

TAKE2 Climate Change Action Pledge | Actions and Status 2017

ACTIONS	STATUS <i>Done, Doing, Will Do</i>	CURRENT ACTION DETAIL
1.0 ENERGY EFFICIENCY		
1.1 Undertake an energy inventory and develop a reporting process	<i>Done</i>	Greenhouse energy inventory (Carbonmetrix program used) undertaken and yearly Carbon Account reported to Council.
1.3 Set a science based emissions reduction target	<i>Done</i>	Emissions reduction target set to align with State Government target at the time – 20% reduction by 2020. <i>Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan</i> developed and is being implemented.
1.5 Develop and implement a program to address energy efficiency in reactive maintenance	<i>Done</i>	Improvements to energy efficiency are completed where available, eg. change of light globes, fittings, and appliances.
1.6 Develop and implement a council building energy efficiency capital works program	<i>Done</i>	Energy efficiency savings are captured into the <i>Revolving Sustainability Fund</i> which then in turn funds improvements according to existing energy audit information.
1.7 Ensure Council's building management systems (BMS) maximise energy performance	<i>Done</i>	Council Building team has full remote access to control Council's systems at the Main Office and Carinos Office.
1.8 Upgrade heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) in Council-owned buildings	<i>Done</i>	Main office HVAC has been upgraded to a more efficient system. Carinos office system has been optimised. Further improvements on other Council buildings will occur with the <i>Revolving Sustainability Fund</i> program.
1.9 Change street lighting to LED (residential and council-managed roads first, then change main road LED street lighting)	<i>Done</i>	Council's Green Street Light program enabled the upgrade of public lighting T5 fluorescent globes in 2014.
2.0 RENEWABLE ENERGY		
2.2 Develop a renewable energy implementation plan	<i>Done</i>	The <i>Revolving Sustainability Fund</i> program considers opportunities for addition of renewable energy sources.

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2.4. Buy renewable energy	<i>Doing</i>	Currently seeking funding for a feasibility study to consider the opportunities for the development of a solar farm at the Leongatha Recreation Reserve.
2.5. Investigate micro-grid opportunities	<i>Doing</i>	See Item 2.4
2.6. Review renewable energy options for aquatic centres	<i>Doing</i>	Energy Audit completed for SPLASH aquatic centre and business case for solar at the centre and across the whole recreation reserve is currently being developed.
2.7. Install solar photovoltaic on buildings that can support the technology	<i>Doing</i>	PV system installed on Carinos office building, Leongatha Depot, Yanakie and Long Jetty Caravan Parks, and Coal Creek Community Park with further installations being considered as part of the <i>Revolving Sustainability Fund</i> .
2.8. Trial or install battery storage	<i>Done</i>	Battery storage installed in Council owned buildings which is currently leased as a Sustainability and Local Food Hub. It is available for the community to view and discuss.
2.9. Find innovative market solutions for investment in renewable energy contracts	<i>Doing</i>	Currently seeking funding for a feasibility study to consider the opportunities for the development of a solar farm at the Leongatha Recreation Reserve.
3.0 EMISSIONS OFFSETS		
3.1. Assess and monitor Council's carbon emissions	<i>Done</i>	Emissions data collected on an ongoing basis and yearly Carbon Account completed and reported to Council.
3.4. Buy carbon offsets for business emissions	<i>Doing</i>	Some carbon offsets have been purchased in the past from Landcare as evidenced by the trees growing on the right hand hillside just past the black spur section of the South Gippsland Highway.
4.0 STRATEGIC AND STATUTORY PLANNING		

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4.1 Work with developer to improve local development standards	<i>Done</i>	Both Strategic and Statutory Planning teams work with developers to improve local development standards as a matter of course.
4.3. Map climate change hazards for Council assets and the municipality	<i>Done</i>	<p>Recently completed Victorian Adaptation and Sustainability Partnership (VASP) project work with other Gippsland councils to identify climate change hazards to Council operations and raise the understanding of climate change risks within Council staff base more generally.</p> <p>Council have mapped coastal hazards in the Planning Scheme to 2100, planning for 0.8 sea level rise, and committed to reviewing this information as new data is provided.</p>
4.8. Work with other councils to adopt a standard for ecologically sustainable development (ESD) policies in planning schemes	<i>Will Do</i>	This is a relevant option to make the most of the strong partnerships developed between Gippsland councils as part of the VASP funded project. Council work with other councils, in particular in the area of flood planning and management.
5.0 TRANSPORT AND FLEET		
5.1. Assess fleet management to identify fuel efficiency opportunities	<i>Done</i>	Our Fleet and Plant Coordinator uses fuel efficiency as a key assessment field in management of the fleet. Council's <i>Motor Vehicle Policy</i> (internal document) includes both fuel efficiency and carbon emissions as clear criteria for fleet selection. In addition, the fuel efficiency is checked to determine if the standard expected is being achieved after purchase of a new model of car.
5.2. Train staff in fuel efficient driving techniques	<i>Doing</i>	GPS tracking system installed on heavy and commercial vehicles provide the opportunity to identify staff who may regularly break hard or speed. Direct feedback to staff is given if anomalies are identified in fleet fuel usage.
5.4. Provide staff facilities for active travel including cycling, running and walking	<i>Done</i>	Facilities are provided for storage of bicycles and change rooms.

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5.6 Build more dedicated cycling paths	<i>Doing</i>	<p>Council's <i>Paths and Trails Strategy</i> addresses the strategic planning of connectivity of townships with paths and trails and is currently in draft format. There is an existing, well utilised Rail Trail for east-west travel between Leongatha and Port Welshpool, with a new section between Nyora and Leongatha in the <i>Council Plan</i> for the next couple of years. Also connection of the existing Rail Trail between Welshpool and the Wellington Shire Council section at Port Albert.</p> <p>A dedicated shared pathway upgrade will be also be implemented between the Korumburra township (Guys Road) and the Secondary College (Jumbunna Road), which is included in VicRoads Principal Bicycle Network Plan, better facilitating school cycling traffic.</p>
5.7. Construct more on-road cycling lanes	<i>Future</i>	<p>North-south commuter travel roadways are mostly VicRoads, eg. Bass and Strzelecki Highways, and are very difficult to implement. An on road cycling lane has been included on Dumbalk Road as access to the school precinct.</p> <p>Advocacy for better access to cycling will continue as a matter of Council business.</p>
5.8. Buy low emissions vehicles for Council's passenger fleet	<i>Done</i>	Council's Fleet & Plant Coordinator uses fuel efficiency as a key assessment field in the management of Council's fleet.
5.9. Investigate fuel/vehicle options for Council's heavy and commercial vehicles	<i>Future</i>	This is an area that will continue to be monitored by our Fleet & Plant Coordinator, and implement where technology is available and determined to be cost efficient in our rural setting. Many of the models of heavy vehicles for our purposes are not available in other fuel options at this stage.

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5.10. Investigate opportunities to install electric vehicle recharge infrastructure	<i>Future</i>	Economic Development and Sustainability teams have received a number of enquiries regarding this and keep in contact with community members, groups, and neighbouring councils interested in this technology. It is however a new area with many logistical and infrastructure implications that may be beyond the scope of Council. Council maintain an overview of the area to determine opportunities that may arise in the future.
6.0 WASTE		
6.1. Develop or update municipal waste management and resource recovery strategy	<i>Done</i>	New strategy reviewed and adopted in 2017.
6.3. Educate staff to better manage waste	<i>Doing</i>	Staff are regularly provided education through various internal publications.
6.5. Reduce contamination in kerbside waste collection	<i>Doing</i>	Council's kerbside collection contract includes measures to reduce bin contamination including warning stickers on offending bins. Further action is taken if the offence occurs more than three times by Council's Waste Management Supervisor. Council also conducts education programs to reduce bin contamination.
6.6. Introduce a kerbside organic waste collection program – Green waste only at this stage	<i>Doing</i>	Green waste recycling has been implemented by Council to reduce the amount of green waste being sent to landfill. Further investigations are planned in the current <i>Waste Management Strategy</i> to investigate the viability of introducing a FOGO (Food Organics & Garden Organics) collection.
6.7. Introduce a recycling system for public places – progressively updating townships	<i>Doing</i>	Public place recycling is provided in a number of townships and is collected as part of our public bin pick up.
6.9. Promote 'Detox your Home' mobile collections and permanent drop-off sites to your community	<i>Done</i>	<i>Detox Your Home</i> services are promoted but have not been allocated to South Gippsland locations by Sustainability Victoria in recent years.

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7.0 NATURAL AND URBAN ENVIRONMENT		
7.1. Map local biodiversity	<i>Done</i>	The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) have provided this mapping.
7.2. Develop a biodiversity plan that considers climate change threats, impacts, opportunities, and action	<i>Doing</i>	Climate change is identified as a threat in Council's <i>Natural Reserves Strategy</i> (internal review document). These reserves are a key natural asset maintained by Council to preserve biodiversity.
7.6. In regional areas, investigate how climate change could impact agriculture and sustainable land use	<i>Done</i>	A three year project addressing climate risks to agriculture has been implemented and is delivered in an ongoing modified format through Landcare groups and community education through social accounts.
7.7. Develop an incentive program to encourage land owners to protect and enhance biodiversity	<i>Doing</i>	Annual incentive payments are made to property owners with a Trust for Nature covenant.
7.8. Develop a tree inventory and management system to assess health, future planting options and canopy cover	<i>Will Do</i>	Too many trees to map in entirety, mapping of significant trees has occurred with volunteer assistance.
7.10. Develop bio-links across the municipality	<i>Doing</i>	In the rural area, our roadside vegetation is managed to provide suitable bio-links that have weed management and provide bio-links between Council's natural reserves and other biodiversity assets on private land.
8.0 PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING		
8.1. Develop a sustainable procurement policy including guidance on environmental evaluation criteria	<i>Done</i>	Sustainable purchasing guidelines included in Council's <i>Procurement Policy</i> .
8.5. Include environmental evaluation criteria in quotes and tenders	<i>Done</i>	Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) is considered as a design criteria for asset renewal.

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9.0 CULTURE AND LEADERSHIP		
9.1. Encourage staff to TAKE2	<i>Doing</i>	Through internal communication channels.
9.4. Promote Council's environmental programs to the community	<i>Done</i>	Through external communication channels.
10.0 COMMUNITY		
10.1. Encourage the community to TAKE2	<i>Will Do</i>	Through external communication channels.
10.2. Feature climate change in Council publications	<i>Done</i>	Climate change risks and actions are included in the <i>Council Plan</i> and other documents (often Planning related documents).
10.3. Establish a community environmental advisory committee	<i>Doing</i>	South Gippsland Sustainability Network has been a loose network of people working on projects or individual actions for sustainability. This group is consulted and engaged through a mailing list of about 350, when relevant. The Local Food Network is a highly successful sub-group of this network and endeavours to reduce the food miles to reduce emissions.
10.4. Give residents guidance on environmental design and retrofits	<i>Doing</i>	This is conducted through the delivery of community sessions, e.g. renewable energy and sustainable building.
10.6. Work with developers to support distributed renewable energy in new developments	<i>Doing</i>	This is conducted on an ad-hoc basis.
10.7. Support renewable energy bulk-buys for the community	<i>Done</i>	Council is involved in the Communities Making Energy Together Roundtable which supports a variety of community renewable energy projects. Mirboo North Community Energy Hub, the Energy Innovation Coop, and Gippsland Climate Change Network are also supported. Council are part of the Solar Savers program – a solar panel bulk buy program available to residents on a pension or disability concession.

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10.8. Establish an environmental upgrade agreement or rates payback mechanism for commercial buildings	<i>Done</i>	The Environmental Upgrade Agreement program was rolled out this year.
10.9 Support community owned renewable energy generators and retailers	<i>Doing</i>	Council is involved in the <i>Communities Making Energy Together Roundtable</i> and supports these types of enterprises through Mirboo North Community Energy Hub and the Energy Innovation Coop. This is conducted very much in collaboration with Bass Coast Shire Council.