



## FOCUS AREA 4:

# Climate change adaptation and mitigation

### Policy position

#### **Moira Shire acknowledges:**

- Climate change is a critically important long-term global issue;
- Climate change will impact on the resilience of our environment, the community and the economy;
- Extreme events are predicted to become more frequent; and
- The time for action is now.

#### **Moira Shire Council will:**

- Lead by example in responding and adapting to climate change;
- Continue efforts to build resilience and support the community to do the same;
- Continue to collaborate with key partners to share knowledge and explore funding opportunities; and
- Support businesses, industries and the community in responding to climate change through mitigation and adaptation.

### Policy rationale

#### **Council recognises:**

- Decreasing greenhouse gas emissions benefits our natural environment as well as having financial benefits;
- Australian Government signed the Paris Agreement at United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which aims to limit an increase in global temperatures to “well below” 2°C (aspirational goal of 1.5°C); and
- Victorian Government targets:
  - Net Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2050
  - 25% of electricity from renewables by 2020 and 40% by 2025.

### Long-term target

Net-zero greenhouse gas emissions for Council by 2050.

### Performance Indicators (by 2021)

1. Moira Shire Council corporate Emissions Reduction Plan developed and implemented.
2. 25% of Council's electricity is from renewable sources\*.
3. Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by a further 20% on 2016 levels\*.
4. Two community based energy efficiency and/or renewable energy projects.

*\*To be confirmed through the development of an emissions reduction plan.*

### Example actions

- Develop and implement an Emissions Reduction Plan for Council.
- Review and update 'Preparing for Climate Change in the Moira Shire – Adaptation Plan'.
- Continue as a member of the Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance.
- Investigate the feasibility of a community solar garden.
- Explore opportunities to use and share the tools developed through the Climate Smart Agricultural Development project.
- Investigate opportunities to influence climate change adaptation and mitigation through regulatory processes (e.g. Statutory Planning, Contract Advisory Service for the Built Environment, CASBE)
- Investigate the use of tools such as Environmental Upgrade Agreements to encourage businesses and the community to undertake energy efficiency and/or renewable energy projects.