



**11.1** **ENDORSEMENT OF DRAFT SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY AND DRAFT CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN'**

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**1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To seek Council adoption of the *Final Act and Adapt Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-2028 (Attachment 1)* and the *Final Climate Emergency Action Plan (Attachment 2)*.

**2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 As part of the 2022/23 Council budget, the development of a *Climate Emergency Action Plan* and the mid-strategy review and update of *Act and Adapt - Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28* was approved. By resolution of 17 August 2022, Council decided that two separate documents would be produced.
- 2.2 The 2027/28 targets in the *draft Strategy* have been adjusted to reflect updated scientific evidence and feasibility assessments. Officers sought Councillor input during the development of the *draft Plan* and *draft Strategy* in November 2022, March 2023, April 2023 and June 2023.
- 2.3 At the 8 March 2023 briefing, Councillors requested consideration of additional 'accelerated actions' to advance the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions for both Council and the community for inclusion in the *draft Strategy*. At the 4 June 2023 Councillor briefing, eight 'accelerated actions' were presented for potential inclusion in the *draft Strategy*. Councillors discussed seeking community feedback on the accelerated actions and their relative level of community support.
- 2.4 At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 5 July 2023, Council endorsed the *draft Strategy* and *draft Plan* for release for engagement. Community engagement was undertaken from the 10 July 2023 – 10 August 2023. Feedback from the community has informed the updated drafts. The feedback included suggested additional actions (Discussed in item 6.3.)
- 2.5 This recommends adoption of the *final draft Act and Adapt- Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28 (final Strategy)* and *final draft Climate Emergency Action Plan (final Plan)*
- 2.6 This report includes four attachments:
- **Attachment 1:** *final draft Act and Adapt- Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-2028*
  - **Attachment 2:** *final draft Climate Emergency Action Plan*



- **Attachment 3:** *draft Act and Adapt- Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28 Feedback Summary*
- **Attachment 4:** *draft Climate Emergency Action Plan Feedback Summary*

### 3. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 3.1 Adopts the final *Act and Adapt Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-2028* (Attachment 1).
- 3.2 Adopts the final *Climate Emergency Plan* (Attachment 2).
- 3.3 Notes the report on the community feedback received during the exhibition of the draft *Act and Adapt- Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-2028* and the draft *Climate Emergency Action Plan* (summarised in Attachments 3 and 4).
- 3.4 Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments to the documents to correct drafting errors that do not materially alter the intent of the policy.
- 3.5 Thanks submitters for their feedback on the draft *Act and Adapt- Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-2028* and the draft *Climate Emergency Action Plan*.

### 4. KEY POINTS/ISSUES

#### ACT AND ADAPT

- 4.1 The *Act and Adapt Sustainable Environment Strategy (2018 Strategy)*, was adopted by Council on 20 June 2018. It is a 10-year strategy (2017/18 to 2027/28) that includes a four year review (this review).
- 4.2 This *2018 Strategy* contained five key priority areas:
  - A greener, cooler, 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
- 4.3 In August 2022 Council confirmed the following scope for the revised Act and Adapt:
  - Maintain the five Key Priority Areas.
  - Collect information through a review process to consider if existing actions and targets should be amended, and if additional actions and targets should be included.
  - Outline sustainability and climate change commitments, actions and budget.
  - Incorporate targets and actions from relevant Council Strategies and Plans Don't Waste It Strategy, Move Connect Live Strategy, Asset Management Enterprise Plan, Open Space Strategy, Housing Strategy, Municipal Emergency Management Plan, Greening Port Phillip and Foreshore Management Plan.
  - Do not review or develop new content in areas covered by other Council Strategies and Plans.



- 4.4 An analysis of delivery of the *2018 Strategy* found that, half-way through the Strategy delivery timeline, 42% of sub-actions are complete and 41% of sub-actions are in progress.
- 4.5 A context (PESTLE) analysis reviewed what had changed politically, environmentally, socially, technologically, legislatively and economically since the *2018 Strategy*. This informed development of the *final draft Strategy*.
- 4.6 The accelerated initiatives identified as part of the strategy development process were incorporated in the *final draft Strategy*. These accelerated initiatives, the associated community feedback and officer recommendations, are detailed in section 6.2 of this report. These accelerated initiatives are subject to future annual Council Plan and Budget approval processes.
- 4.7 Feedback from the community consultation on the *draft Strategy* has been incorporated into the *final draft Strategy* (summarised in **Attachment 3**).
- 4.8 Community responses included several new actions. These actions are incorporated into the budget tables 4, 5 and 6.
- 4.9 The *final draft Strategy* is included as **Attachment 1**.

#### **Additional resources**

- 4.10 Delivery of the *2018 Strategy* is funded through allocated Council budget funding for specific projects (See Table 4 Projects with Approved Budget). In addition, the 2023/24 Council budget provided \$345,000 for Act and Adapt implementation and \$90,000 for community sustainability programs (see Table 5 Act and Adapt Project Budget). Delivery of the recommended *final draft Strategy* requires maintenance of this level of annual funding.

In addition, implementation of the *final draft strategy* and the *final draft plan* requires new funding in addition to that identified in the previous paragraph. This additional funding is identified in Table 6 and relates to the delivery of the Water Sensitive Urban Design program and assessing compliance with Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) requirements when buildings are being realised.

#### **Water Sensitive Urban Design**

- 4.11 The cost of delivering Council's WSUD program has increased by \$100k per year because of increased market construction and associated costs. Continuation of that program requires additional funding of \$100,000 per annum. The current forward annual budget is \$600,000, which supports delivery of approximately 6 new assets per year.

#### **Environmentally Sustainable Design**

- 4.12 Planning permit applications are required to meet Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) standards set out in clause 15.01-2L-02 Environmentally Sustainable Development of the Port Phillip Planning Scheme. These Standards, included in the endorsed planning permit documents require a Sustainable Design Assessment or Sustainability Management Plan for

- all developments with 2 or more dwellings
- building used for accommodation other than dwellings (eg hotel) with a gross floor area over 50 square metres
- non-residential building with a gross floor area of more than 50sqm



- mixed use developments
- 4.13 A Sustainable Design Assessment/ Sustainability Management Plan details all the sustainability commitments for the development including those relating to energy performance, integrated water management, indoor environment quality, transport, waste management and urban ecology.
- 4.14 In addition, Clause 53.18 of the planning scheme mandates consideration of storm water management in the assessment of planning permits and the schedule to clause 37.04 Capital City Zone mandates sustainability requirements in Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area.
- 4.15 Since 2020 approximately 275 planning permit applications required ESD assessments annually.
- 4.16 Council does not review implementation and compliance with the Sustainable Design Assessment or Sustainability Management Plan planning permit conditions. This report recommends engagement of an ESD compliance officer to review implementation of permit requirements to ensure the benefits are being realised, review the effectiveness of the provisions including considering improvements that can be adopted in future permits and, in appropriate circumstances, where there are breaches consider enforcement action.
- 4.17 Accordingly, a pilot is proposed, and funding is recommended for an ESD compliance officer (1.0FTE) for 2 years.
- 4.18 Council partners with South-East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) and the Port Phillip EcoCentre to support delivery of the 2018 Strategy. Future use of these partnerships to efficiently deliver the *final draft Strategy* will be considered as part of the implementation of the *final draft strategy* and the *final draft plan* at a subsequent Council briefing as part of Council's total funding for the EcoCentre and SECCCA.

#### **CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN**

- 4.19 On 18 September 2019 Council declared a climate emergency.
- 4.20 In November 2021 a Notice of Motion was passed by Council that, among other things, requested:
- Council produces a costed proposal on options to develop a five-year Climate Emergency Action Plan, for Council to effectively take action on the Climate Emergency. The purpose of the Action Plan being to incorporate targets, goals and actions from the Council Plan 2021, Council's core strategies, including Act & Adapt, Don't Waste It!, and Move Connect Live, as well as science-based targets for the five year action plan period. The proposal should outline options on information required and possible consultation approaches in addition to any resources required to develop a Plan, so this can be consulted on and considered as part of the 2022/23 Council Plan and budget process
- 4.21 In February 2022, Councillors were presented with costed options for the development of the *Climate Emergency Action Plan* and the review of the Strategy. Funding was subsequently approved through the 2022/23 Council Plan and Budget.
- 4.22 The *Climate Emergency Action Plan* focuses on Council's response to human induced climate change caused by the burning of fossil fuels that generate greenhouse gas emissions resulting in rising temperatures, sea level rises and flood events that will significantly impact the Port Phillip community.



- 4.23 New actions to address the Climate Emergency are detailed in the revised *final draft Strategy*. As confirmed at previous briefings, the *draft Plan* does not identify new actions for delivery by Council but rather outlines actions from across the organisation's existing endorsed strategies.
- 4.24 The *draft Plan* focuses on five priorities:
- Enhancing community resilience
  - Minimising greenhouse gas emissions
  - Enabling more sustainable transport options
  - Resilient and liveable public spaces
  - Planning for buildings and places
- 4.25 The *draft Plan* contains the following sections
- Why Council declared a climate emergency.
  - Impacts on our community and Council's operations.
  - Government, economic, social, technological, legal and scientific approaches and how these influence Council's response.
  - What Council has achieved.
  - Alignment with the Council Plan and Council's responsibilities.
  - Relevant targets, goals and actions that detail Council's response to climate change over the next 5 years.
  - Advocacy and partnership opportunities.
- 4.26 The *draft Plan* builds on Council's existing commitments through the following documents:
- Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28
  - Car Share Policy 2023-28
  - Climate action update – taking action on the climate emergency – February 2022
  - Don't Waste It! Waste Strategy 2022-25
  - Fishermans Bend Water Sensitive City Strategy
  - Foreshore Management Plan 2012
  - Move, Connect Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018-28
  - Places for People: Public Spaces Strategy 2022-32
  - South Melbourne Market Sustainability Strategy 2023-27
  - Urban Forest Strategy 2040.
- 4.27 In July 2023 the *draft Plan* was released for public consultation. Feedback from the community has been incorporated into the *final draft Plan*. A summary of this feedback is included in **Attachment 4**.
- 4.28 The *final draft Plan* is included at **Attachment 2**.



## 5. DELIVERY PARTNERS

5.1 Council will consider collaborating with stakeholders and partners to deliver initiatives in the Act and Adapt Strategy and Climate Emergency Action Plan where collaboration is an effective mechanism and is cost effective. Partners include:

- Port Phillip Emergency Climate Action Network (PECAN)
- EcoCentre
- South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA)
- Association of Bayside Municipalities
- Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment
- Inner Metro Partnership
- Green Building Council of Australia

## 6. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

### 6.1 Community Consultation Approach

Community engagement on the drafts was undertaken from the 10 July 2023 – 10 August 2023. Both EcoCentre and PECAN promoted and participated in consultation activities. Engagement activities include:

- In person workshops and pop-up events, to explain the detail of the plan and answer any questions that arose.
- A Have Your Say page was open for four weeks. As part of the consultation community members were asked to rank which of the accelerated options should be prioritised, to rank the effectiveness of the initiatives, as well as provide comments specific to each initiative and general comments on the overall strategy and plan. Council received 30 HYS responses for the *draft Strategy*, 30 for the *draft Plan*.
- Attendance at Council's Consultative Committee meetings.
- Staff engagement.
- Four formal submissions from community members were received.
- Social research undertaken to better understand community priorities and preferences. Council conducted a random sample telephone interview style survey of 400 residents drawn proportionally from across the City. In addition, 215 residents completed an open-access, online survey. The survey outcomes can be found here: [Sustainability survey - what we heard from you - City of Port Phillip](#)

### Overall feedback

- Feedback and recommendations have been incorporated into the *final draft Strategy* and *final draft Plan*. A detailed summary of the feedback can be found as **Attachments 3 & 4**.
- Feedback that was relevant to other areas of Council has been provided to relevant Council teams, namely the Greening and Public Space team, the Waste Futures team and the Strategic Transport team.

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- Community stakeholders suggested additional initiatives that they felt were missing from the *draft Strategy*. These have been outlined in Section 6.3.
- Minor or editorial changes were suggested for both *the draft Strategy and the draft Plan*. Where appropriate, these changes were accepted and incorporated in the *final draft Strategy and final draft Plan*.
- General comments, common themes and overall feedback on both the *draft Strategy* and the *draft Plan*, as well as how this feedback has been considered in the *final draft Strategy and final draft Plan*, is outlined in the table below:

**Table 1 – Overall Feedback**

Comment	Recommended response
The document should be called the Climate Emergency Action Plan, not the Climate Emergency Plan. The inclusion of the word action is to make it clear that Council is taking action towards preventing the climate emergency.	Action: Document title changed to Climate Emergency Action Plan
Some words are too technical or jargon	Action: A glossary included in both documents to assist readers and increase accessibility.
Many actions address council operations, there should be an increased focus on community actions.	Action: Increased focus on community facing initiatives. A number of new community engagement options for councillors to consider
Call for stronger action and implementation; less investigations, trials etc.	Action: No change Investigations, trials etc. are an essential phase, to build the case for and understand the benefits and costs of any proposal to ensure implementation is considered and successful.
Increased utilisation of existing NGOs (e.g., Eco Centre) to implement action	Action: Will be considered as part of EcoCentre Funding Agreement discussions
Increase community engagement on initiatives Council is undertaking	Action: Will be considered as part of implementation
More detail required to understand the initiatives and their effectiveness (Climate Emergency Actions Plan only)	Action: Tables introduced for 'Actions' and 'Working with our community and Partners' with a clearer more specific description, source document and partners outlined. This is to direct readers to detail and timeframes for each action, whilst allowing the plan to remain a concise document.
Further support for most vulnerable community members	Action: Will be considered as part of implementation of action 26 and 32.
Targets and indicators to include timeframes (Climate Emergency Action Plan only)	Action: No change All targets in both documents include timeframes



<p>Big focus on greening/open space and active transport</p>	<p>Action: Feedback passed on to relevant departments. New actions in this space outside the scope of this project.</p>
<p>The community were asked to rank how effective they thought each initiative outlined in the draft Strategy would be in achieving the outcome of the priority area.</p> <p>The following initiatives received the highest ranking of 'extremely effective':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiative 22: EcoCentre redevelopment and EcoCentre programs</li> <li>• Initiative 24: Industry and business emissions reductions</li> <li>• Initiative 26: Sustainable solutions for apartment buildings and low-income and rental households</li> <li>• Initiative 28: Neighbourhood batteries (solar energy storage)</li> <li>• Initiative 31: Sustainable transport initiatives</li> <li>• Initiative 40: Emergency Management Planning</li> </ul> <p>No initiatives received a ranking of 'not so effective' or 'not at all effective'.</p>	<p>Action: No change</p> <p>No initiatives removed as all ranked either 'somewhat effective', 'very effective' or 'extremely effective'.</p>

## 6.2 Accelerated Initiatives

The community was asked to rank eight accelerated initiatives in order of preference (1 being most preferred, 8 being least preferred). The accelerated initiatives are designed to advance the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions for both Council and the community.

Table 2 outlines the community feedback on each initiative, delivery costs (where appropriate) and the officer recommendation. The top three ranked initiatives were:

1. Community emissions reductions
2. Neighbourhood batteries (solar energy storage)
3. Reducing emissions, energy use and increasing electrification in Council buildings and assets





Table 2 - Accelerated Initiatives

Initiative	Details	Recommended Approach		
		Prioritisation by Community	Community feedback	Officer Recommendation
<p><b>Expanded Sustainability Programs (Act and Adapt Action 22 &amp; 23)</b></p>	<p>Expanded delivery of sustainability programs for community benefit including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Leadership</li> <li>Emissions reduction programs</li> <li>Enviro Leaders Alumni Network</li> <li>Early Years Education Connection to Country and Indigenous heritage</li> </ul>	1	<p>This initiative received an average effectiveness rating of <b>'extremely effective'</b> from the community feedback.</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community programs should be a central focus of the strategy</li> <li>Collaborate with EcoCentre on this initiative</li> </ul> <p>Further detail required to understand the effectiveness of the initiatives</p>	<p>Additional sustainability programs to engage the community to be scoped and tested in 2023/24 for consideration in 2024/25 budget process.</p> <p>Further support for the EcoCentre will be discussed as part of a new funding agreement to be considered as part of 2024/25 budget process.</p>
<p><b>Enhanced renewable energy uptake and Neighbourhood Batteries (Act and Adapt Actions 23, 25 &amp; 28)</b></p>	<p>Understand community needs and barriers to renewable energy uptake.</p> <p>Deliver a program to support community renewable energy uptake, options include offsite renewable energy bulk buying program and enhanced neighbourhood battery roll out.</p>	2	<p>This initiative received an average effectiveness rating of <b>'very effective'</b> from the community feedback.</p> <p>Neighbourhood batteries received an average effectiveness rating of <b>'Extremely effective'</b>.</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community emissions should be a central focus of the strategy</li> <li>Collaborate with EcoCentre on this initiative</li> <li>Further detail required to understand the effectiveness of the initiatives</li> </ul> <p>This action is similar to one suggested by engaged stakeholders to 'Broker</p>	<p>Undertake a gap analysis to identify community needs, opportunities and barriers to identify the best approach to support increase uptake of solar and renewables. This project will be undertaken in the second phase of delivery commencing in 25/26.</p> <p>Estimated cost: <b>\$75k</b></p> <p>Implementation of any subsequent recommendations of gap analysis, would be subject to future budget processes.</p>

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			Power Purchase agreements'	
<p><b>Environmentally Sustainable Council Buildings</b> (Act and Adapt Action 16)</p>	<p>Review building asset management plans and audit Council buildings using specialists to identify cost effective options to accelerate emissions reductions and water efficiency in council buildings.</p>	3	<p>This initiative received an average effectiveness rating of <b>'very effective'</b> from the community feedback.</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should become business as usual</li> </ul> <p>Broaden to community in general, not just Council buildings</p>	<p>Continue annual investment in supporting ESD in Council buildings. Building audit to be undertaken and minimum building sustainability standards to be developed in 2023/24.</p> <p>Opportunities identified through the audit process to be considered as part of future budget submissions via building business case development</p>
<p><b>Community Resilience Program</b> (Act and Adapt Action 32)</p>	<p>Build on current work with other councils to develop and collate data to understand climate impacts on CoPP community.</p> <p>Work with the community to build and implement plans and actions to respond to flooding, heatwaves and other climate impacts.</p>	4	<p>This initiative received an average effectiveness rating of <b>'very effective'</b> from the community feedback.</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More detail is needed to understand the effectiveness of this initiative</li> <li>Collaborate with EcoCentre on this initiative</li> <li>Included community consultation in the implementation</li> </ul> <p>Overall, very supported by the commentary</p>	<p>Further scope the option of community climate resilience plans in 2023/24 for consideration in 2024/25 budget process.</p> <p>A Climate Change Risk Assessment will be undertaken in 23/24. Recommendations from this risk assessment will inform the scope of future projects.</p>
<p><b>Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Support</b> (Act and Adapt Action 30)</p>	<p>Additional resources to fast-track the support provided by Council to roll out public EV charging infrastructure</p> <p>Note: There is no capital budget required as Council will not own or operate electric vehicle charges.</p>	5	<p>This initiative received an average effectiveness rating of <b>'very effective'</b> from the community feedback.</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vulnerable members of the community will not be supported by this initiative</li> <li>Active transport should be prioritised over EVs</li> </ul>	<p>To increase project budget by \$100k over the next three years to fast-track EV Program delivery. This will cover staff, legal fees and consultants (subject to 2024/25 budget process).</p>

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			Advocacy to state/federal government will be important	Current resources are not sufficient to fast track public charging infrastructure opportunities Initial discussions with City Power/PowerCor, DEECA and EV charging providers are underway to explore an opportunity to install chargers on power-poles. Costs are further outlined in section 7 table 2.
<b>Accelerated Transition to a Lower Emissions Fleet</b> <b>(Act and Adapt Action 19)</b>	Review fleet asset management plan to identify cost effective options to accelerate emissions reductions which could include electrification, transition from diesel, and extending the life of existing vehicles.	6	This initiative received an average effectiveness rating of ' <b>somewhat effective</b> ' from the community feedback. Comments included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include more than just cars – rubbish trucks and heavy fleet</li> <li>• Use examples from other municipalities to avoid the investigation phase</li> </ul> Reducing community vehicle emissions (through active transport or EVs) is more important than council fleet emissions	Continue current investment in EV fleet transition. Fleet will be transitioned to EV and Hybrid at end of life. A Council Briefing on the approach will be provided.
<b>Energy Efficient Street Lighting</b> <b>(Act and Adapt Action 20)</b>	Develop business case to identify and prioritise street lighting upgrades. Reduce greenhouse emissions by replacing old streetlights with more efficient LEDs. Program to be delivered over four to five years will reduce emissions, improve lighting, and safety and could have a positive payback period of 6-8 years	7	This initiative received an average effectiveness rating of ' <b>very effective</b> ' from the community feedback. Comments included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for this should not be in competition with community programs.</li> <li>• No need to investigate a business case, just take action.</li> <li>• Surprise this action hadn't been completed already.</li> </ul>	Complete business case in 24/25 with outcomes informing future years budget bids. If progressed the upfront capital cost could be prioritised within the existing capital program or funded from the asset renewal reserve which could be replenished by the



				savings over the payback period.
<b>Library Sustainability Initiative (Act and Adapt Action 29)</b>	Build and maintain a library sustainability hub which provides books, interactive displays, lend sustainability and gardening tools and devices and a seed library. This program would complement EcoCentre work by reaching a different audience by promoting environmental sustainability in our libraries.	8	This initiative received an average effectiveness rating of <b>'very effective'</b> from the community feedback. Comments included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That this initiative would bring about greater community awareness of climate issues;</li> <li>• That there should be hubs at multiple libraries;</li> </ul>	Explore enhanced sustainability considerations in libraries within existing budgets.

### 6.3 Additional Actions Identified

Through community engagement additional project ideas were identified. These projects are unfunded.

The project ideas and officer recommendation are outlined in the table below:

**Table 3 – Additional Actions Identified**

Options	
<b>Community reference group to guide delivery of CEAP</b>	<p><b>Recommendation: Do not progress</b></p> <p>Maintain current approach of existing engagement with community stakeholders undertaken by Council officers to inform Council's sustainability programs including monthly meetings with the EcoCentre and 2 x six-weekly meetings with PECAN.</p> <p>Development of an advisory group would be resource intensive and could replicate current engagement with highly engaged stakeholders. Visibility of Council's progress in delivering Act and Adapt and Climate Emergency Action Plan can be achieved utilising existing engagement frameworks. "AA/CEAP Progress" meetings will be added to existing schedule. Council will proactively communicate progress via CoPP website, social media, annual report, and newsletters</p> <p>Council has an existing governance structure to guide and oversee the operational delivery of our strategies.</p> <p>Should Council support this action, any proposed Community Reference Group (CRG) purpose, structure and function would align with existing organisational framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Terms of Reference aligned with CoPP Advisory Committee/Reference Standard Template</li> <li>- CoPP Chaired</li> <li>- Ward based open application only EOI participation process</li> </ul>



- Numbers of participants from particular interest groups limited
- Community Programs focused
- Bi-annual schedule
- Consultation and reporting focused

<b>Broker power purchase agreements for community</b>	<p><b>Recommendation: Progress with Action/Undertake feasibility assessment</b></p> <p>This option is being explored as part of the <i>Enhanced renewable energy uptake and Neighbourhood Batteries</i> stretch option outlined in 6.2 of this paper</p> <p>The proposed approach is to undertake a gap analysis to identify how to support community to increase uptake of solar and renewables, and move from fossil fuels (2024/25) before considering opportunities in future Council Plan and Budget processes.</p> <p><b>(Act and Adapt Actions 23, 25 &amp; 28)</b></p>
<b>Partner with aged, social and community care providers to upgrade homes of vulnerable community members</b>	<p><b>Recommendation: Progress with Action/Undertake feasibility assessment</b></p> <p>The current proposed approach is to scope this project in 2024/25 to understand possible models and associated costs and benefits. Any potential opportunities would be considered through future Council Plan and Budget processes.</p> <p><b>(Act and Adapt Actions 23)</b></p>
<b>Upgrade Water Sensitive Cities Plan</b>	<p><b>Recommendation: Progress with Action/Undertake feasibility assessment</b></p> <p>The current Water Sensitive Cities Plan (WSC) expires in 2024. The proposed approach is to scope this project in 2023/24, this will include reviewing progress made on the current WSC Plan. The new plan is to be finalised in 2024/25. This will be an action-based implementation plan to guide Council on deliver of water sensitive outcomes.</p> <p><b>(Act and Adapt Action 1)</b></p>
<b>Broker power purchase agreements for business</b>	<p><b>Recommendation: Progress with Action/Undertake feasibility assessment</b></p> <p>Council will be part of a 30 Council partnership project called <i>Business Renewables Buying Group</i> from 2023-25 funded through existing budget. The project aims to develop a scalable and replicable procurement process for medium to large electricity consumers to enter into renewable energy Power Purchase Agreements (PPA).</p> <p><b>(Act and Adapt Actions 24)</b></p>

**7. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Council’s legislative obligations particularly in the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Victorian Climate Change Act 2017*, have been considered in the development of the *final draft Strategy*.
- 7.2 There are no identified legal or risk implications through the review of the *final draft Strategy* and development of the *final draft Plan*.

**8. FINANCIAL IMPACT**

- 8.1 The funding for delivery of the *final draft Strategy* is outlined in the three tables below:
  - **Table 4-** Existing or new projects with approved budget



- **Table 5-** Existing or new projects that can be delivered if existing funding levels are maintained in future budgets
  - **Table 6-** Additional (new funding) to be considered in 2024/25 budget
- 8.2 No additional funding is being requested to implement the *final draft Strategy* in the 2023-24 financial year.
- Delivery of the 2018 Strategy is funded through allocated Council budget funding for specific projects (See Table 4 Projects with Approved Budget). In addition, the 2023/24 Council budget provided \$345,000 for Act and Adapt implementation and \$90,000 for community sustainability programs (see Table 5 Act and Adapt Project Budget).
- 8.3 To deliver the *final draft Strategy* as proposed in this briefing, current levels of funding detailed in previous paragraph is required. In addition, additional funding outlined in Table 6 is required for the following:
- 8.3.1 Additional funding of \$100k per year to maintain current level of WSUD delivery due to increased construction costs.
- 8.3.2 Compliance with ESD planning permits requirements is not currently reviewed by Council. This means there is no understanding of whether the conditions are being implemented and if the benefits are realised. The report recommends funding an environmentally sustainable design (ESD) development compliance officer (1.0FTE) for 2 years as a pilot that will be reviewed after 2-years. This recommendation will be considered as part of the Council budget process.
- 8.4 The financial implications of SECCCA and EcoCentre’s role in implementation of the Strategy will be brought back to Council in November for consideration as part of the consideration of the overall funding provided to those organisations.
- 8.5 Any further work identified through the outcome of feasibility studies, audits and business cases identified in this briefing will be considered as part of Council Plan and Budget process.
- 8.6 Council will seek grants from the State and Federal Government as these become available.

## Table 4: Projects with Approved Budget

(Existing funded projects. Future funding will be considered in council plan and budget processes)

Initiative Number	Section	Initiative
3	Water	Stormwater Harvesting
6		Recycled Water
9		Permeability improvements
10	Greening	Urban Forest Strategy
11		Supporting guidelines and plans
12		Biodiversity study
14		Vegetation and canopy cover on private property
16	Emissions reduction	Emissions, energy use and electrification in Council buildings and assets *
17		South Melbourne Market Sustainability Strategy

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18		Green leases and tenant engagement
19		Transition to a lower emissions fleet
20		Energy efficient lighting upgrade
21		Carbon offset policy
28		Neighbourhood batteries *
29		Library sustainability Initiative
31		Sustainable transport initiatives
35	Resilience	Fishermans Bend as an innovation precinct
37		Coastal Planning
38		Stormwater infrastructure
39		Flooding and sea level rise
40		Emergency management planning
41	Waste	Implementation of "Don't Waste It" Strategy
43		Reduce Council waste to Landfill
44		Increase Council new waste stream utilisation

## Table 5- Act and Adapt Project Budget

The projects below have current (2023/24 funding). Ongoing funding (~\$345k per year for Sustainability Projects and ~\$90k per year for Community Engagement Programs) will be considered in the 2024/25 budget process.

Nb. Excludes capital water projects

Initiative Number		Section	Initiative	2022/23 \$ (Sustainability projects are examples and will be spread out over the four years)
4	Community Programs	Water	Community Water Use	\$90k per year
23		Emissions Reductions	Community emissions reductions *	
24			Industry and business emissions reductions	
25			Environmental upgrade agreements	
26			Sustainable solutions for apartment buildings and low-income and rental households *	
34		Resilience	Community flood awareness campaign	
42		Waste	Reduce business waste to Landfill	
45			Community initiatives and programs	
1	Sustainability Projects	Water	Water Sensitive City Plan *	\$70k in 24/25 to build plan and \$10 for subsequent years to test technology and
2			Planning and development	\$30k for each of two year (24/25 & 25/26)
5			Fishermans Bend	Additional \$150k, split over 3 years, for groundwater sampling, modelling and analysis to achieve Water Sensitive City Strategy outcomes.

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7		Infrastructure Improvements (WSUD Audit)	Additional \$50k per year 24/25 and 25/26 to undertake audit of WSUD assets
13	Greening	Heat Mapping	Estimated \$17,900 per update, every few
15	Emissions reduction	Sustainability data reporting, use and communication	Estimated budget needed for building sustainability data platform, and then ongoing costs to maintain (\$70k per year for two years, then \$30k per year for following years)
23		Community emissions reductions	\$75 in 24/25 to undertake gap analysis and feasibility for enhanced renewable energy uptake by community.
30		Electric vehicle uptake *	Additional \$100k for 24/25 (project already part funded).
32	Resilience	Community climate resilience *	\$114k (24/25), \$114k (25/26), \$62k (26/27) & \$62k (27/28)- CoPP has applied for State Government Grant to part fund
33		Cool spaces strategy	\$25k
36		Climate Change Risks to Council	\$50k per year for next four years to staff training, operationalisation and improvement steps following risk assessment in 23/24.

\*Projects requested or prioritised through community consultation

## Table 6- Projects requiring new funding

Initiative Number	Section	Initiative	Estimated cost
8	Water	Water sensitive urban design	There is existing capital budget for the delivery of WSDU projects. However, additional funding of \$100k per year is required due to cost increases to maintain current level of WSUD delivery.
27	Emissions Reduction	Pilot environmentally sustainable design (ESD) in planning and development compliance officer (1.0FTE) fixed term for 2 years. Many Councils are investing in ESD compliance to ensure the benefits of ESD planning requirements in buildings are being realised. The pilot will be reviewed at the end of the 2-year period.	\$121k per year for two years

## 9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 9.1 The *final draft Strategy* outlines community targets in the 5 key priority areas along with actions outlining how Council will facilitate, support and educate the community to achieve these goals.





**10. COMMUNITY IMPACT**

- 10.1 The *final draft Strategy* contains actions designed to enable the community to reduce energy use, water use, waste and increase their resilience to climate change.
- 10.2 The *final draft Plan* details how Council will advocate to other levels of Government and organisations to advance support for our community to reduce emissions and respond to the Climate Emergency.

**11. ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY**

- 11.1 The *Draft Act and Adapt Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28* and the *Draft Climate Emergency Plan* will outline Council's approach to delivering the Strategic Direction Sustainable Port Phillip - as outlined in the *Council Plan 2021-2031 (Year Three) and Budget 2023-24*.
- 11.2 The *Draft Climate Emergency Plan* outlines how Council is addressing the Climate Emergency.
- 11.3 The *Draft Act and Adapt Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28* will replace the current strategy.
- 11.4 This Project aligns with the following strategies and plans: *Don't Waste It Strategy, Move Connect Live Strategy, Asset Management Enterprise Plan, Public Space Strategy, Housing Strategy, Municipal Emergency Management Plan, Greening Port Phillip* and *Foreshore Management Plan*.

**12. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

- 12.1 Implementation of the *Climate Emergency Action Plan* and *Act and Adapt Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28* will be guided through to completion by an overarching Implementation Plan and Monitoring and Evaluation Plan that are currently under development and due for completion and approval in Q2 2023/24. Individual Initiatives and Actions are governed project specific plans.

**13. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST**

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

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. **Final Act and Adapt Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-2028**
- 2. **Final Draft Climate Emergency Action Plan**
- 3. **Act and Adapt - Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023 - 2028 Feedback Summary**
- 4. **Climate Emergency Action Plan Feedback Summary**