

Climate Action Plan

Implementation Plan 2025/26 and 2026/27

BOROONDARA

Climate Action Plan

Implementation Plan 2025/26 and 2026/27

Introduction

The Climate Action Plan (2021) sets the direction for Council's response to the challenge of climate change over a ten-year period. This Climate Action Plan Implementation Plan represents a significant increase in Council's commitment to action on Climate Change. It recognises the critical importance of reducing community emissions and the opportunity for Council to partner with our community. This Implementation Plan does not duplicate background information found in the Climate Action Plan but presents tangible actions that will be undertaken by Council either alone or in partnership with our community or other organisations over the next two years.

Previous Implementation Plans for the Climate Action Plan have included Council's actions in other areas that are important for environmental sustainability such as circular economy, biodiversity, trees, transport and water and waterways. Council will continue to act on these important priorities and actions will be documented in relevant strategic documents.

This Climate Action Plan Implementation Plan 2025/26 - 2026/27 will be limited to actions that are most relevant to climate change and actions that are not duplicated elsewhere.

This is our third Implementation Plan and it defines high priority actions for implementation over the next two years. In the first year of this two-year plan, Council will develop new programs to support and collaborate with the Boroondara community. Some of these programs require further planning and may require changes in Council policy. Council will monitor and review the delivery of this Implementation Plan during the first year in anticipation that it may be amended prior to the second year.

No.	Implementation Action	Proposed Pathways	Alignment to Climate Action Plan
1a.	**Financial support for community to electrify and improve energy efficiency**	• Undertake a review of available mechanisms to provide community financial support including grants, rebates and loans. • Develop a proposal for a community finance program to reduce the upfront cost of upgrades such as solar PV, batteries, induction cooktops, heat pumps and energy efficiency on residential and commercial properties. • Review Council's Grants Policy in consideration of offering expanded grants and rebates for energy efficiency and renewable energy activities by community groups, residents and businesses. • Continue to offer sustainability and Climate Action Grants prior to the adoption of any alternative program.	Supports the target of 60% community emissions reduction by 2030. Supports the target to have 3,000 annual participants in sustainability workshops or education opportunities. **1.11** Provide advice and support to encourage ESD standards in building, renovation and development (beyond requirements of Planning Scheme and Building Regulations) **1.12** Deliver energy efficiency workshops, advice and support programs for community and businesses **1.15** Develop a program to support energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades for Boroondara homes and businesses. **1.19** Support vulnerable and low-income residents to upgrade home energy efficiency. Supports the target of 60% community emissions reduction by 2030. **6.11** Provide workshop programs and sustainability festivals **6.12** Provide regular sustainability education and advice through Council's communication channels including the Boroondara Bulletin **6.15** Provide a program of sustainability support and advice for schools and young people.

1b.	**Community emissions reductions and energy efficiency programs including access to vetted suppliers**	• Undertake planning for Council led bulk buys or similar programs.
		• Participate in regional programs such as Solar Savers solar program.
		• Deliver a program to provide information and resources to support low-cost improvements such as draft proofing for community sectors including
		  ○ renters
		  ○ apartment owners and occupiers
		  ○ low-income households
		• Provide a subsidised Home Energy Audit program
		• Expand energy efficiency products borrowing program (at libraries or otherwise)
		• Develop a targeted program for landlords and body corporates for multi-dwelling development
		• Consider additional programs, if required, that support community and business access to renewable energy and energy efficiency products.	

1c.	**Community education, engagement and events**	• Deliver a broad program of sustainability education communications, workshops and events to support our community and businesses to reduce emissions.
		• Seek and expand partnerships with Boroondara community groups that support local solutions to reducing emissions, increasing energy efficiency and supporting a local circular economy.
		• Work with volunteers and community groups such as Electrify Boroondara to undertake outreach programs and events including an electrification expo at the Hawthorn Arts Centre
		• Investigate and support feasible opportunities to support operations and activities by local environment groups where these activities align with Council's priorities.
		• Develop resources and deliver events to support emissions reductions and efficient energy use by:
		  • CALD (Cultural and Linguistically Diverse) groups
		  • Those living in apartments
		  • Renters and low-income earners
		• Develop a climate outreach program making use of Council facilities to provide a pop-up or sustainability hub. This program will provide information and community resources for energy efficiency upgrades, electrification and emissions reductions.
		• Provide expanded information and education through communications channels such as the Boroondara Bulletin, social media and website.
		• Deliver climate focussed schools and young people education and events.
		• Deliver a sustainable living festival or similar event.	

2.	**Electric Vehicle (EV) charging**	• Install fast chargers at a minimum of three public sites per year. • Seek opportunities to support public private partnerships to install and operate EV chargers on Council land.	**4.2** Identify and set aside land for fast charging stations including car-sharing models

No.	Implementation Action	Proposed Pathways	Alignment to Climate Action Plan
		• Support opportunities for installation of electricity power pole mounted chargers • Pursue other opportunities for EV charging including facilitating charging for apartment/high density living	**4.7** Support installation of electric vehicle and bicycle charging infrastructure
3.	**Community resilience and adaptation to climate change**	• Conduct a community climate change adaptation risk assessment to support planning for future community actions • Develop and implement a climate adaptation and resilience education program • Deliver programs that support the development of sustainability leaders in the community	**6.17** Develop a Climate Adaptation Plan/Risk Management Strategy for Boroondara **6.18** Implement actions to respond to climate change risks identified for Boroondara
4.	**Monitoring, evaluation, learning and reporting**	• Track and report annually on Council's corporate greenhouse gas emissions. • Track and report annually on community greenhouse gas emissions and emissions reductions activities. • Provide regular community updates on progress against targets in the Climate Action Plan and Implementation Plan • Offset residual corporate emissions • Plan transition to full carbon neutrality for Council operations • Identify barriers and pathways for community carbon neutrality • Undertake analysis of emissions associated with contract services and building programs. • Undertake a survey and evaluation to understand barriers to electrification and climate action so that Council can better plan for future community supporting actions. • Review Council's corporate climate change risk assessment to support planning for future Council actions.	Supports target of 90% actual emission reduction by 2030. **1.4** Offset residual Council emissions from 2022 **1.14** Encourage community to offset residual emissions **6.1** Report annually on Council's climate action performance **6.4** Promote Council action on climate and the benefits of community action **6.8** Consider environmental sustainability in investment decisions **6.25** Pursue opportunities for enhanced data collection and monitoring for reporting on climate actions and impacts
5.	**Council building energy efficiency and renewable energy retrofits**	• Conduct a building audit and develop an electrification prioritisation program for Council corporate and community facilities • Continue solar installation retrofits at Council facilities • Implement battery installation program for Council facilities • Community centres and neighbourhood houses energy efficiency upgrades • Undertake detailed design for the electrification of Boroondara Sports Complex	Supports target of 90% actual emission reduction by 2030. **1.1** Implement and update Council's Sustainable Council Building Policy to progressively enhance the energy performance of Council buildings **1.2** Expand Council's renewable energy generation capacity **1.3** Progressively transition Council buildings off natural gas **1.6** Progressively audit Council's building stock to identify energy efficiency opportunities. **1.17** Progressively enhance the Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) in Council buildings
6.	**Council fleet transition to electric or other low emissions alternatives**	• Preference appropriate low emissions alternatives when purchasing or leasing Council vehicles including passenger vehicles, trucks and other machinery • Continue to expand access to EV charging infrastructure for use by Council fleet. • Undertake detailed planning for an EV charging plan for the Camberwell municipal offices precinct carpark.	**1.8** Transition Council's small machines to electric powered alternatives. **4.1** Reduce the total number of vehicles in Council's feet and accelerate the transition to electric-powered or other low emissions options **4.24** Develop a Council Fleet Transition Plan to support the adoption of low emission vehicles in Council operations.

Other programs/actions (no new budget required)

No,	**Action**	**Alignment to CAP**
1.	Continue to participate in EAGA (Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action), EASL (Eastern Alliance for Sustainable Learning) and CASBE (Council Alliance for Sustainable Built Environment) • Provide teacher engagement and sustainability support for schools	**6.14** Continue to participate in the development of an Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) policy to include in the Boroondara Planning Scheme as part of Council's membership in the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE)
2.	Respond to calls for submissions and advocate on matters that align with Climate Action Plan objectives as appropriate.	**1.21** Advocate for the enhanced environmental sustainability standards for new commercial and residential developments **1.22** Advocate to State and Federal Government for the adoption of ambitious emission targets **2.13** Advocate to the Victorian Government to enhance tree protection on private land **4.22** Advocate for the construction of location-appropriate DDA-compliant tram stops **4.19** Advocate for all Victorian transport projects to provide ready to use electric vehicle and bicycle charging infrastructure **4.20** Advocate for fast charging in service stations **5.11** Advocate for greater environmental sustainability in the National Construction Code. **6.23** Advocate for and support greater Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) through the planning scheme **6.26** Advocate to other levels of government and relevant agencies to provide funding for Local Government Authorities and communities to take action to respond to climate change.
3.	Continue to purchase 100% renewable energy for all Council sites	Supports target of 90% actual emission reduction by 2030.
4.	Continue to implement the FOGO program and identify opportunities to expand the service	Supports target of 90% actual emission reduction by 2030.
5.	Update, endorse or deliver a. Council's Sustainable Buildings Policy b. Integrated Water management Strategy c. Circular Economy Strategy d. Urban Biodiversity Strategy e. Tree Canopy Strategy f. Integrated Transport Strategy g. Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot) Master Plan h. Greenways plan	**3.1** Implement and update Council's Sustainable Council Building Policy to progressively enhance efficient water use at Council buildings **3.3** Develop a new Integrated Water Management (IWM) infrastructure program: a prioritised plan to develop and implement new IWM projects (stormwater treatment, harvesting and reuse, litter management). **5.10** Develop a Circular Economy Strategy for Boroondara to replace the current Waste Minimisation and Recycling Strategy
6.	Develop internal training programs about climate change mitigation and adaptation	**6.2** Include climate action education as part of staff induction **6.5** Embed climate action into staff roles and responsibilities and performance management **6.10** Provide training and resources for Councillors about climate change and other sustainability issues relevant to Boroondara.