There are over 300 raingardens within the municipality.
- Installing dedicated bike lanes and paths to support sustainable transport across the city.
- Preparing a biodiversity action plan to support native plants and wildlife
- Studying new solutions to improve permeability and protect canopy cover on private property
- Raising the standards for Environmental Sustainable Design in the planning scheme for all new developments.
- Working with State Government and other Councils to develop a Coastal Hazard Assessment for Port Phillip Bay and identify planning controls and other responses to sea level rise
- Assessing the risk and vulnerability of Council buildings and assets to climate change
- Undertaking urban heat analysis to guide future urban planning decisions and prioritise areas for urban greening
- Working with Bayside City Council and Melbourne Water to identify long term solutions to flooding in Elsternwick Creek
- Providing support to vulnerable people during heatwaves.
- Actively engaging in regional partnerships to improve the state-wide climate change response, including through the Melbourne Water Flood Advisory Committee, Melbourne Water Waterways and Drainage Customer Council, the Association of Bayside Municipalities and the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance

Council also supports the community to respond to the climate emergency with programs including:

- Solar programs for businesses, apartment buildings and households. This includes additional grants for low income residents.
- The Sustainable Business Network, Green Loans and individual business advice and support.
- Intensive support for Community Services and Early Childhood Education and Care Services

- Environmental Leaders program to support individual community members to develop and deliver their own sustainability project.
- Discounted home composting systems and trials of new waste services
- Regular workshops and events
- Funded programs at the Port Phillip EcoCentre including environmental education and volunteering opportunities.
- Free resources and information on the Sustainable Port Phillip website