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Climate Emergency Action Plan 2021 – 2025

Update June 2024

The Climate Emergency

No.	Date	Reporting	Action	Progress Update
CE01	2024/2025	In Progress - to target	Develop the Council Plan 2025-2029 and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan to integrate and reflect Council's commitment to the climate emergency response	To be completed in 24/25
CE02	2021/2022 - 2025/2026	Completed In Progress – to target	Progressively update and review all relevant Council policies and plans to include climate emergency mitigation, adaptation and resilience fast tracking priority policies and documents with a strong link to the climate emergency and those specifically identified in the Climate Emergency Strategy	Climate emergency response being incorporated as policies and plans are due for review.
CE03	2021/2022 - 2022/2023	Completed	Update internal procurement documentation and processes to ensure consideration of climate emergency objectives, emissions reduction and energy use when procuring goods, services and works	Sustainability and climate considerations included in procurement processes and documentation with regular reviews
CE04	2022/2023	In Progress - delayed	Develop and deliver a Council staff education and capacity building program covering a range of climate emergency topics, for all relevant staff, Executive Management Team (EMT) and leadership teams	Development of a climate education plan has commenced, induction and internal online training module has been developed.
CE05	2021/2022 - 2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Transition all Council festivals and events to be zero emissions, powered by 100% renewable energy, supporting zero waste to landfill, and promoting sustainable transport options to site	A guide will be developed to assist Council and community organisation and events to achieve these goals.
CE06	2022/2023	In Progress - delayed	Investigate opportunities to include climate emergency KPIs and responsibilities for all relevant staff, including Executive Management Team, Managers and leadership positions within the organisation	Engaging with other councils in order to develop a best practice model for implementation.
CE07	2021/2022 - 2022/2023	In Progress - delayed	Develop an organisational climate emergency performance measurement framework to assess the climate emergency impact (mitigation, emissions impacts, and adaptation) for all Council projects and Council's overall climate emergency response	Monitoring and reporting framework is being refined, Council's climate emergency response will be improved and embedded through the Climate Risk Assessment and Adaptation Framework (Refer CE08).
CE08	2022/2023	In Progress - delayed	Develop and implement an Adaptation Framework focused on increasing Council and community resilience and preparedness for climate impacts, including a risk assessment	The climate risk assessment has been completed and development of the framework will continue in 2024.

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			and modelling of climate impacts, and consultation with Council's insurance broker with regard to insuring against climate risk	
CE09	2021/2022	In Progress - delayed	Work with Melbourne Water to update their flooding areas, identify any Council local flood areas and incorporate into the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme, and update the Maribyrnong Flood Management Plan	Council continues to work with Melbourne Water on flood mapping and modelling.
CE10	Ongoing	In Progress - to target	Undertake advocacy to State and Federal Governments on the range of advocacy goals identified in the Climate Emergency Strategy, including coordinated advocacy with relevant local government/climate networks and programs to further Council's climate emergency work and leadership	Advocacy continues to be undertaken including on Victorian Air Quality Strategy, in conjunction M9 councils on waste reforms, and with WAGA on emissions reduction, fuel efficiency standards and planning for a safer climate.
CE11	Ongoing	In Progress - to target	Engage with research institutes, innovative technology groups, Non-government organisations, climate emergency strategists and others leaders to ensure innovative and best practice climate response	Current initiatives include single use plastic reduction, emissions data management, delivery of the Climate Emergency Conference with Climate Emergency Australia and Victoria University.
CE12	Ongoing	In Progress – to target	Work with Traditional Owners and First Nations people to identify opportunities to collaborate on the climate emergency response	Building on initial CES engagement, recent engagement has occurred through the IWM and Nature Plans.
CE13	2021/2022 - 2022/2023	In Progress - to target	Develop and implement a community climate education plan and education programs for residents, businesses and industry on a range of climate topics, which considers the diverse make up of our community, and includes Traditional Owner/First Nations cultural education and knowledge	This work continues including Possum Post, Sustainable Living Facebook Page, MCC website updates, energy workshops, school programs and Solar Savers program.
CE14	Ongoing	In Progress - to target	Develop and promote climate information resources in multiple languages and include climate messaging in the range of Council's communications and media platforms, to highlight Council's commitment to the climate emergency and share information about ways people can contribute to the climate emergency response	Climate initiatives included in Maribyrnong Messenger, Council's Business Bulletin and shared on Council's Facebook. Possum Post has an audience of around 2,000. Translation is considered wherever necessary.
CE15	2021/2022 - 2022/2023	In Progress - delayed	Develop an Engagement Strategy for the Climate Emergency Action Plan, setting guidelines and direction for continuous engagement, including engagement with residents, and a specific business.	An engagement plan has been developed and is currently under review. Engagement is ongoing and approaches are being updated regularly informed by learnings from past initiatives informing future engagement. Sustainability business support programs are currently being facilitated through WAGA and Council's Economic Development team.

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CE16	2022/2023	In Progress - delayed	Develop a community a climate civic participation and leadership program, focused on increasing skills and ability for the community to act on climate, with ongoing peer to peer engagement a key outcome	Currently investigating and developing opportunities through the implementation of the The Adaptation Game in FY24/25
CE17	2021/2022 - 2022/2023	Completed	Support a youth climate summit run by Maribyrnong Youth Advisory Committee	Initial goals was completed in 2022. MYAC took part in a second Youth Climate Summit in April 2024.
CE18	Ongoing	In Progress - to target	Encourage and support community groups that use Council facilities (including local sporting/hobby/clubs) to develop and implement a climate emergency plan, that could include actions on energy efficiency, green travel, zero waste, and community engagement on the climate emergency	Maintaining relationships with groups, education (climate, recycling, etc) continues, further engagement will occur.
CE19	2022/2023	In Progress – to target	Include climate emergency in existing community programs working with our diverse community, including in Welcome dinners/activities, interfaith events, the history and culture of First Nations program, and the emerging intersectional group being established	This action will be met through our community outreach through the TAG game.
CE20	2022/2023	Completed	Review the Business District Grant Program, and prioritise applications that help address the climate emergency	Review completed; opportunities identified when budget available.
CE21	2022/2023 - 2025/2026	In Progress - delayed	Investigate options to establish a community group to work with Council on the climate emergency, with a focus on climate justice, and/or work with other Council advisory groups on the climate emergency response	Climate Emergency Advisory Committee is in the process of being established.

Energy

	Date	Reporting	Action	Progress Update
E01	2021/2022 - 2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Ensure that electric options and energy efficiency is prioritised and is a key criteria when procuring Council plant and equipment	Council has ceased purchasing gas equipment other than when electricity network constraints prevent electrification. Energy efficiency is considered.
E02	2021/2022 - 2022/2023	Complete	Investigate options to establish preferred supplier panels with suppliers who meet sustainability and emissions reduction requirements	Council has access to a range of panels via MAV and Procurement Australia.
EO1 (E01#2)	2021/2022 - 2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Continue to adopt a positive screening approach for investment with financial institutions and actively invest with	Council adopted an updated investment policy (Dec 22) allowing investment in Green financial products.

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			fossil fuel free financial institutions, within the parameters of Council's investment policy, including divestment	
E03	2021/2022	Complete	Investigate opportunities for a Virtual Energy Network, or other renewable energy models, utilising Council buildings/assets	This review was undertaken. A VEN was not a preferred option, however other renewable energy options are being considered.
E04	2023/2024	In Progress - delayed	Work with the community to understand the level of interest for community led renewable energy initiatives within Maribyrnong, and investigate best options and role for Council support	Project will be delivered through community engagement in 24/25
E05	2021/2022 - 2025/2026	Completed	Continue participation in the Victorian Energy Collaboration project or similar, with the outcome that Council remains powered by 100% renewable electricity from wind or solar sources	Participation in VECO project continues and is ongoing.
E06	2023/2024 - 2024/2025	In Progress – to target	Develop and implement a plan to remove gas from all existing Council buildings, replacing with 100% renewable electricity	Two studies were completed in removal of gas from the Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre. A national grant was applied for to assist with electrification the centre. Gas removal continues when opportunities arise.
E07	2021/2022 - 2025/2026	In Progress – to target	Provide or support renewable energy and energy efficiency programs for residents and businesses, through initiatives such as Solar Savers, Environmental Upgrade Agreements and the Western Alliance of Greenhouse Action Business Resilience Program	Active participation and promotion including Solar Savers, Environmental Upgrade Agreements and WAGA Business Resilience Program

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Efficient Building Infrastructure

	Date	Reporting	Action	Progress Update
EBI01	2021/2022-2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Review and update the Council Environmental Sustainable Design Policy and Guidelines to ensure best climate outcomes for Council buildings, including ongoing review of best available low/zero emissions materials and recycled materials	Review is underway, completion in late 2024
EBI02	2021/2022-2022/2023	Completed	Update specifications for all current and future Council construction, infrastructure, renovation and maintenance to prioritise low/zero carbon materials and recycled content and specify minimum climate/sustainability targets	All contracts have a standard sustainability requirements.
EBI03	2022/2023	Completed	Establish a system to redeploy and store infrastructure/assets in good condition to be reused in other Council projects, and investigate the potential to work with other councils to share and recycle products and assets	Further work required to formalise process. Air-conditioning units from the Town Hall have been retained for future reuse.
EBI04	2021/2022-2022/2023	In Progress - delayed	Embed ESD, recycled content and climate requirements in the Project Management Framework and in the Project Charter, and engage with teams to increase understanding and use of Project Management Framework	Project Management Framework will incorporate appropriate climate targets.
EBI05	2021/2022-2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Continue energy efficiency retrofitting and upgrades of Council buildings and assets, including installation of PV and roll out of energy efficiency appliances including lighting, heating and cooling	This action is ongoing.
EBI06	2022/2023	Ongoing	Add energy efficient use and special conditions into lease agreements for Council buildings and facilities	As lease agreements are renewed and/or negotiated, energy efficiency clauses will be included where relevant. General clauses include tenants being required to facilitate necessary upgrades. Ongoing engagement with tenants informs them of objectives in Council policies and strategies such as the Environmentally Sustainable Design Policy for Council Buildings, as well as raising awareness of sustainable behaviours amongst building users.
EBI07	2021/2022-2023/2024	In Progress - to target	Work with Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment, local government and state government on investigating "Elevating ESD targets in the Planning	This action is ongoing.

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	Date	Reporting	Action	Progress Update
			Scheme" and options to implement into the Planning Scheme and other mechanisms	
EB108	2021/2022-2022/2023	Completed	Progress Medium Density Guidelines for new developments, including investigating ways to implement into the Planning Scheme to encourage best practice climate outcomes for private developments	Guidelines were adopted in 2023. Public document is available for use.
EB109	2022/2023-2024/2025	Completed	Develop household energy efficiency toolkits and thermal imaging cameras for loan to community members, businesses or groups	Toolkits available in Libraries and Community Centres from April 2023 and have been expanded from 6 to 12 kits due to high demand from community.
EB110	2021/2022-2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Promote a showcase of zero emissions and other innovative/sustainable buildings and design	Ongoing. Footscray Town Hall 6-Star Project is used by the Green Building Council of Australia as an exemplar in its training program. MCC has supported the State Government Future Homes project.
EB111	2021/2022-2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Work with State Government to ensure large regional infrastructure projects that cross Maribyrnong consider climate emergency outcomes in their development and end use	Collaborating with Victorian Govt and stakeholders on WGT Project, Airport Link, Tram Depot, etc.

Transport

	Date	Reporting	Action	Progress Update
T01	2022/2023 - 2023/2024	In Progress - to target	Review and update relevant transport infrastructure design standards and construction methodologies to ensure they prioritise zero emissions transport outcomes	Review commenced. Will be addressed in City Design Manual and Integrated Transport Strategy.
T02	2022/2023 - 2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Ensure annual Council renewal and capital works budgets prioritise, wherever practicable, zero emissions transport outcomes, including improvement to key cycling infrastructure and re-allocating key road lanes to bicycle lanes	Being renewed as part of the Integrated Transport Strategy
T03	2022/2023 - 2024/2026	In Progress - to target	Ensure that '20min neighbourhood' principles are embedded into all relevant Council strategies and policies	This will be considered as part of our LATM studies and the Integrated Transport Strategy
T04	Ongoing	In Progress - to target	Planting to increase the shade of pedestrian pathways, especially key pathways for walking to school and local shopping precincts	Business as usual to look at increasing nature strip size, etc. with any road renewals

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	Date	Reporting	Action	Progress Update
T05	2023/2024	In Progress - to target	Investigate the provision of paid parking across Maribyrnong in needed areas, including undertaking extensive community engagement to mitigate risks, and increase provision of car share spaces	Paid parking is reviewed on an ongoing basis as required.
T06	2022/2023	Completed	Develop an electric vehicle fleet transition plan for all Council light and heavy fleet vehicles and contracted vehicles (including waste services), and begin replacing the Council fleet with electric vehicles	Initial electric vehicle fleet transition plan has been completed as part of the WAGA Zero Emission Fleet Transition project in early 2022. Current fleet data will be applied to inform an updated light fleet transition plan in 2024/25. Heavy vehicle electrification will be reviewed after trials have been completed at neighbouring councils.
T07	2021/2022 - 2025/2026	Completed	Update and implement a new Electric Vehicle Charging Policy	First MCC public EV charging station is operational. More options for on-street charging are being investigated.
T08	2022/2023 - 2025/2026	In Progress - target	Investigate options to support staff to use zero emissions/green transport via incentivised green travel program/s, training, and e-bike access	Will be included in new staff induction. Commuter club is regularly promoted through internal communications.

Consumption and Waste

	Date	Reporting	Action	Progress Update
CW01	2023/2024 - 2024/2025	In Progress - target	Investigate the introduction of a separate glass recycling service across the municipality in line with Recycling Victoria Policy	Under review.
CW02	2023/2024 - 2025/2026	Completed	Provide more programs for hard to recycle items such as e-waste, batteries, clothes, CDs and DVDs, X rays, light globes etc.	Providers have been engaged and public website updated.
CW03	Ongoing	Completed	Encourage and support local businesses and industry to adopt zero waste and low emissions initiatives, including utilising State/Federal circular economy grants	Council provides a 'business energy tips' webpage, developed collaboratively through and this is shared consistently across the region.

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CW04	2022/2023	Completed	Promote initiatives for the reuse and repair of items and products including repair and reuse workshops in the Sustainable Living program	Ongoing, particularly through Community Centres. Examples include Sustainabubs clothes swap, bike repair workshops, DIY and home maintenance for Women, support for Braybrook Men's Shed, sewing & alterations workshops.
CW05	2022/2023	Completed	Support or promote community initiatives that develop share economy programs, e.g. 'share' libraries (toys, books, tools, clothes etc.), local car share, share waste programs and apps	ShareWaste promoted to MUDs to provide food waste composting option. Toy library provided through West Footscray Neighbourhood House
CW06	Ongoing	Completed	Continue to work with State Government support deliver a food and garden waste collection service to all residents and investigate potential options for businesses, and provide supporting education programs with schools	FOGO has been rolled out to all single unit dwellings. Further planning for expansion of this service to MUDs and other users is underway.
CW07	2023/2024	In Progress - delayed	Investigate options to encourage residents to avoid excessive consumption and waste generation, e.g. weight based fee structure	Not started
CW08	2024/2025 - 2025/2026	In Progress - delayed	Work with the new Waste Authority to develop waste management plans for businesses and industry that focus on minimising emissions and contributing to a circular economy	Not started
CW09	2023/2024	In Progress - to target	Promote local food businesses selling low carbon and low food miles produce, and low packaging/waste	Several low carbon and low food miles food vendors are used and/or promoted at Council events where appropriate.
CW10	2022/2023	Complete	Ensure Council meetings, activities, events and catering minimise waste and associated emissions through careful procurement, eliminating single use plastics, separating recycling and waste buying local/low emissions food and produce	Single Use Plastic Policy endorsed by Council on 17 August 2021. Implementation underway including participation in Engagement in Plastic-free Innovation for Change (EPIC) program run by Plastic Oceans Australasia. (see also Action CW11)
CW11	2022/2023 - 2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Review recycling and food waste management in Council facilities and install bins and collection services	Staff behaviour change program commenced July 2023 and was completed in June 2024. Significant improvements were achieved in a range of areas and further opportunities identified.

Land Use & Drawdown

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	Date	Reporting	Action	Progress Update
LUD01	2021/2022-2022/2023	Ongoing	Undertake an assessment of land availability and total capacity for increased vegetation across the municipality, including potential for understory planting, grasses and wetlands, and use this to set increased targets for percentage of tree cover, vegetation, understory and herbaceous cover	Planting opportunities are developed on project by project basis, seeking to improve and maintain biodiversity.
LUD02	2022/2023-2024/2025	In Progress - to target	Research and investigate opportunities to increase targets for tree cover, green walls and roofs, vegetation, and permeable surfaces in new developments through the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme or other planning policies	These goals are being progressed through the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) led "Elevating ESD targets in the Planning Scheme" planning scheme amendment.
LUD03	2022/2023-2023/2024	In Progress - delayed	Research and develop a plan to increase carbon drawdown to replace or reduce the need for overseas offsets to achieve carbon neutrality, including options to sequester carbon in regional areas	Carbon drawdown achieved through existing tree planting programs. Methodology being developed to quantify drawdown potential in late 2024.
LUD04	2022/2023-2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Include land use and vegetation sequestration in Council's annual emissions assessments and reporting, including an initial assessment of baseline carbon sequestration from current vegetation, and continue annual Disclosure Statement Net Zero Emissions using additional sequestration from Council drawdown programs	Review of significant tree register complete, carbon potential will be calculated in 2024/25.
LUD05	Ongoing	In Progress - to target	Promote tree and garden planting on private land, including culturally appropriate, climate resilient and high carbon sequestering species, supported by programs such as My Smart Garden	Delivering promotion and education through My Smart Garden program.
LUD06	2021/2022	Completed	Support youth focused planting events, including fundraising events by Maribyrnong Youth Advisory Committee	Action completed.
LUD07	2022/2023-2025/2026	In Progress - delayed	Investigate opportunities to acquire and revegetate land, in alignment with the Open Space Strategy, Tottenham Employment Precinct Framework Plan (2020) and the Stony Creek Directions Plan (2020)	Yet to be undertaken
LUD08	2023/2024-2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Work with Traditional Owners/First Nations to actively seek opportunities for drawdown, improved tree cover and understorey planting (including grasses), develop a list of culturally appropriate species for planting, protect cultural heritage,	Ongoing engagement is occurring for example through the development of the Nature Plan. Species review undertaken, indigenous species list developed for use in conservation work.
LUD09	2022/2023-2025/2026	In Progress - to target	Work with others to identify regional partnership opportunities for drawdown program beyond the municipality, including major bio-link projects	Engagement continues with Waterways of the West and Greening the West projects.