

BRIGHTON COUNCIL  
**CLIMATE  
CHANGE AND  
RESILIENCE  
STRATEGY**



**Brighton  
Council**



We acknowledge the traditional owners who once walked this country: the Mumirimina people.

The Mumirimina belonged to the Oyster Bay tribe. This was the largest tribe in Tasmania and covered 8000 square kilometres. Kutalayna levee in Brighton was a significant meeting place where hundreds of generations of Aboriginal families hunted, gathered, corroboreed, camped and traded.

In the course of colonisation, dispossession of the Mumirimina was early, rapid and extensive.

We acknowledge the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community today as the continuing custodians of this land, pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Through our words and actions we strive to build a community that reflects and respects the history and hopes for all the people of Brighton.





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# Mayor's foreword

Climate change is a threat multiplier. A changing climate is putting increasing pressure on our farmers, businesses, essential services, and vulnerable community members.

As a Council we have paid attention to the evidence from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) calling for greater action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the changing climate. The IPCC is the leading international assessment body. It is a key source of scientific information and technical guidance to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement. The IPCC has involved thousands of scientists and government officials from across the globe providing advice and scientific evidence of what is happening to our planet.

For over a decade Brighton Council has taken climate action. Our actions here at Brighton have all added up to keep greenhouse gas emissions from entering the atmosphere and warming the earth.

I have been particularly proud of community members taking the initiative and working with Council to find solutions. A great example of this is the Old Beach Cricket Club combating rising energy costs by proposing a joint solar investment on the club building.

Our work to provide the most up to date climate change information means our community has tools to help us face extreme events. Flooding, bushfire, sea level rise and heatwaves are all increasing in intensity and frequency, presenting local challenges that need local solutions. The Brighton Council Derwent Foreshore Coastal Hazards project has been undertaken to provide guiding information on sea level rise and inundation impacts on private and public properties. This was funded through the Australian Government to identify locally led projects that will improve the resilience of communities against natural hazards.

In recent times the Brighton Council has exceeded our own emission reduction goals, after achieving a 70% greenhouse gas emission reduction across Council operations, on the pathway to zero emissions.

Brighton Council endorsed a revised corporate greenhouse gas emission reduction target of an 85% reduction on 2021 levels by 2030 on the pathway to zero emissions by 2035. Targets to support renewable energy uptake were also supported, with a 100% corporate renewable electricity target by 2030, and fostering community aspirations by doubling renewable energy generation in the local government area by 2030.

We are striving to make sustainability at the forefront of what we do.



The climate change and environmental program is gaining momentum, acknowledged by several awards and nominations at the Tasmanian Keep Australia Beautiful Awards and the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) excellence awards. Brighton Council is part of an association of 12 Southern Tasmanian councils working together to solve the challenges of transitioning to a low carbon economy through the Regional Climate Change Initiative. Our Council's role in this initiative of the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA) was acknowledged at the Tasmanian Local Government Professionals Awards 2022.

The Brighton Municipality is a vibrant place to live, work and play. We are striving to make sustainability at the forefront of what we do. We continue to demonstrate an environmentally considerate future and foster the next generation of environmental leaders. Our sustainability program with local schools has demonstrated that the talent and enthusiasm is there.

We all have an important role to take actions to help avoid more extreme events and disasters. I look forward to continuing our work growing a sustainability network with government, businesses, and community groups. Brighton hosted one of the most vibrant sustainability festivals in Southern Tasmania for many years, the BIG Weekend of Sustainability Ideas 2023, run by Sustainable Living Tasmania.

I present to you our Climate Change Resilience Strategy 2023, which provides a framework for making the transition to a low carbon economy. We are proud of the climate champions across our organisation and look forward to highlighting community champions as they continue to emerge. This is the critical decade; we must act now and together on climate change.

Kirsha Kaechele and Mayor Leigh Gray with trees planted in Eddington Street. SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL, 2022



# Purpose

Brighton Council aims to be a leader mitigating and planning for climate change, reducing risks, costs, and our operational environmental footprint. We also seek to work with and empower our community to address climate change issues, minimise harm, reduce environmental impacts and create resilient and sustainable communities.

The benefits of a revised version of the Climate Change and Resilience Strategy 2019 are support for funding opportunities, improved risk management, identification of energy efficiencies and cost savings, improving council's practices and community and environmental resilience to climate change.

This Strategy draws from and builds upon current Council initiatives to create a unified approach to climate change and broader sustainability and resilience objectives.

The Strategy has four key strategic directions:

- 1 Provide leadership for effective climate change programs locally**
- 2 Reduce greenhouse emissions, environmental impacts and become more resource efficient**
- 3 Adapt and plan for climate change**
- 4 Identify opportunities to innovate in research, markets, technologies, institutions and in the way we live to build sustainable and resilient communities**

Implementation of this Strategy commenced in 2019, has been considered by Council's leadership team and a review of the performance over four years has been undertaken to 2023. The revised Strategy was proposed as a result and this will continue to be evaluated through various mechanisms, such as annual plan reporting.

Brighton Council Offices 65kW rooftop solar photovoltaic system. SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL 2021



# Brief summary

**Climate change is rapid, widespread, and intensifying.** The chances of limiting global warming, and the threat to critical tolerance thresholds for agriculture and health to 1.5–2°C levels, will be beyond reach unless there are immediate, rapid, and large-scale reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in the next decade.

**For over a decade Brighton Council has implemented actions across its operations to reduce emissions and increase resilience as the climate changes.**

Targets include a corporate emission reduction target of zero emissions by 2040, set in 2021, with an interim target of a 30% reduction by 2030. In 2022, Brighton Council exceeded the interim target, reducing emissions by 70%.

**Brighton Council has incorporated climate change action and risks into key strategic documents, yet there is further work to ensure climate change is considered across our operations.** Acting on climate change and caring for the environment is a key part of Brighton Council's 2050 Vision.

**This document is a revision of the Brighton Council Climate Change Resilience Strategy, endorsed by Council in 2019.** It outlines our key strategies and 55 actions to guide Brighton Council's climate action. The Strategy has four key strategic directions:

- provide leadership
- reduce emissions
- adapt to climate change
- identify opportunities.



**Leading by example Brighton provides real world demonstrations of the transition to a low carbon economy, including:**

- ongoing emission reduction actions and target setting to track results, implementing waste, energy efficiency and renewable energy actions across Council's operations
- providing accurate and up to date information and reporting on local community emissions sources
- facilitating community climate action, focussing on:
  - increasing resilience
  - warm healthy homes
  - healthy, efficient transport
  - lower cost operations for businesses
  - resource wise future communities
  - lowering the carbon footprint of local goods and services
  - celebrating local sustainability champions

**The Strategy outlines Council's role increasing resilience to a changing climate includes:**

- ongoing revision of corporate risks through the corporate adaptation plan
- providing links to the latest climate change science
- fostering a transparent and open discussions
- accessing grant and other funding sources to leverage greater access to information, infrastructure upgrades and resilience building activities.

**Local government has a clear role providing information to increase awareness of both mitigation and adaptation climate change concepts.**

The climate change field, science and industry are rapidly evolving. Trusted information provision is a core function of government. It is also central to gaining acceptance to instigate action, address barriers and embrace opportunities.

**Momentum is growing and we all have a role in climate action.** Council facilitates action to capitalise on community opportunities and help work through challenges. Significant technological shifts are making renewables and electric vehicle more affordable, while addressing social barriers and infrastructure limitations requires working together to solve complex issues.

Climate change action focuses on two main areas:



**MITIGATION**

Addressing the underlying cause of the greenhouse gas issue – reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



**ADAPTATION**

Responding to the impacts of climate change from an already changing climate.

# Council position

**Brighton Council recognises the scientific community’s broad consensus on climate change.**

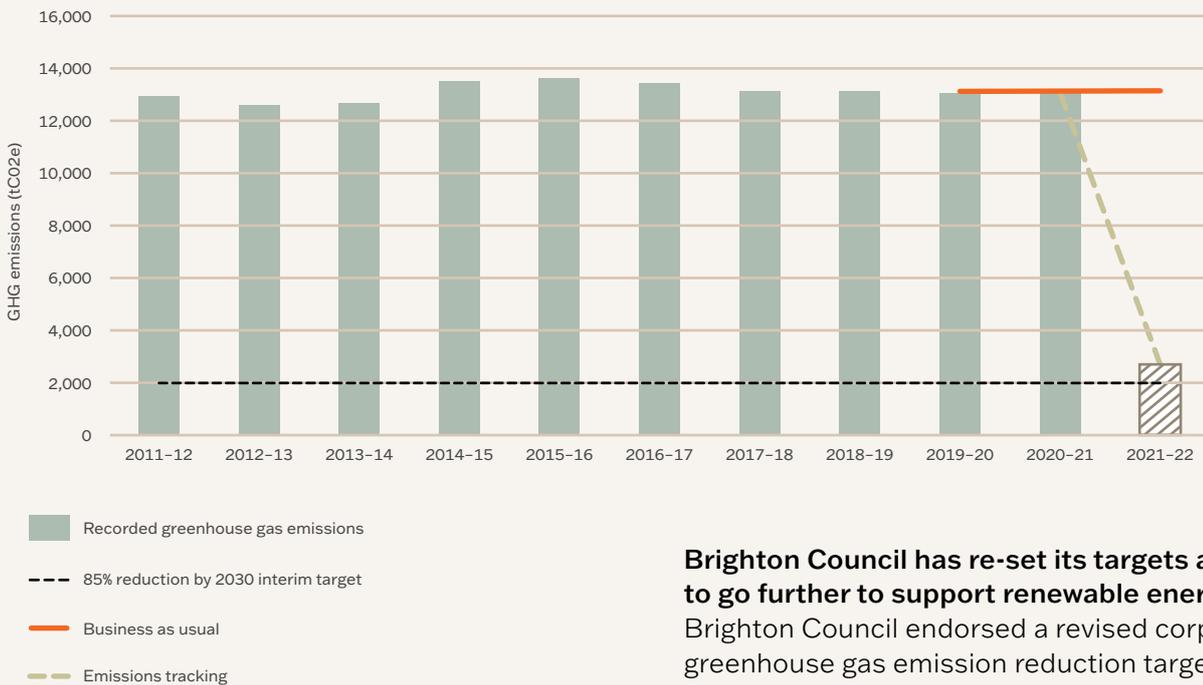
The accelerated changes in the earth’s climate in recent times are a result of human-induced actions caused by the additional, non-natural, release of greenhouse gas emissions (for example, from land clearing and the use of fossil fuels).

**Brighton Council is committed to leading by example, improving the carbon and energy footprint from the vehicle fleet, buildings, streetlights, parks, sporting facilities, and other assets.** The Council is actively transitioning to low emission technologies/services and products.

**For over a decade Brighton Council has implemented actions across its operations to reduce emissions.**

A corporate emission reduction target of zero emissions by 2040 was set in 2021, with an interim target of a 30% reduction by 2030. In 2022, Brighton Council exceeded the interim target, reducing emissions by 70%, mainly as municipal landfill waste is sent to Copping landfill managed by Southern Waste Solutions, which captures methane to generate electricity reducing emissions significantly.

Figure 1: Corporate greenhouse gas emission reductions 2020–21 to 2021–22. SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL 2023



**Brighton Council has re-set its targets aims to go further to support renewable energy.**

Brighton Council endorsed a revised corporate greenhouse gas emission reduction target of an 85% reduction on 2021 levels by 2030 on the pathway to zero emissions by 2035. Targets to support renewable energy uptake were also supported, with a 100% corporate renewable electricity target by 2030, and fostering community aspirations by doubling renewable energy generation in the local government area by 2030.



Foreshore walking track, Old Beach, Derwent River. SOURCE: SAM SHELLEY, 2021

# Climate change, sustainability and resilience

Council recognises that climate action integrates and overlaps closely with broader goals relating to social, economic and environmental sustainability and resilience. Many of these broader sustainability goals are integrated into existing legislative responsibilities of councils, for example under the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Resource Management and Planning System* and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Acting on climate change and caring for the environment is a key part of part of Brighton Council's 2050 Vision. Key 2050 Vision environment and sustainability focus areas include:

## A sustainable environment

- ❑ Embracing best-practice environmentally sustainable initiatives
- ❑ Embedding climate change awareness into decision making
- ❑ Reducing, re-using and recycling waste through integrated management
- ❑ Supporting locally grown fresh and healthy food
- ❑ Embracing sustainable travel options

## A comfortable home

- ❑ Ensuring an abundance of trees and open spaces in the urban areas
- ❑ Making it easy to get around with good, connected footpaths, trails and cycleways

Brighton Council has been actively working with other councils via the Regional Climate Change Initiative (RCCI), Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA) to ensure the strategic goals align with government climate action regionally, state-wide and across the nation. The RCCI is currently working on a program to review councils' climate change strategies across the region. By working with other councils Brighton can focus action on activities that are clearly within the responsibility of local government.



Our environment is cherished; we act sustainably and mindful of climate change.

The following local government climate action examples show the support this tier of government can provide:

<b>Council's role</b>	<b>Local government activities</b>	<b>Example emission reduction activities</b>	<b>Example responding to climate impacts activities</b>
<b>Provider</b>	Waste management, parks and open space, recreation facilities, infrastructure, transport (roads), active transport	Waste services such as kerbside recycling Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) bin collection and waste transfer station recycling options.  Active energy management is part of managing a vehicle fleet, street lighting, buildings, parks, facilities	Basic infrastructure costs such as roads, stormwater, streetlights likely to increase.
<b>Regulator</b>	Regulation and approval, animal management, planning and zoning, building and plumbing permits and environmental health	Energy efficient buildings in compliance with the National Construction Code new developments plan for a sustainable future, renewable energy projects go through due process without unnecessary time delays or financial penalties.  Resource efficient planning developments and strategic spatial/infrastructure planning	Planning information, zoning and other regulations can help reduce the risks of future climate impacts on property damage and loss of life/disasters
<b>Facilitator</b>	Encouraging investment and employment in the area, access and inclusion, climate action (including sustainable energy use and renewables), collaborations and partnerships	Information provider on key areas for emission reduction locally, creating opportunities for local communities to work together (facilitating sustainability networks) to reduce emissions. For example, facilitating community renewable energy projects to demonstrate emerging technologies.	Providing up to date local climate impacts information, coastal hazards modelling e.g., up to date stormwater modelling required for best practice design.
<b>Advocate</b>	Political representation, affordable housing, education opportunities and outcomes, transport (roads, walking and cycling), health and wellbeing services, lobbying on behalf of community on State and Federal matters	Working collaboratively with all tiers of government on transport, waste, and energy barriers.  Submissions to government reviews.  Working with councils through the Regional Climate Change Initiative, Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority and with Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania ReCFIT.	Formal motions through the Local Government Association Tasmania and Australian Local Government of Australia, meetings with community, and Tasmanian government.



Landcare Tasmania planting site outside MONA's Material Institute, Bridgewater, Derwent River foreshore.  
SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL, 2021

## Climate change impacts are here now and likely to worsen

Tasmanian records and local climate modelling show long-term average temperatures have risen in the decades since the 1950s at a rate of up to 0.1 °C per decade, with this rate expected to increase from 2020 onwards.

Sea levels have risen 1.77m (including high tide events) by the period 1961-1990 and are expected to rise to 2.6m by 2081-2100. The difference between recent times and future (2100) sea level rise is 0.83m<sup>1</sup>.

The changes in climate that are most likely to impact upon the municipality's infrastructure, roads, the local community, and the environment are an increase in intensity of extreme events. Potential impacts by 2100 are as follows (following the business-as-usual high emissions scenario RCP8<sup>2</sup>):

- Increased evaporation and longer dry periods coupled with more extreme temperatures are likely to enhance the occurrence and intensity of bushfires.
- The frequency of extremely hot days (>40°C) is projected to increase. Heat wave frequency is projected to remain stable but will increase in intensity (warmer days and nights).
- Inundation along all coastal frontage will increase due to sea level rise. The current 100-year coastal inundation event may become a 50-year event by 2030, and a 5-year event by 2090.
- Heavier rainfall events are expected within a warmer climate. High daily runoff events are likely to increase, including those that may lead to erosion or flooding.

CSIRO highlight observed changes will continue, showing additional impacts<sup>3</sup>, such as the:

- oceans will become more acidic (very high confidence)
- snow depths will decline (very high confidence)

The Climate Futures, climate modelling work undertaken by the Tasmanian Government<sup>4</sup>, shows a range of impacts on various industries, for example in the agricultural sector:

- Large increases in the number of growing degree days are projected by 2085. Wine varieties such as the cabernet sauvignon are projected to ripen reliably by the middle of the century in current grape-growing regions.
- The incidence of frost is projected to reduce by about half by the end of the century. For many areas in Tasmania, the period of frost risk is also projected to shorten from March–December to May–October.
- Chill hours are projected to decrease in lower elevation warmer regions and increase at higher elevations



1. Includes storm surge. [www.brighton.tas.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/brighton\\_climate\\_profile.pdf](http://www.brighton.tas.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/brighton_climate_profile.pdf)
2. Brighton Council Climate Change Information for Decision Making report 2019 [brighton\\_climate\\_profile.pdf](http://brighton_climate_profile.pdf)
3. <https://www.csiro.au/en/research/environmental-impacts/climate-change/climate-change-information>
4. Holz GK, Grose MR, Bennett JC, Corney SP, White CJ, Phelan D, Potter K, Kriticos D, Rawnsley R, Parsons D, Lisson S, Gaynor SM & Bindoff NL 2010, *Climate Futures for Tasmania: impacts on agriculture technical report*, Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre, Hobart, Tasmania. <https://climatefutures.org.au/technical-reports/impacts-agriculture-technical-report/>



Cherries and other horticulture crops are grown in the Brighton municipal area. SOURCE: SAMUEL SHELLEY 2019, BRIGHTON COUNCIL

## Chill hours, frost, drought and growing degree days agricultural climate impacts

By 2030, a crop requiring 1000 (10°C base) Growing Degree Days (GDD) is projected to mature approximately one month earlier than the baseline period of 1961–1990 and two months earlier by the end of the century. Temperature is an important determinant of the rate of development of crops. Warmer temperatures mean reduced time to crop maturity, allow different choices of crop varieties, and affect crop yield and quality... also in some cases, changes to the incidence and severity of pests.

Despite the widely perceived negative impacts of frost, cold events and frost also play a positive role in agricultural systems by providing breaks in life cycle development of pests and diseases.

Temperate, deciduous fruit trees, berry crops and nuts become dormant in winter as a way of dealing with damaging cold temperatures and frosts. After a period of cold temperatures (chill hours) the dormancy is broken, leading to spring bud burst, flowering and fruit set. Insufficient chill hours may lead to fewer buds, delayed and uneven bud burst, sporadic flowering and fruit set, irregular fruit size and reduced fruit yields and quality.<sup>4</sup>



## Numerous climate science bodies are working together on the latest climate change impacts

**Human activities, particularly burning fossil fuels, are causing climate change.** Human influence has warmed the climate at a rate that is unprecedented in at least the last 2000 years, found the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change through the latest 6th Assessment Report<sup>5</sup>, using 234 authors, 195 member countries with 78,000 experts reviewing 14,000 climate science papers.

**Climate change is rapid, widespread, and intensifying.** The chances of limiting global warming, and the threat to critical tolerance thresholds for agriculture and health to 1.5–2°C levels will be beyond reach unless there are immediate, rapid, and large-scale reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in the next decade.

**Greenhouse gas emissions come from burning fossil fuels, releasing gas into the atmosphere acting like a blanket, warming the earth.** Many of the changes observed in the climate are unprecedented in hundreds of thousands of years, and some of the changes already set in motion—such as continued sea level rise—are irreversible over hundreds to thousands of years.<sup>6</sup>

**Carbon emissions from fossil fuels make the largest contribution to climate change.** About 90 per cent of the world's carbon emissions comes from the burning of fossil fuels – mainly for electricity, heat and transport.

**People create carbon dioxide when we burn fossil fuels such as gas, petrol, oil, and coal,** adding an additional 9.1 billion tonnes of carbon to the air each year. Plants and the land take up 2.8 billion tonnes of this extra carbon, while the oceans take up 2.2 billion tonnes. The remainder (4.1 billion tonnes) stays in the air, increasing the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide.<sup>7</sup>



Petrol and diesel use in transport is a key source of community greenhouse gas emissions. SOURCE: ADOBE PHOTOSTOCK 2021

**The problem we now face is that human activities – particularly burning fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas), agriculture and land clearing – are increasing the concentrations of greenhouse gases.** This is increasing the greenhouse effect, which is contributing to warming of the Earth. The greenhouse effect is a natural process that warms the Earth's surface. When the Sun's energy reaches the Earth's atmosphere, some of it is reflected back to space and some is absorbed and re-radiated by greenhouse gases.

Climate change projections show that there are likely to be more extreme weather-related events such as flooding, bushfire, drought, and extreme temperatures. All these effects can impact upon the resilience of our environment, including support for our food production and essential services such as community services and utilities.

5. [www.ipcc.ch/2021/08/09/ar6-wg1-20210809-pr/](http://www.ipcc.ch/2021/08/09/ar6-wg1-20210809-pr/)

6. Climate change widespread, rapid, and intensifying – IPCC — IPCC

7. <https://www.csiro.au/en/research/environmental-impacts/climate-change/climate-change-qa/sources-of-ghg-gases>

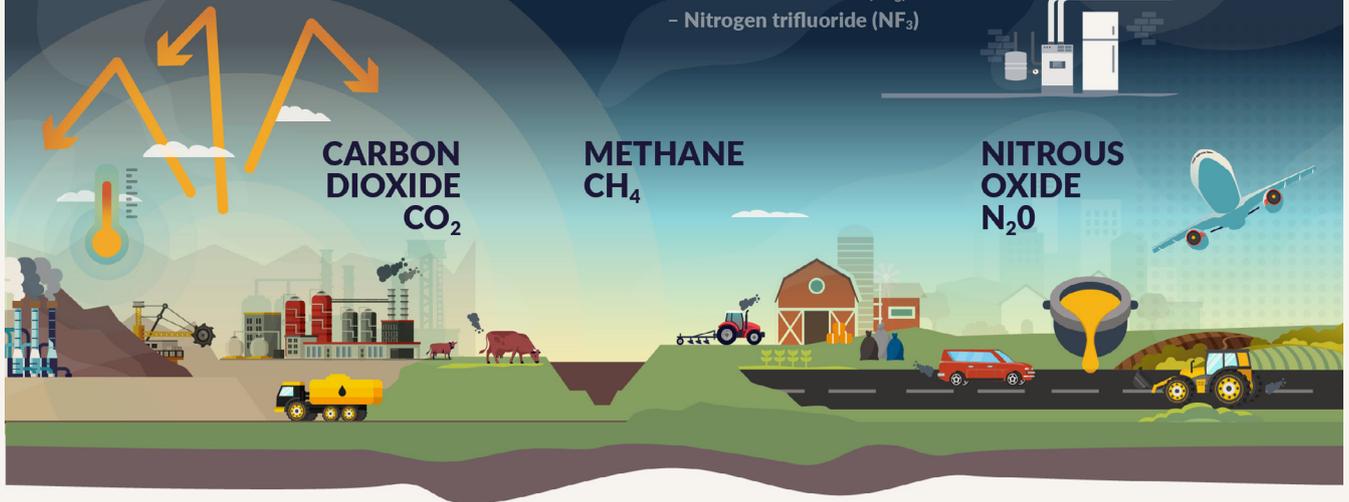
# THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT

Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere and contribute to the enhanced greenhouse effect are called greenhouse gases.

These include:

## SYNTHETIC GASES

- Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
- Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
- Sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>)
- Nitrogen trifluoride (NF<sub>3</sub>)



**CARBON DIOXIDE**  
CO<sub>2</sub>

**METHANE**  
CH<sub>4</sub>

**NITROUS OXIDE**  
N<sub>2</sub>O

SOURCE: CITY OF LAUNCESTON, 2023



Bushfire is a key and present threat in the Brighton municipality. SOURCE: ADOBE PHOTOSTOCK 2022

# Key focus areas

Brighton Council is working towards the goal of a zero-emission world and facilitating community members to do the same. Leading by example, Brighton provides real world demonstrations of the transition to a low carbon economy and ways to increase resilience to a changing climate.

Measures in the action plan align with the following key focus areas.

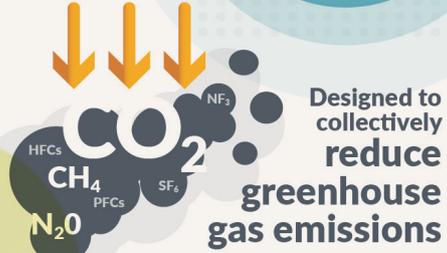


SOURCE: CITY OF LAUNCESTON, 2023

## RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

### THE PARIS AGREEMENT

A global treaty adopted by over **190** nations



The goal is to keep global emissions to a maximum of

**2°C**

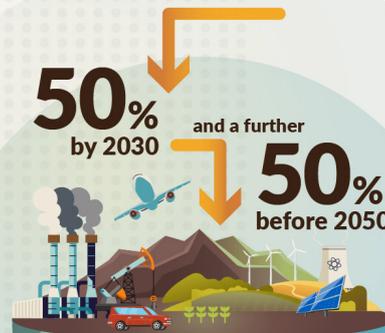
above pre-industrial levels, and ideally, to limit temperature rise to 1.5°C



A reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by

**50%** by 2030

and a further **50%** before 2050



to reach

**NET ZERO**

## 1

## Climate change leadership

### Increase climate action across council

Local governments demonstrate leadership on climate action while fulfilling the functional requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* to:

- (a) provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community
- (b) represent and promote the interests of the community
- (c) provide for the peace, order and good government of the municipal area.

Climate change actions are often complimentary to broader sustainability and community health and wellbeing goals. For example, warm healthy homes, a key community program area, supports both energy efficient thermal performance, the switch to lower emission heating options (such as heat pumps), and options to move from energy poverty (such as scavenging for wood) to lower air pollution heaters. Warmer, dryer homes have been shown by the World Health Organisation to provide preventative health solutions to respiratory problems such as asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases (CPD).

Council continues to access the latest evidence for decision making, keeping abreast of the latest climate change science and information through the Regional Climate Change Initiative (RCCI), Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA), Australian and Tasmanian Government updates as well as international developments such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and health research from the Menzies Centre.

Council has integrated health and wellbeing goals into the Sustainability education program, so the range of benefits are considered when presenting to community groups and schools.

### Governance – effective management and greater accountability

Council invests a small amount of resources to ensure it can implement, track, and report its progress on mitigation projects. Whilst much of this work is done in-house with existing resources there may be a need to gain some assistance from consultants and/or other councils via a shared services arrangement to gather and analyse the necessary information to ensure that any actions Council does take are cost effective and meaningful. An example is the engagement of SGS Consulting, adaptation cost benefit analysis specialists for the Brighton Council Derwent River Foreshore Coastal Hazards Project.

Council provides staff resources to enact actions – employing a part time Climate Change Resilience Officer (0.6FTE), part time Natural Resource Management Officer (0.2FTE) and a part time Waste Education Officer (0.2FTE), as well as undertaking annual greenhouse gas reporting and other services inhouse. Staff resourcing has the added benefits of developing relationships within the council between areas and increasing staff awareness and involvement in climate action.

Council has integrated climate risks into the risk register, annual reporting, council reporting templates and strategic vision statements in recent years.

## Working across internal local government areas

Alignment with existing resource and focus areas is important to avoid duplication. Council has a draft Natural Resource Management (NRM) 2023 and NRM Weed Strategy 2023, both incorporating climate change considerations. This highlighted that increasing our natural systems' resilience to a changing climate through plantings has the added benefit of potentially sequestering carbon (planting grassland sequesters less than larger trees for example). This will be further explored through Council's NRM work and street tree program.

NRM work across the municipality involves maintaining (and sometimes restoring) long-term sustainable ecosystems. Healthy ecosystems within the Brighton area support human health and development, facilitate economic developments, and provide habitat for various species and support ongoing biodiversity. Often such projects have multiple benefits including climate adaptation works, for example, revegetating water courses can improve the stormwater system, minimise flooding, stabilise erosion, provide habitat and provide opportunities for passive recreation.

Council currently works with the Derwent Catchment Group (that provide NRM services on Council's behalf), the Derwent Estuary Program, Landcare Tasmania and community groups or businesses on individual projects (such as MONA), on the Eddington Street tree planting project.



Eddington Street tree planting, supported by MONA's Material Institute. SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL, 2022



East Derwent Primary School, decorated bottle caps with messages of a sustainable future. SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL, 2022

## Advocacy and funding

When issues of significance arise Brighton Council advocates to the relevant body or tier of government responsible to highlight barriers and solutions. For example, removing Fringe Benefit Tax on work vehicles was a motion put forward by Brighton Council, supported by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (most councils) and a formal motion was tabled at the Australian Local Government Association national conference 2022. The Australian Government removed FBT following an election change in March 2022. Brighton Council has made submissions on the Tasmanian Planning Policies, Tasmanian Government Waste Levy and *Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008*, updated in 2022.

Over \$300,000 has been awarded for climate change and sustainability related grants; Brighton Council Derwent River Foreshore Coastal Hazards Project \$55,000, Tasmanian Government \$5,000 in solar system funding for Old Beach Cricket Club, \$130,000 for the Brighton Residential Flooding Disaster Prevention Works in Brighton, Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Grants Program, and a further \$100,000 for lighting energy efficiency upgrades has been awarded. MONA contributed \$20,000 towards Eddington Street tree planting in 2021-22 as part of Brighton Council's Greening Strategy.

## Working collaboratively across governments and community

Council has participated in various locally relevant projects to improve its capacity to work across the region on climate action, especially via the Regional Climate Change Initiative (RCCI) under the Southern Tasmanian Councils Association (STCA). Council has already undertaken various activities that align with this Strategy, for example, providing home energy assessment tools such as the Home Energy Audit Toolkit.

The RCCI meet quarterly with LGAT and the Tasmanian Climate Change Office, Renewable Energy Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (RECFIT) regularly, working together on climate action across government bodies.



## 2 Reducing corporate greenhouse gas emissions

Council is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and to playing its part mitigating further climate change. Council recognises its responsibility to provide leadership in driving positive change. It also recognises that these reductions can often result in efficiency and financial gains, and that this is likely to become more prevalent as the economy transitions to a lower carbon economy.



Civic Centre lighting replaced with LEDs.  
SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL, 2022



### Council's emissions and targets

Council has set a target to reach zero emissions by 2034, with an interim target of a 75% reduction by 2030. In 2020-21, Council decided to send community and council waste to a different landfill, Copping, managed by Southern Waste Solutions. This resulted in a reduction of 70% in corporate greenhouse gas emissions. Continually revising and reviewing Council's performance against the interim targets is necessary to track emission reductions. The introduction, and higher than expected take-up of the Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) service in 2021 also contributed emissions savings.

There are many challenges and opportunities to reduce emissions across Council operations. Looking forward, Council will pursue mitigation activities having regard to financial implications, emissions, and the ability to achieve meaningful outcomes. Key areas within Council's sphere of influence include:

- Council buildings
- roads, footpaths, carparks, and other infrastructure
- streetlights
- Council plant and fleet
- parks and reserves
- sporting facilities
- vehicle fleet
- waste
- stormwater network.

Council's action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and make the transition to a low carbon economy are outlined in the Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP). An annual greenhouse gas summary report is produced to track progress against emission reduction targets and the CERP.

## Implementing greenhouse gas emissions throughout Council operations

To guide decision-making relating to mitigation and transition, the following hierarchy should be used for energy consumed by Council:

1. conserve energy
2. use energy more efficiently
3. switch to zero emission energy sources
4. ensure that any continuing use of fossil fuels uses clean technology and is efficient
5. offset remaining emissions as a last resort.

To date, Council has already delivered several projects that have reduced Council greenhouse emissions, improved efficiency, and provided long term savings. These include:

- solar PV installations on the main office building and the depot
- installation of more efficient heating/cooling systems
- more efficient street lighting
- waste education.

In addition, over 7 years Council's tree planting program has planted 300 trees, with a further 250 matched by private developers, which has helped pull out emissions from the atmosphere.

Significant tangible investments such as major building upgrades, streetlighting projects, changes to waste management regimes or significant fleet changes will be presented as separate budget items in addition to separate broad budget item for energy and resource efficiency or climate change actions. This will ensure a high level of transparency and that any actions undertake a simple cost benefit analysis prior to Council committing to them.

An area to further explore is lowering the carbon footprint of purchased goods and services – for example locally produced products have a lower carbon footprint generally due to the high fossil fuel use transporting goods around the world. Purchasing locally can help the local economy and develop demand for supply for emerging technologies.



Waste booth at Council Offices and waste education.  
SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL, 2022



Gagebrook street trees.  
SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL, 2022

## 3 Assisting the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

### Quality information to guide decision making

Council aims to be a leader in mitigating climate change and recognises the essential role it plays in engaging, mobilising and responding to the community at the local level. To help focus Council's and community emission reduction efforts, Council undertakes a community emissions inventory, updated every couple of years. This work is also undertaken as in-kind support to the RCCI to provide summaries for all other councils across southern Tasmania and to City of Launceston. The Brighton community emissions footprint shows that most emissions come from transport and industry (50%), with waste to landfill and sewerage emissions responsible for less than 10% of emissions from waste and energy.

The community inventory completed by Brighton Council in 2023 shows that improving the emissions from residential and commercial energy use can potentially have a significant impact (representing a quarter of emissions) reducing thousands of tonnes of carbon dioxide from being released from Brighton municipality every year into the atmosphere. Brighton Council can lead by example and provide information for these sectors to enact change.

There are several key program areas where Council supports community emission reductions efforts:

- warm healthy homes
- healthy, efficient transport
- lower cost operations for businesses
- resource wise communities
- lowering the carbon footprint of local goods and services
- sound information for decision makers and celebrating local sustainability champions.

### Resource wise communities – planning for sustainable development

The larger greenhouse gas emission reductions local governments can influence are in best practice land use planning, transport, and long-term infrastructure design. This is mainly due to the sheer length of time some assets will be in operation (some out to 100 years). Well designed spaces have a positive impact on resource use versus poorly designed areas or areas of urban sprawl. Design factors can change collective commuting habits or lifestyle decisions over long lifetimes, impacting resource use. Strategic planning documents include:

- Brighton Structure Plan 2018
- Brighton Local Area Plan 2012
- Open Space Strategy 2012
- South Central Workforce Planning Study 2017
- Brighton Socio-Economic Profile & Opportunity Assessment 2019, etc.

### The effect of development controls on active transport

One of the largest contributors to emissions is single passenger vehicle use, conducting frequent short trips in the local area.

If community services and development around local services are well designed individuals can travel shorter distances through best practice design and travel options, including the use of active transport infrastructure such as bike lanes, mobility friendly footpaths and public transport. On the other hand, if urban sprawl is poorly designed, community members have more limited options to reach services, transport costs are higher, as are broader stormwater, electricity, and other service costs from decentralised development.

Ecologically sustainable development, including biodiversity, energy efficiency and climate, and a resilient local economy and community must form part of design and planning processes.

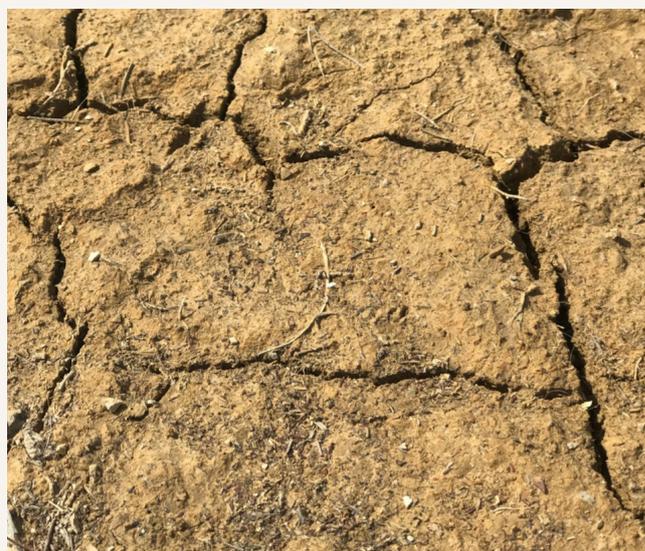
## 4 Reducing corporate climate change risk and increasing organisational resilience

Council aims to improve the capability and resilience to manage the risks of climate change through several measures and is guided by the Brighton Council Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2012. This includes incorporation of key risk and adaptation actions into established Council documents and processes (Brighton's risk register, strategic plans, asset management plans); looking at ways to implement sub-regional and regional adaptation actions through advocacy or collaboration; and a governance mechanism for reviewing and updating plans.

As part of incorporating climate risks into the risk register it was highlighted that there are four key climate risks (with many more identified in the Adaptation Plan) where more information and work is required:

- coastal hazards on the Derwent River foreshore
- bushfire planning and preventative measures
- frequent inundation and erosion of roads and other infrastructure through flooding and inundation events
- changing rainfall patterns and drought across farming land.

Council received Australian Government funding in 2022 to focus on the impact of climate hazards on Council infrastructure as well as building community resilience in three key coastal areas Old Beach, Riverside Drive and Sunrise Avenue, as part of the Brighton Council Derwent River Foreshore Coastal Hazards Project.



Drought has a significant impact on natural systems, agriculture and can affect essential services such as water provision.



Old Beach walking track damage from flooding, Derwent River foreshore. SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL 2022

## **5** Assisting the community to become more resilient and reduce climate risks

The effects of climate change are already occurring locally, and Council needs to adapt its services (such as information provision, community programs, emergency management) and infrastructure (such as designing for increasing risks of flood, drought, sea level rise and invasive species).

### **Infrastructure, hazards, and risk management**

Brighton is geographically diverse and has a wide range of land uses. As such, risks posed by climate change are also diverse. Significant portions of the municipality are forested or grassland, which has bushfire and drought implications. There are also large areas of waterfront and riverine environments, which are subject to sea level rise and inundation. Other changing risks may relate to changes in rain, evaporation, air temperature and the frequency of extreme events.

For example, Council endorsed and was part of the RCCI STCA process for developing a Regional Strategy – Adapting to a Changing Coastline in Tasmania 2022.

### **Advocacy, grants, and information**

#### **Environment, sustainability, and climate change education program**

Brighton Council has an education program presenting to schools and community groups, as well as being present at key community events. As part of raising awareness of the range of environmental issues Council presents information across the services from waste management, warm healthy homes, finding bill savings through to the need to value the natural world.

The Draft Natural Resource Management (NRM) Strategy and the Weed Strategy outline actions to increase the resilience of natural systems under climate change. As part of this work Council continues to work collaboratively with regional landscape management agencies to effectively manage Brighton's natural assets in a changing climate. (e.g. Crown, Natural Resource Management South, Department of State Growth, Derwent Estuary Program, Derwent Catchment Project, TasWater). As part of Council's work including climate risks in the corporate risk register the need to improve understanding of flora and fauna values and risks within the Council area, including endangered ecological communities, threatened species, flora and fauna corridors, weeds and pests were identified.

There is a range of research work being undertaken locally in climate science, mitigation (reducing emissions) and adaptation and key documents are all available to guide decision making. The Brighton Council Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan ways to manage risks across Council operations, and the Information for Decision-makers Report identifies local climate change impacts.



Sustainability program works with schoolkids and community groups to be more 'wastewise'. SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL 2022

## Awareness raising and research

Council has a role in preparing the community for climate change and helping to make the adjustments necessary to minimise risk, improve economic sustainability and make the community more resilient. Engagement and awareness raising is a key method to achieve this.

Council recognises the need for research to better predict climate change impacts and solutions, especially in the local region. Such work is critical to support and steer Council's objective to have sound policy and strategy and to drive behavioural change.

Future actions and management plans will need to focus on areas of higher risk and will need to be based on sound evidence. This will help provide transparency, certainty and consistency for the community, developers, and other levels of government, which again highlights the need for Council to be involved in significant research.

Information and awareness raising are key to integrating climate change across council documents, processes and projects and improving climate change capacity within Council.

Providing information such as updated climate change modelling as the latest evidence becomes available is also a key function of local government.



# Our actions – implementation and focus areas

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1:

### Climate change leadership

- Increase climate action across council
- Governance – effective management and greater accountability and reporting
- Integrate climate action throughout all organisational functions and decision making – work across internal local government areas
- Accurate and up to date information

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2:

### Reducing corporate greenhouse gas emissions

- Council's Emissions and Targets
- Implement plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions throughout Council operations
- Develop guiding documents or add to strategic plans in key emission reduction areas

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3:

### Assisting the community to reduce emissions

- Warm healthy homes
- Healthy, efficient transport
- Lower cost operations for businesses
- Resource wise future communities
- Lowering the carbon footprint of local goods and services
- Celebrating local sustainability champions

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4:

### Reducing corporate climate change risk and increasing organisational resilience

- Reduce and manage risk through improved governance
- Reduce costs and improve resilience across Council managed assets

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5:

### Assisting the community to become more resilient and reduce climate risks

- Integrate adaptation responses that meet Council's obligations to protect the community and the environment
- Improve hazard and emergency management to minimise climate change risk
- Advocacy, grants, and information



Riverside Drive, Bridgewater.  
SOURCE: SAM SHELLEY

# Our actions

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1:

### Climate change leadership

#### Increase climate action across council

- Develop formal strategies to create a clear vision and set of actions that deliver on multiple community goals such as waste management, transport, and urban reforestation.
- Pursue innovative Council leadership practices that address climate change risks and opportunities.
- Continue to review Strategy regularly and at least every 4 years to ensure the broader key performance indicators laid out in the action plan are also tracked.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
1	Pursue grant external funding opportunities (including collaborations/partnerships) that address sustainability and community resilience issues.	Development Services, Asset Services	Ongoing	Continue to apply for grants, following successful grants so far – outlined above
2	Monitor the latest science and best practice relating to climate change and update Council's responses as necessary.	Development Services, Asset Services	Ongoing	RCCI STCA Information for Decision Makers project provided up to date local modelling in 2019.
3	Ensure appropriate professional development opportunities for relevant staff to effectively manage and address climate change.	SMT	Ongoing	
4	Review Council's Investment Policy to ensure there is the ability to investment in financially responsible opportunities to ensure investments consider the intent of this Strategy (e.g. impact of investments or divestments).	Corporate services	2023	Investment Policy
5	Investigate Council-offered incentives for climate change, sustainability or community resilience commitments. (e.g. fee reimbursements, rates reductions). May require a Council policy.	Corporate Services	2024	Community grants program

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1:****Climate change leadership****Governance – effective management and greater accountability and reporting**

- Implement, track and report its progress on projects.
- Address the range of barriers to climate change action, including social, institutional barriers.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
6	Develop, maintain and monitor an energy and emissions data management system for Council's greenhouse gas emissions.	Development Services	Ongoing	Undertaken by Climate Change Officer annually in line with CERP
7	Appoint an appropriate staff member to oversee and drive the implementation of this Strategy, such as the Manager Development Services.	Development Services	Ongoing	Manager development Services appointed in 2019
8	Engage and educate staff on sustainability in the workplace.	SMT	Ongoing	
9	Develop a climate change, sustainability and community resilience-informed purchasing policy and procedure-consider climate impacts and action in procurement of materials and services and review approach regularly.	Asset Services, Development Services, Corporate Services	2023	
10	Ensure Council standards and guidelines are based on current climate change science, Australian Standards and legislative requirements.	Whole of organisation	Ongoing	Australian Standards, Relevant Legislation

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1:****Climate change leadership**

**Integrate climate action throughout all organisational functions and decision making – work across internal local government areas**

- Support other organisation's programs when appropriate, such as the Derwent Estuary Program, Derwent Catchment Project.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
11	Integrate climate change considerations into Council operations, policies and strategies, including consideration in all relevant Council reports and reporting back via quarterly/annual reports.	Whole organisation	Ongoing	Various
12	Incorporate consideration of climate change into principal activities of council, including: land use planning; community services; asset planning and management; waste management; emergency management.	Whole organisation	Ongoing	Meet multiple times a year with RCCI to share info across councils and Tasmanian Government LGAT
13	Integrate climate change work closely with key sustainability programs Natural Resource Management strategy and work program, sustainability program in schools, waste education program.	Development Services, Asset Services	Ongoing	

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1:****Climate change leadership****Information, awareness raising and research**

- ❑ Continue to lobby for greater climate change action to the Tasmanian Government and Australian Government via formal letters, motions through the relevant forums and submissions on key consultation/programs and projects.
- ❑ Continue to seek further opportunities to leverage further funding, including from business partnerships.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
14	Advocate that state and federal governments adequately consider climate change impacts when reviewing or creating new planning instruments, guidelines and legislation.	Development Services	Ongoing	Tasmanian Planning Policies, Regional Land Use Strategies
15	Continue to explore funding opportunities for research and infrastructure that assists with community or corporate projects managing climate risks, climate change science or emission reductions.	Development Services	Ongoing	Grants network

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1:****Climate change leadership****Working collaboratively across governments and community**

- Promote and engage with markets, technologies and institutions that adapt to and/or mitigate climate change.
- Utilise opportunities to work with other tiers of government and other councils to deliver programs more efficiently, streamlining staff and other resources.
- Continue this participation and aims to build effective relationships research institutions, government bodies, the private sector and other organisations to support this objective.
- Integrate climate change issues into relevant community engagement activities.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
16	Initiate consultation with relevant stakeholders on key climate-related risks (e.g. SES, TFS).	Asset Services	Ongoing	Bushfire MP, Emergency MP
17	Engage with and share information, plans and processes with other LGAs, especially those within the region. Form partnerships with local government agencies to coordinate climate change projects within the area.	Whole organisation	Ongoing	RCCI, STCA, SCS, LGAT
18	Support climate change education and engage with such programs in partnership with government and non-government organisations.	Whole organisation	Ongoing	BCN, Council Website
19	Build the existing sustainability network – facilitate local and regional partnerships and projects on biodiversity, sustainability.	Development Services, Community Development	Ongoing	MONA, Landcare Tasmania, Sustainable Living Tasmania, DEP, DCP
20	Collaborate with the freight industry and transport hub stakeholders to assist the transition to a low carbon transport economy, identifying supply chain possibilities early.	Development Services	2023-2024	Circular Economy Study

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1:****Climate change leadership****Accurate and up to date information**

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
21	Inform the community on how Council is addressing climate change.	Development Services	Ongoing	BCN, Council Website, Annual Reports, Council Reports, media.
22	Support and facilitate local, regional, state and national climate change research partnerships.	Whole of organisation	Ongoing	LGAT, RECFIT, RCCI, STCA, NESP
23	Assist local businesses to take advantage of state and federal programs that support action on climate change.	Development Services, Community Development	Ongoing	Brighton Alive network, BCN



**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2:****Reducing corporate greenhouse gas emissions****Implement plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions throughout Council operations**

- Allow some funds for this, either within the existing 'Strategic Projects' budget or as a specific budget item for the Corporate Emission Reduction Plan actions.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
24	Continue to deliver savings by reducing Council's energy and waste costs by developing and implementing a Corporate Emission Reduction Plan.	Development Services, Asset Services	2023, ongoing	
25	Continue to set interim targets towards a zero emissions pathway. Review progress yearly and overall target setting as targets are achieved or scope changes.	Development Services	2023, ongoing	Corporate Emission Reduction Plan

**Implement plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions throughout Council operations**

26	Develop ESD guidelines to integrate energy, WSUD and sustainability features into future Council developments/capital projects.	Development Services, Asset Services	2024	
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**Develop guiding documents or add to strategic plans in key emission reduction areas**

27	Develop a waste strategy and implement a plan for community waste reduction and education. (e.g. coordinated education campaign) to reduce waste to landfill and waste costs.	Asset Services, Development Services	2023-24	BCN, website
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**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3:****Assisting the community to reduce emissions****Implement programs to assist the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions**

- Facilitate opportunities to develop a low carbon economy and for local contributions to this.
- Increase access to greenhouse gas and emerging technologies/solutions information.
- Increase community support to assist businesses and residents with information.
- Highlight sustainability champions.
- Integrate low carbon solutions for goods into events.
- Promote and engage with markets, technologies and institutions that adapt to and/or mitigate climate change.
- Support the development of local community sustainability or energy generation initiatives.

**Warm, healthy homes**

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
28	In addition to offering free guidance by phone or email update the website to include links to relevant service providers.	Climate Change Officer	2023-2024	
29	Continue to build a network with the interested parties such as Utas, Menzies Centre, Asthma Australia and Sustainable Living Tasmania.	Climate Change Officer, Community Development	Ongoing	

**Healthy, efficient transport**

30	Facilitate and support improved public transport and active transport services and infrastructure.	Asset Services, Development Services	Ongoing	Metro
31	Develop and implement an integrated bicycle and pedestrian plan for the Council area.	Development Services, Asset Services	2023-24	

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3:****Assisting the community to reduce emissions****Lower cost operations for businesses**

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
32	Trial sustainability business awards to highlight local sustainability champions.	Development Services, Community Development	2025	
33	Consider ways to assist businesses such as simple energy audits to local businesses to identify savings and highlight bill saving solutions or through awards recognition.	Development Services	2024	

**Resource wise future communities**

34	Review development approvals, particularly on the extent to which large scale greenfield and brownfield applications incorporate ESD principles in line with the draft Tasmanian Planning Policies (e.g. energy efficiency & generation, WSUD, materials & waste management, transport, ecology) and report on implementation back to council regularly.	Development Services	Ongoing	Master plans, LPS, TPPs
35	Explore a resource wise events policy that considers banning single use packaging.	Development Services, Environmental Health	2025	

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3:****Assisting the community to reduce emissions****Lowering the carbon footprint of good and services**

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
36	Investigate the value and feasibility of providing some 'edible landscapes' within parks, open space, streetscapes (e.g. fruit trees in parks or along pathways).	Development Services, Asset Services	2023	Greening Strategy, Open Space Strategy
37	Facilitate and support local programs aimed at increasing production, consumption or local produce and healthy eating generally.	Whole organisation	2025	Eat Well Tasmania, Waterbridge, BCN, 24 Carrot Gardens
38	Review existing strategies to incorporate urban forests, considering the addition of edible street trees.	Development Services	2025	Greening Strategy, Landscape Policy
39	Support local producer markets and sectors, including to be able to sell or provide services within the region – trial a farmers market to showcase local produce and introduce local farmers to new markets.	Development Services, Asset Services, Community Development	2023-24	
40	Trial a second-hand swap market to encourage reusing objects.	Development Services, Asset Services, Community Development	2026	

**Sound information for decision making and sustainability champion promotion**

41	Share community greenhouse footprints with all southern Tasmanian councils and Launceston as in-kind support.	Development Services	2023	RCCI STCA
42	Work with other councils and tiers of government to get access to quality local information on emerging technologies and emissions sources and celebrate achievements through awards, information awareness raising campaigns.	Development Services	Ongoing	RCCI STCA, LGAT, RECFIT, TasNetworks

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4:****Reducing corporate climate change risk and increasing organisational resilience****Reduce and manage risk through improved governance**

- Continue local and regional research to improve Council's understanding of climate change risks and opportunities.
- Integrate adaptation responses that meet Council's obligations to protect the community and the environment.
- Improve the resilience of Council infrastructure.
- Improve hazard and emergency management to minimise climate change risk.
- Improve ecological resilience to climate change.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
43	Review and update Brighton Council Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2012.	Climate Change Officer	2023	RCCI STCA
44	Ensure integration into Council's risk register, annual reporting, council reporting templates, Long Term Management Plans and Asset Management plans.	Whole of organisation	Ongoing	
45	Ensure that Council fully understands its insurer's climate change requirements when considering new policies and projects, undertaking activities and reporting.	Whole or organisation	Ongoing	and inundation modelling.

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4:****Reducing corporate climate change risk and increasing organisational resilience****Reduce costs and improve resilience across Council managed assets**

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
46	Improve Council's urban design work to better reflect design principles that support ecological sustainability- investigate and consider projects that maintain or restore sustainable ecological systems, especially on land that Council manages (for example, revegetating open space and water courses).	Development Services & Asset Services	2023	Master plans
47	Incorporate climate change impacts and risks into assessments and modelling (e.g. hydrology, inundation models, stormwater systems).	Asset Services	2024	2023 stormwater overlays expected to include updated inundation modelling
48	Ensure Council's approach to on-site sewer systems considers climate change impacts, including sea level rise and inundation.	Regulatory Services	2024	
49	Ensure Council standards and guidelines are based on current climate change science, Australian Standards and legislative requirements.	Asset Services, Development Services	Ongoing	Australian Standards, Relevant Legislation
50	Review the vulnerability of critical Council infrastructure and buildings in line with Asset Management Plans, Emergency Management Plans, the latest climate change projections and legislation, ensure future asset maintenance and replacement programs consider climate change, including coastal hazards.	Asset Services	Ongoing	Asset Management Plan
51	Ensure future asset maintenance and replacement programs consider climate change, including coastal hazards and inundation modelling.	Asset Services, Development services	2023	Asset Management Plan

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5:****Assisting the community to become more resilient and reduce climate risks**

Integrate adaptation responses that meet Council's obligations to protect the community and the environment

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Comments supporting documents, programs, current projects
52	Explore urban agriculture initiatives such as support for water reuse schemes and water recycling.	Asset Services, Development Services	2025	TasWater Ag community

**Improve hazard and emergency management to minimise climate change risk**

53	Ensure Council's emergency management responses (for example for bushfire, flooding, inundation, high rainfall, storms, strong winds and heatwaves) considers the likely impacts of climate change.	Asset Services	Ongoing	Asset Management Plan, Emergency Management Plan
54	Engage with various organisations and processes to manage this diverse responsibility and prepare the community for climate change.	Development Services	Ongoing	SES, TasNetworks, TasGas, TasRail

**Advocacy, grants, and information**

55	Create a series of videos and awareness raising material to improve understanding of key climate change concepts.	Development Services	Ongoing	Consultants, community
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## APPENDIX A:

# Key strategic documents and projects links

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) through the latest 6th Assessment Report(s) relies on 234 authors, 195 member countries with 78,000 experts reviewing 14,000 climate science papers. The IPCC is the leading international body for assessment of climate change. It is a key source of scientific information and technical guidance to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement.

Brighton Council climate action aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in to act broadly on climate change in the following ways:

- Goal 7 is about ensuring access to clean and affordable energy, which is key to the development of agriculture, business, communications, education, healthcare and transportation.
- Goal 11 is about making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- Goal 13 calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

The following goals and strategies within the Brighton Council Strategic Plan 2019 – 2029 are furthered by this Strategy:

### Goal 1: Strengthen our communities

- S1.1: Understand/improve health and wellbeing
- S1.4: Support connected communities
- S1.5: Build a resilient community and environmentally sustainable future

### Goal 2: Create 2–3 hubs for our Connector Satellite City

- S2.1: A focus on agriculture / horticulture / aquaculture – (food)
- S2.2: Education / capability build
- S2.3: Support further development of a 'business and logistics hub'

### Goal 3: Drive infrastructure development

- S3.2: Implement Strategic Asset Management Plan (existing and new)
- S3.3: Enabling infrastructure

### Goal 4: Ensure a stable organisation

- S4.1: Ensure financial and risk sustainability
- S4.2: Be well-governed
- S4.3: A shaping agenda facilitated through strong engagements
- S4.4: Long-term thinking and evidence-based

## APPENDIX A:

# Key strategic documents and projects links (continued)

### Interaction of this Strategy with Council Planning and Projects

This Strategy interacts with Council plans, programs, and responsibilities. It is important that integration of climate change considerations across Council functions occurs. Clearly, there is overlap regarding which documents (existing and likely to be prepared) relate most to each of the four approaches, but the following provides an example:

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#### Climate Change & Resilience Strategy Approach    Key Council Related Documents, Plans and Programs

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<b>1. Leadership and working with the community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Plan</li> <li>• Long term financial plan</li> <li>• Structure plans/local area plans/master plans</li> <li>• PR/Communications/Newspaper</li> <li>• Southern Tasmanian Council Authority projects/policies/strategies</li> </ul>
<b>2. Mitigation and transition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Corporate Emission Reduction Plan</li> <li>• Asset management plans</li> <li>• Greening Brighton Strategy</li> <li>• Energy and resource efficiency plans</li> <li>• Procurement and purchasing policies/procedures</li> </ul>
<b>3. Risk and adaptation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brighton Council Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2012</li> <li>• Emergency Management Plan</li> <li>• Bushfire Management Plan</li> <li>• Coastal hazards, inundation and erosion assessments</li> <li>• Biodiversity assessments/strategies</li> <li>• Agricultural land policies/strategies</li> <li>• Climate change modelling – Information for Decision Makers Report 2019</li> </ul>
<b>4. Opportunity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure plans/local area plans/master plans</li> <li>• Local environmental plans</li> <li>• Business incentives policy/procedure for climate responsible actions</li> <li>• Key infrastructure contribution policies</li> <li>• Asset management plans</li> <li>• Investment policies</li> </ul>

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Brighton Council outdoor works crew using electric hedge trimmer. SOURCE: BRIGHTON COUNCIL, 2022





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