

Environment Plan



Providing a quality lifestyle



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We acknowledge the Kurna People as the traditional custodians of the Campbelltown City Council region and respect their spiritual relationship with their Country. We also acknowledge that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today.





Introduction

This Environment Plan (the Plan) will guide how Campbelltown City Council (the Council) and the local community will work together over the next four years to deliver improved environmental and sustainability outcomes that meet the needs and aspirations of our community, for our local environment.

As one of Council's four strategic plans, this Plan is a key document for guiding Council planning and activities that impact the local environment. It aligns with Council's Strategic Plan and the Resilient East Climate Change Adaptation Plan. It provides a strategic direction that builds on the previous plans and has been informed by consultation with the local community and key stakeholders.

This Plan outlines our vision, focus areas and the foundations for how we will work together to achieve the four themes identified through consultation:

- Liveable Campbelltown
- Resilient Campbelltown
- Sustainable Campbelltown
- Engaged Campbelltown

Collectively, these themes will guide Council to achieve its vision for the Campbelltown environment:

A city where people choose to live because of its sustainable living options, healthy and biodiverse environment, and connected open spaces.

In 2020,
Campbelltown
City Council
has...



Over **30**
BIODIVERSITY
RESERVES
totalling over
91ha



242
different plant species
across all biodiversity
reserves



15%
of open space in the
Council area



3 main creeks leading
into **1** main river
(Torrens) comprising
20 km of creek lines



Recorded over
30,000 Street Trees



Recycled or composted
60% of all kerbside
material – **21%** of
kerbside recycling is
contaminated and sent
to landfill



10 Volunteer
Environment Groups



Reduced GHG
emissions by **13%**
between 2019/2020,
enough to power
130 homes for a year



Installed **32** Water
Sensitive Design
(WSUD) Features
across the city

Our achievements over the last four years

Over the past four years, Council and the community have worked together to protect and enjoy the local environment.



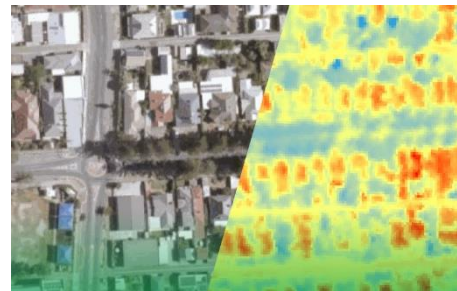
Creek Management Plans for Third, Fourth and Fifth Creeks



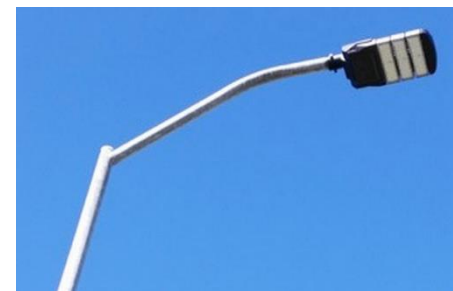
5 new native bee hotels



Water Sensitive Urban Design trials



Baseline heat, canopy cover and biodiversity mapping



Transitioned street lighting to LED reducing energy usage by 33%



Free community chemical and TV and computer recycling drop off



Expanded free kitchen caddy program



Recycled Tyre Trial in Thorndon Park Carpark



Supplying compostable dog bags at all community parks



Supporting local food production

Our unique environment – a special part of where we live and work

From the banks of the River Torrens through Linear Park in the west, to the borders of the Black Hill Conservation Park in the east, Campbelltown boasts a unique and varied environment.

Our remnant red and blue gum woodlands are home to a diverse array of plants and animals. Our creeks, parks and reserves protect our local biodiversity and support a healthy environment.

The Campbelltown environment is a unique and special part of where our community and those who visit, live and work. The Campbelltown landscape is culturally important for the Traditional Owners, the Kaurna People, as well as our current residents.

A healthy environment provides ecosystem services critical for human health and wellbeing, such as air quality and stormwater management. Residents benefit from green spaces for recreation and exercise. Our community values the environment for its inherent worth and for its role in making Campbelltown our home.

As the City of Campbelltown has become increasingly urbanised, it is more important than ever to think about how we share our space with these natural assets. This Plan sets out Council's approach to protect and manage the environment now and into the future.



Photos: John Fleming

Our environmental challenges

Climate change

Our climate will change significantly within this century, with the effects of climate change already being felt. In the future we can expect higher average temperatures, more intense and frequent heat events, reduced rainfall, and more frequent extreme weather events. The effects of these changes are likely to include more frequent bushfire and flood events, more frequent and prolonged drought, and changes to plant and animal habitat.

Climate change will profoundly affect many aspects of the City of Campbelltown's local environment, as well as our lifestyles and wellbeing. Our position on the edge of the Hills Face makes us vulnerable in a future of more frequent and intense bushfires. Increased temperatures and reduced rainfall threaten our green spaces and native plants and animals. Our community needs solutions to manage heat events and use water wisely. Council has a responsibility to mitigate climate change through reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as well as adapting to impacts through forward-thinking, climate-resilient planning.

Protecting our natural environment and biodiversity

The City of Campbelltown includes a number of important landscapes adjacent to National Parks, open spaces and creeks and waterways that all contain important native flora and fauna. This is particularly true for our conservation areas, including Wadmore Park/Pulyonna Wirra, Lochiel Park and along our Creeks. Pressure from development and climate change is making it even more challenging to maintain these spaces and protect biodiversity.

Protecting our local creeks and waterways

Our community is fortunate to live on the banks of the River Torrens and its associated creeks and tributaries. These waterways are unique and valued places for the local community and the Traditional Owners of the land, the

Kaurna People. They provide important habitats for local plants and animals as well as open spaces and experiences for community recreation. However, they are under increasing pressure from urban infill and pollution. Protecting and restoring our creeks and waterways is vitally important to maintaining a healthy environment.

Minimising and managing our waste

The Council has initiated a number of programs targeting our waste stream, including food scrap recycling, and electronic and household chemical waste drop off centres. However, continued population growth and greater awareness of the impact of single use plastics and other forms of waste creates a need for expanded waste management programs. We are committed to continuing to work with our community to find innovative ways to further minimise our waste generation, including reducing use of materials like single use plastics and, where possible, reusing and recycling waste.

Balancing the competing demands of growth and development

As our city grows, so do the challenges of managing growth and development. Increasing urbanisation will bring more people to our city which contributes to economic growth and a vibrant community. However, more people and increased density of living also puts pressure on our local environment by increasing pollution and reducing biodiversity and open space.

Balancing these needs requires us to think innovatively about how we can support growth and development while maintaining environmental and social wellbeing. Our decision making should seek better use of our spaces and resources to improve liveability, manage and minimise negative environmental impacts, and respond to the challenges associated with climate change.

Finding appropriate solutions to green our city

Keeping our city green is vital to manage and mitigate the impacts of heat, protect local biodiversity, improve our local water quality and ensure that the City is vibrant and liveable for our residents.

Building a green City requires us to consider all opportunities to enhance natural assets. This includes how we manage our significant trees, open space and reserves, how to create biodiversity corridors, how to provide green spaces on our verges and roadsides, and how we design our built environment.



Our role as Council

Campbelltown City Council is committed to providing a quality lifestyle for its people and an enhanced local environment delivered in partnership with the community.

The Campbelltown City Council's environmental responsibilities include:

- Managing, protecting and enhancing the natural environment
- Building community capacity around environmental issues
- Advocacy and leadership on key environmental areas
- Minimising resource use and waste to landfill

This Plan sets out Council's role in managing our environment and working with community to realise our vision for Campbelltown. It recognises that Council does not have the powers to respond to all environmental challenges and opportunities.

Campbelltown City Council is committed to working with individuals, households, community groups, businesses, industry, and government and non-government organisations to enable a prosperous and sustainable Campbelltown with a healthy environment.

Formal Council partnerships

RESILIENT EAST

*Climate Ready
Eastern Adelaide*



The **Eastern Region Alliance (ERA)** is a group of six eastern metropolitan councils who voluntarily work together for the benefit of their local communities and the eastern region community as a whole. Member Councils of ERA are the Cities of Burnside, Campbelltown, Norwood Payneham and St Peters, Prospect, Unley, and the Town of Walkerville. The ERA councils work together on different portfolios, one of which is Environment.

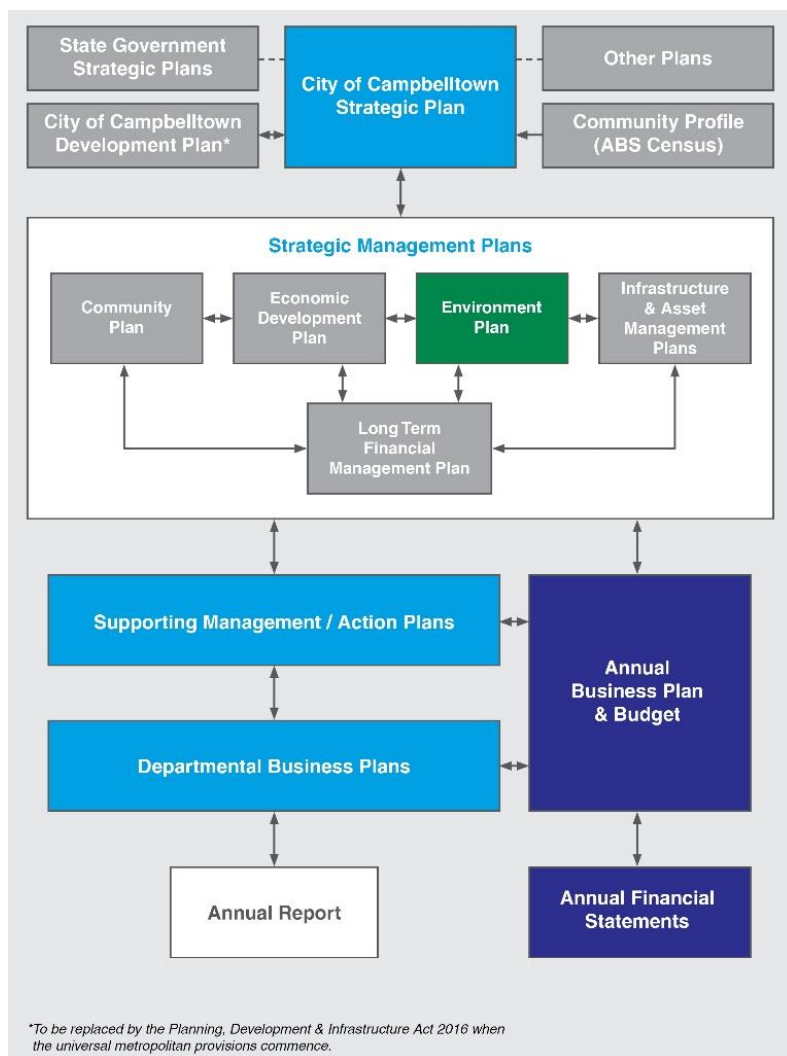
Resilient East is a partnership between state and local government organisations in eastern Adelaide including ERA Councils and the City of Adelaide and Tea Tree Gully. By collaborating, our Region can deliver a coordinated response to climate change, and, by sharing information, resources, responsibilities and actions we can achieve a Resilient East.



NatureFest 2017

Campbelltown City Council's Strategic Planning Framework

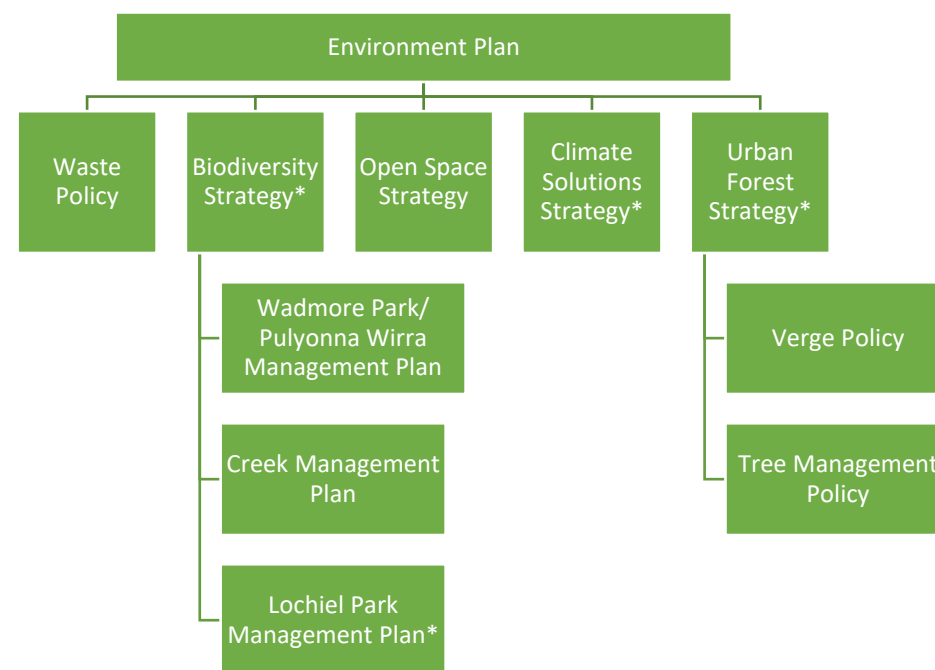
The Campbelltown City Council has an integrated planning framework which ensures alignment between plans and actions.



The Environmental Plan and supporting documents

This Plan sets the high-level overarching direction and focus for our environmental and sustainability efforts. Specific policies and strategies support the implementation of this Plan. Some of these have already been developed, others will be over the life of this Plan.

Council is continuously working to improve environmental management and provide clear guidance on how Council, our community and other partners can work together.



* Items to be developed/updated

The Plan at a glance

The Plan is built around four **themes**. Each theme includes a number of **focus areas** on which Council will focus over the next four years, underpinned by the **foundations** of how we will work together.

The focus areas outline strategies that build on the last plan and reflect the changing needs and priorities of the Campbelltown community. Council will support and report on these through the development of detailed annual implementation plans.

Vision			
A city where people choose to live because of its sustainable living options, healthy and biodiverse environment, and connected open spaces.			
Liveable Campbelltown	Resilient Campbelltown	Sustainable Campbelltown	Engaged Campbelltown
<p>Protect and enhance natural areas, creeks, flora and fauna, biodiversity, and open space</p> <p>Invest in, maintain and expand green infrastructure</p> <p>Implement and manage water sensitive urban design (WSUD) solutions</p>	<p>Collaborate on actions to reduce emissions</p> <p>Identify and implement climate solutions</p> <p>Identify and enable alternative transport options</p>	<p>Expand and implement resource recovery and recycling programs</p> <p>Conserve and manage our water resources</p> <p>Support and encourage sustainable planning and development</p> <p>Grow circular economy initiatives to eliminate waste and minimise resource use</p>	<p>Support and raise community awareness of local environmental and sustainability issues</p> <p>Provide support to local environmental action groups and initiatives</p> <p>Provide opportunities for community to engage with nature</p>
Our foundations			
<p>Good leadership and governance Collaboration and partnerships</p> <p>Community education and capacity building Action planning</p>			

Foundations

Strong foundations establish how we will work together to implement the Plan.

Good leadership and governance

Implementing the Plan is everybody's business. All parts of the Council have a role. However, coordinating these actions will be important. This will occur as part of the role of the Coordinator Environment and Sustainability as well as being overseen by the Executive Management Team.

This Plan is ambitious. It reflects communities' aspirations for a healthy and vibrant environment. Resourcing the implementation of this Plan will come from multiple sources including existing budgets and resources within departments subject to Council's annual budget process as well as external funding and partnerships to facilitate key works and projects where possible.

Collaboration and partnerships

The successful delivery of many parts of the Plan will require working partnerships with other Councils, the Eastern Region Alliance, Resilient East, State Government Agencies, Commonwealth government, local industries businesses and most importantly local communities. Ensuring success will require developing strong collaborative relationships and engaging with these partners on various aspects of the plan.

Community education and capacity building

Our local community is highly engaged and values the local environment. Their initiatives to protect and manage local spaces are essential to environmental wellbeing, and this Plan relies on that ongoing community ownership and engagement.

Council is committed to working with community to educate and build capacity in their work to protect and enjoy our local environment.

Action planning

Action planning incorporates planning, doing and reviewing within a defined process. Annual action plans will be developed which identify what will be completed over the coming year and who is responsible. An important part of developing this plan is the ability to review progress and adapt to any changes.



Theme 1: Liveable Campbelltown

The City of Campbelltown is a green city and a great place to live.

The City of Campbelltown serves many uses. It's where our community lives, works and plays. We also share this space with unique pockets of rich and diverse native fauna, flora and habitats. Our parks, creeks, roadsides and backyards are home for native plants and animals and provide spaces and experiences for play and recreation. Our natural environment adds to the beauty of our City, but it also helps keep our City cool and inviting. Our trails, parks and playgrounds provide transport routes and places for recreation. These spaces and the plants and animals within them help make Campbelltown a green and liveable city and are highly valued by the community.

Our special natural spaces are increasingly threatened by urban development, biodiversity loss and climate change. It is vital that we consider the environment in all decision-making to maintain the balance between community and natural needs. This means protecting our existing natural spaces and taking proactive steps to manage further impacts.

As our understanding and value of our green spaces improves, we are also seeking to find ways to increase our canopy cover. To further beautify our City, provide additional biodiversity corridors and cool our local environments.

Within this theme, there are three areas for Council to focus on over the next four years:

- Protect and enhance natural areas, creeks, flora and fauna, biodiversity, and open space
- Invest in, maintain and expand green infrastructure
- Implement and manage water sensitive urban design (WSUD) solutions

What is green infrastructure?

Green infrastructure refers to the use of strategically planned networks of natural and semi-natural areas with other environmental features designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services.

For the Campbelltown City Council area, green infrastructure includes features such as roadside verges and open space. These features make our city a green and beautiful place to live.



Our Community Stories: Friends of Lochiel Park

The Friends of Lochiel Park community groups collect seed and grow around 3,000 local native plants each year for Council plantings.

Their work contributes to biodiversity and provides habitat for native animals, and helps our community connect and engage with nature.



Our Community Stories: Campbelltown Landcare Group

The Campbelltown Landcare Group is one of many groups Council is fortunate to have making a positive contribution to the local area in Campbelltown.

Council has supported their work in Wadmore Park/Pulyonna Wirra for over 20 years. The Campbelltown Landcare Group undertakes countless hours of weed control and planting in selected areas. The condition of the vegetation has improved considerably since the group has been involved. Most recently, they undertook bird and fauna surveys in the park which will help feed into Council's Wadmore Park/Pulyonna Wirra Management Plan.



Focus Area: Protect and enhance natural areas, creeks, flora and fauna, biodiversity, and open space

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Maintain existing biodiversity sites to ensure no drop in biodiversity condition score	Develop a Biodiversity Strategy for Council
Local provenance seed collection and support local community groups to propagate local plants as required	Explore and trial alternative methods to managing creek banks with increased vegetation to reduce erosion issues
Review and update management plans for key biodiversity reserves (Wadmore Park/Pulyonna Wirra and Lochiel Park)	Increase number of existing biodiversity reserves to be rated over 50 in the biodiversity condition rating scale
Refine watering stations trialled within Council to establish a few working prototypes	Expand knowledge base and capacity for local seed collection with staff and community groups
Refine the Bird Refuge at Thorndon Park and assess potential/need for an additional refuge island	Improve the biodiversity of creeks and erosion management through vegetation, weed removal and works as highlighted in the respective Creek Management Plans (Third, Fourth and Fifth)
Build and develop strong relationships with agencies that support local biodiversity work within the Council area	Expand on Fauna Studies, habitat creation and education throughout Council
Improve the biodiversity along the River Torrens areas within Council through strategic plantings and weed removal	Implement management plans for Wadmore Park/Pulyonna Wirra and Lochiel Park
Provide training for Council staff and contractors working in biodiversity, including weed identification, management and standard operating procedures	Reinvigorate the nature trail at Thorndon Park including upgrades to signage, plantings and information about native fauna/birds at the park
	Highlight and promote key nature areas and experiences for local community/schools to engage in

Focus Area: Invest in, maintain and expand green infrastructure

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Address heat island areas through implementation of cooling strategies including continued greening of high priority areas	Develop an Urban Forest Strategy providing overarching direction on maintaining and increasing canopy cover
Strategic and opportunistic acquisition of open space to improve greening and connectivity	Identify public and private opportunities to improve and enhance green infrastructure
Measure and track canopy cover levels as per the State Government target of increasing canopy and green cover on public land through Forestree data collection software, canopy measurements and other measures	Explore verge planting opportunities, programs and policy requirements to enable increased capacity for verge greening

Plant in median islands where possible	Explore new ways to engage the community around the importance of urban trees (e.g. adopt a tree, tree watering, etc.)
Look for opportunities to expand green infrastructure in Council works and new developments (e.g. road rehabilitation, and reconstruction, footpath construction etc.)	Explore options for incentive programs for landowners to retain established vegetation and planting of additional trees on private land
Build on data collection to improve management and maintenance of existing trees, quantify economic value and benefit and help ensure species resilience	Identify opportunities to utilise new technology such as LiDAR to measure and understand canopy cover trends and communicate this to staff and community
Planning for tree species resilience in conjunction with Resilient East	Undertake measures to enhance existing canopy (e.g. Aerial Bundling power lines)
Continue to advocate for tree retention in all areas of development and as opportunities arise	
Build and develop strong relationships with agencies that support local greening within the Council area	
Trial emerging technology to reduce heat island impact from road/carpark infrastructure such as (but not limited to) cooling road	

Focus Area: Implement and manage water sensitive urban design (WSUD) solutions

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Include WSUD and water harvesting options into road reconstructions, new builds and Council projects where possible	Explore and trial new methods of increasing water absorption or injection into the ground, including new technology
Improve data quality to make more informed decisions	Expand water re-use programs (e.g. ASR – Max Amber Sports Field)
Install permeable pavers in suitable locations such as footpaths, car parks	Explore potential to expand underground water supply pumped to other areas
	Implement WSSA partnership to support greater education opportunities and access to resources
	Protect funding for WSUD installations in capital works
	Create program for identifying and enhancing WSUD in private development
	Build staff capacity and understanding of installing WSUD and greening features in Council infrastructure and works through training and awareness.
	Increased promotion of WSUD features and benefits to staff and the wider community.

Theme 2: Resilient Campbelltown

The City of Campbelltown can adapt and thrive within the challenges of a changing climate.

Our community is facing significant challenges from a changing climate. We must act now to build resilience and ensure that Campbelltown's local environment can adapt, survive and thrive amidst these challenges. Not only does resilience to climate change protect our natural spaces, it also supports our continued social and economic wellbeing.

Council will also prepare a Climate Solutions Strategy and Policy to lead broader action on climate action. Climate Solutions refers to the range of adaptation and mitigation response required to address climate change. This Plan will support the direction and actions set by the new Climate Solutions Strategy and Policy and also underpins Council's work as part of the Resilient East Climate Adaptation partnership.

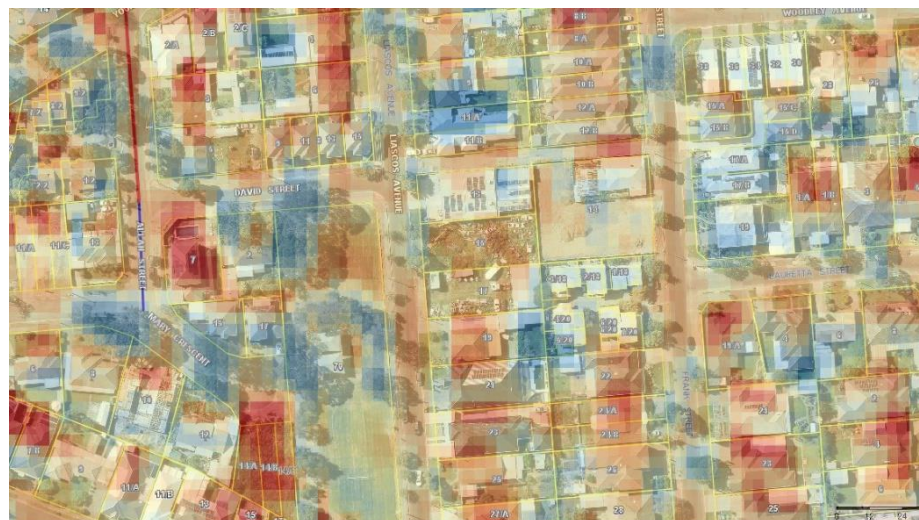
We will build resilience by reducing emissions from Council operations and community, expanding use of renewable energies, and improving sustainable design practices. Through collaborations with community, State Government, ERA, Resilient East and NGOs, we will build knowledge and capacity and take action to meet the challenges of climate change.

Resilient East Climate Adaptation partnership

Council has been a part of the Resilient East Climate Adaptation partnership since 2014, working on collaborative and regional climate adaptation issues. Progress towards our key priorities has focussed on collecting data, improving staff and community awareness on the impacts of climate change, and trialling and understanding adaptation measures such as greening and water sensitive urban design. Council recognises that there is still a strong need to reduce emissions and continue our ongoing work in climate adaptation. In November 2019 Council signed the Climate Emergency Declaration, and has adopted climate change as a key priority as part of our Strategic Plan.

Within this theme, there are three areas for Council to focus on over the next four years:

- Collaborate on actions to reduce emissions
- Identify and implement climate solutions
- Identify and enable alternative transport options



Our Community Stories: Heat mapping and cooling

Heat mapping helps us understand how different areas and surfaces react in extreme heat and where cooling strategies should be prioritised.

Resilient East undertook heat mapping of the Campbelltown City Council area to identify priority areas vulnerable to extreme heat events. This initiative resulted in a successful grant application for Campbelltown City Council to trial different cooling strategies in high priority and typically challenging areas. We have installed tree verges and rain gardens along several streets in an identified hot spot area, and planted trees in new areas.

Our Community Stories: Climate Ready Campbelltown forum

In 2019 Council ran a successful Climate Ready Campbelltown forum with over 100 attendees. We shared information about heat mapping, heat waves and impacts within our local community.

The forum allowed us to inform community of how to be prepared for extreme heat events, how to use their gardens and water to cool the home, and tips for smarter energy use.



Focus Area: Collaborate on actions to reduce emissions

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Improve data management to make more informed decisions in relation to energy use	Reduce reliance on grid generated power and increase renewable energy generation at Council owned sites
Continue to investigate Electric Vehicles for Council operations as part of broader Climate Solutions Strategy	Develop a road map to reducing emissions as per the climate solution strategy
Undertake assessments and audit of Council operations and buildings	Investigate opportunities and initiatives to reduce emissions in Council operations and the community
	Consider purchase of green energy

Focus Area: Identify and implement climate solutions

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Improve data quality to make more informed decisions in relation to high priority areas for climate action	Develop and implement the Climate Solutions Strategy and Policy, including a road map with an end goal of emissions reduction
Investigate battery technology and viability for Council sites	Improve verge treatment practices to reduce impervious materials used
Participate in Resilient East Regional Climate Adaptation partnership program	Create a partnership to provide electric vehicle charging stations to encourage more electric vehicle participation within the community
	Undertake a risk assessment of Council internal processes and operations for climate change considerations and determine gaps
	Review Council policies, operations and facilities and consider climate change impacts and appropriate adaptation strategies

Focus Area: Identify and enable alternative transport options

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Upgrade the trail networks within our Council area to encourage and support alternative travel	Support the Implementation of the PAMP (Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan), Council Bike Plan and Local Area Traffic Management Plan with the principles of facilitating cooler, greener, safer and more active travel
Support the Community Plan to promote and encourage active travel	Consider connection of trails and accessibility regionally and locally linking with the Regional Public Health Plan including the Linear Park trail

	Promote the use of bicycles with the supply of dedicated bicycle paths or improved infrastructure
	Advocate for alternate transport modes to support increased commuters
	Plant and green along major walkways, thoroughfares and near bus stops to provide cooler and more attractive areas for using alternative travel options
	Explore options to combine cycling access and greening areas - i.e. when closing roads, thoroughfares for traffic calming etc.

Theme 3: Sustainable Campbelltown

The City of Campbelltown protects environmental, social and economic wellbeing now and into the future.

We all have a responsibility to use resources wisely. How we use water, energy and materials impacts our natural environment. It can be environmentally destructive, generate waste and greenhouse gas emissions, and deplete resources for future generations. These impacts are felt not only in our local community but also at the broader national and global scale. They shape environmental, social and economic prosperity and wellbeing for all. As a community, we must play our part to use energy and resources sustainably and reduce waste.

Many of Council's core responsibilities underpin community sustainability. This includes waste management, planning and development, water resource and waterway management, energy provision and use, and maintaining open spaces. Our capacity and expectations for sustainability are constantly increasing. Renewable energy, waste reduction processes and efficient technologies are more available and affordable than ever before. Public and private sector expectations and participation in sustainable initiatives is also increasing. These developments present both challenges and opportunities to expand Council's existing sustainability programs.

Council will work to enhance the sustainability of the City of Campbelltown throughout our own services and support the community to contribute to a prosperous and sustainable future.

Within this theme, there are four areas for Council to focus on over the next four years:

- Expand and implement resource recovery and recycling programs
- Conserve and manage our water resources
- Support and encourage sustainable planning and development

- Grow circular economy initiatives to eliminate waste and minimise resource use



Our Community Stories: Moonlight Markets

Council undertook a waste reduction trial at the Moonlight Markets in 2017. We worked with food vendors to provide 100% compostable packaging and cups for food, and set up compost and recycling bins to divert the majority of the food waste from landfill. Our costumed Council staff manned the bins to help educate users about the new initiative. The trial was very popular and resulted in 80 per cent of waste from the main food areas being diverted from landfill!

The success at the Moonlight Markets has resulted in Council adopting this waste reduction approach for all major events, local neighbourhood barbecues and internal Council events.

Focus Area: Expand and implement resource recovery and recycling programs

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Promote Waste Warriors	Develop different program opportunities and training for Waste Warriors
Develop programs and educate staff on waste minimisation and recycling	Build on kitchen caddy system roll out and increase focus on engaging the community around diverting food from landfill
Advocate for alternative options for polystyrene and support changes to alternative packaging that can be recycled	Develop a contamination strategy to address contamination of yellow kerbside recycling
Advocate for and support alternatives and reduction in single use plastics in Council operations, events, and within the community	Investigate and promote best practice approaches for Multi-Unit Dwellings
Support a transition to compostable produce bags in local supermarkets and stores	Trial green organic collections for key areas for existing compostable dog bags
Improve waste reduction in Council operations	Investigate feasibility of different collection options to improve waste diversion from landfill
Continue to run, support and increase zero waste events within Council	
Build and foster relationships with organisations that support principles of waste minimisation and avoidance	

Focus Area: Conserve and manage our water resources

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Install water efficient features at Council buildings	Expand the existing ASR water scheme to reduce reliance on potable water
	Explore the use of improved technology for irrigation in reserves (e.g. the SA Water smart meter trial)

Focus Area: Support and encourage sustainable planning and development

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Integrate sustainable development into Council renovation or redevelopment	Increase Information and education on Sustainable Development and new Planning Code
Ongoing staff training on WSUD and Sustainable Design	Explore options to increase residential WSUD and onsite detention

Advocate for retention of street trees and WSUD in Council practices and within the new Planning Reforms	Explore options and incentives for retaining trees/open space on private land
Monitor and review new Planning Code outcomes to improve sustainable development, open space, WSUD and tree retention where possible	Investigate Environmentally Sustainable Design options for new Council building developments (i.e. Max Amber Development)
	Review internal processes for ensuring appropriate review of applications for opportunities for improving environmental outcomes

Focus Area: Grow circular economy initiatives to eliminate waste and minimise resource use

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Purchase recycled content products where possible, e.g. paper, street furniture	Undertake staff education on green purchasing and circular economy
	Explore 'closing the loop' and alternative green waste options for mulch
	Develop Council approach to increasing recycled product content (including percent proportion of total material recycled) in consultation with LGA
	Identify other areas where Council can easily purchase items with recycled material

Theme 4: Engaged Campbelltown

The community actively participates in the management and protection of the local environment and takes ownership of environmental issues.

The City of Campbelltown is home to a highly engaged community who value and protect the environment and are active in addressing environmental and sustainability issues. Individuals and community groups play a central role in protecting our local spaces and supporting local environmental and sustainability initiatives. Our residents are actively leading numerous initiatives including climate action, revegetation plantings, local food projects and backyard biodiversity. Their needs and vision for the environment are important.

This Environment Plan supports the community's aspirations for the environment and sustainability. We will provide opportunities for the community to engage with our local natural spaces through their desired leisure and recreation activities and to participate in activities that encourage and support sustainability. By engaging, educating and building capacity, Council will support our community's ability to self-organise respond to environmental and sustainability issues. Connecting Council and community actions will deliver greater returns for the environment in which we live, work and play.

Within this theme, there are three areas for Council to focus on over the next four years:

- Support and engage with the community to raise awareness of local environmental and sustainability issues
- Provide support to local environmental action groups and initiatives
- Provide opportunities for community to engage with nature

Our Community Stories: Gums Landcare

The Gums Landcare group formed in 2016 and have adopted an area at the Gums Reserve along Third Creek. Their work has helped to improve biodiversity at the site and created new opportunities for the community to enjoy their local environment.

Since their inception, the Gums Landcare group have:

- Removed feral olives
- Planted additional local native understorey
- Installed several native bee hotels
- Engaged local schools, including an 'Adopt a Tree' program
- Organised a successful Festival of Nature event for the community



Our Community Stories: Bird Refuge Island at Thorndon Park

Council was contacted by a local resident studying animal behaviour who wanted to look into local wildlife. The resident undertook a study of birds at Thorndon Park, identifying more than 20 different species located at the park!

Council worked with the resident to install a Bird Refuge Island at the main lake. The aim of the trial was to provide a safe refuge for the range of water birds that use Thorndon Park.

The trial has been successful and Council intends to build on this program, and to further engage with the community around the nature area at Thorndon Park. Most recently, Council delivered a series of guided nature walks with the resident. These walks allowed community members to learn about the birds and wildlife in their local surrounds.



Focus Area: Support and engage community awareness of local environmental and sustainability issues

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Promote local current/new initiatives	Increase level of engagement in sustainability and explore new ways to engage and inform the community
Develop programs and initiatives to reduce waste and improve diversion from landfill	Develop and promote local opportunities for engagement with for schools (i.e. connection with local environment areas, groups and local native plants etc.)
Support School education programs and advice regarding in-house systems and infrastructure for recycling	Develop targeted yellow bin contamination campaign consistent with the contamination strategy
Provide assistance and advice to schools around plantings, other areas relating to sustainability	Explore opportunities for nature tourism or local education
Promote the benefits of trees educational campaign	Street/significant tree labelling or tags to engage community around trees
Undertake information talks to groups/schools including on native bee hotels, Lochiel Park/sustainability, and waste reduction	Inform, support and engage with the community around climate change impacts, adaptation measures and Climate Solutions Strategy

Focus Area: Provide support to local environmental action groups and initiatives

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Work with Community Development to support and encourage programs and groups that aligns with the Community and Environment Plan Objectives	Investigate partnerships with NGOs around access to sustainable energy, etc.
Involve local community groups in upgrading creeklines and vegetation management through management plans and programs	Advocate on behalf of community groups for funding opportunities, provide connection between opportunities
Support and facilitate established groups and volunteers through information sharing, financial support, training opportunities and collaborative approaches	Increase capacity building of staff, volunteers and community
Support local food production and sharing groups	Participate in and support the newly formed CLEAN (Community Landcare Environment Action Network) as required
Share information between Council and local community groups to enable desired outcomes for both	Increase engagement opportunities through activities, signage, citizen science and education/promotion

Focus Area: Provide opportunities for community to engage with nature

What we will continue to do	What we will begin
Undertake community planting events	Improve and expand on learning opportunities in natural environments (e.g. Thorndon Park Bird Refuge, Wadmore Park/Pulyonna Wirra, Lochiel Park, Bee Hotels, The Gums, etc.)
	Hold an annual event to celebrate and highlight the different natural areas of Campbelltown

My favourite tree...



Jazmine, Age 8



Cleo, Age 6



Fernando



Noah, Age 6



Georgio, Grade 3/4



Sarah, Age 7

Glossary

Adaptation: The ability to adapt to the future impacts of climate change.

Biodiversity: Variety of flora and fauna.

Circular economy: An economic system that uses a closed loop system of producing, using, reusing, remaking and recycling. It aims to eliminate waste and the continual use of resources.

Green economy: A low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive economy.

Green infrastructure: includes both natural and designed greening – from natural areas, parks, street trees and verges to green roofs, rain gardens and laneways.

Renewable energy: Energy produced from renewable resources, which are naturally replenished on a human timescale, such as sunlight, wind, rain, and geothermal heat.

Resilience: The capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses to survive, adapt and thrive despite external stresses and shocks.

Stormwater: Water originating from rainfall which runs off surfaces such as roofs and pavement and is captured in constructed drainage systems.

Sustainability: Planning and providing for the needs of current and future generations, creating resilient and prosperous communities and protecting the environment and ecosystem services.

Sustainable development: Balancing the needs of human development with the requirements to maintain healthy and sustainable natural systems.

Water sensitive urban design (WSUD): Integration of water cycle management into urban planning and design with the aim to protect and improve waterway health while reducing stormwater runoff.

