

CITY OF LAUNCESTON

TOWARDS
ZERO
EMISSIONS
ACTION PLAN
2021-2025

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This report respectfully acknowledges that the land on which the City of Launceston is built is at the heart of the Stoney Creek Nation, which was made up of at least three clans - Tyerenotepanner, Panninher and Letteremairrener. The Stoney Creek Nation clans lived along the riverways in harmony with the seasons for several thousand generations, and today they are remembered as the traditional owners of this land.

Executive Summary

Climate change effects our everyday lives. Climate change has led to an increase in living costs such as food, water, energy and insurance; and increased mental and physical health issues associated with heat stress on vulnerable populations and those experiencing extreme weather events like bushfires, drought and flooding. These challenges, coupled with the urgent need to reduce global emissions, have been recognised by international financial bodies through the development of consistent climate-related financial risk disclosures¹ for use by companies, banks, and investors when providing information to stakeholders.

The City of Launceston has acknowledged the global climate emergency and acted accordingly. We have publicly formalised our commitment to creating a more sustainable future, and are putting plans in place to achieve carbon neutrality for all operations and source 100% renewable energy for all Council owned buildings by 2025. It is an ambitious target but one that is achievable. Council will also work with the community and local businesses to reduce community wide greenhouse gas emissions and to transition to renewable energy use.

In 2018/19, the City of Launceston's annual emissions was approximately 59,378 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e). Emissions are largely attributed to Council's owned and operated landfill (89%) which accepts residential, commercial and industrial waste from across the region (including four neighbouring local government areas). The consumption of fossil fuel gas is Council's second largest emission source, contributing 6% to overall emissions. Fuel use (both diesel and petrol) and the purchase of electricity each contribute 2% to Council's overall emissions.

For more than a decade, the City of Launceston has made progress to reduce emissions and resource use from its large and diverse portfolio of services and assets. The City of Launceston has undertaken a series of emission reduction and capture projects including landfill gas capture and electricity generation, food and garden organic (FOGO) landfill diversion and composting, large scale LED lighting installations, building energy efficiency initiatives, a large scale fuel reduction project of the landfill's heavy plant equipment, the purchase of electric and fuel efficient vehicles, installation of electric vehicle charging stations, and the installation of rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) panels across Council facilities.

Emissions Reduction Hierarchy



¹ Financial Stability Board, 2017. www.fsb-tcfd.org/publications

The Towards Zero Emissions Action Plan sets out how the City of Launceston will achieve our targets by 2025 while playing our role to help meet the Paris Agreement 2015 objective to avoid a global average temperature rise of 2°C by 2050 and to pursue efforts to limit rising to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Council's emission reduction targets will be achieved through actions that align with the emissions reduction hierarchy. While the City of Launceston's operations (excluding landfill emissions) are responsible for less than 1% of community emissions, Council has a vital role to play in leading the transition to a low carbon future, living and working more sustainably, sharing resources and knowledge, and encouraging and supporting innovation and collaboration opportunities. Council will work to build partnerships and advocate for wider emissions management across the community, strengthening Council's climate change response through shared support and action.

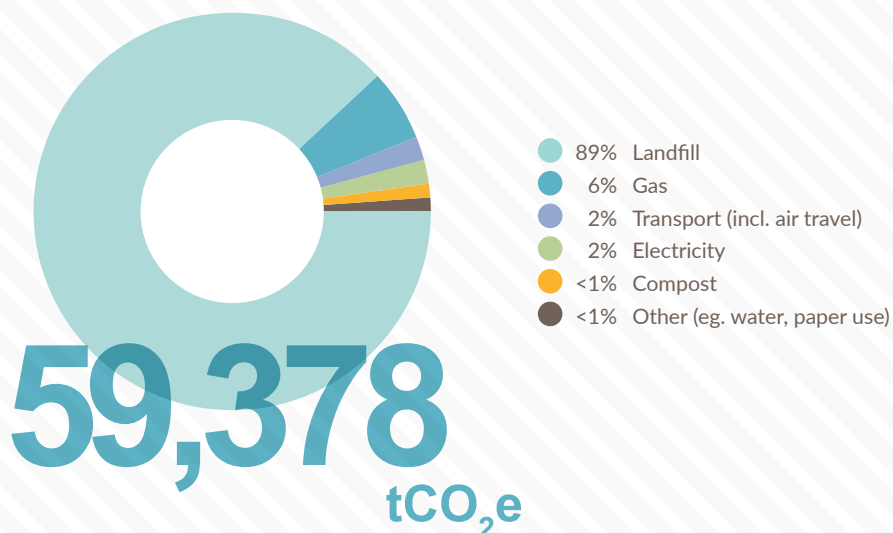
The Towards Zero Emissions Action Plan focuses on seven key areas:

1. Leadership, transparency and tracking
2. Waste avoidance and recovery
3. Efficient facilities
4. Zero emissions transport
5. Sustainable supply chain
6. Carbon sequestration
7. Community emissions

A monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement framework will be developed to track and publicly report on actions in each of the seven key areas.

While Council has a leading role to play, addressing the climate emergency requires collective action. Council is committed to working with the community and local stakeholders to build awareness on climate change mitigation, to identify opportunities for action and to help reduce community emissions.

Council Emissions Profile 2018/19



Introduction

It is now widely acknowledged that the global climate is changing. Across the world, the impacts of climate change are being experienced at varying levels involving extreme weather events, drought, increased bushfire prone weather, increased air and sea temperatures, heat waves and sea level rise. Climate change is recognised as a threat multiplier in that the direct impacts of climate change are responsible for worsening other social pressures, including: extreme weather events, health, housing, immigration and conflict. The State's 2018/19 bushfire cost the Tasmanian community \$25 million in health costs alone² and the Launceston 2016 June flood event conservatively cost the region \$180 million³. Global and national financial institutions including the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) and the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) recognise the threat of climate change and require climate risk to be taken into account in their economic modelling and frameworks.

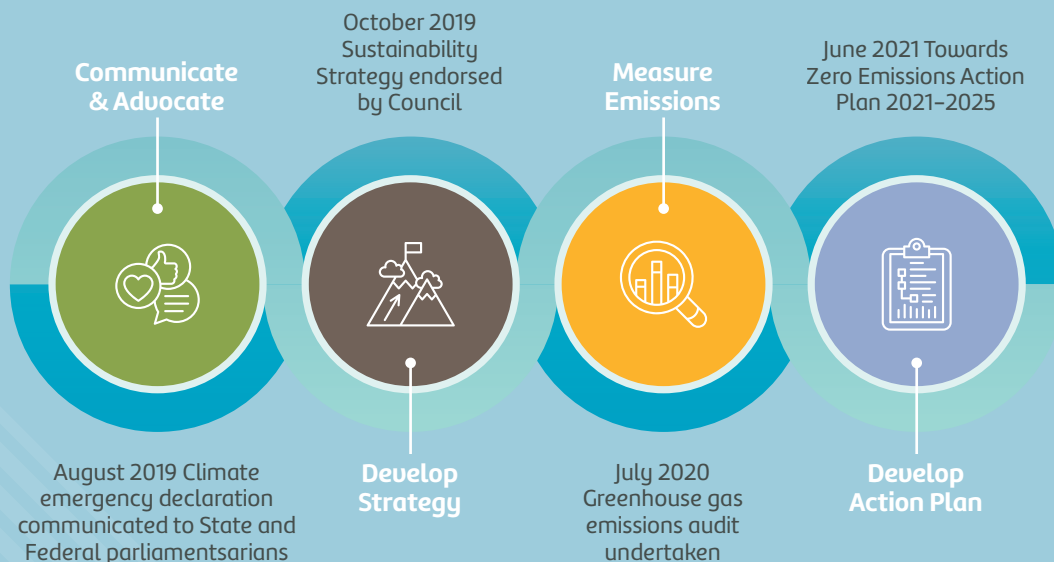
The City of Launceston took the step of publicly formalising its commitment to creating a more sustainable future. Council declared a climate emergency in August 2019 acknowledging that

the urgency created by climate change requires immediate and collaborative action across all tiers of government. The commitments set by this declaration included:

1. Writing to State and Federal parliamentarians on this matter
2. Developing the City of Launceston's Sustainability Strategy to provide overarching direction for the organisation and a vision for the future of our community
3. Undertaking a baseline audit of Council's greenhouse gas emission contributions (2018/19 financial year)
4. Developing an action plan for Council to:
 - achieve carbon neutrality by 2025
 - move towards 100% renewable energy use by buildings by 2025, and
 - engage and work with the community, business and not-for-profit sectors to reduce community emissions and transition to renewable energy use.

Commitments 1 to 3 have been actioned and achieved. Letters sent to State and Federal parliamentarians in August 2019 communicated the City of Launceston's climate emergency declaration, and the Sustainability Strategy was developed and endorsed in late 2019. The strategy incorporates provisions for future actions proposed under further planning to address the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). In July 2020, a greenhouse gas emissions audit was undertaken on Council's operations as a first step in understanding our contribution to the climate emergency and our commitment to reducing our carbon footprint. The Towards Zero Emissions Action Plan 2021 - 2025 responds to Commitment 4 and sets out how the City of Launceston will achieve carbon neutrality for Council's operations by 2025 while moving towards 100% renewable energy use for Council owned buildings, and engaging with the community to reduce community emissions and transition to renewable energy use.

In taking these steps, the City of Launceston strives towards Our Purpose - *We are a progressive organisation, working with our community to create a positive future for Launceston.*



² bbc news, 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-50862349>

³ abc news, 2016. [https://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-08-16/tasmania-flood-repair-costs-revised-to-\\$180m/7747986](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-08-16/tasmania-flood-repair-costs-revised-to-$180m/7747986)

The Challenge

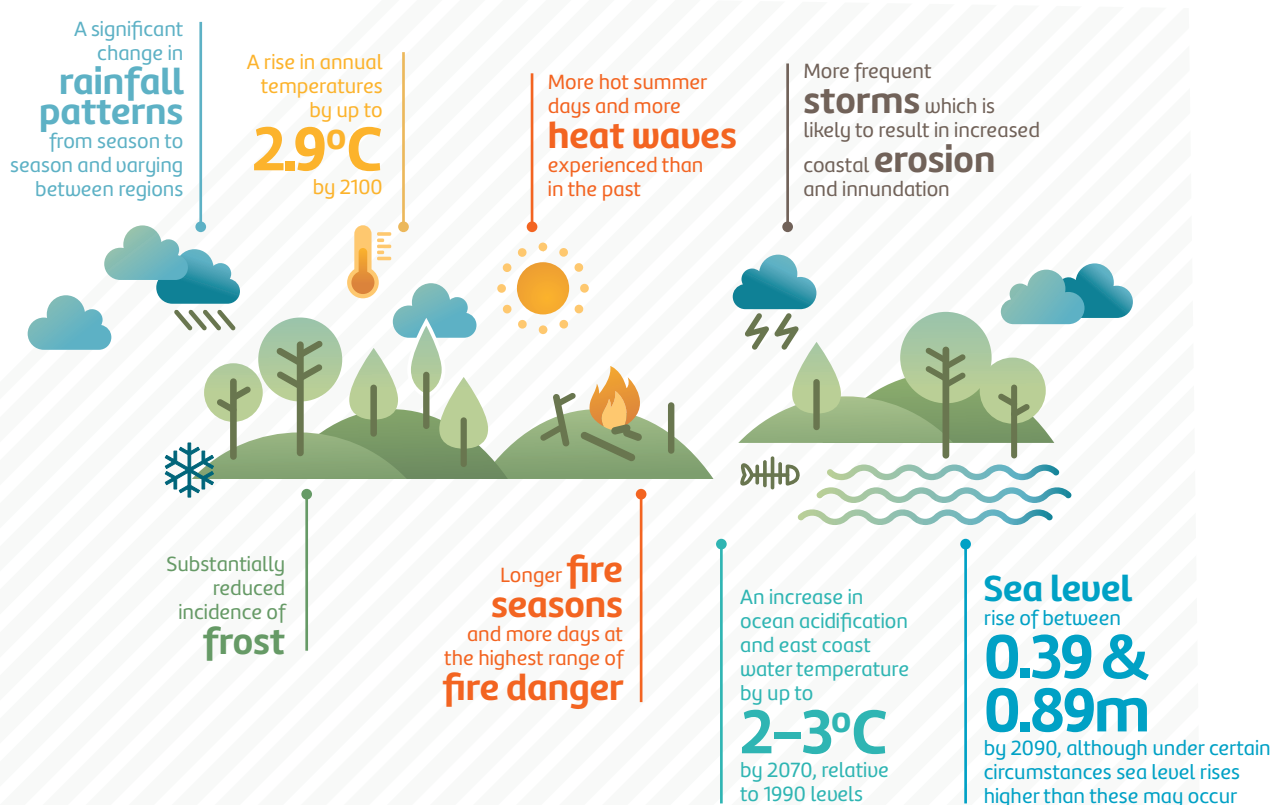
Over the last century, Australia's climate has warmed on average by $1.44 \pm 0.24^{\circ}\text{C}$ (since national records began in 1910)⁴. The increase in temperature has led to an increase in the intensity and frequency of extreme weather events as they are now occurring in a more energetic climate system⁵. There has been an increase in extreme fire weather, and the length of the fire season, especially in southern Australia. Oceans around Australia are acidifying and have warmed by around 1°C since 1910, contributing to longer and more frequent marine heatwaves⁶. Across Tasmania, average temperatures have risen by 0.9°C since 1950 and there has been a decline in average rainfall since the mid-1970s. The rainfall decline was exacerbated by the 'big dry' drought of 1995-2009⁷.

The primary cause of climate change is due to the burning of fossil fuels such as coal and gas, the use of ozone

depleting substances and aerosols, and the removal of carbon sinks such as the clearing of forests and wetlands. Following the current 'business as usual' emissions trajectory⁸, global temperatures are on track to rise between 2.6 to 4.8°C by 2100 in which the impacts of climate change will be more intense, more frequent and more severe. Climate change does and will continue to have serious impacts on the health of our community and environment. The actions we take now will enable us to secure a safer climate for current and future generations.

The Climate Futures for Tasmania⁹ project undertaken by the University of Tasmania (UTAS) provides fine-scale climate information to assist in understanding the changes at a local and regional level in Tasmania. The projected changes¹⁰ for Tasmania by 2100 are presented below:

Projected changes in Tasmania by 2100



4 BOM and CSIRO, 2020. <https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/OandA/Areas/Assessing-our-climate/State-of-the-Climate-2020/Report-at-a-glance>

5 Climate Council, 2017. <https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/uploads/1b331044fb03fd0997c4a4946705606b.pdf>

6 BOM and CSIRO, 2020. <https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/OandA/Areas/Assessing-our-climate/State-of-the-Climate-2020/Report-at-a-glance>

7 UTAS, 2015. http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/161016/Launceston_City.pdf

8 The business as usual trajectory is based on the 8.5 Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP8.5)

9 Climate Futures, 2020. <https://climatefutures.org.au/>

10 The projected changes for Tasmania are based on the RCP8.5

Strategic Direction

Planning for towards zero emissions within Council, and in partnership with our community, builds on a network of global, national, state and local goals, commitments, strategies and plans. The City of Launceston Towards Zero Emissions Action Plan sits within the overall City of Launceston Sustainability Action Plan (in draft). The Sustainability Action Plan sets out how Council will improve environmental sustainability across Council operations and how we will support and advocate for our community.

In line with the Sustainability Strategy, the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide the framework for the City of Launceston to deliver sustainability actions across Council and our community. The SDGs are 17 interconnected key goals that provide a blueprint for meeting current and future challenges at both local and global levels. In 2015, the international community validated these commitments when the United Nations General Assembly and 193 countries adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The United Nations recommends localising the SDGs to deliver the best outcomes for communities while enacting positive change to meet a global agenda.



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

The Towards Zero Emissions Action Plan aligns directly with the SDGs as demonstrated below:



GOAL 3. Good Health and Well-being: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



GOAL 6. Clean Water and Sanitation: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all



GOAL 7. Affordable and Clean Energy: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all



GOAL 9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation



GOAL 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



GOAL 12. Responsible Consumption and Production: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns



GOAL 13. Climate Action: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



GOAL 15. Life on Land: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



Goal 16. Peace and Justice, Strong Institutions: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels



GOAL 17. Partnerships for the Goals: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

The following table provides a summary of strategies, plans and commitments relevant to implementing the Towards Zero Emissions Action Plan.

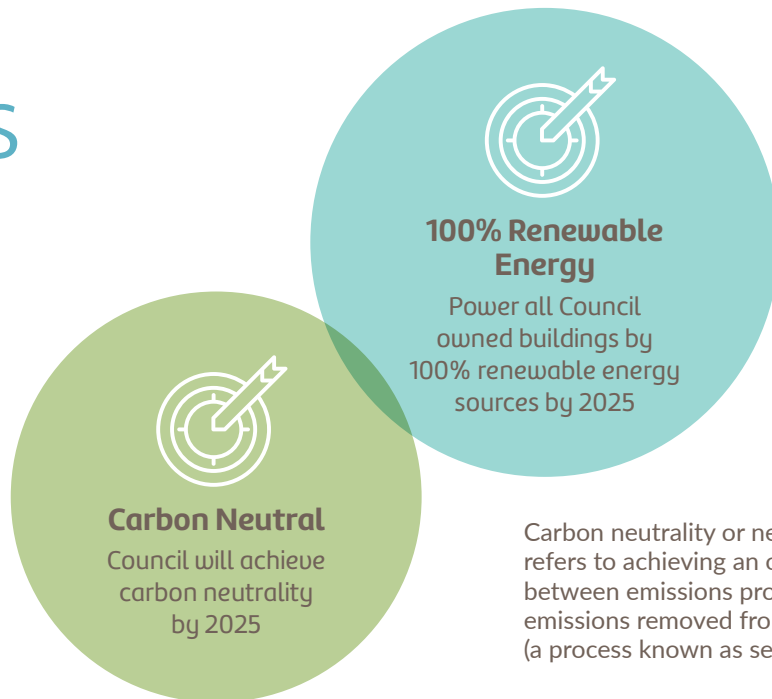
Strategic Document	Jurisdiction	Description	Relevance to City of Launceston's emissions reduction directions
UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	International	The Agenda encompasses 17 SDGs to achieve a better, more sustainable future for all and 'leave no one behind.' They provide a clear direction for setting local targets based on internationally recognised principles for sustainable development and equity.	The targets set by the SDGs are scalable, and allow for adoption at any level of business, community or government. The objectives of this Plan are aligned with the SDGs and specifically set out to achieve SDGs 3, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 17.
Paris Agreement 2015	International	The Paris Agreement introduced science-based emission reduction targets to limit global temperature increases less than 2°C by 2050 and to pursue efforts to limit rising to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels through carbon emission reductions.	For the first time, cities were recognised as critical players in reducing carbon emissions. The City of Launceston has committed to reducing emissions and becoming carbon neutral by 2025 to contribute to avoiding a 2°C rise in global temperatures by 2050.
National Emission Reduction Target	National	In response to the Paris Agreement, this Australian Government-adopted climate change strategy is aimed at reducing national carbon emissions by 26-28% on 2005 levels by 2030	Our national commitment to reducing emissions is dependent upon participatory support across all levels of government and society.
National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) scheme	National	A national framework for reporting and disseminating company information on greenhouse gas emissions, energy production, energy consumption and other information specified under NGER legislation.	The NGER scheme methodology was used to calculate the City of Launceston's annual emissions profile. It is also utilised to provide a harmonised and standardised approach to emissions reporting by Tasmanian councils.
National Waste Policy 2018 and National Waste Policy Action Plan 2019	National	<p>The National Waste Policy provides a framework for collective action by businesses, governments, communities and individuals until 2030. The policy identifies five overarching principles underpinning waste management in a circular economy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • avoid waste; improve resource recovery • increase use of recycled material and build demand and markets for recycled products • better manage material flows to benefit human health, the environment and the economy • improve information to support innovation, guide investment and enable informed consumer decisions. <p>The National Action Plan sets targets and actions to implement the National Waste Policy. The targets and actions will guide investment and national efforts to 2030 and beyond.</p>	<p>The objectives and actions contained in this Plan align with the framework, targets and actions outlined in the National policy and action plan. Relevant targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce total waste generated in Australia by 10% per person by 2030 • 80% average recovery rate from all waste streams by 2030 • significantly increase the use of recycled content by governments and industry • phase out problematic and unnecessary plastics by 2025 • halve the amount of organic waste sent to landfill by 2030 • make comprehensive, economy-wide and timely data publicly available to support better consumer, investment and policy decisions.
Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008	State	The Tasmanian Government's planned response to climate change, underpinned by a commitment to zero net emissions for Tasmania by 2050. The plan includes 37 actions focusing on improving energy efficiency, and reducing transport and agricultural emissions.	The plan aims to support businesses, local government and communities to reduce their emissions and manage the impacts of a changing climate. A key commitment is to maximise Tasmania's renewable electricity supply that is critical to assisting local governments and communities to achieve targets for renewable energy use.

Strategic Document	Jurisdiction	Description	Relevance to City of Launceston's emissions reduction directions
Climate Action 21: Tasmania's Climate Change Action Plan 2017-2021	State	The Tasmanian Government's planned response to climate change, underpinned by a commitment to zero net emissions for Tasmania by 2050. The plan includes 37 actions focusing on improving energy efficiency, and reducing transport and agricultural emissions.	The plan aims to support businesses, local government and communities to reduce their emissions and manage the impacts of a changing climate. A key commitment is to maximise Tasmania's renewable electricity supply that is critical to assisting local governments and communities to achieve targets for renewable energy use.
Tasmanian Renewable Energy Action Plan 2020	State	The Tasmanian Government's vision and suite of actions to develop renewable energy generation in Tasmania up until 2040. The plan is underpinned by the Tasmanian Renewable Energy Target of 200 per cent renewable energy generation by 2040. Intermediate targets include achieving 100 per cent self-sufficiency in renewable electricity generation by 2022 (achieved in November 2020) and exporting renewable hydrogen by 2030.	The commitment to maximise Tasmania's renewable electricity supply is critical to assisting local governments and communities in achieving targets for renewable energy use.
Greater Launceston Plan 2014 (GLP)	Regional	The GLP is a multiple-municipality project documenting planning approaches for the greater urban population of Launceston.	Liveability and amenity goals that support community wellbeing are recognised under the GLP's vision and policy framework. These goals address sustainable management of environmental resources and its benefit for broader community outcomes.
City of Launceston Corporate Strategic Plan 2014 - 2024: 2019 Review (CSP)	City of Launceston	The CSP describes 10-year goals and focus areas for seven corporate strategic priorities for the City of Launceston.	The seven strategic priorities outlined by the CSP link directly with sustainability and emissions reduction actions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We connect with our community and our region 2. We facilitate prosperity 3. We are a progressive leader 4. We value our City's unique identity 5. We serve and care for our community 6. We protect our environment 7. We are a city planning for our future.
Strategic Asset Management Plan	City of Launceston	The Strategic Asset Management Plan outlines the quantity and quality of the assets owned and managed by Council, and forecasts the funding required to maintain, renew and re-invest in the portfolio.	The plan identifies climate change as a strategic issue, demonstrates how climate change will adversely affect Council's services and assets and highlights required action on climate change.
City of Launceston Sustainability Strategy 2019	City of Launceston	The Sustainability Strategy provides Council's position statement for climate change and sustainability, and sets direction for its implementation.	The Sustainability Strategy sets Council's targets for climate change mitigation and adaptation and describes the action planning and implementation process.
City of Launceston Transport Strategy 2020-2040 (in development)	City of Launceston	The Transport Strategy provides a roadmap for a more liveable, more healthy and more connected city.	The Transport Strategy identifies the reliance on private cars for travel within the city, and proposes actions to increase active transport and the use of public transport to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



Targets

In declaring a climate emergency, the City of Launceston has committed to the following targets:



Additionally, actions in this plan include pledges that Council has made as a member of the Cities Power Partnership (CPP). The CPP pledges adopted by the City of Launceston are:

5. Fossil Fuel Divestment

Achieve 100% divestment from fossil fuel-aligned investments at the earliest possible date

4. Advocate

Lobby State and Federal Government to increase sustainable transport options

1. Renewables

Power council operations by renewable energy, and set targets to increase the level of renewable power for the council's operations over time

2. Sustainable Transport

Encourage Sustainable transport use such as public transport, walking and cycling through the Council transport planning and design

3. Cycling Infrastructure

Support cycling through provision of adequate cycle lanes, bike parking and end-of-ride facilities



CITIES POWER PARTNERSHIP

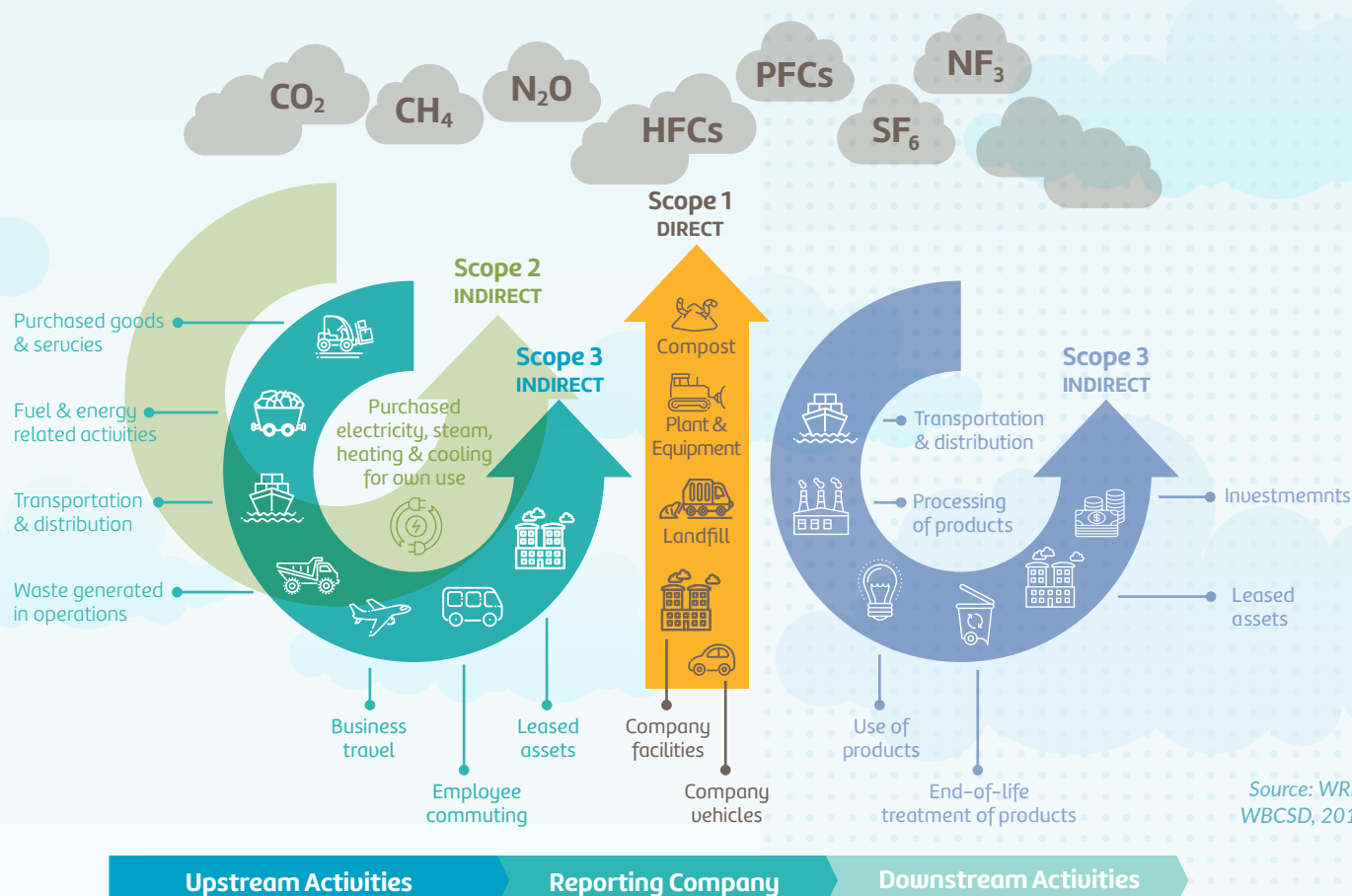
City of Launceston Emissions Profile 2018/19

The City of Launceston completed a detailed greenhouse gas desktop audit (also known as a carbon footprint) for Council operations for the 2018/19 financial year. Council's emissions reporting boundary was established following the approach of the Australian Government's Climate Active standard¹¹. The Climate Active

program is the most commonly used approach for Australian organisations to certify their carbon neutral status; and is based on the GHG Protocol and the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) Measurement Determination.

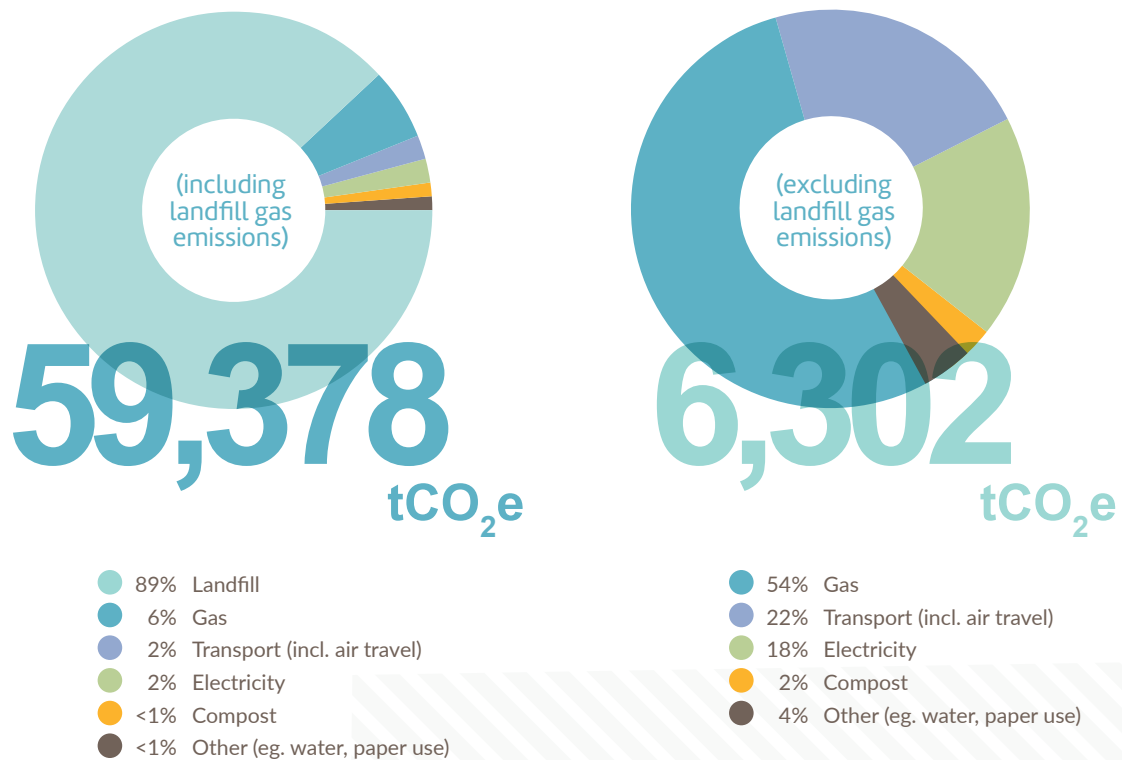
While the City of Launceston has completed previous greenhouse gas audits and implemented a number of successful emission reduction projects over the last 15 years, the 2018/19 emissions profile aligns with current best practice emission accounting methodologies and will be used as Council's emissions baseline.

Overview of Council's emissions scopes and sources across Council's operations



11 In line with the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol, the international standard in quantifying and managing emissions.

Council Emissions Profile 2018/19



In 2018/19, the City of Launceston's total annual greenhouse gas emissions was 59,378 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e).

Scope 1 (direct emissions) accounted for 97% (57,312 tCO₂e) of Council's total emissions and represents approximately 7% of Tasmania's greenhouse gas emissions¹². Scope 1 emissions are largely attributed to the Council owned and operated landfill which receives residential, commercial and industrial waste from across the region (including four neighbouring Councils). The landfill accounts for 89% (52,954 tCO₂e) of Council's overall emissions. The consumption of fossil fuel gas is Council's second largest emission source, contributing to 6% (3,526 tCO₂e) of Council's overall emissions. While fossil fuel gas is consumed at only four facilities, the Launceston Aquatic Centre utilises more than three-quarters of this fuel type and

also accounts for 6% of Council's emission profile. Fuel use (both diesel and petrol) across Council's fleet, plant and equipment contributed 2% (1,315 tCO₂e) to Council's overall emissions.

Scope 2 emissions (indirect emissions attributed to the purchase of electricity) account for less than 2% (1,003 tCO₂e) of Council's total emissions. Despite a large amount of electricity consumed across Council facilities, the low emission total is due to Tasmania's high mix of renewable energy in the grid (approximately 90% sourced from hydropower and wind power prior to November 2020¹³).

Scope 3 emissions (indirect emissions) data is limited for upstream and downstream activities that generate emissions. Scope 3 emissions for activities and assets owned and operated by Council account for less than 2% (1,062 tCO₂e) of Council's total emissions. Based on the data available, emissions associated with losses through the transmission and distribution (T&D) of energy are the largest emissions accounting for 70% of scope 3 emissions followed by water use (including wastewater treatment) accounting for 17% and air travel and accommodation accounting for 8% (88 tCO₂e) of scope 3 emissions.

During the life of this Plan, data quality and completeness will be improved across all scopes.

¹² Tasmanian Government (2017). Tasmania's Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2017. http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/climatechange/climate_change_in_tasmania/tasmanias_emissions

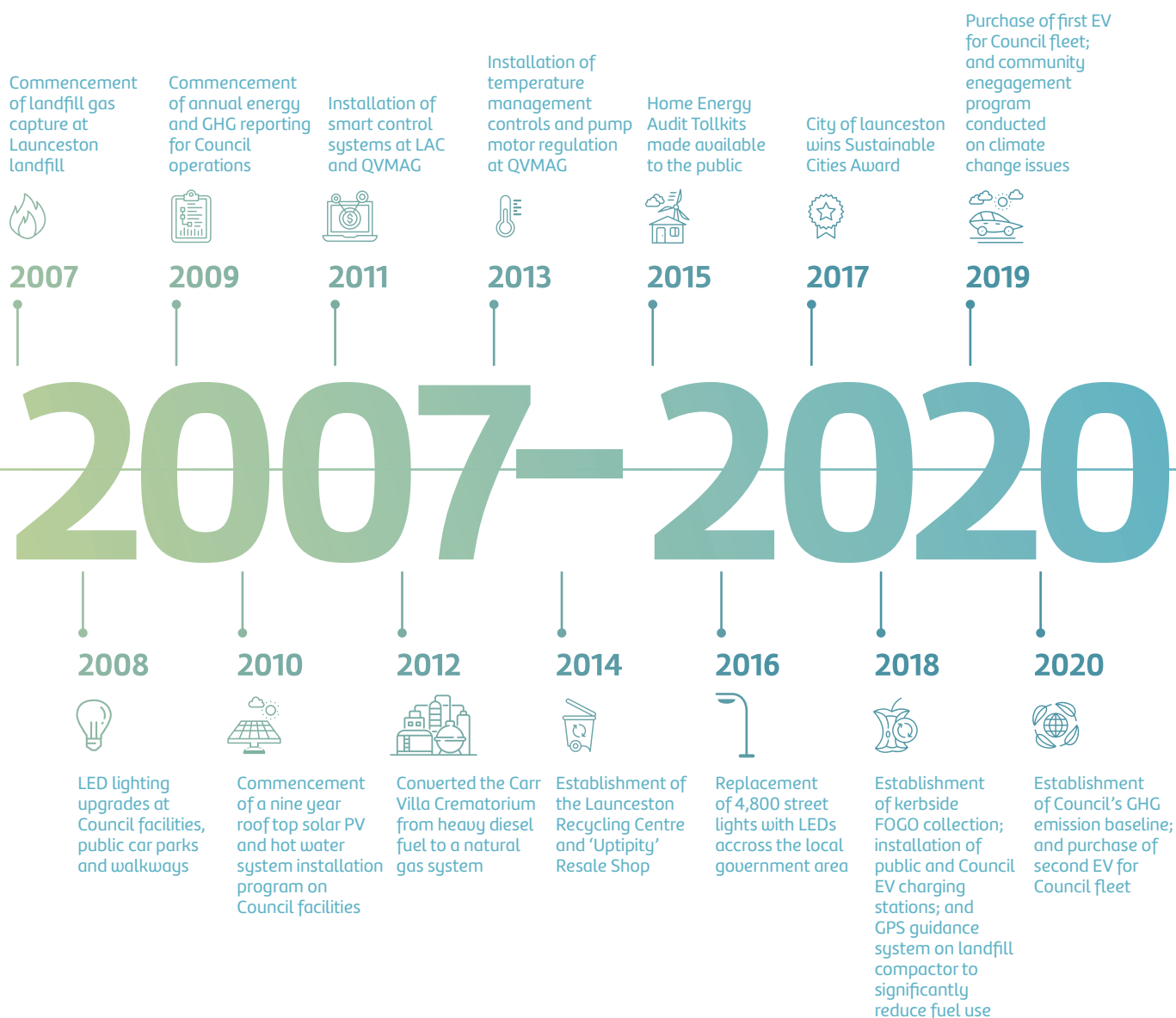
¹³ Tasmania reached 100% net self-sufficient renewable energy in November 2020.

Progress to Date

Council has undertaken a number of steps in recent years to reduce its emissions. In 2007, the City of Launceston commissioned Australia's first landfill gas capture project abating almost 50,000 tonnes of CO₂e annually. Energy efficiency projects have been rolled out across facilities of high energy usage; 4,800 streetlights and additional public area lighting has been upgraded to LEDs; and roof top solar photovoltaic systems have been installed at 10

facilities (and increasing). Food and garden organic waste from the municipality's kerbside collection is being diverted from landfill reducing approximately two tonnes of CO₂e for every tonne of organic waste diverted. In 2018, we implemented a major fuel reduction project at the landfill site through the introduction of a GPS-based guidance system, to allow drivers to easily navigate heavy waste compactors to areas of the landfill cell that require compaction.

This targeted operation of compaction has resulted in a fuel reduction of 20,000 litres annually. The City of Launceston installed Tasmania's first electric vehicle (EV) fast charging station in 2018 and purchased our first EV for Council's fleet in 2019. In early 2021, Council commenced major works on transitioning the Launceston Aquatic Centre, Council's second largest emitter of greenhouse gases, from fossil fuel gas to electrification utilising heat pumps and rooftop solar.





Action Plan

The Towards Zero Emissions Action Plan responds to the climate emergency by driving a reduction in both Council emissions (i.e. emissions from Council's operations and assets) and expanding beyond Council's organisational boundary to support a reduction in community emissions (e.g. emissions from the residential, commercial and industry sectors across the City of Launceston's local government area). The Towards Zero Emissions Action Plan sets out how the City of Launceston will achieve targets to power Council owned buildings with 100% renewable energy and operate as a carbon neutral organisation by 2025 while playing our part to help meet the Paris Agreement and avoid a global average temperature rise of 2°C by 2050.

While the City of Launceston's operations (excluding landfill emissions) are responsible for less than 1% of community emissions, Council plays a significant role in leading the transition to a low carbon future, living and working more sustainably, sharing resources and knowledge, and encouraging and supporting innovation and collaboration opportunities. Council will engage further with residents, businesses, and local industry and community groups to meet the SDGs and build on climate actions and partner with other councils to mobilise and advocate for scaled-up action with state and federal governments and large industry bodies (see Community Emissions section).

The Towards Zero Emissions actions focus on seven key areas:

- 1 **Leadership, Transparency and Tracking**
- 2 **Waste Avoidance and Recovery**
- 3 **Efficient Facilities**
- 4 **Zero Emissions Transport and Plant**
- 5 **Sustainable Supply Chain**
- 6 **Carbon Sequestration and Offsets**
- 7 **Community Emissions**

The actions align with the emissions reduction hierarchy and work towards ten of the 17 SDGs and all five CPP pledges. Each action has an estimated delivery timeframe and estimated cost for implementation. A monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement framework will be developed to track and publicly report on the progress of reducing emissions. Timeframes are defined as short-term (less than 1 year), moderate term (1-2 years), long-term (3-4 years and no later than 2025) and cost is defined as \$ (low - less than \$10,000), \$\$ (moderate - \$10,000 to \$50,000), \$\$\$ (high - greater than \$50,000 up to \$200,000), and \$\$\$\$ (very high - over \$200,000). Council will work to build partnerships and advocate for wider emissions management across the community, strengthening Council's climate change response through shared support and action.

The Towards Zero Emissions Action Plan is a living document that will be reviewed and updated as needed, based on the effectiveness of emission reduction actions.

Emissions Reduction Hierarchy



Understand and Communicate

Council's emissions challenges and progress



Avoid and Reduce

the consumption and generation of energy, waste and water, and emission intensive goods and services



Maximise Efficiencies

Maximise resources and efficiencies



Transition to Renewables

Transition to renewable energy



Offset Shortfalls

in remaining emissions and invest in carbon drawdown projects



Leadership, Transparency and Tracking

By declaring a climate emergency, Council has committed to decarbonising its operations and to providing climate action leadership, support and advocacy for industry, businesses and the community. The City of Launceston will increase transparency in monitoring and tracking emissions by publically reporting on Council's organisational emission profile and progress in reducing emissions. Council will improve data capture and quality, continually identify

emission reduction opportunities and assess the effectiveness of emission reduction actions. The City of Launceston will collaborate with other Tasmanian councils to work towards developing a standardised approach to organisational emissions inventories.

The key objectives Council aims to meet under the Leadership, Transparency and Tracking action area are:

- Monitor and track Council's emissions profile and progress in reducing emissions
- Build state wide capacity for local government climate mitigation actions
- Embed climate action in all decision making
- Determine the effectiveness of emission reduction actions and identify opportunities for improvement.

Action No.	Action	Timeframe	Cost
1.1	Calculate Council's annual emissions from operations	Short term / ongoing	\$
1.2	Improve data capture and quality across all emissions scopes	Short term / ongoing	\$
1.3	Develop and implement a climate action program to support staff to undertake climate action as part of their own role	Moderate term	\$
1.4	Register and report to the Clean Energy Regulator in line with the NGER Scheme	Short term / ongoing	\$
1.5	Develop a framework to track emission reduction actions and provide publicly-available updates on the progress of actions	Short term / ongoing	\$

Sustainable Development Goals





Waste Avoidance and Recovery

With landfill gas generation accounting for almost 90% of Council's emission profile, waste avoidance and recovery is a key focus of Council's emission reduction actions. It also presents Council with its greatest challenge. The Launceston Waste Centre is Tasmania's second largest landfill and receives waste from the wider region including four other neighbouring Councils (George Town, West Tamar, Dorset and Northern Midlands Councils). This means a significant increase in waste avoidance and recovery, and a drastic shift to a circular economy, must be approached at a regional level to deliver a collaborative solution.

The City of Launceston has a long history of commitment to greenhouse gas abatement and best practice waste management. In 2007, Council commissioned Australia's first landfill gas capture project at the Launceston Waste Centre. The Launceston Waste Centre also processes the region's food organic and garden organic (FOGO) waste from the kerbside collection and produces compost.

The aerobic composting of organic waste reduces emissions while diverting nutrients from the site. Each tonne of organic waste disposed of as landfill and broken down by anaerobic processes releases approximately two tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) of greenhouse gases (mostly in the form of methane). The recycling centre, also located at the Launceston Waste Centre, diverts over 25 waste streams and operates the Uptipity Resale Shop in conjunction with the not-for-profit, Launceston City Mission.

To achieve a significant reduction in landfill emissions, the City of Launceston will increase landfill gas capture capacity and efficiencies in the existing landfill gas extraction system, and promote and implement FOGO waste collection at facilities generating large volumes of organic waste to increase the diversion of organics from landfill (e.g. supermarkets, hospitals, hotels, retirement homes, schools, airport etc.).

The National Waste Policy Action Plan 2019 sets various targets for 2030 that our City is committed to achieving. A strong shift is required to transition to a circular economy across industry and business, including Council's own operations. Through the delivery of education in waste avoidance (refuse, rethink, redesign) and reduction (reduce, reuse), fostering innovative design and manufacturing opportunities and economic development, and creating a sustainable procurement process, Council aims to drive the transition to a circular economy in the region. While the overall objective of waste related actions is to avoid and reduce the generation of waste and associated landfill emissions, Council will strive to implement best practice waste management across all Council operations and facilities.

Launceston General Hospital and FOGO Waste Diversion

In 2019, the City of Launceston assisted in brokering a partnership between the Launceston General Hospital (LGH), waste contractors, packaging suppliers and City of Launceston's FOGO processing facility to divert LGH's organics away from landfill. The LGH's organics include food preparation scraps, return meals and compostable packaging.

The LGH is now diverting an average 2 tonnes per week of organics that were previously sent to landfill. The organic waste diversion reduces emissions and landfill operational costs while keeping valuable nutrients circulating in our landscapes via compost.

The City of Launceston plays a significant role within the Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Group (NTWMG). The NTWMG provides advice, funding, advocacy and education on better managing waste and recycling within northern Tasmanian communities, businesses and local governments. The NTWMG 2017–2022 Strategy aims to increase diversion of waste from landfill into more beneficial uses to realise economic, social and environmental gains for northern Tasmania.

One of the most effective ways to build markets for the recycling and reuse of materials is to have price signals or similar policy mechanisms that provide a disincentive to send waste to landfill. One way this has been achieved in many Australian

and international jurisdictions is through the introduction of a landfill levy. Once passed, the draft Waste and Resource Recovery Bill 2021 currently before the State parliament will introduce a state-wide waste levy in Tasmania to encourage the diversion of waste from landfill and increase the recovery of resources from waste. It will provide for standards and guidelines to be made in relation to landfills and resource recovery facilities.

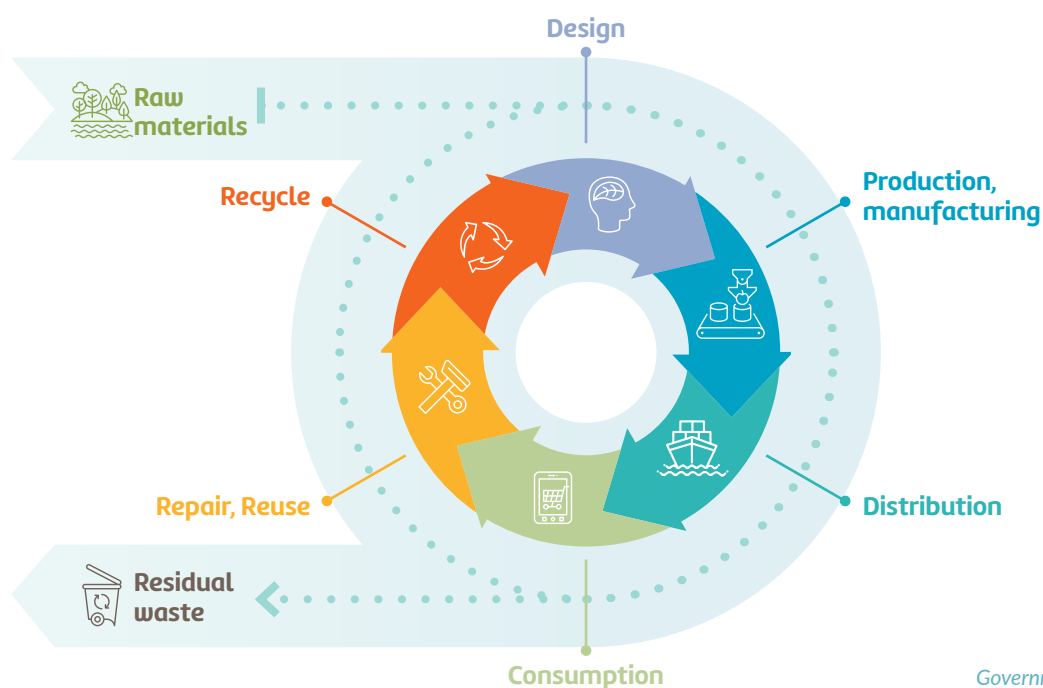
Owning and operating a landfill utilised as a regional asset will inevitably prevent the City of Launceston reducing corporate emissions to zero without the purchase of offsets. Looking beyond 2025, the City of Launceston will commence exploring the transition

away from landfilling. Technology advances in bioenergy and waste to energy will be explored and other innovations monitored.

The key objectives Council aims to meet under the Waste Avoidance and Recovery action area are:

- Avoid and reduce waste sent to landfill
- Improve capacity and efficiencies in landfill gas capture
- Improve data capture and management to identify waste and emission reduction opportunities and track progress
- Identify and support further actions that reduce emissions.
- Transition out of landfilling by 2050.

Transitioning to a Circular Economy



Source: Australian Government et al, 2019¹⁴

14 Australian Government, State and Territory Governments and the Australian Local Government Association, 2019
<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/5b86c9f8-074e-4d66-ab11-08bbc69da240/files/national-waste-policy-action-plan-2019.pdf>

Launceston Landfill Gas Capture System

The system is capable of exporting approximately 18,000MW hours of energy each year, powering 2,500 homes in the local community and abating more than 49,500 tCO₂e each year.

The project generates Large-Scale Generation Certificates (LGCs) and was declared an Eligible Offset Project under the Emission Reduction Fund (ERF).

Action No.	Action	Timeframe	Cost
2.1	Coordinate the increase of gas capture capacity and efficiencies in the existing landfill gas extraction system	Short term / ongoing	\$
2.2	Promote commercial FOGO services for organisations generating large volumes of organic waste e.g. supermarkets, restaurants, hospitals, hotels, retirement homes, schools, Launceston airport	Short to moderate term / ongoing	\$
2.3	Continue to expand kerbside FOGO collection services across the Local Government Area boundary	Long term	\$\$
2.4	Advocate and assist other Councils utilising the Launceston landfill to implement a kerbside FOGO collection service	Moderate to long term / ongoing	\$
2.5	Invest in expanding the composting facility to cater for increases in materials	Moderate term	\$\$\$\$
2.6	Upgrade Council's main buildings to include best practice waste collection systems, including FOGO	Long term	\$\$\$
2.7	Promote waste avoidance and resource efficiencies to employees through internal education and awareness programs	Short to moderate term / ongoing	\$
2.8	Establish a construction and demolition recovery facility	Long term	\$\$\$\$
2.9	Investigate opportunities to utilise low embodied emission materials for Council construction works, including the construction of assets, asset upgrades and maintenance works	Short term / ongoing	\$
2.10	Commence scoping a phasing out of landfill transition plan	Long term	\$\$

Sustainable Development Goals





Efficient Facilities

The use of fossil fuel energy to power facilities is Council's second highest emission source accounting for 8% of overall emissions. Due to Tasmania's high mix of renewable energy in grid electricity, and the high emission factor of fossil fuel gas, Council's fossil fuel gas usage dominates building emissions contributing to 80% of building energy emissions. While only a small percentage (0.2%), water usage also contributes to Council's emissions profile via the energy needed to deliver water through the plumbing systems of Council owned facilities, and to treat it after use before disposal or reuse.

Like many Councils, the City of Launceston has a large and diverse portfolio of facilities and buildings which are of varying ages, condition and heritage status (such as aquatic centres, crematorium, museums and art galleries, theatres, waste centre and transfer stations, stadiums, office and commercial buildings, halls, car parks, gardens, recreational parks and nature reserves). All require varying energy and water uses. While building energy is a significant contributor to Council's emission profile, it also presents a substantial opportunity for emissions reduction and cost savings.

Building electrification (transitioning from fossil fuel gas to electrification), energy efficiency, and renewable energy generation will be the focus in reducing building related emissions and reliance on the grid, however further understanding of current energy and water use and renewable energy generation will be Council's first priority. Council will utilise building and facility data via smart meters and an energy management system to identify and implement efficiency measures and accelerate renewable projects while increasing reporting accuracy and completeness.

With the early achievement of the 2022 target of 100% self-sufficiency in renewable energy generation (achieved in November 2020), Tasmania is in an advantageous position in renewable energy, and has now set a new world leading Tasmanian Renewable Energy Target (TRET). Achieving the target will increase the State's renewable energy output equivalent to 200% of current renewable electricity generation levels by 2040 (set at a baseline of 10,500 GWh)¹⁵. While the City of Launceston will significantly benefit from an electricity grid powered by renewable energy, significant energy efficiency improvements can also be achieved, such as upgrading facilities to utilise micro renewable energy systems to reduce costs and our reliance on the grid. Council will seek to trial and adopt innovative renewable energy technology at a micro level, including renewable energy storage solutions.

The City of Launceston will apply environmentally sustainable design (ESD) principles in all of Council's building design, planning and fit outs for both new buildings and refurbishments.

The key objectives Council aims to meet under the Efficient Facilities action area are:

- Reduce energy and water consumption and increase efficiencies
- Maximise opportunities and switch to renewable energy sources, generation and storage
- Improve data capture and management to identify energy, water and emission reduction opportunities and track progress
- Apply ESD principles in planning, design, and fit outs
- Identify and support further actions that reduce emissions.

Sustainable Development Goals



Cities Power Partnership



¹⁵ Tasmanian Department of State Growth, 2021. renewabletasmania.tas.gov.au/our_renewable_energy_story/tasmanian_renewable_energy_action_plan

Launceston Aquatic Centre Electrification Project

In early 2021, the City of Launceston commenced major works on transitioning the LAC from fossil fuel gas to electrification. The project involves moving from the existing co-generation (fossil fuel gas generators with heat capture) to heat pumps and a 99kW roof top solar photovoltaic system comprising 240 solar panels for both pool water and pool hall air conditioning system heating.

Excluding the landfill, the LAC is Council's largest source of emissions. The combination of high fossil fuel gas and electricity use contributed 1,577 tCO₂e and represents 2.7% of Council's 2018/19 emission profile. The project is expected to result in significant emissions reduction for Council operations.

Action No.	Action	Timeframe	Cost
3.1	Transition gas powered facilities to electrification	Long term / ongoing	\$\$\$\$
3.2	Undertake a desktop audit of Council's high energy and water consuming facilities to identify energy and water saving opportunities	Short term	\$
3.3	Adopt an energy management system (software) for monitoring and managing usage and consumption data that assists with regular emissions reporting	Short to moderate term	\$ - \$
3.4	Install a building management system (BMS) at Council's high energy consuming facilities	Moderate to long term	\$\$\$
3.5	Continue upgrading Council facilities to increase energy efficiencies (e.g. install smart meters, efficient HVAC systems, adequate insulation and ventilation, window glazing, high efficiency LED lighting and de-lamping etc)	Moderate to long term	\$
3.6	Transition plant and equipment to electrification and battery power where feasible, while investigating further opportunities for savings	Long term / ongoing	\$\$\$\$
3.7	Develop and implement an Environmental Sustainable Buildings Policy for Council owned buildings e.g. all buildings built to a minimum rating system (Green Star, NABERS etc.), minimum renewable energy requirements, adequate building and window orientation, adequate insulation and ventilation, energy efficient lighting and appliances, rain capture systems, water efficient fittings, minimum recycled material content, maximum car park spaces, minimum greenspace allocation, vegetation increase/retainment etc.	Moderate to long term	\$ - \$
3.8	Conduct Council employee and lease holder training and behaviour change programs to ensure facilities and equipment are operated efficiently	Short to moderate term / ongoing	\$



Zero Emissions Transport and Plant

The City of Launceston's transport related emission sources include light vehicle, commercial vehicle and heavy trucks, minor and major plant and equipment, and air travel, and account for 2% of overall emissions. Heavy plant used in Council's operations contributes to over 90% of fleet related emissions. Council has been working to reduce its fuel consumption across fleet and plant since 2012 through implementing actions including the prioritisation of purchasing fuel efficient and low tailpipe emission vehicles, the purchase of two electric vehicles, and replacing fuel powered equipment with battery operated options. In 2018, a major fuel reduction initiative was rolled out at the landfill through the introduction of a GPS-based guidance system in the heavy waste compactors to allow drivers to easily identify which parts of a landfill cell require compaction. The targeted compaction resulted in fuel reduction of 20,000L annually.

In line with the draft Greater Launceston Transport Vision and the draft Launceston Transport Strategy, the City of Launceston is working to create a sustainable transport lifestyle for the city. Launceston's transport network supports a multimodal mix of walking, cycling, bus, and driving, however driving remains the dominant transport mode choice by residents. Transport is also the city's second largest contributor to community wide emissions. While the city's shift to electric vehicles is largely driven by the private sector and the supply of electric vehicles to the market, transitioning Council's fleet to low and zero emission vehicles is an opportunity for Council to continue to demonstrate strong leadership in climate action. In 2018, the City of Launceston installed the State's first 50kw DC fast charge electric vehicle charging station and added two more charging stations soon after. The City of Launceston will continue to shift to electric vehicles and explore innovative transport solutions over the next four years and beyond, and lead the region by transitioning to a zero emission light vehicle fleet by 2040. Petrol and diesel fuelled plant and equipment will also be progressively

replaced with electric and battery operated alternatives as market ready solutions become available. Council will continue to explore the development of renewable hydrogen, and other bioenergy and technology advancements in the energy sector.

Simultaneous with progressively electrifying the fleet, Council will work with staff to avoid and reduce fuel consumption through prioritising meetings via videoconferencing, facilitate fuel efficient driver training, and support the increased take up of active and sustainable transport by constructing an end of trip facility at Town Hall, and delivering cycle training programs.

The key objectives Council aims to meet under the Zero Emissions Transport action area are:

- Avoid and reduce the use of fossil fuel transport and plant
- Maximise opportunities and switch to low to zero emissions fleet and plant
- Improve data capture and management to identify fuel and emission reduction opportunities and track progress
- Identify and support further actions that reduce emissions.

Sustainable Development Goals



Cities Power Partnership



Action No.	Action	Timeframe	Cost
4.1	Continue fuel efficiency and electrification adoption of Council's light vehicle fleet	Short term / ongoing	\$\$\$\$
4.2	Progressively replace end of life petrol and diesel fuelled plant and equipment with electric and battery operated options, where available and when suitable for the task required	Long term / ongoing	\$\$\$\$
4.3	Develop and implement a sustainable fleet guideline, including a fuel consumption rate of 6L/100km and a maximum tailpipe emission standard of 130g CO ₂ /km for all new light vehicles	Moderate term	\$\$\$\$
4.4	Investigate and trial alternative transport options for work travel e.g. introduction of e-bikes and e-scooters to Council's fleet	Short to moderate term	\$-\$\$
4.5	Investigate and roll out new technology in renewable energy powered plant and equipment, where feasible (e.g. renewable hydrogen powered trucks, electric street sweepers, battery operated garden tools)	Moderate to long term / ongoing	\$-\$\$\$
4.6	Construct an end-of-trip facility for Council employees at Town Hall to encourage an increased uptake of active transport to and from work. Promote the facility to the public to encourage other organisations to follow suit	Short to moderate term	\$\$\$
4.7	Develop a policy to offset air travel emissions	Short term / ongoing	\$-\$\$
4.8	Set interim and long term targets for the increase in renewable energy powered fleet and plant equipment	Moderate to long term	\$



Sustainable Supply Chain

Sustainability in the supply chain is critical to improving environmental, social and economic outcomes across the organisation and in our community. Sustainable procurement provides an opportunity for the City of Launceston to avoid unnecessary consumption, increase the utilisation of resources, re-use and recycle existing resources, avoid and reduce emissions, foster innovation in sustainable products and services and address social issues such as employment, health and wellbeing, equality, and fair and ethical labour practices.

Improvement in Council's supply chain emissions data (Scope 3

emissions) is a priority for Council (Action 1.2). This priority focus will contribute to increased transparency and completeness of our emissions reporting. Through our procurement process, Council will encourage and support its supply chain to increase the sustainability performance of industry and businesses. Council will identify areas for emissions reduction in Council's supply chain and procure goods and services within a policy framework that considers our emission reduction targets such as using recycled materials in pavement construction (e.g. crushed concrete, glass fines and crumbed rubber to supplement virgin aggregate and sand extracted from quarries).

Consistent with our CPP pledges, Council will continue to avoid directly investing in fossil fuel aligned projects or investments.

The key objectives Council aims to meet under the Sustainable Supply Chain action area are:

- Procure goods and services within a framework that considers emissions reductions targets
- Improve data capture and management to identify emission reduction opportunities and track progress
- Identify and support further actions for emissions reduction in Council's supply chain.

Action No.	Action	Timeframe	Cost
5.1	Update Council's procurement policy and strategy to ensure goods and services purchased by Council meet criteria for environmental, social and governance responsibility	Short to moderate term	\$
5.2	Undertake a snapshot audit of Council's supply chain to determine opportunities for emissions reductions and work with suppliers on developing and implementing emissions reduction actions	Moderate term	\$
5.3	Communicate with Council's supply chain on our goals to achieve carbon neutrality by 2025, include sustainable procurement awareness in Council's induction program for suppliers, and encourage transparency from suppliers on their emissions profile and the actions they are implementing to reduce emissions	Short term / ongoing	\$
5.4	Explore assigning sustainability weighting / evaluation criteria in tender evaluations to encourage the procurement of zero to low emissions goods and services	Short term	\$
5.5	Continue the divestment from all direct fossil fuel aligned investments and further explore the divestment from indirect fossil fuel aligned activities e.g. banking and superannuation	Ongoing	\$-\$-\$

Sustainable Development Goals



Cities Power Partnership





Carbon Sequestration and Offsets

Located at the confluence of two major river systems and the kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary and surrounded by bush-covered hills, Launceston and its surroundings has abundant biodiversity. The 4,600 hectare Tamar River Conservation Area provides habitats for invertebrates, fish, migrating birds, wetland species and a nursery for marine species. The Trevallyn Nature Recreation Area and the Cataract Gorge Reserve located on the edge of the City is home to hundreds of flora and fauna species, some of which are not found anywhere else in the world. The Carr Villa Bushland, covering 17.4 hectares, has over a hundred flora species including seven listed threatened species and is largely comprised of *Eucalyptus amygdalina* forest (a threatened vegetation community) on Cainozoic substrates. With this natural wonderland at the city's doorstep, the City of Launceston strives to maintain a healthy natural environment for its residents, and flora and fauna communities.

The abundant trees and shrubs spread across the City are collectively known as 'green cover' or the 'urban forest'. Green cover provides a range of ecosystem services essential to a highly liveable, sustainable city, such as the provision of shade and cooling, reduction of the urban heat island effect, reduction of air pollution, habitat for wildlife, inception of water runoff, aesthetics, recreation areas for riding, running and relaxing, and increased property values. However, as the city grows, green cover is at risk of being lost.

In addition to the ecosystem services above, and the extensive list of services that trees and shrubs provide (e.g. water cycle management, nutrient cycling, soil health maintenance, food production, spiritual values, coastal protection, ecotourism, provision of construction materials and fuel etc.), large scale green cover (and soil) contribute directly to climate change mitigation through the sequestration and storage of carbon. Green cover also indirectly reduces emissions by shading buildings and reducing the need for cooling. In its simplest form, carbon sequestration is the process where plants absorb carbon dioxide in the atmosphere during photosynthesis. Although some carbon is returned to the atmosphere through respiration, the majority of carbon is stored in the leaves, branches, roots and soil. Conserving and enhancing trees and shrubs to sustain the capture and storage of greenhouse gases is paramount to emissions abatement.

Achieving City of Launceston's target of carbon neutrality or 'net zero emissions' requires a dramatic reduction in the region's waste generation and the replacement of fossil fuel energy with renewable energy to power Council's operations. While a reduction in emissions will be Council's ultimate priority to achieve carbon neutrality by 2025, carbon offsets will be required (with a goal of reducing offsets overtime) as more carbon is abated and sequestered. In addition to carbon reduction, carbon offsets can achieve other environmental, social and

economic benefits; also referred to as 'co-benefits'. Examples of co-benefits include alternative waste treatment projects creating useful bio products such as compost or fuel; the protection and regeneration of native vegetation, rare species and the increase in biodiversity; and improving the water table and water quality, and improving soil health for the land use sector.

The City of Launceston will aim to prioritise locally based offset projects that offer co-benefits while also exploring opportunities to collaborate with neighbouring councils to increase benefits (e.g. establishing shared waste treatment facilities, conserving and regenerating habitat corridors etc.). It should be noted, however, that while new large-scale tree planting projects will capture and store carbon and may achieve important co-benefits, large-scale tree planting is typically a costly activity, and is incapable of offsetting Council's annual emissions.

The key objectives Council aims to meet under the Carbon Sequestration and Offsets action area are:

- Support the capture and storage of emissions
- Explore the capture and storage of emissions that provide co-benefits for the community and environment
- Improve data capture and management of carbon sequestration.

Action No.	Action	Timeframe	Cost
6.1	Develop and implement an Urban Forestry Plan to retain and increase canopy cover across Council land	Moderate to long term	\$-\$-\$
6.2	Assess vegetation management practices to optimise soil and plant health and carbon sequestration e.g. species selection and watering schedules adapted to future climate projections, the use of pesticides and fertilizers and the impact to soil and plant growth	Moderate term	\$
6.3	Review all policy and strategy documentation relevant to flora to ensure the impacts of climate change have been considered in future planning and works e.g. species tolerant to increased temperatures, extended dry periods, and high intensity rainfall events, species with higher sequestration rates, species that provide greater shade	Moderate to long term	\$
6.4	Investigate the technology available to assess Council's carbon sinks and sequestration capacity	Moderate term	\$\$
6.5	Investigate carbon offset options for Council to achieve carbon neutrality by 2025	Short term - ongoing	\$-\$-\$

Sustainable Development Goals





Community Emissions

Addressing the climate emergency and meeting the Paris Agreement 2015 requires collective action across the community. Communities play an essential role in the creation of a sustainable low carbon future and the Launceston community is no different. Zero emission communities benefit from significant cost savings, new local jobs and investment, and positive economic, social and environmental impacts.

Based on the findings from Council's 'Tomorrow Together' 18-month community engagement program, the City of Launceston's community are concerned about the impacts of climate change on future generations and natural values. Key areas identified by the community to contribute to climate change mitigation include community education, awareness and knowledge sharing; household waste avoidance and appropriate waste management; reducing car dependency; habitat rehabilitation and revegetation; improving water efficiency and security; effective house insulation; and the uptake of renewable energy.

Engagement program participants also communicated the need for leaders to make decisions based on science, and make and share difficult decisions with the community.

The calculation of a city or municipality's emission profile is a complex process and data accessibility and transparency across multiple sectors and industries is challenging. Based on available data¹⁶, the City of Launceston estimated the 2018/2019 community wide emissions to be approximately 758,740 t CO₂e (excluding emissions associated with land use change). The emissions profile comprises transport and stationary energy use across the residential, commercial, industry and transport sectors, and landfill gas emissions (as reported under the City of Launceston's emission profile). The community's highest emission source is industry (38%) which correlates to the city's various industrial activities, followed by transport emissions (28%), which reflects the city's high dependence on vehicle passenger travel and freight.

There are many activities in the local government area that the City of Launceston does not have direct control over such as State owned public transport services, private transport, energy and water supply and use by residents and businesses, waste volumes entering the landfill, and material selection and resource use by commercial and industry sectors. However, in line with international standards, the emissions generated by these sources are captured in our community emissions profile. To reduce community wide emissions, Council will work collaboratively with the community, businesses, industry, and neighbouring councils, to build awareness on low emission living and explore emerging technologies and innovative practices to achieve the best outcomes for current and future generations.

¹⁶ Community emissions data sourced from various sources: Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, 2021; TasNetworks, 2021; Australian Energy Statistics, 2021



The Community Emissions section of this Towards Zero Emissions Action Plan will be expanded on following further engagement with businesses, industry, residents and other key stakeholders. Council has proposed draft actions to reduce community emissions while building community awareness on climate change mitigation and opportunities for action. Where climate action is outside local government control (e.g. Federal and State policy reforms, the energy network, and public transport

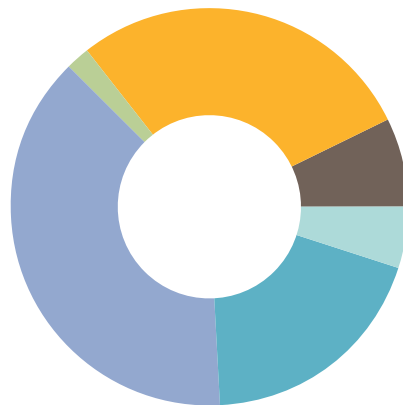
services), the City of Launceston will advocate for urgently needed changes to respond to the climate emergency, and work towards better informing, supporting and mobilising the community to reduce emissions.

The objectives of the Community Emissions Action Plan will be finalised during further stakeholder engagement, however, objectives may include the following:

- Build education and awareness of climate change impacts and mitigation at a local scale
- Support the community to reduce emissions
- Improve data capture and management to identify emission reduction opportunities and track progress.

Similar to the prior key area actions, timeframes and cost details will be developed following consultation with the community.

Launceston Community Emissions 2018/19



- 38% Industry Energy*
- 28% Transport Energy
- 19% Commercial Energy*
- 7% Landfill Gas
- 5% Residential
- 2% Ag & Forestry

* Excludes transport related energy related emissions (categorised separately)

Sustainable Development Goals



Cities Power Partnership



Proposed Actions



Further develop the Towards Zero Emissions - Community Action Plan through further community and stakeholder engagement



Complete an annual emissions audit for community emissions



Set emissions reduction targets for community emissions



Improve data capture and quality of community emissions



Lobby State Government via the review of the Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008 for a harmonised and standardised approach for councils to develop a community emission inventory



In partnership with key stakeholders, develop and promote communication tools to educate the community on climate change and climate mitigation actions that can be undertaken in homes and businesses to reduce emissions and improve the use of natural resources



Promote any upcoming state and federal grant funding to the community to stimulate locally driven emissions reduction actions



Promote commercial sector accomplishments in emissions reductions



Support schools and businesses in the delivery of emissions reduction initiatives e.g. ClimateClever



In line with the Launceston Transport Strategy 2020-2040, support the roll out of sustainable and active transport infrastructure by industry and state government to increase zero emissions mobility uptake in the community



In line with the Launceston Transport Strategy 2020-2040, develop and implement a public car-parking strategy that promotes sustainable transport modes



In line with the Launceston Transport Strategy 2020-2040, provide resources to develop frameworks for schools and businesses to independently establish, monitor and implement their own travel plans



Lobby State and Federal Governments to increase sustainable transport outcomes including the introduction of rigorous minimum vehicle emissions standards; incentives for low and zero emission vehicles; change in legislation to support e-scooters; and the provision of funding for sustainable transport infrastructure



Lobby State Government to transition to a zero-emission bus fleet



Develop guidance documentation for applying Environmental Sustainable Development (ESD) principles in the planning and design of buildings



Pilot an annual tree provision for Launceston residents, to increase canopy cover, sequester carbon and provide community participation in climate action



Support local industry to transition to low emissions farming and regenerative agriculture practices



Lobby State and Federal Governments to increase resource optimisation and recovery and circular economy opportunities including the introduction of a state waste levy and container refund scheme; circular economy principles in Government purchasing policies; mandating a product packaging and labelling scheme to promote the use of recycled materials and product recyclability; and prioritising a response and solution to the national recycling crisis



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