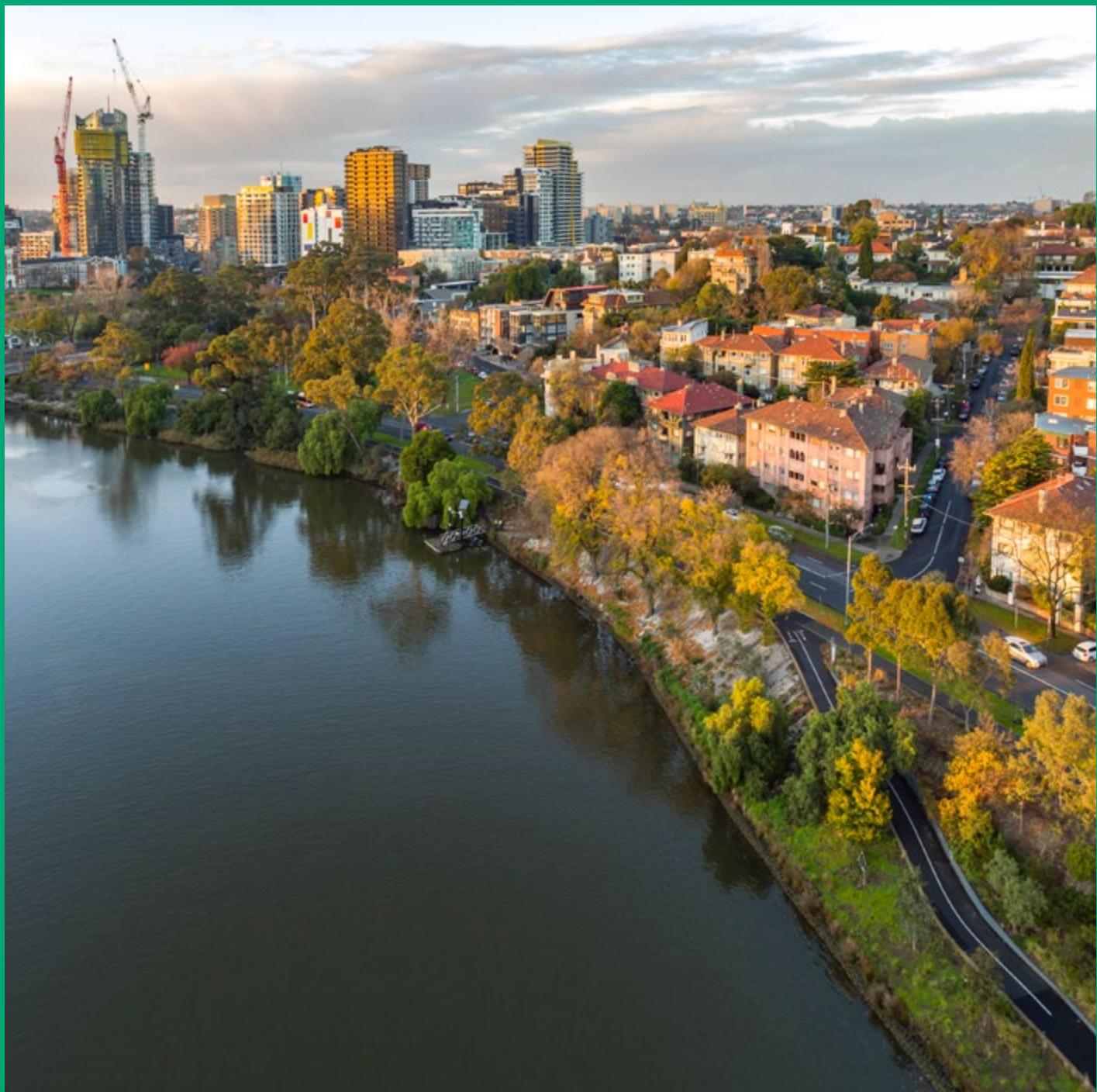


Towards Zero Carbon 2030: Our Climate Emergency Action Plan 2021-2024



Statement of commitment to Australia's First Peoples

The Council of the City of Stonnington acknowledges that the people of the Kulin Nations are the Traditional Custodians of this land and have strived to retain their identity and cultures through more than two hundred years of dispossession and colonisation.

Council recognises and accepts its responsibility to learn from, and promote the intrinsic value of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, heritage and contemporary aspirations to the wider community, understanding that this enriches Australia's heritage and our community.

Council acknowledges the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to live according to their own values and customs in diverse community, subject to Australian law.

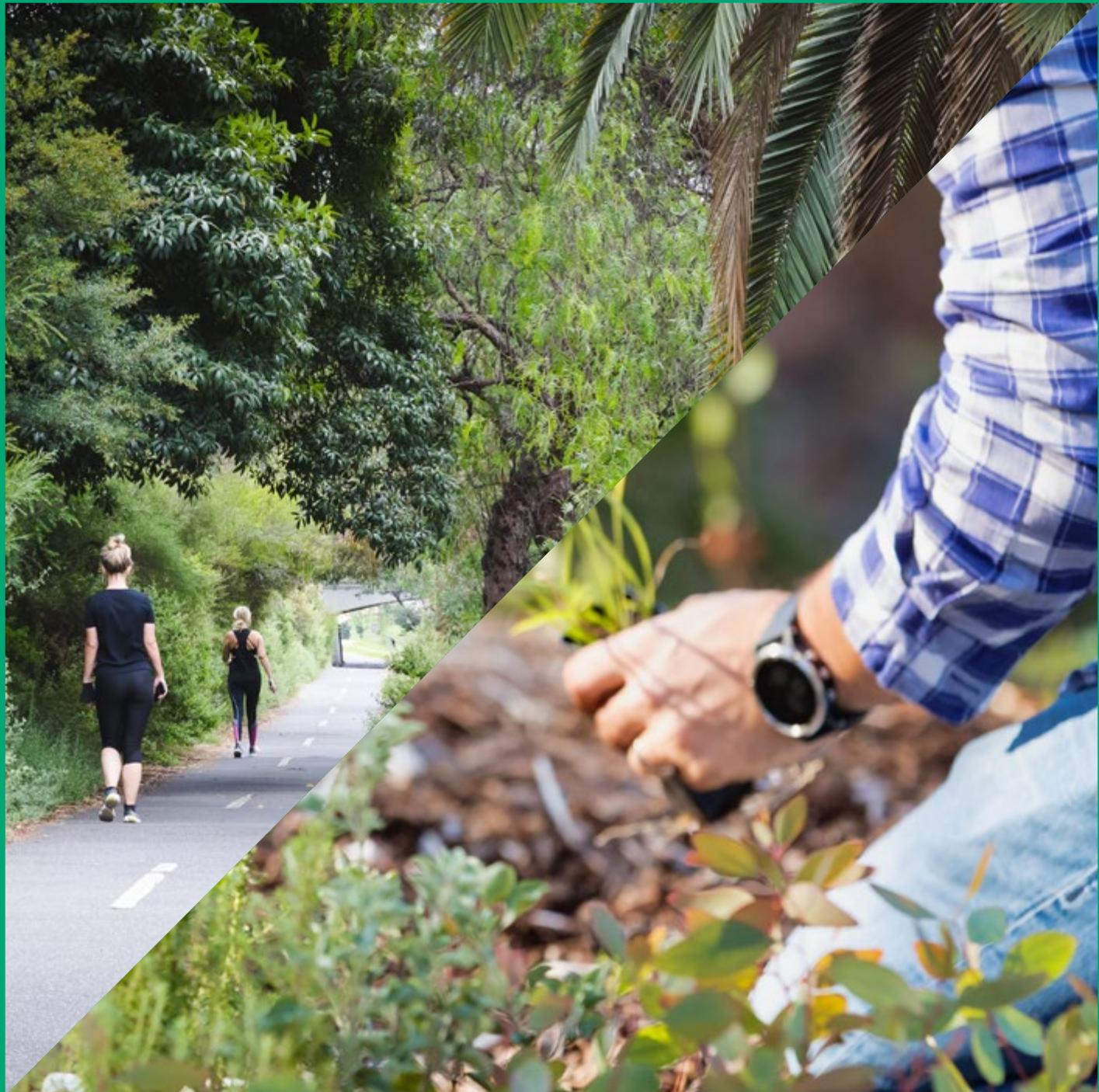
Council respects the special relationship the people of the Kulin Nations have to the land and recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sacred sites and significant places.

Council recognises the valuable contributions to Victoria made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and will work together towards a future of mutual respect and harmony.

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Mayor's message





I am excited to present our Climate Emergency Action Plan, outlining our bold approach to climate action and our work towards a more sustainable future for all of us.

This is not just a Council document. This is a plan for all of us and the future of our city.

We are in the midst of a global climate emergency and we need to act now. While climate change is a global issue, it has local impacts, affecting our environment, economy and the health and wellbeing of our community. We need to act, before it is too late.

The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report confirms that urgent and accelerated climate action is critical. So we are stepping up and taking a strong leading role alongside local governments around the world.

This plan is charting our pathway towards 2030 and our zero carbon future. We know that climate action is a priority for our community and this plan clearly outlines our commitment to accelerate Council's own emissions reduction, the support we will provide our community and the work we will do to future-proof our city.

We can create change and make a difference when we all work together. I'm looking forward to working with you all on creating a more sustainable Stonnington for now and the future.

**Kate Hely,
Mayor**

Executive Summary



The City of Stonnington is committed to immediate and urgent action to reduce our own emissions, as well as helping to reduce community emissions and preparing and adapting our city for a changing climate.

Council declared a climate emergency on 20 February 2020, recognising that urgent action is required by all levels of government, including local councils. Climate change is already impacting the environment, economy and the health and wellbeing of our community and it will continue to do so.

Our Climate Emergency Action Plan outlines our pathway towards 2030 and a zero carbon and climate-ready future for our city.

Our commitment is framed around an overarching principle of leadership and three strategic priorities that address both climate mitigation and adaptation. Each strategic priority includes a series of actions.

- 1 – Zero carbon Stonnington**
 - 2 – Thriving in a changing climate**
 - 3 – Working together for change**
-

In 2024 Council will undertake a review of this plan and our climate emergency response to update the action plan, ensuring that it includes new policies, technology and feedback from stakeholders.

Council will report on progress against its climate emergency priorities through the annual Sustainability Snapshot.

We have a responsibility to act on climate change and lead local action, contributing to the global effort. Alongside local governments around the world, we are taking a leading role to innovate, be bold, take action and take responsibility for current and future generations.

This commitment to climate action and the development and implementation of the Climate Emergency Action Plan aligns with the shared vision and priorities articulated in the Community Vision 2040 and Council Plan 2021-2025.

Our priority actions

Our actions to avoid and reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Priority 1 – Zero carbon Stonnington

- » Transition Council facilities from gas to renewable energy
- » Accelerate the transition of Council's fleet to electric
- » Develop a Zero Waste and Circular Economy Strategy
- » Avoid single use plastics
- » Expand food waste recycling
- » Facilitate a local circular economy
- » Support Stonnington households and businesses to reduce energy use and transition to renewable energy
- » Develop a walkable city
- » Develop a cycle-smart city
- » Support the community to reduce private car use
- » Support zero carbon developments

Our actions to adapt to a changing climate

Priority 2—Thriving in a changing climate

- » Increase canopy cover and grow the urban forest
- » Ensure water sensitive urban design
- » Develop an integrated water management plan
- » Reduce reliance on drinking water supplies for irrigation and increase alternative water use
- » Protect and enhance biodiversity
- » Ensure Council's facilities and infrastructure are futureproofed.
- » Update emergency management procedures
- » Educate and prepare the community on climate risks
- » Facilitate and support local climate action
- » Support local food production



Our Climate Emergency Action Plan outlines our climate adaptation and mitigation priorities and steps for immediate and urgent action on climate change.

Priority 1 is focused on climate mitigation through emissions reductions. Priority 2 is focused on adaptation by future-proofing our city and Priority 3 encompasses both mitigation and adaption actions.

Our actions to embed climate response throughout Council and work in partnership for change

Priority 3 – Working together for change

- » Embed climate emergency response into all Council strategies, policies and plans
- » Embed climate emergency response into Council operations and service delivery
- » Educate Council staff on climate change and impacts
- » Monitor and report on climate action progress
- » Ensure sustainable finance and purchasing decisions
- » Advance partnerships, alliances and collaborations to progress Council's climate emergency response
- » Establish a Climate Emergency Advisory Committee with representatives from Council and the community
- » Partner with federal and state governments to strengthen their climate response



Introduction

We are facing a global climate emergency. We need to act now.



There is comprehensive scientific evidence that confirms the climate is rapidly changing, with catastrophic consequences. These changes are mostly due to human activity, including burning fossil fuels to power our buildings and transport, manufacturing to create the products we consume, agricultural practices and deforestation. These activities release greenhouse gases that trap heat in our atmosphere.

Climate change is a global issue with local impacts. It is already impacting our environment, human health and local economy, and it requires an immediate and urgent response.

The Victorian Government has committed to ambitious climate action, providing a strong foundation for our local response.

We have an obligation to act before it is too late. Council has a responsibility to act on climate change and lead local action, contributing to the global effort.

Alongside local governments around the world, we are taking a leading role to innovate, be bold, act and take responsibility for current and future generations – to reduce emissions and to prepare and adapt to a changing climate.

COVID-19 has forced us to be agile and adaptive in a way we could never have imagined possible. We learned that things can change significantly and quickly. We can change, we can make a difference.

We all need to work together – Council, the community, schools, businesses and state and federal governments – to take action on climate change and work towards a more sustainable future for all people, animals, plants and ecosystems.

Climate change impacts

Global temperatures have risen by more than 1°C over the last 100 years, and we are already experiencing dangerous impacts. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report¹ states we must take significant action within the next 10 years to avoid a climate catastrophe and keep temperature rise under 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The IPCC predicts that even with current international commitments on climate change, there will still be a 3 to 5°C increase in global average temperatures by 2080.

Further information on the science and impacts of climate change can be found in the following:

- » Victorian Department of Environment Land Water and Planning Climate Science Report 2019
- » Victorian Government and CSIRO Local Scale Climate Projections Report 2019
- » United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- » CSIRO Climate Science Centre
- » CSIRO climate change Q&A
- » Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO State of the Climate Report 2018

Local climate impacts

Our city is already experiencing the impacts of climate change.

In Melbourne, the number of days each year exceeding 35°C is expected to increase from an average of eight days per year between 1981 and 2010 to an average of 13 to 21 days per year by the 2050s. This will increase the number of days with high fire risk and have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of our community.

Increasing temperatures will also bring heavy rain events, causing flooding and impacting on local infrastructure such as roads as well as homes, waterways and our valued open space areas.

While Melbourne was wetter than usual in 2020, it is predicted that rainfall will decline in the long term, by around eight per cent by the 2050s. This will affect the health of our natural environment and the security of our water sources, bringing drought and challenges for food supplies.

Climate projections for the Greater Melbourne area include²:

- » Maximum and minimum daily temperatures will continue to increase over this century.
- » By the 2030s, temperatures are expected to increase by up to 1.6°C.
- » Rainfall will continue to be very variable over time, but over the long term it is expected to continue to decline in winter, spring and autumn, but with some chance of little change.
- » Extreme rainfall events are expected to become more intense on average through the century.
- » By the 2050s, the climate of Melbourne could be more like the current climate of Wangaratta.

Due to these impacts, our climate response needs to include city cooling strategies, water management planning and engagement and education to ensure our community is well-prepared.

Melbourne climate impacts:



more hot days



less rainfall



more intense downpours

¹ United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2018). Global Warming of 1.5°C

² Department Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2019). Greater Melbourne Climate Projections climatechange.vic.gov.au/adapting-to-climate-change-impacts/victorian-climate-projections-2019

Council's climate emergency declaration

On 17 February 2020, the City of Stonnington declared a climate emergency, recognising the need for immediate and urgent action on climate change.

Council's climate emergency declaration outlined that we commit to act immediately and urgently on climate change and:

- » Recognise that we are in a state of climate emergency that requires urgent action by all levels of government, including by local councils.
- » Acknowledge the risks and threats of climate change and associated extreme weather events on the environment, economy and human health and wellbeing in the City of Stonnington and beyond.
- » Acknowledge the City of Stonnington's commitment and action to-date in response to climate change.
- » Accelerate and further strengthen Council's response to climate change.
- » Develop an action plan to drive Council action on climate change and deliver on Council's commitment, identifying opportunities and priorities to mitigate climate change and prepare for future climate impacts.
- » Ensure that Council's climate change commitment and response is integrated across all planning, decision making and service delivery.



Through its Council Plan 2021-2025 and Sustainable Environment Strategy 2018-2023, the City of Stonnington has committed to action on climate change and has invested significant resources over many years towards reducing its own corporate emissions as well as supporting change locally.

There is a strong imperative for Council to continue to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the changing climate. Climate change will have a significant impact on Council's strategic goals and present many challenges across all operations, assets and areas of service delivery, as well as the health and wellbeing of our community.

While Council has been working for some time to reduce its own emissions and support the community to live more sustainably, it is time to accelerate our emissions reductions, ramp up the ways we support our community and prepare for changes to our city and community.

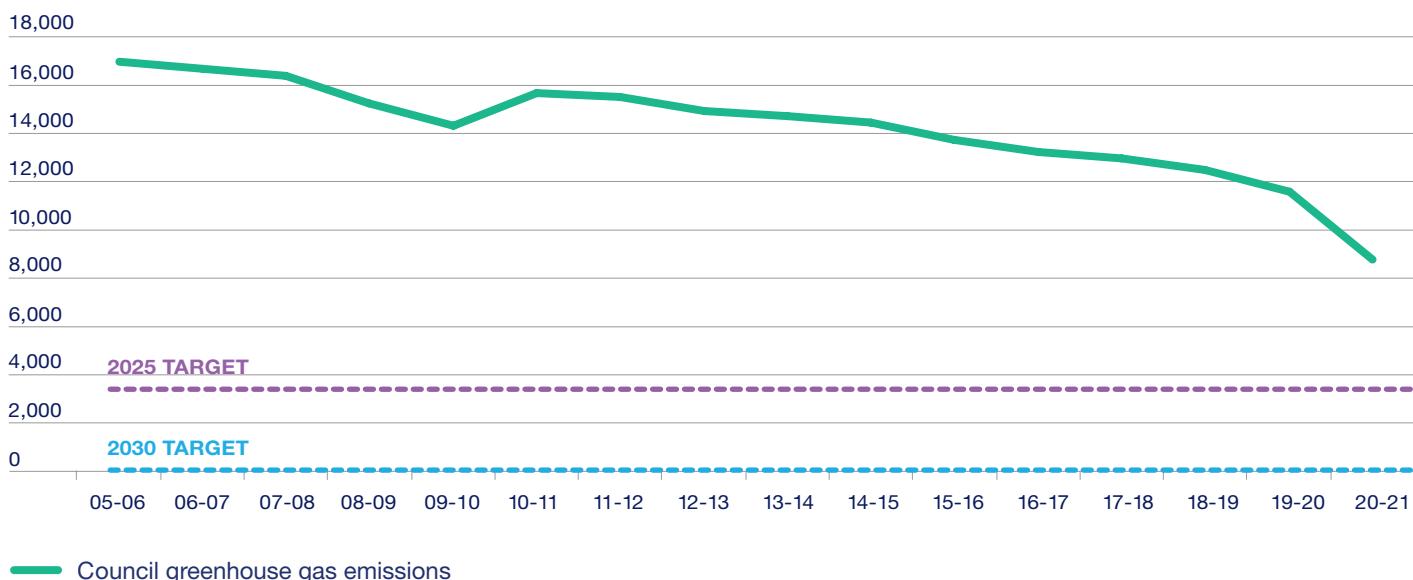
Council plays an important leadership role within Stonnington, driving local action and supporting the transition to a more sustainable future.

Council's climate emergency response will also support community and economic recovery efforts following the COVID-19 pandemic. A focus on 'building back better' will support climate action and help build a stronger and more connected community and a more resilient local economy.

Council has met its 2020 target and will meet existing 2022 and 2030 targets by mid 2021. This provides us with an opportunity to go further, faster. Our commitment to immediate and urgent action on the climate emergency has meant that we have set new targets:

- » Reduce emissions by 75% below 2005 levels by 2025
- » Net zero emissions by 2030

Council greenhouse gas emissions (TCO₂e)

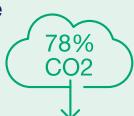


Note: The decrease in emissions in 2009-10 was due to the closure of Harold Holt Swim Centre for renovations. Energy use and associated emissions increased when the site reopened.

City of Stonnington's climate action to date

Council has been actively working for some time to reduce our own emissions and support our community. Our top climate change achievements over the last two years include:

Reduced Council's corporate greenhouse gas emissions by 48% between 2005 and 2021. By purchasing renewable electricity through VECO from 1 July, Council's emissions will reduce by 78% below 2005 levels, meeting our 2030 target to reduce emissions by 60% almost ten years early.



Installed 980kW of rooftop solar on Council buildings and facilities, enough to power over 170 Stonnington homes per year.



Facilitated 182 Stonnington homes to install 734kW of rooftop solar and 47kWh of battery capacity through our solar and battery engagement program.



Completed the Yarra River Biodiversity Project, an award-winning project to enhance biodiversity, improve water quality, grow the urban forest and provide recreational and education opportunities along the Yarra River.



Introduced food waste into our kerbside green waste collection service.



Began purchasing 100% renewable energy for all Council electricity use from 1 July 2021 alongside 45 other Victorian councils through VECO – the Victorian Energy Collaboration.



Upgraded 3,888 street lights across the city to energy efficient LEDs.



Delivered a range of sustainable living programs and events initiatives for our community, including My Smart Garden, the Apartment Composting Program, discounted composting systems, the Great Summer Clothes Swap, solar information sessions and community working bees in our parks and gardens.

Invested millions into reducing our energy use through building efficiency improvements including heating and cooling upgrades, lighting and renewable energy.



Added 3 electric vehicles and 21 hybrid vehicles to Council's fleet.



Planted 175,000 plants and trees across Stonnington streets and open space in three years.



x 175,000

Introduced and implemented an ESD Local Planning Policy which requires developers to meet environmental performance standards for new private developments.



Installed over 120 water sensitive urban design assets across the city including raingardens, swales, tree pits and wetlands.



Incorporated recycled content into a range of projects across the city to support a circular economy, including asphalt, decking and street furniture.



These achievements are only a brief summary of the work we have been doing over the last couple of years in partnership with the Stonnington community. For further details of Council's climate and sustainability achievements, review our annual [Sustainability Snapshot](#) on our website.

Community attitudes and behaviours

To develop this action plan, we sought thoughts and ideas from the community through surveys, forums and ideas boards. We heard that our community is concerned about climate change and they are keen to see Council action.

The **key themes** from our consultation include:

- » Ensuring that the climate emergency is a key strategic priority for Council
- » Including Environmentally Sustainable Design considerations for all new and upgraded buildings in Stonnington
- » Investment in more active transport options
- » Transitioning Council's fleet to electric vehicles
- » Provision of public electric vehicle charging stations
- » Council's ability to influence state and federal governments
- » Planting more trees and supporting biodiversity
- » Education and engagement for the community
- » Facilitating access for the community to renewable energy
- » Alliances that Council can build to achieve its goals
- » Supporting local renewable energy projects
- » Establishing short, medium and long term targets.

The **highest priorities** our community identified for Council action on climate change:

- » City greening and cooling
- » Sustainable transport
- » Reducing waste

The **actions** our community is planning to take to respond to the climate emergency:

- » Reducing waste
- » Increasing knowledge
- » Driving less
- » Switching to renewable energy.

What you said

“Responding to the crisis at every level of government is critical in mitigating what lies ahead. Council has great power at its disposal in terms of effecting changes at a micro level.”

— Stonnington resident

“The climate emergency is our greatest challenge, impacting every aspect of life on earth.”

— Stonnington resident

Local governments around the world have been playing a key role in responding to climate change at the local level, including working with and supporting local communities. Local government has been a leader across the world in driving action and change at the local level.

Mitigating and adapting to climate change

Council's climate emergency response will be focused around **mitigation actions** to reduce our contribution to climate change, including actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to draw carbon out of the atmosphere. While local in nature, these actions contribute to the global effort to act on climate change and include reducing the burning of fossil fuels, such as coal used to power our buildings and fuels used in transport, as well as reducing the methane produced when organic matter decomposes.

Our response will also focus on **adaptation actions** to reduce the negative impacts of climate change on human health and the natural world and adapt to life on a changing planet. We will be working to future-proof our city to minimise the effects of increasing temperatures and extreme weather events and reduce our vulnerability to these impacts.

Aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are global principles adopted by the United Nations as well as other countries around the world, including Australia, to guide action towards a more sustainable future for all. The 17 SDGs help to provide a holistic approach to addressing global challenges such as poverty, climate change, clean energy, sustainable buildings, economic development and water use.

Our Climate Emergency Action Plan directly aligns and supports many of the SDGs, including:



Good health and wellbeing (SDG 3)



Affordable and clean energy (SDG 7)



Industry, innovation and infrastructure (SDG 9)



Sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11)



Responsible consumption and production (SDG 12)



Climate action (SDG 13)



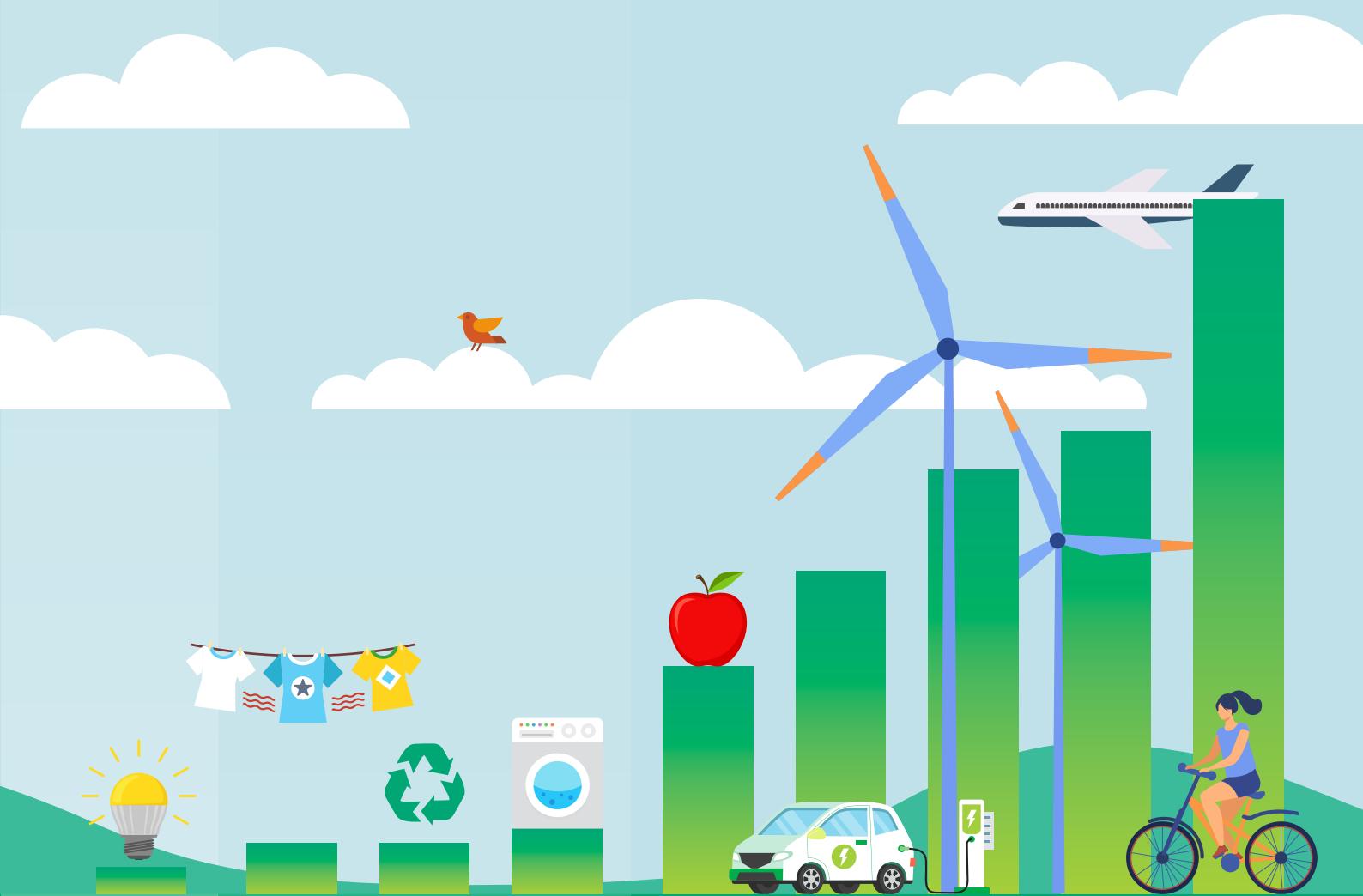
Life below water (SDG 14)



Life on land (SDG 15)

The action plan also indirectly aligns with a number of the other SDGs, including SDG 1: No poverty, through building the resilience of our vulnerable to reduce their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, as well as SDG 2: Zero hunger through supporting sustainable local food systems.

What you can do: Reduce your climate impact



Upgrade
light bulbs

Low
impact

Hang
clothes
to dry

Recycle

Wash
clothes
in cold
water

Moderate
impact

Eat a
plant-
based
diet

Switch
to a hybrid
or electric
car

Buy
renewable
energy

High
impact

Avoid an
international
flight

Live
car free

Our Climate Emergency Action Plan

The City of Stonnington is committed to acting on climate change and leading local action to reduce emissions in our city and to increase our resilience to the changing climate.



Our Climate Emergency Action Plan outlines our climate adaptation and mitigation priorities and steps for immediate and urgent action on climate change over the coming years. This action plan also responds to the COVID-19 pandemic, supporting both economic and community recovery efforts through helping businesses reduce energy use and strengthening community resilience.

The Climate Emergency Action Plan identifies the actions Council will take to respond to the climate emergency and actions we, together with our community, will work on to create a more sustainable future together. The strong actions Council has committed to in this plan will help create a stronger, healthier, more connected and resilient city.

To lead action on climate change, Council will focus on a zero carbon future through electrifying the city and reducing energy use, supporting renewable energy, and facilitating sustainable transport modes.

We will strengthen our community, buildings and infrastructure to be resilient to a changing climate and we will partner with both state and federal governments to drive urgent and bold climate action.

We will apply a gender lens to the implementation of this plan and commit to promoting gender equality, diversity and inclusion.

This action plan includes an overarching principle of leadership and three strategic priorities:

- 1—Zero carbon Stonnington**
- 2—Thriving in a changing climate**
- 3—Working together for change**

An overview of these strategic priorities is included in the following pages and a detailed implementation plan begins on page 28.

Overarching principle: Leadership

The City of Stonnington is committed to acting immediately and urgently on the climate emergency and leading and inspiring local action.

Local governments around the world have been playing a key role in responding to climate change at the local level, including working with and supporting local communities. Local government has been a leader in driving action and change at the local level.

With cities accounting for around 75 per cent of human-induced carbon emissions, the Paris Agreement explicitly recognised the crucial role of local and sub-national governments.

*The State of Play: Local governments and city networks accelerating climate action in Australia*¹ report highlights that emission reduction plans in place across 60 of Australia's 527 local governments, can achieve 96 per cent of the current national target by 2030.

While a global issue, climate change has local impacts, impacting our community and city in many different ways. The City of Stonnington plays a key role in leading action at a local level through reducing emissions and preparing our city for a changing climate.

Our leadership response will be delivered through the priority areas outlined in the following pages, focusing on reducing emissions, adapting to a changing climate, embedding climate response into everything we do and working in partnerships to maximise our impact and extend our reach.

Priority 1: Zero carbon Stonnington

The City of Stonnington is committed to a zero carbon future for its own operations and for the Stonnington community.

While reducing our own emissions to help mitigate climate change is a priority for Council, we also play a key role in supporting our community to improve its carbon footprint.

Council action to reduce emissions in Stonnington will focus on three key areas:

- 1 – Reducing our own corporate emissions
- 2 – Supporting our community to reduce emissions
- 3 – Avoiding waste and facilitating resource recovery.



Zero Council corporate emissions

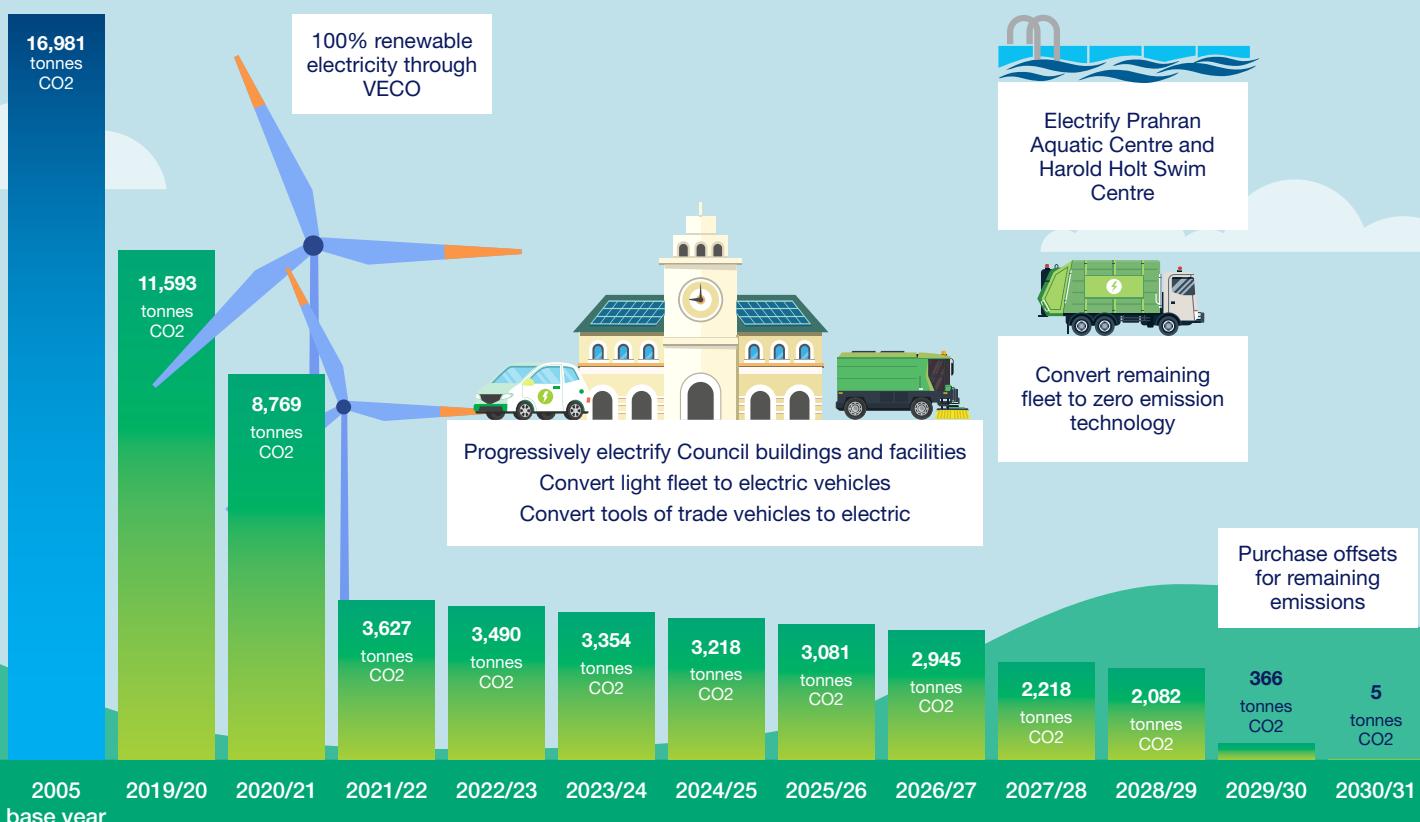
By 2030, we are aiming to achieve zero net emissions for Council operations. We are going to accelerate our climate action and move as fast as possible to get there. Through strong action to date, Council has reduced its emissions by 48% below our 2005 baseline year and we are well on track to achieve this new target.

From 1 July 2021, Council began purchasing renewable energy for all of its electricity supply through VECO – the Victorian Energy Collaboration. We have partnered with 45 other Victorian councils to form the largest emissions reduction project ever undertaken by local government in Australia, purchasing renewable energy from wind farms in Victoria. This has effectively reduced Council's emissions from electricity use to zero and will take Council's corporate emissions to 78% below 2005 base year levels.

Council corporate emissions



Roadmap to zero carbon by 2030



While continuing to reduce energy use will remain a key priority for Council, achieving zero carbon emissions for Council operations will involve the following steps:

Zero carbon energy

While we will continue to transition our smaller sites away from gas to all-electric, our largest gas consumers are our two pools, Harold Holt Swim Centre and Prahran Aquatic Centre. We are working towards an all-electric Prahran Aquatic Centre as we progress plans to redevelop the site and we will develop a plan to transition Harold Holt Swim Centre to all-electric as fast as possible.

Zero carbon fleet

Council is progressively transitioning its light and medium fleet to electric vehicles as the electric vehicle market develops and becomes feasible. While we will be able to replace buses, utes and some trucks with electric models in the short to medium term, it will take longer for our heavy fleet vehicles, including waste trucks, as appropriate electric options are not yet available.

Carbon offsets

To achieve zero emissions for all Council operations, the key focus will be on the steps outlined above. For any remaining emissions in 2030, Council will investigate the purchase of offsets.

Council's current carbon accounting is based on scope 1 and 2 emissions. Scope 3 emissions occur in Council's work or supply chain. Reducing these emissions will involve reducing emissions associated with staff commuting, asphalt, waste, water, paper and our contractors. As we work to accurately capture and monitor these emissions, we will review and update our carbon accounting approach. This action plan includes some actions to address scope 3 emissions but we will review and revise through the action plan update in 2025.

Zero Stonnington community emissions

We're working towards zero net carbon emissions across the entire Stonnington community by 2030.

While Council has some ability to influence, educate and support, we cannot achieve this without a collaborative, collective effort, with Council working together with the Stonnington community, local businesses, industry and state and federal governments.

Stonnington community-wide emissions



Council will prioritise the following actions to achieve net zero emissions for the whole of Stonnington:

Zero carbon energy

With 56 per cent of emissions in Stonnington from electricity, our biggest opportunity to reduce emissions in the municipality is to reduce energy use, install rooftop solar, purchase renewable energy and transition from gas to electricity.

If the entire Stonnington community shifted to 100% renewable energy for all electricity use, our community emissions would drop by 56%! If everyone then moved away from gas, emissions would decrease by another 20%.

A key challenge is supporting residents in apartment buildings to purchase renewable energy. Almost three quarters of homes in Stonnington are in medium to high density developments. This provides a challenge for renewable energy uptake due to a range of factors including available space, governance structures and the number of renters in these sites.

Council will focus on helping our community to reduce energy use, purchase renewable energy and transition away from gas, including tailored approaches for apartment buildings.

Zero carbon transport

Shifting away from fossil fuelled cars to more sustainable transport modes is the second largest opportunity to reduce emissions in Stonnington. Living car free – or reducing car use – is one of the most effective ways to reduce a household's climate impact. This means choosing to walk or cycle, catching public transport or using a car share vehicle. If a car is necessary, then electric vehicles are the next best option.

Council will prioritise support for walking and cycling through infrastructure, advocating to state government for improved cycling networks and behaviour change and engagement. Council will also facilitate access to car share vehicles and provide a network of electric vehicle charging stations.

Zero carbon business

Almost half of all emissions in Stonnington are from electricity and gas used by business and industry. Supporting energy reduction and renewable energy as well as a shift away from gas will deliver the greatest emissions reductions, including lighting upgrades and energy efficient heating and cooling systems.

Council will be looking to work with local businesses to reduce emissions through facilitating access to information, funding and support. We will also work to increase uptake by building owners and removing barriers for building tenants.

Zero carbon developments

Council drives strong environmentally sustainable design standards in new developments during the planning process, improving the performance of new buildings in Stonnington. We are working towards new developments that produce zero net emissions, better manage water and waste, support sustainable transport, increase greening and biodiversity, and are more resilient to a changing climate.



Zero waste and a circular economy

Waste is a climate issue. Organic waste in landfill decomposes and produces methane, a greenhouse gas around 30 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Additionally, high levels of consumption and a ‘take-make-dispose’ mindset cause significant carbon emissions through extracting raw materials and manufacturing products and infrastructure.

Over half the waste placed in Stonnington kerbside garbage bins can be recycled, including 39% food and green waste and 15% recyclables. Both of which can be recovered, recycled through kerbside services and turned into new items.

The circular economy values resources and reinvents how products are created, used and maintained through recycling, re-using and re-purposing goods and resources. It is about designing products so they last longer, repairing and upgrading them so they can be reused or resold and broken down, using their materials to remanufacture new products. Local government, as major purchaser of goods and services, plays a key role in ensuring recycled product markets are economically viable through our purchasing decisions.

The actions outlined in this plan will be built upon through Council’s Zero Waste and Circular Economy Strategy (in development).



What you can do:

- 1—Install rooftop solar or purchase renewable energy (e.g. GreenPower)
- 2—Walk, cycle or catch public transport instead of using your car
- 3—Recycle your food waste

Targets

- » By 2025 reduce carbon emissions by 80% for Council operations
- » By 2030 achieve zero carbon emissions for Council operations
- » By 2030 achieve zero carbon emissions for the Stonnington community. The Victorian Government has set a long term target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and we want to accelerate that target, pushing the state to go harder and faster towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.
- » By 2025 double the amount of Stonnington dwellings with rooftop solar systems from 10% in 2021
- » By 2025, 80% of Stonnington households recycling food waste through on-site composting systems and the kerbside food and green waste service
- » Increase the number of local share networks including repair cafes, tool libraries, swaps, etc.

Refer to the [Action Plan](#) for a full inventory of Council’s action on climate change.

Priority 2: Thriving in a changing climate

The City of Stonnington is committed to futureproofing our city, ensuring we plan and adapt to a changing climate for both our own operations and across and within our community.

We are already experiencing the impacts of climate change in our city and we will continue to do so. Climate impacts such as increasing urban heat, reduced rainfall, flooding and storm events place our community at risk, and the infrastructure (built and natural) and services Council provides to the community. They also place pressure on local emergency services.

Council will need to understand and mitigate risks to infrastructure, our natural environment, sports and recreation, urban development and housing, human health and Council operations to ensure our city thrives in a climate-changed future. Economic risks also need to be considered, including insurances, changes to revenue streams and any additional costs to ensure assets are climate-resilient.

Council action to ensure our city adapts and thrives in a changing climate will focus on three key areas:

- 1 — Increase urban greening and cool our city
- 2 — Climate-ready built environment
- 3 — A resilient, connected community.



Cooling our city

We will create a green, cool, climate adapted city that is resilient to the impacts of climate change, providing cooling benefits, supporting biodiversity and improving liveability.

Key actions for Council to support urban cooling will include adding more trees into our urban landscape and ensuring supportive environments for trees and other vegetation through innovative green-blue infrastructure and water sensitive city design.

We will reduce pressure on drinking water sources by increasing use of alternative water for open space irrigation and create and enhance green open spaces to improve biodiversity, boost community health and wellbeing and provide places for the community to come together and connect.

We will protect and enhance our natural environment, including biodiversity hotspots and waterways. To ensure these areas can thrive in a changing climate, we will adapt our land management practices and seek to partner with Traditional Owners, learning from them and their connection to country.

Climate-ready built environment

A climate-ready future involves ensuring that our built environment is able to withstand climate impacts, such as storms, flooding and heatwaves, providing safety and enhancing liveability.

New buildings and infrastructure will be designed and built to be resilient, contributing to a thriving urban environment and supporting community health and wellbeing. Existing buildings will be updated to reduce their environmental impact and strengthen their resilience.

Zero carbon Stonnington, outlined above, includes ‘Zero carbon developments’ as a key focus area for Council. Supporting climate-ready private development through our Planning Scheme and through education and engagement will also be an important action in this plan.

A resilient, connected community

A resilient and connected community will be more adaptive to a changing climate. When people in communities have strong social connections and work together, they are better able to respond to stresses and threats. Council will work to strengthen community connections and partner with key community groups to expand our reach, particularly with vulnerable community members.

We want to ready our neighbourhoods, communities, local economy and our infrastructure and services to withstand climate impacts and other threats, such as global pandemics, to emerge stronger and more connected.



What you can do:

- 1 — Plant indigenous plants and trees and grow your own food
- 2 — Get to know your neighbours or join a local community group
- 3 — Reduce water use

Targets

- » Increase tree canopy and shrub cover to 44% by 2030 (as outlined in Living Melbourne: our metropolitan urban forest)
- » Develop an integrated water management strategy for Council by 2022 outlining our transition to a water sensitive city:
- » Include targets to increase water use from alternative sources (e.g. rainwater, local waterways and stormwater).

Refer to the [Action Plan](#) for a full inventory of Council’s action on climate change.



Priority 3: Working together for change

The City of Stonnington is committed to working together with our community, local businesses, state and federal governments and other key partners to take strong action on climate change and minimise climate-related impacts and their effects on the health and wellbeing of our community and natural environment.

Climate change is already affecting our environment, economy and the health and wellbeing of our community and will increasingly continue to do so. Acting on the climate emergency will require all of us to work together to take action, build momentum and increase our impact.

This is not just an environmental issue. Climate change will impact all parts of Council and all parts of our community.

The implementation of this action plan requires a Council-wide response and a collective approach in partnership with our community, neighbouring councils, all levels of government and other key stakeholders.

Council action to embed climate response internally and create partnerships for change will focus on three key areas:

- 1 – A whole-of-Council climate response
- 2 – Community partnerships
- 3 – Partnering with state and federal governments.



A whole-of-Council response

Acting on the climate emergency will require a whole-of-Council response, embedding climate action across everything we do.

Our strategies, policies and services will be developed and delivered through a climate change lens. We will educate and engage Council staff to understand the climate emergency and support them to take climate action in their roles and areas of service delivery.

Council will lead by example, integrating climate action into all that we control to reduce emissions, adapt to a changing climate, address climate risk and help create a more sustainable future for us all.

Community partnerships

Developing partnerships will be a key way for Council to maximise the effectiveness of its climate emergency response. We know that when we work together, great things can happen. An excellent example of this is VECO – the Victorian Energy Collaboration, a partnership of 46 Victorian councils working together to purchase renewable energy, and forming the largest local government emission reduction project at the same time.

While working in partnership with the community will be a key focus for Council, so will building on existing partnerships, such as with the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action and Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment, as well as creating new working relationships with local businesses, community groups and local service providers.

Partnering with state and federal governments

A federal and state response is also needed to make the changes that are beyond the control of local government, including policy reform on buildings, transport, energy sector and land use.

Council will seek to develop partnerships with at federal and state levels for strong commitment and action.

What you can do:

- 1—Become an active citizen within your community
- 2—Advocate to state and federal governments for change
- 3—Support our local economy

Targets

- » By 2022, climate emergency priorities are embedded in all Council strategies, policies, plans and decision-making and service delivery.



Refer to the [Action Plan](#) for a full inventory of Council's action on climate change.



Action Plan

The following plan outlines priority actions that Council will focus on over the next four years to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, prepare our city and community for a changing climate and embed climate emergency response throughout the organisation. Many of these actions are already underway across the organisation. Some actions will require additional budget. In these cases, a business case will be developed and budget approval sought through the annual budget approval process.

Towards 2030

Due to the current rate of both policy and technological change, in 2024 Council will undertake a review of this action plan and our climate emergency response to develop a revised plan. The updated plan will include a review of new policies, technology and feedback from stakeholders.

Council will continue to report on its progress against its climate emergency priorities and the strategic objectives of its Sustainable Environment Strategy 2018-2023 through the annual Sustainability Snapshot.



Priority 1: Zero carbon Stonnington

No.	Action	Timeframe:	Funding:	Cost:	Delivery	Partners
Zero carbon energy						
1.1	Electrify Council buildings and facilities.				» Project Management and Delivery » Open Space and Environment » Active communities	
1.1.1	» Develop a roadmap to transition Council buildings and facilities away from gas to renewable energy as fast as possible and progress implementation.	Year 1 – ongoing	Existing Implementation may require additional resources beyond asset renewal program. This will be subject to the annual budget process.	\$		
1.1.2	» Ensure the redevelopment of Prahran Aquatic Centre is all-electric and leading environmentally sustainable design.	Year 2 plus future	Existing and New	\$\$\$ Subject to design and technology. Will be included in project budget.		
1.1.3	» Develop a plan to transition Harold Holt Swim Centre away from gas to renewable energy.	Years 1-2 plus future Implementation timeframe to be confirmed following plan development.	Existing Implementation may require additional resources beyond asset renewal program. This will be subject to the annual budget process.	\$		
1.2	Reduce energy use in Council buildings and facilities.				» Project Management and Delivery » Open Space and Environment » Property » City Operations	» Council building tenants » Stonnington community
1.2.1	» Maximise all available Council building roof space with solar PV panels by 2023, including installing battery storage where daytime usage is low.	Years 1-3	Existing	\$\$		
1.2.2	» Partner with tenants of Council buildings to facilitate access to renewable energy.	Years 1-2	Existing	\$		
1.2.3	» Install smart building technology, including monitoring and control systems, to ensure optimal building performance.	Ongoing	Existing	\$\$		
1.2.4	» Develop a process to ensure that all facility maintenance upgrades focus on improving environmental performance, rather than like-for-like replacements.	Year 1	Existing	Nil		
1.2.5	» Embed environmental performance and management into all new leases for Council-owned buildings and facilities as part of the conditions of occupancy.	Years 1-2	Existing	Nil		

Priority 1: Zero carbon Stonnington

No.	Action	Timeframe: Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	Funding: New / Existing	Cost: \$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k	Delivery	Partners
1.3	Accelerate energy efficient lighting upgrades.					
1.3.1	» Partner with the Victorian Government to upgrade all cost-shared main road lights to LED as soon as possible.	Years 2-4	Existing Additional resources may be required if this is accelerated as a bulk upgrade.	\$\$\$	» Open Space and Environment » Project Management and Delivery	» Victorian Government » Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action
1.3.2	» Replace inefficient public space lighting with the most efficient technology available, including lighting controls to avoid unnecessary use.	Years 2-3	Existing	\$\$\$		
Zero carbon fleet						
1.4	Transition Council's fleet to zero carbon as quickly as possible.					
1.4.1	» Develop a fleet transition plan that outlines options and opportunities for zero and low emissions fleet.	Year 1	Existing	\$	» City Operations » Open Space and Environment	
1.4.2	» Update Council's fleet policy to prioritise zero emission vehicles.	Year 1	Existing	Nil		
1.4.3	» Replace light and medium fleet with electric vehicles at end of life.	Ongoing	Existing	\$\$		
1.4.4	» Trial electric and other zero carbon alternatives to heavy fleet vehicles, as technology becomes available.	Ongoing	Existing & New	\$\$		
1.5	Support Council staff to reduce vehicle use.					
1.5.1	» Develop a workplace sustainable transport policy to support Council staff to choose sustainable transport for work trips.	Years 1-2	Existing	\$	» People » Technology Enablement » City Strategy » Open Space and Environment	
1.5.2	» Provide incentives for staff to choose sustainable transport for work-related trips and travel to and from work including electric bikes, lockers, training, public transport passes and carpooling.	Year 2	Existing	\$		
1.5.3	» Ensure working from home and flexible working arrangements for Council staff, helping to reduce transport-related emissions post-COVID.	Ongoing	Existing	Nil		

Priority 1: Zero carbon Stonnington

No.	Action	Timeframe:	Funding:	Cost:	Delivery	Partners
Carbon offsets						
1.6	Purchase carbon offsets for any remaining corporate greenhouse gas emissions to achieve zero net emissions for Council operations by 2030.	To be undertaken in 2030 in line with the target date for zero emissions and in line with an adopted emissions offsets policy.	New	\$-\$ Subject to emissions volume and offsets pricing.	» Open Space and Environment » Finance	
Zero waste and a circular economy						
1.7	Develop a Zero Waste and Circular Economy Strategy to reduce waste, optimise resource recovery and facilitate a circular economy.	Year 1	Existing	\$	» City Operations » Open Space and Environment	» Stonnington community
1.8	Continue to develop and deliver community education and behaviour change initiatives to avoid sending waste to landfill, reduce contamination and maximise resource recovery.	Ongoing	Existing	\$	» Open Space and Environment	» Stonnington community
1.9	Develop and implement a program to support Council and the community to eliminate the use and distribution of single use plastic items, in line with the Victorian single use plastics ban to begin in 2023.	Years 1-2	Existing	\$	» All Council	» Stonnington community
1.9.1	» Develop a program to prepare local businesses for the Victorian single use plastics ban.	Years 1-2	Existing	\$		
1.10	Expand Council's food and green waste service to avoid sending food waste to landfill.				» City Operations Open Space and Environment	» Stonnington community » Apartment residents » Owners Corporations » Property Managers
1.10.1	» Develop an engagement program to increase take up of the food and green waste service.	Year 1	Existing	\$		
1.10.2	» Trial options to support medium to high density apartment buildings avoid sending food waste to landfill.	Year 2	Existing	\$		

Priority 1: Zero carbon Stonnington

No.	Action	Timeframe: Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	Funding: New / Existing	Cost: \$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k	Delivery	Partners
1.11	Facilitate a local circular economy.				» All Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Stonnington businesses » Local councils » Stonnington community
1.11.1	» Increase Council purchasing of goods and materials containing recycled content in building and infrastructure projects.	Ongoing	Existing and New	Project dependant		
1.11.2	» Facilitate local business participation in circular economy networks.	Year 2	Existing	\$		
1.11.3	» Develop and support initiatives to foster a local share economy including repair cafes, food swaps and tool libraries.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
Zero carbon energy						
1.12	Support Stonnington households to reduce energy use and accelerate the transition to renewable energy.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Open Space and Environment » Statutory Planning » Aged, Diversity and Community » City Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Victorian government » United Energy » CitiPower » Energy retailers » Stonnington community
1.12.1	» Facilitate access to expert advice on solar, battery storage, energy efficiency and gas transition.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
1.12.2	» Engage residents unable to install solar to access renewable energy through GreenPower.	Ongoing	Existing	Nil		
1.12.3	» Provide advice and support to households to help them transition away from wood heaters to more efficient heating.	Ongoing	Existing	Nil		
1.12.4	» Support residents in heritage overlay areas to install rooftop solar by developing guidance information on installing solar in heritage areas and waiving the planning application fee.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
1.12.5	» Facilitate access to solar and renewable energy for residents in apartment buildings.	Ongoing	Existing	Nil		
1.12.6	» Investigate innovative energy projects including community energy models, partnerships with retailers, virtual power plants and micro grids.	Years 2-3	Existing	\$		
1.12.7	» Explore financial incentives through rates, fees and charges to encourage home energy efficiency improvements including rooftop solar, double glazing, insulation, efficient hot water and home heating and cooling.	Year 2	Existing	\$-\$\$ Subject to incentive program		

Priority 1: Zero carbon Stonnington

No.	Action	Timeframe:	Funding:	Cost:	Delivery	Partners
1.13	» Develop a program to support vulnerable households including older people and people on low incomes to reduce energy bills, build climate resilience and improve health outcomes.	Year 2	Existing	\$	» Open Space and Environment » Aged, Diversity and Community » City Strategy	» Victorian government » United Energy » CitiPower » Energy retailers » Stonnington community » Health service providers
Zero carbon transport						
1.14	Develop a walkable city where walking is a preferred option for a range of local trips within the city.				» Open Space and Environment » City Strategy » Transport and Parking » Project Management and Delivery	» Stonnington community » Business associations » Victorian government
1.14.1	» Develop a walking strategy to promote and facilitate walking for a range of outcomes including wellbeing, equity, social inclusion, environment and economic.	Year 1	Existing	\$		
1.14.2	» Create open streets and walkable places that encourage people to walk more often through increased pedestrian priority, safer vehicle speeds and improved footpaths and crossings.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$\$		
1.14.3	» Join up missing footpath and crossing links in the walking network to make walking more convenient.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$\$		
1.14.4	» Upgrade off-road shared paths and investigate opportunities to separate shared path users.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$\$		



Priority 1: Zero carbon Stonnington

No.	Action	Timeframe: Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	Funding: New / Existing	Cost: \$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k	Delivery	Partners
1.15	Develop a cycle smart city to increase the mode share of cycling, where cycling is the mode of choice for a range of trips and for all confidence levels.				» Open Space and Environment » City Strategy » Transport and Parking » Project Management and Delivery	» Stonnington community » Business associations » Victorian government
1.15.1	» Create a network of shimmy routes – signed, low traffic and low speed streets – linking key destinations.	Years 1-3	Existing and New	\$\$\$		
1.15.2	» Install bike parking, repair stations, rest stops, and end of trip facilities in key locations across the city.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$\$		
1.15.3	» Accelerate investment in a connected network of safe, separated on-road cycle paths in partnership with neighbouring municipalities and the Victorian Government.	Ongoing	New	\$\$\$		
1.15.4	» Upgrade off-road shared paths and investigate opportunities to separate shared path users.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$\$		
1.15.5	» Invest in education and training to address barriers to cycling.	Ongoing	Existing	\$\$		
1.16	Support the community to reduce private car use.				» Open Space and Environment » City Strategy » Transport and Parking » Economic Development	» Stonnington community » Business associations » Victorian government
1.16.1	» Support micro mobility initiatives including shared electric scooters and bikes to reduce car use.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
1.16.2	» Develop and implement a parking strategy and policies to manage parking more efficiently and allocate road space in line with Council's economic, transport and sustainability objectives.	Years 1-3	Existing	\$\$\$		
1.16.3	» Expand the number of car share bays in areas of high demand to increase car share uptake.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
1.16.4	» Assess missing cycling and walking links around activity nodes (schools, parks, community facilities and activity centres) to improve connections and deliver safe travel to school programs to reduce car trips.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$\$		
1.16.5	» Develop initiatives to encourage zero emission transport such as education, training and awareness programs and initiatives, trialling street openings to walking and bike riding without car traffic, car free days, local access buses and subsidies and incentives for sustainable transport.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$		

Priority 1: Zero carbon Stonnington

No.	Action	Timeframe:	Funding:	Cost:	Delivery	Partners
1.17	Facilitate the uptake of electric vehicles.					
1.17.1	» Develop a policy to support a network of electric vehicle charging stations across Stonnington to drive private uptake of electric vehicles.	Year 1	New	\$	» Open Space and Environment » City Strategy » Transport and Parking	» Stonnington community » Business associations » Victorian government
1.17.2	» Undertake a feasibility study to explore options for supporting electric vehicle uptake including opportunities for on-street and off-street charging.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$		
1.17.3	» Install a network of electric vehicle charging stations across the city.	Years 1-3	Existing	\$\$		
Zero carbon business						
1.18	Work with Stonnington businesses to reduce energy use and accelerate the transition to renewable energy.				» Open Space and Environment » Economic Development	» Stonnington community » Business associations » Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action » Victorian government
1.18.1	» Facilitate access to Environmental Upgrade Finance to improve building environmental performance and reduce energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions.	Ongoing	Existing	Nil		
1.18.2	» Develop a program to support local businesses save money and energy through energy efficiency upgrades including retrofitting existing appliances and equipment subsidised by the Victorian Government under the Victorian Energy Upgrade Program.	Year 1	Existing	\$		
1.18.3	» Investigate opportunities for emissions intensive businesses to purchase renewable energy through collaborative Power Purchasing Agreements (PPAs).	Years 1-2	Existing	\$		
1.18.4	» Develop partnerships with large commercial precincts to reduce emissions, enhance city greening and cooling and respond to the climate emergency.	Years 2-3	Existing	Nil		
1.18.5	» Support businesses to adopt zero emissions transport modes e.g. cargo bikes and electric vehicles.	Ongoing	New	\$		

Priority 1: Zero carbon Stonnington

No.	Action	Timeframe: Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	Funding: New / Existing	Cost: \$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k	Delivery	Partners
Zero carbon developments						
1.19	Achieve zero carbon and resilient development in Stonnington.					
1.19.1	» Investigate how the Stonnington Planning Scheme can be strengthened to integrate and support relevant actions of this Climate Emergency Action Plan.	Years 1-2	Existing	\$		» Victorian government » Greenhouse Alliances » City Strategy » Statutory Planning
1.19.2	» Ensure strategic planning for Stonnington activity centres and the broader municipality address the impacts of climate change and future proof our city.	Ongoing	Existing	Nil		» Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment » Developers
1.19.3	» Ensure strategic directions relating to climate change and planning for sustainable development are part of the Municipal Planning Strategy within the Stonnington Planning Scheme.	Years 1-2	Existing	\$		
1.19.4	» Continue to collaborate with Victorian councils and the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) on a project to elevate environmentally sustainable development (ESD) targets for new development.	Years 1-2	Existing	\$		
1.19.5	» Showcase leading environmentally sustainable design in local development through sharing stories, case studies and recognition.	Year 2 – ongoing	Existing	Nil		



Priority 2: Thriving in a changing climate

No.	Action	Timeframe: Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	Funding: New / Existing	Cost: \$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k	Delivery	Partners
Increase urban greening and cool our city						
2.1	Increase canopy cover and grow the urban forest.				» Project Management and Delivery » Open Space and Environment » Statutory Planning	» Stonnington community » Stonnington businesses » Developers
2.1.1	» Embed urban greening and city cooling objectives in all masterplanning, precinct planning and capital project design and implementation. These projects should also consider flood mitigation and wind protection. Develop specifications to ensure that all future capital projects prioritise city cooling, urban greening and flood mitigation.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
2.1.2	» Build innovative green infrastructure and permeable surfaces into future urban projects to support urban greening and city cooling. This includes alternative infrastructure when tree planting may not be possible. Prioritise tree planting and canopy cover in areas impacted by urban heat and social vulnerability.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$\$		
2.1.3	» Develop a targeted program to include canopy trees in commercial precincts to improve shade provision, city cooling and improved amenity.	Years 1-2	Existing	\$\$		
2.1.4	» Incorporate passive irrigation and permeable surfaces for all new street tree plantings, where possible, to support passive irrigation and tree health.	Ongoing	Existing	\$\$		
2.1.5	» Select plant and tree species that consider a changing climate to ensure plant and tree health, lifespan and cooling benefits. Progressively renew and replace existing tree plantings not suitable for future climatic conditions with more suitable species.	Ongoing	Existing	Nil		
2.1.6	» Develop guidance to support the community and developers to select suitable tree species for a changing climate to ensure tree health, lifespan and cooling benefits.	Year 2	Existing	Nil		

Priority 2: Thriving in a changing climate

No.	Action	Timeframe: Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	Funding: New / Existing	Cost: \$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k	Delivery	Partners
2.2	Transition to a water sensitive city, reduce reliance on drinking water for irrigation and increase alternative water use.				» Project Management and Delivery » Open Space and Environment » Statutory Planning » Recreation Services	» Stonnington community » Victorian government » Neighbouring councils » Yarra Integrated Water Management Forum » Traditional Owners » Water authorities » Sports clubs
2.2.1	» Develop an integrated water management plan to outline Council's plan to become a water sensitive and cool city.	Years 1-2	Existing	Nil		
2.2.2	» Work in partnership with key stakeholders, including representatives from Traditional Owner groups, state government agencies, water utilities and key stakeholders to ensure a coordinated, holistic approach to water management in Stonnington.	Ongoing	Existing	Nil		
2.2.3	» Deliver water savings projects at Sir Zelman Cowen Park, Darling Park, Toorak Park and TH King Oval, as identified in Council's Water Savings Study.	Years 1-4	Existing and New	\$\$\$		
2.2.4	» Develop a maintenance program for all existing rainwater assets to ensure they are operating effectively to reduce reliance on drinking water use for non-potable purposes in Council buildings.	Year 1	Existing	\$		
2.2.5	» Transition remaining cool season sports turf to warm season grasses at Como Park, Sir Robert Menzies Reserve and Romanis Oval.	Years 2-4	Existing	\$\$\$		
2.3	Protect and enhance biodiversity.				» Open Space and Environment » Project Management and Delivery » City Strategy	» Traditional Owners » Neighbouring councils » Stonnington schools » Stonnington residents
2.3.1	» Develop a strategy to outline Council's approach to biodiversity management.	Years 2-3	Existing	\$		
2.3.2	» Work with Traditional Owners to embed traditional knowledge and practices into Council's land management practices to ensure a healthy and resilient natural environment.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
2.3.3	» Develop a program to support local schools and other private landholders to enhance biodiversity on their land.	Year 1	Existing	\$		
2.3.4	» Provide information and incentives to encourage Stonnington residents to create wildlife friendly gardens and support urban biodiversity, for example through workshops, local tours and plant giveaways.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
2.3.5	» Provide advice to Stonnington residents on climate-friendly plants.	Year 2	Existing	Nil		
2.3.6	» Develop guidelines to support nature strip gardening, focusing on indigenous and native planting.	Year 2	Existing	Nil		

Priority 2: Thriving in a changing climate

No.	Action	Timeframe:	Funding:	Cost:	Delivery	Partners
Climate-ready built environment						
2.4	Ensure Council facilities and infrastructure are climate-ready.				» Project Management and Delivery » Asset Management and Planning » Open Space and Environment » City Operations » Statutory Planning	» Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action » Local councils » Melbourne Water » Yarra Valley Water » South East Water » Victorian Government
2.4.1	» Develop and implement a Sustainable Assets Policy for all Council building and infrastructure projects, ensuring all building, redevelopment and infrastructure projects showcase leading environmentally sustainable design, climate resilience and leadership.	Year 1	Existing	\$		
2.4.2	» Ensure that Council major building and infrastructure projects, such as Percy Treyyaud Memorial Park Masterplan, Prahran Aquatic Centre, Prahran Town Hall, Toorak Park Masterplan and pavilion redevelopments, showcase leading environmentally sustainable design and are climate-ready.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$\$ Subject to design and technology. Will be included in project budget.		
2.4.3	» Ensure that Council's asset management program increases the resilience of Council buildings and infrastructure to the impacts of climate change.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$\$ Subject to design and technology. Will be included in project budget.		
2.4.4	» Maximise use of lighter coloured surfaces, where possible, to reduce the urban heat island effect including roads, pavements and roofs.	Ongoing	Existing	\$-\$		
2.4.5	» Upgrade stormwater drainage infrastructure to reduce flooding impacts and increase stormwater reuse.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$\$ Subject to design and technology. Will be included in project budget.		
2.4.6	» Undertake flood modelling using projected climate scenarios to develop a list of priority projects to mitigate flood risks as well as update flooding overlays and integrate into emergency response.	Year 2	Existing	\$\$\$		

Priority 2: Thriving in a changing climate

No.	Action	Timeframe: Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	Funding: New / Existing	Cost: \$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k	Delivery	Partners
2.5	Integrate climate impacts and response into emergency management procedures.				» Open Space and Environment » Municipal Emergency Response Coordinator » Municipal Emergency Management Officer	» Emergency management services
2.5.1	» Review and update Council's Heatwave Plan as needed to prepare for increasing number of hot days and heatwaves.	Year 1	Existing	Nil		
2.5.2	» Review and update Council's Emergency Management Plan as needed to ensure climate impacts are included.	Year 1	Existing	Nil		
2.6	Undertake an annual review and update of Council's strategic risk register based on the latest climate change projections to ensure that Council's climate related risks are identified and mitigated.	Ongoing	Existing	Nil	» Risk and Integrity » Open Space and Environment	
A resilient, connected community						
2.7	Educate the community on climate related risks and encourage preparedness and emergency planning for businesses, households and individuals.				» Open Space and Environment » Aged, Diversity and Community	» Stonnington residents » Community service providers
2.7.1	» Create targeted communications and support for the most vulnerable residents, including older people and people living in social and public housing, to prepare and cope with the impacts of climate change including extreme weather such as storms and floods as well as heatwaves.	Year 2	Existing	\$		
2.7.2	» Establish a network of local heat refuges for Stonnington's most vulnerable residents.	Year 1	Existing	\$		
2.7.3	» Work with community organisations to build their capacity to prepare and respond to climate impacts and support their communities.	Year 2 - ongoing	Existing	\$		

Priority 2: Thriving in a changing climate

No.	Action	Timeframe:	Funding:	Cost:	Delivery	Partners
2.8	Facilitate and support local environment and climate action.	Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	New / Existing	\$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k		
2.8.1	» Deliver Council's Environmental Champions program to develop local environmental leaders and support grassroots climate action.	Ongoing	Existing	\$	» Open Space and Environment » Aged, Diversity and Community	» Stonnington community
2.8.2	» Support community climate action through Council's community grants program, including working with local community groups to develop and plan local climate action projects.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
2.8.3	» Support the community to become environmental custodians by helping to develop and support local community groups that protect and care for the local environment.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
2.9	Encourage local food production.				» Open Space and Environment » Aged, Diversity and Community » City Strategy » Project Management and Delivery	» Stonnington community
2.9.1	» Deliver My Smart Garden, a program to encourage Stonnington residents to grow their own food through workshops, resources, community connections and local tours.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
2.9.2	» Support and facilitate local food production through a range of gardening models, including community gardens on both public land, where possible, and private land (this could include land owned by transport and water authorities).	Year 2 – ongoing	New	\$\$		



Priority 3: Working together for change

No.	Action	Timeframe: Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	Funding: New / Existing	Cost: \$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k	Delivery	Partners
Key focus: A whole-of-Council approach						
3.1	<p>Ensure that consideration is given to the following 'guiding principles' to support Council decision-making as outlined in Section 23–28 of the Victorian Government's Climate Change Act 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Principle of informed decision-making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – based on best available information on the impacts of climate change – considers impact on Council's greenhouse gas emissions » Principle of integrated decision-making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – considers short, medium and long term impacts of climate change – considers climate risks in strategic plans – considers social, health, economic and environmental issues – considers direct, operational and consequential costs over time » Principle of risk management evaluates potential climate impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – adopts a precautionary approach » Principle of community engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – provides appropriate information to the community – provides opportunities for community involvement in decision-making relating to climate change 	Ongoing	Existing	Nil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Councillors » Executive Team 	



Priority 3: Working together for change

No.	Action	Timeframe:	Funding:	Cost:	Delivery	Partners
3.2	Embed Council's climate emergency commitment and response into all future Council strategies, policies and plans.					
3.2.1	» Review and update existing strategies, policies and plans with Council's climate emergency response commitments.	Years 1-2	Existing	\$	» Councillors » Executive Team » All Council departments	» Stonnington community
3.2.2	» Embed Council's climate emergency commitment in the next iteration of its Council Plan and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, including strategic priorities and actions.	Year 1	Existing	Nil		
3.2.3	» Incorporate climate emergency considerations into decision-making documentation including Council reports and internal briefing papers including the project's potential environmental impact and how it supports Council's climate emergency response.	Year 1	Existing	Nil		
3.2.4	» Embed climate emergency response into Council's project planning and management through inclusion in project scoping and design processes and project documentation such as project briefs and contracts.	Year 1	Existing	Nil		
3.2.5	» Incorporate climate change considerations for each operating and capital project bid including the project's potential environmental impact and how it supports Council's climate emergency response.	Year 2	Existing	Nil		
3.2.6	» Identify climate change adaptation opportunities in Council's asset management strategies, plans and contracts.	Years 1-2	Existing	Nil		



Priority 3: Working together for change

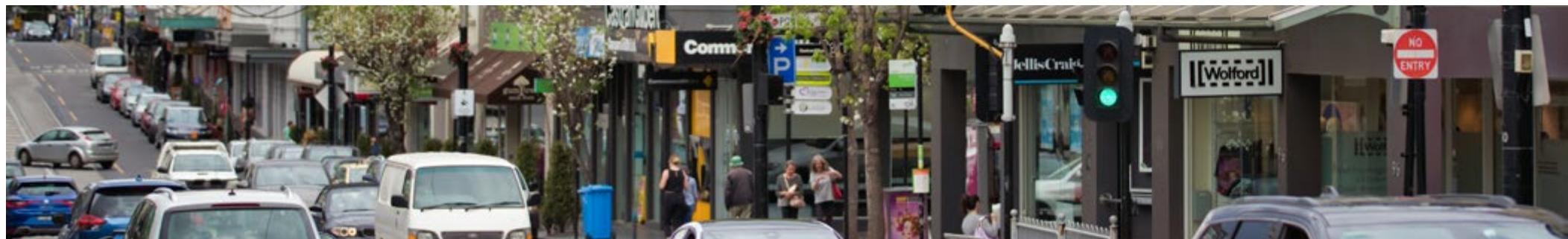
No.	Action	Timeframe: Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	Funding: New / Existing	Cost: \$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k	Delivery	Partners
3.3	Embed Council's climate emergency commitment and response into Council operations and service delivery.				» CEO » Executive Team » Managers and Coordinators	
3.3.1	» Establish an internal Climate Oversight Committee with key decision-makers to support the integration of climate emergency response into Council decision-making.	Year 1	Existing	Nil		
3.3.2	» Embed Council's commitment to acting on the climate emergency and environmental sustainability into Council's Employee Value Proposition.	Year 1	Existing	Nil		
3.3.3	» Develop a tailored climate action plan for each internal division to support climate response throughout the organisation.	Year 2	Existing	\$		
3.3.4	» Review Council's organisational structure and resourcing to ensure optimal capacity to effectively deliver on Council's climate emergency commitments.	Ongoing	Existing and New	Nil		
3.4	Build Council staff capacity to respond to the climate emergency.				» Open Space and Environment » People » All Council departments	
3.4.1	» Develop and deliver a climate change education and engagement program for Council staff to build understanding of climate change and its impacts, including climate risks. The program is to include information sessions, workshops, film screenings, site tours etc. Ensure that the program recognises the impact of climate change on mental and physical health and wellbeing.	Years 1-2	Existing	\$		
3.5	Design and progress Council's 'smart cities' initiatives related to environmental performance to monitor performance and develop insights to build understanding, support decision-making and inform projects.	Ongoing	Existing and New	\$\$ Project dependant	» Digital Transformation	
3.6	Build climate emergency awareness both internally and externally.				» Communications » Open Space and Environment	
3.6.1	» Include climate emergency information in Council communications to build awareness and engagement both internally and externally.	Ongoing	Existing	Nil		
3.6.2	» Ensure Council's website clearly outlines our climate emergency commitment and response.	Year 1	Existing	Nil		

Priority 3: Working together for change

No.	Action	Timeframe:	Funding:	Cost:	Delivery	Partners
3.7	Monitor and report progress on climate emergency response.					
3.7.1	» Continue to report annually on Council's progress on the actions in this Climate Emergency Action Plan and the strategic objectives outlined in the Sustainable Environment Strategy 2018–2023.	Ongoing	Existing	Nil	» Open Space and Environment » Digital Transformation	
3.7.2	» Ensure Council's corporate climate data inventory aligns with best practice monitoring and reporting frameworks.	Ongoing	Existing	\$		
3.8	Ensure sustainable finance and purchasing decisions.				» Finance » Procurement » Open Space and Environment	
3.8.1	» Develop a process to strengthen Council's budget management through integrating lifecycle costs and co-benefits in project planning and budget management.	Year 2	Existing	Nil		
3.8.2	» Update Council's banking and investment policies to leverage Council's influence on sustainable industries and divest Council funds from activities that have a negative impact on the environment.	Year 2	Existing	Nil		
3.8.3	» Update Council's procurement policies and documents to strengthen sustainable procurement outcomes, including prioritising purchase of recycled materials and encourage innovation and sustainability in the supply chain.	Years 1-2	Existing	Nil	» Procurement » Finance » Open Space and Environment	
3.8.4	» Develop a training program for Council staff to support sustainable purchasing practices and decisions on high impact purchases.	Year 2	Existing	\$		
3.8.5	» Work with Council suppliers to ensure our climate emergency commitments are replicated throughout the supply chain.	Year 2 – ongoing	Existing	\$		
3.8.6	» Explore alternative purchasing models to support Council purchasing decisions including options to hire, lease and borrow.	Year 2 – ongoing	Existing and New	\$		

Priority 3: Working together for change

No.	Action	Timeframe:	Funding:	Cost:	Delivery	Partners
Community partnerships						
3.9	Advance partnerships, alliances and collaborative initiatives with key stakeholders and groups to progress Council's climate emergency commitments and response.				» All Council » Open Space and Environment	» Local councils » Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action » Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) » Climate Emergency Australia » M9 partnership » Stonnington community » Community groups » Stonnington businesses » Stonnington trader associations
3.9.1	» Develop partnerships with large commercial precincts and Stonnington's biggest carbon emitters to reduce emissions, enhance city greening and cooling and respond to the climate emergency.	Year 2	Existing	Nil		
3.9.2	» Develop a program to engage local businesses, sporting clubs and community organisations to join the City of Stonnington in declaring a climate emergency and acting immediately and urgently on climate change. As a first step, work with the sectors that have already declared a climate emergency including architects, engineers, builders, etc.	Year 1	Existing	\$		
3.9.3	» Establish a Climate Emergency Advisory Committee with representatives from Council and across the Stonnington community to support the implementation of Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan.	Year 1	Existing	Nil		
3.9.4	» Build the capacity of community groups to develop, support, lead and promote community-led climate action. Work closely with these organisations to reach and engage with the most vulnerable members of the community.	Year 2 – ongoing	Existing	\$		
3.9.5	» Showcase local businesses that are leading action on climate change and sustainability through case studies, events and recognition.	Year 2	Existing	\$		



No.	Action	Timeframe: Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	Funding: New / Existing	Cost: \$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k	Delivery	Partners
Partnering with state and federal governments						
3.10	Partner with the Victorian Government to strengthen its response to climate change, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Declare a climate emergency » Commit to zero emissions by 2030 » Reset and increase the Victorian Renewable Energy Target to 100% » Strengthen environmentally sustainable design in the Victorian Planning Scheme including: Zero carbon building standards » Increase green infrastructure » Protect trees on private land » Support sustainable transport e.g. improve infrastructure for cyclists, public transport » Enhance transit and pedestrian oriented design » Parking management » Support electric vehicle charging infrastructure » Improve waste management and strengthen the industry » Accelerate energy efficient home improvements for public and community housing » Partner on cost-share major road lighting upgrades » Invest in on- and off-road shared path networks » Invest in supporting businesses to reduce energy use and transition to renewable energy » Invest in supporting households to upgrade homes » Implement road user charging to incentivise zero emissions transport » Support for increasing open space 	Ongoing	Existing	Nil	» All Council	» Victorian Government

Priority 3: Working together for change

No.	Action	Timeframe: Year 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / Ongoing	Funding: New / Existing	Cost: \$ Low \$0-\$50k \$\$ Medium \$50k-\$250k \$\$\$ High >\$250k	Delivery	Partners
3.11	<p>Partner with the Federal Government to strengthen its response to climate change, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Declare a climate emergency » Commit to zero emissions by 2030 » Reset and increase the national Renewable Energy Target to 100% » Strengthen energy efficiency provisions in the National Construction Code » Support a transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy » Support a transition to zero emission vehicles » Invest in supporting households to upgrade homes » Co-invest in the transition from gas to electricity in significant public facilities (e.g. pools) 	Ongoing	Existing	Nil	» All Council	» Federal Government





City of
STONNINGTON

Stonnington City Centre
311 Glenferrie Road, Malvern

Stonnington Services and Visitor Hub
Chatham Street, Prahran Square, Prahran

Open
Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm
T 8290 1333 **F** 9521 2255

PO Box 58, Malvern Victoria 3144
council@stonnington.vic.gov.au

Stonnington Waste Transfer Station
43 Weir Street, Malvern
Sunday to Friday, 10am to 3.30pm
Saturday, 9am to 3pm

stonnington.vic.gov.au