



# MINUTES

## **ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP MEETING**

held in the Coastal Environment Centre, Narrabeen on

**THURSDAY 21 JUNE 2018**

**Minutes of the Environment  
Strategic Reference Group  
held on Thursday 21 June 2018  
in the Coastal Environment Centre, Narrabeen  
Commencing at 6:04pm**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Committee Members**

Cr Alex McTaggart (Chair)	
Sophie Scott	
Roberta Conroy	Bayview Church Point Residents Association
Alan Jones	
David Tribe	
Anthony Petrolo	
Nigel Howard	
Viktorija McDonnell	Curl Curl Lagoon Committee
Marita Macrae	Pittwater Natural Heritage Association
Jacqueline Marlow	Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment
Billy Bragg	
Scott Markich	

**Council Officer Contacts**

Todd Dickinson	Executive Manager Natural Environment & Climate Change
Jacqueline Grove	Manager, Environment Resilience & Climate Change
Kara Taylor	Senior Sustainability Officer
Natasha Schultz	Executive Manager Waste Management & Cleansing
Vicki Blaskett	Manager, Business Operations
Harish Moro	Data Analyst (Kinesis)
Abi Prakash	Data Analyst (Kinesis)
Emma Marshall	Governance Officer

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

### **1.0 APOLOGIES**

The apologies from Cr Natalie Warren, Cr Pat Daley, Cr Stuart Sprott, Ben Taylor and Tom Hazell were noted.

### **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 12 APRIL 2018**

The Minutes of the Environment Strategic Reference Group meeting held 12 April 2018 were confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

### **4.0 UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING**

Nil

### **5.0 AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **5.1 PRESENTATION - RECYCLING**

Natasha Shultz, Executive Manager Waste Management & Cleansing, presented to the group on this item.

- An explanation about the China Sword Policy and how it will affect Northern Beaches' waste processing was provided.
- Northern Beaches' waste currently does not get sent overseas for processing. Container recycling is managed by PAR and paper is managed by Visy.
- The new container deposit scheme (Return and Earn) was discussed.
- Residential recycling processes were discussed.
- The issue of the over packaging of products was discussed. Council has an advocacy position in reducing packaging and a Single Use Plastics Policy.

The Environment SRG noted the presentation and thanked Natasha Schultz for attending and providing the update about waste and recycling.

## 5.2 PRESENTATION - STRATEGIC TREE MANAGEMENT

Vicki Blaskett, Manager Business Operations, attended the meeting on behalf of Fenton Beatty, Manager Tree Services, and presented to the group on this item (attachment 1).

- It was confirmed that the former Warringah, Manly and Pittwater Council's tree related policies were amalgamated under Administration.
- A Development Control Plan has been drafted to reflect recent legislative changes and will be on public exhibition until 15 July 2018.
- The draft Urban Forest Strategy and Policy are expected to be presented to Council in August 2018 for endorsement to publically exhibit.

The group participated in a workshop to discuss the following questions:

- What is your future vision for the Northern Beaches Urban Forest Canopy?
- What do you think are the major issues facing our Urban Forest now and into the future?
- What are some innovative ways to maintain/enhance our amazing Urban Canopy across the Northern Beaches?

A query was raised as to whether Bilarong Reserve has been changed from bushland to park and why some trees have been removed

ACTION: Todd Dickinson to follow up on the Bilarong Reserve issues raised.

ACTION: Todd Dickinson to determine if Environment SRG to will be consulted on the draft Urban Forest Strategy and Policy, prior to it going to Council in August.

## 5.3 NORTHERN BEACHES ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY WORKSHOP 2: FRAMEWORK, KEY THEMES AND AMBITION

Jacqui Grove, Manager, Environment Resilience & Climate Change, presented an update on the development of the framework of the Environment Strategy to the group.

There was a discussion about how prominently climate change should be placed in the strategy and how Council can have the best possible impact.

Harish Moro and Abi Prakash, from Kinesis, presented an analysis that they have undertaken about emissions and water consumption patterns across the Northern Beaches (attachment 2).

NOTE: At 8.04pm the group resolved to extend the meeting until item 5.3 was completed.

The following feedback about the analysis was provided by the group:

- Canopy cover across the Northern Beaches is desired but this will affect the use of solar panels.
- Suggestion for sensor activated streetlights in quiet streets.
- More education is needed in the community about using less power in residential areas.
- Converting rainwater to grey water can be detrimental to trees.

- Utilising specific types of grass on playing fields, along with utilising synthetics can reduce water consumption.

The group participated in a workshop to discuss the Northern Beaches Council level of ambition in addressing emissions and water consumption reductions, and made a recommendation of action at the national best practice and global leader level.

**NOTE:** A slight amendment has been made to the presentation from Kinesis around Northern Beaches' emissions and water use data. The waste to landfill total on slide 27 has been amended from ~66% to ~54%. The original figure (~66%) included our green waste as it has an emissions value, however this is significantly smaller than general landfill and therefore it has been removed

**ACTION:** Todd Dickinson to send the Kinesis presentation to the Environment Strategic Reference Group members (see attachment 2).

## 6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

## SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
5.2	Todd Dickinson to follow up on the Bilarong Reserve issues raised.	Todd Dickinson	27/09/2018
5.2	Todd Dickinson to determine if Environment SRG to will be consulted on the draft Urban Forest Strategy and Policy, prior to it going to Council in August.	Todd Dickinson	27/09/2018
5.3	Todd Dickinson to send the Kinesis presentation to the Environment Strategic Reference Group members (see attachment 2).	Todd Dickinson	27/09/2018

**ATTACHMENT 1**

# Urban tree management

Environment SRG  
21 June 2018



## Development Control Plans – recent changes

- DCP's - are a legislative framework to manage trees and bushland.
- 8 August 2017 Council adopted amendments to the DCPs for Trees and Bushland following community exhibition.
- This has provided a consistent set of regulations for Private Tree and bushland management for the Northern Beaches including:
  - Heights of trees
  - Distance from buildings
  - Exempt tree species
- 25 August 2017 NSW State Government introduced Vegetation SEPP (State Environmental Planning Policy).
- This required changes to adopted DCPs to ensure compliance with new SEPP.
  - Applications for removing or pruning trees now a permit – no longer a DA.
- DCPs have been drafted to reflect the legislative changes and are on public exhibition until 15 July 2018. Comments can be made via Your Say.



## Urban Forest Policy and Strategy

### What is an Urban Forest?

- Urban Forests consist of all the trees and plants and the soil and water that supports it within a defined area.
- It includes public land such as parks, bushland, streets and other public areas; on commercial sites such as business parks, industrial sites and in retail centres; and on residential properties.
- The urban forest is recognised as a primary component of the urban ecosystem in the same way that roads, car parks, footpaths and buildings form part of the complex built environment.
- The Northern Beaches Urban Forest Policy and Strategy will provide a strategic framework and long term approach for the management of our Urban Forest. The Policy will outline the guiding principles for management of the Urban Forest and the Strategy will provide our strategic objectives and actions to achieve such objectives.



## Northern Beaches Canopy Cover

LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) survey 2013 found the following:

- 64.2% - the entire Northern Beaches (includes National Parks)
- 56% - Council managed lands (Community Centres, playgrounds, sports fields)
- 45.5% - Council's road reserves (road corridors)
- 58.6% - private/ non council land - including residential housing, commercial premises and public buildings such as schools, TAFES and other public infrastructure
- This is high - few LGAs in Sydney Metro have canopy coverage greater than 50%. Majority have less than 20% urban tree canopy



## Our Urban Tree Strategy

- 1. What is your future vision for the Northern Beaches Urban Forest Canopy?
  - What do you want to see in the future?
  - What should we be aiming for?
- 2. What do you think are the major issues facing our Urban Forest now and into the future?
  - What opportunities are there for improvement?
- 3. What are some innovative ways to maintain/ enhance our amazing Urban Canopy across the Northern Beaches?
  - Open spaces?
  - Private premises?



## What next

- The draft Urban Forest Strategy and Policy are expected to be presented to Council in August 2018 for endorsement to publically exhibit
- The documents will be open for public comment for minimum of 28 days
- All feedback will be considered. It is expected the final documents will be presented to Council for adoption in November 2018





**ATTACHMENT 2**

## Purpose

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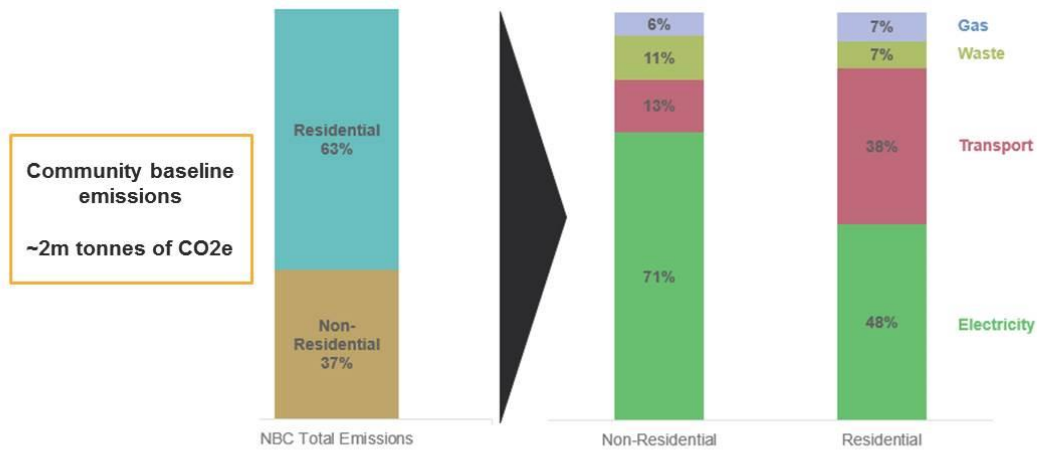


1. Understand community and corporate emissions and water consumption patterns
2. Presentation of community and corporate strategy analysis undertaken by Kinesis
3. Key questions for discussion & feedback:
  1. **What have we missed** – what strategy options should we be considering?
  2. **Level of ambition** – what should Council and the Community strive for?
  3. **Implementation** – what are potential implementation mechanisms to achieve these targets?

# Understanding Northern Beaches Emissions & Water

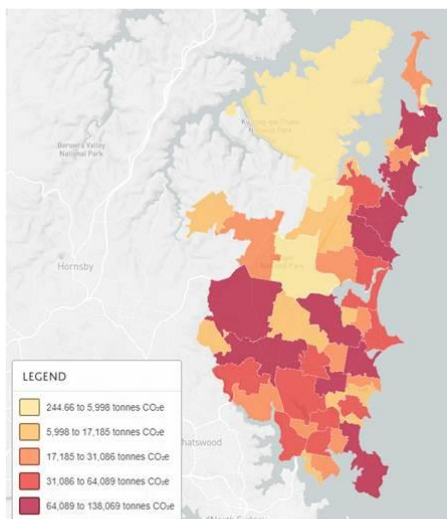
## Community Emissions Baseline 2016

## Baseline Emissions by Sector

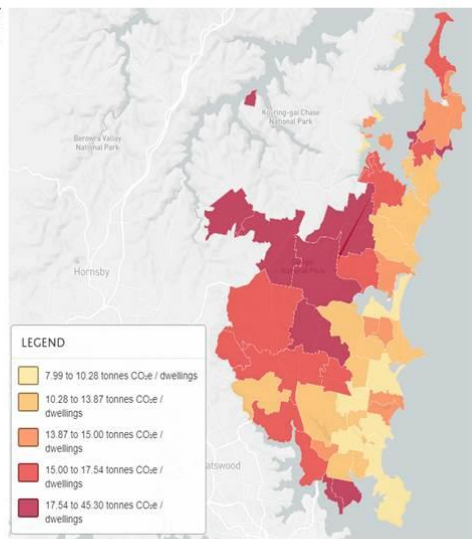


## Baseline Emissions by Suburb

Total Emissions

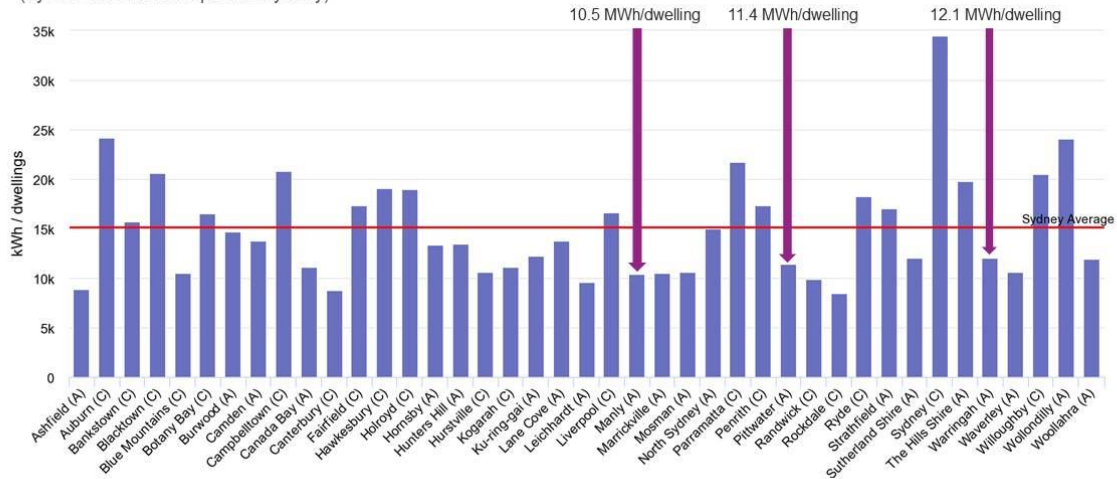


Emissions per dwelling



## Res Electricity Use Across Metro Sydney LGAs

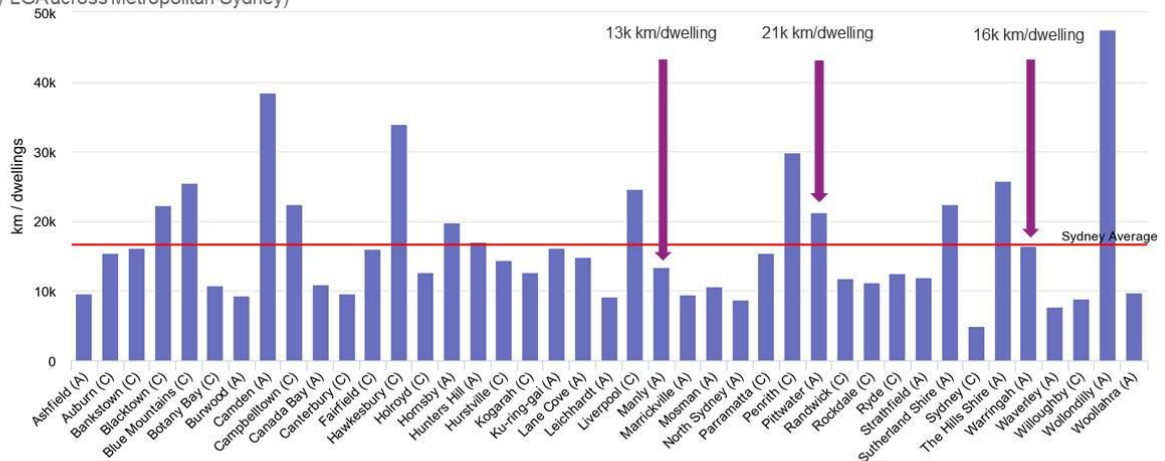
Average Residential Electricity Use (2014/15)  
(by LGA across Metropolitan Sydney)



## Res Car as Driver across Metro Sydney LGAs

Average Annual Car as Driver Kilometres Travelled per Dwelling (2014/15)

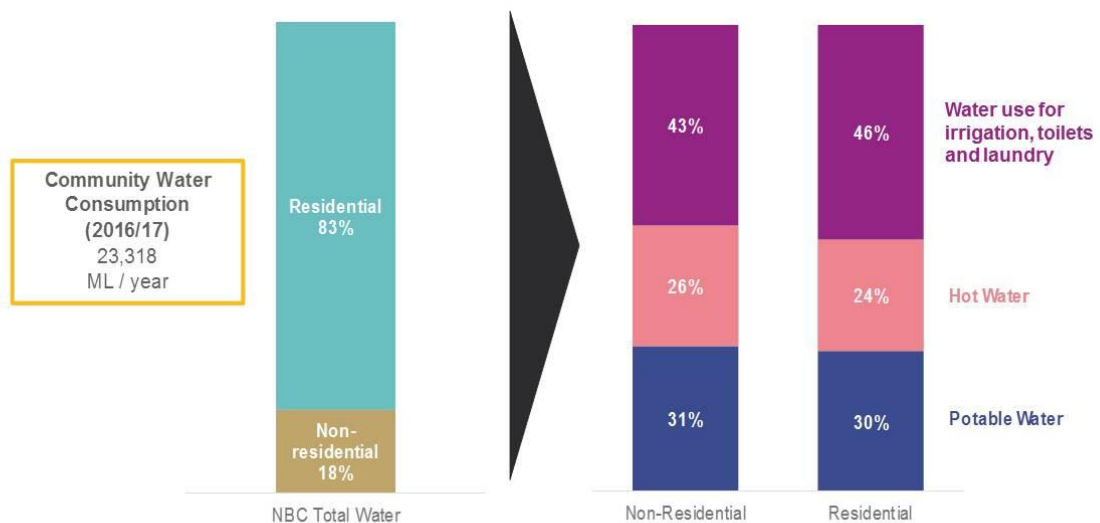
(by LGA across Metropolitan Sydney)



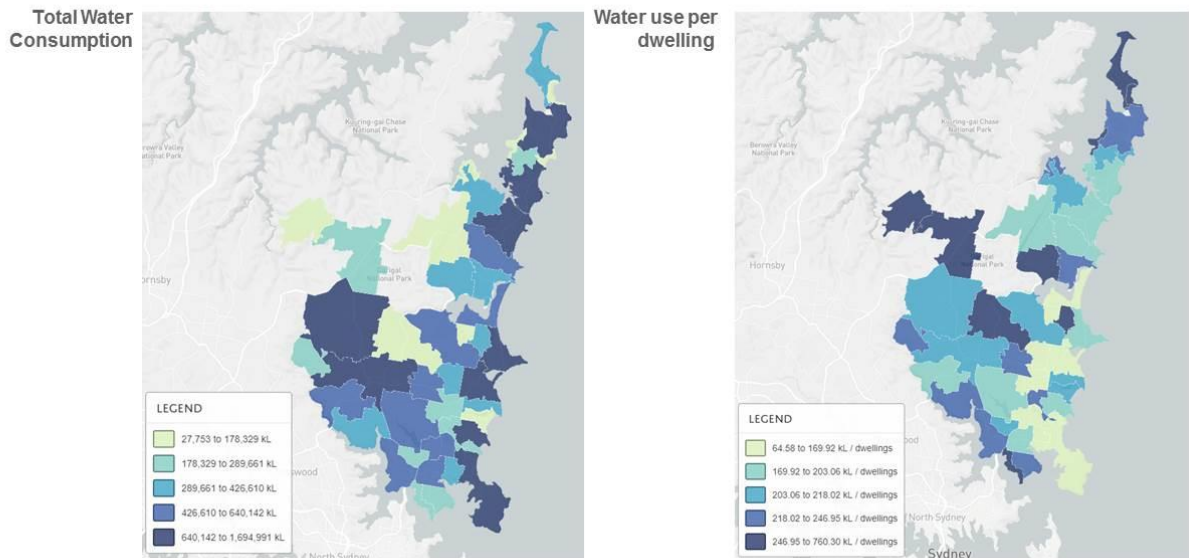


# Community Water Baseline 2016

## Baseline Water Consumption by Sector

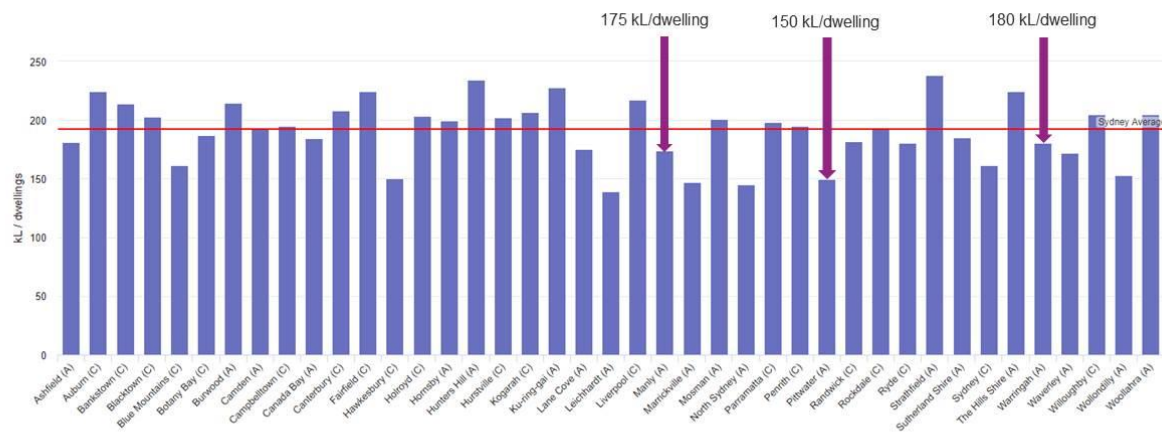


## Water Use by Suburb




## Res Water Use Across Metro Sydney LGAs

Average Annual Residential Water Consumption (2014/15)  
(by LGA across Metropolitan Sydney)







# Land Use in Northern Beaches Projections to 2036



## Why is Land Use Important?

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Land use informs:

1. Future growth and consumption
2. Policy and interventions that are most effective

Example: Solar PV

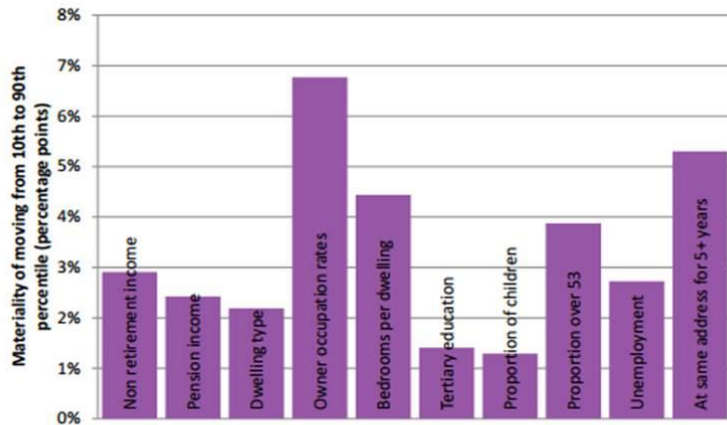
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## Why is Land Use Important?

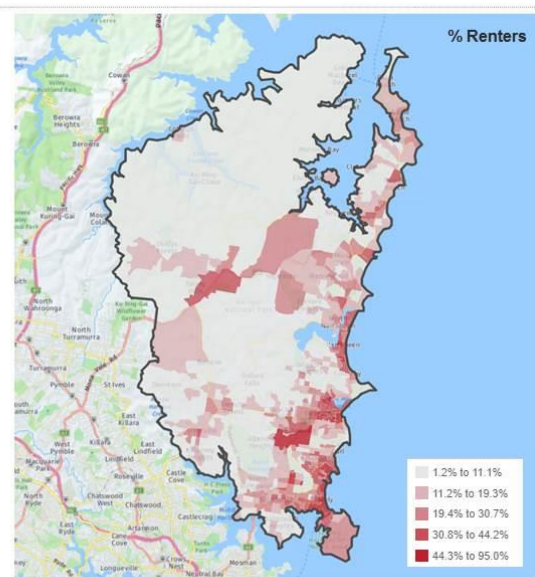
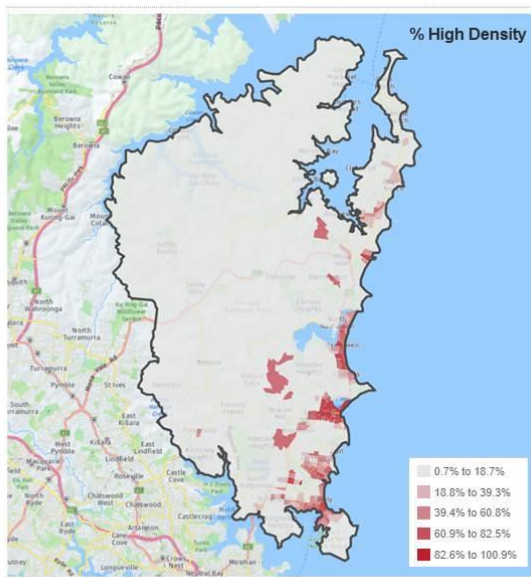
### Solar PV

Studies found that a significant impact on solar PV take up is:

1. An owner living in their own home
2. Living at the same house for more than 5 years
3. Size of the house, e.g. bedrooms

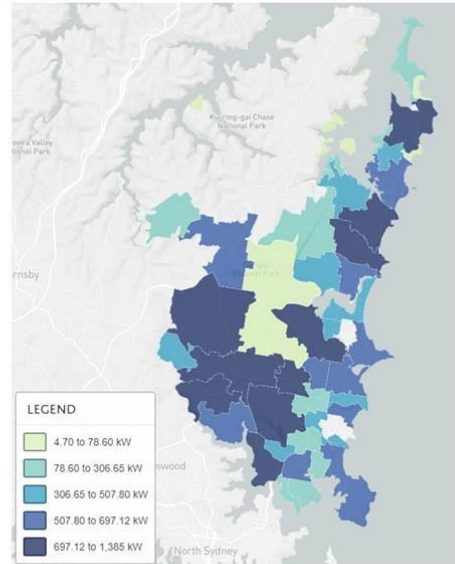
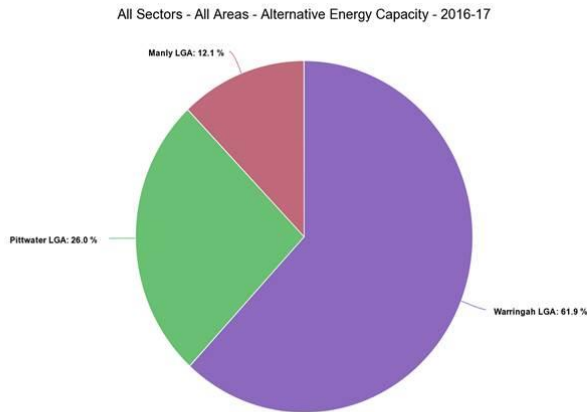


### Dwelling Profile



## Solar PV Uptake (Installed Capacity)

Solar PV Installed Capacity (2016/17): Total = 21, 276 kW



## Land Use Projections

### Residential Dwelling Growth

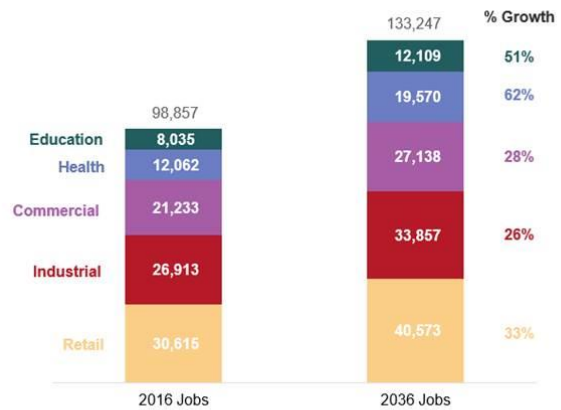
Units: Dwellings



Source: profile.id

### Non-residential Jobs Growth

Units: Jobs



Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics



# Community Technical Opportunities Analysis



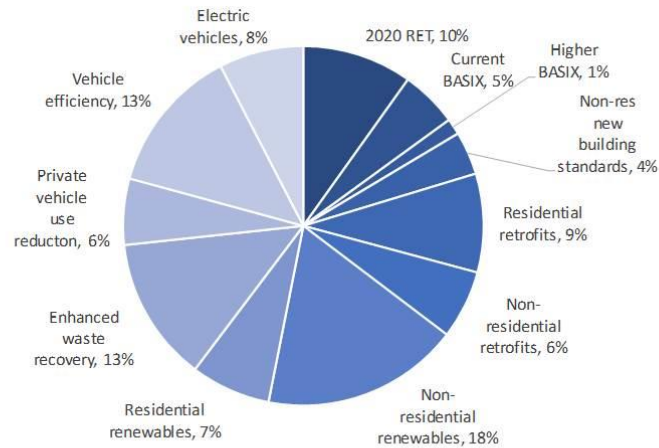
## Components and Methodology



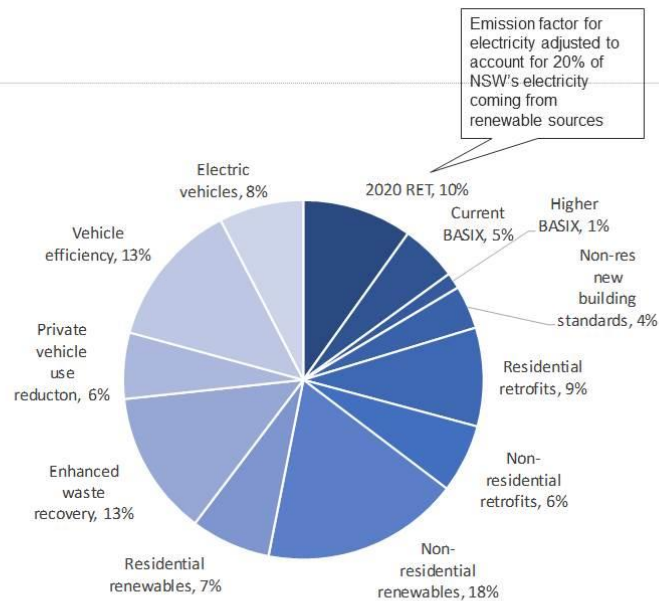
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1. 2016/17 Baseline
    - How much is the Northern Beaches consuming now?
    - What are consumption patterns right now?
  2. 2036 Reference Scenario
    - Based on land use projections, how much will Northern Beaches consume in 2036?
  3. 2036 Model Scenario
    - If we implement opportunities, how much will the Northern Beaches consume in 2036?
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## Emissions Technical Opportunities Analysis

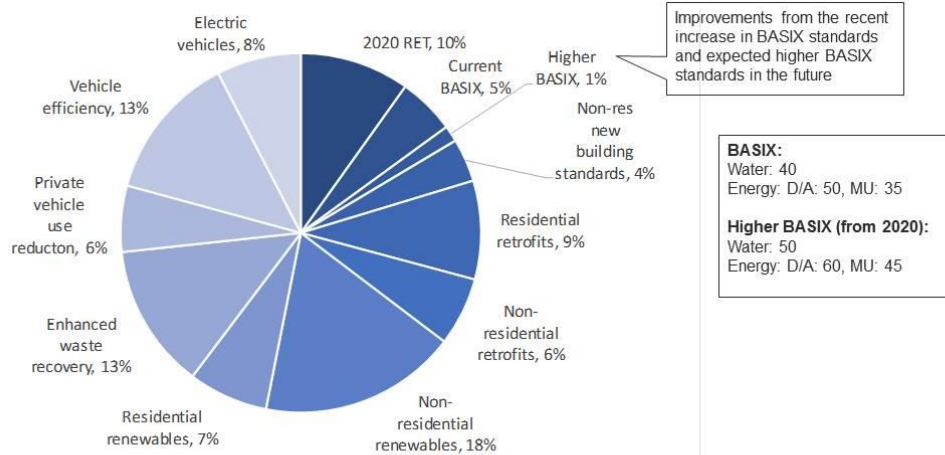


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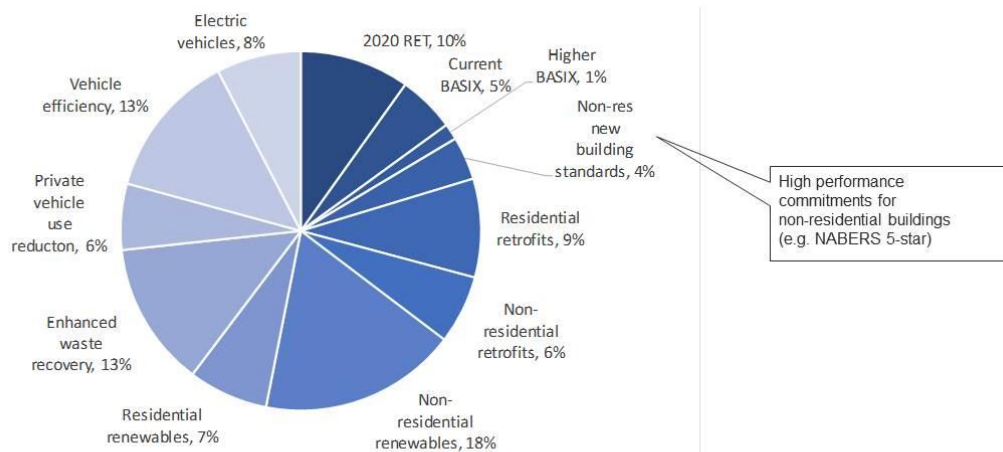
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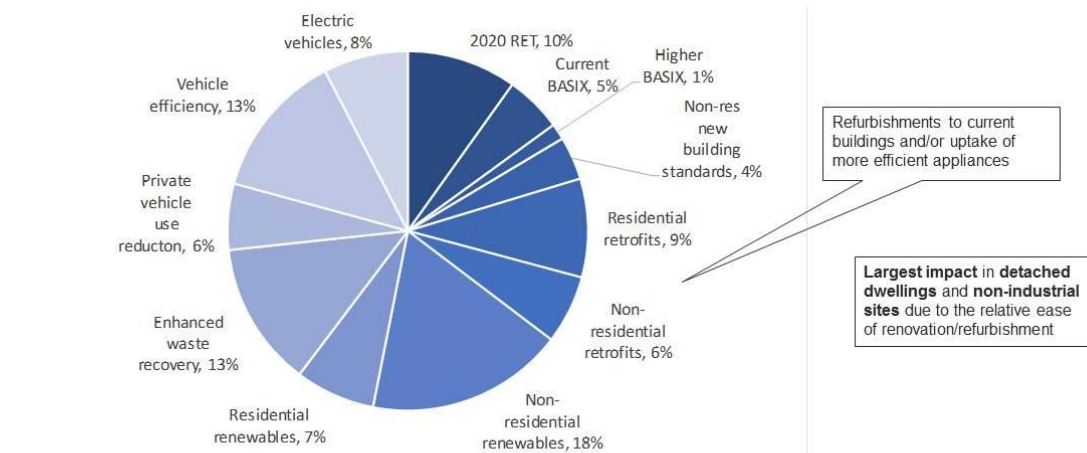
## Emissions Technical Opportunities Analysis



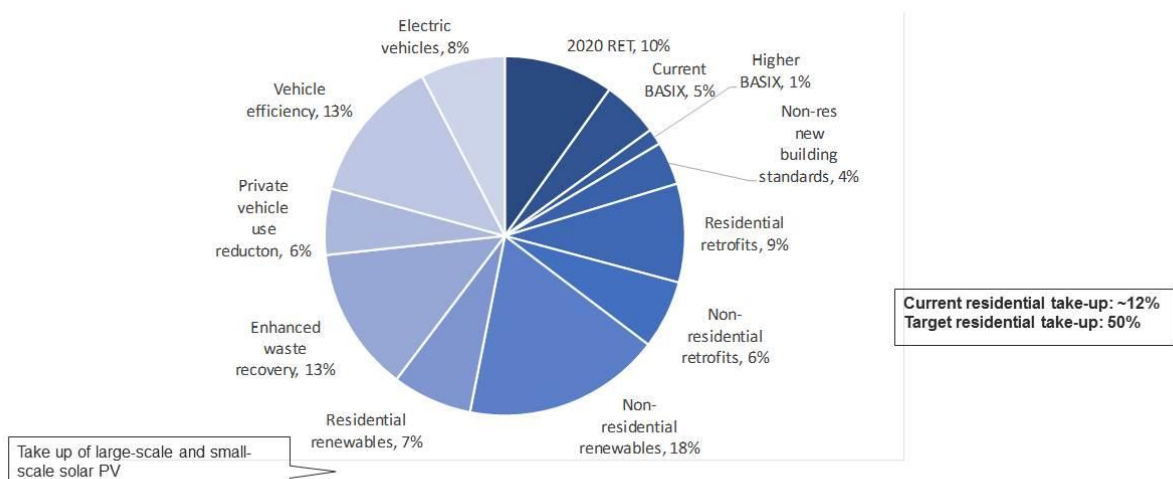




## Emissions Technical Opportunities Analysis

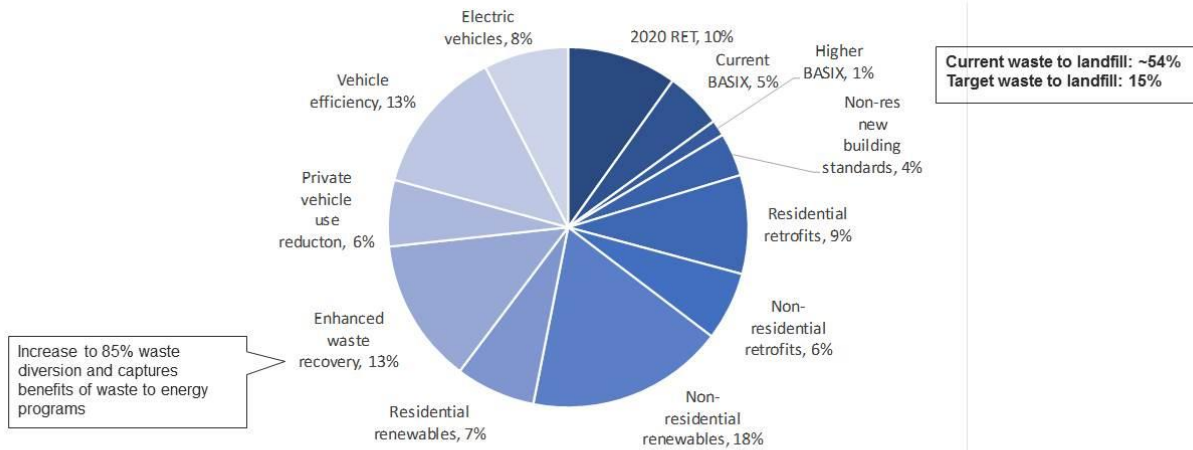


## Emissions Technical Opportunities Analysis

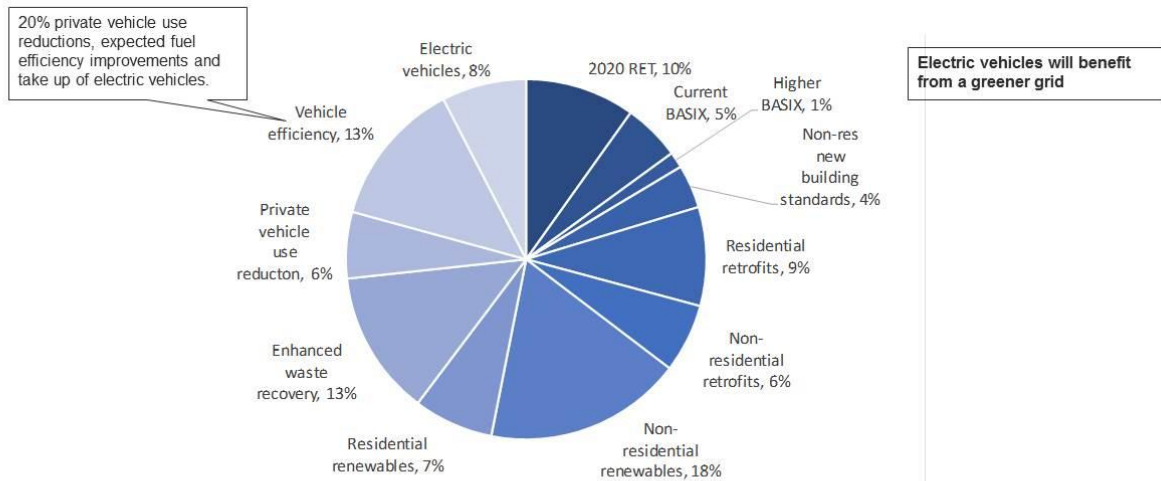




## Emissions Technical Opportunities Analysis

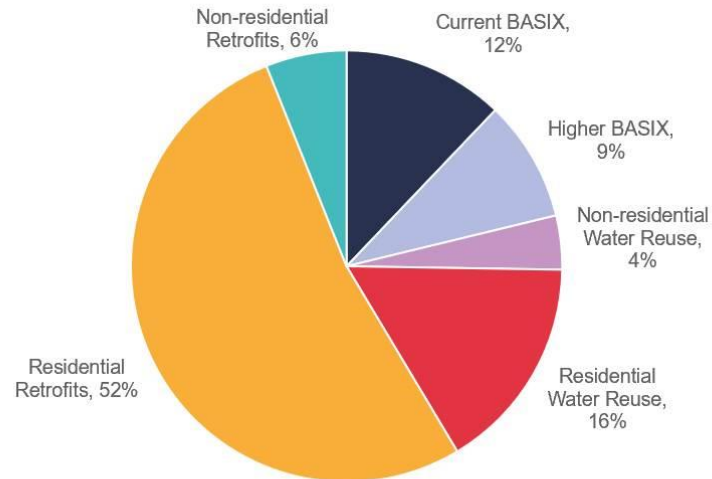


## Emissions Technical Opportunities Analysis





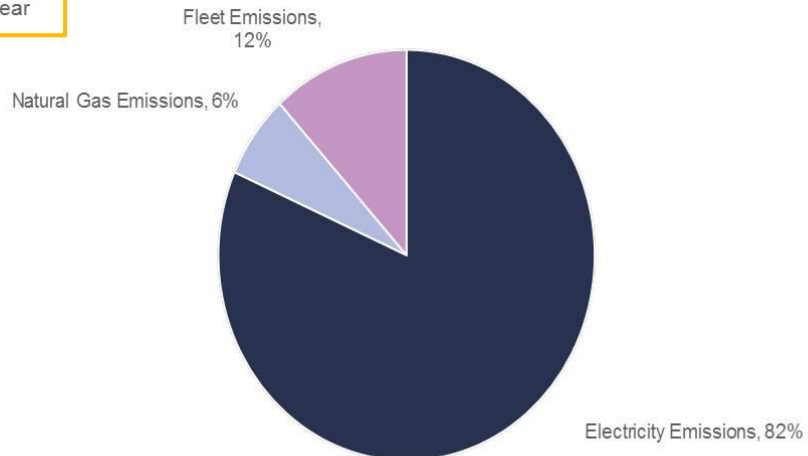
## Water Technical Opportunities Analysis



## Corporate 2016/17 Baseline and Opportunities

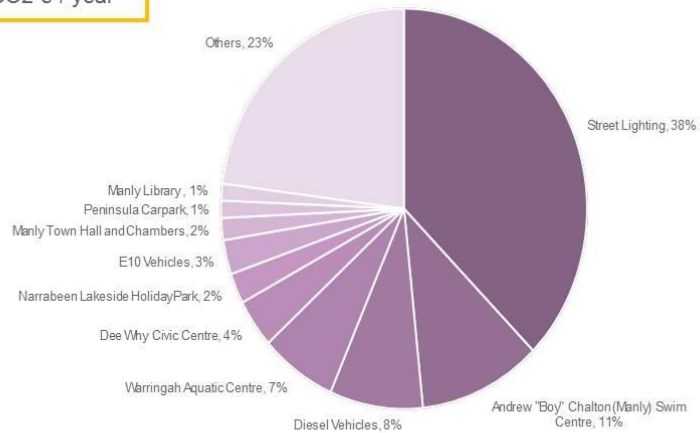
## Council's Emissions Profile, 2016/17

**Council Total Emissions (2016/17)**  
Total = 25,511 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>-e / year



## Council's Top 10 Emissions Generators, 2016/17

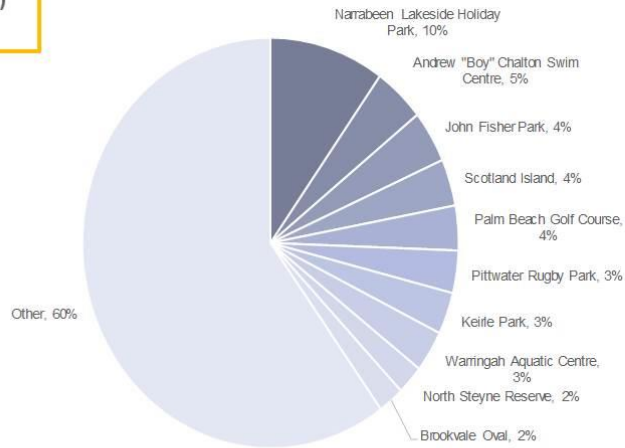
**Council Emissions (2016/17)**  
Total = 25,511 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>-e / year





## Council's Top 10 Water Users, 2016/17

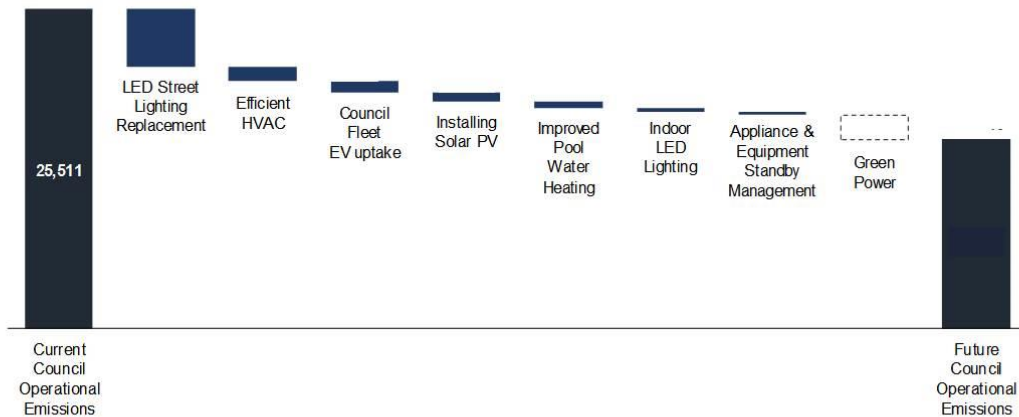
**Council Water Consumption (2016/17)**  
Total = 469,828 kL / year



Council reduction opportunities



## Council emissions reductions opportunities

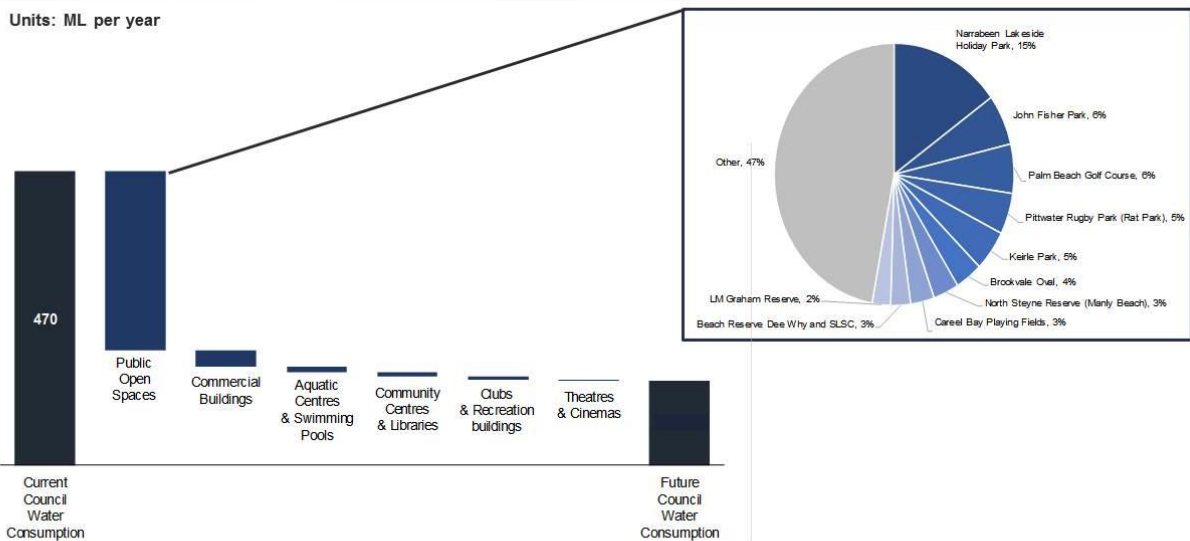


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## Corporate water reductions opportunities

Units: ML per year



36



## Questions + Discussion



### Key Questions for discussion & feedback

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1. **What have we missed** – what strategy options should we be considering?
2. **Level of ambition** – what should Council and the Community strive for?
3. **Implementation** – various mechanisms and influence

# Level of Ambition

## Benchmarking Targets



*Where do  
we want  
Northern  
Beaches to  
sit?*



## Level of Ambition

	Current Practice (BAU)	Local best practice	National best practice	Global leading
Community				
Council				<p><i>Where do we want Northern Beaches to sit?</i></p>

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What have we missed?  
Implementation and Policies



## Role of Council

