



Hawkesbury City Council

environment
committee
business
paper

date of meeting: 13 April 2021
location: Council Chambers
time: 4:00 p.m.

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: 13 April 2021

AGENDA

- **WELCOME**
- **APOLOGIES**
- **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**
- **SECTION 1 - Reports for Determination**

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environment
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section 1

reports
for determination

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SECTION 1 - Reports for Determination

Item: 001 EC - Election of Chairperson - (151938)

Division: City Planning

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

The purpose of this report is to outline the process for the election of a Chairperson of the Environment Committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At the Council Meeting on 8 December 2020, Council considered a Motion regarding Council Committees and resolved to establish the following new committees:

Community Services
Environment
Innovation and Partnerships
Disaster and Emergency

At the Council Meeting on 25 January 2021 Council considered a report regarding the new Council Committees and resolved to adopt a Council Committee Constitution (the Constitution). The Constitution requires the Committee, at its first meeting following appointment, and for each twelve (12) period thereafter, to elect one of its members to be the Chairperson.

As this is the first meeting of the Innovation and Partnerships Committee following appointment, the election of a Chairperson is required.

RECOMMENDATION:

That a Chairperson of the Environment Committee for the period from April 2021 to September 2021, be determined.

BACKGROUND

Clause 5(b) of the Council Committee Constitution adopted by Council on 25 January 2020, is in regard to the election of a Chairperson, and is as follows:

"b) *Membership and voting rights of the Committee shall be as follows:*

Community Services, Environment and Innovation and Partnerships Committees

The Committee shall, at its first meeting following appointment, and each twelve (12) month period thereafter, elect one of its Members from those appointed under Clause 5 to be the Chairperson of the Committee. The Chairperson is responsible for;

- *The management of the Committee functions and operations, including managing conflicts of interest.*
- *To ensure the Committee fully discharges its responsibilities under the Act, the Code of Conduct, and the Constitution.*

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- *The good and orderly conduct of the Committee. The Chairperson may do all things necessary to fulfil this responsibility."*

At its Meeting on 25 January 2021 Council resolved as follows:

"That the following Councillors be appointed as Committee Members to the Environment Committee;

- *Councillor Conolly*
- *Councillor Kotlash*
- *Councillor Richards*
- *Councillor Zamprogno"*

DISCUSSION

This meeting of the Environment Committee will be its first meeting following appointment of members. In accordance with Clause 5(b) of the Council Committee Constitution, the nomination and appointment of a Chairperson for the next twelve (12) months by Committee members from those appointed is to be carried out at this meeting.

Local Government Elections are scheduled for 4 September 2021, and it is therefore recommended that a Chairperson of the Environment Committee for the period from April 2021 to September 2021, be determined.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

Item: 002 **EC - Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure - (151938)**

Division: City Planning

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

The purpose of this report is to respond to the referral from Council to the Environment Committee to consider options to provide for electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the Hawkesbury Local Government Area.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Council at its Ordinary Meeting on 9 February 2021 referred the matter of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area to the Environmental Committee for consideration.

Through Council's involvement in the Western Sydney Energy Program and the design phase for the revitalisation of the town centres of Richmond, Windsor and South Windsor, discussions have been undertaken with Officers as to the feasibility of providing electric vehicle charging infrastructure within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area.

The placement and ownership of the infrastructure requires further discussion and gives rise to a number of considerations, including the following:

- Compliance with the NSW Roads Act 1993 (if infrastructure is to be placed on the road reserve)
- Source of electricity for charging (renewable sources would contribute to decreasing emissions, in line with Council's adopted Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy)
- Parking requirements (type of charger installed, number of vehicles charging and charge time)
- Ownership of the infrastructure (Council or private sector)
- Ownership by private sector (leasing arrangements and requirements).

In order to address these considerations, it is recommended that Council develop an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Policy and Guidelines to address governance and implementation requirements relating to the installation of Electric Vehicle Infrastructure on public land, and support Council's adopted Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Environment Committee:

1. Receive and note this report.
 2. Recommend that Council develop an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Policy and Guidelines to address how electric vehicle charging infrastructure will be managed on public land.
-

BACKGROUND

Council has referred the matter of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area to the Environment Committee for consideration.

In 2020, the NSW Government launched its Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030. The Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030 was released to fast-track emissions reduction over the next decade, identifying four priority

areas for action. Priority 1 within the Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030 is to '*Drive uptake of proven emissions reduction technologies*' with electric vehicle infrastructure being a key component.

The Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030 highlights that in Australia electric vehicles are forecast to reach upfront price parity with traditional combustion vehicles from 2024. The Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030 also highlights that the lack of convenient, fast charging infrastructure has been identified as a barrier to the widespread use of electric vehicles.

Council's recently adopted Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy highlights that household car usage accounts for 25% of the Hawkesbury community's emissions. Actions within the Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy pertaining to electric vehicles include:

- To see an increase in the uptake of electric vehicles within the community
- Council continues to liaise with the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils in the development of a Regional Electric Vehicle Roadmap.

DISCUSSION

The following outlines Council's current involvement in investigating the potential installation of electric vehicle infrastructure with the Hawkesbury Local Government Area:

Western Sydney Energy Program

Through Council's involvement in the Western Sydney Energy Program, Council Officers are currently liaising with the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils in the development of a Regional Electric Vehicle Roadmap.

Transport is a key theme of the Western Sydney Energy Program as Western Sydney is highly car dependent, and the Hawkesbury Local Government Area even more so. The aim for the Roadmap is to guide regional collaboration and assist councils to reduce carbon emissions, create regional infrastructure plans, access grant funding for project and research delivery, and collaboratively advocate to state and federal government.

Liveability Project

The Liveability Project to revitalise the town centres of Richmond, Windsor and South Windsor is currently considering possible locations for the future placement of electric vehicle charging infrastructure within these town centres.

Considerations

Discussions have been held with relevant Officers in order to determine the requirements to facilitate the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the Hawkesbury Local Government Area. The placement and ownership of the infrastructure requires further discussion and gives rise to a number of considerations, including the following:

- Compliance with the NSW Roads Act 1993 (if infrastructure is to be placed on the road reserve)
- Source of electricity for charging (renewable sources would contribute to decreasing emissions, in line with Council's adopted Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy)
- Parking requirements (type of charger installed, number of vehicles charging and charge time)
- Ownership of the infrastructure (Council or private sector)
- Ownership by private sector (leasing arrangements and requirements).

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In recent years several councils have been approached by electric vehicle charging infrastructure providers, including the NRMA, seeking locations to install electric vehicle charging infrastructure. To address the enquiries received and the above-mentioned considerations, a number of councils within NSW have developed Electric Vehicle Policies, including:

- Shoalhaven City Council
- Hornsby City Council
- Wollongong City Council.

In order to address the considerations outlined above, it is recommended that Council develop an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Policy and Guidelines which will address the above considerations, and support Council's recently adopted Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement during the development of Council's Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy and the subsequent public exhibition of the draft Strategy highlighted community support for alternative transport options within the Hawkesbury.

A total of 33% of respondents to Council's *Achieving Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency* survey, indicated they are planning to purchase an electric or hybrid vehicle, with around an additional 9% of respondents indicating they currently own an electric vehicle.

CONFORMANCE TO THE HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2036

The proposal is consistent with the following Focus Area, Direction and Strategies within the CSP.

- 3.2 To live sustainably and reduce our ecological footprint
 - 3.2.1 Our community is informed and acts to reduce our ecological footprint
 - 3.2.3 Become a carbon neutral Local Government Area.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

Item: 003 **EC - Water Management and Quality - (151938)**

Division: City Planning

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

The purpose of this report is to respond to the referral of the topic of water management and quality from Council to the Environment Committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Council at its Ordinary Meeting on 9 February 2021 referred the topic of water management and quality to the newly formed Environment Committee, and in particular to look at specific issues in regard to water, as required.

This report provides an outline of current activities being undertaken to monitor, protect and enhance the water management and quality of the Hawkesbury River and its catchment for the Environment Committee to review.

The report outlines that Council is undertaking a number of activities to monitor, protect and enhance the Hawkesbury River and its catchment, including:

- Developing a Coastal Management Plan for the Hawkesbury River in conjunction with Hawkesbury River councils
- Managing a water quality monitoring program
- Continuing partnerships with Local Landcare and community wetlands groups to undertake education of private landowners of the importance of wetlands
- Owning and managing wastewater treatment plants
- Developing partnerships with organisations to deliver common goals
- Developing key strategy documents focused on protection of rivers and waterways and water efficiency
- Addressing compliance.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Environment Committee:

1. Receive and note this report.
 2. Support the current activities being undertaken by Council to monitor, protect and enhance the Hawkesbury River and its catchment.
 3. This matter be brought back to the Environment Committee for advice as the Hawkesbury Coastal Management Plan progresses.
-

BACKGROUND

Council has referred the topic of water management and quality to the newly formed Environment Committee, and in particular to look at specific issues in regard to water, as required.

Council continues to actively monitor, protect and enhance water quality of the Hawkesbury River and its catchment, in its various roles either solely, or in partnership with stakeholders such as the NSW State Government, Sydney Water and community/environmental groups.

DISCUSSION

The following activities are currently being undertaken by Council in regard to the Hawkesbury River and its catchment:

Upper Hawkesbury Coastal Zone Management Plan

The Upper Hawkesbury Coastal Zone Management Plan, completed in 2014, identified Council plans to manage the Upper Hawkesbury River. The Plan was developed in order to address priority management issues affecting the sustainability and environmental health of the Upper Hawkesbury River estuary. Council has continued to work through the thirty-nine actions identified in the Upper Hawkesbury Coastal Zone Management Plan as funding became available.

However, amendments to State Government legislation has resulted in funding for the actions identified within the Upper Hawkesbury Coastal Zone Management Plan not being eligible for funding through the coastal and estuary grants program from December 2021. Eligibility for funding will only become available once a new Coastal Management Plan has been prepared under the new legislation.

Hawkesbury Coastal Management Plan

Council is currently partnering with five other councils, including Hornsby, Central Coast, Northern Beaches, Ku-ring-gai, and The Hills in order to develop a Coastal Management Plan in line with the new Coastal Management Framework developed by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Once completed, the Hawkesbury Coastal Management Plan will supersede the Upper Hawkesbury Coastal Management Plan, and will allow Council to apply for funding under the coastal and estuary grants program.

The Hawkesbury Coastal Management Plan is applying a ‘whole-of-system’ approach to managing the Hawkesbury River from a financial and strategic aspect. There are five stages required to complete the Hawkesbury Coastal Management Plan, including:

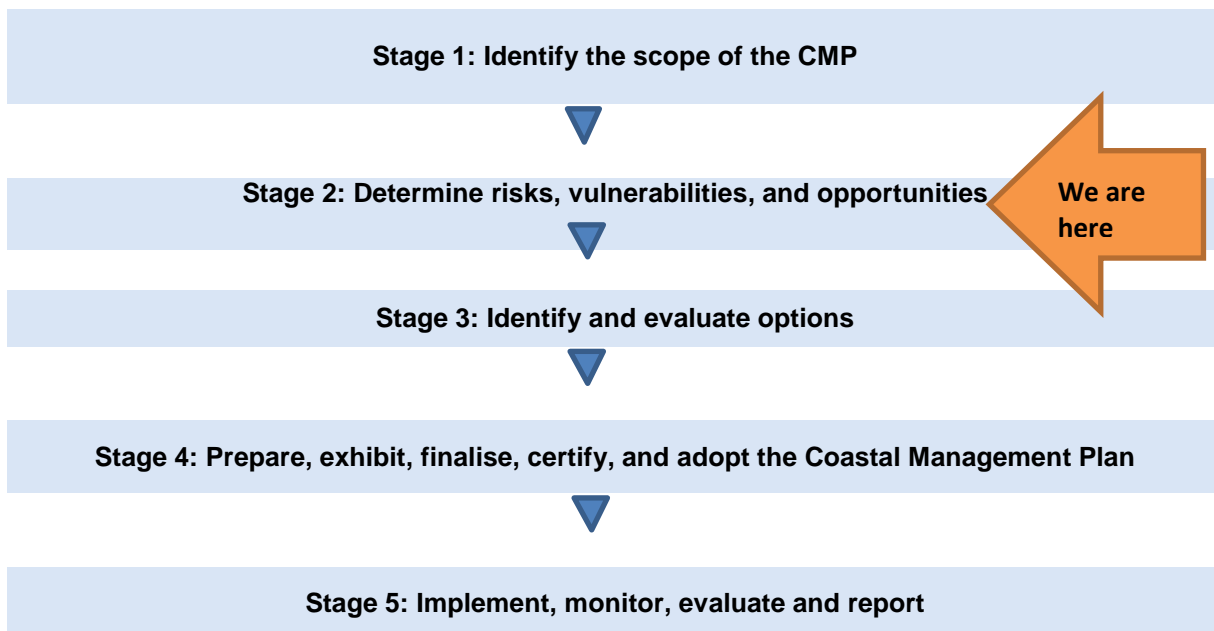


Figure 1 – Stages of the Hawkesbury Coastal Management Plan

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The Stage 1 Scoping Study is completed, and was previously reported to the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee. Partner councils have recently been advised that funding for Stage 2 has been secured through the NSW State Government coastal and estuary grants program.

Upper Hawkesbury River Water Quality Monitoring Program

Through funding obtained as part of the coastal and estuary grants program, Council has contracted the Estuaries and Catchments Team of the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to assist Council staff to assess the water quality in the Upper Hawkesbury River within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area. The data collected is used to produce an annual Estuary Health Report Card. The monitoring program provides a dataset used to identify potential water quality issues that will guide future management of the Hawkesbury River and its catchment. This project is currently in its third year of monitoring.

Wetlands

The Hawkesbury Local Government Area contains significant wetlands, both in number and importance, including Pughs and Bushells Lagoons. The majority of the wetlands within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area are located on private property. Council continues to support the Hawkesbury-Nepean Local Landcare and community Wetlands group in undertaking education around the importance of wetlands.

Wastewater Reuse

Council owns and operates two wastewater treatment plants, at McGraths Hill and South Windsor. Both wastewater treatment plants operate under an Environmental Protection Authority license in order to ensure that all processes are conducted in accordance with legislative requirements. Council has mandatory reporting requirements under those licenses.

Each of the wastewater treatment facilities produces recycled water. The McGraths Hill facility has a series of treatment ponds, and recycled water is used to produce sorghum and lucerne which is sold as feed. The South Windsor facility supplies recycled water to irrigate a number of local parks, and to a number of local industrial premises.

Council continues to explore avenues to increase the uptake of recycled water within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area which is in line with the recently adopted Hawkesbury Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy.

Sydney Water

Sydney Water own and operate both a water treatment plant, located in North Richmond, and a wastewater treatment facility, located in Richmond. The Richmond wastewater treatment facility also has the provision to supply recycled water.

Sydney Water provided a submission during the exhibition of Council's Draft Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy and expressed their willingness to work alongside Council to address organisational and community water efficiency. Discussions have already commenced with Sydney Water in order to explore partnership opportunities.

South Creek Nutrient Offset Program

Council officers are working with Sydney Water and the Environment Protection Authority to address nutrient levels of wastewater being released into South Creek.

Hawkesbury Local Strategic Planning Statement

A priority of both the Greater Sydney Region Plan, and the Western City District Plan is to protect and improve the health of local waterways. The Hawkesbury Local Strategic Planning Statement is a response to those plans, and Planning Priority 11 includes the protection of our rivers, creeks and areas of high biodiversity and environmental values.

Hawkesbury Local Environmental Plan & Development Control Plan

The Hawkesbury Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plan contain provisions to reinforce state and local planning controls. Council is currently reviewing the Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plan, which will include controls focussed on the protection of the Hawkesbury's local rivers, creeks, and wetlands.

Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy

Council's Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy outlines an emissions reduction and water efficiency pathway. A series of actions are included that can be undertaken by Council and the community to reduce emissions and become more water efficient.

Legislative Powers

In NSW, local governments operate under the NSW Local Government Act 1993. In addition to the operating powers under the NSW Local Government Act 1993, nominated Council officers have powers under a number of different pieces of NSW government legislation, including the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.

The Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 grants Council staff the powers to enforce the requirements of this Act to prevent and stop environmental harm. These powers extend to the protection of waterways.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement during the development of Council's Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy and the subsequent public exhibition of the draft Strategy highlighted community support for Council implementing higher resource efficiency measures and for delivering education on water efficiency.

CONFORMANCE TO THE HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2036

The proposal is consistent with the following Focus Area, Direction and Strategies within the CSP.

Our Environment

3.1 The natural environment is protected and enhanced.

3.1.1 Encourage effective management and protection of our rivers, waterways, riparian land, surface and ground waters, and natural eco-systems through local action and regional partnerships.

3.1.2 Act to protect and improve the natural environment including working with key agency partners.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

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Item: 004 **EC - Zero Litter to Ocean Policy - (151938)**

Previous Item: 227, Ordinary (10 November 2020)

Directorate: City Planning

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

The purpose of this report is to respond to the referral from Council to the Environment Committee of consideration of options available with respect to the Zero Litter to Ocean Policy and a Zero Litter to River target by 2030.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Council at its Ordinary Meeting on 10 November 2020, resolved that Council provide in principle support to the Zero Litter to Ocean Policy and request the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee investigate the introduction of a Zero Litter to River target by 2030.

Furthermore, Council at its Ordinary Meeting on 9 February 2021 referred the matter of Zero Litter to Ocean Policy to the new Environment Committee for consideration.

This report outlines the programs Council currently delivers to reduce litter entering the Hawkesbury River, and how they align with the Zero Litter to Ocean Policy.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Environment Committee:

1. Receive and note this report.
 2. Recommend to Council that:
 - a) without significant new Commonwealth and/or State Government Funding, as outlined in the Zero Litter to Ocean Policy, that Council does not commit to a Zero Litter to River Target.
 - b) Council consider this matter further should new Commonwealth and/or State Government Funding become available in the future.
-

BACKGROUND

In 2020, Stormwater NSW and Ocean Protect produced the Zero Litter to Ocean Policy Paper (Attachment 1). These two organisations through the policy paper outlined why the Commonwealth Government as part of its COVID-19 economic recovery response should invest approximately \$5.7 billion over ten years to prevent litter and pollutants entering waterways and the ocean. The policy paper outlined the job creation and economic activity that would be generated by implementing the recommended litter and stormwater management projects. The policy paper states that the Commonwealth Government should work in collaboration with State and Local Government.

The Zero Litter to Ocean Policy Paper outlines a range of initiatives that can be implemented to stop pollutants like plastics, sediments, heavy metals, tyre runoff, cigarette butts and nitrogen being washed into drains and straight into waterways. Untreated stormwater continues to have a significant impact on marine environments. The policy paper includes the rectification, installation, and appropriate management of existing and new stormwater treatment assets.

This report outlines what programs and strategies Council currently implements that reduce and prevent litter from entering local waterways, including the Hawkesbury River. The report explains that Council's existing programs are in alignment with the programs and strategies recommended in the Zero Litter to Ocean Policy Paper. However, without significant new funding from the Commonwealth and NSW State Government, it is not currently feasible for Council to increase the scale of its existing programs and strategies.

DISCUSSION

At Council's Ordinary Meeting on 10 November 2020, Council considered a Notice of Motion regarding Support for the Zero Litter to Ocean Policy, and resolved as follows:

"That Council:

- 1. Provide in principle support to the Zero Litter to Ocean (ZL2O) Policy and the proposed funding request to Federal and State Governments.*
- 2. Request the Environmental Sustainability Committee investigate the introduction of a Council 'Zero Litter to River' target by 2030."*

Based on the Council resolution 'In Principle' support to the Zero Litter to Ocean Policy has been provided and Hawkesbury City Council is now listed as one of 9 Councils across Australia, including Penrith City Council and Blacktown City Council in Metropolitan Sydney that have provided such support to the program.

Zero Litter to Ocean Policy Paper

The Zero Litter to Ocean Policy Paper advocates for \$5.7 billion in funding over 10 years from the Commonwealth Government. If this funding is approved, the Zero Litter to Ocean Policy outlines actions for councils to implement. If the Commonwealth Government and/or State Government does not provide the requested funding, it is considered that Council should not commit to an increase to its existing programs and also not commit to a Zero Litter to River target by 2030.

Zero Litter to River Target – Greater Sydney Councils

The City of Ryde, Burwood Council, Northern Beaches Council and the City of Sydney were the first local governments within Australia to commit to achieving a Zero Litter to River target by 2030.

The City of Ryde Zero Litter to River target by 2030 aims to achieve zero discharge of gross pollutants into any waterway in the City of Ryde during a rainfall event. The principal actions outlined to achieve this target include:

- Identify a sustainable source of funding for the appropriate implementation and management of principal and supplementary actions
- Modification of selected existing stormwater treatment assets
- Installation of new stormwater treatment assets
- Continue to appropriately manage new and existing stormwater treatment assets.

The Northern Beaches Council's Zero Litter to Ocean Charter includes the following principles:

- Enhanced waste removal initiatives in the existing stormwater network
- Setting quality benchmarks
- Community education and
- Integrating best practice into development controls.

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A Zero Litter to River target by 2030 and the actions outlined in the Zero Litter to Ocean Policy would require significantly increased funding and resourcing across Council operations, including in the following sections:

- Parks and Recreation
- Environment and Regulatory Services
- Construction and Maintenance
- Infrastructure Services
- Waste Management
- City Planning – Development Services
- Strategic Planning

The Zero Litter to Ocean Policy outlines a range of initiatives for councils to reduce the amount of litter entering local waterways and downstream ocean. This includes the following:

- Installation and management of rubbish bins
- Development and implementation of waste education programs and material within the community, including schools
- Enforcement (including issuing warnings and fines for littering)
- Requirement for best practice stormwater quality management for new development
- Installation and management of Council-owned stormwater treatment assets, including several gross pollutant traps (GPTs).

Council already plays an important role in the management of litter, with the responsibility for the prevention and clean-up of litter across the Hawkesbury Local Government Area. Council incurs a large proportion of the financial cost of litter clean-up activities, with social and environmental consequences also affecting Council and the community. Litter results in an unaccounted cost to the community due to its impacts on the environment and economy. Areas that are aesthetically pleasing and clean environments are likely to have an improved economy as they are more liveable.

Clean up activities common across most councils include the placement and collection of litter bins, manual litter picking patrols and street sweeping. Councils also have authorised delegation to issue fines for littering and they commonly design and implement litter prevention and education programs for their local areas.

COUNCIL'S EXISTING LITTER MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

The list below outlines key litter management programs that already exist within Council, including:

Public Place Litter and Recycling Bins:

- Council has 342 general waste litter bins and 72 recycling bins located within town centres, parks and other public places.

Year	Amount Collected (Litter Bins Only)
2019/2020	237 Tonnes
2018/2019	244 Tonnes
2017/2018	274 Tonnes

Community and School Waste Education Programs:

Clean Up Australia Day:

- Council continues to support the Annual Clean Up Australia Day where community groups, residents, schools and businesses come together to clean up their local area.
- On Sunday 7 March 2021, over 150 volunteers from 13 different communities removed more than an estimated 5,000kg of litter and waste from our local area.
- Council supports the event through advertisement and promotion, providing assistance to site organisers and providing free collection and disposal of all clean up waste.

Primary School Waste Education Program:

- Council offers a Free Primary School Waste Education Program. The year-long program is available to all primary schools in the Hawkesbury Local Government Area and is heavily subscribed.
- The interactive program is part of Council's waste education planning, and aims to educate students on the impact of waste generation and disposal on the environment and explores practical methods to minimise waste.
- Litter, Litter Everywhere!: This topic addresses the concept of litter and littering behaviours and investigates where litter comes from, where it can end up and the possible environmental and social impacts of littering. Students are challenged to suggest practical solutions to help reduce the presence of litter in our environment.

Staff Development:

- Since 2017, Council staff have attended the annual Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Litter Congress to hear case studies and best practice in litter management.

Enforcement (including issuing warnings and fines for littering):

Council Environment and Regulatory Services:

- Enforcing litter offences is part of reinforcing the desired social norm that littering is illegal and is unacceptable. Council undertakes litter enforcement activities through regulatory staff, normally as part of their standard day to day duties.
- As part of the Western Sydney Regional Litter Plan 2016-2021, Council has previously partnered on Western Sydney litter enforcement blitzes. In 2018 this focused on cigarette butt litter and in 2019 on takeaway food packaging litter. However, due to current staffing and resourcing, no future littering blitzes are planned.

NSW Environment Protection Authority's Report to EPA program:

- Since 2015, the NSW Environment Protection Authority has allowed any NSW resident to report pollution from motor vehicles and illegal dumping online or from their mobile phone through the Report to EPA Program.
- The Report to EPA Program allows residents to report:
 - Littering from vehicles
 - Illegal dumping
 - Smokey vehicles
 - Noisy exhaust
- Since 2015, 762 Hawkesbury residents have registered with the Report to EPA Program, with 641 reports of littering made to the EPA and 426 penalty infringement notices issued.
- From 2015 to 2020, across NSW there were almost 50,000 registered reporters and 25% less roadside litter.

Stormwater Quality Management for New Development

As a result of Hawkesbury's climate and topography, issues with stormwater runoff can be a common problem for residents. Pollution, flooding and nuisance issues from stormwater runoff can result in environmental harm, damage to property and distress to residents.

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Through the development assessment process all new development is required to have appropriate stormwater management in place to ensure:

- Development is designed with consideration for overland flows and/ or flooding that may potentially occur during large storm events, to minimise property damage and maintain public health and safety
- Development is designed to minimise adverse impacts on properties caused by stormwater runoff from development
- Quality of water entering our waterways is not adversely affected by pollutants such as nutrients, pathogens and siltation resulting from development sites.

Council Stormwater Treatment Assets: Gross Pollutant Traps

Gross Pollutant Traps essentially act as underground garbage bins that intercept 'gross pollutants' (defined as debris items larger than five millimetres, such as cigarette butts) within the stormwater drainage network during rainfall events. Gross Pollutant Traps help to prevent the discharge of pollution into downstream waterways. Whilst Gross Pollutant Traps are highly effective at removing gross pollutants, they also remove other pollutants such as sediment, heavy metals and bacteria.

Council manages 32 Gross Pollutant Traps within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area, and conducts monthly inspections and undertakes cleaning as required.

Western Sydney Regional Litter Plan 2016-2021

The Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (WSROC) secured NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Stage 1 regional litter grant funding to develop the Western Sydney Regional Litter Plan in order to detail a strategy to reduce litter in the region. Council as a member of Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (WSROC) has partnered on this Plan.

There have been two key projects under the Regional Litter Plan, including:

Cigarette Butt Litter Campaign

- In 2018, Council participated in a joint Western Sydney Project to reduce cigarette butt litter in the Windsor Town Centre through an education and awareness campaign. This project involved the use of street performers and street art to bring the issue of cigarette butt litter to the attention of shoppers.

Recreational Area litter Campaign

- In 2019, Council participated in a joint Western Sydney Project to reduce food and drink containers and packaging litter in high weekend use passive recreational areas through a combination of audit, review, development of guidelines for infrastructure and new signage for key access and high use areas. Richmond Oval was selected as the location for Hawkesbury City Council.

CONFORMANCE TO THE HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2036

The proposal is consistent with the following Focus Area/s, Direction/s and Strategies within the CSP.

Our Environment

3.1.1 Encourage effective management and protection of our rivers, waterways, riparian land, surface and ground waters, and natural eco-systems through local action and regional partnerships.

ATTACHMENTS:

AT - 1 Zero Litter to Ocean Policy Paper - *(Distributed under separate cover).*

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo



environment committee

end of business paper

This business paper has been produced electronically to reduce costs, improve efficiency and reduce the use of paper. Internal control systems ensure it is an accurate reproduction of Council's official copy of the business paper.