

The background of the cover features a stylized landscape. At the top, there are three white, fluffy clouds against a solid blue sky. Below the sky is a green horizon line representing hills or mountains. Underneath the hills is a yellow band representing a beach. The bottom third of the image is a dark blue area with white, wavy lines representing water.

Wollongong City Council

CLIMATE EMERGENCY UPDATE

*Working together to
reduce our emissions*

Joined GCoM 2017

Emissions Inventory

Climate Emergency
Declaration

Online HQ for public
submissions

Adopted emissions
reduction targets:
net zero 2030 Council
operations, net zero
2050 community

Joined Cities Power
Partnership 2020



Priority Areas

- A city whose council shows leadership
- A city that works together
- A low emissions city
- A city in harmony with our environment
- A low waste city
- A climate and water resilient city

In this update

Since our last update we have been preparing important strategic works that aim to guide and support Council and the community in creating a more sustainable and climate healthy Wollongong. They are:

- The draft Sustainable Wollongong 2030: A Climate Healthy City Strategy (Strategy), and
- The draft Climate Change Mitigation Plan 2020-2022 (Plan)

Read more about these documents and their public exhibition below.

Should our revised Strategy and Mitigation Plan be finalised and adopted by Council, we will begin delivering on our actions; contributing and encouraging continued climate action. We are also starting work on our Climate Change Adaptation Plan, to help the city, its people and facilities to cope with the inevitable changes in climate. More information is in the 'What's Next' section.

Following endorsement by Council on 29 June, both the Strategy and the Plan will be on public exhibition from the 1 July to the 12 August 2020. We are asking the community to provide us with feedback on these documents; we will use this feedback to help inform the final documents which will go to Council for adoption later in the year. You can access and provide feedback on both documents on our Online Forum HQ by visiting Our Wollongong, see the 'What's Next' section for more information.

We have also become a member of the Cities Powers Partnership Program (CPP). Under the program we have committed to five pledges to support us in reducing emissions and addressing climate change. The specific pledges adopted by Council and more information on the program is in the CPP section below.

Overview of the Draft Sustainable Wollongong 2030: A Climate Healthy City

We have undertaken a review of our Environmental Sustainability Strategy and produced a brand-new document: Sustainable Wollongong 2030: A Climate Healthy City Strategy. This Strategy consolidates all of our environmental priorities, goals and targets from a range of strategies, plans and programs into one document, providing an overarching high-level strategic direction for environmental sustainability throughout Council operations and our community.

The community was asked to provide input into the review of the Environmental Sustainability Policy and the Environmental Sustainability Strategy in May-July 2019. This involved an online ideas tool on Council's Engagement HQ website, a feedback form and nine workshops/sessions with schools and interested community members, Aboriginal groups and the Walking, Cycling and Mobility Reference Group.

We also asked for feedback on the proposed emissions reduction target of net zero emissions by 2050 for the city in Oct-Nov 2019. This involved another online ideas tool on Council's Engagement HQ website, a feedback form and direct contact with key business groups.

Overview of the Draft Climate Change Mitigation Plan

The interim Climate Change Mitigation (emissions reduction) Plan has been produced in order to demonstrate our commitment to achieving our emissions reduction targets and as a requirement under the Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM) program. The actions in this Plan will be delivered over the next two years. The Plan focuses on establishing partnerships, undertaking research and pilot projects within the community, and implementing key projects to reduce Council's emissions.

The community engagement undertaken in relation to the Environmental Sustainability Strategy and the emissions reduction targets told us that our community wants renewable energy used in Council operations, businesses and the community, sustainable transport options, less waste to landfill, including FOGO, landfill gas capture, more trees planted and for Council to demonstrate leadership in relation to climate change. This feedback was used to help inform the Climate Change Mitigation Plan.



Themes

- Climate change leadership and planning
- Energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Transport
- Waste
- Trees and vegetation
- Working with our community



CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION PLANS



Cities Power Partnership Pledges

Council became a member of the CPP in January 2020. We have recently selected pledges under this program which fall under the themes of energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable transport and working together and influencing. The program and our pledges will support Wollongong's transition to a clean energy future and greater sustainability for the city. Our pledges are to:

- Install renewable energy (solar PV) on Council buildings
- Implement landfill gas methane or capture for electricity generation
- Encourage sustainable transport use such as public transport, walking and cycling through Council transport planning and design
- Set city-level renewable energy or emissions reduction targets
- Adopt best practice energy efficiency measures across Council buildings, and support community facilities to adopt these measures.

What's Next?

Public Exhibition

The draft Sustainable Wollongong 2030: A Climate Healthy City Strategy and the draft Climate Change Mitigation Plan will be on public exhibition from the 1 July to the 12 August 2020. Once this process is closed, feedback received from the community will be used to help inform the final documents which will go to Council for adoption. Once adopted, both the Strategy and the Plan will guide Council and the community in creating a sustainable Wollongong and reducing emissions for Council operations and the city.

Climate Change Adaptation Plan

Council has also initiated the review of our Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2009 which will lead to the preparation of a new Climate Change Adaptation Plan, another stage in fulfilling our requirements under GCoM. This plan will identify and analyse our risks and vulnerability to climate change and prescribe actions to help us adjust and cope with the inevitable impacts.

OUR WOLLONGONG JOIN THE CONVERSATION

We'd love to hear your thoughts on these documents, please visit Our Wollongong website our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/ to provide your feedback!

Contact us

(02) 4227 7111

Monday to Friday, 8.30am-5pm

You can also use the number above for after hours Council-related emergencies.

Email sustainability@wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Visit 41 Burelli Street, Wollongong

Mail Locked Bag 8821, Wollongong DC NSW 2500

Public Exhibition

1 July to the
12 August 2020



Climate Change Adaptation Plan