



# CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENCE STRATEGY

NOVEMBER 2019



Brighton  
*going places*





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## PURPOSE

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Brighton Council aims to be a leader in mitigating and planning for climate change, reducing risks, costs and its environmental footprint. It also seeks to work with and empower its community to address climate change issues, minimise harm, reduce environmental impacts and create resilient and sustainable communities.

The benefits of having an adopted Climate Change and Resilience Strategy include links to funding opportunities, improved risk management, identification of energy efficiencies and cost savings, improving council's practices and development of community and environmental resilience to climate change.

This Strategy draws from and builds upon current Council initiatives to create a unified approach to climate change and broader sustainability and resilience objectives.

The Strategy has four key strategic directions:

1. Provide leadership for effective climate change programs locally;
2. Reduce greenhouse emissions, environmental impacts and become more resource efficient;
3. Adapt and plan for climate change; and
4. Identify opportunities to innovate in research, markets, technologies, institutions and in the way we live to build sustainable and resilient communities.

Implementation of this strategy has been considered by Council's leadership team who will review and report on performance through various mechanisms.



# INTERACTION OF THIS STRATEGY WITH COUNCIL PLANNING AND PROJECTS

This Strategy will interact with a number of Council plans, programs and responsibilities. It is important that integration of climate change considerations across Council functions occurs. Clearly, there is overlap regarding which documents (existing and likely to be prepared) relate most to each of the four approaches, but the following provides an example:

<b>Climate Change &amp; Resilience Strategy Approach</b>	<b>Key Council Related Documents, Plans and Programs</b>
<b>1. Leadership and working with the community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Strategic Plan</li><li>• Long term financial plan</li><li>• Structure plans/local area plans/master plans</li><li>• PR/Communications/Newspaper</li></ul>
<b>2. Mitigation and transition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Asset management plans</li><li>• Greening Brighton Strategy</li><li>• Energy and resource efficiency plans</li><li>• Procurement and purchasing policies/procedures</li></ul>
<b>3. Risk and adaptation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brighton Council Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2012</li><li>• Emergency Management Plan</li><li>• Bushfire Management Plan</li><li>• Coastal hazards, inundation and erosion assessments</li><li>• Biodiversity assessments/strategies</li><li>• Agricultural land policies/strategies</li></ul>
<b>4. Opportunity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structure plans/local area plans/master plans</li><li>• Local environmental plans</li><li>• Business incentives policy/procedure for climate responsible actions</li><li>• Key infrastructure contribution policies</li><li>• Asset management plans</li><li>• Investment policies</li></ul>



## COUNCIL POSITION

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**Brighton Council recognises the scientific community's broad consensus on climate change.**

**The accelerated changes in the earth's climate in recent times are as a result of human-induced actions caused by the additional, non-natural, release of greenhouse gas emissions (for example, from land clearing and the use of fossil fuels).**

## Climate Change, Sustainability and Resilience

Council recognises that climate action integrates and overlaps closely with broader goals relating to social, economic and environmental sustainability and resilience.

Many of these broader sustainability goals are integrated into existing legislative responsibilities of councils, for example under the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Resource Management and Planning System* and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, as well as a host of other acts, regulations and policies.

The four strategic directions of this Strategy above facilitate the broader sustainability and resilience objectives:

- To provide and demonstrate leadership to the community by implementing sustainability initiatives.
- To reduce the environmental impact of council's activities.
- To integrate sustainability principles into all Council functions to achieve a healthy and sustainable environment.
- To reduce costs associated with resource consumption across Council assets and activities.
- To promote innovation and generate opportunities.



## Brighton Council Strategic Plan 2019 – 2029

The following goals and strategies within the *Brighton Council Strategic Plan 2019 – 2029* are furthered by this Strategy:

### **Goal 1: Strengthen our Communities**

S1.1: Understand/Improve Health and Wellbeing

S1.4: Support Connected Communities

S1.5: Build a resilient community and environmentally sustainable future

### **Goal 2: Create 2-3 hubs for our Connector Satellite City**

S2.1: A focus on Agriculture /Horticulture/ Aquaculture – (Food)

S2.2: Education/Capability Build

S2.3: Support further development of a ‘business & logistics hub’

### **Goal 3: Drive Infrastructure Development**

S3.2: Implement Strategic Asset Management Plan (Existing and New)

S3.3: Enabling Infrastructure

### **Goal 4: Ensure a Stable Organisation**

S4.1: Ensure Financial & Risk Sustainability

S4.2: Be well-governed

S4.3: A shaping agenda facilitated through strong engagements

S4.4: Long-term thinking & evidence-based

## THE CASE FOR ACTION

Insurance companies have become so concerned about the potential impacts of climate change to councils that they have funded climate change risk assessments for several councils around the country. This is a clear example of why councils must proactively prepare for and minimise potential future risks.

Most modelling shows that there are likely to be more extreme weather-related events such as flooding, drought and extreme temperatures. All of these effects can impact upon the resilience of our environment, including the parts that support our food production and essential services. To ensure a sustainable, prosperous and resilient community the case for being proactive in both mitigating and adapting to climate change is clear.

Increasingly, organisations around the world are using the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a reference point, which identifies 17 broad goals that will help to achieve sustainable and resilient communities. They are useful for demonstrating the inter-related nature of different activities.

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



# STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS FOR THE CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENCE STRATEGY

## Leadership and Community

### Policy and Effective Management

Council commits to addressing climate change and broader sustainability objectives and recognises the importance of allocating appropriate resources to implementing effective actions. Climate change actions are often complimentary to broader sustainability and resilience, and as such broader sustainability and resilience leadership by council will compliment climate change objectives. For example, healthy eating often means eating locally produced and seasonal foods, which in turn often reduces environmental impacts and helps the local economy.

### Council's Emissions and Targets

It is well understood that understanding an organisation's own emissions and environmental impacts and setting targets for improvement is a primary means of successfully improving performance. Council will need to undertake some work to better understand its operational emissions, energy use and other impacts, it will then be in a position to set meaningful targets for improvement. ***Appropriate data and relevant targets should be established under this Strategy by July 2020.***

Ultimately, it should be achievable at some point for council operations to be greenhouse neutral or even positive, even if a meaningful offset program needs to be established to offset some operations.

Emissions related to municipal and commercial waste will be one of the main emission sources relating to council services. Council has limited control over waste generation, but it does have a major role to play in waste management, including the efficiency of services, volumes to landfill, recycling, reuse and green waste.

***As well as reviewing its own waste management system and services to phase-in improvements, Council will support meaningful State and Federal waste avoidance, reduction and management programs, especially those that result in a reduction in greenhouse emissions.***

Electricity use is a key operational area where council can reduce its footprint. Whilst much of Tasmania's electricity is renewable, not all of it is. In addition, it is increasingly likely that Tasmania will become an exporter of renewable energy assisting in the national transition to cleaner energy and boosting the local economy. Self-produced energy clearly takes pressure off the grid and allows greater scope for Tasmania to export renewable energy, providing a tangible benefit to national climate change efforts.

Council has already had great success with solar PV systems at its main offices and at its depot. These systems save approximately \$15,000 per year and are on target to achieve a payback within 3 years. **Council will investigate and implement additional energy saving and efficiency measures, particularly focused on those solutions that provide a long-term financial gain.**

It is recognised that the targets provided later in this Strategy are of an interim nature due to the lack of detailed data at present. **The targets in this Strategy should be reviewed in 2020 (and regularly in future) having regard to improved internal data, reviews of comparable LGAs, achievability, impact, ancillary benefits and cost implications.**

## Working with the Community

Council aims to be a leader in mitigating, planning for and adapting to climate change and recognises the essential role it plays in engaging, mobilising and responding to the community at the local level. Council seeks to play a role in preparing the community for climate change and helping to make the adjustments necessary to minimise risk, improve economic sustainability and make the community more resilient. Engagement is a key method to achieve this and **Council will integrate climate change issues into relevant community engagement activities.**

Council has already undertaken various activities that align with this section of the Strategy, for example, providing home energy assessment tools, educating the community on local food production and healthy eating and signing up to the *Warm, Healthy Homes* program.

## Development and Growth Planning

Brighton Council will ensure it undertakes the strategic work necessary to guide land use and planning throughout the municipality in the most sustainable, orderly and fair way possible. Ecologically sustainable development, including biodiversity, energy efficiency and climate, and a resilient local economy and community must form part of this process. Such work shall be implemented carefully, monitored and regularly reviewed and updated.

Examples include: Brighton Structure Plan 2018, Brighton Local Area Plan 2012, Open Space Strategy 2012, South Central Workforce Planning Study 2017, Brighton Socio-Economic Profile & Opportunity Assessment 2019, etc.

# Mitigation and Transition

Council is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and to playing its part mitigating further climate change. Council recognises its responsibility to provide leadership in driving positive change. It also recognises that these reductions can often result in efficiency and financial gains, and that this is likely to become more prevalent as the economy transitions to a lower carbon economy.

To guide decision-making relating to mitigation and transition, the following hierarchy should be used for energy consumed by Council:

1. Reduce the need for energy.
2. Use energy more efficiently.
3. Supply energy from renewable sources.
4. Ensure that any continuing use of fossil fuels uses clean technology and is efficient.

To date, Council has already delivered a number of projects that have reduced Council greenhouse emissions, improved efficiency and provided long term savings. These include: solar PV installations on the main office building and the depot; installation of more efficient heating/cooling systems; pursuit of more efficient street lighting; and a long-term tree planting program.

Looking forward, Council will pursue mitigation activities having regard to financial implications, emissions and the ability to achieve meaningful outcomes. Key areas within Council's sphere of influence include:

- Council buildings
- Roads, footpaths and other infrastructure
- Streetlights
- Council plant and fleet
- Parks and reserves
- Waste
- Stormwater network
- Potential to influence or incentivise good practice in private residential and commercial

Council will need to invest a small amount of resources to ensure it can implement, track and report its progress on mitigation projects. Whilst much of this work can be done in-house with existing resources there may be a need initially to gain some assistance from consultants and/or other councils via a shared services arrangement to gather and analyse the necessary information to ensure that any actions Council does take are cost effective and meaningful. Two good examples of this are council's need to better understand the municipality's waste composition before determining the best future system and determining the actual cost-benefit of shifting some of Council's fleet to hybrid or electric. Such analysis can be complex and situation specific. **Council will need to allow some funds for this, either within the existing 'Strategic Projects' budget or as a specific budget item.**

Significant tangible investments such as major building upgrades, streetlighting projects, changes to waste management regimes or significant fleet changes will be presented as budget items rather than in a separate broad budget item for energy and resource efficiency or climate change actions. This will ensure a high level of transparency and that any actions taken are evaluated fully prior to council committing to them.

## Risk and Adaptation

Some effects of climate change are already occurring locally, and Council needs to adapt its services (such as information provision, community programs, emergency management) and infrastructure (such as designing for increasing risks of flood, drought, sea level rise and invasive species).

### Research and Collective Approaches

Council recognises the need for research to better predict climate change impacts and solutions, especially in the local region. Such work is critical to support and steer Council's objective to have sound policy and strategy and to drive behavioural change.

Council has participated in various locally relevant projects to improve its understanding of the local context, especially via the Regional Climate Change Initiative (RCCI) under the Southern Tasmanian Councils Association (STCA). **Council will continue this participation and aims to build effective relationships research institutions, government bodies, the private sector and other organisations to support this objective.**

### Infrastructure, Hazards and Risk Management

Brighton is geographically diverse and has a wide range of land uses. As such, risks posed by climate change are also diverse. Significant portions of the municipality are forested or grassland, which has bushfire and drought implications. There are also large areas of waterfront and riverine environments, which are subject to sea level rise and inundation. Other changing risks may relate to changes in rain, evaporation, air temperature and the frequency of extreme events. As such, **Council needs to engage with various organisations and processes to manage this diverse responsibility and prepare the community for climate change.** For example, Council is part of the STCA process for developing a Regional Coastal Hazards Strategy.

Future actions and management plans will need to focus on areas of higher risk and will need to be based on sound evidence. This will help provide transparency, certainty and consistency for the community, developers and other levels of government, which again highlights the need for Council to be involved in significant research.

## Environmental Resilience

Addressing climate change also involves maintaining (and sometimes restoring) long-term sustainable ecosystems. Healthy ecosystems within the Brighton area support human health and development, facilitate economic developments and provide habitat for various species and support ongoing biodiversity.

***Council will ensure it adequately considers ecological health in its land use planning and infrastructure functions and will actively investigate and consider projects that maintain or restore sustainable ecological systems, especially on land that it manages (for example, revegetating open space and water courses).***

Often such projects have a multiple benefits, for example, revegetating water courses can improve the stormwater system, minimise flooding, stabilise erosion, provide habitat and a carbon sink and also provide opportunities for passive recreation.

Council will also support other organisation's programs when appropriate, such as the Derwent Estuary Program.

## Opportunity

### Alternative Energy

Billions of dollars have now been invested nationally in renewable energy and tens of thousands of ongoing jobs have been created. Whilst Tasmania predominantly uses renewable energy from hydro, the state government aims to be self-sufficient with renewable energy as soon as possible (currently we still import some coal-fired power from Victoria). An increase in local renewables will assist this ambition. In addition to this goal, it is increasingly clear that Tasmania has a great opportunity to become a significant exporter of renewable energy to assist the transition to clean energy interstate and to provide major economic opportunities within the state.

In simple terms, the more renewable power generated in Tasmania the more can be exported. This is the case even with site specific energy generation, as it takes demand away from the grid, in turn allowing more to be exported.

Energy security is also becoming increasingly important and providing a greater diversity of energy sources secures sufficient, affordable and consistent energy supplies. It means that current and future energy needs have a high probability of being met, irrespective of economic or political instability.

Brighton Council is well placed to play an important part in this opportunity. It is home to a major substation with a large amount of capacity, has a lot of land suitable for solar and wind and has a lot of local industries and businesses that could directly benefit from locally produced renewable power.

Longer term, Council is also well-placed for the development of a renewables-powered hydrogen plant, being the main southern end of the state freight route.

Council should play an important role in supporting renewable energy projects in the area, especially those of a scale that can provide broader off-site benefits. Attracting such investment and managing stakeholders is often achieved by having a clear long-term vision with meaningful and practical local support in the short term. In return, renewables projects may provide significant local employment, training and economic boosts, a major attraction for new businesses to move to the area and potentially cheaper power to a number of local residents, businesses or rate payers.

In addition to solar and wind, there may be future opportunities for biomass or even tidal power. Council can support such initiatives in a number of ways. Some opportunities will prove to be dead-ends, but Council can support research and piloting of such ideas.

***Council can consider in-kind or financial support, direct investment or simply by committing to installing or utilising proven technologies or solutions to support a project and to reduce Council's own greenhouse emissions and energy costs.***

Brighton is also likely witness emerging local opportunities in other key climate change-related areas as well, such as in waste management solutions and the emerging 'circular economy'; greening of the freight fleet; more sustainable manufacturing; sustainable land management and agriculture; impact investment or divestment; and sustainability incentives. ***Council should actively monitor and pursue such opportunities, especially those which potentially have broad social, economic and environmental benefits for the area.***





# IMPLEMENTATION

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## Strategic Objective 1: Leadership and Community

1. Improve climate change capacity within Council.
2. Work with the community and local business to tackle climate change issues and increase resilience.
3. Set targets encourage action and ensure actions have an impact.
4. Pursue innovative Council leadership practices that address climate change risks and opportunities.

## Strategic Objective 2: Mitigation and Transition

5. Implement plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions throughout Council operations.
6. Support the community and provide services that help to reduce emissions and increase resilience.

## Strategic Objective 3: Adaptation and Risk Management

7. Continue local & regional research to improve Council's understanding of climate change risks and opportunities.
8. Integrate adaptation responses that meet Council's obligations to protect the community and the environment.
9. Improve the resilience of Council infrastructure.
10. Improve hazard and emergency management to minimise climate change risk.
11. Improve ecological resilience to climate change.

## Strategic Objective 4: Opportunity

12. Facilitate opportunities to develop a low carbon economy and for local contributions to this.
13. Promote and engage with markets, technologies and institutions that adapt to and/or mitigate climate change.



## Implementation Resourcing

Much of the work required to effectively address climate change does not require major adjustments or reallocations of Council's core responsibilities or resources. However, it does require better integration of climate change considerations when planning or delivering projects, programs or legislative functions. Generally, such integration is more efficient in the long run anyway, especially if it is done early and clearly shown.

Council has strong financial drivers for being efficient and for minimising costs. Council also has a good culture of being innovative and considering opportunities that may benefit the community or provide a saving or additional revenue. This Strategy will require internal resourcing and a small amount of external resources, however Council's climate change actions to date have generated both long-term financial savings, benefits to the local economy, community benefit and improvements to the local environment. It is likely that many other actions that may be pursued in future will be similarly successful.

## Strategic Objective I: Leadership and Community

### I. Improve climate change capacity within Council.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Supporting documents, programs
1	Pursue grant opportunities for better understanding local climate change issues.	Development Services, Asset Services	Ongoing	
2	Monitor the latest science and best practice relating to climate change and update Council's responses as necessary.	Development Services, Asset Services	Ongoing	
3	Pursue external funding opportunities for projects (including collaborations/partnerships) that address sustainability and community resilience issues.	Development Services	Ongoing	

4	Engage with and share information, plans and processes with other LGAs, especially those within the region.	SMT	Ongoing	STCA, RCCI, SCS, LGAT
5	Ensure appropriate professional development opportunities for relevant staff to effectively manage and address climate change.	SMT	Ongoing	
6	Support the development of local community sustainability or energy generation initiatives.	Whole Organisation		
7	Develop, maintain and monitor an energy and emissions data management system for Council's greenhouse gas emissions.	Development Services	2020 + Ongoing	Energy Contracts, National Standards Units
8	Engage and educate staff on sustainability in the workplace.	SMT	Ongoing	
9	Develop a climate change, sustainability and community resilience-informed purchasing policy and procedure.	Asset Services, Development Services, Corporate Services	2020	

## 2. Work with the community and local business to tackle climate change issues and increase resilience.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Supporting documents, programs
10	Initiate consultation with relevant stakeholders on key climate-related risks (e.g. SES, TFS).	Asset Services	Ongoing	Bushfire MP, Emergency MP

11	Support climate change education and engage with such programs in partnership with government and non-government organisations.	Whole Organisation	Ongoing	BCN, Council Website
12	Assist development applications to integrate climate change and sustainability considerations into design and function (e.g. energy efficiency & generation, WSUD, materials & waste management, transport, ecology).	Development Services & Asset Services	2021 + ongoing	Develop information sheets
13	Inform the community on how Council is addressing climate change.	Development Services	Ongoing	BCN, Council Website, Annual Reports, Council Reports
14	Improve Council's urban design work to better reflect design principles that support ecological sustainability, community resilience and support local business.	Development Services & Asset Services	Ongoing	Master plans
15	Facilitate and support local programs aimed at increasing production, consumption or local produce and healthy eating generally.	Whole Organisation	Ongoing	Eat Well Tasmania, Waterbridge, BCN, 24 Carrot Gardens
16	Facilitate and support programs assisting the creation of healthier and energy efficient homes.	Whole Organisation	Ongoing	HCC + GCC, Centacare
17	Investigate feasibility and costs of free trees/plants for community or with approvals.	Development Services	2020	
18	Support urban agriculture initiatives.	Development Services	Ongoing	



### 3. Set targets, encourage action and ensure actions have an impact.

#	<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Supporting documents, programs</b>
19	Support national, state and regional climate change related targets.	Whole Organisation	Ongoing	
20	Improve the energy efficiency of council's buildings by 20% on 2018 levels by 2021.	Development Services	2021	Energy Contracts
21	Improve the energy efficiency of Council's streetlights by 20% on 2018 levels by 2022.	Asset Services	2022	Energy Contracts
22	Review implementation of this Strategy year and report to Council.	Development Services	Ongoing	

### 4. Pursue innovative Council leadership practices that address climate change risks and opportunities.

#	<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Supporting documents, programs</b>
23	Integrate relevant parts of the Strategic Plan and Annual Plan into this Strategy and vice versa.	Development Services	Ongoing	Strategic Plan, Annual Plan
24	Integrate climate change considerations into Council operations, policies and strategies, including consideration in all relevant Council reports.	Whole Organisation	Ongoing	Various
25	Integrate climate change risks into Council's risk management framework.	Corporate Services	Ongoing	Risk Management System

26	Incorporate climate change impacts and risks into assessments and modelling (e.g. hydrology, inundation models, stormwater systems).	Asset Services	Ongoing
27	Incorporate consideration of climate change into principal activities of council, including: land use planning; community services; asset planning and management; waste management; emergency management.	Whole Organisation	Ongoing
28	Incorporate climate change data, trends and program progress in a Council reporting system, including within Annual Reports.	Development Services	2020 Annual Report
29	Develop and implement an Energy Reduction Strategy.	Development Services	2020
30	Appoint an appropriate staff member to oversee and drive the implementation of this Strategy, such as the Manager Development Services.	GM	2020



## Strategic Objective 2: Mitigation and Transition

5. Implement plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions throughout Council operations.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Supporting documents, programs
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### MANAGEMENT

31	Continue to deliver savings by reducing Council's energy costs.	Development Services	Ongoing	
32	Develop ESD guidelines to integrate energy, WSUD and sustainability features into future Council developments/capital projects.	Development Services, Asset Services	2021	
33	Investigate carbon offset opportunities for Council's emissions (e.g. Local tree planting, watercourse revegetating, relevant investments)	Development Services	2020	

### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

34	Implement energy saving measures within Council facilities and operations.	Development Services, Asset Services, Corporate Services	Ongoing	Energy Audits
35	Install renewable energy generation at Council facilities, where feasible and where the payback period is likely to be less than 15 years.	Development Services, Asset Services, Corporate Services	Ongoing	Energy Audits + Expert Advice

<b>36</b>	Prioritise energy efficiency and whole of life costs when renewing electrical equipment.	Whole Organisation	Ongoing	Asset Management Plans
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## STREETLIGHTING

<b>37</b>	Complete energy efficient refit of Council street lighting.	Asset Services	2022
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<b>38</b>	Specify energy efficient street lighting be installed in all new subdivisions and developments (develop Council policy if necessary).	Development Services, Asset Services	2020
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## FLEET

<b>39</b>	Prioritise low emissions, fuel efficiency, fit for purpose and whole of life costs when evaluating fleet acquisitions.	Corporate Services, Asset Services, Development Services	2020
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<b>40</b>	Utilise telephone and video conferencing for meetings where appropriate.	Whole Organisation	2019
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<b>41</b>	Install an EV charger at Council offices.	Asset Services	2020
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## WASTE MANAGEMENT

<b>42</b>	Improve active monitoring and understanding of local waste streams.	Asset Services	Ongoing
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<b>43</b>	Calculate and utilise for reporting and decision-making local greenhouse emissions related to the waste management system.	Asset Services, Development Services	2020 + Ongoing
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<b>44</b>	Review entire waste management system and develop long term waste management plan.	Asset Services	2020
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- 45** Optimise resource recovery from Council Asset Services, Ongoing works and the use of recycled materials in Development Council projects and works. Services
- 46** Investigate systems to divert household and Asset Services 2021 commercial food and organic waste from landfill.

## 6. Support the community and provide services that help to reduce emissions and increase resilience.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Supporting documents, programs
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### PUBLIC & ACTIVE TRANSPORT

- 47** Facilitate and support improved public transport Asset Services, Ongoing Metro and active transport services and infrastructure. Development Services
- 48** Develop and implement an integrated bicycle Development 2021 and pedestrian plan for the Council area. Services, Asset Services

### WASTE

- 49** Develop and implement a plan for community Asset Services, 2020 BCN, website waste reduction and education. (e.g. Development coordinated education campaign) Services

### PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- 50** Investigate the value and feasibility of providing Development 2020 some 'edible landscapes' within parks, open Services, Asset space, streetscapes. (e.g. fruit trees in parks or Services along pathways)

## Strategic Objective 3: Adaptation and Risk Management

7. Continue local & regional research to improve Council's understanding of climate change risks and opportunities.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Supporting documents, programs
51	Support and facilitate local, regional, state and national climate change research partnerships.	Development Services	Ongoing	STCA, RCCI, LGAT, SCS
52	Form partnerships with local government agencies to coordinate climate change projects within the area.	Development Services	Ongoing	STCA, RCCI, LGAT, SCS
53	Review and update Brighton Council Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2012.	Asset Services	2022	STCA, LGAT
54	Ensure Council standards and guidelines are based on current climate change science, Australian Standards and legislative requirements.	Asset Services, Development Services	Ongoing	Australian Standards, Relevant Legislation
55	Ensure future asset maintenance and replacement programs consider climate change, including coastal hazards and inundation modelling.	Asset Services	Ongoing	Asset Management Plan

**8. Integrate adaptation responses that meet Council's obligations to protect the community and the environment.**

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Supporting documents, programs
56	Advocate that state and federal governments adequately consider climate change impacts when reviewing or creating new planning instruments, guidelines and legislation.	Development Services	Ongoing	
57	Ensure that Council fully understands its insurer's climate change requirements when considering new policies and projects, undertaking activities and reporting.	Corporate Services	Ongoing	Insurance Policies
58	Continue to support water reuse schemes and water recycling.	Whole Organisation	Ongoing	TasWater, Ag Community
59	Ensure Council's approach to on-site sewer systems considers climate change impacts, including sea level rise and inundation.	Regulatory Services	Ongoing	



## 9. Improve the resilience of Council infrastructure.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Supporting documents, programs
60	Ensure Council standards and guidelines are based on current climate change science, Australian Standards and legislative requirements.	Asset Services, Development Services	Ongoing	Australian Standards, Relevant Legislation
61	Ensure future asset maintenance and replacement programs consider climate change, including coastal hazards and inundation modelling.	Asset Services	Ongoing	Asset Management Plan
62	Review the vulnerability of critical Council infrastructure and buildings in line with Asset Management Plans, Emergency Management Plans, the latest climate change projections and legislation.	Asset Services	Ongoing	Asset Management Plan, Emergency Management Plan

## 10. Improve hazard and emergency management to minimise climate change risk.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Supporting documents, programs
63	Proactively work to address the highest priority stormwater management works, including working with the state government.	Asset Services	Ongoing	
64	Ensure Council's bushfire management system considers the likely impacts of climate change.	Asset Services	Ongoing	

## II. Improve ecological resilience to climate change.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Supporting documents, programs
65	Develop and implement a Brighton Biodiversity & Natural Values Strategy.	Development Services	2021	Brighton Flora & Fauna Study
66	Encourage private land conservation, especially where identified high values, habitat or threatened species exist.	Development Services	Ongoing	
67	Work collaboratively with regional landscape management agencies to effectively manage Brighton's natural assets in a changing climate. (e.g. Crown, NRM South, DPIPWE, TasWater).	Development Services, Asset Services	Ongoing	
68	Improve understanding of flora and fauna values and risk within the Council area, including; endangered ecological communities, threatened species, flora and fauna corridors, weeds, pests.	Development Services, Asset Services	Ongoing	Brighton Flora & Fauna Study
69	Continue local weed management and advocate to state and federal governments for more proactive management and resourcing of weeds and pests, many of which are likely to get worse due to climate change.	Asset Services	Ongoing	Weed Management Plan
70	Support and facilitate local and regional biodiversity partnerships and projects.	Development Services	Ongoing	
71	Investigate stormwater catchment improvements that also include revegetation and environmental improvement/restoration.	Asset Services	2020 + Ongoing	

## Strategic Objective 4: Opportunity

12. Facilitate opportunities to develop a low carbon economy and for local contributions to this.

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Supporting documents, programs
72	Facilitate the establishment of sustainable businesses and sectors with the Council area.	Development Services, Corporate Services	Ongoing	
73	Help facilitate sustainability actions within local businesses which reduce energy consumption and emissions whilst creating business savings.	Development Services	Ongoing	
74	Review Council's Investment Policy to ensure there is the ability to invest in financially responsible opportunities (such as a large-scale local 'renewables hub' or circular economy) and to ensure investments consider the intent of this Strategy. (E.g. impact investments or divestments)	Corporate Services	2020	Investment Policy
75	Promote the uptake of sustainable technologies, including via incentive schemes.	Development Services	Ongoing	
76	Support landholder efforts to preserve or increase carbon stores.	Development Services	Ongoing	
77	Assist local businesses to take advantage of state and federal programs that support action on climate change.	Development Services	Ongoing	Emissions Reduction Fund

**13. Promote and engage with markets, technologies and institutions that adapt to and/or mitigate climate change.**

#	Key Action	Responsibility	When	Supporting documents, programs
78	Monitor carbon trading opportunities and other financial incentives for climate-related action that may be available to Council.	Development Services, Asset Services	Ongoing	Emissions Reduction Fund
79	Support local producer markets and sectors, including to be able to sell or provide services within the region.	Whole Organisation	Ongoing	South Central Sub-region
80	Investigate and consider direct investment in sustainable developments, such as renewable energy or the circular waste economy.	Whole Organisation	Ongoing	
81	Investigate Council-offered incentives for climate change, sustainability or community resilience commitments. (e.g. fee reimbursements, rates reductions). May require a Council policy.	Development Services, Corporate Services	2020	Council policies
82	Collaborate with the freight industry and transport hub stakeholders to assist the transition to a low carbon transport economy.	Development Services	Ongoing	



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