

MEDIA RELEASE

Council releases draft strategic plans to manage challenge of climate action

11 September 2023

Alexandrina Council is taking steps to tackle the challenges of managing the local environment in a changing climate by releasing two draft strategic documents to the community for their feedback.

The draft Environmental Action Plan 2030 and the draft Climate Emergency Action Plan were launched on 31 August for a public consultation period closing at 5pm on Monday, September 25.

Information sessions to explain the plans are planned for Strathalbyn on 12 September and Goolwa on 19 September.

The draft Environmental Action Plan sets the context, opportunities, and challenges for making the changes needed to protect local ecosystems.

The draft Climate Emergency Action Plan set out strategies to reduce Council and community emissions, to prepare for a changing climate and to seize the opportunities on the road to net zero.

Alexandrina Chief Executive Nigel Morris said these two draft strategic plans were an important step forward from Council's decision in late 2019 to support a climate emergency declaration.

"That decision gave Council a clear mandate to place climate change at the forefront of local action," Mr Morris said.

"That mandate was reinforced when in 2021 we formulated the A2040 Community Strategic Plan - Alexandrina's 20-year strategic vision – and went out to the community for their views.

"What we heard from our community was that they wanted our region to thrive as a Liveable, Green and Connected place for everyone to enjoy, and they wanted climate action.

"Our community is already experiencing the impacts of climate change, including reduced rainfall, warming, extremes of weather and natural disasters, such as bushfires and flooding.

"Both draft plans will assist Council and the community to act now to tackle the challenges of a changing climate, to protect and enhance nature, and to create a better built environment and a brighter future for all of us in Alexandrina."

Council hosted its first well-attended Community Information Session on the draft plans on 4 September. Two more sessions are planned for:

- **Tuesday, 12 September 2023**, Strathalbyn Community Centre (library), 1 Colman Terrace Street, 4pm-7pm, formal presentation 5:30pm.



- **Tuesday, 19 September 2023**, Goolwa Council Office, 11 Cadell Street, 5.30pm-7pm, formal presentation 6pm.

To book into the Community Information Sessions and to view both draft plans, head to Council's My Say Website at

<https://mysay.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/environmentalstrategies>

The draft plans are also available at Council Offices.

For enquires regarding the publication of this article contact;

Tash Hunt – Executive Manager Office of the CEO

Phone: 8555 7000 / 0458 869 232

Email: communications@alexandrina.sa.gov.au