



SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY



INDIGENOUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Campbelltown City Council (Council) acknowledges the Dharawal people as the traditional custodians of the land discussed in this Sustainability Strategy. We pay our respects to the Elders — both past, present and future, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Aboriginal Australia.

This acknowledgement recognises that the land Campbelltown is built on was in the care of the Dharawal people for over 50,000 years. This land was neither owned nor given, and the majority of the population living here now are guests on sacred land that was intimately connected to the original people.

Council commits to acknowledging and respecting the skills, knowledge and harmonious connection to land of Aboriginal people, and hopes that this Strategy reflects elements of this age-old culture.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As a local government body, responsible for roads, traffic, waste, environmental management, development, heritage and community services, Council has a major role to play in the wider context of sustainability, both locally and nationally. The decisions that Council makes every day, combined with those of other local councils, have the collective power to either drive or impede sustainability advancements. As such, the individual impact and influence of Council cannot be over-stated.

In recognising this important role, and Council's legislative obligations, this Strategy is structured around key issues related to sustainability. The Strategy aims to embed the concept of sustainability into the culture, spirit and operation of Council through engaging staff, management and the elected representatives in a united movement, guided by the following broader vision:

"Working together to achieve smart practices for a positive legacy".

The Strategy consists of three core sections; sustainable governance, sustainable environment and sustainable community. These three core sections are further refined into chapters exploring topics of administrative governance, environmental protection and management, and community wellbeing.

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1 *Section One* SUSTAINABILITY AND COUNCIL

1.1

WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY?

SUSTAINABILITY IS A TERM THAT IS OFTEN THOUGHT OF AS BEING JUST ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT. AND PEOPLE ARE OFTEN SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT SUSTAINABILITY IS MUCH MORE

Sustainability is a complex concept that crosses many disciplines and organisational boundaries, involves many stakeholders, is often highly debated and usually never has just one simple meaning.

Sustainability is a way of looking at our relationship with the environment. It recognises that we use the environment's resources to power our communities and its sinks to capture our waste. Furthermore, sustainability demonstrates that we are dependent on the environment not only for food, water and shelter, but its by-products also form the basis of goods, services, economics, science, and other spheres of human activity and advancement.

Sustainability challenges the way we live and the choices we make. The environment is not infinite, and we need to understand its limits so that future generations can enjoy the same or a better quality of life. In doing so, sustainability inspires us to incorporate a balanced decision-making process supported by sound governance and leadership. This decision-making process respectfully balances and gives equal worth to environmental, social and financial considerations, and is known as a quadruple bottom line approach.

1.2

DEFINING SUSTAINABILITY

The concept of sustainability was first introduced in 1987 in a report entitled 'Our Common Future'. Prepared under the direction of the United Nations by the World Commission on Environment and Development, the report was founded on the basic recognition that:

- the environment is not separate from human actions, ambitions and needs
- environmental challenges are not bound by national sovereignty, political structures, economic paradigms or scientific disciplines
- environmental challenges are also not a problem of the rich or a side-effect of the industrialised wealthy, they are a problem for all
- to overcome environmental challenges, actions need to be communicated in a way that reaches the minds and hearts of young and old
- a lack of action due to caution or requiring more detail is no longer an option.

The report concluded with a 'call for action' which sought for a future that equally balanced economic, social and environmental needs. The marriage of these needs under the guidance of sound governance/ leadership has since become known as a 'quadruple bottom line approach'.

With the above belief in mind, sustainable development was defined as:

"Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

Subsequent to the Report, in 1992 the Australian Government's National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development further defined Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) as:

"Using, conserving and enhancing the community's resources so that ecological processes, on which life depends, are maintained, and the total quality of life, now and in the future, can be increased".

Of specific importance to Council's operations is the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*. This Act regulates how councils are to conduct their business and establishes a set of principles, known as the Council Charter, to guide councils in their service of the community. With regard to sustainability, the Council Charter includes the following commitments to:

- *"properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment... in a manner that is consistent with, and promotes the principles, of Ecologically Sustainable Development"*
- *"have regard to the long term and cumulative effects of its decisions "*

ESD is defined by the Act as requiring *"the effective integration of economic and environmental considerations in decision-making processes"*.

Specifically, ESD can be achieved through the implementation of the following principles:

The precautionary principle:

If there are threats of serious and irreversible damage to people or ecosystems, a lack of full scientific certainty or evidence should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation.

Intergenerational equity:

The present generation should ensure that the health, diversity and productivity of the environment is maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations.

Conservation of biodiversity and ecological integrity:

Conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity should be a fundamental consideration.

Environmental values:

Environmental factors should be included in the valuation of assets and services. For example, the polluter pays, application of life cycle cost analysis and utilisation of incentive structures to ensure that environmental goals are pursued in a way that maximises benefits and minimises costs.



1.3 CAMPBELLTOWN CITY COUNCIL AND ITS COMMUNITY

Council is responsible for the Local Government Area (LGA) of Campbelltown which is located on the south-western edge of the Sydney Metropolitan Area, approximately 53 kilometres from the Sydney Central Business District (CBD).

Originally developed as a satellite city in response to the Sydney Region Outline Plan of 1968, the Campbelltown LGA (as part of Campbelltown-Macarthur) is now formally identified by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment as a Regional City Centre for the South West of Sydney. As one of only three Regional City Centres located outside of the Sydney and Parramatta Central Business Districts, Campbelltown is expected to see a range of new business, government, health, cultural, retail and recreational opportunities. With this, population is projected to increase from 150,000 in 2006 to 230,000 by 2030. Although this growth will present significant opportunities for Campbelltown, if not governed correctly, these opportunities may also present significant challenges to the local community, economy and environment. While these pressures are unavoidable, their impact can be minimised by acknowledging their existence and realigning current practices.

1.4 A VISION FOR A SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATION

Creating a vision for a sustainable organisation helps to shape the way Council and its community see their future – it helps to clarify values and ethics, inspire dreams and most importantly lead to action planning.

In creating a sustainable organisation, the following statement sets out Council's vision that will enable it to meet its sustainability requirements (outlined in section 1.1), and lead its community by example:

"Working together to achieve smart practices for a positive legacy".

Council staff, management and elected representatives will exhibit sustainability that will:

- consider their role through 'systems thinking', which recognises that our behaviours and practices are connected
- engage in sound decision-making processes, based on a quadruple bottom line approach
- model strong and ethical leadership
- recognise that sustainability is an incremental journey of action, reflection and review towards a desired vision
- aim for continuous improvement and innovation in sustainable practice
- develop strategic policies to ensure uniformity and commitment to best practice
- engage in shared partnerships across all of Council's operational areas
- demonstrate the spirit of sustainability.



COUNCIL REDUCED ITS PAPER CONSUMPTION BY



when comparing the 2013-2014 financial year against the 2012-2013 financial year.

1.5 OUR PROGRESS TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATION


Council has been adopting and implementing a range of sustainable practices for a number of years. In most cases, sustainability has been an indirect/unplanned outcome of a larger project, typically achieved independently and often understated in its acknowledgement.

Recognising this, Council established a Sustainability Committee in 2009 to provide both a coordinated and strategic approach to sustainability. The Committee is guided by a formal Terms of Reference and consists of two managers from each Division of Council. The Committee meets a minimum of five times a year to discuss and facilitate a diverse range of initiatives. These initiatives involve the development of policies, the design and implementation of on-ground works, the expenditure of funds and project accounting.

Positioned below the Sustainability Committee are five working parties that are responsible for providing and implementing ideas, activities and policies. These working parties and their vision statements include:

- Sustainable Land Management – to facilitate sustainable growth while maintaining safe and accessible open space
- Sustainable Catchments – to achieve healthier and maintainable catchments that can be enjoyed by the community into the future
- Sustainable Council – to build an organisation that engages and educates, makes mindful decisions and incorporates best practice for a positive legacy
- Sustainable Facilities – Coming soon

Through the Sustainability Committee's guidance, Council has achieved significant results.

OVER  345,000KWH OF CLEAN ENERGY

was collectively produced by photovoltaic systems at Council's Civic Centre and Arts Centre in their first year.





2 *Section Two* IMPLEMENTATION



2.1

IMPLEMENTATION

This Strategy has been developed as a strategic document to be implemented holistically across Council. Sustainability is an organisational commitment, and as such, requires a holistic organisational approach. In this regard, this Strategy and other sustainability matters have been pre-assigned to the management of the Sustainability Committee and its working parties. Matters relating to sustainability will be reported to the elected representatives for their consultation, endorsement and support.

2.2

REVIEW AND REPORTING

The implementation progress of this Strategy will be reviewed annually by the Senior Sustainability Officer. A more detailed review examining the state of sustainability, currency of legislation and applicability of action items will be undertaken every four years by the Senior Sustainability Officer.

To ensure the successful implementation of this Strategy, a number of progress reports will be produced as outlined in Table 1:

TABLE 1: REPORTING STRUCTURE

REPORT TITLE	REPORTING FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	REPORTING AUTHORITY
Strategy Progress Report	Annual	Sustainability Officer	Council
Action item Progress Report	Quarterly	Sustainability Officer	Executive
Strategy review	Four years	Sustainability Officer	Council

2.3

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Historically, financial assistance to promote and implement sustainability has been sourced from the budget of Council’s Environment Unit or through annual State Government grant payments. Over recent years, the main focus of the annual State Government grant program has changed, and as a result, the opportunity to obtain external grants has significantly decreased. In response, to continue to support the implementation of sustainability projects, which are now regarded to be an important core function of Council, at their meeting on 26 March 2013, Council resolved to establish a sustainability fund. The fund captures a portion of the financial savings from sustainability initiatives and redistributes these savings into future initiatives. Funding guidelines facilitate the distribution of money through assessing the sustainability merits of the project.





3 *Section Three* SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE

This section explores the pivotal role governance plays in the success of creating a sustainable organisation.

Sustainable Governance addresses:

- 3.1 Sustainable Procurement
- 3.2 Sustainable Transport
- 3.3 Sustainable Staff
- 3.4 Sustainable Events
- 3.5 Sustainable City

3.1

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT IS THE HOLISTIC CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES RELATING TO THE PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES. THIS INCLUDES RESOURCE EXTRACTION AND CONSUMPTION, MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCTION, TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS, PRODUCT AND ASSET DESIGN, USE AND MAINTENANCE, RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL OPTIONS, EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND CONDITIONS, CORRUPTION, UNFAIR COMPETITION AND ETHICAL BEHAVIOUR

Background

In 2009, the Local Government and Shires Association of NSW reported that local governments in NSW spend approximately \$5 billion per year on goods and services.

This significant expenditure represents the growing contribution NSW councils make to the public and private market.

The procurement of goods and services not only relates to the physical purchase of an item or engagement of a service, but also includes the behind-the-scenes processes that make it possible. This includes the development of project briefs, tender specifications and supplier evaluation.

Local Government in NSW, as a significant purchasing collective, is in an ideal position to influence a wider shift away from the current bias of purchasing items based on lowest initial price, to one that considers and balances environmental and social values and standards.

Benefits



- Reduced operating costs



- Increased support of ethical practices
- Increased well-being
- Increased community linkages



- Reduced habitat loss
- Reduced energy consumption
- Increased support of green technology
- Reduced waste generation
- Reduced harmful substances



- Leading by example

Key documents

- Procurement Policy

The procurement of goods and services by Council can be distinguished into two types.

Smaller purchases are those that are less than \$50,000 in value and do not require a weighted assessment criteria. When purchasing these items, Council's Procurement Policy requires the consideration of six key sustainability areas – greenhouse gas emissions, habitat destruction, product toxicity, water efficiency, soil degradation and waste.

Larger items are those that are greater than \$50,000 in value and require a formal submission which is assessed against a weighted assessment criteria. When purchasing these items, consideration is also required to be given to the sustainability of the company and its operations. In this regard, companies are required to provide environmental and waste policies, training records and details of any relevant initiatives.

Goal 1

INCREASE COUNCIL'S INVESTMENT IN SUSTAINABLY PRODUCED GOODS AND SERVICES THROUGH THE INCORPORATION OF SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| ACTION 1 | Annually review/update Council's Sustainable Procurement Policy in line with new policies, experiences and aims. Updates to the Policy should seek to support Council's commitment to sustainable procurement by supporting factors such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- whole of life cycle approach- supplier commitment to sustainability- environmental benefit and cost effectiveness. |
| ACTION 2 | Investigate the use of recycled road and footpath materials in new projects, and seek to mandate a target for such use. |
| ACTION 3 | Review Council's paper consumption and provide quarterly reports to Council's Executive team. |
| ACTION 4 | Implement the actions contained within Council's Sustainable Paper Authorised Statement. |
| ACTION 5 | Investigate the purchase of renewable energy across all of Council's energy contracts. |
| ACTION 6 | Develop a Sustainable Purchasing Policy to guide the procurement of smaller items such as stationery and incidentals (tea and coffee). Emphasis should be placed on the inclusion of items that carry environmental and social certifications (for example - fair trade). |
| ACTION 7 | Establish an educational program for stationery purchasing officers which provides information on what sustainable products are available and what their environmental and/or social certification means. |

3.2

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT IS THE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND GOODS IN A MANNER THAT MINIMISES ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS, AND IMPROVES OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

Background

Motor vehicles have an impact on the environment both locally and globally. Locally, their impact is felt through air pollution in the form of photochemical smog, which reduces air quality, resulting in a range of health impacts including respiratory illnesses and cardiovascular conditions. Globally, their impact is much greater through the release of greenhouse gas emissions contributing to climate change.

The combination of a vehicle's fuel consumption (measured in litres per 100 kilometres) and its greenhouse gas emissions (measured in grams per kilometre) are important components in understanding its environmental impact. While these measures are now common place, industry standards are yet to be established in Australia. Voluntary goals of 6.8L/100km and 222g/km by 2010 were expressed, however their currency has lapsed.

In the absence of mandatory standards, it is even more important for industry and councils to demonstrate leadership around sustainable fleet options.

Benefits



- Reduced operating costs



- Improved air quality
- Increased well-being



- Reduced reliance on non-renewable resources



- Leading by example



The transport sector is the

SECOND LARGEST
GREENHOUSE GAS POLLUTER IN AUSTRALIA RELEASING
MORE THAN 80 MILLION TONNES

of greenhouse gas pollution annually.

Key documents

- Energy Savings Action Plan

Council's Energy Savings Action Plan (2007) included a target for its passenger fleet to contain 85% or greater of four cylinder vehicles. This target was met in 2009.

Helpful documents

- Green Vehicle Guide

Since 2004, consumers have had access to a tool developed by the Federal Government, the Green Vehicle Guide (GVG), which collates information relating to fuel efficiency and carbon dioxide emissions, and provides a snapshot of a vehicle's overall environmental performance. This tool has been actively used by Council to identify and move toward more sustainable fleet choices.

Goal 1 REDUCE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF COUNCIL'S PASSENGER FLEET

ACTION 1 Monitor Council's passenger vehicle fleet by fuel type, consumption, distance travelled, fuel efficiency and greenhouse gas rating.

ACTION 2 Develop and implement a Sustainable Fleet Authorised Statement. The Authorised Statement should seek to support initiatives such as:

- the introduction of fuel efficient (<6 L/100km) vehicles
- the introduction of hybrid and electric cars
- strategies to use low emission fuel sources
- strategies to reduce vehicle particulate emissions
- utilising service centres which recycle/reuse parts or dispose of them sustainably

Goal 2 INCREASE AWARENESS, AND SUPPORT THE USE OF SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT OPTIONS

ACTION 1 Develop and implement a Council car-pooling program for staff travel to-and-from home and meetings.

ACTION 2 Investigate incentive programs to increase staff use of public transport options to and from work and meetings.

ACTION 3 Investigate and support the provision of equipment that enables the use of teleconferencing/video conferencing.

ACTION 4 Provide secure bicycle storage facilities at Council sites.

ACTION 5 Support the inclusion of cycleways in new development areas.

ACTION 6 Increase cycleway linkages throughout the LGA.

Goal 3 REDUCE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF COUNCIL'S HEAVY PLANT FLEET

ACTION 1 Monitor Council's heavy plant by fuel type, consumption, distance travelled, fuel efficiency and greenhouse gas rating.

ACTION 2 Develop and implement a Sustainable Plant Authorised Statement which provides strategic direction for reducing the environmental impact of plant equipment. The Authorised Statement should seek to support initiatives such as:

- the increased use of biodiesel within the heavy plant fleet
- driver awareness programs which focus on fuel efficient driving practices.

3.3

SUSTAINABLE STAFF

SUSTAINABLE STAFF SEES COUNCIL STAFF INTEGRATING SUSTAINABILITY AS PART OF THEIR EVERYDAY PRACTICES TO MINIMISE THE ORGANISATION'S OVERALL FOOTPRINT

Background

There are many levels to which sustainability can be engaged with. For some people, it is a way of life – one which is lived, breathed and used to govern everyday choices. In other cases, it is less important – it is something which sits among a long list of competing priorities and is only acted on when convenient, economically viable or required.

With such a vast spectrum of opinion around sustainability, Council's challenge is to create an organisation which strives for a balanced and shared sustainability vision. From administration staff to technical officers and managers, through to pool attendants, health and child care workers and outdoor crews, sustainability under the vision of this Strategy is a shared undertaking.

Benefits



- Reduced operating costs



- Increased support of ethical practices



- Reduced habitat loss
- Reduced energy consumption
- Reduced water consumption
- Reduced waste generation



- Leading by example
- Increased collaboration

Key documents

- Environmental Education Strategy

The Environmental Education Strategy (2015 to 2018) aims to create a sustainable community of engaged residents that lead healthy lifestyles and care for the environment. The Strategy consists of a number of environmental educational activities that promote tolerance, understanding and teamwork in the community and Council itself.

- Sustainable Paper Authorised Statement

The Authorised Statement is guided by three main objectives:

1. To reduce Council's paper consumption by 40% of 2011/2012 figures by 2015/2016.
2. To ensure that all white A4 paper purchases contain a minimum of 80% recycled content, and are sourced from sustainable forests/ plantations.
3. To provide guidance and encourage Council employees to adopt sustainable purchasing and printing practices.

Goal 1

INCREASE STAFF AWARENESS OF SUSTAINABLE WORK AND HOME PRACTICES/CHOICES

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| ACTION 1 | Actively communicate Council's sustainability progress in the areas of energy, water and paper consumption to Council staff bi-annually. |
| ACTION 2 | Supplement Council's induction program to inform and motivate new staff to be involved in Council's aspirations and legislative responsibilities for sustainability. |
| ACTION 3 | Provide optional sustainability training to all staff. |
| ACTION 4 | Promote environmental awareness days to all staff through the development of an environmental calendar. |
| ACTION 5 | Provide signage reminding staff to turn off lights, computers and monitors when not in use, as well as tighten taps after use. |
| ACTION 6 | Provide staff with a dedicated platform to discuss sustainability tips and achievements (i.e. Connect staff newsletter and the Intranet). |
| ACTION 7 | Facilitate behavioural change through staff engagement activities such as staff challenges and competitions. |

Goal 2

INCREASE STAFF STEWARDSHIP OF SUSTAINABILITY

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| ACTION 1 | Investigate the inclusion of sustainability responsibilities in all job descriptions. |
| ACTION 2 | Investigate the inclusion of sustainability as a standing agenda item at team meetings. |
| ACTION 3 | Require, where relevant, Council reports to include a brief statement addressing quadruple bottom line considerations. |
| ACTION 4 | Investigate establishing a team of sustainability champions to drive sustainability improvements. |

3.4 SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

EVENTS HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO BE EITHER RESOURCE-CONSUMING AND WASTE-GENERATING ENDEAVOURS, OR MODEL EXAMPLES OF HOW HUMAN ACTIVITY CAN OPERATE WITH LESS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Background

Each year, Council is involved in hundreds of events ranging in:

1. size; from small team meetings to large multi-week community festivals
2. purpose; from budget reviews to annual celebrations
3. attendance; from a handful of staff to thousands of external stakeholders.

At the heart of planning every event is its end goals — its success, its legacy. Incorporating sustainability into events transforms them from ‘business as usual’ into tools which can engage and enable the challenging of attitudes and behaviours. Through championing green technology and sustainable practices at events, causes of environmental concern can be raised, exposure gained and change inspired toward more efficient and environmentally sound ways of living.

Helpful documents

- Sustainable Events checklist:

The Sustainable Events Checklist is a guidance tool to assist staff in the implementation of the Sustainable Events Authorised Statement. The Checklist recognises that an entirely sustainable event does not happen at once, and may take several years to be realised. The checklist provides a variety of recommendations, and once completed, rates the sustainability of an event.

Benefits



- Reduced operating costs



- Increased support of ethical practices
- Increased community linkages



- Reduced habitat loss
- Reduced energy consumption
- Reduced water consumption
- Reduced waste generation
- Reduced use of harmful substances
- Increased support of green technology



- Leading by example
- Increased collaboration

Key documents

- Sustainable Events Authorised Statement:

The Authorised Statement covers eight areas considered to be essential to the planning and implementation of sustainable events. These areas include:

- Venue/Site Selection: Is the venue suitable in size? Are there multimedia conferencing facilities available?
- Transport: Is the venue close to public transport? Are car-pooling options available?
- Event Promotion: How will promotional materials be printed and distributed?
- Catering: Can food be locally sourced and contain vegetarian options? How much food and packaging waste will be generated – can this be minimised?
- Power: Can natural lighting and energy efficient products be used? Can power be sourced from renewable energy?
- Water: How will water be supplied to the event? Can packaging waste be avoided?
- Waste Management: What types of waste will be generated? Can the waste hierarchy be applied – avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle?
- Other: What will the event's legacy be? Can impacts be offset by planting trees? Recognising that events and sustainability are a journey, what improvements can be made in the future to enhance the event's sustainability?



Goal 1

REDUCE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF COUNCIL'S EVENTS

ACTION 1

Implement and annually review Council's Sustainable Events Authorised Statement in line with new policies, experiences and aims. Updates should seek to support Council's commitment to sustainable events by supporting initiatives such as:

- requiring larger events to purchase a minimum 10% green energy
- partnering with local charities and/or food shelters to ensure that unwanted food is donated to those less fortunate
- paperless events — utilising on-line booking forms and social media as the main promotional method. Where paper is required for printing event materials, ensure that it contains recycled content and is sourced from sustainable plantations.

ACTION 2

Prepare annual reports monitoring/evaluating the implementation of the Sustainable Events Authorised Statement.

ACTION 3

Establish an awareness program to promote the Sustainable Events Authorised Statement.

ACTION 4

Encourage managers of community events to complete the Sustainable Event Management Checklist.

ACTION 5

Promote sustainable event management practices at Council events.

3.5 SUSTAINABLE CITY

A SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT EMBRACES THE PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - RESPECTING ECOLOGICAL LIMITS AND NATURAL RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS, ENCOURAGING PROSPERITY AND WELL-BEING WHILE OPTIMISING CONDITIONS FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Background

Every building has an impact on the environment. In fact, buildings consume 32% of the world's resources, including 12% of the world's fresh water and up to 40% of its energy. In Australia, 8.8% of national greenhouse gas emissions are produced by commercial buildings.

Over the coming years, increasing development within the LGA will provide significant challenges and opportunities for Council and the community. In this regard, Council has an important role to play in ensuring that it demonstrates leadership in minimising the environmental impacts of the built environment through sound policy, design and construction standards.



Benefits



- Reduced operating costs



- Development of healthier spaces
- Increased comfort



- Reduced habitat loss
- Reduced energy consumption
- Reduced water consumption
- Reduced waste generation
- Increased support of green technology



- Leading by example



Key documents

There are a number of pivotal documents and tools available to assist Council with the planning, design, construction and operation of sustainable buildings. They include:

PLANNING

- Campbelltown (Sustainable City) Development Control Plan (DCP)

The Campbelltown (Sustainable City) Development Control Plan is a development guideline that provides design requirements for residential, mixed use, commercial and industrial development, as well as child care centres. With regard to sustainability, the DCP encourages building designs to reduce energy consumption, water recycling, the use of solar panels and for all new residential developments to meet the requirements of BASIX.

- Building Sustainability Index (BASIX)

BASIX is a mandatory online tool that assesses the design of a house or unit against predetermined energy and water targets. BASIX is flexible by allowing the user to determine how they will meet the targets from a wide range of options including rainwater tanks, water savings fixtures, insulation, solar orientation, natural lighting and native planting.

- Green Star Communities Framework

The Green Star Communities Framework provides a vision supported by five principles to help guide the development of sustainable communities.

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

- Building Code of Australia (BCA)

The BCA provides a nationally consistent mandated standard for the safety, health, amenity and sustainability of buildings across Australia.

The BCA requires all new buildings to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions through the provision of energy efficient features relating to the following areas:

- building fabric
- external glazing
- building sealing
- air movement
- air-conditioning and ventilation systems
- artificial lighting and power
- hot water supply
- access for maintenance.

- Green Star

Green Star is a national rating system that evaluates the environmental impact of a new building across the stages of design, construction and maintenance. Nine categories including management, indoor environment quality, energy, transport, water, materials, land use and ecology, emissions and innovation are assessed, with points awarded to each category based on how well the proposal delivers. A percentage score is calculated, environmental weighting factors applied and a star rating assigned. Star ratings range between four, being best practice, to six being world leader. Proposals are unable to achieve a rating of one, two or three stars at certification, as these stars represent minimum, average and good practice, respectively .

- Sustainable Design Scorecard (SDS)

The SDS was first developed in 1999 to assist Victorian councils to assess and quantify the environmental performance of non-residential developments, specifically council-owned and commercial buildings. Since its development, many councils have utilised the scorecard to assess the design of new developments and major refurbishments, as well as benchmark the environmental performance of existing buildings.

The SDS was adapted to be used by NSW councils and is aligned with Green Star and NABERS.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

- National Australian Built Environment Rating System (NABERS)

NABERS is a national rating system that measures the operational performance of certain types of buildings, including homes, offices, shopping centres, hotels and data centres. Factors including a building's energy efficiency, water usage, waste management, indoor environment quality and environmental impact are reviewed, benchmarked against similar buildings and assigned with a star-rating.



Goal 1

REDUCE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT BY EMBRACING BEST PRACTICE BUILDING PLANNING, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION METHODS

ACTION 1

Develop and implement a Sustainable Facility Authorised Statement to guide the construction and/or upgrade of Council facilities.

This Authorised Statement should seek to support initiatives such as:

- the inclusion of photovoltaic systems on all new facilities
- the inclusion of cogeneration or trigeneration systems, where feasible
- the installation of energy efficient devices in all new and upgraded facilities. A feasibility analysis should be undertaken to determine the most suitable sustainable star rating
- the installation of water efficient devices. A feasibility analysis should be undertaken to determine the most suitable sustainable star rating
- the inclusion of green walls and roofs
- the use of lighter coloured surfaces to reduce impacts associated with the urban heat island effect
- the use of native vegetation for landscaping and shading
- the proximity to public transport and commercial hubs
- the use of recycled building products in all new facilities
- the reuse or recycling of all building waste materials, where possible
- the choice of building elements based on long term maintenance requirements/lifecycle costs.

ACTION 2

Provide relevant training and educational materials to staff to ensure that sustainably constructed facilities operate as efficiently as possible during occupancy.

ACTION 3

Undertake NABERS assessments on all existing office buildings (Civic Centre and Depot administration building).

ACTION 4

Investigate the provision for all future-built Council office buildings to undertake Green Star certification.

ACTION 5

Investigate community precincts obtaining a Green Star – Communities framework.

ACTION 6

Review environmental planning instruments in line with new policies, experiences and aims.

ACTION 7

Investigate impacts associated with the Urban Heat Island Effect, and seek to support initiatives to either mitigate the impacts, or where unavoidable, increase the resilience and adaptability of communities.

ACTION 8

Investigate the establishment of an urban design committee to facilitate the incorporation of sustainable urban design principles into town centre and structure planning.



Goal 2 INCREASE AWARENESS OF SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PRINCIPLES AMONG STAFF INVOLVED IN THE PLANNING, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF FACILITIES

ACTION 1 Provide Green Star certification training to relevant Council staff.

ACTION 2 Provide Green Star – communities certification training to relevant Council staff.

ACTION 3 Provide NABERS training to relevant Council staff.







4 *Section Four* SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

This section explores the application of the ethical responsibility to consider our interaction with the environment. It covers our consumption of non-renewable natural resources, and our use of the land.

The Sustainable Environment section contains the following chapters:

- 4.1 Sustainable Energy
- 4.2 Sustainable Water
- 4.3 Waste Management and Avoidance
- 4.4 Sustainable Land Management

4.1

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY IS ABOUT CHALLENGING THE WAY WE CONSUME ENERGY. IT SEEKS TO STIMULATE A BIGGER CONVERSATION AROUND THE CHOICES WE MAKE EVERY DAY TO POWER OUR LIFESTYLES, AND WHETHER THESE CHOICES CAN TRANSITION TOWARD A MORE SUSTAINABLE WAY

Background

We live in a world where the majority of our activities rely on the transformation and consumption of the Earth's natural energy reserves. We use these natural reserves to power our communities, transport our goods and services and drive our economies. Australia is fortunate to contain a vast abundance of non-renewable energy reserves and has traditionally used these reserves as its primary source of wealth and energy generation.

Over the past decade, the whole-of-lifecycle impact (i.e. extraction to consumption) associated with using these non-renewable reserves has become more prominent in scientific, government and social circles. The by-product, known as greenhouse gas emissions, has been responsible for large scale changes to our global climatic system, resulting in community concern and the need for policy intervention. Climate change is one of the most significant challenges facing the wellbeing of our future.

Recognising this, it is important that Council understands the way it consumes energy, commits to transitioning to cleaner energy reserves and builds a resilience to adapt to the changing environment.

Benefits



- Reduced operating costs



- Development of healthier spaces
- Increased comfort



- Reduced energy consumption
- Reduced use of non-renewable resources
- Increased support of green technology



- Leading by example

Council facilities consumed over

18,700,000
KILOWATT-HOURS
(KWH) OF ENERGY

during the 2013-2014 financial year



Key documents

Council's efforts to reduce its energy consumption have strategically been guided by a number of plans and programs since 2007. Collectively, these plans and programs have achieved significant reductions across a number of Council's largest energy consuming facilities.

The plans and programs include the following

- Energy Savings Action Plan (ESAP)

Council's Energy Savings Action Plan (ESAP) was developed in 2007 in accordance with the Energy Administration Amendment (water and energy savings) Act 2005. The ESAP identified Council's top 13 energy consuming assets and activities and developed a list of cost-effective and administrative energy savings measures for implementation. Over its four year life, Council's ESAP was responsible for the implementation of 25 energy saving measures, ranging from lighting retrofits to installation of solar hot water systems and mechanical upgrades.

- Draft Energy Management Plan (EMP)

In 2012, Council prepared an Energy Management Plan (EMP) to complement and update its ESAP. The EMP identified Council's top 10 energy consuming assets and provided a list of 43 energy savings measures for implementation. These measures range from implementing education programs to installation of photovoltaic and co-generation systems.

- Waste and Sustainability Improvement Payments program (WaSIP)

Between 2008-2009 and 2011-2012, Council received annual payments from the NSW Government under the Waste and Sustainability Improvement Payments (WaSIP) program. These payments enabled the implementation of projects that improved environmental performance, of which 63% were energy saving projects.

Although all of the energy projects implemented are providing modest to substantial savings, three projects are exceeding Council's initial expectations. These include the large scale photovoltaic systems at the Civic Centre and Arts Centre, and the replacement of the air conditioning system at the HJ Daley Library.

- Sustainability Accounting Tool (SAT)

The Sustainability Accounting Tool (SAT) provides Council and facility managers with greater access to the sustainability performance of the organisation and their particular business area.

The Sustainability Accounting Tool provides information from as far back as the 2008-2009 financial year in the areas of electricity, gas, water, paper, vehicle fleet and waste. With specific regard to energy, smart meter and billing information is captured and reported based on consumption (kWh for electricity and MJ for gas), cost and greenhouse gas emissions.



Goal 1

BETTER UNDERSTAND AND MONITOR COUNCIL'S RELIANCE ON NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES

- ACTION 1** Routinely audit energy consumption across all of Council's facilities to understand how they are performing and whether improvements are required.
- ACTION 2** Continue to maintain and utilise the Sustainability Accounting Tool to monitor Council's energy consumption and drive continuous improvement through the understanding and promotion of key performance indicators.
- ACTION 3** Investigate sub-metering opportunities at Council's top ten energy consuming facilities to help understand energy consumption.
- ACTION 4** Provide quarterly reports to Council's Executive Team on Council's energy consumption.

Goal 2

REDUCE COUNCIL'S CONSUMPTION OF NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES THROUGH INVESTMENT IN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS

- ACTION 1** Develop and implement specific energy efficiency programs for groups of Council facilities (child care centres, leisure centres etc.) which provide both mechanical and behavioural actions. The programs should seek to support initiatives such as:
- the development of staff energy awareness/educational programs
 - the identification of green champions to steward and implement sustainability recommendations
 - the inclusion of photovoltaic systems
 - the installation of energy efficient devices.
 - the inclusion of green walls and roofs
 - the use of lighter coloured surfaces to reduce impacts associated with the urban heat island effect.
- ACTION 2** Develop and implement an educational program for Council staff encouraging reduced energy consumption.
- ACTION 3** Investigate an Information Management and Technology energy efficient plan. The plan should seek to support initiatives to reduce unnecessary energy waste associated with server rooms, computers and office equipment.
- ACTION 4** Continue to review after hours lighting requirements.
- ACTION 5** Support and promote annual events and initiatives which provide educational messages about energy conservation and management (i.e. Earth Hour).
- ACTION 6** Assess the feasibility of undertaking an energy savings program for the street lighting network.

4.2 SUSTAINABLE WATER

WATER IS VITAL TO OUR WAY OF LIFE. OVER RECENT YEARS, WATER AVAILABILITY AND QUALITY HAS BEEN UNDER PRESSURE FROM CHANGES TO THE CLIMATIC SYSTEM AND HUMAN OVER-USE. SUSTAINABLE WATER IS ABOUT UNDERSTANDING HOW WE CONSUME AND MANAGE OUR WATER SUPPLIES SO THAT FUTURE GENERATIONS HAVE ACCESS TO THE SAME QUALITY

Background

Water is a vital resource fundamental to the survival of all life on Earth. It exists in many forms, flowing through every person and creature, and has just as many important roles. Its forms are connected through the plants, the rivers and the weather. Its roles are defined through its capture in dams, pipes and sinks and determined by the various interactions with human processes/activities. These processes/activities support our manufacturing industry, agricultural productivity, economies and ecological processes alike.

Humans use water to support food production, for domestic comfort, industrial production and recreational activities. Although once viewed as a self-sustaining resource, the natural water balance is being affected, and its ongoing resilience is being questioned. Population growth, pollution, over-consumption, over-allocation and users' conflicting values/priorities, combined with climate change, have seen the need for better management of water as a natural resource.

Benefits



- Reduced operating costs



- Reduced water consumption



- Leading by example

Key documents

The plans and programs include the following:

- Water Savings Action Plan (WSAP)

Council's Water Savings Action Plan (WSAP) was developed in 2006 in accordance with the Energy Administration Amendment (water and energy savings) Act 2005. The WSAP identified Council's top 10 water consuming assets and developed a list of cost-effective water savings measures. Over its four year life, Council's WSAP has been responsible for the implementation of measures including the installation of water efficient bathroom fixtures, rainwater tanks, and higher level, automated monitoring devices.

- Draft Water Management Plan (WMP)

In 2012, Council developed a Water Management Plan (WMP) to complement and update its WSAP. Using the baseline year of 2009-2010, the WMP identified Council's top 10 water consuming assets and developed a list of water savings measures for implementation.

- Waste and Sustainability Improvement Payments program (WaSIP)

Between 2008-2009 and 2011-2012, Council received annual payments from the State Government in accordance with the Waste and Sustainability Improvement Payments (WaSIP) program. These payments enabled the implementation of projects that improve environmental performance, of which 11% were water saving projects.

- Sustainability Accounting Tool (SAT)

The Sustainability Accounting Tool (SAT) provides Council and facility managers with greater access to the sustainability performance of the organisation and their particular business area.

The SAT provides information from as far back as the 2008-2009 financial year in the areas of electricity, gas, water, paper, vehicle fleet and waste. With specific regard to water, meter and billing information is captured and reported based on consumption (kL) and cost.

Goal 1 BETTER UNDERSTAND COUNCIL'S RELIANCE ON POTABLE WATER

- ACTION 1** Routinely audit water consumption across all of Council's facilities to understand how they are performing and whether improvements are required.
- ACTION 2** Continue to maintain and utilise the Sustainability Accounting Tool to monitor Council's water consumption.
- ACTION 3** Investigate sub-metering opportunities of Council's top ten water consuming facilities to help understand water consumption.
- ACTION 4** Provide annual reports to Council's Executive Team on Council's water consumption.

Goal 2 REDUCE COUNCIL'S CONSUMPTION OF POTABLE WATER THROUGH INVESTMENT IN SUSTAINABLE WATER SOURCES

- ACTION 1** Develop and implement specific water efficiency programs for groups of Council facilities (child care centres, leisure centres etc.) which provide both mechanical and behavioural actions. The programs should seek to support initiatives such as:
- the development of staff water awareness/educational programs
 - the identification of green champions to steward and implement sustainability recommendations
 - the installation of rainwater tanks on all new facilities
 - the installation of water efficient devices
 - the use of native vegetation for landscaping and shading.
- ACTION 2** Develop and implement an educational program for Council staff encouraging reduced water use.
- ACTION 3** Investigate initiatives to reduce unnecessary water waste associated with sprinklers, irrigations systems, leaking taps etc.
- ACTION 4** Support and promote annual events and initiatives which provide educational messages about water conservation and management (i.e. World Water Day and National Water Week).

4.3

SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND AVOIDANCE

WASTE MANAGEMENT REFERS TO CONSIDERING THE WHOLE-OF-LIFE CYCLE OF A PRODUCT, FROM ITS PRODUCTION TO DISPOSAL

Background

The amount and composition of waste found in landfills today is dramatically different from that of previous generations. In Australia, the rapid advance of technology, combined with significant increases in personal wealth, has seen the growth and creation of new products, markets, business models and modes of production. This has created a dominant consumer culture, which has blurred the line between 'need' and 'want', and seen consumption increase exponentially.

This consumption has significant economic and environmental implications. In the 2010-2011 financial year, the waste industry was valued at just over \$10 billion. While the predominant paradigm for waste management has been disposal of waste into landfill, resource recovery and waste exports are rapidly demonstrating their value.

The management of waste is integral to the success of our sustainability efforts — it is not just about the impact of its disposal, but also the impact of production and use.

Benefits



- Reduced operating costs



- Increased support of ethical practices
- Increased well being
- Development of healthier spaces



- Reduced habitat loss
- Reduced waste generation
- Reduced use of harmful substances
- Increased support of green technology



- Leading by example

Key documents

The collection and disposal of both Council generated waste and municipal waste is governed by a number of contracts held between Council and waste management companies. Council and Campbelltown's municipal solid waste are disposed of at advanced treatment facilities located in Spring Farm and Kemps Creek, as well as at other facilities located in Glenfield and Moore Park. The diversion of Campbelltown's municipal waste from landfill is regarded as one of the highest in NSW, with 70% of waste being diverted from landfill as of June 2014.

- The Macarthur Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Strategy

The Macarthur Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Strategy was developed as part of the NSW Government's 'NSW 2021: a plan to make NSW number one'.

The Strategy focuses on improving waste management by reducing waste generation and ensuring sufficient services and infrastructure are available into the future.

Goal 1

INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF COUNCIL WASTE DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL

ACTION 1 Investigate the inclusion of targets within Council contracts relating to construction and demolition waste.

ACTION 2 Include recycling provisions at all of Council's operational facilities. Provisions should seek to support initiatives such as:

- provide recycling bins at Council facilities that currently do not have one
- establish recycling stations within Council office spaces
- investigate food waste collections, including worm farms in kitchens
- develop and implement specific waste action programs for groups of Council facilities (child care centres, leisure centres etc)
- provide staff training
- undertake educational and behavioural change campaigns
- recognise recycling champions.

ACTION 3 Include co-mingled recycling bins within the scope of the front lift collection/disposal contract.

Goal 2

REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF WASTE GENERATED BY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

ACTION 1 Undertake annual waste reviews of Council activities (i.e. project work and facility waste).

ACTION 2 Undertake annual waste reviews of Council's top five waste generating facilities and quantify baseline data.

ACTION 3 Investigate the inclusion of lifecycle analysis in Council's Procurement Policy.

ACTION 4 Monitor Council's performance against NSW waste targets.

ACTION 5 Prepare annual reports on Council's waste generation.

ACTION 6 Investigate options for increased diversion of garden organic waste. For example mulching on-site in parks and gardens.

ACTION 7 Undertake an audit of Council's depot bulk bin with the view to increasing diversion rates.

ACTION 8 Support and promote annual event and initiatives which, provide educational messages about waste management and avoidance. (i.e. Clean Up Australia Day and Planet Arks National Recycling Week).

4.4

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT ACKNOWLEDGES OUR INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP TO OUR LAND. IT RECOGNISES THAT THE LAND PROVIDES FOR OUR QUALITY OF LIFE – THE AIR THAT WE BREATHE, THE FOOD THAT WE EAT, THE RESOURCES THAT WE CONSUME, AND THE SPACES THAT WE INHABIT. LAND IS ALSO IMPORTANT IN INFORMING CULTURE, IDENTITY AND SPIRITUALITY

Background

The Campbelltown LGA has a rich cultural and environmental heritage. It was first home to the Dharawal Aboriginal people before becoming one of the most important areas of early European colonisation.

Sustainable land management recognises that since European settlement our relationship with the land has changed significantly, which has led to many ongoing environmental challenges. After just over 100 years of European settlement, large amounts of forest and woodland had been cleared, considerable species lost and localised environmental/health challenges were beginning to be felt. To this day, environmental legislation is still a work in progress. Issues such as water quality/availability, mining, land use and development, pollution, waste disposal and salinity remain at the forefront of environmental challenges.

The need to protect and conserve our remaining natural resources is significant. As a custodian of local land and a primary regulator of development, it is imperative for Council to strike a balance between human need and conservation in order to preserve many of the city's natural resources for generations to come.

Benefits



- Reduced operating costs



- Increased support of ethical practices
- Increased well-being
- Increased community linkages
- Development of healthier spaces



- Reduced habitat loss
- Improved water quality
- Increased biodiversity



- Leading by example
- Increased collaboration



Key documents

Council's efforts to ensure the implementation of appropriate land management practices have been strategically guided by a number of plans and programs.

The plans and programs include the following:

- Plans of Management

Under the Local Government Act 1993, Council is required to prepare Plans of Management for land classified as 'community land'. These plans prescribe actions for the appropriate management of the land.

- Local Environmental Plan (LEP)

Development within the Campbelltown LGA is governed by eight Local Environmental Plans (LEPs). These planning instruments divide the LGA into land use 'zones' including rural, residential, industrial, business, recreation, infrastructure and environmental zones, and prescribe what type of development can occur, and where.

A draft standard instrument LEP for the Campbelltown area is currently being considered. This new planning instrument will consolidate the existing eight LEPs into one document.

- Bush Fire Risk Management Plan (BFRMP) and individual reserve Fire Management Plans

Under the Rural Fires Act 1997, BFRMP plans are required to be prepared in areas at risk from bush fire. BFRMPs are locally based strategic plans which identify community assets (being human, environmental, cultural and economic) and set out a five year program of coordinated multi-agency treatments to reduce the risk of bush fire impact.

In addition to the BFRMP, Council has developed two individual reserve Fire Management Plans for Simmo's Beach Reserve and Smith's Creek Reserve. These Plans aim to reduce the risk of bush fire to adjoining properties, and ensure that hazard reduction works are undertaken in an environmentally sustainable manner.

- Strategic Environmental Management Plan (SEMP) for the Upper Georges River

In 2007, Council, in partnership with Liverpool City Council, Wollondilly Shire Council and the Georges River Combined Councils Committee received a grant to prepare and implement a SEMP for the Upper Georges River catchment. The SEMP is a decision-making tool for community members, land planners and managers, Council and other stakeholders, and seeks to create a united vision for the welfare of the Upper Georges River.

- Aboriginal Strategy

The Campbelltown Aboriginal Strategy (2013 to 2017) represents Council's commitment to Aboriginal people in the LGA. Identified in response to specific issues raised in Council's Social Plan, the Aboriginal Strategy seeks to promote positive attitudes to Aboriginal people, acknowledge the cultural connection Aboriginal people have to the landscape and support closing the gap in areas of disadvantage for Aboriginal people compared to the general population.

Goal 1

MAXIMISE THE PROTECTION OF CAMPBELLTOWN'S ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES

- ACTION 1** Conserve and protect Campbelltown's threatened species through the development and implementation of Plans of Management for iconic species including koalas, grey-headed flying fox and the green and golden bell frog.
- ACTION 2** Strategically manage Campbelltown's biodiversity through the development of a Biodiversity Strategy.
- ACTION 3** Identify opportunities to implement and monitor habitat augmentation measures such as nest box installations, habitat logs and restoring in-stream woody habitat.
- ACTION 4** Implement and review actions from Council's Noxious Weed Management Strategy.
- ACTION 5** Implement and review Council's Plans of Management for key parks and reserves.
- ACTION 6** Implement Council's Water Quality Monitoring Program and ensure that river health results are reviewed periodically and reported biannually.
- ACTION 7** Develop and implement Water Sensitive Urban Design practices and procedures. These practices and procedures should seek to support initiatives such as:
- the rehabilitation of aquatic ecosystems
 - the re-naturalisation of water systems
 - the installation of water quality improvement devices to improve environmental performance.
- ACTION 8** Undertake a review of Council's current planting procedures in line with best practice standards and relevant legislation.
- ACTION 9** Undertake a review of land use planning documents including the Sustainable City Development Control Plan and the Campbelltown Local Environment Plan.
- ACTION 10** Implement key focus areas of Council's Aboriginal Strategy relating to recognising, improving, strengthening and maintaining Aboriginal people's connection to the land.
- ACTION 11** Investigate opportunities to appropriately value Campbelltown's environmental assets.
- ACTION 12** Undertake hazard reduction works in accordance with relevant State and Federal legislation. Ensure that when contractors are employed, stringent environmental management practices are upheld (i.e. soil erosion minimisation techniques, and threatened species preservation techniques).

Goal 2 PROMOTE THE ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES OF CAMPBELLTOWN'S LAND

ACTION 1 Provide annual reports on the health of Campbelltown's biodiversity.

ACTION 2 Provide annual reports on the health of Campbelltown's catchments and waterways.

ACTION 3 Develop and maintain a register which recognises/documents Campbelltown's environmental assets (i.e. cultural assets, water assets, land assets, biodiversity assets etc).

Goal 3 INCREASE THE COMMUNITY'S STEWARDSHIP OF SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

ACTION 1 Investigate the development of an 'adopt a street tree' program.

ACTION 2 Support Council's Bushcare volunteer program and investigate opportunities for expansion.

ACTION 3 Develop a Sustainable Land Management household guide for residents living in or adjacent to the rural/bushland areas. This guide should include, but not be limited to, information on:

- the local bushland community and its significance
- rules and regulations on tree removal
- appropriate bush fire management/hazard reduction/open air burning policies
- appropriate use of wood fire heaters
- catchment management practices
- rules and regulations concerning the management of on-site septic systems

ACTION 4 Develop and implement an educational/compliance program which targets private land owners whose properties contain an Endangered Ecological Community.

ACTION 5 Investigate the potential of a land management rebate scheme to enable residents to improve the quality of land and water resources, enhance biodiversity, and address land degradation issues such as weeds, pests, erosion and salinity.





5 *Section Five* SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

This section explores the development of a local community that considers the natural environment in its decisions, and acknowledges its connections to, and responsibility for, this environment. It also looks at the provision of tools and support to assist the community of Campbelltown in living sustainably.

The Sustainable Community section contains the following chapter:
5.1 Developing Green Communities

5.1

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY APPRECIATES AND LIVES WITHIN THE LIMITS OF ITS NATURAL LOCAL ENVIRONMENT. IT IS A COMMUNITY THAT ACTIVELY ENGAGES IN ISSUES SUCH AS RESOURCE CONSUMPTION, FOOD PRODUCTION, USE OF OPEN SPACE, RECREATION, TRANSPORT, BUSINESS AND HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, AND MANY MORE

Background

It is only relatively recently that humans have begun to understand the depth of their impact on the environment. As the consequences of centuries of progressive land clearing, pollution, fire, introduced species, irrigation and many other practices become realised, communities are beginning to turn to a more connected relationship with our land, atmosphere and waterways. As a result, there has been impressive community-wide shifts in reducing water use, installing solar panels, establishing community gardens, improving fuel efficiency in cars, and undertaking extensive recycling programs.

If our standard of living and growth is to continue, we must encourage the rapid adoption of sustainable living. In an LGA made up of 155,000 people, each making choices every day regarding transport, energy use, lifestyle, convenience and efficiency, the collective effect of positive environmental choices could be enormous.

Creating sustainable communities requires more than simply providing information about sustainability. It requires Council to foster sustainable attitudes and support community action. In doing so, Council would seek to:

- increase household understanding of their connections to, and dependence on, the natural environment
- increase household belief in the value of sustainable practices
- increase household understanding of their impacts on current and future environments and communities.
- increase household and community awareness of the opportunities associated with sustainable living practices
- ensure that opportunities for sustainable action are available and accessible.

Benefits



- Reduced operating costs



- Increased well-being
- Increased community linkages
- Development of healthier spaces
- Improved air quality
- Increased comfort



- Reduced habitat loss
- Reduced energy consumption
- Reduced water consumption
- Reduced waste generation
- Increased support of green technology



- Increased collaboration

Key documents

Over the past decade, Council has sought the guidance of the community in the preparation of a number of strategic documents. Of relevance is the Campbelltown 2025 – Looking Forward Strategy and the Community Strategic Plan.

- The Campbelltown 2025 – Looking Forward Strategy

The Campbelltown 2025 – Looking Forward Strategy was developed in 2003 as a statement of town planning intent for the longer term future of Campbelltown City. In identifying what the community would like the LGA to look, feel and function like in the future, as well as recognising the significant influences which may impact on this future (i.e. government policy and social and economic trends), the Strategy provides a number of key themes for change. While there are many aspirations noted, it is considered that the essence of the story is succinctly captured within its final paragraph:

“The City has achieved much and prospered. We have maintained our natural environmental qualities, yet built a contemporary and striking City image that is renowned across Sydney. New economic development opportunities have been secured and our community spirit and culture flourishes. The City of Campbelltown looks forward to a sustainable future”.

- The Community Strategic Plan

The Community Strategic Plan (CSP) was developed in 2010 in response to amendments made to the Local Government Act 1993. These amendments recognise that community plans do not exist in isolation — they are part of a larger framework that is interconnected.

The CSP embodies an integrated approach to strategic planning, and is based on feedback captured from an extensive community consultation campaign. Findings are summarised into a broader aspirational statement known as the Community Vision Statement, five high level objectives identifying specifically what the community want to achieve, and 15 supporting strategies identifying how the objectives will be achieved.

The Community Vision Statement identifies that the Campbelltown community aspires to be:

“A connected community with opportunities to grow in a safe and natural environment”

The five high level objectives include:

- a sustainable environment
- a strong local economy
- an accessible city
- a safe, healthy and connected community
- responsible leadership.





Goal 1

SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY OF CAMPBELLTOWN TO LIVE SUSTAINABLY

ACTION 1

Provide free sustainability community workshops.

ACTION 2

Develop information packages and tools to assist community members in achieving their sustainability aspirations.

ACTION 3

Investigate partnerships with Housing NSW to increase sustainability understanding and awareness within Campbelltown's vulnerable communities.

ACTION 4

Promote available environmental rebates to residents to assist with the installation of sustainability products and services (i.e. solar hot water, photovoltaic systems, rainwater tanks and dual flush toilets).

ACTION 5

Implement sustainability related objectives outlined within Council's Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Plan.

ACTION 6

Recognise and celebrate community achievements in sustainability.

ACTION 7

Investigate the development of community gardens run by community members (similar to Council's Bushcare program).

ACTION 8

Promote food security, sustainable food production and community access to locally grown produce.

ACTION 9

Foster relationships/partnerships with local community groups including the Macarthur Future Food Forum.

ACTION 10

Implement an awareness campaign about the benefits of sustainable communities.

ACTION 11

Establish a group of local young representatives to provide guidance on environmental values, thoughts and aspirations for consideration in Council plans, policies and projects.



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