

Media Release

7 May 2020

Have your say to help shape our Climate Change Strategy

The City of Cockburn is calling for community input to help guide what actions it takes in the next decade to create a more sustainable, climate resilient future.

The City is preparing to update its *Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Strategy* (2011-2020) to develop a Climate Change Strategy valid until 2030 when it will again need to be reassessed.

This will help the City meet targets to help protect valued community infrastructure and natural assets like our coastline, lakes and wetlands.

Local residents can complete an online survey at Comment on Cockburn until 28 May.

Community members are also encouraged to ask questions at two online Listening Post events and one online workshop this month.

City of Cockburn Sustainability Officer Jennifer Harrison said the City had been proactively reducing greenhouse gas emissions for 20 years since joining the Cities for Climate Protection in 1999.

"Cockburn has some significant success stories under its belt when it comes to environmental responsibility and sustainability," Ms Harrison said.

"The City recently exceeded its 2020 renewable energy target and currently generates 23 per cent of energy for council facilities from solar power.

"Cockburn currently holds the largest inventory of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems for Local Government in WA, having installed over 1400kW on its buildings.

"Other renewable energy systems include geothermal pool heating at Cockburn ARC and methane gas extraction at Henderson Waste Recovery Park.

"Cockburn has maintained a Zero Emissions Fleet since 2011 by offsetting emissions with carbon credits generated from biodiverse tree planting projects in WA's Wheatbelt.

"We hope the community will have its say to help us keep meeting these important targets.





"Past experience has shown coastal erosion and bushfires are a reality. As we head into the future, we must increase our resilience and preparedness, so we can keep enjoying Cockburn's unique environment and lifestyle."

Help the City work out what actions it should take so we can continue to enjoy Cockburn and its natural attractions. Have your say by:

- Take the online survey at https://comment.cockburn.wa.gov.au/climate-resilient-cockburn until COB on Thursday, 28 May
- Chat with us at online Listening Posts 5.30-7pm Thursday 14 May or 11.30am-1pm Friday May 15
- Attend an online workshop 10-11.30am, Saturday 23 May, or
- Write to us via email at <u>comment@cockburn.wa.gov.au</u> or post a letter to c/o City of Cockburn, PO Box 1215 Bibra Lake WA 6965

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