

Local Government Climate Change Response Planning

Mitigation Ideas for Walkerville, 2022

John Rolls

The background of the slide features a pattern of concentric circles representing water ripples, rendered in a lighter shade of blue against the darker blue background. These ripples are scattered across the lower half of the slide, with a larger, more prominent set of ripples on the right side and several smaller ones on the left and bottom.

My background

- BSc (Applied) University of Tasmania 1963
- Employed in water resource management, and Energy and Climate Change Policy in SA government
- Introduced to Climate Change as an issue at Adelaide Greenhouse '88 Conference
- Designed our passive solar house, energy almost fully supplied by solar panels, with battery
- Chair, SA Renewable Energy Policy Group 2015 to present
- Deputy Chair Citizen's Own Renewable Energy Network Australia (CORENA)

Global Context

- In each of the last 7 years, global temperatures ranked as the highest levels on record (World Meteorological Office, 19/05/22).
- Global emissions continue to rise
- *Human-induced climate change, including more frequent and intense extreme events, has caused widespread adverse impacts and related losses and damages to nature and people, **beyond natural climate variability***

(IPCC Climate Change 2022, Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability Summary for Policymakers)

Global Context – IPCC AR6 report 2022

- *The rise in weather and climate extremes has led to some irreversible impacts as natural and human systems are pushed beyond their ability to adapt. (high confidence)*
- *Widespread, pervasive impacts to ecosystems, people, settlements, and infrastructure have resulted from observed increases in the frequency and intensity of climate and weather extremes, including hot extremes on land and in the ocean, heavy precipitation events, drought and fire weather (high confidence)*

Australian Local Government Association

- ALGA acknowledges that:
 - climate change is a shared responsibility;
 - local government will need to prepare for climate change and, *at the very least, will need to develop capacity to protect its own assets and adapt to localised conditions;*
 - *and local government has an important role in providing leadership and education to assist citizens and business to understand and accept their responsibilities to address climate change.*

Local Council Risk of Liability in the Face of Climate Change – Resolving Uncertainties Baker and McKenzie 2011.

Climate Change Projections for Adelaide (BOM, 2017)

➤ By 2090:

- No. of days above 35C to increase by 50%
- No. of days above 40C will double
- Rainfall predicted to fall by 8 to 29%
- Sea level to rise by 39 to 61 cm

SA Government Climate Change Action Plan 2021-2025

Focus Area	Key Objectives
Clean Energy Transformation	Accelerate renewable energy economy
Climate Smart Economy	Develop a more circular economy
Climate Smart Landscapes and Habitats	Build climate resilient landscapes
Low Emissions Transport	Support low and zero emissions vehicles
Climate Smart Built Environments	Provide for climate resilient development
Resilient Communities	Support communities to build resilience & adapt
Government leading by example	Embed climate change risk and opportunity into government policy and practice

Australian Local Government Association

- Key Priority for Local Government 2016 Federal Election
 - “Support councils to work with business and communities to implement local and regional Climate Change Plans”
- “ Councils need to prepare for the unavoidable impacts of climate change (through adaptation) and play a significant role in reducing Australia’s carbon footprint by mitigating the CO₂ emissions from their assets and supporting emission reduction efforts by their local communities. They need to work with their communities to transition them to a low carbon future.”


Walkerville and Neighbour Councils

Council	Climate Change Action Plan	Zero Emissions target by 2030
Adelaide	Carbon Neutral Strategy 2015-2025	Has achieved carbon neutrality
Norwood Payneham & St Peters (NPSP)	2020-2030 Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan	Zero corporate emissions by 2030
Port Adelaide Enfield	Energy and Water Efficiency Management Plans	Under development
Prospect	Environmental Action Plan 2018-22	Being reviewed by end 2022 to include mitigation of emissions.
Walkerville	No plan	No target

Adelaide Metropolitan Councils

Council	Climate Change Action Plan	Emissions Reduction Target	Achievements
Burnside	Climate Change Policy 2020	C neutral by 2030	26% reduction in corporate emissions from 2019 to 2020
Campbelltown	Climate Solutions Strategy, in Strategic Plan 2020	Corporate C neutral for Scope 2+3 by 2050	Climate Change response started 2009
Marion	Climate Change Policy adopted 2016 Our Response to Climate Change 2020	Cut emissions by 16 tonnes/annum	Corporate emissions reduced by 24.6% in 2018 compared with 2015/16
Mitcham	Climate Ready 2020-30 GHG Gas Emissions Reductions Strategy		20% reduction in emissions since 2014/15 60% renewable energy purchase agreement now 100% renewable 2023

Walkerville and Climate Change

- Our response to climate change so far has been focussed on adaptation.
 - We need to act on mitigation – urgently - to play our part in Australia's response.
 - We need to make use of the experience and expertise of other metropolitan councils.
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Potential high-level actions for Walkerville

- Have consultant undertake audit of Council's energy use, potential for energy efficiency, purchase of renewable electricity, replacement of fossil fuel use by alternatives
- Establish a Climate Change Response sub-committee
- Open discussions with Prospect and Port Adelaide Enfield, currently undertaking emissions reductions planning processes
- Engage with Adelaide, Mitcham, and Burnside Councils which have inhouse climate response expertise
- Enter into an expertise sharing arrangement with a neighbour Council

Potential action strategies

- Progressively replace ICE vehicles/equipment with battery alternatives
- Install solar power and batteries at corporate sites not yet equipped
- Purchase 100% renewable electricity
- Replace street lighting with LEDs
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- Install an electric vehicle charging station
- Develop and rigorously implement a low emissions purchase policy
- Increase levels of recycled materials in civil infrastructure projects

High level strategies

- Adopt an over-arching target like “achieve carbon neutrality by 2030”
- Include specific emissions related targets (dates, base year, outcomes) in climate response plan
- Define responsibilities for emissions related outcomes for defined employees/office holders
- Include climate- & recycling-related requirements/capabilities in procurement policy re purchasing & engaging service providers/contractors
- Train relevant staff re their climate related responsibilities
- Develop a readily identifiable “Climate Change” page on Council website
- Assess and publish on website current sources of corporate emissions, reported annually against targets
- Include climate related information for community on webpage