



**GREATER DANDENONG
SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY**
2016–30 (2022 Refresh)



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Greater Dandenong City Council acknowledges and pays respects to the Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation, as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters in and around Greater Dandenong.

We value and recognise local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, heritage, and connection to land as a proud part of a shared identity for Greater Dandenong.

Greater Dandenong City Council pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging and recognises their importance in maintaining knowledge, traditions, and culture in our community.

Greater Dandenong City Council also respectfully acknowledges the Bunurong Land Council as the Registered Aboriginal Party responsible for managing the Aboriginal cultural heritage of the land and waters where Greater Dandenong is situated.

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Word from the Mayor

The world in 2022 is very different to where we left it when the Greater Dandenong Sustainability Strategy was initially prepared in 2016. The Australian bushfires of 2019 brought a stronger focus on climate change and the importance of living, working and playing sustainably. The 2022 review of the Strategy provides an update on how Greater Dandenong City Council is progressing and provides stronger targets and goals for the future to reflect the state of the world as it currently stands.

Greater Dandenong City Council declared a Climate Emergency in January 2020 and has since prepared a dedicated Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan, which provides a comprehensive framework to guide our collective climate change response.

Sustainability is about more than climate change, and recognises the role we all have to play in conserving our natural resources and protecting the environment we rely on for future generations.

Both Council and our community have a role to play and I am proud to support Greater Dandenong in paving the way for a future in which we are one of the most environmentally sustainable cities in Australia.

Executive Summary and Annual Report data for 2019–20 and 2020–21

Our Vision: By 2030 the City of Greater Dandenong is one of the most sustainable cities in Australia.

Delivering this vision has ongoing benefits for the environment, as well as the health and wellbeing of residents and businesses. Council has the capacity to realise this vision by implementing projects and programs within its own control, but it cannot do it alone. Working in collaboration with the community, stakeholders and key partners is essential, and everybody has a role to play.

The Sustainability Strategy provides the strategic framework to achieve this vision, by informing decisions, helping to shape plans and activities undertaken across the municipality and region. Achieving this vision won't occur straight away, but the implementation of many of the Strategy's identified key priorities and future key strategic actions are well underway with significant progress made since its adoption in 2016.

Annual Report data

Annual Sustainability Reporting is a transparent reporting tool to both monitor our progress towards the strategy's goals and objectives, as well as inform our policies and practices that guide our activities each year.

For the past two years, lack of resourcing during the COVID-19 pandemic has made it difficult to deliver the annual reports. With the five year refresh strategy covering much of the data reported on annually, it made sense to include a snapshot of annual reporting data for the financial years 2019–20 and 2020–21 in the Executive Summary found below.

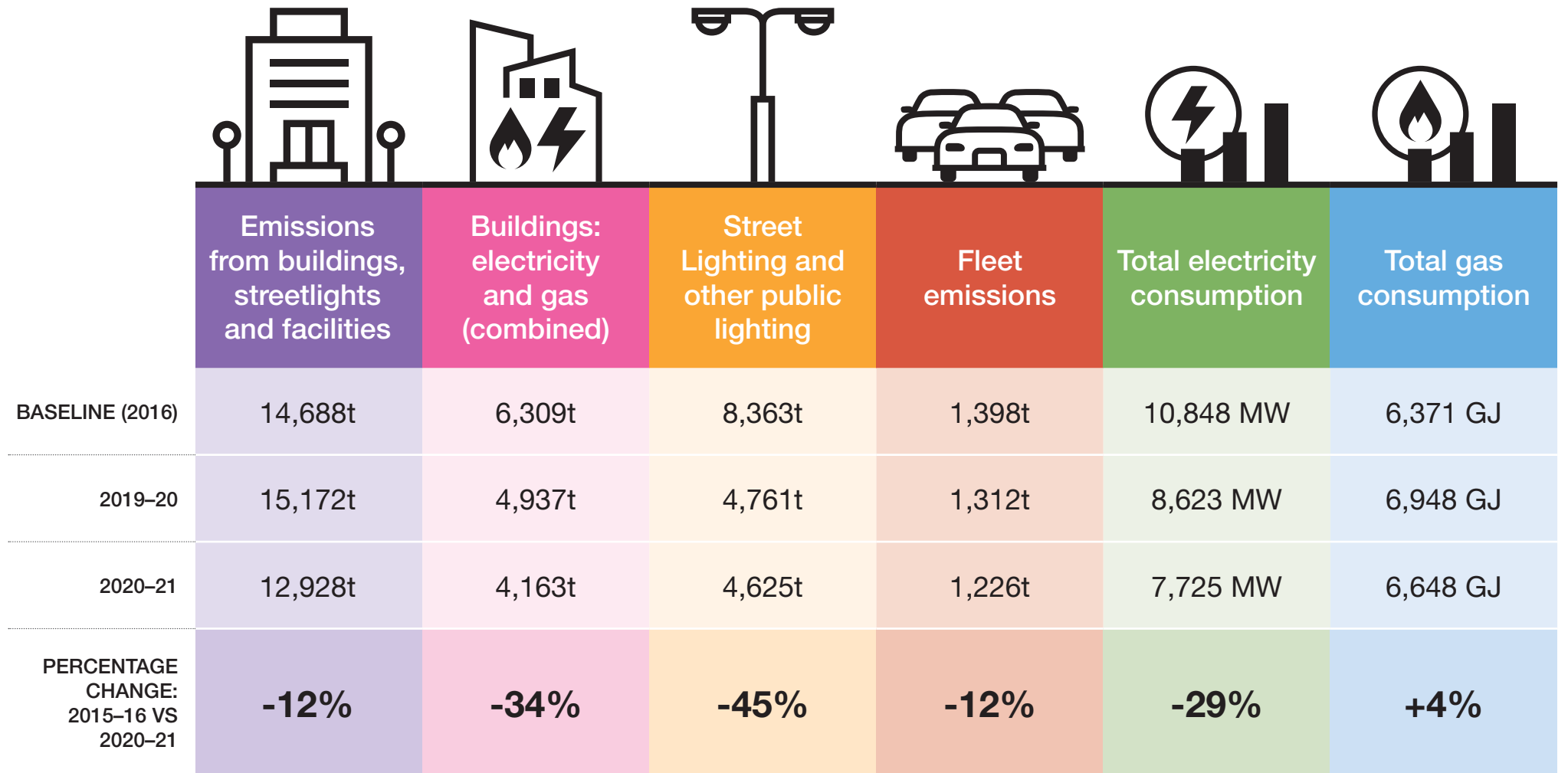
Our Achievements

The following tables summarise our progress and success for 2019–20 and 2020–21 in relation to achieving our goals for each of the ten themes included in the Sustainability Strategy.



THEME	GOAL	PROGRESS IN 2019–20 AND 2020–21
 Biodiversity and Open Space	A Greener City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the draft Biodiversity Action Plan 2021–26 • Extensive tree and vegetation planting • Open Space Strategy 2020–30 adopted by Council, and awarded a Planning Institute of Australia State Award for Excellence • Urban Forest Strategy 2021–28 adopted by Council • Ten Year Activity Centres Tree Planting Plan completed
 Water and Stormwater	A Water Sensitive City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Dandenong Creek Biodiversity Connection project • Annual delivery of the Discover Dandenong Creek festival • Introduction of drought-tolerant grasses across 20 sports fields and reserves
 Waste and Resources	A Waste Wise City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) service launched • Plastic Use Policy adopted in 2019
 Transport and Movement	A Well Connected City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Car Share Policy 2019 adopted • Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy 2019 adopted • Cycling Strategy 2017–24 adopted • Greater Dandenong Public Transport Advocacy Statement adopted
 Climate and Energy	A Low Carbon City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020–30 adopted by Council, and awarded a Planning Institute of Australia State Award for Excellence • More than 600kW of solar installed across Council assets • Participation in the Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO) bulk power purchasing agreement, sourcing 100 per cent of Council's electricity from renewable sources
 Buildings and Places	A City Planned for the Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) policy integrated into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme • Development of a sustainability self-assessment tool for Council's own building projects which was awarded the Cities Power Partnership Innovation Award • Adoption of the Sustainable Buildings Policy (2020) • Asset Vulnerability Assessments (AVAs) completed in partnership with the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA)
 Environmental Pollution	A Clean and Healthy City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual stormwater monitoring projects completed • Advocacy efforts to State Government regarding increased monitoring and publication of air quality data in the Industrial Two zone
 Local and Sustainable Food	A City Connected by Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food from Home program commenced in partnership with Enliven • Seed Library established at Springvale Community Hub • Community Gardens Policy 2021 adopted
 Local Community and Culture	A Liveable City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change municipal health and wellbeing scan undertaken to inform the Council plan, including identifying key communities especially vulnerable to the impacts of a changing climate • Make Your Move Physical Activity Strategy 2020–30 adopted
 Local Business and Economy	A City of Opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of Environmental Upgrades Agreements to enable flexible financing options for businesses interested in solar and energy efficiency upgrades • Annual delivery of the Sustainability Awards, including a Sustainable Business Award category

Council's energy usage and emissions



Measurement Key: t (Tonnes tCO₂-e) | MW (Megawatts) | GJ (Gigajoules)

OUR VISION: The City of Greater Dandenong is one of the most sustainable cities in Australia by 2030.

 BIODIVERSITY AND OPEN SPACE	 WATER AND STORMWATER	 WASTE AND RESOURCES	 TRANSPORT AND MOVEMENT	 CLIMATE AND ENERGY
				
A Greener City	A Water Sensitive City	A Waste Wise City	A Well Connected City	A Low Carbon City
CORPORATE OBJECTIVES				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify, protect and enhance the ecological value of Council land within the municipality. Increase the quality, quantity and connectivity of open space owned by Council. Increase the quality and quantity of vegetation cover on Council land that contributes to a net gain throughout the municipality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where appropriate, reduce Council's corporate mains water consumption. Where possible, minimise the impact of stormwater runoff and pollution. Where appropriate, increase the supply of alternative water sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the amount of total waste sent to landfill by Council. Increase the amount of material that is recovered for re-use and recycling. Establish a resource efficiency program for goods and materials across Council. Review and update sustainable procurement policy for goods and materials across Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Council staff to increase levels of active travel – such as walking and cycling. Support Council staff to increase use of low carbon and sustainable transport options. Reduce emissions and costs associated with the operation of fleet – Council and contractors. Improve connectivity and accessibility of the shared path network throughout the municipality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce Council's CO2e emissions from street lighting, buildings and facilities. Reduce the energy consumption of Council assets – includes buildings and streetlights. Increase the percentage of energy consumed by Council obtained from renewable sources. Develop and implement a Climate Change Strategy for Council and the City of Greater Dandenong.
COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify, protect and enhance the ecological value of land throughout the municipality. Support the increase in community access to open space through the Open Space Provision Goals. Work with key stakeholders to protect and enhance the ecological value of the Green Wedge area. New development within Greater Dandenong to address open space and biodiversity issues, where appropriate. Engage the community to increase their awareness of parks, plants and wildlife. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the support of key partners, help the community reduce mains water consumption. Advocate and work with key partners to help reduce the impact of stormwater runoff and pollution on catchments within the city. New development within the city to incorporate best practice water and stormwater measures. Engage the community to increase their awareness of water use and management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership with our community to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill. Work in partnership with the community to increase recycling rates. Work with the community to provide clean streets and waterways by reducing littering and dumped rubbish. New developments within the city to incorporate best practice waste and resource management. Increase community awareness on waste and recycling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with partners to increase community levels of active travel – such as walking and cycling. Work with partners to increase community use of low carbon and sustainable transport. With our partners, work towards providing with safe, connected and well serviced Public Transport within 400m walking distance. All new developments within the city to incorporate best practice sustainable transport outcomes. Increase community awareness on the benefits of sustainable transport options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage, advocate and empower the community to enable the reduction of CO2e emissions from built environment. Help the community reduce energy consumption within the built environment. Help the community increase use of renewable energy. Help the community to incorporate best practice energy initiatives through planning processes. Work with partners to increase community awareness on the benefits of energy efficiency and renewables.

OUR VISION: The City of Greater Dandenong is one of the most sustainable cities in Australia by 2030.

 <p>BUILDINGS AND PLACES</p>	 <p>ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION</p>	 <p>LOCAL AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD</p>	 <p>LOCAL COMMUNITY AND CULTURE</p>	 <p>LOCAL BUSINESS AND ECONOMY</p>
				
<p>A City Planned for the Future</p>	<p>A Clean and Healthy City</p>	<p>A City Connected by Food</p>	<p>A Liveable City</p>	<p>A City of Opportunity</p>

CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance energy and water efficiency of Council's existing buildings. • New Council buildings designed, constructed and operated to meet best practice ESD standards. • Measure the operational costs of Council buildings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise and manage sources of land pollution from Council's operations and facilities. • Minimise and manage sources of water pollution from Council's operations and facilities. Stormwater quality and waterway health (focus area). • Minimise sources of air pollution from Council's operations and facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement a sustainable food procurement policy for Council. • Reduce amount of food waste and packaging sent to landfill. • Create an internal culture that promotes healthy diets and local / sustainable food options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish internal programs that help to create a culture of sustainability within Council. • Investigate how best to incorporate key Corporate Social Responsibility principles into Council's Annual Sustainability Report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support staff with their professional development, especially around key sustainability issues. • Investigate how best to incorporate Fairtrade principles into Council's procurement policy and process.
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COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With support of key stakeholders, help the community reduce energy and water consumption in existing buildings. • Work with the community to enhance the sense of place through Council's Placemaking Framework. • Work with key partners to help increase the walkability of our suburbs. • New developments within the city to incorporate best practice ESD standards. • Engage and empower the community to help them improve the energy and water performance of their buildings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the community to reduce land pollution across the city. • Land contamination and illegal dumping (focus area). • Work with the community to improve stormwater quality and waterway health across the city. • Work with the community to improve air quality across the city. • New developments within the city to incorporate best practice pollution management. • Engage and empower the community to increase their awareness and minimise associated pollution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the support of key stakeholders, support the community to increase their ability to grow their own fresh fruit and vegetables. • Work with stakeholders to increase the percentage of residents that have access to healthy food within the municipality. • Work with stakeholders to increase the affordability of fresh food within the municipality. • Support the expansion and diversification of agricultural activity in the Green Wedge area. • Promote healthy diets and local sustainable food options for the broader community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help create an environment that enhances the community's health and wellbeing. • Help create an environment that promotes community participation, inclusion and equity and responds to our culture and diversity. • Create an environment that helps improve community perceptions of safety. • Help to protect vulnerable residents from extreme weather events. • Work with others to help manage housing affordability and cost of living. • Help increase community awareness on the benefits of sustainable living. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and encourage the establishment, relocation or expansion of suitable green businesses within Greater Dandenong. • Support all types of businesses throughout Greater Dandenong save money by reducing their energy and water consumption. • Encourage manufacturing sector to address resource efficiency and 'people, profit, planet' across strategic planning and operational efficiency. • Help education institutions, training providers and businesses to provide residents with skills for an innovative and sustainable future. • Engage and empower the business community to them benefit from adopting sustainable business practices.
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“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own”.

Introduction

Our Vision – The City of Greater Dandenong is one of the most sustainable cities in Australia by 2030.

Imagine a sustainable city where a diverse culture supports a healthy and thriving community. Where there are sustainable buildings, which are attractive, affordable, and powered by renewable energy. Where there are well-connected places, which make it easy for residents to walk, cycle or catch public transport. Where there are a range of local and sustainable fresh food options for residents, workers and visitors. Where there are healthy waterways, open spaces and rich biodiversity levels, which are valued, protected and enhanced. Where there are a range of exciting new education and employment opportunities. And where there are local businesses recognised as world leaders in innovation, technology and sustainable practices.

1.1 A note on the COVID-19 pandemic

The original Sustainability Strategy was first adopted by Council in 2016, with the five year refresh due to be completed in 2020 and published in 2021. The pandemic limited the ability to complete the five year refresh as well as the Annual Sustainability Reports for financial years 2019–20 and 2020–21. The five year refresh and two years of annual reporting data have been completed within this document. Moving forward, the Annual Sustainability Reports will be completed separately each year as per normal. It should be noted that though 2020 is set as the reporting year for this refresh, in some instances data from 2018–19 or 2021–22 have been used to avoid the worst of the data irregularities occurring due to COVID-19 lockdowns.

¹ United Nations Report: *The Future We Want*, 2012

² World Commission on Environment and Development's *Our Common Future Report*, 1987

³ EPA Victoria, 2008

⁴ Global Footprint Network, Earth Overshoot Day 2022

1.2 What is sustainability?

The Sustainability Strategy is underpinned by the concept of sustainability and highlights the important role the environment plays in our lives – providing us with the water we drink, the food we eat and the air we breathe.

Sustainability requires that the wellbeing of society – the combination of community liveability, environmental sustainability and economic prosperity – is maintained or improved over time.

The world's population of 7 billion is likely to increase to 9 billion by 2050. The demand for diminishing natural resources is growing. Income gaps are widening. Sustainability calls for a decent standard of living for everyone today without compromising the needs of future generations¹. The internationally recognised Brundtland Commission outlined the definition for sustainable development².

1.3 Why do we need a sustainability strategy?

When this strategy was first written, reporting showed that if everyone in the world lived like the average Australian, we would need nearly four planets worth of resources to sustain us³. Five years later, this figure has inched closer to five planets.⁴ It's clear that our planet cannot sustain our current resource consumption demands. As the global population grows, and more people strive for a higher standard of living, society puts the very environment that supports our economic prosperity and our wellbeing at risk. One of the greatest challenges associated with tackling these issues is finding

a way for society to recognise the benefits associated with changing its current approach. Everyone has a part to play in preserving our world for future generations.

The Sustainability Strategy establishes the City of Greater Dandenong's vision, goals and objectives that will guide it in the creation of an environmentally sustainable city by 2030. It is important to acknowledge the City of Greater Dandenong is a city of opportunity. It has one of the most multicultural communities in Australia. It is also recognised as a vital economic hub for Melbourne, Victoria and the rest of Australia.

This status places an increased importance on creating a *sustainable local economy*, which can only prosper if it is supported by a *sustainable local community*, which in turn can only thrive if it lives within a *sustainable local environment*.

1.4 Purpose of the strategy, five year refresh, and formatting update

This Strategy is a key document for the City of Greater Dandenong that has been used to inform decisions, shape plans and undertake activities that help realise its vision for a sustainable future. The intent of this refresh is not to alter the existing objectives or visions, but to provide a holistic summary against each goal and review the suitability of targets until the next review in 2025. Technology and 'best practice' approaches in the field of Sustainability are rapidly changing, but the intent remains the same – to minimise our impact on the environment and to ensure the City of Greater Dandenong is a thriving, sustainable city into 2030 and beyond.

The Strategy establishes a high-level strategic framework that will help maximise the benefits of an integrated approach to sustainability. As a result, the framework provides the guidance required to enable the City of Dandenong to effectively enhance its sustainability credentials and become one of the most sustainable cities in Australia by 2030.

Since the initial creation of the Strategy, several programs used to establish baseline data have ceased to exist making reporting on these outcomes impossible. Additionally, it has been identified that several of the original objectives are simply not quantifiable in a meaningful way. Where the intent was to research further and establish a baseline but this has not proved feasible, you will see the objective greyed out.

The Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy was adopted by Council in 2020. The Sustainability Strategy refresh involved reformatting the objectives of each theme to bring this into line with the Climate Emergency Strategy for ease of reporting. In recognition of the significant commonalities between the two strategies, relevant actions from the Climate Emergency Strategy have been extracted and included below each theme for ease of reference.





Our sustainability vision

2.1 Sustainability vision

“The City of Greater Dandenong is one of the most sustainable cities in Australia by 2030.”

The sustainability vision for Greater Dandenong is directly linked to the Council Plan Vision, its Key Priority Areas and its Strategic Objectives – specifically the creation of an environmentally sustainable city.

2.2 Council Plan vision

The City of Greater Dandenong’s broader vision for the municipality was initially articulated by the community in Vision 2040 and then refined in the Council Plan 2021–24.

“The City of Greater Dandenong is a home to all. It’s a city where you can enjoy and embrace life through celebration and equal opportunity! We harmonise the community by valuing multiculturalism and the individual. Our community is healthy, vibrant, innovative and creative. Our growing city is committed to environmental sustainability. Welcome to our exciting and peaceful community”

2.2.1 Six principles

This broader vision seeks to integrate the way economic, social and environmental sustainability issues are addressed through six key priority principles:

- Safe and peaceful community
- Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities
- Sustainable environment
- Embrace diversity and multiculturalism
- Mind, body and spirit
- Art and culture

2.2.2 Strategic objectives

Supporting this approach are strategic objectives that lay the foundation for the Council and the community to work in collaboration to create a safe and vibrant city of opportunity.

Principle	Strategic Objectives
Safe and peaceful community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A socially connected, safe and healthy city • A city of accessible, vibrant centres and neighbourhoods • A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community
Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A city that supports entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes
Sustainable environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A green city committed to a sustainable future • A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community
Embrace diversity and multiculturalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts
Mind, body and spirit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A socially connected, safe and healthy city • A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts
Art and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts

2.3 Related strategies and documents

Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022–26
 Procurement Policy 2021–25
 Public Car Share Policy 2021
 Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy 2021
 Draft Waste and Litter Strategy 2021–26
 Draft Biodiversity Action Plan 2021–26
 Community Gardens Policy 2021
 Council Plan 2021–25
 Risk Management Strategy 2021–24
 Children’s Plan 2021–26
 Urban Forest Strategy 2021–28
 Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020–30
 Make Your Move Physical Activity Strategy 2020–30
 Sustainable Buildings Policy 2020
 Open Space Strategy 2020–30
 Risk Management Policy 2020
 Disaster Assistance Policy 2019
 Plastic Use Policy 2019

Green Wedge Management Plan 2017
 Cycling Strategy 2017–24
 Greening Our City – Urban Tree Strategy 2018–28
 Greening Our Neighbourhoods Strategy 2021–28
 Integrated Transport Strategy 2017–22
 Sustainable Stormwater Strategy 2017–37
 Asset Management Strategy 2015–22
 Asset Management Policy 2015
 Community Safety Plan 2015–22
 Walking Strategy 2015–23
 Housing Strategy 2014–24
 Economic and Employment Development Policy 2011
 Sustainable Design Assessment in the Planning Process (SDAPP) Fact Sheets
 Landscape Guidelines
 Long-Term Financial Strategy
 Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme
 Greater Dandenong Public Transport Advocacy Statement





2.4 Governance

The City of Greater Dandenong has put in place a rigorous governance and evaluation framework to track and assess progress against the Sustainability Strategy.

The Community Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) is a group of passionate members of the public who live or work in the City of Greater Dandenong. Meeting five times a year, the SAC oversees implementation of the Sustainability Strategy within the community and provides feedback and guidance to Council officers to inform decision-making and priority setting.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, producing the Annual Sustainability Report was not feasible. With the situation easing it is now expected that the Annual Sustainability Report will once again be delivered on a yearly basis to inform the community in a transparent way about how Council is tracking against the objectives of the Sustainability Strategy.

2.5 Implementation

The Strategy provides a strategic framework and roadmap will continue to assist Council in tackling the key sustainability challenges and opportunities throughout the municipality, at both a corporate and community level. It will be used to capture existing work being completed by Council, but more importantly, it will be used to help inform decisions, shape plans and undertake activities that help realise our vision for the future.

Council's existing and future operational strategies and plans will be linked to the Sustainability Strategy. More importantly they will be used to help set a baseline from which the City of Greater Dandenong will identify and prioritise key actions.

2.6 Demonstrating leadership












In Victoria, the Local Government Act (2020) requires councils to consider climate change in all decision-making and operational processes. This includes addressing the viability and sustainability of key economic, social and environmental issues. The Victorian Government also identifies local government's roles through other key legislation,

such as the Planning and Environment Act (1987) and the Climate Change Act (2010).

Examples of significant recent projects where Council is demonstrating leadership on sustainability to the community and the sector include:

- The new Springvale Community Hub – which has achieved a certified Six Star Green Star rating (World Excellence)
- Adoption of an Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) policy within the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme, enabling enforcement of a minimum standard of sustainability and environmental performance in new developments
- Preparation of the Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020-30 to provide a comprehensive framework for Council's climate response
- Development of a sustainability self-assessment tool for Council's own building projects which was awarded the Cities Power Partnership Innovation Award
- Participation in the Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO) bulk power purchasing agreement, sourcing 100 per cent of Council's electricity from renewable sources.

Sustainability facts

Topic	Fact
 Population growth	Population growth has been steadily increasing worldwide since records first began. It took over two million years of human history for the global population to reach one billion, and only 207 years more to grow to seven billion. ⁵ 1 Billion 1800, 2 Billion 1927, 3 Billion 1960, 4 Billion 1974, 5 Billion 1987, 6 Billion 1999, 7 Billion 2011, 8 Billion 2022, 9.7 Billion 2050 Between 2011 and 2020, Victoria's population increased by 20 per cent, or 1,090,000 people, to reach 6.62 million people. ⁶ This is forecast to increase to 8.72 million by 2036. ⁷ In the 2021 Census, 158,208 called the City of Greater Dandenong home. ⁸
 Biodiversity	Clearing has left only around half of Victoria's native vegetation, causing a serious and ongoing loss of habitat for Victoria's native species. It is estimated that more than 66 per cent of Victoria's native vegetation has been cleared as of 2020. ⁹
 Ecological Footprint	If everyone on the planet lived like Victorians, almost five planets would be needed to sustain us. ¹⁰
 Heatwaves	January 2019 was Victoria's hottest summer ever recorded, with an extreme heatwave affecting much of the state. In 2018, Bendigo set a record of 12 consecutive days over 35°C. ¹¹
 Bushfires	The 2019–20 Australian bushfires that devastated much of the eastern coast are an example of how extreme weather events are becoming more frequent and more deadly. 33 people lost their lives, more than 3,000 homes were destroyed, and approximately one billion animals perished. ¹² While bushfires are unlikely to directly affect Greater Dandenong, the City remains vulnerable to grassfires, ember attack and air quality and health concerns associated with prolonged smoke cover.
 Flooding	Widespread flooding has occurred across Victoria, Tasmania, New South Wales and Queensland with too many events to list between 2020 and the present. ¹³ Much of the flooding affected communities just starting to rebuild following bushfires.
 Climate Change	Climate change is considered to be the greatest environmental challenge facing Australia and Victoria. It has the potential to have significant natural, social and economic impacts both here and globally.
 Carbon Emissions	Victoria's greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise. In 2010–11, Victoria emitted a total of 118 million tonnes (Mt) CO ₂ -e of greenhouse gas. Between 1989–90 and 2010–11, total emissions increased by 12 per cent.
 Water	Under climate change, Victoria is forecast to receive less rainfall overall, with a higher frequency of extreme rainfall events. This means vulnerability to both drought and flooding. At the time of this report, Victoria's water catchments were 98.4 per cent full – the highest levels in 20 years. ¹⁴
 Waste	In 2019–20, 15.86 megatonnes of waste was generated in Victoria, with approximately 70 per cent of this being diverted from landfill. ¹⁵
 Energy	Victoria's grid electricity consumption more than doubled between 1980–81 and 2010–11, although population grew by only 40 per cent over the same period. This peaked in 2007–08 and since then has gradually decreased. ¹⁶

5 "World Population to Hit Milestone With Birth of 7 Billionth Person". PBS NewsHour. 27 October 2011.

6 Population of Victoria, Population Australia 2022

7 Victoria in Future Report, 2019

8 Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2021

9 Environment Victoria, 2020

10 EPA Victoria, 2016

11 Environment Victoria, 2020

12 Parliament of Australia, 2020

13 Bureau of Meteorology, 2020–22

14 Melbourne Water, 2022

15 Sustainability Victoria, 2022

16 Australian Energy Regulator, 2022



Policy context for sustainability

government at all levels have a role to play in helping Australians lead a sustainable lifestyle. In addition, Federal and State Government legislation, policies, regulations and programs have a major influence on how councils address sustainability issues.

4.1 Federal Government

The Federal Government is responsible for guiding the macro-economic, social and environmental conditions for the economy and society.

Federal Government legislation relates primarily to environmental matters of national significance. It also relates to international conventions for which the Australian Government has responsibility¹⁷.

Examples of these include biodiversity, climate change and sustainable development.

4.2 State Government

State Government influences similar macro conditions with its specific boundaries. There are three specific pieces of legislation that highlight Council's role and responsibility for addressing sustainability issues – they include; i. the Planning and Environment Act; ii. the Victorian Local Government Act; and iii. the Climate Change Act.

The Climate Change Act 2010 requires Council to give due thought and

consideration to the impacts of climate change, specifically on its residents and environmental sustainability in general.

The Victorian Local Government Act 2020 requires councils to consider climate change in all decision-making and operational processes.

The Planning and Environment Act provides the overriding framework for planning the use, protection and development of land within Victoria. Greater Dandenong joined the Victorian Climate Resilient Councils project advocating for stronger consideration of climate change and sustainability in the Planning and Environment Act.

4.3 Local Government

Council plays an important role through the provision of strategic planning, infrastructure management, local economic programs and local community programs that contribute to the overall sustainability of the city

In support of the Victorian Local Government Act's primary objective, Council is tasked with:

- Promoting the social, economic and environmental viability and sustainability of the municipal district and;
- Improving the overall quality of life of people in the local community.

¹⁷ Victorian Competition and Efficiency Commission 2009, A Sustainable Future for Victoria



Our sustainability partners and stakeholders

5.1 Sustainability leaders

Achieving Greater Dandenong's vision for an environmentally sustainable city requires collaboration from all stakeholders throughout the municipality. Council recognises that while everyone has a role to play, it must demonstrate leadership and empower others to act.

5.2 Roles and responsibilities

While the roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders may vary, it is up to everyone to do their share if we are to become a more sustainable society with a healthier environment and a healthier community. To address these issues, action is required at all levels – from individuals, business, local communities and government.

5.2.1 Role of Council

Council is committed to listening to our community and leading by example.

Council will provide leadership by:

- Reducing its own ecological footprint and environmental impact
- Using projects (such as the Springvale Community Hub that achieved a 6 Star Green Star Design and As Built Rating demonstrating World Leading Performance) to highlight Council's commitment and what's possible.
- Advocating for higher standards and better outcomes in regulations, legislation and policy
- Engaging and empowering various parts of the local community (residents and business)

5.2.2 Role of partners

Working closely with both the Council and the community are the City of Greater Dandenong's partners. Without them many of the sustainability goals and objectives for the broader municipality cannot be achieved.

Key partners include, but not limited to, State and Federal Governments, essential service providers, transport authorities, community service providers, local businesses and community groups.

5.2.3 Role of community

The community identified that while Council has an important role to protect and improve our local environment, it cannot be Council's role alone and that all members of the community have a role to play.

The most common idea identified by the community was for more information and education programs on relevant environmental issues that would increase the awareness and build the capacity of the community to make informed decisions across their everyday actions benefitting the environment.



Our sustainability themes

6.1 Summary

The Sustainability Strategy 2016–30 sets Council’s long-term vision for Greater Dandenong to become one of the most sustainable cities in Australia by 2030.


To achieve this vision, Council needs to demonstrate leadership that helps our community take action, advocates to other levels of government, and supports our partners and key stakeholders on their sustainability journey.

This necessitates considerable changes to the way that Council and the community approach sustainability, in particular:

1. Council to take an integrated ‘whole-of-organisation’ approach to sustainability across its own operations.
2. Council to encourage the community to embed sustainability into everyday life.

The following pages comprise an Action Plan broken down by Theme, identifying Council’s actions over the next five years where it:

- Has direct operational control (Council Objectives)
- Seeks to influence and support the community, other levels of government, our partners and key stakeholders to act. (Community Objectives)

Theme	Goal Description
 Biodiversity and Open Space	Imagine a Greener City that places a value on its natural assets, protects existing levels of biodiversity and works hard to enhance biodiversity levels for the future.
 Water and Stormwater	Imagine a city where water is managed efficiently and effectively to: provide a secure source of clean drinking water; reduce flood risk and damage; ensure healthy waterways; as well as support healthy local parks and environments.
 Waste and Resources	Imagine a Waste Wise City with clean public places where resources are used efficiently, resulting in lower costs, less waste and a healthy local environment.
 Transport and Movement	Imagine a Well Connected City that is easy, safe and affordable to walk and cycle around, is well connected to public transport and has a clear hierarchy for the effective movement of vehicles.
 Climate and Energy	Imagine a Low Carbon City that is run from renewable energy, has a minimal carbon footprint, causes minimal damage to the planet and is affordable, attractive, liveable and sustainable.
 Buildings and Places	Imagine a City that's been planned, designed and built to accommodate the community's future needs, a city that's been created to reflect a sense of place that's unique to the community, a city that performs environmentally, socially and economically.
 Environmental Pollution	Imagine a Clean and Healthy City with clean air, water and land, which support a healthy local environment and protects the community from pollution-related health problems.
 Local and Sustainable Food	To create a city connected by food where people have healthy balanced diets, have the ability to grow their own fruit and vegetables, and have access to local and seasonal fresh food which is locally grown and processed.
 Local Community and Culture	Imagine a Liveable City with a healthy and thriving community, where its members enjoy optimal health in an environment that actively promotes productive, rewarding and socially inclusive lives.
 Local Business and Economy	Imagine a city where people of all ages and backgrounds can reach their potential, gain the skills and education they need for success, and be part of a prosperous economy where all trade, manufacturing and business actively flourish.

6.2 Key priorities

While this strategy outlines high level targets rather than focussing on individual actions, the list below details some of Council’s key short-term priorities that will help meet our long-term corporate and community sustainability objectives.

6.2.1 Key corporate priorities

- Continue to deliver an Annual Sustainability Report
- Continue to implement the Sustainability Strategy and Climate Emergency Strategy
- Identify opportunities to electrify Council’s buildings and assets, transitioning away from using natural gas
- Achieve net zero emissions across all of Council’s operations
- Identify opportunities to incorporate electric vehicles and other low carbon options into Council’s fleet and other services
- Develop a climate change induction training module for all staff





6.2.2 Key community priorities

- Continue to deliver the Annual Sustainability Festival
- Maintain membership and continue to partner with Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE)
- Maintain membership and continue to partner the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA)
- Work with the community to address energy poverty and energy efficiency, particularly for renters
- Drive uptake of rooftop solar across the municipality
- Strengthen existing partnership with South East Business Network, Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce and Committee for Dandenong

Council acknowledges that many of these priorities and objectives are cross-referencing and will be linked across several themes. For example, improving the health of residents is addressed in not only the Local Community and Culture Theme, but is addressed in the Transport and Movement Theme, as well as the Local and Sustainable Food Theme.

6.3 Overall performance against 2020 targets

The following provides a snapshot on how Council is tracking against each of Themes over the last five years.

Performance Indicator Against 2020 Target			2016-21
Exceeds Target		Currently exceeding Target	22
On Target		On track to meet Target	33
Off Target		Not on track to meet Target – Measures in Place	13
Action Required		Not on track to meet Target – Action Required	4
Not Available		Status not available due to limited data	10







OUR GOAL: A GREENER CITY

	Responsible Council Unit	Baseline (2016)	By 2020	Outcome: 2020	By 2025	Source	
Corporate Objectives							
1.1.1	Identify, protect and enhance the ecological value (EV) of Council land within the municipality.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Refer to Annual Sustainability Report	Identify and protect EV of Council land	Not completed. Being addressed in Biodiversity Action Plan.	Development of monitoring and evaluation framework Activity data recorded annually via NatureKit	Draft Biodiversity Action Plan
1.1.2	Increase the quality, quantity and connectivity of open space owned by Council.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	4.4 Ha per 1000 residents (2009)	4.5 Ha per 1000 residents	This measure has been superseded by the Open Space Strategy. Measure now 1500sqm acquired per year. More than 13,000sqm of open space has been acquired since 2019–20	Minimum of 1500sqm of open space acquired per annum.	Open Space Strategy
1.1.3	Increase the quality and quantity of vegetation cover on Council land that contributes to a net gain throughout the municipality.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	*Establish Baseline + 19,000 trees/plants planted p.a.	Maintain planting numbers	2,624 trees + 23,005 seedlings planted (2019)	2,178 street trees + 18,000 indigenous seedlings planted p.a.	Parks Team
Community Objectives							
1.2.1	Identify, protect and enhance the ecological value of land throughout the municipality	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish Baseline*	Identify and Protect EV of Land in CGD	Not completed. Being addressed in Biodiversity Action Plan	Development of monitoring and evaluation framework Activity data recorded annually via NatureKit	Biodiversity Action Plan
1.2.2	Support the increase in community access to open space through the Open Space Provisions Goals	City Planning, Design and Amenity	Establish Baseline*	Increase percentage of residents within 500m	62.5 per cent of households within 400m of public open space	65 per cent of households within 400m of public open space	Open Space Strategy / Australian Urban Observatory
1.2.3	Work with key stakeholders to protect and enhance the ecological value of the Green Wedge Area	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	CGD Green Wedge Management Plan (GWMP)	Complete the Flora and Fauna Assessment for GWMP	Flora and Fauna Assessment not yet undertaken	Flora and Fauna Assessment undertaken	GWMP
1.2.4	New development within Greater Dandenong to address open space and biodiversity issues, where appropriate	City Planning, Design and Amenity	30 per cent of Applications (2014)	50 per cent of Applications	70 per cent of Applications	All Applicable Planning Applications	Planning Application Data
1.2.5	Engage with the community, residents and businesses to increase their awareness on the value of parks, plants and wildlife	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Existing Educational Programs	Maintain engagement Levels	Educational Programs extended	Maintain and increase engagement levels	Parks Team

*Establish Baseline – Where there is no baseline or limited data a baseline will be established.

**Monitor and Report – Council is reviewing its reporting program to determine how best to report on sustainability food issues.

Existing key operational strategies and plans:

- Draft Biodiversity Action Plan 2021
- Activity Centres 10 Year Tree Planting Plan 2021
- Urban Forest Strategy 2021–30
- Greening Our Neighbourhoods Strategy 2021–30
- Climate Emergency Strategy 2020–30
- Open Space Strategy 2020–30
- Greening Our City 2018–30
- Green Wedge Management Plan 2017
- Reserve Management Plans (Internal)
- Park Masterplans
- Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme

Future key strategic actions:

- Incorporate best practice open space and biodiversity management as part of all relevant Council Strategies and Action Plans
- Incorporate best practice open space and biodiversity requirements into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme
- Implement the Open Space Strategy for Council and the City of Greater Dandenong
- Continue to develop and implement Biodiversity Management Plans for areas of Council land identified as having significant ecological value
- Engage and strengthen the community's awareness on the ecological value of the parks, plants and wildlife in Greater Dandenong.



City of Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020-2030: relevant strategic objectives

Action Plan Ref./Page No.	Objective	Target	Measure	Baseline
5.1, p.42	Increased canopy cover and carbon storage through Council's streets and open spaces	Minimum of 2,178 street trees and 18,000 indigenous seedlings planted each year	Council's annual Tree and Indigenous Seedling Planting Program	To be established
		Establish benchmark of Carbon stored in Council's trees and reserves to offset its carbon emissions by 2025	Tonnes of carbon stored in Council's street trees and reserves	2019: 54 per cent
5.2, p.49	A greener, cooler city reducing urban heat island impacts and helping to drawdown carbon levels	15 per cent by 2028	Canopy cover across Greater Dandenong	9.9 per cent (2020)
		Achieve a reduction in the 2018 average summer Urban Heat Island reading	Urban Heat Island rating for Greater Dandenong	9.26°C (2018)

OUR GOAL: A WATER SENSITIVE CITY

	Responsible Council Unit	Baseline (2016)	By 2020	Outcome: 2020	By 2025	Source	
Corporate Objectives							
2.1.1	Reduce Council's corporate mains water consumption.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	394ML (1999–00)	Reduce Mains Water Use by 50 per cent	207ML	Reduce Mains Water Use by 15 per cent (from 2020 figure)	Utility Tracker
2.1.2	Where possible, minimise the impact of stormwater runoff and pollution.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish Baseline*	Increase No. of Best Practice Projects	Sustainable Buildings Policy updated to reflect best practice stormwater management; stormwater incorporated into City Improvement Programme Climate Change Self-Assessment Tool as bid criteria.	All projects to adhere to requirements of Council's Sustainable Buildings Policy and City Improvement Program Climate Change Self-Assessment Tool	Various Council Reports
2.1.3	Increase the supply of alternative water sources.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish Baseline*	Replace 10 per cent of Mains Water	37 rainwater tanks installed across Council assets (Baseline established)	Increase number of sites connected to rainwater or alternative water supplies	Utility Tracker
Community Objectives							
2.2.1	With the support of key partners, help the community, both residents and businesses, reduce mains water consumption.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	437L / d per house, 1,863L / d per business	Aspire for a 10 per cent reduction	420L / d per house	Aspire for a 10 per cent reduction (from 2020 figure)	South East Water
2.2.2	Advocate and work with key partners to help reduce the impact of stormwater runoff and pollution on catchments within the city.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish Baseline*	Increase & of CGD Catchment = Best Practice	28 Gross Pollutant Traps (Baseline established)	Further develop baseline to cover percent of the municipality adhering to best practice guidelines as per EPA guidelines	Council's Geographic Information System (GIS)
2.2.3	New development within the city to incorporate best practice water and stormwater measures.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	30 per cent of Applications (2014)	50 per cent of Applications	70 per cent of Applications	All Applicable Planning Applications	Planning Application Data
2.2.4	Engage the community, both residents and businesses, to increase their awareness of water use and management.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Existing Education Programs	Increase no. of Participants	1,162 participants in the 2020 Sustainability Festival	Increase No. of Participants	Council's Annual Sustainability Report

*Establish Baseline – Where there is no baseline or limited data a baseline will be established.

**Monitor and Report – Council is reviewing its reporting program to determine how best to report on sustainability food issues.

Existing key operational strategies and plans:

- climate Emergency Strategy 2020–30
- Sustainable Buildings Policy 2020
- Green Wedge Management Plan 2017
- Sustainable Stormwater Strategy 2016
- Asset Management Strategy 2015–22
- Integrated Water Management Background Report 2014 (Internal)
- Flood Emergency Management Plan 2012 (Internal)
- Sustainable Water Use Plan 2008

Future key strategic actions:

- Implement recommendations from the Integrated Water Management Background Report, where appropriate
- Incorporate best practice for water resource management into Council's Asset Management Strategies and Action Plans
- Incorporate best practice for water resource management into Council's Strategies and Action Plans, where appropriate
- Incorporate best practice for water resource management into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme
- Engage and strengthen the community's awareness on best practice for mains water efficiency and stormwater management.



OUR GOAL: A WASTE WISE CITY

	Responsible Council Unit	Baseline (2016)	By 2020	Outcome: 2020	By 2025	Source	
Corporate Objectives							
3.1.1	Reduce the amount of total waste sent to landfill from Dandenong Civic Centre Offices and Operations Centre	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	54 per cent of total waste sent to landfill (2014)	35 per cent of total waste sent to landfill	46 per cent of total waste was sent to landfill (2019)	30 per cent of total waste sent to landfill	Council office waste audit
3.1.2	Increase the amount of material that is recovered for re-use and recycling.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	46 per cent (2014)	65 per cent of materials diverted from landfill (recycling/organics)	54 per cent of materials diverted from landfill (2019)	70 per cent of total waste diverted from landfill	Council office waste audit
3.1.3	Establish a resource efficiency program for goods and materials across Council.	Council's Internal Climate Emergency Implementation Group	N/A	Program established	Program to be established	Program established	Procurement data
3.1.4	Review and update Sustainable Procurement Policy for goods and materials across Council.	Corporate Services	Existing Procurement Policy	Policy updated	Procurement policy updated	Policy further updated and implemented	Procurement Policy
Community Objectives							
3.2.1	Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	11.7 Kg / Household / Week (2014)	Aspire for a 10 per cent reduction	11.0 Kg / Household / Week (2021)	Aspire for a 10 per cent reduction (from 2020 figure)	Household kerbside waste collection data / Waste & Litter Strategy
3.2.2	Increase recycling rates across the city.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	6.62 Kg / Household / Week (2014)	Aspire for a 10 per cent increase	10.1Kg / Household / Week (2021)	50 per cent of kerbside waste diverted from landfill	Household kerbside waste collection data / Waste & Litter Strategy
3.2.3	Reduce littering and dumped rubbish.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	3,259 Merit requests in 2014	Reduced no. of Merit requests	5,771 Merit requests in 2019	Reduced no. of Merit requests	Merit requests
3.2.4	New developments within the city to incorporate best practice waste and resource management.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	30 per cent of applications (2014)	50 per cent of Applications	70 per cent of Applications	All Applicable Planning Applications	Planning Application Data
3.2.5	Increase community awareness of waste and resources and the benefits of smart consumption, re-use and recycling.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Waste Education Plan and Awareness Programs	Increase no. of Participants / Programs	6,205 attendees at waste education events in 2018-19	Increase no. of Participants / Programs	Waste & Litter Strategy, Waste Education Plan 2018-19

*Establish Baseline – Where there is no baseline or limited data a baseline will be established.

**Monitor and Report – Council is reviewing its reporting program to determine how best to report on sustainability food issues.

Existing key operational strategies and plans:

- climate Emergency Strategy 2020–30
- Sustainable Buildings Policy 2020
- Plastic Use Policy 2019
- Waste and Litter Strategy 2015–20
- Annual Litter Action Plan (Internal)
- Annual Waste Education Plan (Internal)
- Procurement Policy
- Existing Local Laws

Future key strategic actions:

- continue to implement the Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020–30
- Continue to implement the Waste and Litter Strategy for Council and the Municipality
- Implement the Plastics Policy to phase out single use plastics within Council and the community
- Review and update existing procurement policy to increase sustainability outcomes
- Apply best practice waste and resources model to the management and operation of all Council buildings, facilities and events
- Continue to provide best practice waste services to the community
- Continue to support the activities of the Litter Action Task Force
- Collaborate with Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria and adjacent councils to combat litter in the Dandenong Creek



Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020–30: relevant strategic objectives

Action Plan Ref./Page No.	Objective	Target	Measure	Baseline
8.1, p.72	Reducing the environmental impacts from Council's use of resources	Reduce office waste to landfill to 30 per cent by 2025	Council office waste audit	2019: 46 per cent
		Increase office waste recycled to 70 per cent	Council office waste audit	2019: 54 per cent
8.2, p.75	Reducing the impacts from our community's use of resources and generation of waste	A 10 per cent reduction in total household kerbside waste collected by 2025	Household kerbside waste collection data	2019: 54.5 Mg
		50 per cent of household kerbside waste to landfill by 2025	Household kerbside waste collection data	2019: 54 per cent
		50 per cent household kerbside waste diverted from landfill by 2025	Household kerbside waste collection data	2019: 46 per cent



OUR GOAL: A WELL CONNECTED CITY

	Responsible Council Unit	Baseline (2016)	By 2020	Outcome: 2020	By 2025	Source	
Corporate Objectives							
4.1.1	Support Council staff to increase levels of active travel – such as walking and cycling.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	0 per cent Walk, 0.7 per cent Cycle, 93 per cent Cars (2011)	Increase Active Transport Modes by 20 per cent	Data unavailable	Increase Active Transport Modes by 20 per cent (commute to/from work)	CGD Staff Survey
4.1.2	Support Council staff to increase use of low carbon and sustainable transport options.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	4.5 per cent Train, 1 per cent Bus, 93 per cent Cars (2011)	Increase Low Carbon Transport modes by 10 per cent	E-bike salary packaging introduced	Increase Low Carbon Transport modes by 10 per cent (commute to/from work)	CGD Staff Survey
4.1.3	Reduce emissions and costs associated with the operation of fleet – Council and contractors.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	1,448 t-CO2e (2007)	Reduce by 5 per cent	1,312 t-CO2e (2020)	Reduce by 10 per cent from 2020 figure	Utility Tracker
4.1.4	Improve connectivity and accessibility of the walking and cycling networks through the municipality.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	136km shared path 1200km footpath 61km on road cycle route 50 bicycle parking facilities (2010)	Increase Size of Network	62km shared path 1117km footpath 50km on road cycle route 260 bicycle racks, 1 bicycle shelter	Increase Size of Network	Geographic Information System
Community Objectives							
4.2.1	Work with partners to encourage the community to increase their use of active travel – such as walking and cycling.	Community Services	1.9 per cent Walk, 0.5 per cent Cycle, 87.2 per cent Cars (2006)	Aspire for a 20 per cent increase	1.3 per cent Walk, 0.3 per cent Cycle, 76.8 per cent Cars (2016)	Aspire for a 20 per cent increase on 2016 figures	Census data
4.2.2	Work with partners to encourage the community to increase their use of low carbon and sustainable transport – such as public transport and electric vehicles.	Community Services	8.5 per cent Train, 3.2 per cent Bus, 87.2 per cent Cars (2006)	Aspire for a 10 per cent increase	6.2 per cent Train, 1.9 per cent Bus, 76.8 per cent Cars (2016) 141 Electric Vehicles registered in Greater Dandenong as of 2020	Aspire for a 10 per cent increase on 2016 figures Increase registered Electric Vehicles by 10 per cent on 2020 figures	Census data / Institute for Sensible Transport
4.2.3	With our partners, work towards providing safe, connected and well serviced Public Transport options for the community within a walking distance of 400m.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish Baseline*	Increase percentage of population	36.6 per cent of dwellings within 400m of public transport with regular 30 minute weekday service (7am – 7pm)	40 per cent of dwellings within 400m of public transport with regular 30 minute weekday service (7am – 7pm)	Geographic Information System / Australian Urban Observatory Data
4.2.4	Where appropriate, new developments within the city to incorporate best practice sustainable transport outcomes.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	30 per cent of Applications (2014)	50 per cent of Applications	70 per cent of Applications	All Applicable Planning Applications	Planning Application Data
4.2.5	Increase community awareness on the benefits of sustainable transport options.	Community Services	Establish Baseline*	Increase No. of Participants	<i>Data pending provision – to be added at graphic design stage</i>		Community Services

*Establish Baseline – Where there is no baseline or limited data a baseline will be established.

**Monitor and Report – Council is reviewing its reporting program to determine how best to report on sustainability food issues.

Existing key operational strategies and plans:

- community Transport Policy 2020
- Keysborough South Transport Study 2019
- Public Car Share Policy 2019 (Internal)
- Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy 2019 (Internal)
- Road Management Plan 2018–22
- Integrated Transport Plan 2017–22
- Walking Strategy 2015–23
- Staff Green Travel Scheme (Internal)
- Annual Shared Paths Network Plan

Future key strategic actions:

- review, updated and implement 2017 Integrated Transport Strategy
- Implement Council's Cycling Strategy
- Develop and implement Council's Neighbourhood Centres Strategy
- Incorporate best practice for transport management into Council's Asset Management Strategies and Action Plans
- Incorporate best practice integrated transport management into Council's Strategies and Action Plans (where appropriate)
- Implement and promote the Green Travel Plan for Council staff
- Incorporate best practice integrated transport management into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme
- Develop and implement Active Transport Infrastructure Framework.



City of Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020–30: relevant strategic objectives

Action Plan Ref./Page No.	Objective	Target	Measure
6.1, p.55	Increasing Council's use of active and low carbon transport options	15 per cent decrease in the use of single occupancy private vehicles as a method of travel to work for Council staff by 2026	Staff Travel Survey
		Council Fleet 100 per cent low emission vehicles by 2030*	
		Vulnerability to the impact of climate change assessed and incorporated into management plans for all critical Transport related assets and services by 2025	Council's fleet's annual GHG emissions inventory
6.2, p.59	Increasing community access to and use of active and low carbon transport options	15 per cent increase in public transport use within Greater Dandenong by 2030	Public transport patronage data
		10 per cent reduction in single occupancy private vehicle as method of travel to work by 2028 (compared with 2016 census data)	ABS Census Data
		Double the number of trips to work undertaken by bicycle by 2028 (compared with 2016 census data)	ABS Census Data
		Completion of the Strategic Cycling Corridors by 2030 and upgrade and completion of new path networks through funding from all levels of government	Upgraded networks

OUR GOAL: A LOW CARBON CITY

	Responsible Council Unit	Baseline (2016)	By 2020	Outcome: 2020	By 2025	Source	
Corporate Objectives							
5.1.1	Reduce Council's CO2e emissions from street lighting, buildings and facilities.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	14,880 t-CO2e (2007)	At least a 20 per cent reduction	9,698 t-CO2e (2020)	Net zero emissions Utility Tracker	
5.1.2	Reduce the energy consumption of Council assets – including buildings and streetlights.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	Gas 6,370 GJ, Elec 4,544,471 kWh (2007)	At least a 20 per cent reduction	Gas 6,948 GJ Elec 8,622,984 kWh (2020)	At least a 20 per cent reduction (from 2020 figures) Utility Tracker	
5.1.3	Increase the percentage of energy consumed by Council obtained from renewable sources.	Corporate Services	Establish Baseline*	Increase percentage of renewable energy	100 per cent Renewable Electricity (2021)	N/A – Outcome achieved Utility Tracker	
5.1.4	Develop and implement a Climate Change Strategy for Council and the City of Greater Dandenong.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	Existing Risk Management Work	New Climate Change Strategy	Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020–30 completed	50 per cent of identified actions completed or underway Corporate Services	
Community Objectives							
5.2.1	Engage, advocate and empower the community to enable the reduction of CO2e emissions from built environment.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	15.9 per cent of 18.93 tCO2-e per person per year (2009)	Aspire for a 10 per cent reduction	<i>ACF Consumption Atlas no longer exists. Data unavailable.</i>		ACF Consumption Atlas
5.2.2	Help the community reduce energy consumption within the built environment.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	Gas 140MJ per household per day, Elec 14.2 kWh per household per day (2007)	Aspire for a 10 per cent reduction	Gas 136MJ per household per day, Elec 12.6 kWh per household per day (2020)	10 per cent reduction from baseline	Victorian Government
5.2.3	Help the community increase use of renewable energy.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	11,979 kW Capacity in CGD (2013)	Increase Community Solar kW Capacity	71,587 kW Capacity in CGD (2020)	Increase Community Solar kW Capacity	Clean Energy Regulator
5.2.4	Help the community to incorporate best practice energy initiatives through planning processes.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	30 per cent of Applications	50 per cent of Planning Applications	70 per cent of Applications	All Applicable Planning Applications	Planning Application Data
5.2.5	Work with partners to increase community awareness on the benefits of energy efficiency and renewables.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	Existing Educational Programs	Increase No. of Participants	1,162 participants in the 2020 Sustainability Festival	Increase No. of Participants	Annual Sustainability Report

*Establish Baseline – Where there is no baseline or limited data a baseline will be established.

**Monitor and Report – Council is reviewing its reporting program to determine how best to report on sustainability food issues.

Council is responsible for many more assets compared to 2007. While overall energy consumption has increased in line with this, the energy 'intensity' (consumption per asset) has reduced.

Existing key operational strategies and plans:

- climate Emergency Strategy 2020–30
- Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2018
- Building Energy Management Plan 2016 (Internal)
- Sustainable Stormwater Strategy 2016
- Asset Management Strategy 2015–22
- Risk Management Policy 2015
- Risk Management Strategy 2014

Future key strategic actions:

- Implement the Climate Emergency Strategy, adopting a Risk Management approach for Council and the Municipality
- Incorporate best practice for energy management into Council’s Asset Management Strategies and Action Plans
- Incorporate best practice for energy management into Council’s Strategies and Action Plans, where appropriate
- Incorporate best practice requirements for energy efficiency and renewables into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme
- Showcase sustainable development options and set a benchmark for sustainability credentials
- Engage and strengthen the community’s awareness and ability to take action in regard to renewables, energy efficiency, carbon emissions and climate change issues.



City of Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020–30: relevant strategic objectives

Action Plan Ref./Page No.	Objective	Target	Measure	Baseline
4.1, p.30	Reducing Council’s carbon emissions through efficient use of clean renewable energy	Net zero carbon emissions from Council’s buildings and streetlights by 2025	2007/08 14,688t CO2-e	
		20 per cent reduction in energy use from Council’s buildings by 2025	Council’s installed solar capacity	2007/08 – 6,344 MWh
		Increase the capacity of solar systems in Council buildings to 1Mw by 2025	Council’s installed solar capacity	129 kW in 2019
		All Council’s street and park lights to use energy efficient lighting by 2027	Percentage lighting energy efficient	7,500 (52 per cent) of 14,500 lights energy efficient – 2020
4.2, p.36	A reduction in the community’s carbon emissions through efficient use of clean renewable energy	Net zero carbon emissions from the municipality’s building by 2040	Community GHG emissions profile	3,083,000tCO2-e (Stationary emissions, CPG Basic reporting 2016–17)
		100 per cent renewable energy for the City by 2040	National Greenhouse Account Factors	Scope 2 emission factors for consumption of purchased electricity in Victoria: 1.02 in 2019
		Triple small scale onsite renewable energy generation capacity for the City by 2025	Community’s solar kW capacity	11,979 (2013)

OUR GOAL: A CITY PLANNED FOR THE FUTURE

	Responsible Council Unit	Baseline (2016)	By 2020	Outcome: 2020	By 2025	Source	
Corporate Objectives							
6.1.1	Enhance energy and water efficiency of Council buildings.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	6,397 t-CO ₂ e / year (2007) 37 ML / year (2006–07)	Reduce both Emissions and Mains water Use by 20 per cent	4,937 t-CO ₂ e / year, 36 ML / year (2020)	Net zero emission Reduce Mains water use by 15 per cent	Utility Tracker
6.1.2	New Council buildings designed, constructed and operated to meet best practice Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) standards.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	Establish Buildings Policy	All new buildings	Sustainable Buildings Policy (2020) adopted	N/A – Complete	Annual Sustainability Report
6.1.3	Measure the operational costs of Council buildings.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	Energy \$625,640 Water \$66,425 (2006–07)	Reduce Operational Costs	Energy \$1,076,321 Water \$169,061 (2020)	Reduce Operational Costs	Utility Tracker
Community Objectives							
6.2.1	With support of key stakeholders, help the community reduce energy and water consumption in existing buildings.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	437L per house (2007–08) 55 kWh per house (2004)	Aspire to reduce by up to 10 per cent	Water = 415L per household per day (2018–19) = 5 per cent decrease Energy = 26 kWh per house (2012) = 52 per cent reduction	Aspire to reduce by up to 10 per cent from 2020 outcome	South East Water and CSIRO House Energy Use Study 2012
6.2.2	Work with the community to enhance the sense of place through Council's Placemaking Framework.	Community Services	Existing Placescores	Increase Placescores and No. of Placescores	Dandenong average increased by +24 per cent, Noble Park average by +24 per cent and Springvale average by +19 per cent	Increase Placescores from 2020 outcomes	Placemaking Framework
6.2.3	Work with key partners to help increase the walkability of our suburbs.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	Average WalkScore (2011)	Increase Average WalkScore	Average WalkScore of 43.3 (2021)	Average WalkScore of 50.0	WalkScore + Council information
6.2.4	New developments within the city to incorporate best practice Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) standards.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	30 per cent of Applications (2014)	50 per cent of Applications	70 per cent of Applications	All Applicable Planning Applications	Planning Application Data
6.2.5	Engage and empower the community to help them improve the energy and water performance of their buildings.	Community Services	Existing Educational Programs	Increase No. of Participants	1,162 participants in the 2020 Sustainability Festival	Increase No. of Participants	Annual Sustainability Report

*Establish Baseline – Where there is no baseline or limited data a baseline will be established.

**Monitor and Report – Council is reviewing its reporting program to determine how best to report on sustainability food issues.

Council is responsible for many more assets compared to 2007. While overall energy bills have increased in line with this, the energy 'intensity' (consumption per asset) has reduced. The increased spend on utility services also reflects increased cost of living.

EXISTING KEY OPERATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS:

- Climate Emergency Strategy 2020–30
- Buildings and Facilities Asset Management Plan 2015–22
- Walking Strategy 2015–23
- Placemaking Framework 2015
- Housing Strategy 2014–24
- Integrated Water Management Background Report 2014 (Internal)
- Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme

FUTURE KEY STRATEGIC ACTIONS:

- Best practice urban design and development, and activation to create liveable neighbourhoods and workplaces.
- Provide ongoing leadership through sustainable buildings and places that demonstrate high sustainability standards
- Update and implement Council’s Buildings and Facilities Asset Management Plan
- Strengthen and incorporate an Environmentally Sustainable Design Policy in the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme
- Engage with local residents and businesses to increase their awareness of opportunities to reduce their energy and water bills.



City of Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020–30: relevant strategic objectives

Action Plan Ref./Page No.	Objective	Target	Measure
7.1, p.63	Reducing risks from climate change impacts to Council’s assets and infrastructure.	That all Council’s asset management plans address climate change impacts by 2025.	Percentage of Council’s Asset Management Plans that include consideration of climate change (baseline to be established 2020–21).
7.2, p.68	Reducing climate change risks to our community through resilient assets and infrastructure.	A reduction in the vulnerability of our community to the impacts of climate change.	Climate Vulnerability Index Assessment (Baseline to be established 2020–21).

OUR GOAL: A CLEAN AND HEALTHY CITY

		Responsible Council Unit	Baseline (2016)	By 2020	Outcome: 2020	By 2025	Source
Corporate Objectives							
7.1.1	Minimise and manage sources of land pollution from Council's operations and facilities.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish baseline	Monitor and report	Process established through development of Council's Sustainable Buildings Policy, City Improvement Program Climate Change Self-Assessment Tool, and Procurement Policy	Monitor and Report**	Sustainable Buildings Policy, CIP Data, Procurement/ Tendering Data
7.1.2	Minimise and manage sources of water pollution from Council's operations and facilities.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish baseline	Monitor and report			
7.1.3	Minimise sources of air pollution from Council's operations and facilities.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish baseline	Monitor and report			
Community Objectives							
7.2.1	Work with the community to reduce land pollution across the city.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish baseline – land contamination and illegal dumping	Update MERIT and Council's GIS	4,962 reports of illegally dumped rubbish in 2019–20	Aspire for a 10 per cent reduction	MERIT / Land Contamination Register / Waste & Litter Strategy
7.2.2	Work with the community to improve stormwater quality and waterway health across the city.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	Rating of "Poor" (2014)	Monitor and report	Rating of "Very Low" (2018)	Improve current rating	Healthy Waterways
7.2.3	Work with the community to improve air quality across the city.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	Rating of "Fair" (2015)	Monitor and report	<i>Dataset unavailable – source program no longer exists</i>		
7.2.4	New developments within the city to incorporate best practice pollution management.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	30 per cent of Applications (2014)	50 per cent of Applications	70 per cent of Applications	All Applicable Planning Applications	Planning Application Data
7.2.5	Engage and empower the community, both residents and businesses, to increase their awareness and minimise associated pollution.	Building, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish baseline	Monitor and report	Litter Action Taskforce established; Dumped Rubbish Media Campaign funded	Monitor and Report**	Existing Environment Programs

*Establish Baseline – Where there is no baseline or limited data a baseline will be established.

**Monitor and Report – Council is reviewing its reporting program to determine how best to report on sustainability food issues.

Existing key operational strategies and plans:

- Plastic Use Policy 2019
- Waste and Litter Strategy 2015–20
- Annual Litter Action Plan (Internal)
- Annual Waste Education Plan (Internal)
- Current Procurement Policy
- Current Local Laws

Future key strategic actions:

- Implement the Waste and Litter Strategy for Council and the municipality
- Incorporate best practice waste and resource management as part of all relevant Council Strategies and Action Plans.
- Apply best practice waste and resources model to the management and operation of all Council buildings and facilities.
- Continue to provide best practice waste services to the community
- Continue to advocate for the earliest possible closure of the Lyndhurst landfill site.
- Continue to support the activities of the Litter Action Task Force.



OUR GOAL: A CITY CONNECTED BY FOOD

		Responsible Council Unit	Baseline (2016)	By 2020	Outcome: 2020	By 2025	Source
Corporate Objectives							
8.1.1	Develop and implement a sustainable food procurement policy for Council.	Corporate Services	Existing Policy	Update Policy	Policy not yet updated	Update Policy	Procurement Unit
8.1.2	Reduce amount of food waste and packaging sent to landfill.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	Estimated total of 1,261 kg of food waste diverted annually from the Civic Centre and Operations Centre cumulatively (2019)	Aspire for a 10 per cent increase in diversion of food waste	Annual Waste Audit
8.1.3	Create an internal culture that promotes healthy diets and local / sustainable food options.	FLARE Committee	Establish Baseline*	50 per cent of Staff Surveyed Regarding Diet	Healthy Eating Policy established – survey not yet undertaken	Staff Surveyed Regarding Diet	Community Services
Community Objectives							
8.2.1	With the support of key stakeholders, support the community to increase their ability to grow their own fresh fruit and vegetables.	Community Services	Establish Baseline*	Aspire for a 25 per cent increase	Food from Home program established in partnership with Enliven	Monitor and Report**	GIS – Food Nodes (Healthy Food Connect)
8.2.2	Work with stakeholders to increase the percentage of residents that have access to healthy food within the municipality	Community Services	Establish Baseline*	Aspire for a 25 per cent increase	Baseline in 2018: average distance to closest healthy food outlet (supermarket or greengrocer) 1077m	Aspire for an average distance of 900m or less	Australian Urban Observatory
8.2.3	Work with stakeholders to increase the affordability of fresh food within the municipality.	Community Services	Family Annual Average 30 per cent (2013)	Complete local food mapping	Four publicly listed community gardens within Greater Dandenong	Support and coordinate existing community gardens Monitor and Report**	Food From Home / Community Gardens Australia / Local Food Network
8.2.4	Support the expansion and diversification of agricultural activity in the Green wedge (GW) area.	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	32 businesses + 1,037 hectares (2011)	Monitor and Report**		<i>Data unavailable</i>	
8.2.5	New developments within the City to incorporate best practice food production and access requirements.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	30 per cent of Applications (2014)	50 per cent of Applications	70 per cent of Applications	All Applicable Planning Applications	Planning Application Data
8.2.6	Promote healthy diets and local sustainable food options for the broader community.	Community Services	Establish Baseline	Monitor and Report**	<i>Data unavailable – original program no longer exists (Healthy Together program).</i>		

*Establish Baseline – Where there is no baseline or limited data a baseline will be established.

**Monitor and Report – Council is reviewing its reporting program to determine how best to report on sustainability food issues.

Existing key operational strategies and plans:

- community Gardens Policy (2021)
- Make Your Move Physical Activity Strategy (2020–30)
- Green Wedge Management Plan (2017)
- Healthy Food Connect Report (2014)
- Healthy Food Access Report (2007)

Future key strategic actions:

- Implement key objectives and actions in the Green Wedge Management Plan
- Incorporate best practice sustainable food outcomes into relevant Council Strategies and Action Plans
- Investigate the options to incorporate measures to address local and sustainable food through the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme
- Engage and strengthen the community's awareness on benefits of healthy diets, their ability to grow their own fresh fruit and vegetables and help them reduce the amount of food waste generated.



City of Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020–30: relevant strategic objectives

Action Plan Ref./Page No.	Objective	Outcome/Indicator
5.2.2A, p.50	Continue to promote the uptake of urban food production through the demonstration of edible food gardens in Council's public spaces and reserves.	Edible food garden displays prepared.
5.2.2B, p.50	Council to provide ongoing support for community gardens within Council reserves and local schools.	2020–21 establishment of a community garden at Chandler Road Reserve Ongoing Council support and advocacy
5.2.2C, p.50	Continue to implement Council's environmental education programs focused on increasing community awareness and involvement in urban food production.	Vegetable gardens displays and tours at Council's reserves and events
5.2.2D, p.50	Prepare a strategic local policy that guides Council's support for local food growing activities (such as community gardens and edible food gardens) that aims to help increase the community's capacity to make healthy and sustainable food choices.	Local Community Gardens Policy completed in 2020–21
5.2.2E, p.51	Continue to work collaboratively with partners to deliver urban food production projects focused on increasing community awareness and participation.	Programs and activities undertaken with partners Estimated area (acres) of urban food production Initial project work completed at Chandler Road Community garden.
5.2.2F, p.51	Implementation of relevant actions from the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge Management Plan (Revised 2017) in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively encouraging the establishment of niche and specialised agricultural activities in the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge, particularly those supporting food security. • Providing advice and assistance to landowners to maintain and improve land management practices including options for food production. 	Implementation of the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge Management Plan (Revised 2017)



LOCAL COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

OUR GOAL: A LIVEABLE CITY

	Responsible Council Unit	Baseline (2016)	By 2020	Outcome: 2020	By 2025	Source	
Corporate Objectives							
9.1.1	Establish internal programs that help to create a culture of sustainability within Council.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	257 responses to staff climate change values survey with 79 per cent of respondents agreeing that there are actions they could take as an employee to lessen Council's contribution to climate change	Aim to increase number of participants and percentage of respondents agreeing to the prompt	Staff Climate Change Values Survey
9.1.2	Investigate how best to incorporate key Corporate Social Responsibility principles into Council's Annual Sustainability Report.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	<i>Data unavailable</i>		Relevant Business Units
Community Objectives							
9.2.1	Use the Social Model of Health as a framework to help create an environment that enhances the health and wellbeing of residents and workers.	Community Services	Health and Wellbeing Profile	Monitor and Report**	<i>Data unavailable – the source program no longer exists.</i>		
9.2.2	Work with partners and key stakeholders to help create an environment that helps to promote community participation, inclusion and equity, as well as recognising, responding and celebrating the arts, culture and diversity of Greater Dandenong.	Community Services	Cultural Diversity Profile of Greater Dandenong	Monitor and Report**	Disability Action Plan completed, participation in YouMeUs Achieving Inclusion platform, numerous community engagement sessions combining Arts and Sustainability	Monitor and Report**	CGD Social Statistics
9.2.3	Work with partners and key stakeholders to help create an environment that will improve community perceptions of safety and reduce the risk of crime and anti-social behaviour.	Community Services	Community Wellbeing Indicators	Monitor and Report**	18,940 total recorded criminal offences in 2019–20	Reduction in recorded criminal offences	Community Safety Plan
9.2.4	Work with partners and key stakeholders to help protect vulnerable residents from extreme weather events through the implementation of key strategies and programs.	Community Services	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	Many initiatives have been delivered, including: Enliven hotspots program, vulnerable persons register and embedding climate change into Council's risk and emergency management procedures	Monitor and Report**	Heatwave Plan and Risk Framework
9.2.5	Work with partners and key stakeholders to help manage the housing affordability and the associated cost of living.	Community Services	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	39.1 per cent of households in the bottom 40 per cent of incomes spending more than 30 per cent of income on house costs	Reduce to 30 per cent of households in the bottom 40 per cent of incomes	Housing Strategy + CGD Social Statistics
9.2.6	Work with partners and key stakeholders to help increase the awareness of the general community on the benefits of sustainable living.	City Planning, Design and Amenity	Existing Educational Programs	Monitor and Report**	Delivered through the educational programs of various business units, including the Parks, Waste, Libraries, Arts and Sustainability teams	Continued delivery of educational programs to further increase awareness	Relevant Business Units

*Establish Baseline – Where there is no baseline or limited data a baseline will be established.

**Monitor and Report – Council is reviewing its reporting program to determine how best to report on relevant community issues.

Existing key operational strategies and plans:

- community Wellbeing Plan 2017–21
- Imagine 2030 Community Plan (2017)
- Arts and Cultural Heritage Strategy (2016)
- Community Development Framework (2015)
- Community Hubs Framework (2015)
- Community Engagement Planning Framework (2013)
- Asylum Seeker and Refugee Communities Action Plan

Future key strategic actions:

- Work to integrate sustainability initiatives into the updated version of the Community Wellbeing Plan
- Engage and strengthen the community's awareness on the benefits of key health and wellbeing initiatives linked to the Sustainability Strategy
- Engage and strengthen the community's awareness on the benefits of sustainability through activities like the Sustainability Festival and Awards
- Implement measures to improve the environmental sustainability of Council's festivals and events
- Identify further opportunities and forums to increase focus on sustainability across the region, such as through collaboration with other councils, community organisations and schools



City of Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020–30: relevant strategic objectives

Action Plan Ref./Page No.	Objective	Target	Measure	Baseline
2.1, p.14	Council's services supporting the community to remain resilient under a range of climate scenarios.	Assessment of the vulnerability to climate change of key health and emergency management services provided by Council to its community.	Vulnerability Assessments undertaken	Baseline to be established through vulnerability assessments
2.2, p.18	An engaged and mobilised community responding to the climate emergency.	A reduction in the vulnerability of our community to the impacts of climate change.	Climate Vulnerability Index Assessment	Baseline to be established through vulnerability assessments



OUR GOAL: A CITY OF OPPORTUNITY

	Responsible Council Unit	Baseline (2016)	By 2020	Outcome: 2020	By 2025	Source	
Corporate Objectives							
10.1.1	Support staff with their professional development, especially around key sustainability issues	City Planning, Design and Amenities	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	Office "Green Team" established	Monitor and Report**	Corporate Services
10.1.2	Investigate how best to incorporate Fair Trade Principles into Council's procurement policy and processes	Corporate Services	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	Not actioned	Action completed	Responsible Business Units
Community Objectives							
10.2.1	Work in partnership to support and encourage the establishment, relocation or expansion of suitable green businesses within Greater Dandenong	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	<i>Data unavailable. Suggest this is not a reportable objective.</i>		
10.2.2	Work in partnership to support all types of businesses through Greater Dandenong to save money by reducing their energy and water consumption	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	Over 200 businesses directly engaged	Directly engage with a further 200 businesses	South East Business Network / Economic Development Unit / ASPIRE
10.2.3	Work in partnership to encourage manufacturing sector to address resource efficiency and 'people, profit, planet' in both strategic planning and operational efficiency	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	<i>Data unavailable. Suggest this is not a reportable objective.</i>		
10.2.4	Work in partnership with education institutions, training providers, social enterprises and other businesses to help provide residents with skills for an innovative and sustainable future	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	Stakeholders engaged through Sustainability Awards, Sustainability Festivals, student placements and volunteering	Continue to engage stakeholders to improve skills for an innovative and sustainable future	Greater Dandenong Business + Community Services
10.2.5	Engage and empower the business community to help them benefit from adopting sustainable business practices	Business, Engineering and Major Projects	Establish Baseline*	Monitor and Report**	Over 200 businesses directly engaged	Directly engage with a further 200 businesses	Greater Dandenong Business + Community Services

*Establish Baseline – Where there is no baseline or limited data a baseline will be established.

**Monitor and Report – Council is reviewing its reporting program to determine how best to report on relevant community issues.

Existing key operational strategies and plans:

- IT and Digital Strategy 2020–25
- Activities Centres Placemaking Framework 2015
- Local Economic and Employment Development Policy 2011
- Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme

Future key strategic actions:

- Incorporate key Economic Development and Business priorities into the relevant Council’s Strategies and Action Plans
- Incorporate key Economic Development and Business priorities into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme (where appropriate)
- Engage and strengthen the community’s awareness on benefits of key economic initiatives linked to the Sustainability Strategy
- Investigate opportunities to increase the sustainability of local businesses through programs that increase energy efficiency and increase uptake of renewable energy sources, such as the use of Environmental Upgrade Agreements.



City of Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020–30: relevant strategic objectives

Action Plan Ref./Page No.	Objective	Target	Measure
3.1, p.23	Council’s services supporting the local economy to remain resilient under a range of climate scenarios	Achieve a net zero carbon emission local economy by 2040.	Reduction of 2,442,000 tCO2e by 2025.
		Increase Council’s sustainable procurement through embedded consideration of climate change in Council’s Capital Improvement Project bid submissions and tender weightings. (Baseline to be developed.)	Metric to be developed by 2022
3.2, p.26	Engaged local business and industry taking action to increase resilience and transition to a net zero carbon economy.	Maintain the business rate base at a higher proportion than that from residential properties (54.5 per cent 2020–21)	CGD Annual Budget
		Increase the percentage of Greater Dandenong residents employed locally (20 per cent in 2020)	ABS Census data
		Maintain Greater Dandenong’s role as an employment hub in the region (26.9 per cent of people working in Melbourne’s South)	ABS Census data

Terms

- **Biodiversity** – the term given to the variety of life on Earth. It is the variety within and between all species of plants, animals and micro-organisms and the ecosystems within which they live and interact.
- **Carbon Emissions** – man-made sources of carbon dioxide emissions are a result of the burning of fossil fuels and the manufacture of cement.
- **Establish Baseline** – Where there is no baseline or limited data a baseline will be established.
- **Ecological Value** – generally considered the level of benefits that the air, water, minerals, biota, and all other factors that make up natural ecosystems provide to support native life forms. Ecological values benefit all biodiversity, including humans.
- **Ecological Footprint** – the measure of the impact a person or community has on the environment, expressed as the total amount of land required to provide the natural resources consumed, absorb the wastes emitted and provide space for the infrastructure required.
- **Empower** – To enable or give someone the power to do something that makes them stronger and more confident to control their life.
- **Empowerment** – the sharing of information, resources, opportunity and motivation with people so that they can show initiative and make decisions to solve problems and improve performance.
- **Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD)** – The use of design principles and approaches that lessen the ecological impact of buildings, to save resources, reduce waste and create a healthier environment for the occupants.
- **Fair Trade** – a social movement with the goal of achieving better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world through their trade of goods to developed countries. It enables farmers and workers in the developing countries to improve their position and have more control over their lives.
- **Monitor and Report** – Council is reviewing its reporting program to determine how best to report on relevant sustainability issues.
- **Natural Resources** – naturally occurring materials or substances which we can use and modify in ways that are beneficial to us.
- **Net Zero Carbon Emissions** – causing or resulting in no net release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.
- **Net Zero Carbon Building** – buildings defined as having no net annual emissions from direct fuel combustion
- **Placescore** – an independently assessed metric of how various aspects of a place contribute to community wellbeing.
- **Resilience** – the ability to readily recover from stresses or difficulties.
- **Standard of Living** – A level of wealth and material comfort in daily life as measured by the goods, services, and luxuries available to an individual, group, or nation. Standard of living is closely related to quality of life.
- **South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA)** – a collaboration of nine Councils in Victoria’s south-east making a regional response to climate change. The nine Councils involved are: Bass Coast; Bayside; Cardinia; Casey; Greater Dandenong; Kingston; Port Phillip; and Mornington Peninsula.
- **Sustainable** – the ability to continue a defined behaviour indefinitely, by avoiding harmful effects on the natural environment.
- **Sustainable Design Assessment in the Planning Process (SDAPP)** – a framework developed by an association of Victorian councils with a focus on improving the sustainability of buildings. This is achieved by applying Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) principles to the built environment through the statutory planning system.
- **Walkability** – a measure of how friendly an area is in regard to walking for pedestrians. This is based on key factors such as the quality of footpaths, traffic conditions, connectivity of street networks, population density levels and the presence of jobs and shops. Improved Walkability levels provide health, environmental, and economic benefits and therefore is an important concept in sustainable urban design.
- **Walkscore** – an online tool that provides a measure of the walkability of a property, suburb or city. The methodology is based on the number of a typical consumer destinations within walking distance of a dwelling, and other factors such as the population density and road networks. Scores range from 0 (car dependant) to 100 (most walkable).
- **Vision** – the ability to think about or plan the future with imagination or wisdom.

