

Climate Action Plan Implementation Plan 2023/34 - 2024-25 Consultation Feedback summary

Responses on the draft Implementation Plan were received from 41 community members.

A small number of respondents (n=3, 7.3%) expressed the opinion that they disagreed with Council taking action on climate change. This low level of opposition is similar to the previous CAP consultation that found 7% in the open access consultation and 4% in the representative sample.

The most common themes raised in the feedback are listed below, along with commentary on how this has been addressed.

Desire for more detail / specific timelines in actions

It is not proposed to include additional specific details in the actions as they are designed to allow Council to pivot to emerging opportunities that will deliver better outcomes, if such opportunities arise. The draft Implementation Plan spans a two-year period and providing more specific timelines within that period is not practical.

Based on this, no change to the draft Implementation Plan has been made.

Comments on inadequate budget / more urgency required

Feedback included the view that Council should be investing more on climate action and that Council's budget should prioritise climate focused actions over less urgent projects. The CAP funding allocation was not part of this consultation but was considered through Council's annual budget process. The budget allocation of \$1M for the CAP represents a small proportion of Council's investment in climate and sustainability action. For example, the majority of funding for sustainability staffing, the inclusion of sustainability features in Council buildings, biodiversity, tree planting and care and sustainable transport infrastructure is funded from other budget allocations.

Based on this, no change to the draft Implementation Plan has been made.

Desire for more reporting and interim targets or targets for individual actions

It is intended that we will publish data around progress toward the CAP targets and other relevant metrics on the Climate Action Plan hub in a timely fashion moving forward. This is action 6.6 in the draft. This will provide the community with more information about progress and allow Council to continually assess how its tracking, making adjustments to programs if appropriate and feasible.

Based on this, no change to the draft Implementation Plan has been made.

Desire for more to be done on active transport

Council's Bicycle Strategy is the primary strategy that covers cycling infrastructure. However, actions 4.1 to 4.6 in the draft Implementation Plan are designed to address active transport.

Based on this, no change to the draft Implementation Plan has been made.

Desire for more to be done in the biodiversity/tree space

Feedback indicated a desire to increase the land managed for biodiversity and the number of trees planted. Inadequate regulations and fines associated with tree removal was also a common theme. The upcoming Tree Canopy Strategy (Action 2.11) and next Urban Biodiversity Strategy (Action 2.12) will be the primary strategies to address these issues.

Based on this, no change to the draft Implementation Plan has been made.

Desire for more public EV chargers

Officers note the implementation plan includes the following actions designed to address the need for public EV chargers:

- 4.8 Install EV charging infrastructure at two community sites per annum.
- 4.9 Pursue opportunities to partner with commercial providers to install and operate EV charging for community.
- 4.10 Engage with the Victorian Government and Distribution Businesses to support opportunities for on street EV charging for residents without off street parking addresses this issue.

In addition, the new Energy Transitions Officer role (Action 1.11) will be working to support our community's transition to electric vehicles and will continue to develop our strategic approach to this issue.

Based on this, no change to the draft Implementation Plan has been made.

Changes made to the Climate Action Plan Implementation Plan 2023/34 - 2024-25

Council also received suggestions that related to specific actions, and we have made some alternations based on a number of suggestions from the consultation. You can view the changes made in the table outlined below.

Original Action	Changed to
1.1 Install solar photovoltaic (PV) systems as part of Council's building and renewal program.	Install solar photovoltaic (PV) systems as part of Council's building and renewal program with consideration of battery storage where appropriate.
1.2 Undertake a bulk solar install for Council's tenanted community facilities as a retrofit project.	Undertake a bulk solar install for Council's tenanted community facilities as a retrofit project with consideration of battery storage where appropriate.
1.5 Continue to provide the Energy Savers service, which provides free advice to businesses about how to become more energy efficient and connects businesses with a selected panel of accredited and trustworthy suppliers.	Continue to provide the Energy Savers service (which provides free advice to businesses about how to become more energy efficient and connects businesses with a selected panel of accredited and trustworthy suppliers) and develop case studies to promote through Council's channels.
1.6 Through the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action, provide opportunities for large energy users to switch to renewable energy via a Power Purchase Agreement.	This action has been removed.
1.7 Develop a subsidised energy audit program with targeted interventions for low-income residents.	This action has been brought forward to the 23/24 FY.
1.10 Continue to provide power monitors for electricity audits and thermal cameras to identify 'leaky' buildings for loan via the Boroondara Libraries. Expand the offering to make portable induction cooktops available to borrow to try induction cooking before purchasing.	Continue to provide power monitors for electricity audits and thermal cameras to identify 'leaky' buildings for loan via the Boroondara Libraries. Provide instructions for these in multiple languages, as well as expand the offering to make portable induction

Original Action	Changed to
	cooktops available to borrow to try induction cooking before purchasing.
6.7 Continue to evolve the Living for Our Future workshop program, to address emerging sustainability issues and community interest and needs.	Continue to evolve the Living for Our Future workshop program, to address emerging sustainability issues and community interest and needs. Example workshops include induction cook top demonstrations and e-bike test rides.
New action 6.19	Maintain our Municipal Emergency Management Plan, which includes our Heat Health Plan that outlines Council's approach to assist, educate and alert vulnerable community members of a declared heat health alert. This includes promoting the use of "cool places" as an alternative refuge from heat.
New action 6.20	Continue to convene the Internal Advisory Committee for the Climate Action Plan (which includes members or the executive and up to six Councillors) to provide advice and support for the delivery of the Boroondara Climate Action Plan across the organisation.