

Embedding Climate Change across council

How is your Council positioned currently?



Do you have clear leadership?

- This includes visible and supported climate champions who understand and promote climate change.
- Executives who actively set goals, advocate, and resources initiatives on climate change and lead by example.
- Climate change performance indicators in the position description and performance plan of all Executives.

CASE STUDY

Inner West council in Sydney sees implementation of its Climate and Renewables Strategy and related objectives and targets as core council business like any other project or commitment. The CEO's performance plan is linked to climate and renewables objectives.



Do you have the right policies in place to guide your decision making?

- Do you have clearly stated climate change objectives in corporate strategies?
- Are they regularly reviewed as part of the broader strategic framework within the council?



Have you carried out adequate assessments?

- Do you undertake comprehensive risk and vulnerability assessments for priority activities at early stages of the business planning cycle?



Do you have up to date knowledge of climate change and its impacts?

- Do you access and disseminate scientifically based guidance on climate change and translate this into training for operational staff?
- Have you got flexible structures and processes in place to assist organisational learning?



Is your decision-making robust in the face of uncertainty?

- Decisions are guided by the precautionary principle to deliver solutions that are robust to uncertainty about all future climate change risks.
- This principle avoids delays in taking action by using the best scientific evidence and understanding projections.



Does your council have procedures to help decision-making?

- Are climate change impacts and responses incorporated in all reports for decision making?
- Is climate change consideration a decision point in projects to ensure these impacts are assessed before the project proceeds?

CASE STUDY

The City of Moreland's audit and risk committee has a function within its charter to monitor work by the council to mitigate and plan for climate risk.



Does your council have committed resources (staff and budget) to achieve its goals?

- The City of Melbourne has included climate change in their financial planning, which allows them to consider investment priorities and consider the financial impacts that they need to prepare for and manage.



Do you work in partnership with others to deliver best outcomes?

- Do your internal and external networks promote sharing information, pooling resources and complementary climate change goals across stakeholder groups.



Are you transparent in your actions and outcomes?

- Climate change actions are monitored and publicly reported against clearly defined targets.



Do you engage your community in the problems and solutions?

- Promote effective communication around risks and opportunities associated with climate change.

CASE STUDY

East Gippsland Shire Council produced a booklet for their community to provide property buyers and existing homeowners practical and useable information on climate risks and adaptation options.



Are you willing to innovate to achieve best outcomes?

- Embed new ways of working across council service areas.
- Promote innovation and demonstrate adaptation.