AGENDA

ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Environment Strategic Reference Group will be held in the Flannel Flower Room, Dee Why Civic Centre on

THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2024

Beginning at 6:00 PM for the purpose of considering matters included in this agenda.

Committee Members

Cr Kristyn Glanville (Chair)	Councillor
Mayor Sue Heins	Mayor
Cr Michael Gencher	Councillor
Cr Stuart Sprott	Councillor
Individual or organisation representatives with specific expertise/experience:	
Alan Jones	Individual – Curl Curl Ward
Nigel Howard	Individual – Frenchs Forest Ward
Jamileh Jahangiri	Individual – Manly Ward
Oscar Jones	Individual – Manly Ward
Roberta Conroy	Individual – Pittwater Ward
Sarah Baker	Individual – Frenchs Forest Ward
Joeline Hackman	Northern Beaches War on Waste
Leigh McGaghey	Pittwater Natural Heritage Association and Canopy Keepers
Community members or group representatives with broad range of strategic views	
Natalie Warren	Community representative - Curl Curl Ward
Malin Frick	Community representative – Manly Ward
Billy Bragg	Community representative – Pittwater Ward
Jacqueline Marlow	Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment representative

Council Officer Contacts

Todd Dickinson	Director Environment and Sustainability
Yianni Mentis	Executive Manager Environment and Climate Change
Lauren Reti	Senior Advisor Governance

Quorum

A majority of members including the Chair or one of the elected Councillors.

Agenda for Environment Strategic Reference Group meeting to be held on Thursday 7 March 2024 in the Flannel Flower Room, Dee Why Civic Centre Commencing at 6:00 PM

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1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As a sign of respect, Northern Beaches Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and pays respect to Elders past and present.

2.0 APOLOGIES

All members are expected to attend the meetings or otherwise tender their apologies to the Chair and Governance at councilmeetings@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au.

3.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members should disclose any "**pecuniary**" or "**non-pecuniary**" interests in matters included in the agenda. The Northern Beaches Council Code of Conduct (the Code) provides guidance on managing conflicts of interests.

A **pecuniary interest** is defined in Section 4 of the Code as:

> *A pecuniary interest is an interest that you have in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to you or a person referred to in clause 4.3.*

A **non-pecuniary conflict of interest** is defined in Section 5 of the Code as:

> *A non-pecuniary conflict of interest exists where a reasonable and informed person would perceive that you could be influenced by a private interest when carrying out your official functions in relation to a matter.*

If you required further information or guidance about disclosing an interest please contact Governance at councilmeetings@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au.

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP MEETING HELD 30 NOVEMBER 2023

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Environment Strategic Reference Group meeting held 30 November 2023, copies of which were previously circulated to all members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

6.0 WASTE & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

ITEM 6.1 WASTE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY STRATEGY AND EPA GRANTS

ISSUE

Results of public exhibition of the draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy 2040.

DISCUSSION

The draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy 2040 (Strategy) will be the lead strategy to help Council plan for and future proof the domestic waste and litter management services for the Northern Beaches through to 2040. It also provides an important investment signal to the market, to participate and invest in circular economy opportunities (reuse, repair and recycling) in the region, stimulating local economic activity and social connection.

At its meeting held on 24 October 2023, Council endorsed the public exhibition of the draft Strategy for a minimum of 28 days. The public exhibition period ran from 27 October 2023 to 10 December 2023.

A total of 179 submissions were received during the public exhibition, made up of 163 'Your Say' survey responses and 16 email submissions.

Feedback collected during the exhibition period revealed a high level of engagement and support for the draft Strategy, confirming the draft Strategy's directions and actions. 90% of submissions supported the draft Strategy, with 88% supporting the actions for the first 5 years.

Engagement was carried out across multiple platforms, including Council's 'Your Say' platform, public pop up / drop in locations, online webinar, social media, bus stop advertising and Council's newsletters and mailing lists. This included over 4,500 visits to the 'Your Say' project page.

In response to feedback, minor amendments to the draft Strategy are proposed to improve outcomes for the community. This includes working closely with the community, not for profits and interested parties as we develop the circular economy hub model.

If adopted, Council will evaluate progress of the Strategy's actions through ongoing key performance indicators and annual reporting, with a review in five years.

Financial considerations include funding secured by Council for the following EPA grants:

- The EPA funded Litter Prevention Grant – Creation of litter prevention road map (further implementation funding could be available)
- The EPA funded Local Government Waste Solutions Fund Round 1 – Towards a Northern Beaches Circular Economy Hub - the leading reuse and repair network in NSW.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environment SRG note the report.

REPORTING OFFICER	**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO EM WASTE MANAGEMENT & CLEANSING**
TRIM FILE REF	2024/133084
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION & BIODIVERSITY

ITEM 7.1 COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

ISSUE

This report is to update the Environment SRG on the status of the Open Coast and Lagoons Coastal Management Program. A presentation will also be provided.

BACKGROUND

The Environment SRG was provided with an overview of the status of the Coastal Management Plans currently under development at its meeting held 6 September 2023.

DISCUSSION

The Coast and Catchments Team is leading the development of a new Coastal Management Program (CMP) for the Northern Beaches Open Coast and Lagoons. The spatial extent of this CMP encompasses all ocean beaches (except Collaroy-Narrabeen) in addition the four coastal lagoons - Manly, Dee Why, Curl Curl and Narrabeen lagoons. Separate CMPs are being concurrently developed for Collaroy-Narrabeen beach, Pittwater and Sydney Harbour.

The CMP sets out the long-term strategy for co-ordinated management of land within the coastal zone and primarily aims to:

1. identify coastal management issues and the actions required to address these issues in a strategic and integrated way,

2. detail how and when those actions are to be implemented, their costs and proposed cost-sharing arrangements and other viable funding mechanisms that addresses

The Coastal Management Manual provides councils with guidance to meet the requirements of the Act and outlines the process for undertaking and assessing coastal issues, and preparing CMPs.

There are 5 stages to the CMP process which are represented in Figure 1 below:

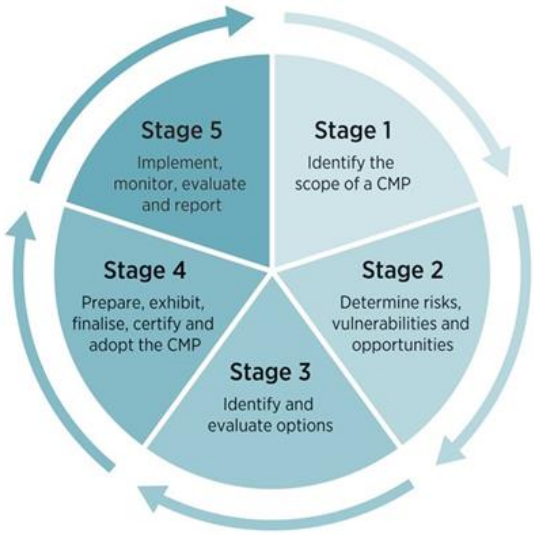

Figure 1 – Stages to developing a Coastal Management Program

The Open Coast and Lagoons CMP is currently at Stage 1 – Scoping Study. This stage sets up a collaborative, risk-based and outcome focused process using best available information. It guides

the formulation of appropriate strategies and actions in later stages of the planning process. Stage 1 of the CMP process encompasses the following:

- review the strategic context for coastal management in the local area;
- determine the purpose of the CMP and the key outcomes that it is intended to deliver;
- identify the appropriate scope for the CMP, consider the area and range of issues to be dealt with and identify which organisations or communities need to be involved;
- determine the adequacy of available information and management actions and identify subsequent stages in the preparation of a CMP.

Other activities that have commenced and/or completed include:

- engagement of consultancy services firm Rhelm to deliver Stage 1;
- development of the community and stakeholder engagement strategy;
- development of website and engagement material; and
- initial engagement with the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC).

Further information and updates will be provided as the individual and collective CMP projects progress.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environment SRG note the information provided in this report.

REPORTING OFFICER	**ACTING EXECUTIVE MANAGER ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE**
TRIM FILE REF	2024/134720
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

ITEM 7.2 VALLEY VIEW WETLAND PROJECT

ISSUE

This report is to update the Environment SRG on the Valley View wetland project.

BACKGROUND

The Environment SRG was briefed on the constructed wetland project at the Environment SRG meeting held 7 June 2023.

DISCUSSION

The Valley View Wetland project at Prosperity Park in Warriewood has now been completed. The final stage of the project included over 15,000 terrestrial and aquatic plants being planted.

This constructed wetland improves water quality of Narrabeen Creek through the treatment of low flows, maintains flood management and storage functionality of the site, significantly improves scenic amenity and increases ecological function through improved diversity and naturalisation of the lower section of the reserve.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environment SRG note the information in this report.

REPORTING OFFICER	ACTING MANAGER COAST & CATCHMENTS
TRIM FILE REF	2024/135052
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

8.0 CLIMATE CHANGE & SUSTAINABILITY

ITEM 8.1 WORKSHOP - POLICY HARMONISATION

ISSUE

Environment SRG to participate in a workshop to provide input into the harmonisation of key Council environmental policies.

BACKGROUND

Council policies are a strategic documents outlining the position of Council on a particular subject matter and are adopted by Council resolutions.

A Council policy:

- provides high level strategic direction.
- is linked to Council's Community Strategic Plan and/or is required by relevant legislation; and
- has community focus and/or significant public interest.

Council policies may only be adopted, amended or revoked by Council resolution, and include:

- Purpose/statement
  - Explain the need for policy / council's position in relation to the matter.
- Principles
  - Detail the guiding principles to support the purpose / statement.
- Scope/Application
  - To whom the standard applies and how it will be applied.

DISCUSSION

Five current policies require harmonisation into one Policy:

- Climate Change Policy (former Pittwater)
- Environmental Sustainability Policy (former Warringah)
- Sustainability Policy (Former Pittwater)
- Carbon Neutral Policy (Former Manly)
- Ethical Charter Policy (Former Manly)

These policies are attached to this report. In addition to considering these existing policies in the policy harmonisation process, Council will also need to consider other strategies and plans that have been adopted, most notably the Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Council's Community Strategic Plan 2040.

The objectives of the workshop are to seek input from the Environment SRG on

1. Broadly what should be included in a revised policy
2. Key principles to be considered (supporting the Purpose).

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environment SRG members participate in a workshop to provide input into the harmonisation of key Council environmental policies.

REPORTING OFFICER	**MANAGER, ENVIRONMENT RESILIENCE & CLIMATE CHANGE**
TRIM FILE REF	2024/124188
ATTACHMENTS	**1 ⇩Climate Change Policy** **2 ⇩Environmental Sustainability Policy** **3 ⇩Sustainability Policy** **4 ⇩Carbon Neutral Policy** **5 ⇩Ethical Charter - Sustainability**

Policy – No 176	**Adopted:**	**OM: 06.04.2009**
	Amended:	**OM: 17.10.2011** **OM: 04.11.2013** **OM: 06.10.2015**
	Revoked:	

TITLE:	**Climate Change**
STRATEGY:	**Pittwater 2025: Our Community Strategic Plan**
BUSINESS UNIT:	**All**
RELEVANT LEGISLATION:	**New South Wales (NSW) *Local Government Act 1993*** **NSW *Planning and Assessment Act 1979*** **NSW *Coastal Protection Act 1979*** **NSW *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*** **NSW *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989*** **NSW *State Emergency Service Act 1989*** **NSW *Rural Fires Act 1997*** **NSW *Marine Estate Management 2014*** **NSW *Crown Lands Act 1989*** ***Pittwater Local Environmental Plan 2014* (LEP)**
RELATED POLICIES:	**No. 164 – Sustainability Policy** **No. 198 – Enterprise Risk Management Policy** **No. 184 – Asset Management Policy** **No. 186 - Risk Management Policy for Coastal Public Buildings and Assets in Pittwater Policy** **Pittwater 21 Development Control Plan (DCP)**

Purpose of Policy:

To address climate change mitigation and adaptation through both Council operations and services provided to the community.

Objectives

- To guide the development of strategies and actions to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Pittwater.
- To assist Pittwater Council to meet internal GHG Emission Reduction Targets.
- To embed climate change adaptation into Council operations through the Enterprise Risk Management Framework to achieve a whole of organisation approach.
- To guide the development of strategies and actions to manage climate change risks to the Pittwater community; and the natural and built environments by applying a quadruple bottom line sustainability approach.
- To build the capacity of the Pittwater community to adapt to climate change impacts in the mid to long term future.
- To provide the context for the Climate Action Plan Framework.

Background

Pittwater Council accepts the international scientific research reported by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that has concluded that the human influence on the climate system is clear with recent anthropogenic emission of greenhouse gases recorded to be the highest in history.

Mitigation includes actions to reduce GHG emissions or removing GHG from the atmosphere to limit the changes caused in the global climate by human activities.

Adaptation refers to the actions undertaken to reduce the adverse consequences of climate change and capture any beneficial opportunities. Adaptation actions aim to reduce the impacts of climate stresses on humans, natural systems and infrastructure.

Council recognises that by addressing mitigation, the impacts of climate change may be moderated which will reduce the extent of adaptation initiatives required.

Council adopted the Climate Change Risk Assessment undertaken for Pittwater in 2012.

Policy Statement

Pittwater Council accepts the scientific research that demonstrates that our climate is being modified by human activities.

Pittwater Council recognises that along with the NSW and Australian Governments, they have a responsibility to prepare for climate change in accordance with the precautionary principle as defined under the NSW *Local Government Act 1993*.

Council acknowledges the important role of local government in helping to reduce GHG emissions and manage climate change impacts at the local level, particularly through its statutory responsibilities and regulatory powers relating to land use planning, natural resource management and infrastructure management. Council amongst a number of agencies, business and not-for-profit organisations, all contribute to building resilience at the local level.

Council encourages further scientific research and a better understanding of climate change and energy issues in order to support and steer policy, to refine adaptation and mitigation strategies and to foster the necessary behavioural changes within our society.

Council understands the importance of a quadruple bottom line management approach to sustainability and is mindful that GHG abatement and climate change adaptation can only be successfully sustained in association with responsible economic management, societal changes, environmental protection and transparent governance.

Council is committed to building on the GHG reduction initiatives and partner with the Pittwater community to improve mitigation and developing appropriate adaptation actions for the climate change impacts that will most affect the Pittwater LGA.

Risks associated with climate change impact predictions must feature as a primary consideration in strategic and operational management activity undertaken by Council.

Education should be aimed at improving the awareness and understanding of climate change issues in order to assist the community to make informed contributions when participating in community engagement related to studies, strategies and plans.

Council supports an evidence based approach to policy, strategies and actions addressing climate change that are based on the best available science while recognising the need for sufficient flexibility to adapt as scientific knowledge improves.

Warringah Council Policy

Policy No. STR-PL 830

Environmental Sustainability Policy

1 Purpose of Policy

1.1 To provide clear direction for Council to incorporate environmental sustainability into all elements of its business. Incorporating sustainability means considering environmental, economic and social impacts concurrently.

1.2 To work towards fulfilling the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* in terms of considering ecologically sustainable development.

1.3 To protect and enhance the natural environment.

1.4 To raise awareness of environmental sustainability and increase community participation.

1.5 To support strategic directions identified in Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

2 Policy Statement

Council is committed to working towards environmental sustainability.

Council is committed to establishing, promoting and maintaining a culture of sustainability and environmental responsibility by the Council, staff and the community. The Council and staff will work together with the community to consider and minimise the impact of our activities on the environment and work towards environmental best practice.

Council commits to undertake its business in an environmentally sustainable manner. Council strives to exceed the requirements of environmental laws and regulations. This commitment to environmental sustainability will be specifically supported in all of Councils plans, strategies and services. This Policy was developed in line with AS/NZS ISO 14004:2004.

3 Principles

3.1 Councillors and Council staff will consider the principles of ecologically sustainable development when carrying out their duties, as required under Section 7(e) of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The principles to be considered are:

a. The precautionary principle;
b. Inter-generational equity;
c. Conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity; and
d. Improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms.

3.2 Council will lead the community by example by implementing environmental sustainability.

3.3 Council will progressively and continually improve its environmental performance and outcomes.

3.4 Council will set targets and objectives to achieve environmental sustainability. This will be done in Council's key corporate plans including the Strategic Plan, Management Plan, and any operational plans or strategies as is relevant.

3.5 Council will report on the State of the Environment and its environmental programs, as set out in the *Local Government Act*. This reporting will include regular monitoring, assessment and reporting of social, environmental and economic indicators.

3.6 Policy and management decisions of the Council will be undertaken with regard to environmental, as well as social and economic considerations and impacts.

3.7 The cost and impact of environmental externalities will be considered in decision-making.

3.8 All Council purchases must consider environmental criteria. All Council contracts and tenders must include environmental criteria. All contractors and suppliers must be made aware of Council's environmental commitments.

3.9 Achieving environmental sustainability is one of Council staff's core behaviours and is included in the staff induction sessions and appropriate training sessions.

3.10 All new Council buildings and facilities will be developed in line with sustainability principles and incorporate good environmental performance. This includes consideration of energy, materials, waste and water at the design stage.

3.11 Council will work with, assist and, where necessary, require its community to:
a. Prevent pollution of the environment;
b. Conserve and use energy, water and natural resources wisely and responsibly;
c. Comply with the requirements of environmental laws and regulations and Council's plans and policies, as a minimum;
d. Strive for best practice environmental management; and
e. Support environmental programs implemented by the Council.

4 Risk Assessment

When applying this policy, Council will consider the Risk Enterprise Risk Management Framework Policy PL 700.

5 Authorisation

This Policy was adopted by Council on 13 February 2007

It is due for review on May 2017

6 Amendments

This Policy was last reviewed on 28 May 2013

7 Who is responsible for implementing this Policy?

All Council staff are required to consider environment, economic and social outcomes and impacts in their work.

Strategy and Policy are responsible for:
a. Reviewing and updating the policy;
b. Promoting the policy among staff to ensure it is implemented throughout Council; and
c. Ensuring that new staff are informed of the policy during induction.

8 Document owner

Deputy General Manager, Environment

9 Legislation and references

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991

Local Government Act 1993

Warringah Council, *Enterprise Risk Management Framework Policy – PL 700* (2012)

Warringah Council, *Environmentally Sustainable Design and Management of Council's Built Assets - CS OMS 030* (2007)

Warringah Council, *Environmental Sustainability Strategy* (2012)

AS/NZS ISO 14004:2004 *Environmental Management Systems – General Guidelines on Principles, Systems and Support Techniques*

10 Definitions

Ecologically sustainable development as defined in the *Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991:*

"ecologically sustainable development requires the effective integration of economic and environmental considerations in decision-making processes. Ecologically sustainable development can be achieved through the implementation of the following principles and programs:

a) the precautionary principle—namely, that if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation.
In the application of the precautionary principle, public and private decisions should be guided by:

i) careful evaluation to avoid, wherever practicable, serious or irreversible damage to the environment, and
ii) an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options,

b) inter-generational equity—namely, that the present generation should ensure that the health, diversity and productivity of the environment are maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations,

c) conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity—namely, that conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity should be a fundamental consideration,

d) improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms—namely, that environmental factors should be included in the valuation of assets and services, such as:

i) polluter pays—that is, those who generate pollution and waste should bear the cost of containment, avoidance or abatement,
ii) the users of goods and services should pay prices based on the full life cycle of costs of providing goods and services, including the use of natural resources and assets and the ultimate disposal of any waste,
iii) environmental goals, having been established, should be pursued in the most cost effective way, by establishing incentive structures, including market mechanisms, that enable those best placed to maximise benefits or minimise costs to develop their own solutions and responses to environmental problems."

PITTWATER COUNCIL

Policy – No 164	**Adopted:**	**OM: 19.06.2006**
	Reviewed:	
	Amended:	**OM: 17.10.2011** **OM: 04.11.2013**
	Revoked:	

TITLE: **SUSTAINABILITY**

STRATEGY: **ALL**

BUSINESS UNIT: **ALL BUSINESS UNITS**

RELEVANT LEGISLATION: **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT**

RELATED POLICIES: **ALL**

Objective

To provide a clear statement of Pittwater Council's commitment to ensuring that progress towards sustainability is an ongoing objective, and to exercise community leadership on sustainability development[1] within the Pittwater local government area.

Definition

Sustainability in Pittwater is a process of change that is defined as *"development that improves the quality of life, both now and into the future, in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends"* [2]. In accordance with Council's obligations under the NSW Local Government Act 1993, sustainability will be promoted with regard to the principles of ecologically sustainable development.[3], being:

- Inter-generational equity
- The precautionary principle
- Improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms
- Conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity

[1] The terms sustainable development, ecologically sustainable development (ESD), and sustainability are used as interchangeable terms. The Council of Australian Government (COAG) adopted ESD as a goal in 2002
[2] Goal of ESD as defined in Australia's National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development 1992
[3] As defined in the NSW Local Government Act 1993 – principles of ecologically sustainable development

Policy Statement

Pittwater Council supports the principles of the report to the World Commission on Environment and Development *"Our Common Future"*, and believes that sustainable development is one of the most pressing issues of our time. Over the course of the 20th century the relationship between the human world and the planet that sustains us has undergone a profound change. The demands of human progress are now depleting our planet's resources at unsustainable levels, disrupting global climate systems, causing extinction of many species of life on earth and degrading natural environments, including the unique and precious natural heritage of the Pittwater area.

Council acknowledges that it has a vital role to play at the local level in promoting sustainable development and can make a contribution towards meeting the global challenges of creating a sustainable society on our shared planet. Council will advance and strengthen the three interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainability[4],– economic development, social development and environmental protection in the Pittwater Local Government Area.

Council will strengthen, adjust and build internal management frameworks that ensure sustainability performance improvement is integrated as a core part of Council's strategic and operational management via effective management plans, specific action plans, training, communication, monitoring and reporting. Council will systematically review its internal policies, ESD performance, processes and practices to further build the organisations capacity to deliver ongoing triple bottom line performance improvement within its own operations.

In support of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014, Council will take the sustainability message out to the broader community through educating, mobilizing and responding to the public to promote sustainable development.

[4] As adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, "Johannesburg Declaration"

C06. Carbon Neutral

Title: **Carbon Neutral Policy**

Policy No: **C06**

Keywords: **Carbon Neutral, Energy Efficiency**

Responsible Officer: **Deputy General Manager – Land Use and Sustainability**

1. PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

The purpose of this policy is to provide an administrative framework as well as guidance to Council and Council staff with a view to Council becoming carbon neutral in its operations and service delivery.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

Manly Council has adopted a policy to becoming carbon neutral in its operations and service delivery by not later than December 2010, with carbon neutrality being achieved through a combination of reduced demand for energy and products, energy efficiency, increased use of renewable energy and offsetting of emissions that cannot otherwise be avoided.

(OM 21.07.08)
See further Amendment below

3. PRINCIPLES

Council has determined that its target on carbon emission is to be brought into line with [former] Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's announcement to commence phasing-in of emission reductions from 1 July 2011 and working toward a 25 per cent carbon emission reduction on the 2000 level by 2020.

(OM 14.09.09)

4. SCOPE

This policy applies to all Council activities, operations, services, and facilities that have the potential for the creation, production or emission of carbon, and applies to all Council officials (as well as consultants and contractors engaged by Council) who are, directly or indirectly, involved in the making of administrative decisions, or the taking of any action, that has or may have the potential to create, produce or emit carbon,

5. DEFINITIONS

Carbon includes any greenhouse gas (eg carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, sulfur hexafluoride, a hydrofluorocarbon, a perfluorocarbon, or any other gas of a kind recognised as a greenhouse gas emission.

6. IMPLEMENTATION

This policy will be implemented upon adoption by Council and will be made available via Council's website.

Council and/or the General Manager may, during a civil emergency only, set aside any policy terms to ensure public safety.

7. MONITORING AND BREACHES

Regular monitoring of compliance with this policy, relevant legislation and Manly policies and procedures will be undertaken and documented by the responsible officer for this policy.

Breaches of this policy are considered to be breaches of Manly Council's Code of Conduct and therefore invoke the relevant sanctions outlined in that Code. Persons in breach of any legislation may be subject to relevant criminal action.

8. REPORTING

An annual report on compliance with this policy is to be provided to the elected Council for its consideration.

9. POLICY REVIEW

This policy is subject to regular review at a maximum interval of two (2) years.

For the purposes of carrying out and giving effect to this policy, the General Manager may from time to time prepare, adopt or vary, and otherwise issue to Council staff, guidelines and directions relating to any aspect of this policy.

Any recognised change to relevant legislation; or directives or guidelines issued by agencies including the NSW Ombudsman and the Division of Local Government; or to Manly Council's related guidelines and procedures will activate an immediate review of this policy to ensure it remains current and aligned to best practice policies.

10. RELEVANT REFERENCES AND LEGISLATION

Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (NSW)
Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011 (Cth)

11. RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES

Nil.

12. REVISION SCHEDULE

Minute No	Date of Issue	Action	Author	Checked by
PS53/11	2 May 2011	Periodic Review	Secretariat, Corporate Services	Manager, Administration
	June 2013	Comprehensive Review	Manager Corporate Governance	General Counsel
PS16/14	3 March 2014	Periodic Review	OM CSS	Manager Governance

E40. Ethical Charter - Sustainability

Title: **Ethical Charter - Sustainability Policy**

Policy No: **E40**

Keywords: **Ethical, Sustainability, Earth Charter**

Responsible Officer: **Executive Manager, Corporate Services**

1. PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

The objective of this policy is to set out and facilitate the attainment of Council's ethical charter with respect to sustainability.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

Council is committed to supporting the principles of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) as defined in the *Local Government Act 1993* and ethical business practices. To that end, Council has adopted the ethical charter with respect to sustainability set out in this policy.

3. PRINCIPLES

Council has resolved to adopt the following ethical charter, enshrining the various several principles set out below, in order to declare Council's commitment to and promotion of the values of sustainability.

Manly's Ethical Charter – Sustainability

Council is committed to supporting the principles of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) as defined in the *Local Government Act 1993* and ethical business practices.

Council believes that sustainability must be the guiding principle of our business, requiring policies that meet the needs and aspirations of the present generation without compromising the opportunity of future generations to fulfil their needs and aspirations. Council also supports the *Earth Charter* and recognise that it is sets the grounding principles for sustainability.

We support and will act on the following principles in our services:

Equity and justice – We will act fairly, seeking to ensure equity, tolerance and removal of discrimination and support democratic societies that are just, participatory, sustainable and peaceful.

Respect – We will treat other people and the environment with respect and acknowledge and support the values of indigenous peoples and minorities.

Sustaining the environment – We will act with care and caution towards the environment, protecting the biosphere, its biodiversity, and using its resources sustainably for present and future generations.

Creating and sharing sustainable prosperity – We will seek to create and share prosperity in a way that helps sustain our business, the community and the environment, and support locally based businesses who share these ethics where possible.

Responsibility – We will take all responsibility for our actions and for any harm or good we cause. We will account for our actions, evaluating our progress in implementing these principles, and seek to continually improve. We also commit to combat corruption in all its forms, and the obstacles to good governance. We will not associate with organisations who act in direct contradiction to these principles.

This Ethical Charter places a requirement on Council to give significant consideration to the effects our business and operations may have on local and global sustainability. It will be integrated into Council's key policies to guarantee implementation.

(P & S meeting 14.2.05 Res. ##)

4. SCOPE

This policy applies to all Council officials, including Councillors, Council staff, and contractors engaged by Council, as respects the making of decisions, and the taking of action, of all kinds.

5. DEFINITIONS

"Principles of ecologically sustainable development" means the following statements of principle:

Ecologically sustainable development requires the effective integration of economic and environmental considerations in decision-making processes. Ecologically sustainable development can be achieved through the implementation of the following principles and programs:

(a) the precautionary principle-namely, that if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation. In the application of the precautionary principle, public and private decisions should be guided by:

> (i) careful evaluation to avoid, wherever practicable, serious or irreversible damage to the environment, and
>
> (ii) an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options,

(b) inter-generational equity-namely, that the present generation should ensure that the health, diversity and productivity of the environment is maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations,

(c) conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity-namely, that conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity should be a fundamental consideration,

(d) improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms-namely, that environmental factors should be included in the valuation of assets and services, such as:

> (i) polluter pays-that is, those who generate pollution and waste should bear the cost of containment, avoidance or abatement,
>
> (ii) the users of goods and services should pay prices based on the full life cycle of costs of providing goods and services, including the use of natural resources and assets and the ultimate disposal of any waste,
>
> (iii) environmental goals, having been established, should be pursued in the most cost effective way, by establishing incentive structures, including market mechanisms, that enable those best placed to maximise benefits or minimise costs to develop their own solutions and responses to environmental problems.

(**Source**: Dictionary, *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW))

6. IMPLEMENTATION

This policy will be implemented without delay once adopted by Council. Upon adoption this policy will be entered into Council's policy register, made available online and provided to all staff and any other people directly affected by this policy.

Council and/or the General Manager may, during a civil emergency only, set aside any policy terms to ensure public safety.

7. MONITORING AND BREACHES

Regular monitoring of compliance with this policy, relevant legislation and Manly policies and procedures will be undertaken and documented by the responsible officer for this policy.

Breaches of this policy are considered to be breaches of Manly Council's Code of Conduct and therefore invoke the relevant sanctions outlined in that Code. Persons in breach of any legislation may be subject to relevant criminal action.

8. REPORTING

No specific reporting is required by this policy.

9. POLICY REVIEW

This policy is subject to regular review at a maximum interval of two (2) years.

For the purposes of carrying out and giving effect to this policy, the General Manager may from time to time prepare, adopt or vary, and otherwise issue to Council staff, guidelines and directions relating to any aspect of this policy.

Any recognised change to relevant legislation; or directives or guidelines issued by agencies including the NSW Ombudsman and the Division of Local Government; or to Manly Council's related guidelines and procedures will activate an immediate review of this policy to ensure it remains current and aligned to best practice policies.

10. RELEVANT REFERENCES AND LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 1993
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
The Earth Charter. *See:* http://www.earthcharterinaction.org/content/pages/Read-the-Charter.html

11. RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES

Nil.

12. REVISION SCHEDULE

Minute No	Date of Issue	Action	Author	Checked by
PS53/11	2 May 2011	Periodic Review	Secretariat, Corporate Services	Manager, Administration
	June 2013	Comprehensive Review		General Counsel
PS16/14	3 March 2014	Periodic Review	OM CSS	Manager Governance

9.0 RESILIENCE AND NATURAL HAZARDS

ITEM 9.1 WAKEHURST PARKWAY FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECT UPDATE

ISSUE

This report provides the Environment SRG with an update on the Wakehurst Parkway Flood Mitigation Project.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held Tuesday 19 December 2023, a report was presented seeking Council's endorsement to accept the Transport for NSW Tranche 2 funding offer and progress the Council Project at Oxford Falls Road West, The Bends and Sydney Academy of Sport sites.

During the meeting Council endorsed progressing with detailed design, approvals and procurement for the Oxford Falls Road West and Sydney Academy of Sport flood improvement works, including community consultation.

Council also endorsed progress of the alternative design at The Bends including concept designs, identification of likely environmental approvals and community consultation.

DISCUSSION

Transport for NSW (Transport) has now confirmed the funding arrangements for the Wakehurst Parkway flood mitigation works, and staff are progressing with detailed design and environmental assessments for reducing flooding at Oxford Falls Road West.

Staff are working with Transport to integrate the identified flood works on Wakehurst Parkway at Oxford Falls with their proposed safety and traffic improvements and are also assessing the constructability and environmental requirements for the new Bends solution.

These will be shared with the community for feedback as soon as they are ready.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environment SRG note the information in this report.

REPORTING OFFICER	**EXECUTIVE MANAGER ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE**
TRIM FILE REF	2024/135621
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

10.0 SUPPORTING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

ITEM 10.1 NET ZERO EXPO EVENT

ISSUE

To update the Environment SRG on the Net Zero Expo to be held 2 June 2024.

BACKGROUND

Council is planning a community event for to support our commitments to achieving net zero emissions by 2050. These commitments include reducing carbon emissions in our community by more than half by 2040, diverting 85% of waste from landfill by 2040, reducing the rate of waste generation per person by 2040, and 50% of suitable premises with solar panels installed by 2030.

This event also aligns with the targets set by the NSW State Government who have committed to taking decisive and responsible action on climate change through a Net Zero Plan (2020-2030) and a goal of net zero emissions for the entire state by 2050.

DISCUSSION

The Net Zero Expo will showcase independent bodies and government agencies who are able to provide trustworthy information for residents and businesses on their solar, energy efficiency, electrification, EV journeys, and waste and circular economy.

The Expo is designed to empower residents and businesses with sufficient knowledge and confidence to enter conversations with solar suppliers, EV retailers and others to make the switch to reduce their carbon footprints - through solar installations, switching to renewable power and EVs.

The overall objective is to increase awareness and uptake of solar, energy efficiency, and EVs for our local community to reduce community carbon footprints and meet Council's net zero and solar targets.

The Expo will focus on:

1. Presentations by independent peak bodies on specific topics around solar, energy efficiency, electrification, EVs, E-bikes and others for both residents and businesses.
2. Information stalls to showcase and provide information on solar, energy efficiency, EVs, E-bikes and others.
3. Potential opportunity to book and test drive EVs directly with EV retailers.

Attendees will be able to book into presentations and solar conversations in advance via Council's website or on the day (40% will be kept for walk-ins on the day).

We will be targeting both residents and businesses, with additional opportunities for businesses to join the Sustainability Business Network.

ESRG members will be sent an invitation to attend in the next 4-6 weeks.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environment SRG note the report.

REPORTING OFFICER	**MANAGER, GREENER COMMUNITIES**
TRIM FILE REF	2024/134631
ATTACHMENTS	NIL