

THE CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE PLAN 2021-2030 ACTIONS REVIEW



CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE PLAN ACTION PLAN REVIEW

As an organisation we are striving to lead, educate and support our community to take climate action and adapt to a changing climate. After significant community consultation, we developed the *Climate Change Response Plan 2021-2030* (CCRP) to define and communicate how we, the City of Greater Geelong, will act to protect and improve our region's resilience to a changing climate and reduce our collective emissions footprint. This response plan guides our planning, decision-making and actions to focus our efforts to improve the health of our local environment, reduce our emissions footprint and thrive through a changing climate. This *Climate Change Response Plan 2021-2030 Actions Review* has been developed to report on our progress since the adoption of the CCRP, and to detail the actions we are focused on delivering in the next five years to 2030. We will use our municipal reporting indicators and processes to monitor and report on our success in delivering the actions and outcomes identified in this action plan.

CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE PLAN ACTIONS REVIEW

Our CCRP included 85 individual actions spread across our seven principles. In the first three years of implementing the CCRP, 62 per cent of actions are on track or ongoing, reflecting the City's strong commitment to environmental sustainability. A further 13 per cent of actions have been completed or are in a completed-ongoing phase, while 15 per cent are currently delayed. We have been unable to complete some actions to date due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting changes to our operational environment and priorities.

These actions have been revised and included in the revised action plan. The delivery of the revised actions will support the achievement of our *Climate Change Response Plan 2021-2030* targets.

OVERALL PROGRESS

The CCRP includes 85 actions spread across the seven principles. Of this total, 31 actions had a target completion date of 2022–25, and five were 'ongoing' or 'completed-ongoing' (with 54 actions beyond 2025).

FIGURE 1 PROGRESS OF ACTIONS DUE BY 2022-25

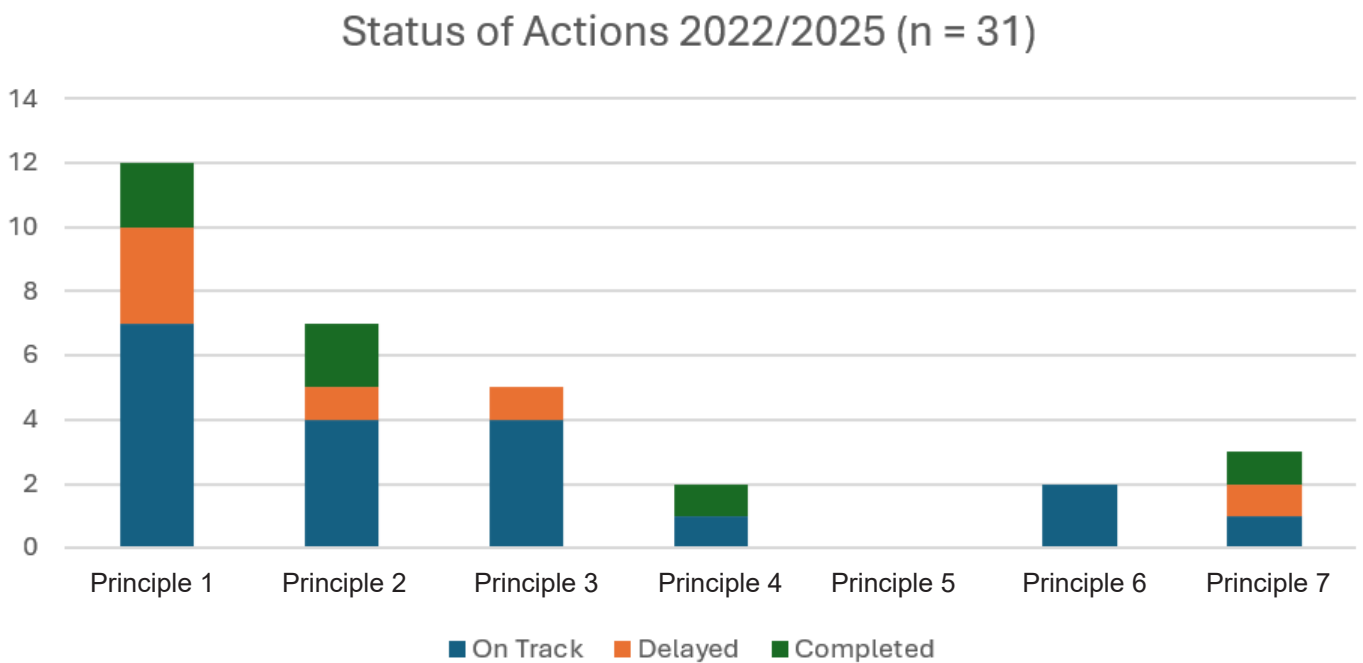


Figure 1 shows that six of 27 actions (22%) were completed within three years with 14 of the 27 actions (52%) 'on track' and the remainder (26%) delayed.

FIGURE 2 PROGRESS OF ACTIONS BEYOND 2025

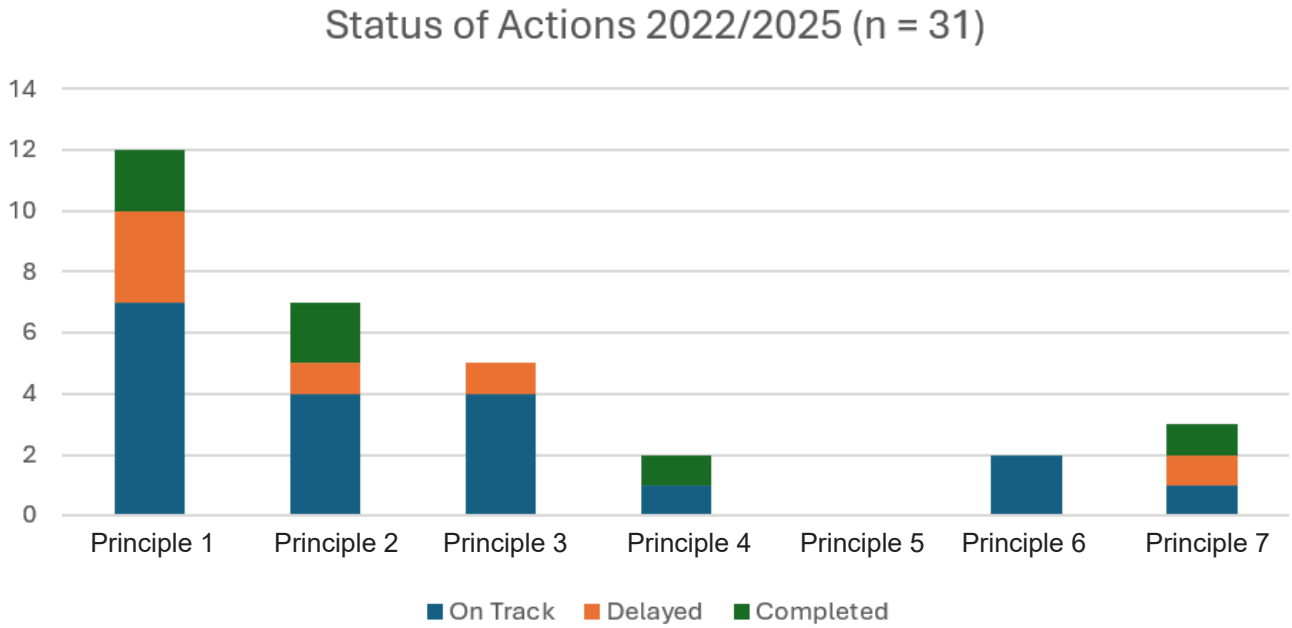


Figure 2 shows the 54 actions beyond 2025 with 24 actions on track (44%), seven actions (13%) ongoing and two actions (4%) as completed and ongoing. 19 actions (35%) of these actions are completed with two actions (4%) delayed. Actions that were incomplete between 2022/2025, including those 'delayed', will be rolled into the next two to three-year action areas. Principle 5 actions do not have definitive time frames and are considered 'ongoing' actions over the course of the CCRP and are accounted for in Figure 2 and 3.

FIGURE 3 PROGRESS TOWARDS ALL ACTIONS

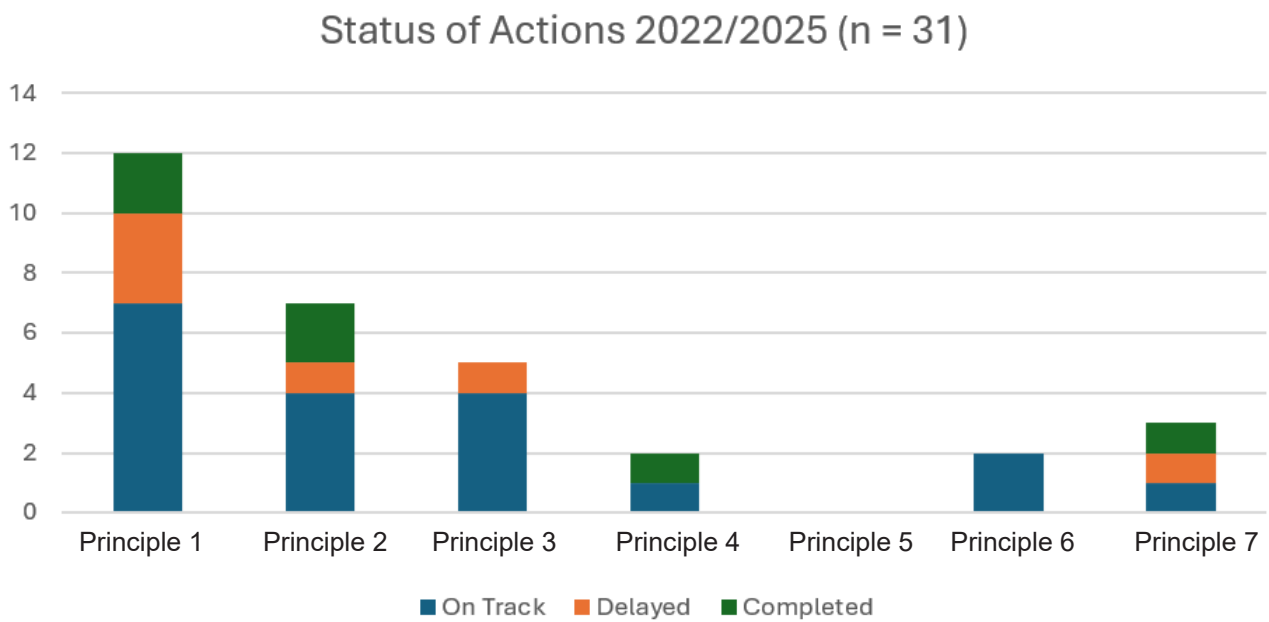


Figure 3 shows progress towards all 85 actions identified in the CCRP. Note that these actions have a nominal end date of 2030. 38 of all actions (45%) are on track with 23 actions (27%) ongoing. 11 actions (13%) are completed or completed-ongoing and 13 actions (15%) delayed.



PRINCIPLE 1

SUPPORT AN EMPOWERED AND ACTIVE COMMUNITY

- Of the 12 actions due by 2022–25, two are complete, three delayed, and seven are on track.
- Of the nine ongoing actions, all are on track.
- The three delayed actions are subject to funding.
- Highlights for the first two years are shown in Table 2.
- Challenges for achieving the climate action principle are shown in Table 3.

PRINCIPLE 1 ACTIONS

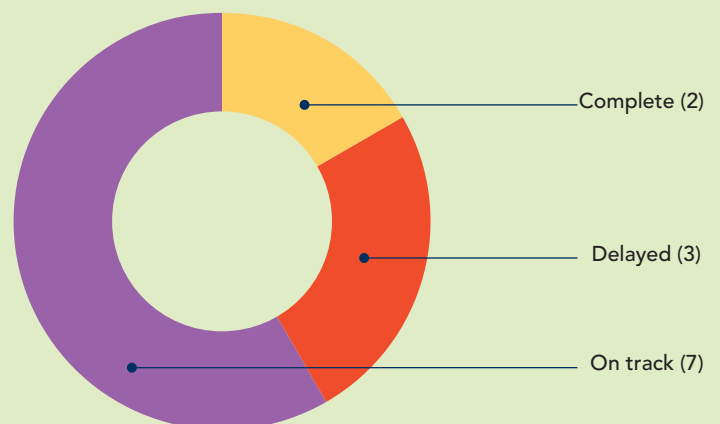


TABLE 2 PRINCIPLE 1 HIGHLIGHTS

P1: FOCUS AREA	FA: ACTION	HIGHLIGHT
<p>1.1 Community awareness, education, and capacity building.</p>	<p>1.1.3 Partner with climate action mobilisers.</p>	<p>Funded through the Climate Change Partnership fund, Geelong Sustainability and the City developed the All-Electric Homes Program. This delivered a total of 318 installations of residential electric products, including solar photovoltaic (solar PV), solar battery, hot water heat pumps, split systems, and EV charging. Over 900 residents received quotes and over 1500 residents attended an event. This initiative stimulated over \$2 million in capital investment and is projected to save participants approximately \$81,328 annually on energy bills with Greater Geelong earning the third highest hot water heat pump installation in the state. Over a 25-year period, these savings amount to an estimated \$2,033,200. Additionally, this initiative has reduced around 770 tons of CO² emissions in one year, and an estimated 18,328 tons over the systems' 25-year lifespan.</p>
	<p>1.1.4 Assess the region's capabilities and skills in climate action and develop a 'regional knowledge base' to help the community share locally available information and resources by 2023.</p>	<p>100% Clean Bellarine, a key climate action mobiliser group, is working in partnership with the City in region's first trial of providing energy assessments to small business. Through this project, the aim is to understand energy using equipment and seek funding for upgrades – one small business at a time.</p> <p>The City has joined the Barwon South-West Climate Alliance (BSWCA). This new alliance brings together local governments, water authorities and catchment groups under one working regional knowledge base. This group leverages each other's knowledge with aims to develop projects that prepares our region for the impacts of a changing climate.</p>
<p>1.3 Resources and investment focus.</p>	<p>1.3.6 Allocate resources to support local businesses in developing clean technology and circular economy solutions.</p>	<p>Through the Clean Economy grants, the City supported North Geelong engineering firm, Austeng, and Deakin University in using crushed glass and industrial by-products to create a more sustainable alternative to cement-based concrete.</p>
	<p>1.3.3 Establish a climate action strategic partnership fund to support partnerships that enable climate action across the community by 2022.</p>	<p>The City has established the Climate Change Partnership Fund in 2022. Since, the fund has increased its pool of funding demonstrating commitment to scalable climate solutions for the region.</p>

TABLE 3 CHALLENGES FOR ACHIEVING PRINCIPLE 1

PROGRAM	CHALLENGE	OPPORTUNITY
General	Lack of resources, insecurity of funding.	
	Diverging community views based off misinformation on climate change and the need for immediate action.	The City as the driver of collaborative, municipal-wide action.
1.1.5 Support community involvement in citizen science programs to collect climate change-related data by 2022.	Developing multiple citizen science projects takes resourcing and time, of which the City is unable to provide currently. Although an important action, its priority has decreased against competing actions that provide immediate mitigation and adaptation qualities.	The <i>Nature Strip Guidelines</i> update creates an opportunity to connect all residents with nature and a show of citizen science in action. Additionally, the City is looking to better monitor and measure conservation efforts community groups currently carry out.
1.1.7 Work in partnership with community groups, businesses, and other organisations to promote and educate the community about sustainable practices by 2023.	The action requires revision as the City has and will continue to work in partnership with any group to promote and educate about sustainable practices.	Sustainable practices are present in existing projects and future projects. Subsequently, this action is business as usual, however, the City seeks to work on promoting sustainable work the community and City carry out.
1.2.2. Provide regular plan progress updates to Council and the Sustainability Advisory Committee, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and our Sustainability Indicators and Targets.	During the 2022 to 2023 years, the City underwent significant organizational change. As a result, the Sustainability Advisory Committee were not able to meet regularly. Further, the SDG are broad goals not necessarily measurable against local issues and actions but remain strong over-arching principles central to achieving municipality-wide net zero emissions.	The SDG are significant outcome objectives of which can be communicated through the <i>Our Climate Actions</i> website and ongoing professional trainings.
1.2.3 Create more opportunities for public participation to: Support sustainability in decision making. Aid the effective implementation of the Sustainability Framework 2020 and supporting action plans.	The City continues to receive and respond to public participation in its programs and decision making. The <i>Sustainability Framework 2020</i> supports actions within City plans, however, has been superseded by the Climate Change Response Plan.	The City seeks to provide better pathways for community to participate in ongoing environmental works, such as tree planting and litter removal. On ground climate action has multiple benefits, so developing avenues to participate is a priority.

PRINCIPLE 1: SUPPORT AN EMPOWERED AND ACTIVE COMMUNITY - REVISED ACTIONS

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
1.1 Community awareness, education and capacity building.	1.1.1 Develop a community campaign to raise awareness of the region's climate risks, impacts and responses by 2022	Keep > Refine	1.1.1 Continue community campaigns centred on <i>Our Climate Actions</i> website that shows the climate action journey the community and City has been on. Specific targeted campaigns to be based on information and need each year until 2030.	Increased awareness of climate risks, impacts and responses.
	1.1.2 Develop and implement a collaborative community capacity-building program for climate action, leveraging skills and experience in the region by 2023	Stop > Integrate	NA	Action is captured and delivered through other actions and Principles.
	1.1.3 Partner with climate action mobilisers to help support community efforts to reduce emissions and adapt climate impacts by 2022.	Keep > Update	1.1.3 By December 2026, formalise partnerships with a climate action group to co-deliver a minimum of two community-focused initiatives that support emissions reduction and climate adaptation, with clear roles, objectives, and annual progress reviews through to 2030.	Increased energy efficiency and renewables across the residential and commercial spaces.
	1.1.4 Assess the region's capabilities and skills in climate action and develop a 'regional knowledge base' to help the community share locally available information and resources by 2023.	Keep > Superseded	1.1.4 From December 2025, publish project summaries and outcomes from BSWCA and Geelong Sustainability Council supported initiatives on the <i>Our Climate Actions</i> website within three months of project completion, aiming for biannual updates to align with available resourcing and delivery time frames.	1-2 projects every two years led by BSWCA.
	1.1.5 Support community involvement in citizen science programs to collect climate-change-related data by 2022.	Keep > Superseded	1.1.5 By June 2026, leverage existing grant funded projects to deliver citizen science outcomes focused on monitoring climate adaptation outcomes from re-vegetation projects and data reported publicly each year to help fill resourcing gaps in formal monitoring.	Increased number of re-vegetation projects and promote on the <i>Our Climate Actions</i> website.
	1.1.6 Identify and work with members of the community who possess specialist technical skills and knowledge to strengthen decision making by 2022.	Stop > Integrated	NA	Members of the public who possess specialist and technical skills to approach the city with ideas to seek pathways to implementation.
	1.1.7 Work in partnership with community groups, businesses and other organisations to promote and educate the community about sustainable practices by 2023.	Keep > Refine	1.1.7 Continue supporting climate action mobilisation groups to co-deliver community-led projects funded through the Climate Partnership Grant that support emissions reduction and climate adaptation with clear outcomes reported through to 2030.	Number of projects that support community efforts in reducing emissions and adapt to a changing climate.
	1.1.8 Continue to lead the implementation of the clever and creative vision and identify how the vision partner group will work with others to deliver municipality-wide emissions reduction.	Stop > Integrated	NA	Action is captured and delivered through other actions and Principles.

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
1.2. Governance and accountability.	1.2.1 Recognise, communicate and address the local impacts of the global climate emergency.	Stop > Integrated	NA	Action is captured and delivered through other actions and Principles.
	1.2.2 Provide regular plan progress updates to Council and the Sustainability Advisory Committee, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and our Sustainability Indicators and Targets.	Keep > Superseded	1.2.2 Every two years, produce and publish a one-page summary of key climate action achievements alongside detailed project updates on the <i>Our Climate Actions</i> website, to provide transparent and accessible reporting to the community.	Action is captured and delivered through other actions and Principles.
	1.2.3 Create more opportunities for public participation to: Support sustainability in decision making. Aid the effective implementation of the Sustainability Framework 2020 and supporting action plans.	Stop > Integrated	NA	Action is captured and delivered through other actions and Principles.
	1.2.4 Develop and implement a comprehensive plan for monitoring, evaluating and reporting climate action efforts and effectiveness, aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals 2022.	Keep > Superseded	1.2.4 By December 2025, identify and implement a best-practice framework for monitoring and reporting climate action progress at the local level, with indicators and methodologies published on the <i>Our Climate Actions</i> website and reviewed annually to ensure transparency and continuous improvement that feeds into 1.2.2 and 1.2.6.	Improved measurement and evaluation of ongoing plan progress.
	1.2.6 Evaluate the effectiveness of our sustainability reporting and continuously improve our reporting practices by 2022.	Keep > Update	1.2.6 Every two years, evaluate the effectiveness of our sustainability reporting and continuously improve our reporting practices.	Improved measurement and evaluation of ongoing plan progress.
	1.2.7 Seek leadership and support across Council to drive implementation of this plan.	Keep > Update	1.2.7 Establish an internal Climate Response Implementation Group with representatives from all key departments to oversee delivery, meet bi-annually, and report progress every 3-4 years.	Embed climate risk across strategies
	1.2.8 Encourage the regional community to publicly commit to the municipal community emissions target.	Keep > Superseded	1.2.8 By 2030, engage at least 50 local businesses through targeted outreach to commit to the municipal emissions reduction target, with annual tracking of business participation, emissions actions taken, and progress toward 2035.	Businesses committed to municipal net zero by 2035.

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
1.3. Resources and investment focus	1.3.1 Allocate resources for the establishment of community climate change officers by 2022.	Keep > Refine	1.3.1 Allocate resources and establish the need for community climate officers by 2026.	Delayed due to budgetary constraints.
	1.3.2 Allocate resources for the Climate Change Response Plan implementation by 2022.	Keep > Refine	1.3.2 Establish formal funding models with key partnerships to deliver wide-scale climate change responses.	Delayed to budgetary constraints.
	1.3.3 Establish a climate action strategic partnership fund to support partnerships that enable climate action across the community by 2022.	Keep > Retire	NA	Climate Partnership Fund implemented.
	1.3.4 Increase support for community-generated ideas and projects that address sustainable practice and education via our Environmental Sustainability Grants by 2022.	Keep > Refine	1.3.4 Increase financial support for community-generated ideas and projects that address sustainable practice and education via our Environmental Sustainability Grants, where practicable.	Level of funding support.
	1.3.5 Advocate for additional resources and investment to the region for climate action from government, business and philanthropic organisations.	Keep > Superseded	1.3.5 Advocate for additional resources and investment to the region for specific climate action projects from government, business and philanthropic organisations as the opportunity arises.	1 per year, where available.
	1.3.6 Allocate resources to support local businesses in developing clean technology and circular economy solutions.	Keep > Refine	1.3.6 Within available resourcing support local businesses in integrating clean technology and circular economy solutions.	No. of Businesses participating in the Reelectrify Business Program



Boronggook Drysdale Library

PRINCIPLE 2

INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION

PRINCIPLE 2 ACTIONS

- Two of the eight actions due by 2022–25 are complete, two incomplete and four on-track.
- 14 of the 19 ongoing actions are on-track.
- Highlights for the first two years are shown in Table 4.
- Challenges and opportunities in achieving increases in energy efficiency and renewable energy produced are presented in Table 5.



TABLE 4 PRINCIPLE 2 HIGHLIGHTS

P2: FOCUS AREA	FA: ACTION	HIGHLIGHT
<p>2.1 Improve energy efficiency in existing buildings, facilities and infrastructure.</p>	<p>2.1.1 Continue to adopt leading technologies to improve energy efficiency in City-owned and operated facilities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upgrading lighting, heating and cooling systems in key facilities • undertaking an assessment of our gas-using infrastructure by 2022, to support a longer-term transition to gas-free operations • providing funding to transition away from gas infrastructure. 	<p>The City has completed an assessment of gas-using equipment at key sites and is currently exploring funding mechanisms to transition all City assets off gas using equipment. Without this first step, the City would be unable to transition its gas assets. External grant applications to assist with transitioning from gas to electric aquatic centre infrastructure have been actively sought and City funding in the 2025/26 budget has been allocated to upgrade Kardinia Aquatic Centre aging gas boilers.</p>
	<p>2.1.3 Upgrade all street lights with energy efficient LED lighting by 2025.</p>	<p>In partnership with Powercor, the City is well placed to continue and complete its LED street light program by 2025. This is landmark environmental project has led to the swapping of approximately 21,000 inefficient street lights across the municipality to energy-saving LEDs equipped with smart controls. This is expected to slash greenhouse gas emissions by an impressive 66,000 tonnes of CO2 equivalent (CO2e) over the 20-year lifespan of the new lights and is a major step forward in the region's sustainability goals.</p>
	<p>2.2 Optimise energy efficiency in new buildings, facilities, and infrastructure.</p>	<p>2.2.4 Actively discourage gas infrastructure in nominated new developments and support renewable alternatives by 2022.</p>
<p>2.2.5 Encourage all new buildings to meet '7-Star' building standards, in line with anticipated changes to the <i>National Construction Code</i> (NCC).</p>		<p>Through strong advocacy from numerous local governments the NCC has made some improvements in residential building standards. The NCC does not yet consider climate change projections for building standards such as roof colours. Geelong is addressing this gap by developing new Precinct Structure Plan standards.</p>
<p>2.2.6 Educate prospective new building owners of the advantages of Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) buildings by 2023.</p>		<p>The City's ESD Officers have received a doubling of inquiries and permits year on year for the past three years. Further, through Sustainable House Day, the Electric Homes Program, and a partnership with Deakin discussing ESD with builders and developers, the City has and continues to educate the community about ESD.</p>
<p>2.3 Increase renewable energy use.</p>	<p>2.3.1 Continue to implement our renewable energy program by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sourcing renewable energy for all our operations via a Power Purchase Agreement by 2021 • installing behind-the-meter solar systems on City-owned buildings • investigating energy trading opportunities for energy generated in City-owned buildings. 	<p>The City was a founding member of the Victorian Energy Collaboration power purchase agreement, which now provides renewable electricity for all the City's operational electricity needs.</p> <p>The new Northern Aquatic and Community Hub and North Bellarine Aquatic and Leisure Centre facilities were designed and constructed to a high environmentally sustainable standard of 5 Star Green Star and operate using all-electric infrastructure powered by renewable energy.</p>

TABLE 5 CHALLENGES FOR ACHIEVING PRINCIPLE 2

PROGRAM	CHALLENGE	OPPORTUNITY
General	<p>Lack of resources, insecurity of funding.</p> <p>Diverging community views based off misinformation on climate change and the need for immediate action.</p>	The City as the driver of collaborative, municipal-wide action.
2.2.7 Carry out on-site ESD inspections to ensure compliance with planning permits by 2022.	Unable to deliver without significant investment and funding – relies on legislated requirements of the <i>National Construction Code 2023–24</i> .	Shift potential funding into energy assessments for existing residential building stock or partner with community groups to lead residential energy assessments through greater funding of the climate change partnership grants.
2.3.2 Support community-owned renewable energy initiatives	Significant interest and investigation have been explored for community-owned renewable energy but few business cases, if any, are financially viable.	Geelong Sustainability has a revolving fund for renewable energy options, and so, further supporting this revolving fund to assist low-income residents has potential to meet community led renewable energy initiatives.
2.3.7 Collaborate with regional partners to investigate options for producing green hydrogen.	The benefits of green hydrogen are still being investigated with local government ill-equipped to play a role in its development.	Existing groups like G21 and BSWCA, with the lead of state and federal governments, can investigate green hydrogen regional supply provided the technology is mature and capable for need.

PRINCIPLE 2: INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION - REVISED ACTIONS

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
2.1 Improve energy efficiency in existing buildings, facilities and infrastructure.	2.1.1 Continue to adopt leading technologies to improve energy efficiency in City-owned and operated facilities by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> upgrading lighting, heating and cooling systems in key facilities undertaking an assessment of our gas-using infrastructure by 2022, to support a longer-term transition to gas-free operations providing funding to transition away from gas infrastructure. 	Keep > Update	2.1.1 Continue to adopt leading technologies to improve energy efficiency in City-owned and operated facilities by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> upgrading lighting, heating and cooling systems in key facilities undertaking an assessment of gas-using infrastructure transition by 2027 to support a longer-term transition to gas-free operations providing funding to transition away from gas infrastructure. 	1 rolling document that provides a list of all gas using equipment.
	2.1.2 Prioritise investment to upgrade our operations to meet the 2025 emissions reduction target.	Keep > Update	2.1.2 Provide the financial cost and return of investment to the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) to prioritise investment to upgrade operations that meets emissions reduction targets by 2027.	Complete understanding of costs reported internally and externally.
	2.1.3 Upgrade all street lights with energy efficient LED lighting by 2025.	Stop > Retire	NA	Action Completed
	2.1.4 Empower local businesses to reduce emissions by promoting access to energy efficiency and productivity initiatives, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> energy assessments and energy management plans incentives and finance programs advice on energy-efficient buildings. 	Keep > Update	2.1.4 Empower local businesses to reduce emissions by promoting access to energy efficiency and productivity initiatives, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> energy assessments and energy management plans incentives and finance programs advice on energy-efficient buildings via the Reelectrify Business Program provided this program remains funded through the Climate Change Partnership Grant. 	Businesses engaged with energy efficiency improvements.
	2.1.5 Support community efforts to reduce emissions by promoting access to energy efficiency programs, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> home energy assessments advice on available rebates and programs tailored programs to support community members most vulnerable to climate change impacts advocacy to state government to improve energy and thermal performance of existing public housing stock in the Geelong region. 	Keep > Integrate	NA	Actions Captured: Focus Area 1

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
2.2 Optimise energy efficiency in new buildings, facilities and infrastructure.	2.2.1 Review and strengthen our Sustainable Buildings Policy to reduce emissions for new buildings and energy-using infrastructure by 2022.	Keep > Update	2.2.1 Review and strengthen our Sustainable Buildings Policy to reduce emissions for new buildings and energy-using infrastructure by 2022.	SBP has been approved by ELT.
	2.2.2 Develop and implement best-practice Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) Plans for all new urban developments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern and Western Geelong Growth Areas. 	Keep > Refine	2.2.2 Develop and implement best-practice Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) Plans for all new urban developments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern and Western Geelong Growth Areas. 	List no. of ESD actions that go beyond minimum standard.
	2.2.3 Amend procurement policy and practices to prioritise low embodied energy, sustainably produced, climate-resilient infrastructure and asset purchases, such as road and pavement surfaces, and undertake climate risk assessment of significant infrastructure and procurement decisions.	Keep > Update	2.2.3 Amend procurement policy and practices to prioritise low embodied energy, sustainably produced, climate-resilient infrastructure and asset purchases, such as road and pavement surfaces, and undertake climate risk assessment of significant infrastructure and procurement decisions.	Demonstrate improvements to procurement policy.
	2.2.4 Actively discourage gas infrastructure in nominated new developments and support renewable alternatives by 2022.	Stop > Retire	2.2.4 Actively discourage gas infrastructure in nominated new developments and support renewable alternatives by 2022.	Action Completed
	2.2.5 Encourage all new buildings to meet '7-Star' building standards, in line with anticipated changes to the National Construction Code.	Stop > Retire	2.2.5 Encourage all new buildings to meet '7-Star' building standards, in line with anticipated changes to the National Construction Code.	Action Completed
	2.2.6 Educate prospective new building owners of the advantages of ESD buildings by 2023.	Stop > Superseded	2.2.6 Educate prospective new building owners of the advantages of ESD buildings by 2023.	Prospective and existing homeowners can participate in existing projects and find information required on the <i>Our Climate Actions</i> website
	2.2.7 Carry out on-site ESD inspections to ensure compliance with planning permits by 2022.	Stop > Deprioritised	2.2.7 Carry out on-site ESD inspections to ensure compliance with planning permits by 2022.	Beyond Council resources.



Electric vehicle charging station

PRINCIPLE 3

SWITCH TO SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT AND CLEANER FUELS

- Of the five actions due by 2022–25 for Principle 3, four are on-track and one is delayed.
- Of the eight ongoing actions, one is completed, three delayed and five on-track.
- Highlights for the first two years are shown in Table 6.
- Challenges and opportunities for achieving Principle 3 are shown in Table 7.

PRINCIPLE 3 ACTIONS

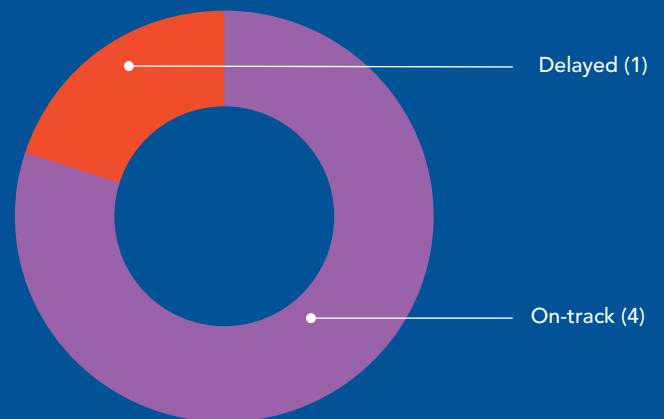


TABLE 6 HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPLE 3

P3: FOCUS AREA	FA: ACTION	HIGHLIGHT
3.1 Prioritise the development of sustainable transport infrastructure and services	3.1.2 Implement and promote the <i>Building Better Bike Connections</i> project to encourage active transport by 2022.	Stage one Southern and western link complete. Stage 2 has been deferred. Councillors resolved to not award a contract for the southern link of the <i>Building Better Bike Connections</i> project between Central Geelong and Waurn Ponds, which was proposed to include a section on High Street, Belmont. The decision to award the tender was deferred at Council's meeting in July 2022. Separated active travel path networks are being incorporated into Northern and Western Growth Areas.
	3.2.1 Transition City-owned fleet vehicles to zero emission alternatives by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increasing hybrid vehicles in our fleet assessing and installing EV charging infrastructure by 2024 changing over light fleet vehicles to EV alternatives by 2027 	Continued transition of the City's light fleet vehicles to zero emissions by 2027 through procuring additional electric vehicles and installing more fleet vehicle charging infrastructure. The City has 13 EVs in use such as MGs, Hyundais, Kia and six Kangoos with 17 on order. 61 hybrids in the fleet earmarked for replacement.
3.2 Transition vehicles to zero emission power sources	3.2.5 Support the installation of a network of publicly available electric vehicle charging stations powered by renewable energy by the end of 2024.	Public charging stations have been installed in Leopold Hub, Armstrong Creek East Hub, Cunningham Pier, Leisurelink Aquatic and Recreation Centre, and the North Bellarine Aquatic Centre, allowing residents and visitors to our region to contribute to our approach to a low carbon future. These charging stations have complemented 5 dual port charging states in the Belmont, Corio and Drysdale depots with more planned for financial year 2024–25. The City has seen a doubling year-on-year of charge hours by the community.

TABLE 7 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACHIEVING PRINCIPLE 3

PROGRAM	CHALLENGE	OPPORTUNITY
3.1.4 Investigate options to incentivise alternatives to private vehicle usage, including end-of-trip facilities, car-sharing and active travel.	The action is broad and unclear in its target audience.	Incentives are a policy tool that can shift behaviour, however, the action is to be revised to take advantage of the opportunity to alternatives to private vehicle usage putting downward pressure on transport emissions.
3.1.6 Investigate the transport footprint of the goods and services entering the region and develop a plan to reduce food and product miles through the local circular economy.	Main food outlets have existing strategies to reduce food mile emissions. Product miles is the responsibility of all tiers of government to ensure local products can be made economically.	Promote the ideals of slow fashion and composting food waste on-site.
3.2.7 Decarbonise private vehicle transport via an electric vehicle bulk buy program.	The benefits of green hydrogen are still being investigated with local government ill-equipped to play a role in its development.	Through the Electric Homes Program, the City will seek to work with delivery partner Geelong Sustainability to investigate an economically viable proposition to add electric vehicles with an emphasis on e-bikes.

PRINCIPLE 3: SWITCH TO SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT AND CLEANER FUELS - REVISED ACTIONS

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
3.1 Prioritise the development of sustainable transport infrastructure and services.	3.1.1 Initiate the development of an integrated transport strategy for better integration between modes of transport, and to support sustainable transport choices by 2022.	Keep > Update	3.1.1 Initiate the development of an integrated transport strategy for better integration between modes of transport, and to support sustainable transport choices by 2025.	<i>Integrated Transport Strategy</i>
	3.1.2 Implement and promote the <i>Building Better Bike Connections</i> project to encourage active transport by 2022.	Keep > Update	3.1.2 Implement and promote the <i>Building Better Bike Connections</i> project to encourage active transport by 2027.	Safer, sustainable transport for community and emissions reduction.
	3.1.3 Implement and promote the <i>Shared Trails Master Plan</i> to encourage active transport by 2022.	Keep > Update	3.1.3 Implement and promote the <i>Shared Trails Master Plan</i> to encourage active transport annually till 2030.	Safer, sustainable transport for community and emissions reduction.
	3.1.4 Investigate options to incentivise alternatives to private vehicle usage, including end-of-trip facilities, car-sharing and active travel.	Keep > Update	3.1.4 Investigate options to incentivise alternatives to private vehicle usage, including end-of-trip facilities, car-sharing and active travel by 2027.	Active travel numbers to and from work.
	3.1.5 Advocate for sustainable transport, including consolidated urban growth around public transport nodes, as well as more reliable and regular public transport services across the region.	Keep > Maintain	3.1.5 Advocate for sustainable transport, including consolidated urban growth around public transport nodes, as well as more reliable and regular public transport services across the region.	Development of the ITS and evaluate renewed focused efforts on nodes.
	3.1.6 Investigate the transport foot-print of the goods and services entering the region and develop a plan to reduce food and product miles through the local circular economy.	Start > Update	3.1.6 By June 2028, complete an assessment of the transport-related emissions associated with key goods and services entering the region, and develop a Local Circular Economy Action Plan that identifies strategies to reduce food and product miles through local sourcing, reuse, and redistribution.	Reduced transport emissions and better understanding of transport emissions.

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
3.2 Transition vehicles to zero emission power sources.	3.2.1 Transition City-owned fleet vehicles to zero emission alternatives by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increasing hybrid vehicles in our fleet assessing and installing EV charging infrastructure by 2024 changing over light fleet vehicles to EV alternatives by 2027 	Keep > Maintain	3.2.1 Transition City-owned fleet vehicles to zero emission alternatives by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increasing hybrid vehicles in our fleet assessing and installing EV charging infrastructure by 2028 changing over light fleet vehicles to EV alternatives by 2030 	Reduced transport emissions and better understanding of transport emissions.
	3.2.2 Assess EV charging infrastructure and vehicle options for our heavy and commercial vehicles by 2022.	Keep > Refine	3.2.2 Further assess EV charging infrastructure and vehicle options for our heavy and commercial vehicles by 2027.	Adequate charging infrastructure implemented.
	3.2.3 Advocate for transitioning the public transport bus fleet to zero-emission vehicle alternatives.	Keep > Maintain	3.2.3 Advocate for transitioning the public transport bus fleet to zero-emission vehicle alternatives.	Reporting to community of State-Government time line for zero-emission public transport bus fleet
	3.2.4 Investigate opportunities to provide incentives for zero-carbon transport options – for example, bike and electric vehicle users.	Keep > Refine	3.2.4 Investigate opportunities to provide incentives for zero-carbon transport options – for example, bike and EV users within existing supported programs in working toward net zero 2035.	Reduced transport emissions and promote active transport.
	3.2.5 Support the installation of a network of publicly available EV charging stations powered by renewable energy by the end of 2024.	Keep > Update	3.2.5 Support the installation of a network of publicly available EV charging stations powered by renewable energy by the end of 2024 and explore options to shift generated revenue into climate action revolving fund.	Feasibility study for increase in EV charging and seek to shift revenue generated into climate revolving fund.
	3.2.6 Investigate the viability of establishing free, renewable-energy-powered 'Park and Ride' shuttles across the municipality, similar to the Deakin Free Shuttle model.	Stop > Completed	NA	NA
	3.2.7 De carbonise private vehicle transport via an electric vehicle bulk buy program.	Stop > Integrated	NA	Reduced transport emissions.
	3.2.8 Investigate the transitional aspects of the region's transport networks as technologies mature and become more affordable.	Stop > Superseded	NA	NA



Garden organics composting facility, Anakié

PRINCIPLE 4

REDUCE NON-ENERGY EMISSIONS AND INCREASE CARBON STORAGE

PRINCIPLE 4 ACTIONS

- Of the two actions due by 2022–25 for Principle 4, one is complete and one is on-track.
- Of the four ongoing actions all are on-track
- Highlights for the first two years are shown in Table 8.
- Challenges and opportunities for achieving the nature principle are shown in Table 9.

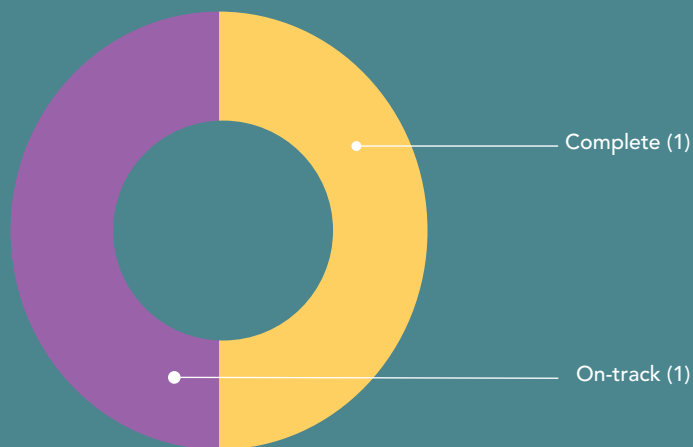


TABLE 8 HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPLE 5

P4: FOCUS AREA	FA: ACTION	HIGHLIGHT
4.1 Reduce waste and recover waste energy	4.1.1 Prioritise service and infrastructure solutions to reduce and capture municipal waste emissions. Continue to capture and reuse methane gas emissions from the Drysdale municipal landfill.	The City continues to capture and reuse methane gas emissions from the Drysdale municipal landfill. Further, avoiding waste to landfill re-mains a priority for the Waste Services Team through education and trial projects.
	4.1.2 Implement a pilot food waste collection service for residents by 2022.	From 2021–23, about 1500 Lara households participated in a food waste trial to divert food waste from landfill. The trial collected approximately 3.5 tonnes of food waste every week, material that would have otherwise gone to landfill.

TABLE 9 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACHIEVING PRINCIPLE 4

PROGRAM	CHALLENGE	OPPORTUNITY
<p>4.2.2 Investigate the feasibility of a regional carbon offsets scheme covering a variety of carbon sequestration solutions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establishing a regional carbon offset working group • developing a business case for a regional pilot scheme. 	Carbon offsets continue to be a solution in the climate wheelhouse of solutions, however, contention over measurement and verification re-mains problematic at the state and national level.	The BSWCA is a network of water authorities, universities, and local government from Queenscliff to the South Australian border. This group is currently investigating carbon sequestration solutions including a business case for a regional pilot scheme for the region.
4.2.3 Continue research into opportunities for blue carbon in the Geelong region.	Blue Carbon Labs formerly of Deakin University has since ceased operations in its current guise and has moved to RMIT University.	Despite the loss of Blue Carbon Labs, BSWCA is investigating options for blue carbon and how best to measure, monitor and execute providing a great opportunity to improve sequestration of our water assets.

PRINCIPLE 4: REDUCE NON-ENERGY EMISSIONS AND INCREASE CARBON STORAGE - REVISED ACTIONS

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
4.1. Reduce waste and recover waste energy.	4.1.1 Prioritise service and infrastructure solutions to reduce and capture municipal waste emissions. Continue to capture and reuse methane gas emissions from the Drysdale municipal landfill.	Stop > Completed	NA	Report on emissions captured and power generated.
	4.1.2 Implement a pilot food waste collection service for residents by 2022.	Stop > Completed	NA	Reported on pilot and promoted on the <i>Our Climate Actions</i> website.
	4.1.3 Investigate opportunities to manage residual waste, such as an organic waste processing facility to support the circular economy by 2022.	Keep > Updated	4.1.3 Investigate opportunities to for food waste processing at the organic waste processing facility by 2027.	Reduced methane emissions from landfill diversion of food and organic waste.
4.2 Support establishment of regional draw down solutions.	4.2.1 Promote climate conscious sustainable agriculture practices through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> education and incentives policy and planning. 	Keep > Updated	4.2.1 Understand the number of agriculture organisations that exist and understand their needs to tailor climate conscious sustainable agricultural practices by 2027.	Provide a report on the waste or end product
	4.2.2 Investigate the feasibility of a regional carbon offsets scheme covering a variety of carbon sequestration solutions by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishing a regional carbon offset working group developing a business case for a regional pilot scheme. 	Keep > Maintain	4.2.2 Investigate the feasibility of a regional carbon offsets scheme covering a variety of carbon sequestration solutions by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishing a regional carbon offset working group developing a business case for a regional pilot scheme. 	Present to community on draw-down solutions when appropriate.
	4.2.3 Continue research into opportunities for blue carbon in the Geelong region.	Keep > Updated	4.2.3 Continue to collaborate with research institutions and regional partners to complete at least one feasibility study on blue carbon opportunities in the Gee-long region, identifying priority sites, potential carbon sequestration benefits, and funding or policy pathways for wider implementation by December 2027.	Identify sites in collaboration with Marine Planners.



PRINCIPLE 5

INCREASE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

- All four listed actions are ongoing and on track.
- Highlights for the first two years are shown in Table 10.
- Challenges and opportunities for achieving the IWN principle are shown in Table 11.

PRINCIPLE 5 ACTIONS

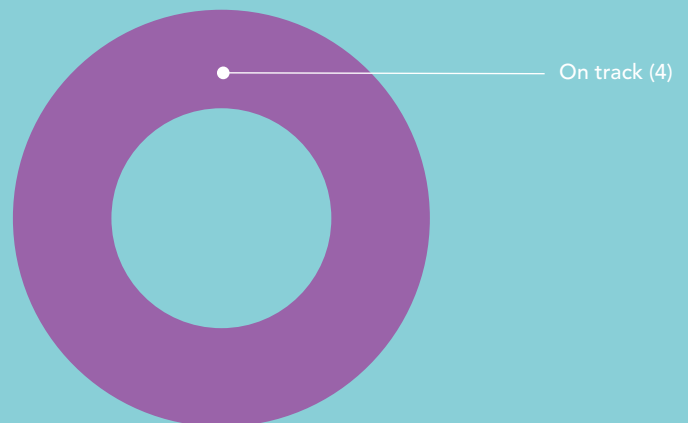


TABLE 10 HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPLE 5

P4: FOCUS AREA	FA: ACTION	HIGHLIGHT
5.1 Improve local climate risk knowledge.	5.1.1 Improve understanding of local changes in temperature, rainfall, and variables related to urban infrastructure condition and function by making existing climate data and information more accessible and useful for the community.	<i>Our Climate Actions</i> website is our central location that provides up-to-date information about local climate actions.

TABLE 11 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACHIEVING PRINCIPLE 5

PROGRAM	CHALLENGE	OPPORTUNITY
5.1.2 Monitor, evaluate, report, and improve climate change adaptation by developing and implementing a long-term framework based on state wide risk assessments.	State-wide risk assessments provide a starting point to better evaluate overall risk to the region. However, the City understands that climate risks must be adequately addressed at a granular and targeted level.	Currently, the City is evaluating beyond best practice climate adaptation frameworks that build on existing works that teams across multiple City departments carry out that improves reporting and scales actions faster.

PRINCIPLE 5: INCREASE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS - REVISED ACTIONS

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
5.1 Improve local climate risk knowledge.	5.1.1 Improve understanding of local changes in temperature, rainfall, and variables related to urban infrastructure condition and function by making existing climate data and information more accessible and useful for the community.	Keep > Refine	5.1.1. Utilise the <i>Our Climate Actions</i> , an interactive online platform, that presents local trends in temperature, rainfall, and climate impacts on urban infrastructure, and tailored resources to support community understanding and action, with ongoing updates.	Community to utilise <i>Our Climate Actions</i> website for up-to-date information on weather variability and communicated through all channels.
	5.1.2 Monitor, evaluate, report and improve climate change adaptation by developing and implementing a long-term framework based on state-wide risk assessments.	Keep > Maintain	5.1.2 Monitor, evaluate, report and improve climate change adaptation by developing and implementing a long-term framework based on state-wide risk assessments.	Developed risk matrix for City classed assets.
	5.1.3 Continue to provide guidance material to support government, business and community in planning and delivering effective place-based adaptation to address the impacts of climate change.	Keep > Updated	5.1.3 Once action 5.1.2 is established, the City will provide material support to community in delivering effective place-based adaptation to address climate change impacts.	Identification of most at-risk sites for extreme weather events because of a changing climate.
	5.1.4 Utilise the City's Sustainability Framework, Planning Framework and environmental policies to mitigate climate change impacts and support positive community health and well-being outcomes.	Keep > Updated	5.1.4 Utilising the City's Sustainability Procurement, Planning Framework and environmental policies to embed health and well-being attributes into climate risk assessments to community with particular reference to mental and physical well-being as a result of extreme weather events and their increased frequency as a consequence of a changing climate by 2028.	Community is better informed of health impacts of a changing climate.



Eastern Park stormwater harvesting dam

PRINCIPLE 6

BUILD CLIMATE ACTION INTO DECISION-MAKING

PRINCIPLE 6 ACTIONS

- Of the two actions due by 2022–25 both are considered on track and ongoing.
- All seven listed actions that are ongoing are on track.
- Highlights for the first two years are shown in Table 12.
- Challenges and opportunities for achieving the IWN principle are shown in Table 13.

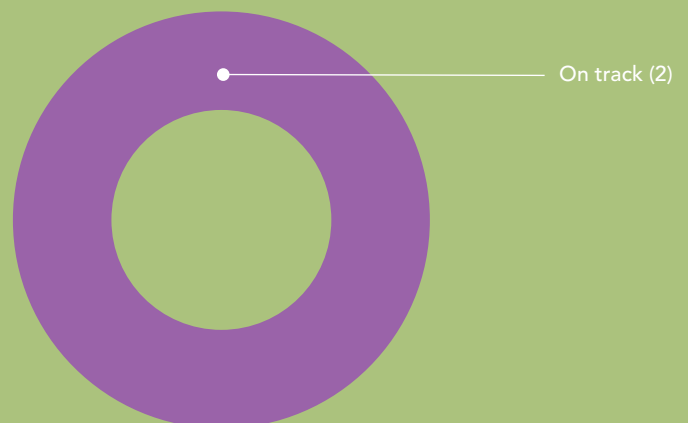


TABLE 12 HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPLE 6

P4: FOCUS AREA	FA: ACTION	HIGHLIGHT
6.1 Embed climate thinking into our decisions.	6.1.4 Support and enhance a culture in our organisation that leads to improved decisions for climate change resilience.	Through our <i>Climate Change Thinking</i> eLearning modules for professional development, the City promotes the awareness, collaboration, and a commitment to sustainability across all levels. This measure cultivates a work environment that encourages innovative approaches to address climate challenges effectively.
	6.2.2 Implement new risk management and reporting software solutions to manage risks and enable integrated reporting by 2022.	The City has risk management soft-ware that include climate risk metrics of which is reported on annually as stipulated in the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> . Now, the City is exploring how to report on climate risk on priority sites and areas against extreme weather events, such as sudden rainfall events and flash flooding.

TABLE 13 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACHIEVING PRINCIPLE 6

PROGRAM	CHALLENGE	OPPORTUNITY
6.1.3 Plan for climate change and emergency management at the municipal level, provide relief and recovery services and support emergency response operations.	Frequency of extreme weather events is on the rise and challenging to predict. This is putting increasing pressure on emergency service staff and existing budgets.	Climate events and emergency management at the municipal level are intertwined and is becoming of greater importance. Linking cost effective prevention measures with emergency management financial outlays is an ongoing piece of work the City is investigating.
6.2.4 Review our Financial Investment Policy and develop an investment strategy that is consistent with the <i>Sustainability Framework 2020</i> .	This issue can only be addressed through strategic planning that integrates climate risk across the City's financial investments.	The City's long-life assets and its investment strategies of those assets are consistent with the sustainability framework and continues to take a lifecycle approach. Integrating climate change impacts in investment decisions continues to be an area of ongoing activity.

PRINCIPLE 6: BUILD CLIMATE ACTION INTO DECISION-MAKING - REVISED ACTIONS

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
6.1 Embed climate thinking into our decisions.	6.1.1 Ensure local planning schemes, standards, codes and policies support the use of best available climate change data and adaptive planning principles as part of decision making, particularly as it relates to infrastructure, development and land use changes.	Keep > Updated	6.1.1 By June 2027, review local planning schemes, standards, codes, and policies and aim to embed the use of best available climate change data and adaptive planning principles in all infrastructure, development, and land use decision-making, with formal adoption and implementation tracked annually.	Planning schemes include projected climate data to respond to climate adaptation.
	6.1.2 Develop a policy to ensure all new strategies and plans consider the implications of climate change risk and demonstrate how to manage such issues by 2023.	Keep > Refine	6.1.2 Develop a policy to ensure all new strategies and plans consider the implications of climate change risk and demonstrate how to manage such issues by 2027.	Embedded climate risks into applicable plans and strategies.
	6.1.3 Plan for climate change and emergency management at the municipal level, provide relief and recovery services and support emergency response operations.	Keep > Refine	6.1.3 Plan for climate change and emergency management at the municipal level, provide relief and recovery services and support emergency response operations by 2027.	A comprehensive emergency management plan that integrates climate change projections, focusing on preparedness, response, relief, and recovery services tailored to address climate-related hazards such as heatwave, floods, and bushfire.
	6.1.4. Support and enhance a culture in our organisation that leads to improved decisions for climate change resilience.	Keep > Maintain	6.1.4. Support and enhance a culture in our organisation that leads to improved decisions for climate change resilience.	All staff members, from leadership to front-line employees, have completed climate resilience training by the end of 2026, fostering a unified culture of sustainability and informed decision making throughout the organization.

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
6.2 Corporate climate risk management and disclosure	6.2.1 Monitor, evaluate and report on our climate change adaptation readiness.	Keep > Refine	6.2.1 Monitor, evaluate and re-report on our climate change adaptation readiness by 2028.	Publish an bi-annual report that evaluates progress on climate adaptation efforts, highlights readiness gaps, and recommends future actions to improve resilience, aligned with local and regional climate adaptation goals.
	6.2.2 Implement new risk management and reporting software solutions to manage risks and enable integrated reporting by 2022.	Stop > Retire	NA	The City has implemented risk management software that includes climate considerations reported on annually as per stipulations in the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .
	6.2.3 Integrate climate change risk management into investment decisions and develop a financial risk disclosure statement.	Keep > Refine	6.2.3 Integrate climate change risk management into investment decisions and develop a financial risk disclosure statement by 2029.	By the end of 2028, issue a comprehensive financial risk disclosure statement that details the climate-related risks in the investment portfolio and outlines mitigation strategies, aligned with the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) recommendations.
	6.2.4 Review our <i>Financial Investment Policy</i> (FIP) and develop an investment strategy that is consistent with the <i>Sustainability Framework 2020</i> .	Keep > Updated	6.2.4 Review our FIP and develop an investment strategy by 2028.	By the end of 2028, an established FIP that considers climate considerations for a future investment strategy.
	6.2.5 Pursue financial divestment away from fossil-fuel-aligned investments.	Keep > Refine	6.2.5 Pursue financial divestment away from fossil-fuel-aligned investments by 2028.	By 2028, the City will have divested at least 50 per cent of its fossil-fuel-aligned investments, redirecting those funds into sustainable and renewable energy portfolios, green bonds, or socially responsible investment funds.



PRINCIPLE 7

INCREASE COLLABORATIVE CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSES

- Of the three actions due by 2022–25, one is completed, one delayed and one is on track.
- Of the nine ongoing actions, two are delayed and seven are on track.
- Highlights for the first two years are shown in Table 14.
- Challenges and opportunities for achieving Principle 7 are shown in Table 15.

PRINCIPLE 7 ACTIONS



TABLE 14 HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPLE 7

P4: FOCUS AREA	FA: ACTION	HIGHLIGHT
7.1 Build networks and partnerships for adaptation path-ways.	7.1.1 Help establish the BSWCA to build networks and cross-agency relationships in climate change adaptation planning and identify opportunities to collaborate across tenures and boundaries by 2022.	The BSWCA has been established and is a network of water authorities, niversities, and local government from Queenscliff to the South Australian border. BSWCA has been successful in two state government climate resilient grant opportunities.
7.2 Collaborate in areas of emerging climate risk.	<p>7.2.3 Increase resilience to, and reduce risk of, the urban heat island effect by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completing urban heatwave vulnerability modelling and identifying priority urban greening sites by 2023 • developing an urban ecology plan by 2025 • increasing tree canopy cover in urban Greater Geelong to 25 per cent by 2045, with an interim target of 20 percent by 2030. <p>7.2.7 Consider climate change risk assessments for biodiversity assets across the municipality, in conjunction with the development of our planned biodiversity strategy.</p>	<p>Utilise existing urban heat vulnerability data, collaborate with universities, environmental groups, and local communities to identify priority sites for urban greening, and engage volunteers and community groups for tree-planting efforts. This is on top of roughly 2,500 trees planted per annum and absorbing 5,000 trees per annum of new trees in new developments.</p> <p>The <i>Plan for Nature</i> is currently in draft format and will be released early 2024 after significant community engagement. This will include the climate risk on biodiversity as-sets and seeks to align actions across multiple action plans with the <i>Plan for Nature</i> to address climate risk. The City has also established a risk register that includes monitoring and reporting on climate change impacts to the natural environment.</p>

TABLE 15 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACHIEVING PRINCIPLE 7

PROGRAM	CHALLENGE	OPPORTUNITY
7.1.5 Allocate resources to support the planning and implementation of climate mitigation and adaptation programs by regional primary producers and agribusiness.	Primary producers and agribusiness of the region is decreasing overtime in place of housing developments. The City is unsure which primary producers will retain operations and type of agribusiness moving forward.	Currently, the City is unable to facilitate this action as it prioritizes other actions. Moving forward, this action will be investigated in the coming years with projects and initiatives subject to funding.
7.2.1 Collaborate with primary producers to investigate how climate change could impact agriculture and sustainable land use and improve understanding of local supply chains.	Sustainable land use is of primary importance to producers and the City. Determining which primary producers are in line with this area is a challenge.	Ensure close liaison across all departments to establish clear requirements, and guidelines to assist primary producers in preparing their land for future climate impacts while also seeking nature covenants on private land to improve water flows and biodiversity.

PRINCIPLE 7: INCREASE COLLABORATIVE CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSES - REVISED ACTIONS

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
7.1 Build networks and partnerships for adaptation path-ways.	7.1.1 Help establish the BSWCA to build networks and cross-agency relationships in climate change adaptation planning and identify opportunities to collaborate across tenures and boundaries by 2022.	Stop > Completed	NA	NA
	7.1.2 Ensure critical decisions consider climate change mitigation and adaptation implications.	Stop > Integrated	NA	This is embedded across the organisation in other policies. Also, what is deemed critical is too interpretive in nature and cannot be applied as an action but rather as a consideration across all critical decisions.
	7.1.3 Improve coordination of policy development and implementation between various levels of government and different land managers to promote synergies and avoid maladaptation.	Stop > Integrated	NA	BSWCA and other existing cross-governmental groups to lead this action with City participation.
	7.1.4 Allocate resources to support local businesses in developing climate mitigation and adaptation programs, technologies and solutions.	Keep > Refine	7.1.4 Allocate resources to support the local businesses in developing climate mitigation and adaptation programs, technologies and solutions by 2026.	Net Zero Business Strategies for Business per annum to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
	7.1.5 Allocate resources to support the planning and implementation of climate mitigation and adaptation programs by regional primary producers and agribusiness.	Keep > Refine	7.1.5 Allocate resources to support the planning and implementation of climate mitigation and adaptation programs by regional primary producers and agribusiness by 2028.	By 2026, provide resource support, including technical guidance and access to adaptation tools, to regional primary producers and agribusinesses, helping them to develop and implement effective climate mitigation and adaptation strategies - once agribusiness type is established.

FOCUS AREA	ORIGINAL ACTION	KEEP, STOP, INTEGRATE	NEW ACTION	OUTCOME
7.2 Collaborate in areas of emerging climate risk.	7.2.1 Collaborate with primary producers to investigate how climate change could impact agriculture and sustainable land use and improve understanding of local supply chains.	Keep > Updated	7.2.1 By June 2028, partner with at least one local primary producer group to assess the impacts of climate change on agriculture and sustainable land use, and map key vulnerabilities in local supply chains, with findings published in a regional climate smart agriculture report.	Improved climate adaptation outcomes for agribusiness.
	7.2.2 Partner with Traditional Owners to ensure their cultural, ecological and economic values and expertise are integrated into climate adaptation planning.	Keep > Maintain	7.2.2 Partner with Traditional Owners to ensure their cultural, ecological and economic values and expertise are integrated into climate adaptation planning.	Improved collaboration between Traditional Owners and climate adaptation planning.
	7.2.3 Increase resilience to, and reduce risk of, the urban heat island effect by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completing urban heatwave vulnerability modelling and identifying priority urban greening sites by 2023 • developing an urban ecology plan by 2025 • increasing tree canopy cover in urban Greater Geelong to 25 per cent by 2045, with an interim target of 20 percent by 2030. 	Keep > Updated	7.2.3 Increase resilience to, and reduce the risk of, the urban heat island effect by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • utilising existing urban heatwave vulnerability modelling and identifying priority urban greening sites by January 2027 via the <i>Urban Forest Strategy</i>. • increasing tree canopy cover in urban Greater Geelong to 30% by 2045, inline with the State Government policy. 	Increased urban greening to mitigate urban heat island and storm surge.
	7.2.4 Investigate the establishment of a Regional Adaptation Strategic Partnership to improve our understanding of coastal processes in particular coastal erosion by 2022.	Keep > Refine	7.2.4 Investigate formalising a Regional Adaptation Strategic Partnership to improve our understanding of coastal processes in particular coastal erosion by 2026.	Improved understanding of the impacts of climate change on our coastline.
	7.2.5 Develop coastal adaptation plans by 2024 that identify the adaptation pathways and responses for priority coastal hazard sites along the Bellarine Peninsula, Corio Bay and outer coast.	Keep > Refine	7.2.5 Continue developing coastal adaptation plans by 2026 that identify the adaptation pathways and responses for priority coastal hazard sites along the Bellarine Peninsula, Corio Bay and outer coast.	Identified sites requiring adaptation site plans.
	7.2.6. Investigate and promote market incentives for retro fitting homeowner and rental proper-ties.	Keep > Refine	7.2.6. Investigate and promote market incentives for retrofitting homeowner and rental properties until 2030.	By 2030, 5-10% of Geelong properties will have performed a household of retrofit.
	7.2.7 Consider climate change risk assessments for biodiversity assets across the municipality, in conjunction with the development of our planned biodiversity strategy.	Keep > Refine	7.2.7 Consider climate change risk assessments for biodiversity assets across the municipality, in conjunction with the development of the planned Plan for Nature and Urban Forest Strategy by 2027.	Complete understanding of costs on biodiversity assets in a changing climate.

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