

Climate+ Renewables Strategy

Responding to the Climate
Emergency – Climate
Change Mitigation

December 2019

INNER WEST

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**In May 2019 Council
reinforced its commitment
and the need for urgent
action by declaring a
climate emergency.**

Executive Summary

The Inner West Council has declared a climate emergency.

The release of Greenhouse Gases (GHG) into the atmosphere by human activities, mostly burning fossil fuels for energy, is heating the planet.

The window of opportunity to de-carbonise before the most serious consequences of climate change are realised is rapidly closing.

By 2030 global emissions need to be cut by 45% on 2010 levels to limit global heating exceeding 1.5°C.

The climate emergency requires radically adjusted deadlines and far reaching changes. There is much to do for the Inner West to become a carbon neutral council powered by 100% renewable energy by 2025.

While many factors contributing to community emissions occur outside of Council's control the Climate and Renewables Strategy outlines a pathway targeting a 75% reduction in community emissions by 2036 and zero emissions before 2050.

Recognising the urgency, Inner West Council has committed to accelerating action, resourcing solutions and placing climate at the centre of decisions.

This practical and actionable *Climate + Renewables Strategy* outlines the key areas of focus to mitigate against climate change. The tools we will use include:

- Embedding climate action in Council systems and processes including CEO and senior staff performance review.
- Establishing the Inner West Office of Renewable Energy Innovation
- Rapidly increasing solar and renewable energy generation
- Switching to a renewable powered fleet
- Fostering zero emissions mobility solutions
- Supporting low carbon development
- Eliminating organic waste to landfill
- Helping our community address unsustainable consumption e.g. through facilitating and encouraging the share economy
- Protecting and enhancing the urban tree canopy and promoting green infrastructure

Our Inner West 2036

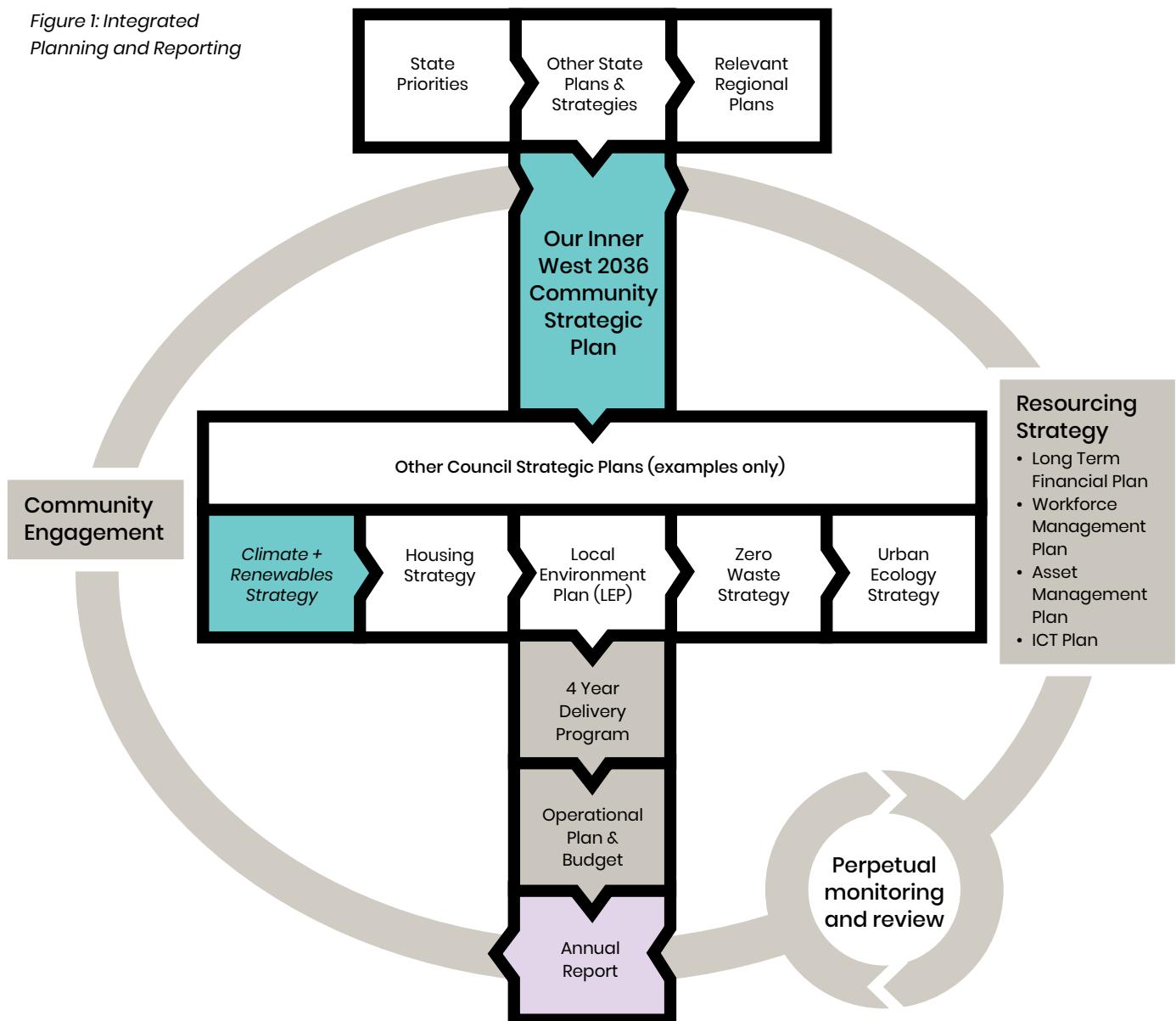
The Inner West Community Strategic Plan (CSP), *Our Inner West 2036*, identifies the community's vision for the future, long-term goals, strategies to get there and how to measure progress towards that vision. For Council, the CSP is the leading component of an Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework. The framework is mandated for all NSW councils by the NSW Government and requires councils to demonstrate how they will deliver aspects of the CSP through a detailed Four-Year Delivery Program and annual Operational Plan. Figure 1 shows the relationship of the *Climate + Renewables Strategy* to the planning framework.

In response to the climate emergency Our Inner West 2036 aims to:

- Achieve an Ecologically Sustainable Inner West, which is a zero emissions community that generates and owns clean energy.
- Demonstrate progressive Local Leadership where government makes responsible decisions to manage finite resources in the best interest of current and future communities.

Inner West is bound by a strong sense of social and environmental justice. A guiding principle is to work together in a way that is creative, caring and just so that those in our community who are disproportionately impacted by the climate emergency benefit from Climate and Renewables action.

Figure 1: Integrated Planning and Reporting



Our approach

Developing
this strategy
involved:

1



**Understanding
the context**

International, national,
state and local.

2

Using the right tools

Using best practice methods to quantify emissions.

3

Conducting thorough research

Analysing greenhouse gas emissions from the Inner West community and from Council operations to identify opportunities for change.

4

Engaging with others

Drawing on expertise from Council, the community and across Sydney, NSW and Australia to identify the most effective actions for Council to lead - included background reports, site energy audits, discussions with state government, local experts and academics.

Australia's response to the Paris Agreement was to set a goal for greenhouse gas emissions of 5% below 2000 levels by 2020 and 26–28% below 2005 levels by 2030.

NSW has a target of Net Zero Emissions by 2050.

¹*The good, the bad and the ugly: Limiting temperature rise to 1.5°C.*
Authors: Professor Will Steffen, Dr Martin Rice, Professor Lesley Hughes and Dr Annika Dean.

Figure 2: Global emission trajectories: objectives, pledges and current policies under the Paris Agreement (NSW Climate Change Policy Framework).

1. Understanding the Climate Emergency

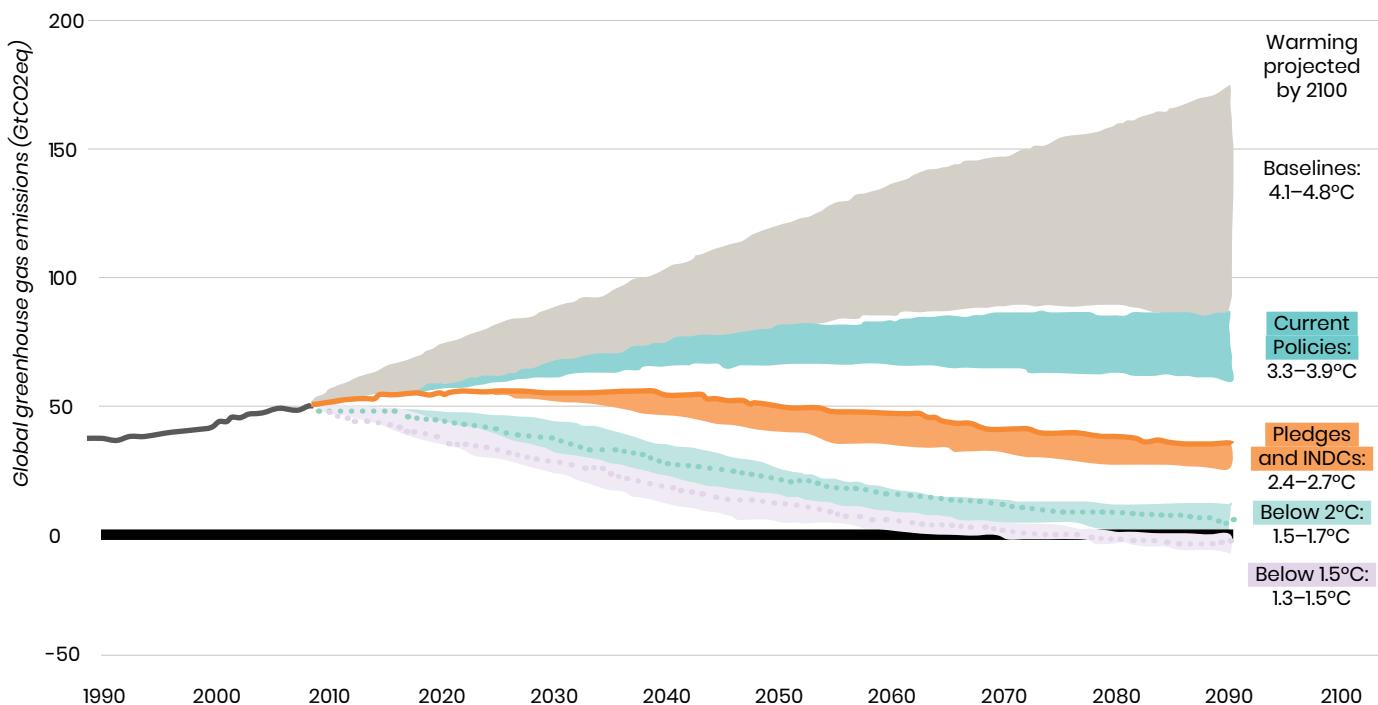
To avoid the worst consequences of climate change, the Paris Agreement seeks to limit the increase in global temperatures to well below 2 degrees, pursue efforts to limit the rise to 1.5 degrees and to achieve net-zero emissions, globally, by the second half of the century.

To stay below 1.5°C, carbon-dioxide levels in the atmosphere must not exceed a certain amount – referred to as the global carbon budget.

If annual global greenhouse gas emissions remain at current levels, the global carbon budget will be used up within less than a decade and human-driven warming will exceed 1.5°C sometime between 2030 and 2052.¹

The window of opportunity is fast closing – global emissions need to be cut by 45% on 2010 levels by 2030 to prevent exceeding 1.5°C and the worst impacts of climate change.

Figure 2 below, taken from the NSW Climate Policy Framework, shows that significantly more ambitious commitments, including from Australia, are needed globally to achieve the Paris Agreement's temperature and emissions objectives, with current policies putting us on a dangerous pathway to at least 4°C warming globally by the end of this century.



2. Using the right tools

Corporate Emissions

The boundary used for the Inner West Council carbon footprint is shown in Figure 3. All emissions for which Council is directly responsible are included; transport fuels, natural gas consumption, refrigerant losses and electricity consumption for facilities and street lights.

Supply chain emissions like water, paper and IT equipment, food and catering expenses, the generation of waste from Council operations, third-party travel like taxis, as well as expenses for postage and couriers also form part of

the carbon footprint. Excluded emissions are those that are not material or where data is currently difficult to obtain. Inner West Council will work on improving the capture of supply chain emissions data (Scope 3 emissions) to give greater insight into the carbon impact of Council.

Inner West Council recognises that these could make a material impact on its footprint and increase the number of offsets required. Council will regularly review projected carbon offset pricing to inform the long-term strategy and budget.

Community Emissions

The Inner West community carbon inventory follows the *Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC)*.

The GPC is used by local government and cities around the world for accounting and reporting city-wide greenhouse gas emissions. It seeks to ensure consistent and transparent measurement and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions between cities, following internationally recognised greenhouse gas accounting and reporting principles.

● Scope 1 ● Scope 2 ● Scope 3 ● Scope 3 excluded

NCOS – Operational Boundary

Included emission sources

Refrigerants	Petrol	Ethanol	Employees commuting	Printing
Diesel	Natural gas	LPG	Stationery	Advertising
Biodiesel	Electricity	Street lighting	Investments	Capital inv. equipment
Upstream natural gas	Upstream petrol	Upstream diesel	Contractors	Cleaning services
Upstream LPG	Upstream electricity	Water	Telecommunications	
Paper	Food & catering	Waste & green waste		
IT equipment	Taxis	Business travel		
Postage & couriers				

Excluded emission sources

Figure 3: Inner West Council Carbon Emissions Inventory Boundary (included and excluded emissions)

3. Conducting thorough research

This Strategy has been informed by studies and research from experienced and well-respected groups and individuals:

Pathway to a Carbon Neutral Council – assessment of the Inner West Council's carbon footprint based on; site inspections, a detailed technical report and recommended actions by 100% Renewables. The Pathway was peer reviewed by Mark Diesendorf, University of NSW.

Inner West Pathway to Zero Emissions (Kinesis) – quantifies and describes the Inner West community carbon footprint, models future scenarios, considers Council's areas of influence, and makes recommendations for key actions that support community emissions reduction.

Measuring Consumption Emissions – Inner West Residents (Sydney University) – quantifies the impact of household consumption on carbon emissions and highlights the importance of taking a holistic approach to carbon reduction by Inner West Council beyond focusing on energy, transport and waste.

Opportunities for Community Energy in Inner West Council (Community Power Agency) – recommendations on how Council can foster community energy, specifically focussing on Inner West as an inner urban NSW council.

Background reports are available for viewing on Council's website.

4. Seeking opportunities

In addition to the experts engaged in the research, Council has been speaking with a range of experts and community members to learn about opportunities including:

- 350.org
- Australian Youth Climate Coalition
- Business Renewables Centre - Australia
- Climate Change Balmain Rozelle
- Climate Council Cities Power Partnership
- CORENA
- Curtin University
- Department of Planning and Environment, NSW Government
- Greater Sydney Commission
- Green Building Council of Australia
- Inner West Community Energy Group
- Inner West Council Environmental Advisory Group (formerly Environment Strategic Reference Group)
- Inner West Council staff from Strategic Planning, Resource Recovery, Urban Ecology, Community and Culture, Urban Sustainability
- Inner West Sustainable Schools Network
- Institute of Sustainable Futures, University of Technology, Sydney
- Marrickville Youth Resource Centre
- Moreland City Council
- Moreland Energy Foundation/ Positive Charge
- Office of Environment and Heritage, NSW Government
- Open Cities
- Our Energy Future Councils
- Pingala Community Energy
- RMIT (David Meiklejohn)
- ShineHub
- Solar my School
- Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils
- SunTenants
- The Australian Photovoltaic Institute
- Total Environment Centre
- University of New South Wales & Low Carbon Living CRC
- Waverley, Woollahra and Randwick Councils; Solar my School



Inner West Community Energy Volunteers at the 2018 Footprints EcoFestival

The current state of emissions in the Inner West

Inner West Council emissions

Council's activities generate approximately 22 kilotonnes (kt) of CO₂-e each year. The vast majority relates to the consumption of fuel, gas and electricity, which together accounts for over 93% of emissions. This is equivalent to the electricity use of around 5,000 Inner West households each year, or 2% of Inner West community's emissions.

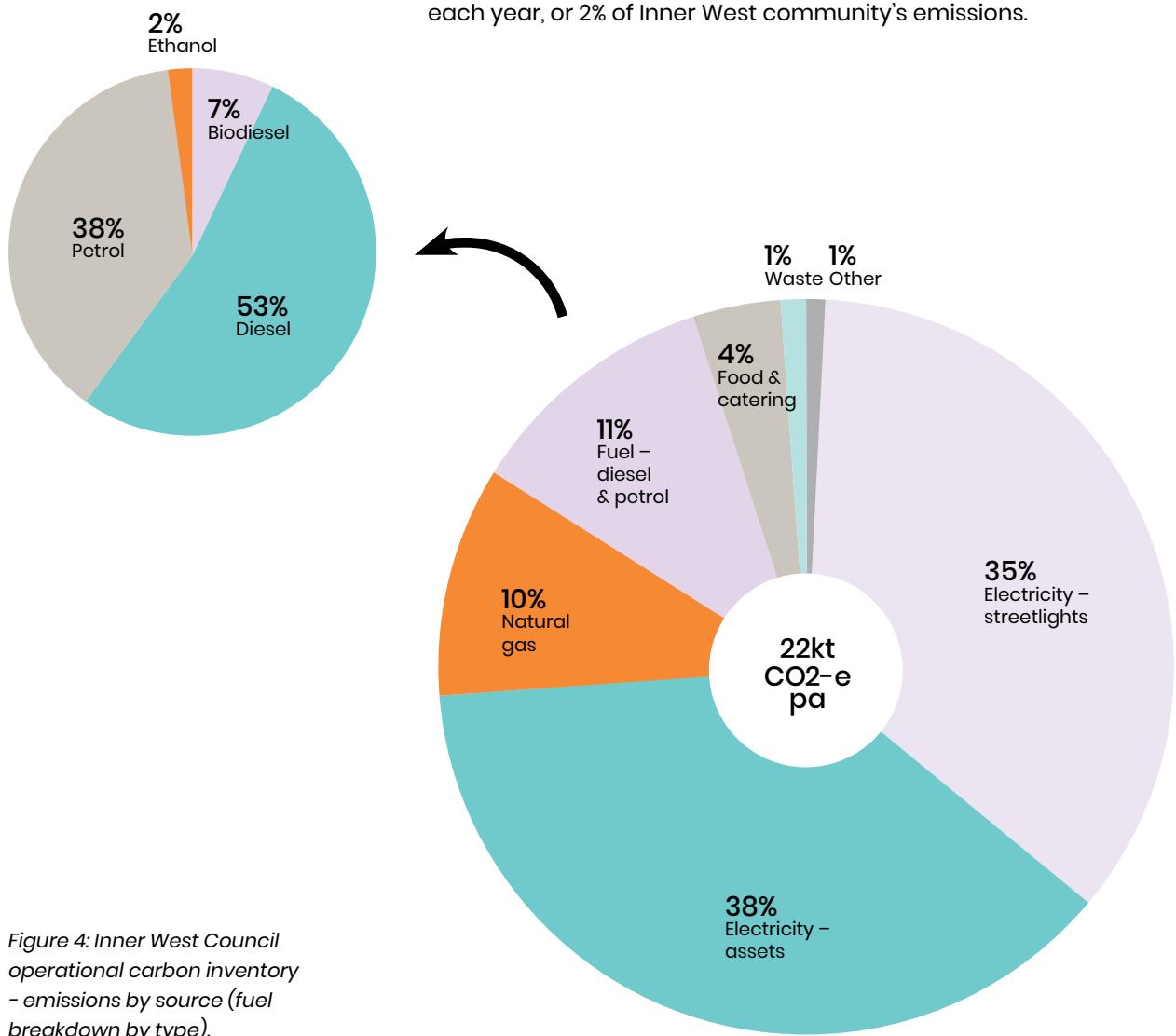


Figure 4: Inner West Council operational carbon inventory – emissions by source (fuel breakdown by type).



Streetlights were responsible for 35% of Inner West Council's operational carbon emissions in 2017–18

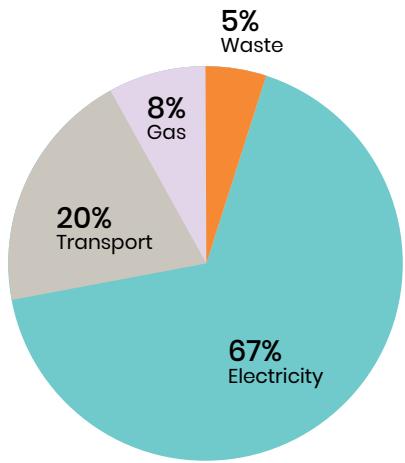


Figure 5: Emissions in the Inner West by resource type.

Inner West Community emissions

In the baseline year 2016-17, greenhouse gas emissions from the Inner West community's use of electricity, gas, waste and transport were calculated to be 1134 kilotonnes (kt) CO₂-e (Figure 5 and 6). Electricity and transportation account for more than 85% of emissions.

Units: '000 (Thousands) tonnes CO₂-e per year

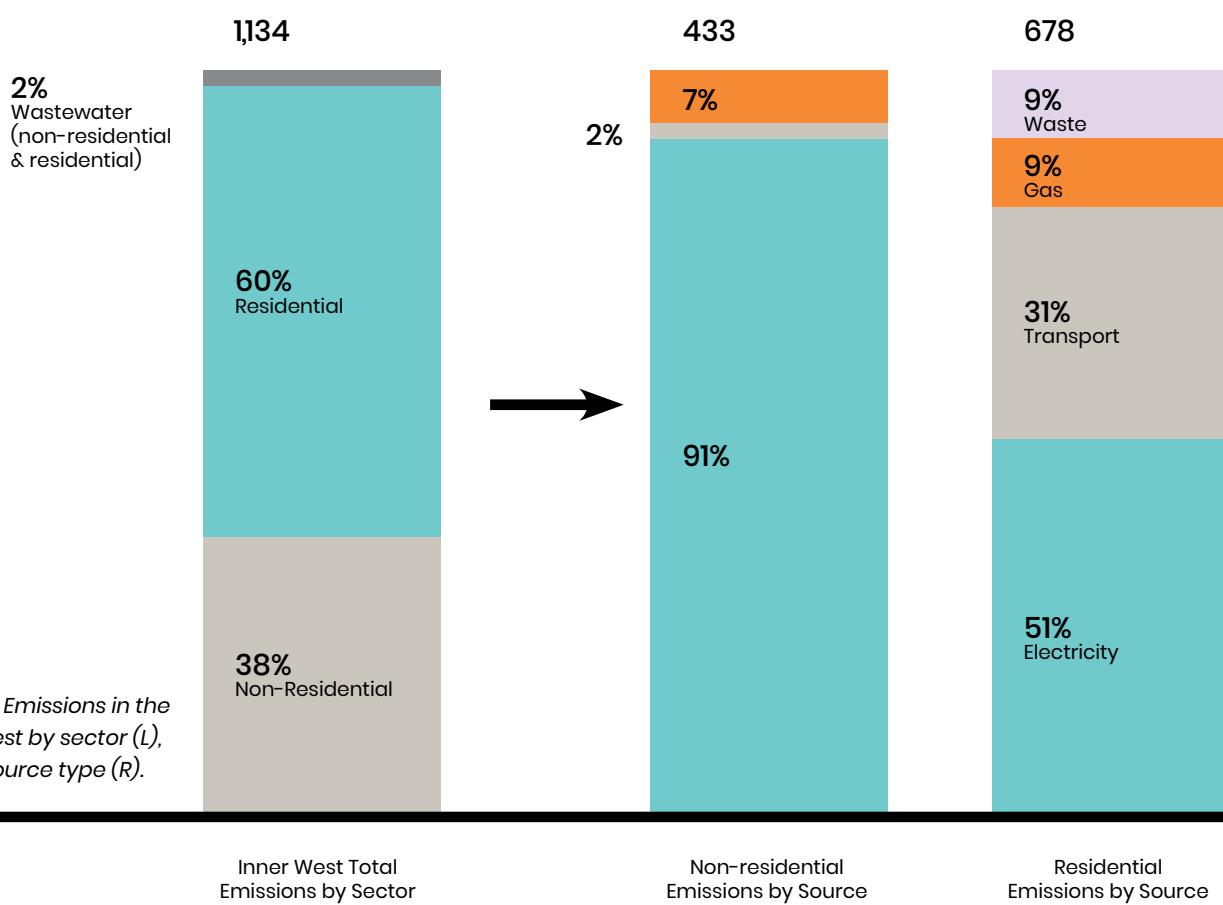


Figure 6: Emissions in the Inner West by sector (L), and resource type (R).

Unsustainable consumption – a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions

Inner West Council recognises that the community not only influences local emissions, it influences global greenhouse gas emissions through the supply chains of goods and services they purchase. (Figure 7)

Developed cities such as Sydney, Paris, London and New York no longer have large industrial sectors, so can appear to be lowering their emissions as their manufacturing sector emissions are produced outside the city, especially overseas in developing countries. However, if the emissions of goods and services are included in emissions calculations, those cities' emissions are far higher (around 60%), and among the highest in the world on a per person basis². Meanwhile, “producer” cities such as in India, Pakistan, or Bangladesh are credited with generating lots of carbon emissions in the manufacture of these products.

Sydney University assessed carbon emissions resulting from Inner West residential household consumption.

It found consumption emissions are 76% of an Inner West household's carbon emissions.³

Figure 7: Residential consumption-based carbon emissions in the Inner West.



² C40, UNSW, University of Leeds (2018) “Consumption-based GHG Emissions of C40 Cities”.

³ Household Consumption Emissions in the Inner West Local Government Area (2018) University of Sydney.



Reducing consumption: Collaborative consumption and the share economy

Adopting collaborative consumption and embracing the share economy is one way the community is beginning to address unsustainable consumption. Its popularity is growing due to a number of factors including:

- Increasing cost of living
- Environmental concerns about climate change and waste
- Desire to connect with people locally
- New and established online communities and market places

A great example is the success of clothes swaps in the Inner West. The environmental impacts of clothes buying start from the production of raw materials, and continue throughout the manufacture, transport and sale of the clothes. The increasing popularity of “fast fashion” and “decluttering” is also contributing to increasing volumes of clothes being dumped with charities or ending up in landfill. Clothing swaps are immensely popular in the Inner West as a way to socialise, save money and help the environment. Participants bring along an item of clothing that they no longer need and swap it for one they want.

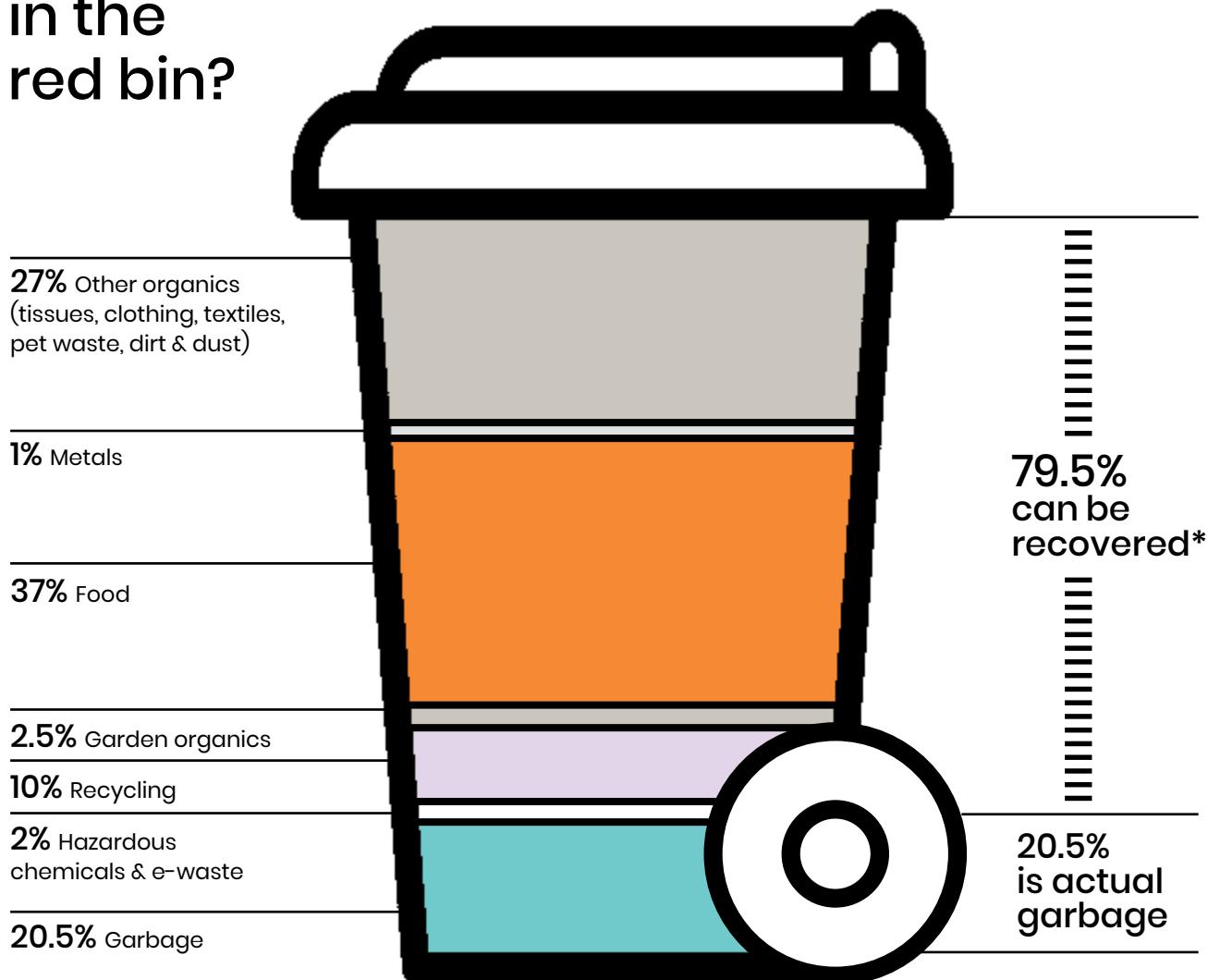


Figure 8 shows that in the Inner West, 37% of the average red bin is food waste, and that many items that make their way into the red-lidded bin could be recovered or recycled by current services or practices such as composting.

Waste in the Inner West

Emissions from waste collected by Inner West Council make up 5% of emissions from the Inner West community and 9% of emissions from the residential sector. Emissions largely come from materials being sent to landfill where, in anaerobic conditions, they create the potent greenhouse gas, methane. Emissions also come from the collection and transportation of waste and recycling materials.

What's in the red bin?



* There is potential to recover this right now with changes to behaviour and the way we manage materials.

A photograph of a person's arm and hand reaching up from the left side of the frame. The hand is gripping the top of a large, dark grey/black plastic trash bag. The bag is crumpled and appears quite full. The background is a solid teal color.

The average person
in the Inner West
generates 344kg
of waste each year

Community emissions reduction pathways

As part of the research into community emissions, opportunities for reduction were calculated in order to understand the degree to which certain interventions could achieve a zero emissions future. Two pathways were modelled for reducing emissions, each capturing a different level of change in the emissions intensity of the electricity grid.

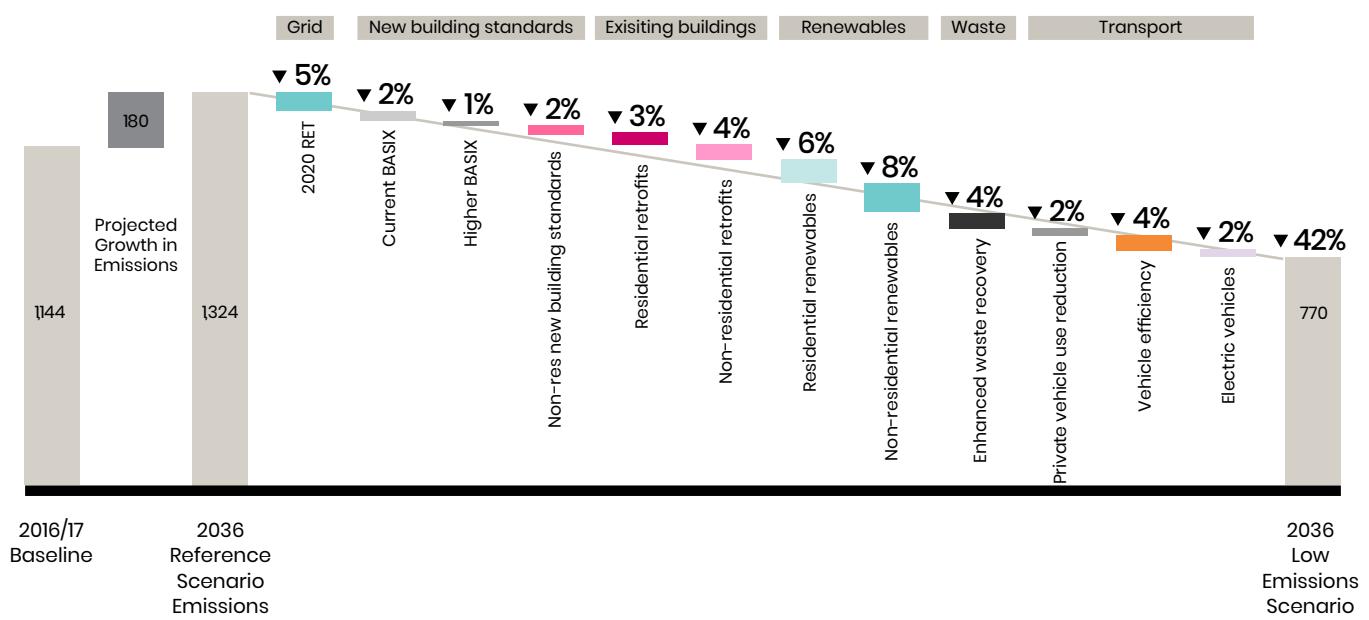
The two pathways will act as a guide to understanding the relative importance of interventions and actions. Many factors, beyond the control of Inner West Council, will affect actual carbon reduction between now and 2036; including state and federal policies and the extent of change in the community.

Pathway #1 – 2020 Renewable Energy Target achieved

The first pathway reflects the carbon intensity of the electricity grid when the 2020 Renewable Energy Target is achieved. The first column is total sector-based community emissions in 2016/17. The 2036 reference scenario is the projected growth in emissions under current policy settings or business as usual. Under this pathway (Figure 9), the best near-term opportunities are in solar, waste and resource recovery, transport and meeting the renewable energy target in 2020. This pathway achieves a 42% reduction on 2036 business as usual emissions and a 31% reduction on the 2016–17 year baseline.

Figure 9: Pathway #1 to zero emissions community – when Renewable Energy Target is achieved.

Units: '000 (Thousands) tonnes CO₂-e per year



Pathway #2 – A Greener Grid

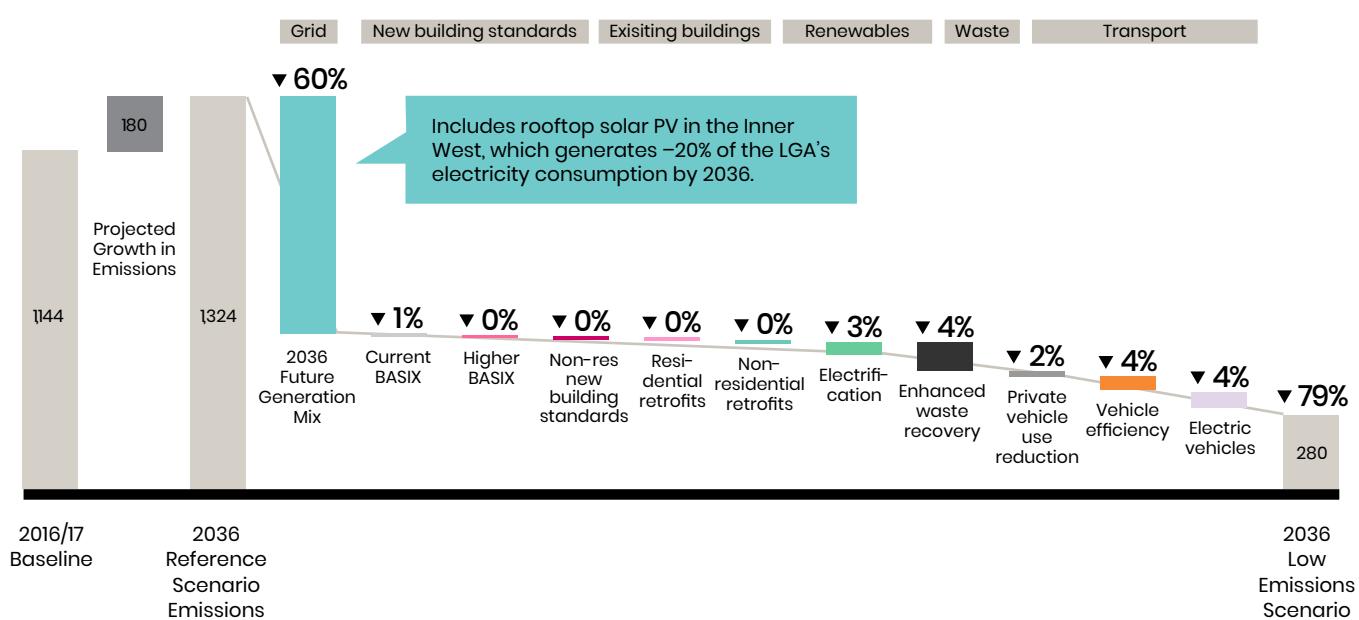
The second greener grid pathway assumes an electricity grid powered by more renewables, informed by the Australian Energy Market Operator's (AEMO) predicted energy generation mix that reflects coal power stations being decommissioned and replaced with large-scale renewable energy⁴.

It demonstrates (Figure 10) that as the grid becomes greener, waste management, transport-related reduction opportunities and electrification begin to have an even greater impact. This pathway nearly achieves an 80% reduction in emissions on 2036 business as usual, and 75% relative to the 2016/17 baseline.

⁴AEMO (2018) Integrated Systems Plan.

Figure 10: Pathway #2 to zero emissions community – a greener grid.

Units: '000 (Thousands) tonnes CO2-e per year



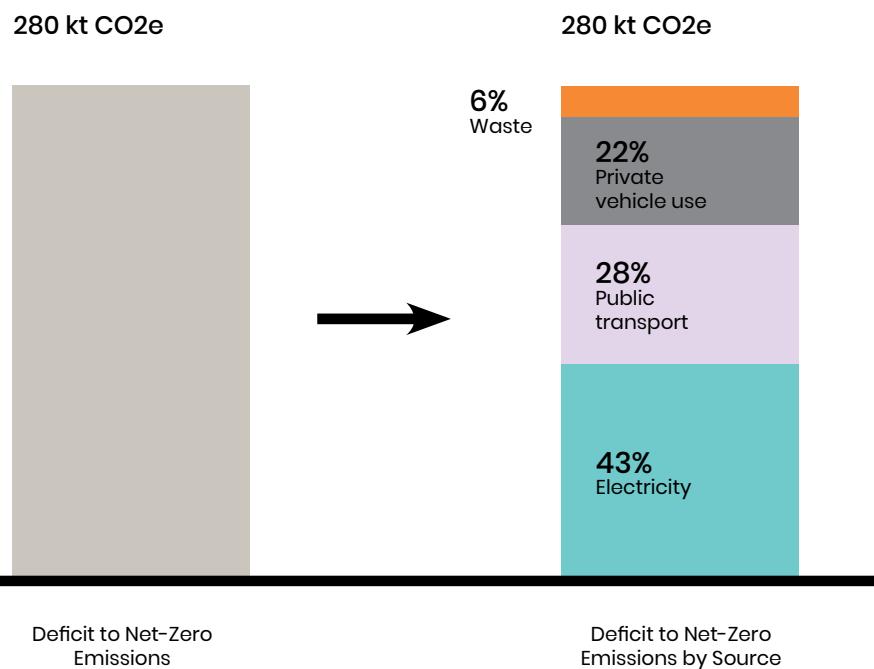
Zero emissions by 2036

Under the best pathway – the greener grid – additional emissions reductions of 280 thousand tonnes of CO₂-e would still need to be made to achieve zero emissions in 2036.

Future technologies and an even greener grid driven by federal energy emissions policies and targets are required. The NSW Government could assist this effort through fostering renewable energy, developing a low-emissions public transport system and encouraging a mode shift from private vehicle use to lower-emission alternatives.

Inner West Council may explore strategies for carbon draw down or offsetting in later reviews of the *Climate + Renewables Strategy* closer to 2036, based on any deficit to zero emissions and the options available at that time. This Strategy has not costed such options. It is also noted that global Paris Agreement commitments are net-zero emissions by 2050. Given the above analysis, this Strategy is targeting a 75% reduction in community emissions on 2017 levels by 2036 and net zero emissions by 2050 or earlier.

Figure 11 shows the composition of the deficit.





*Installing solar at
Leichhardt Town Hall*



Thousands of people have already gone solar in the Inner West. The next challenge is to enable a fast and fair transition by helping people "locked out" of renewables

Current renewable energy uptake in the Inner West

The installed solar PV capacity in the Inner West has grown significantly over the last ten years from 85kW in 2007/08 to around 13,100 kW in 2017/18. (Figure 12)

Solar PV uptake in the Inner West is lower (4% of dwellings) than in the outer parts of Sydney (18%). A lower rate of uptake is common in inner city areas across Australia.

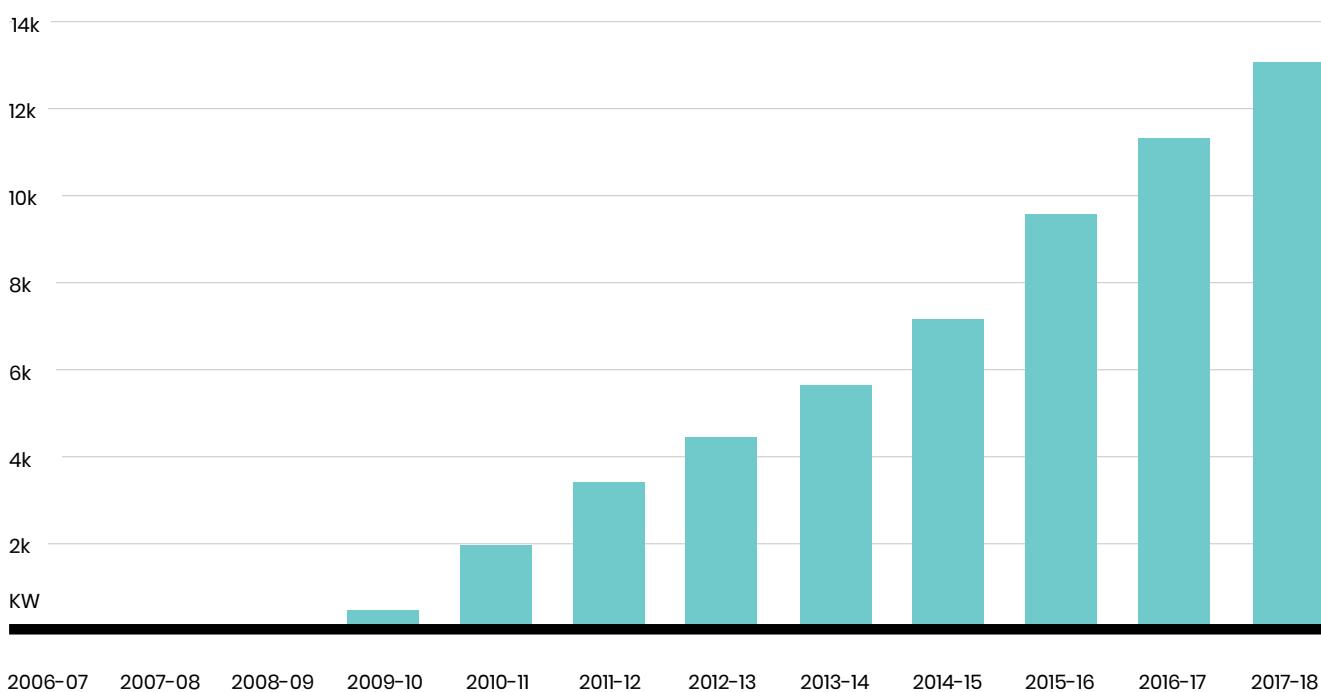
Many people haven't installed solar because:

- They rent their property (40%).
- They live in an apartment (44% of dwellings).
- The upfront cost is too high.
- They have minimal energy consumption during daylight hours.
- They need trusted independent advice to make a decision.

This strategy outlines the actions council will take to make it easier for people to go renewable.

Figure 12: Installed solar PV capacity - FY07 to FY18.⁵

⁵*Data from Australian Photovoltaic Institute - Total installed PV capacity.*



Key Focus Area – Inner West Community Carbon Emissions

- Targets by 2036:
- Community emissions are 75% less than in 2017
 - 100% of schools have installed solar
 - Inner West community solar PV capacity is 20 times greater than in 2017



Trends:

- Community emissions are decreasing
- Installed solar capacity in the Inner West is increasing
- Waste to landfill is decreasing

Key Area 1: Assist people to go renewable

Objectives

1. Large solar installations on high impact sites.
2. Collective impact – support solar installations on smaller residential and commercial buildings.
3. Support residents and businesses locked out to access renewable energy.

Major action areas

- Establish an Office of Renewable Energy Innovation to:
- Implement Solar My School
 - Develop an Inner West Solar Garden
 - Link community energy groups with potential host sites
 - Seek expressions of interest and engage community/private sector organisations to pilot innovative business and policy models that rapidly increase renewable energy uptake
 - Promote the installation of solar on commercial and industrial sites through local business networks and Sustainable Business Consultations.
 - Provide a clear process and guidelines for any properties that require development consent for solar, including waiving development application fees.
 - Establish an Inner West community energy practitioner network.
 - Provide clear guidance for installing solar in heritage areas.
 - Link residents to organisations and programs helping renters and apartments to access renewables.
 - Lobby for policy changes to allow renewable energy access for all.

The Inner West wants highly connected neighbourhoods, where people can access the places they need to go by foot, cycle or public transport



Key Area 2: Zero carbon buildings and precincts

Objectives

1. Increase the environmental performance of buildings in the Inner West.
2. Work with state agencies, private sector and the community to work towards zero-carbon precincts and neighbourhoods.

Major action areas

- Increase building environmental performance standards in Inner West Council planning controls - higher BASIX benchmarks* and NABERs pre-commitments
- Develop planning controls requiring solar panels on multi-unit and shop top housing
- Develop innovative planning controls that support low carbon precincts (Parramatta Road, Camperdown-Ultimo Collaboration Precinct and Sydenham to Bankstown) and assess opportunities for:
 - Decentralised energy, water, waste;
 - Setting aside land for multifunctional place needs.
 - Parking policy innovations to support liveability outcomes – unbundled parking, decoupled parking, no/low parking.
 - Electric car charging points linked to a smart grid
 - 30–40km/hour streets to deliver a safe cycle and pedestrian network.
- Potential future Council managed precinct developments to demonstrate highest possible environmental performance standard, e.g. target 6-star Green Star or equivalent standard.
- Develop LEP/DCP controls to protect and increase urban forests in public and private domain.
- Prepare planning controls to incorporate green infrastructure within private developments (green roofs, walls, deep soil gardens/landscaping).
- Review opportunities to require all electric homes in low carbon precincts.

*requires approval of NSW Department of Planning and Environment

Key Area 3: Zero emissions mobility

The management of transport will be covered in the Inner West Going Places - An Integrated Transport Strategy for the Inner West that is currently under development.

Objectives

1. Implement *Going Places - An Integrated Transport Strategy for the Inner West (Draft 2019)*

The Inner West transport hierarchy has been prioritised to maximise benefits for people, with active transport, along with facilities for people living with a disability and specialist transport services that will support vulnerable persons such as older people, at the top of the hierarchy. Within the category of private vehicles and taxis, modes are further split to prioritise those that support shared use of vehicles, encourage reduced car ownership and reduce environmental impacts.

The transport hierarchy centres on the principle that we are all primarily pedestrians, as virtually all trips begin and end with walking. Increased walking trips will reduce our carbon footprint, improve our physical health, and foster a greater sense of community.

To increase walking, cycling and public transport use, major investment in supporting infrastructure must occur to make these modes of travel more attractive, safe and convenient. By prioritising the movement of people over the movement of vehicles, we can free up road space for those that really need to use this mode of travel out of necessity, including deliveries and emergency transport.

5

Rideshare/taxis, carpool, carshare,
motorbikes, private electric vehicles,
private non-electric vehicles

1



Walking, facilities for people
living with a disability,
specialist transport services

2

Cycling, personal mobility
devices, bicycle deliveries



3

Public transport

Delivery services
and freight



4



Key Area 4: Community partnerships and support

Objectives	1. Support Inner West people to live low-carbon lifestyles.
<hr/>	
Major action areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement low-carbon information/media campaigns via social media, events and programs.• Deliver Green Living Centre and sustainability support programs and projects with local groups, schools, businesses, networks, community gardens and community members.• Deliver practical support for residents and community groups through:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Annual Environment Grants</i>.- <i>Annual Community Leaders in Sustainability Course</i>.- <i>Community Gardens support and network meetings</i>.- <i>Inner West Sustainable Schools support and network meetings</i>.- <i>Solar my School</i>.• Provide specialist consultation services to local businesses to address carbon emissions through energy efficiency, renewable energy, waste management and resource recovery.• Acknowledge businesses and strengthen networks via the bi-annual Inner West Sustainable Business Awards.

Key Area 5: Zero waste and a thriving share economy

The management of waste and recovery of resources will be covered in the Inner West Zero Waste Strategy which is currently under development.

Objectives

1. Implement the Zero Waste Strategy so that organics can be diverted from landfill and neighbourhoods have access to reuse and recycling facilities and services.
2. Increase information and support for people to share, avoid, reduce, reuse, repair and recycle.

Major action areas

- Provide kerbside services to divert organics from landfill.
- Develop an Inner West Reuse and Recycling Centre.
- Provide services and facilities that increase recycling.
- Prepare an Inner West community information campaign on zero waste.
- Expand community-based share services through libraries.
- Engage the community in and promote local share goods and services.
- Provide clear regulation, advocacy and management around local sharing schemes to avoid loss of social licence and impact on local communities e.g. bike-share dumping, AirBnB impacts on amenity and affordable housing.
- Promote and partner with others to support sharing e.g. Green Caffeen swap-and-go coffee cups, The Bower's repair cafes and rehoming service.
- Run capacity building training through Community Leaders in Sustainability Program.
- Run the annual Environmental Grants program to support new community-led sharing.
- Plan for the physical spaces needed to support sharing e.g. car-sharing spaces in new developments and local neighbourhoods, community gardening on Council land, including share spaces – kitchens, food growing, recreation and entertainment spaces – in new developments.

Key Focus Area – Inner West Council Carbon Emissions

Inner West Council Corporate Targets:

- Carbon neutral and 100% renewable electricity by 2025
- 100% divestment from fossil fuel



Trends:

- Emissions from Council operations are decreasing
- Waste is decreasing
- The proportion of renewable energy used in council operations is increasing

Key area 1: Use less electricity

Objectives	1. Embed energy management across all Council areas.
<hr/>	
Major action areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement an accelerated replacement program of inefficient street lights with efficient LED on residential streets and main roads. • Implement an energy-efficiency capital works program. • Provide staff with support for energy savings through information, engagement, consumption monitoring and reporting. • Embed energy management in council systems e.g. performance plans, licenses and leases.

Key area 2: Switch to renewables

Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Generate renewable energy on all appropriate Council facilities. 2. Source large-scale renewable energy off-site. 3. Phase out natural gas.
<hr/>	
Major action areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the Inner West Council solar capital-works program. • Include renewable energy on all new facilities subject to site feasibility. • Plan for and undertake procurement for renewable electricity via a #2 Power Purchase Agreement by 2022. • Investigate the feasibility of biofuel for Inner West Council cogeneration systems. • Progressively switch from gas to electric as the proportion of renewable energy increases.

Key area 3: Transition to a sustainable fleet

Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver a low or zero-emissions fleet that meets the operational needs of Council. 2. Review fleet policy.
<hr/>	
Major action areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and implement a sustainable fleet-transition plan. • Investigate the decoupling of private use and leaseback vehicles from recruitment and retention. • Participate in the Charge Together Program to progress the transition – supported by government, industry and the Electric Vehicle Council. • Identify stages and funding sources for the transition plan.

Key area 4: Sustainable procurement

Objectives	1. Manage emissions from equipment and supply chain through whole-of-Council sustainable procurement.
Major action areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Divest from fossil fuels.• Develop and implement a sustainable procurement policy and guidelines.• Ensure tenders and purchasing minimise energy and carbon emissions.• Develop communications, information and tools for staff around no-single-use plastics at Council events and facilities.• Include carbon and fossil fuel considerations in council procurement.

Key area 5: Zero waste

Objectives	1. Reduce waste generation. 2. Increase composting and recycling across all areas.
Major action areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve operations and management to increase the diversion of green waste from parks and streetscape activities.• Introduce organic waste collections at Council facilities and from operations through new and existing processing contracts.• Make recycling easy for staff, embed recycling in operations and provide the right tools and equipment at all work places.

Key area 6: Carbon neutral

Objectives	1. Achieve real carbon savings with local projects before offsetting
Major action areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement a program of energy avoidance, energy efficiency and renewable energy to achieve real carbon savings• Purchase genuine carbon offsets (approved under the National Carbon Offsets Standard) for residual emissions to be carbon neutral by 2025.

A wide-angle photograph of a massive solar farm. The foreground is filled with rows upon rows of blue solar panels, which are mounted on white metal frames. The panels are angled slightly towards the viewer. Beyond the panels, a flat landscape stretches to a distant horizon under a vast, clear blue sky dotted with wispy, white clouds.

From mid-2019 Moree solar farm will supply enough power to cover Council's daytime electricity use

Implementation

The Climate + Renewables Strategy is aligned to the *Our Inner West 2036* Community Strategic Plan and will inform the next review of the Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program. There will be an associated action plan which will be incorporated into Council's four-year Delivery Program. The action plan will be reviewed annually and activities included in the annual Operating Plan.

Council's corporate carbon inventory will be completed annually to measure progress towards the 2025 targets to be carbon neutral and 100% renewable.

Total community carbon emissions (the community carbon inventory) will be completed every four years and the following trends measured annually:

- Installed solar capacity in the Inner West.
- Solar installations through Our Energy Future program.
- More residents who can't install solar have access to other options for renewables.
- Waste to landfill is decreasing.

Council's corporate carbon inventory will be completed annually to measure progress towards the 2025 targets to be carbon neutral and 100% renewable.

In order to embed action on emissions reduction and climate change the Inner West Council will commit to:

- Climate change action included in senior manager performance plans.
- Objectives, strategies and actions will be integrated across corporate documents including the Delivery Plan, Operational Plan, and Group Business Plans and reflected in individual work plans and performance reviews.
- Communicate the organisational priority of the *Climate + Renewables Strategy* at Council staff induction.
- Recognise high staff performance, include appropriate recognition of exceptional staff or team performance on climate change and sustainability action.
- Integrate energy efficiency within the Council Asset Management System

This publication outlines Inner West Council's Climate and Renewables Strategic Plan to 2036 and enables us to set priorities for the Local Government Area.

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