



northern  
beaches  
council

# MINUTES

## ENVIRONMENT

## STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP

held in the Coastal Environment Centre, Narrabeen on

**THURSDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2019**

**Minutes of the Environment  
Strategic Reference Group  
held on Thursday 28 February 2019  
in the Coastal Environment Centre, Narrabeen  
Commencing at 6:12pm**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Committee Members**

Cr Alex McTaggart (Chair)

Cr Natalie Warren (*arrived at 6:31pm*)

Sophie Scott

Roberta Conroy

Bayview Church Point Residents Association

Alan Jones

David Tribe

Anthony Petrolo (*arrived at 6:15pm*)

Nigel Howard (*arrived at 6:32pm*)

Marita Macrae

Pittwater Natural Heritage Association

Jacqueline Marlow (*arrived at 6:16pm*)

Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

Scott Markich

**Council Officer Contacts**

Todd Dickinson

Acting General Manager Environment & Infrastructure

Jacque Grove

Acting Executive Manager Natural Environment & Climate Change

Kara Taylor

Acting Manager Environment Resilient & Climate Change

Ximena Von Oven

Governance Officer

## 1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cr Daley and Billy Bragg.

## 2.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflicts of interest.

## 3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

### 3.1 MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP MEETING HELD 13 DECEMBER 2018

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Environment Strategic Reference Group meeting held 13 December 2018, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, are hereby confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

*R Conroy / S Markich*

## 4.0 UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

Nil

## 5.0 AGENDA ITEMS

### 5.1 LIGHTING THE WAY - ACCELERATED STREET LIGHTING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

#### DISCUSSION

Graham Mawer from Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) Inc provided the presentation "Lighting the Way – Replacement of Ausgrid Residential Road Lighting with LEDs"

The following points were discussed:

- Focus of the Street Lighting Improvement Program is pricing reviews, securing better lighting technology & better lighting outcomes and improving service levels
- Ownership and responsibility for lighting – Ausgrid owns most of the street lighting but Councils have legal responsibility for providing lighting
- Lighting is provided for security, amenity and vehicle and pedestrian safety
- Cost savings, better and more reliable lighting, reduction of carbon emissions and elimination of mercury are the key drivers for the Lighting the Way Project

#### NOTES:

- A Petrolo arrived at 6:15pm
- J Marlow arrived at 6:16pm
- Cr Warren arrived at 6:31pm

- N Howard arrived at 6:32pm

## DECISION

That the Environment Strategic Reference Group note the "Lighting the Way" project and the significant savings in energy, costs and emissions to be achieved.

## 5.2 IMPLEMENTATION OF "MOVE" NORTHERN BEACHES TRANSPORT STRATEGY - PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF BIKE PLAN AND WALKING PLAN

### DISCUSSION

Phillip Devon, Manager Transport Network provided a presentation in relation to this topic. The following points were discussed:

- Public Engagement overview
- Feedback received with regards to community support, innovation, rail as a transport option, rapid transport to adjoining employment hubs and parking
- Changes made with regards to shared mobility, travel, additional cross regional bus service via the Northern Beaches Hospital, road network and Vision for 2038.
- Walking Plan
  - Stage 2 of the plan is on public exhibition until 3 March 2019
- Bike Plan
  - Online engagement to inform the Bike Plan is currently underway and submission will close on 3 March 2019
  - The Bike Plan will be presented to the 16 April Council meeting for endorsement for public exhibition.

SRG members raised the following points with regards to this topic:

- There was a discussion around the use of electric vehicles (cars, buses), charging times and infrastructure.
- There was a discussion about different opportunities for population to work locally instead of traveling to the city

### NOTE:

SRG members thanked P Devon for his great presentation and research.

## DECISION

That the Environment Strategic Reference Group notes the presentation and provide comments on the Northern Beaches Bike Plan and the Northern Beaches Walking Plan via Councils website by the 3 March 2019.

### 5.3 DISCUSSION OF THE ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT NORTHERN BEACHES ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

#### DISCUSSION

Kara Taylor, Acting Manager Environment Resilient & Climate Change presented to the group regarding this topic. The following points were discussed:

- SRG feedback:
  - Increase the strength in Council's role as an influencer and advocate
  - Food waste and plastic pollution topics should be included and developed more explicitly
  - Climate change mitigation needs to be highlighted more thoroughly within the document
  - Key carbon emission reduction behaviours people can adopt
- Structure of the Draft Environment Strategy with regards to draft objectives (protect, create and live)
- Council's areas of influence (Community and Corporate)

SRG members raised the following points:

- Climate change has to be thoroughly integrated within the Draft Northern Beaches Environment Strategy
- Within the plan there is nothing that indicates what can community members do to proactively reduce carbon emissions.
- An action plan for Climate Change should added to the action plans listed in the Draft Northern Beaches Environment Strategy
- Targets should be set with regards to the aspirations of Council's areas of influence (Community and Corporate)

Abi Prakash from Kinesis provided a presentation regarding the Community Carbon Emissions Target Setting. The following points were discussed:

- An overview of carbon and water analysis for the Northern Beaches was provided.
- What makes a good target (how do we engage all relevant stakeholders to create change?)
  - Engagement of community members is priority for achieving a target and the Community must be aware of the target
  - Key is to set an ambitious but realistic target so it can be achieved
- Community responses to proposed target (responses from stakeholders for the proposed 55% emissions reduction target)

SRG members raised the following points:

- The language within the Draft Northern Beaches Environment Strategy is very important. The language used should be inclusive, which means that the Draft Strategy should note what Council is going to achieve but also what community members are responsible for.
- The importance of encouraging community members to participate in achieving the set targets.
- The draft Northern Beaches Environment Strategy should specify aspirations and not only targets.

## ACTIONS

- J Grove to email carbon and water aspirations and commitments of the Draft Northern Beaches Environment Strategy to the Environment SRG members for review.
- Council to review references to and the impacts of population growth within the Draft Northern Beaches Environment Strategy.

## NOTE:

*Cr Warren left the meeting at 8:21pm*

## DECISION

That the Environment SRG committee participate in a discussion regarding the aspirations in the draft Northern Beaches Environment Strategy.

## 5.4 DISCUSSION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DRAFT NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL BUSHLAND AND BIODIVERSITY POLICY

### DISCUSSION

Due to time constraints this item was deferred to a special interest briefing.

## 6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

## SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
5.3	J Grove to email carbon and water aspirations and commitments of the Draft Northern Beaches Environment Strategy to the Environment SRG members for review.	Jacqui Grove	
5.3	Council to review references to and the impacts of population growth within the Draft Northern Beaches Environment Strategy.	Jacqui Grove	

- |     |                                                                                                               |                                         |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 5.4 | Establish a special interest briefing on the Development of a Draft Northern Beaches Council Bushland Policy. | Deferred to a special interest briefing |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|

#### Attachments

- Attachment 1 – Item 5.2 - MOVE – Northern Beaches Transport Strategy
- Attachment 2 – Item 5.3 – Draft Environment Strategy Update & Community Emissions Target Setting (Kinesis)
- Attachment 3 - Carbon and Water Commitments and Aspirations

Special Interest Briefing – Discussion on the Development of a Draft Northern Beaches Council Bushland and Biodiversity Policy – Thursday 9 May 2019, Flannel Flower Room, Dee Why Civic Centre (6:00-7:00pm)

*The meeting concluded at 8:34pm*

This is the final page of the Minutes comprising 7 pages numbered 1 to 7 of the Environment Strategic Reference Group meeting held on Thursday 28 February 2019 and confirmed on Thursday 30 May 2019





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# MOVE

## Northern Beaches Transport Strategy

- Public Engagement
- What We Heard
- Changes Made





# Public Engagement Snap Shot

- **1,350** downloads of Move – Northern Beaches Transport Strategy
- Over **22,600** views of the **2** videos – Chatswood Challenge and the MOVE - Animation across the media platforms
- **119** comments on the Your Say platform
- **168** attendees **8** pop-up sessions
- **10** Commuter Hubs, **1,500** Transport Strategy Z Cards
- **23** written submissions
- Meetings, City of Ryde and Ku-ring-gai Council
- **5** Council News electronic articles, and a printed article in the Manly Daily
- **5** Facebook posts, over **22,500** views.

# What We Heard

**Community Support** – we are on the right path.

**Appetite for change** – the community will use alternatives if they are efficient.

**Innovation** – look for alternative options – Council can lead the way.

**Rail as a transport option** - a constant theme engagement activities – Community is not linking it with a doubling of the population.

**Rapid transport to adjoining employment hubs** – access to Chatswood and Macquarie Park.

**Parking** – to access Transport services and the Centres within our communities.

# Changes Made

- Shared Mobility
- Travel Change
- Additional cross regional bus service via the Hospital
- Another Future Direction to inform the community of road network updates.
- Two notes to the vision for 2038
  - The integration of on-demand freight and delivery services within the network
  - The arrival of autonomous vehicles which will be travelling on our road network.

# Walking Plan

- Stage 2 consultation until 3 March
- Assessing over 3000 locations
- Currently in excess of \$150 M
- Priority tool to implement
- Adoption planned at the April Council Meeting
- Connecting Destinations and the community

# Bike Plan

- Three tier network
- Stage one engagement on line until 3 March
- Stage 2 will be the Document and infrastructure list
- Planned to go to the April Council Meeting to be endorsed for public exhibition

# What's Next

- Shared Mobility Policy
- Parking Plan
- Road Safety Plan
- Public Transport Plan
- Road Network Plan
- Freight Plan



# Questions ?

# NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL

Community Emissions Target Setting



# Presentation Overview

## 1. Overview of the Carbon and Water Analysis

- > The process and level of ambition in modelling

## 2. Community carbon emissions by 2036

- > Testing scenarios for zero emissions by 2036

## 3. What makes a good target?

- > How do we engage all relevant stakeholders to create change?



# **Carbon and Water Analysis**

Process, Data and Benchmarking the Northern Beaches



# Carbon and Water Analysis

2. Load & analyse housing and job projections (2036)

Underpinned by the direction and targets of the Environment Strategy

ly:

ysis of patterns of  
resource consumption

3. Develop & Analyse Greenhouse Gas Interventions

& analyse

ing and job  
projections (2036)

4. Place based analysis of interventions

Develop & Analyse  
Greenhouse Gas  
Interventions

Place based analysis  
of interventions

2. Load & analyse housing and job projections (2036)
3. Develop & Analyse Greenhouse Gas Interventions

4. Place based analysis of interventions

1. Develop baseline community emissions for FY 16/17 and identify patterns of consumption

Previous Work:  
Coarse Data from utilities  
& transport agencies

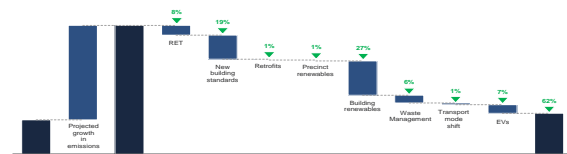
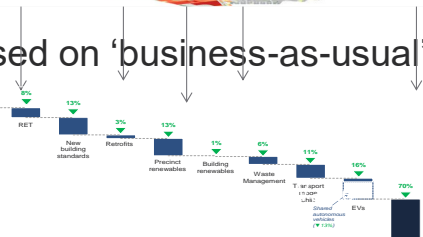
Calibrated theoretical  
intensities

Disaggregated resource  
and emission data

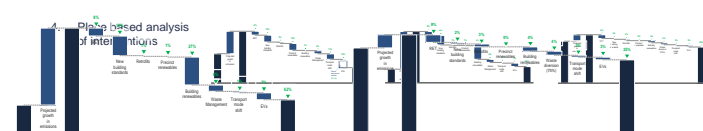
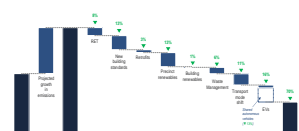


This Study:

1. Analysis of patterns of resource consumption
2. Load & analyse housing and job projections (2036)
3. Develop & Analyse Greenhouse Gas Interventions



3. Model emissions reductions based on policy and technological interventions



4. Recommend an ambitious yet achievable target



United Nations  
Climate Change



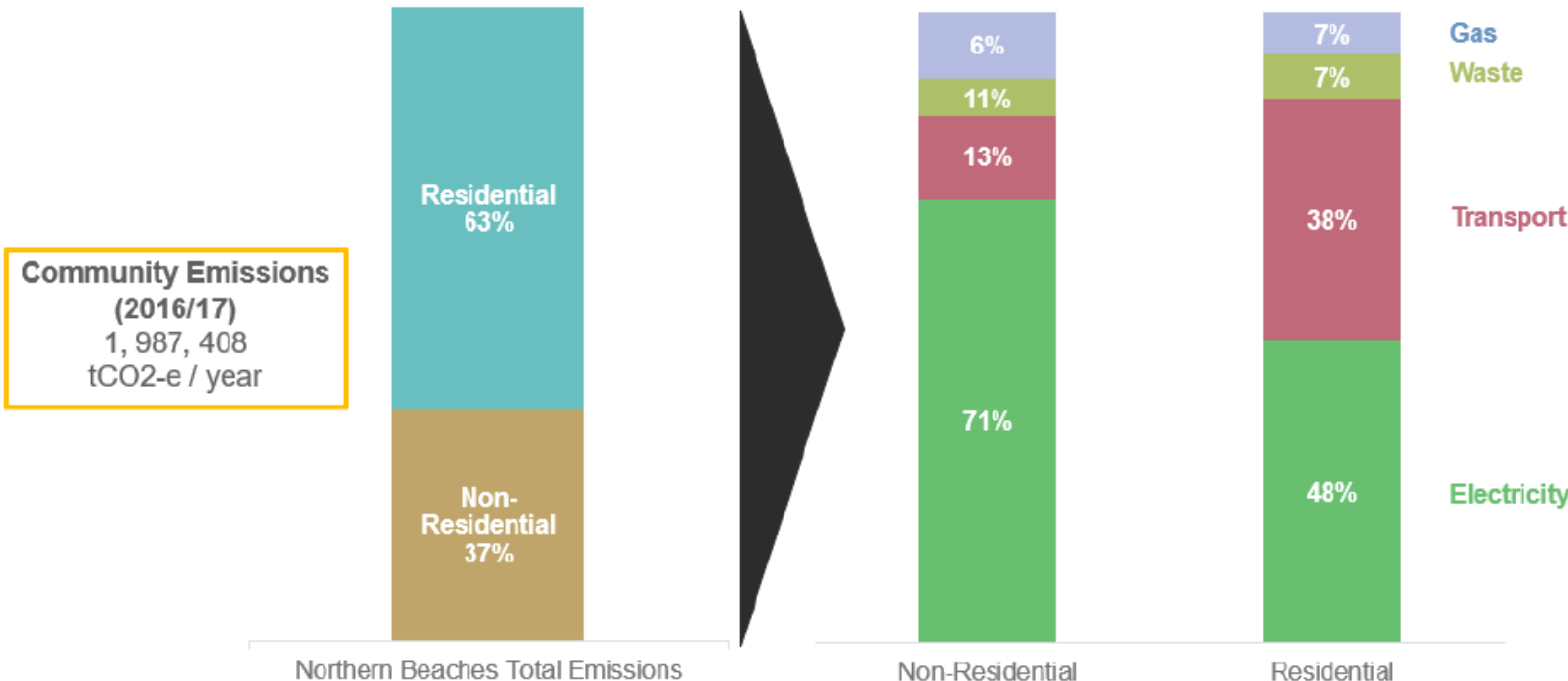
Australian Government  
Department of the Environment and Energy





# Northern Beaches Emissions

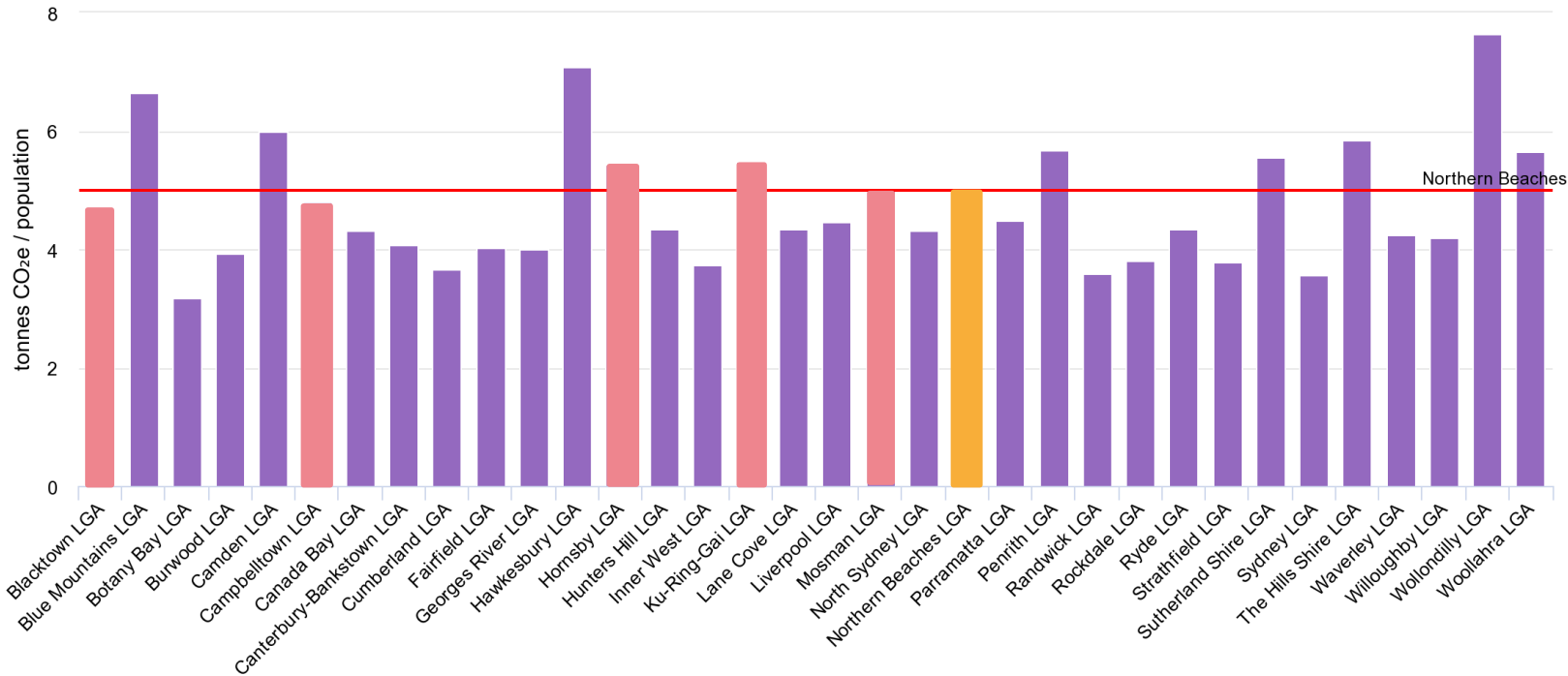
Baselines do not give us a complete picture....emissions need to be contextualised





# Per Capita Resident Emissions

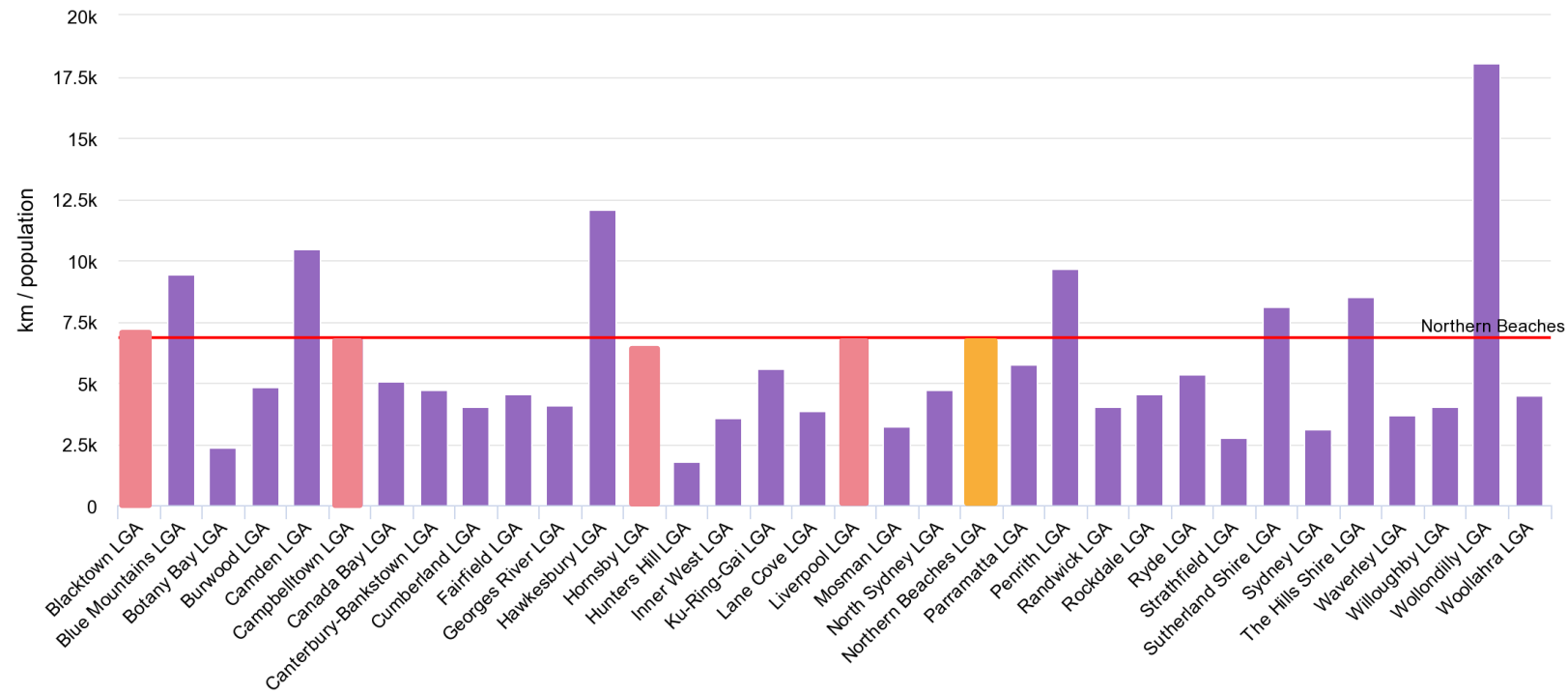
From a per capita lens, the Northern Beaches is as emissions intensive as outer-ring LGAs





# Per Capita Resident Travel by Car

From a per capita lens, the Northern Beaches is as car-reliant as outer-ring LGAs

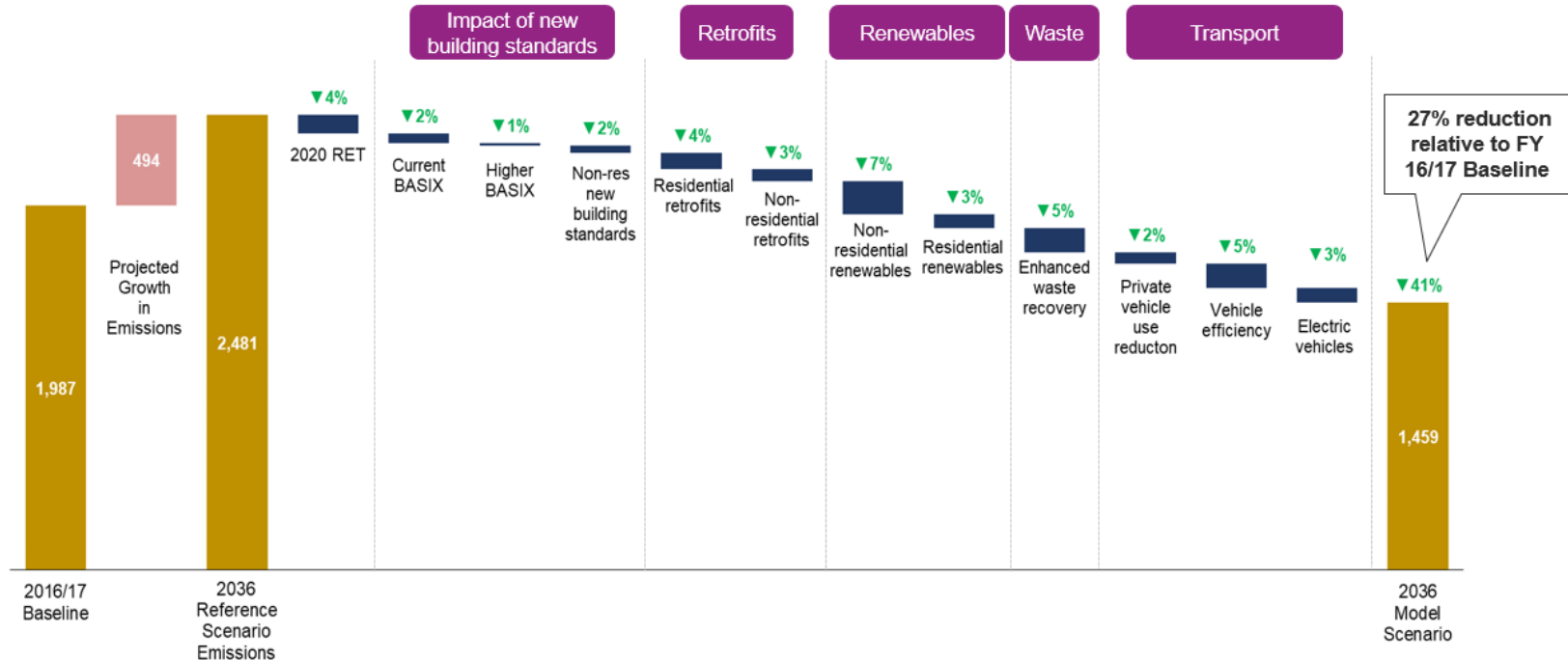




# Carbon Emission Reduction Waterfall to 2036

Once we account for further growth, getting to net zero is hard...

Units: '000 (Thousand) tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>-e per year

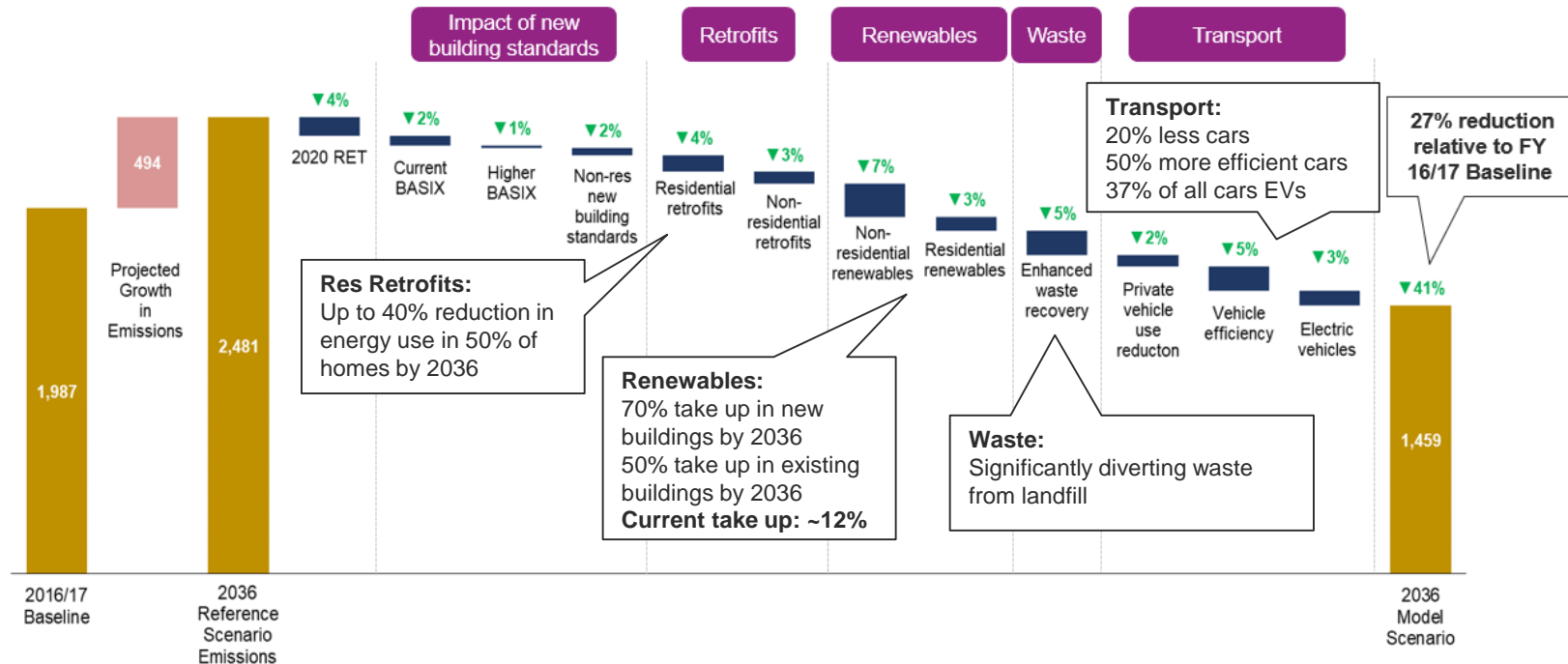




# Carbon Emission Reduction Waterfall to 2036

...and we've pushed the boundaries with the modelling...

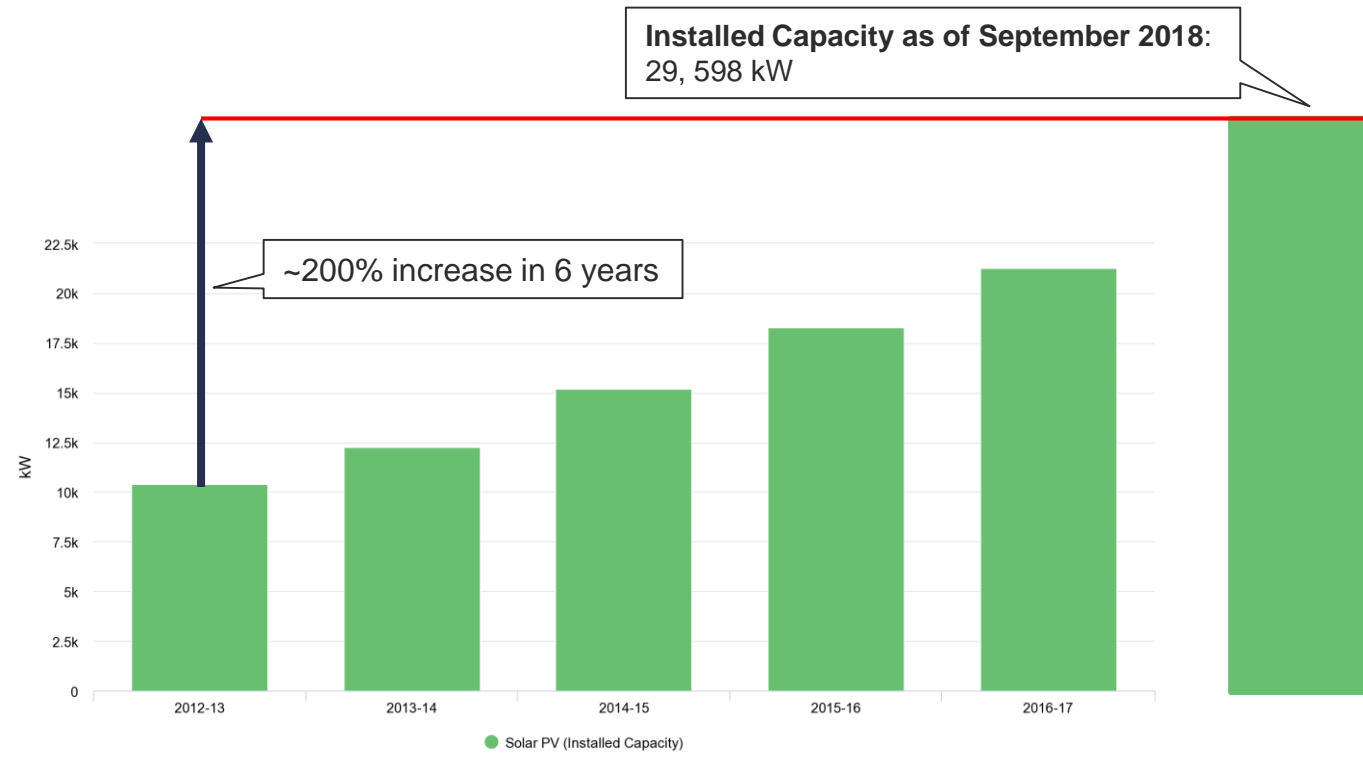
Units: '000 (Thousand) tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>-e per year





# Solar PV Installed Capacity from FY 13 to FY 17

...but these are not unrealistic and are achievable





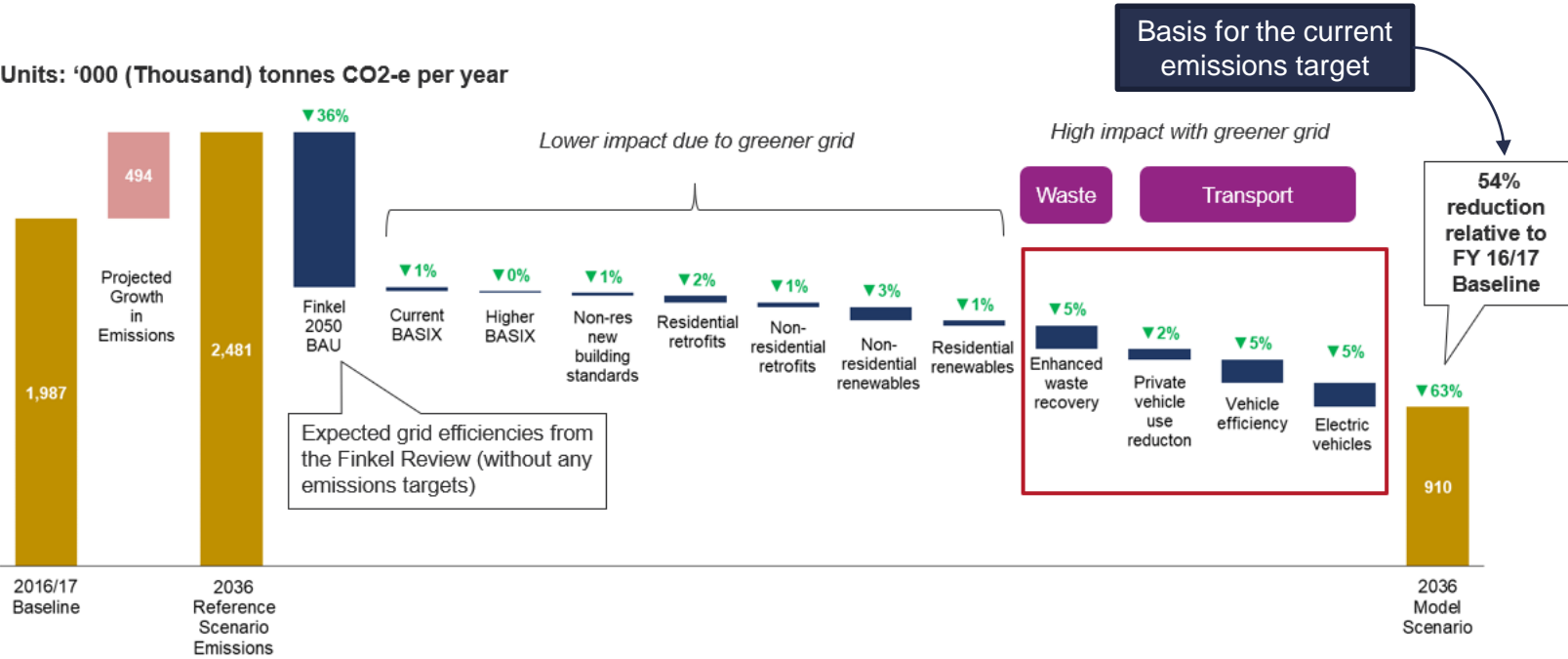
# **Community Carbon Emissions by 2036**

External factors play an important role



# Reductions with a Greener Grid

The grid will become less carbon intensive as coal-fired power stations are replaced by renewables





# Zero Carbon by 2036?

... if the electricity grid is not zero carbon, then a city cannot be zero carbon

1. The grid will get greener, but it will not be zero carbon
  - > Modelling in the Finkel Review and other studies suggests that even with emissions policies in place, gas and coal fired power stations will still be generating electricity in 2036
2. If electric vehicle uptake exceeds all expectations (>40-50%) and replace all petrol and diesel powered vehicles and we build electric public transport infrastructure (rail, buses, etc.), we would still need electricity to power them
3. If everyone had a set of solar panels and batteries to provide clean energy and EVs for private transport, we still need to compost all organic waste and divert it from landfill



# What are some other LGAs doing?

Local governments that have acknowledged a deficit

## City of Sydney

- Target of 70% reduction on 2006 emissions by 2030 (roughly equivalent to the Northern Beaches target), with an acknowledged deficit of 17%
- Net zero emissions by 2050

## Inner West Council

- Net zero emissions by 2036 with an acknowledged current deficit of ~30%

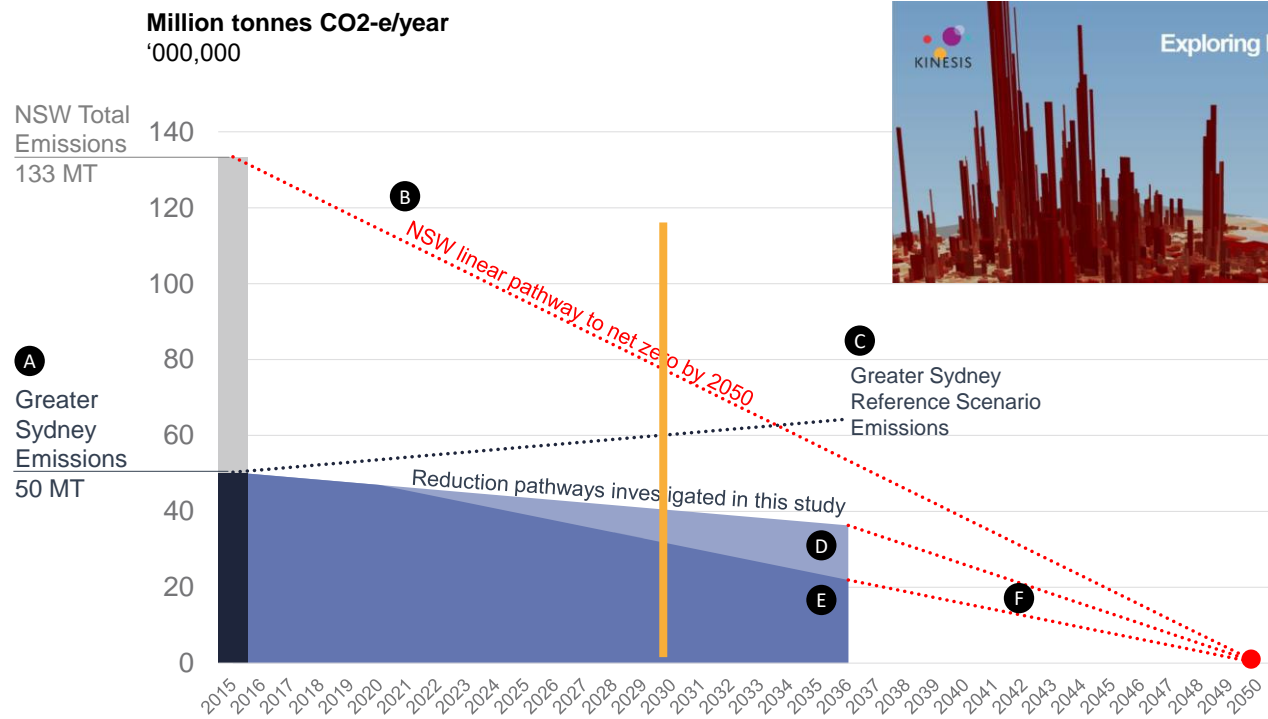
## Darebin (Victoria)

- Net zero emissions by 2020 (currently being revised)
- They have acknowledged the importance of a zero carbon electricity grid



# What are the GSC & State Government Doing?

State government has adopted net zero by 2050 but has yet to take full ownership





# **What makes a good target?**

Engagement is the key



# Community responses to proposed target

Two groups of responses from stakeholders for the proposed 55% emissions reduction target

## 1. Awareness – *“How will we get there?”*

Feedback from community about target being proposed (55% reduction):

- *“I’m not sure these can be achieved”*
- *“It’s an important topic but I’m not sure how it can happen”*

## 2. Complacency – *“This is easy”*

Feedback from community about target being proposed (55% reduction):

- *“It sounds good”*
- *“They communicate the councils proactivity however what’s really going to be done I’m not sure”*
  - What about community proactivity?





# Let's say you adopt a zero carbon by 2030 target...

Two potential responses from stakeholders, including community & business

## 1. Awareness – “How will we get there?”

- Stakeholders ‘switch off’ – ‘why bother?’
- No accountability for Council and the community when it’s a pipe dream
- Meaningful reductions will seem meaningless

## 2. Complacency – “This is easy”?

- Adopting unrealistic targets makes them seem realistic
- Removes the sense of effort required to reach net zero
- Lose onus on every member of the community to change behaviour



# So what does all this mean?

## Setting an ambitious but realistic target is key:

- Engaging stakeholders into working towards something ambitious but achievable
  - Particularly important because to reach net zero, there needs to be a fundamental change in the way we consume
- Creating accountability for Council **and the community**
- Applying bottom-up pressure on State and Federal governments to take climate action

# Draft Protect, Create, Live: Northern Beaches Environment and Climate Change Strategy

## Carbon and Water Use Commitments and Aspirations

Theme	Commitments
Sustainable Built Environment	More than halve the carbon emissions by 2038
	Net zero emissions before 2050
	<b>Aspiration:</b> Net zero emissions by 2030
	No increase in drinking water use by 2038
	Increase the number of buildings incorporating green infrastructure
Sustainable Living	More than halve the carbon emissions by 2038
	Net zero emissions before 2050
	<b>Aspiration:</b> Net zero emissions by 2030
	No increase in drinking water use by 2038
	Divert 85% of waste from landfill by 2038
	Reduce the rate of waste generation per person*
Northern Beaches Council Operations	60% reduction in carbon emissions by 2038
	Net Zero emissions by 2045
	<b>Aspiration:</b> Net zero emissions by 2030
	10% reduction in our drinking water use by 2038
	Divert 85% of waste from landfill by 2038
	90% recycling of construction waste by 2038

\*We currently don't have reliable data to determine an appropriate percentage target for this commitment due to complexities with amalgamating historic data over three former LGA areas. We will work to compile data on this as we prepare and implement a carbon action plan and as we periodically revise our commitments in the strategy.