



11.1 **ENDORSEMENT OF THE DRAFT SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY FOR RELEASE FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

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1. PURPOSE

1.1 This report presents 'A Sustainable Future', the Draft Sustainable Environment Strategy for release for public consultation.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 *A Sustainable Future* (the Strategy) expresses Council's commitment to creating an environmentally sustainable city.

2.2 The Strategy sets new goals and indicators for Council and the community and outlines how Council plans to measure progress.

2.3 The Strategy also contains actions for delivery in the next 10 years. These actions detail how we intend to progress toward the goals and facilitate the community to achieve better environmental outcomes.

3. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

3.1 Endorses the Draft of *A Sustainable Future* – the Sustainable Environment Strategy 2018-2028 for release to the public for consultation for a period of three weeks (Attachment 1).

4. KEY POINTS/ISSUES

4.1 This Strategy sits among others in Council's strategic framework for achieving the directions outlined in our Council Plan, including the Waste & Resource Recovery Strategy, Integrated Transport Strategy and Public Spaces Strategy.

4.2 The following Guiding Principles were used to develop the actions in the Strategy.

- We invest wisely to benefit our community now and tomorrow
- We make an impact for our community
- We prioritise fairness and equity
- We harness partnerships and collaboration
- We adapt to change by testing, learning and monitoring



- 4.3 Council cannot deliver all elements of the Strategy in isolation. The Strategy identifies key partners including state and local governments, not-for-profit organisations and the community itself.

5. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 5.1 Council Plan pre-engagement - From 30 January 2017 to 26 February 2017 Council conducted Community Engagement surveys and workshops that were used to develop the Council Plan. Particularly relevant were the workshops devoted to waste and water.
- 5.2 Council Plan draft engagement - The Draft Council Plan was made available to the community who were provided with the opportunity to make submissions. Twenty-nine submissions were received in relation to sustainability.
- 5.3 Community consultation was completed to inform the development of the Sustainable City Community Action Plan, including focus groups and surveys. Information from this consultation has been used to inform the draft Strategy.
- 5.4 The Toward Zero Community Forum is made up of members of the Port Phillip community that have skills, knowledge and commitment regarding environmental sustainability. This group has reviewed an early draft of the actions contained within the strategy and provided input.
- 5.5 Council has also consulted with neighbouring local governments, the Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities, Melbourne Water, the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.
- 5.6 Key themes arising from this engagement included:
- More focus on reducing our City's carbon emissions
 - A proactive approach in adapting to climate change
 - To get people out of their cars through better public transport connections
 - Council to provide more information and education to support behaviour change
 - Council to play a leadership role in supporting the community to take sustainability actions.

6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Strategy contains goals for Council in each of the outcome areas. As with any goals, there is a risk that they will not be met in the planned timeframe.
- 6.2 The Strategy identifies Community goals. Council can educate, facilitate, advocate and support the community to act through some regulation, but in most cases, cannot compel the community to engage in positive environmental behaviour.
- 6.3 Ongoing monitoring of our progress, and the impact of our actions will be conducted for the life of the Strategy. The Strategy and actions will be reviewed and, if needed, updated every 4 years.



7. FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 7.1 Each action within the Strategy has an associated cost estimate. These have been allocated short, medium and long-term timeframes.
- 7.2 The actions contained within the strategy indicate a level of investment over a 10-year period. All funding will be assessed and prioritised on an annual basis and as a result, is subject to change.
- 7.3 We will seek to partner with other agencies to support delivery of the Strategy, and to access grants from State and Federal Government should these become available.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 8.1 The Strategy sets new environmental goals for Council, and outlines actions to achieve these goals.
- 8.2 The Strategy also outlines goals for the community, and actions outlining how Council will facilitate, support and educate the community to achieve these goals. The Sustainable City Community Action Plan and projects within it are key to enable delivery of these actions.
- 8.3 A large percentage of community greenhouse gas emissions are related to transport (both private and freight). This Strategy will report and monitor greenhouse gas emissions relating to our own fleet, however the majority of Actions related to transport will be detailed in *Future Streets* – Council’s Integrated Transport Strategy, currently in development.

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 9.1 The Strategy contains actions designed to enable the community to reduce energy use, water use, waste and increase their resilience to climate change.
- 9.2 Some actions within the Strategy will be tailored to support the most vulnerable members of our community, particularly those that impact health and wellbeing.

10. ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY

- 10.1 This strategy outlines how we will achieve Strategic Direction 3 of our Council Plan, ‘We have smart solutions for a sustainable future’ and is focused on the accompanying outcomes:
- A greener, cooler and more liveable City
 - A City with lower carbon emissions
 - A City that is adapting and resilient to climate change
 - A water sensitive City
 - A sustained reduction in waste
- 10.2 The Strategy also delivers key links to other Directions and Outcomes within the Council Plan including:
- A safe and active community with strong social connections



- Our streets and places are designed for people
- Liveability in a high density City
- Well-designed buildings that contribute to safe, lively, high amenity places
- Enhancing the environmental and recreational qualities of the foreshore
- A financially sustainable, high performing, well-governed organisation that puts the community first

- 10.3 The Strategy is directly related to Council's transformations of Water Management and Waste Management and supports the Transformations of Transport and Parking and Fishermans Bend.
- 10.4 This Strategy is intended to supersede Council's current *Toward Zero Sustainable Environment Strategy (2007-2020)*.

11. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

11.1 TIMELINE

- 11.1.1 Following Council's endorsement, the draft Strategy will be released for community consultation for a period of three weeks.
- 11.1.2 Following this consultation period, community feedback will be reviewed and used to inform any revisions. The Strategy will be submitted for endorsement at a future Council Meeting on 20 June 2018.
- 11.1.3 The Strategy will be delivered over a 10-year period, from July 2018 to June 2028. Actions have been scheduled with short (1-2 year), medium (3-6 year) and long term (7-10 year) time frames.

11.2 COMMUNICATION

- 11.2.1 The draft Strategy will be available on the Have Your Say website. Feedback forms will be available online and in hard copy from Council Town Halls.
- 11.2.2 Engagement opportunities will be promoted via a range of online, print media and face to face methods.

12. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST

- 12.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in the matter.

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ATTACHMENTS 1. DRAFT A Sustainable Future