

Environmental Sustainability Strategy Framework Adopted

South Gippsland Shire Council adopted the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Framework 2021 at its meeting today.

The framework replaces the previous Sustainability Strategy 2016-2020 and provides high-level context for Council's work in this area under the categories of:

- Climate Change
- Waste Management and Resource Recovery
- Sustainable Land Use and Biodiversity

Individual action plans will be developed for these focus areas. This will enable further direction for activity to be considered and supported by elected representatives following Council elections later in the year.

This will continue the great work achieved with the previous Sustainability Strategy such as:

- Council has significantly reduced direct operational emissions by 873 tons of CO₂-e (Carbon Dioxide equivalents), or 26 per cent, exceeding the 20 per cent target by 264 tons.
- Installing 69.6 kW of solar PV on 11 Council buildings, reducing energy costs to Council, with a planned 100kW solar PV system planned for the 21/22 financial year.
- Replacing all inefficient streetlights with efficient alternatives. This project will be delivered by the end of 2021.
- Creating a greater than 35 per cent reduction in energy consumption from council facilities over the past four years

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy Framework 2021 will be available to view on Council's website at: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/strategies

Quotes attributable to South Gippsland Shire Chair Administrator Julie Eisenbise:

South Gippsland Shire Chair Administrator Julie Eisenbise said the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Framework was a positive step for the future direction of sustainability in the region.

“Council is thankful to have the opportunity to adopt the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Framework so that we can ‘set the scene’ for future sustainability measures that will be expected when an elected Council returns.

“The framework provides a clear context for the current state of sustainability in South Gippsland and where future opportunities are. This only supports the fantastic work undertaken so far,” said Ms Eisenbise.

