

**Draft Climate Emergency Plan Consultation
May – July 2017**

Overview

Across three public forums and numerous meetings and informal sessions with groups across Darebin, 165 Darebin residents participated in face-to-face consultation. A further 34 people responded to an online survey, and eight detailed submissions were provided by groups and individuals.

There was strong overall support expressed for the plan throughout the consultation. The following are typical of the types of positive responses received:

- “Sections of the plan are very good. It’s great to see Council taking Climate Change seriously.”
- “Relative to other governments/councils, Darebin is doing a fantastic job.”
- “I urge the council to implement the climate emergency plan that fully and effectively addresses reducing and mitigating climate change and have this written into its policies.”
- “Implementing this plan will be a good start - strong leadership by Council can be a powerful support for local community action.”

These sentiments were echoed by comments on social media (Darebin City Council’s Facebook page) such as:

- “Today I am proud our Council has declared a climate emergency and is taking action (no plastic bags, sustainable transport, healthy green spaces, renewables ...). And I’m proud it’s the Nonnas of our north that are leading the charge on installing solar. It’s definitely time to do it ourselves.”

Across all consultation media, the highest number of suggestions for improvements, additions or changes to the draft Plan related to the following themes:

- The Plan is very energy focussed – more consideration needs to be given to the impacts of consumption, including dietary choices.
- Clarify the carbon accounting methods used in the plan, and include an emissions reduction goal, even if aspirational. We should be aiming for negative emissions rather than zero emissions.
- Enforce and increase the minimum energy efficiency standards for housing
- Strengthen the Community Engagement actions in the Plan to better reflect the response required to combat a Climate Emergency.
- Monitoring and evaluation of Climate Emergency actions needs to be clearer – “how will we know we are being successful?”

Summary of online survey responses

34 people completed the online survey, over 80% of whom live in Darebin, and nearly 80% of whom are over 45 years of age. Respondents answered three key questions:

- Which of the directions do you support?
- What more can Council do to motivate households and businesses to reduce emissions?
- What other suggestions do you have about the plan.

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When asked to indicate which of the nine directions they supported, online respondents showed a very high level of support for waste minimisation and renewable energy (over 80% support), with most other directions attracting a high level of support (70-80%), and Darebin Energy Foundation gaining the support of over half of respondents (61.8%). Over 40% of respondents nominated an 'Other' direction.

Most respondents suggesting 'Other' directions focussed on sustainable food, particularly adopting vegan and vegetarian diets. Other areas suggested for separate directions included:

- drawing down existing greenhouse gases (drawdown)
- consumption, materials, embodied energy
- planning and housing issues

Value		Percent	Responses
Waste minimisation		85.3%	29
Renewable energy and fuel switching		82.4%	28
Climate Emergency mobilisation and leadership		79.4%	27
Energy efficiency		76.5%	26
Fossil fuel divestment		76.5%	26
Engaging the community		76.5%	26
Zero emissions transport		73.5%	25
Adaptation and resilience		70.6%	24
Darebin Energy Foundation		61.8%	21
Other (please specify)		41.2%	14

Statistics

Total Responses

34

Other general feedback included:

- A desire for stronger measures on:
 - drawdown, including through biochar
 - waste minimisation
 - community education and engagement
 - consumption, materials, embodied energy.
- A desire for clearer priorities and timeframes.
- Some opposition to dropping Green Power.

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Eight detailed submissions were received, expressing the following views.

1. Local climate change group CACE (Climate Action in the Climate Emergency) felt the draft Climate Emergency Plan does not capture all the elements needed for a true climate emergency response, and is too focussed on energy. They outline issues they believe are serious enough “to prevent the document from functioning effectively or even to be considered as a climate emergency plan.” In their view:
 - a. Darebin’s goal is “too weak” namely “A true climate emergency goal seeks to return us to a safe climate ... Council’s goal should be negative emissions not zero carbon.”
 - b. Diet, consumption and drawdown are nominated as areas that should be addressed in new directions.
 - c. The proposal for Council to stop purchasing Green power is seen as inconsistent with the Climate Emergency response.
 - d. The scope of divestment strategies should be expanded.
 - e. Clearer more complete carbon accounting and inventory is needed.
 - f. Council’s fleet needs to be electric.
 - g. The community engagement element needs to be stronger.
2. Local climate change expert, co-author of Climate Code Red, co-founder of the Research and Strategy for Transition Initiation and Darebin Environmental Reference Group member Philip Sutton suggests carbon dioxide drawdown needs to be an additional / separate key direction. He also suggested consumption should be given greater focus by coupling it with the waste key direction (# 5 Consumption and Waste). Sutton recommends the Plan adopt a ‘dual-track’ framework which 1. uses the ‘backcasting’ method to determine what is required to restore a safe climate but also 2. captures the current imperatives and relevant historical aspects of previous actions.
3. Jeremy Evans commented that the Plan primarily reflects Councils perspective, and that the community have their own independent agendas in response to these challenges. The Plan is comprehensive in its inclusion of the many Council climate initiatives either underway or proposed, but as a result is too diffuse and not focussed enough. He wants to see a tighter structure with clearer link between initiatives / actions and the relevant Darebin actors.
4. Jane Morton on behalf of Darebin Climate Action Now has provided many detailed suggestions for improvements throughout the draft plan. Some of the key suggestions include the following.
 - Strengthening the background information about the climate emergency, including highlighting climatic tipping points, mass extinctions and other crises such as the bleaching of the Great Barrier Reef.
 - More emphasis, and a new direction on, drawing down existing greenhouse gases, including implementing current known methods and investigating new and innovative methods for drawdown.
 - Strengthening the language around 100% renewables.
 - Committing to switching Council’s fleet to electric vehicles.
 - Taking more time to establish the form and governance of the Darebin Energy Foundation and considering whether an alternative name might be more accurate.

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5. Transition Darebin's submission also provides detailed suggestions for improvements across many areas of the draft plan. Some of the main concepts include:
 - Expanding and more widely promoting the solar bulk buy and Solar \$aver programs.
 - Improving sustainable transport accessibility and promotion.
 - Ensuring language used in community engagement around the climate emergency is positive and empowering.
 - Strengthening the community engagement aspect of Direction 1 with more calls to action and tangible support for community groups.
 - Increasing the budget to resource all of these actions adequately.

6. Paul Mahoney's submission focusses exclusively on dietary choices: "I call on the City of Darebin to incorporate food choices in key aspects of its plan, including: community education and engagement; and advocacy programs aimed at state and federal governments." Mahoney comments that "we must recognise that we will not overcome the climate crisis without addressing the issue of animal agriculture in addition to fossil fuel usage." Mahoney's 37-page submission (see appendices) elaborates on this argument, quoting such sources as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, Beyond Zero Emissions, the Melbourne Sustainability Society Institute and a range of other academic, not-for-profit and governmental sources. He expands on a range of environmental issues relating to animal agriculture, such as
 - land-clearing
 - emissions and pollution associated with livestock
 - ecological impacts of fishing (which may also contribute to accelerated climate change)as well as social justice, animal welfare, economic and health impacts. Mahoney suggests a considered campaign to engage Darebin's residents with the impacts of diet choices.

7. Dianne Millett's submission emphasises the need to keep an eye on both the macro and micro levels of sustainability and particularly focusses on building relationships between urban food consumers (and producers) in Darebin and farmers in regional and rural Victoria.

8. James Kennedy's submission advises Darebin City Council that he has submitted a proposal to the Hon Jenny Mikakos MP for a feasibility study that he believes would show how adopting a permaculture approach would assist with achieving the goals of the Climate Emergency Plan.

The next two sections summarise the headline issues, as well as specific points contained in each of these submissions, together with the feedback obtained through public forums, meetings with groups, and the online survey. The proposed response to each is outlined.

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Summary of key issues and proposed responses

Key issues	Proposed response																																			
<i>Calls for stronger, clearer/more detailed measures</i>																																				
<p>Call for clear commitment to (beyond zero) targets on emissions, with associated priorities and plan of how to get there including timelines and drawdown strategy</p>	<p>Darebin Council will continue to aim for zero greenhouse gas emissions for our Council and community. We will also take the action required to draw down our share of the greenhouse emissions already in the atmosphere.</p> <p>We recognise that we will not achieve this without urgent leadership and action from other levels of government.</p> <p>Council will in the next twelve months review our previously stated corporate goal of reaching zero net emissions by 2020 based on a detailed carbon management plan (see Direction #1). This is part of a staged approach with a long-term goal of achieving negative emissions (i.e. producing zero net emissions and in addition drawing down further emissions).</p> <p>While we are still aiming for zero net emissions for the whole municipality by 2020, we recognise that in the current climate that target is aspirational. Council will develop of a drawdown plan in 2018/19 and will at this time review this target.</p> <p>Our targets are summarised below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="730 1115 1520 2000"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="730 1115 978 1216">Corporate emissions goals</th> <th data-bbox="978 1115 1182 1216">target</th> <th data-bbox="1182 1115 1361 1216">timeline</th> <th data-bbox="1361 1115 1520 1216">baseline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="730 1216 978 1317">Gross greenhouse gas emissions</td> <td data-bbox="978 1216 1182 1317">45% reduction</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1216 1361 1317">2022</td> <td data-bbox="1361 1216 1520 1317">2006-2007</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="730 1317 978 1451">Net greenhouse gas emissions</td> <td data-bbox="978 1317 1182 1451">0 net emissions* (carbon neutrality)</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1317 1361 1451">2020</td> <td data-bbox="1361 1317 1520 1451">n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="730 1451 978 1585">On-site renewable energy generation</td> <td data-bbox="978 1451 1182 1585">440KW additional capacity</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1451 1361 1585">2022</td> <td data-bbox="1361 1451 1520 1585">377kw (as at August 2017)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="730 1585 978 1686">Negative emissions (drawdown)</td> <td data-bbox="978 1585 1182 1686">To be developed</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1585 1361 1686">Post 2022</td> <td data-bbox="1361 1585 1520 1686">TBD</td> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="730 1686 978 1798">Community emissions goals</th> <th data-bbox="978 1686 1182 1798">target</th> <th data-bbox="1182 1686 1361 1798">timeline</th> <th data-bbox="1361 1686 1520 1798">baseline</th> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="730 1798 978 1933">Local renewable energy generation</td> <td data-bbox="978 1798 1182 1933">38MW (i.e. double existing capacity)</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1798 1361 1933">2022</td> <td data-bbox="1361 1798 1520 1933">(19MW as of 2017)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="730 1933 978 2000">Net greenhouse gas emissions</td> <td data-bbox="978 1933 1182 2000">0 net emissions</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1933 1361 2000">2020</td> <td data-bbox="1361 1933 1520 2000">n/a</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="730 2000 1520 2031">*pending endorsement of carbon management plan</p>				Corporate emissions goals	target	timeline	baseline	Gross greenhouse gas emissions	45% reduction	2022	2006-2007	Net greenhouse gas emissions	0 net emissions* (carbon neutrality)	2020	n/a	On-site renewable energy generation	440KW additional capacity	2022	377kw (as at August 2017)	Negative emissions (drawdown)	To be developed	Post 2022	TBD	Community emissions goals	target	timeline	baseline	Local renewable energy generation	38MW (i.e. double existing capacity)	2022	(19MW as of 2017)	Net greenhouse gas emissions	0 net emissions	2020	n/a
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<p>Call for stronger monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement including involving the community in this process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will report against our actions and the targets above. (See revised Section 7 on Measuring, reviewing, reporting and revising.) • Note when Council joins the Covenant of Mayors we will be required to undertake carbon reporting to international standards.
<p>Call for stronger community engagement and mobilisation and more detail on the 'how' of this work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our response to the Climate Emergency has been identified as one of the priorities for Council's advocacy agenda. Using Darebin's Strategic Advocacy Framework, we will develop specific advocacy initiatives which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Large-scale, Darebin Council-led campaigns ○ Participation in alliance-led campaigns ○ Sustained, ongoing and opportunistic advocacy: articulation of our position on the Climate Emergency at every relevant forum or opportunity ○ Responsive advocacy (e.g. commenting on relevant government reviews, policy directions, news and events etc). • Additionally a Council Environmental Engagement Strategy is being developed and will outline strategies to engage the community in environmental action, including a strong emphasis on messages and actions in line with our Climate Emergency approach. • Council will be looking for opportunities to strengthen messages in line with our Climate Emergency approach through and make sure that it is explicit and prominent in all our environmental education activities. We will bear in mind the need to emphasise the positive actions that individuals and groups in our community can take and to leave people feeling empowered and able to contribute. • Council is also establishing the Darebin Energy Foundation to accelerate sustained and meaningful action with the community (residents, businesses, educational and other organisations) to engage with the climate emergency challenge.
<p>Opposition to dropping Green Power</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2016-17 purchasing GreenPower for Council's buildings was estimated to cost over \$300,000. In the context of the urgent action required in relation to the Climate Emergency these funds could currently be better spent on advocacy, local energy efficiency and renewable energy generation and exploring alternative renewable energy purchasing.
<p><i>Calls for new key directions</i></p>	
<p>1. Sustainable food, specifically: encouraging vegetarian and vegan diets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council acknowledges the emissions impact of food is significant and will elevate the prominence of sustainable food both in our own policies and in our community education offerings. • There are several existing Council documents that include aims to reduce the climate impact of food. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Urban Food Production Plan aims to support the creation of local food systems in Darebin (as well as across other Melbourne urban and peri-

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	<p>urban areas and regional Victoria) to reduce reliance on globalised carbon intensive food systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Waste and Litter Strategy addresses food wastage. ○ One of the guiding principles in Council's Food Security and Nutrition Strategy is to: Promote environmental sustainability through localised food production, sustainable food choices and food waste management strategies to support the future food security of the municipality against the impacts of broader factors such as climate change and peak oil. It also includes actions to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop and implement a communication plan and social marketing campaign to promote healthy eating ▪ Support community initiatives that increase food literacy around food purchasing, preparation, and nutritious and sustainable food choices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the Climate Emergency organisational review (of all existing Council policies and programs), Council will give consideration to how education and promotion around low carbon dietary choices can best be effected, building on these existing strategies. These messages can also be enhanced and made more prominent in existing environmental education offerings. This could include encouraging people to increase the proportion of plant-based foods in their diet, and reducing foods that have high impacts on both health and the environment. Examples of avenues to achieve this are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a specific initiative similar to 'Meat Free Mondays' focussing on reducing high-impact foods such as meat and dairy ○ updating Budget Bites (or promoting other guides) to promote sustainable foods ○ exploring consumption and food-related advocacy and engagement through Darebin's new Strategic Advocacy Framework. • Note that measuring the greenhouse footprint of local community individuals' diets is beyond the scope of local government reporting and could lead to double-counting (see new Section 2 on Terms and Definitions.)
2. Drawdown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan recognises the need to draw down existing emissions. It includes a commitment to create a drawdown plan over 2018-2019 and in the mean-time to advocate for more research into drawdown methods and support community groups undertaking practical drawdown activities.
3. Consumption, materials and embodied energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumption and food have been included in Direction 5. • Embodied energy is included in Direction 2 (Energy Efficiency) actions and it is acknowledged in the

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	advocacy actions that embodied energy needs to be more comprehensively dealt with in energy rating tools and in State and Federal policy.
4. Housing and planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our response to the Climate Emergency has been identified as one of the priorities for Council’s advocacy agenda as has the Future of Housing (including both affordable and sustainable, energy-efficient housing). Using Darebin’s Strategic Advocacy Framework, we will develop specific advocacy initiatives which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Large-scale, Darebin Council-led campaigns ○ Participation in alliance-led campaigns ○ Sustained, ongoing and opportunistic advocacy: articulation of our position on the Climate Emergency at every relevant forum or opportunity ○ Responsive advocacy (e.g. commenting on relevant government reviews, policy directions, news and events etc). • Some of the key advocacy goals in this area will be to raise the minimum standards for environmental performance of new and existing housing stock, including rental properties, to continue to ratchet up these standards over time, and to introduce mandatory disclosure. This could include advocacy to the HIA, MBAV etc.

Summary of Detailed Feedback and Responses

Question 1: Key Directions

# 1: Climate Emergency mobilisation and leadership	
Feedback / Comment	Response
<p>Need to more clearly explain what a state of emergency is and set the scene for why we are in an emergency.</p> <p>Suggestion of including information on climate tipping points, mass extinctions etc</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The introductory text in Section 2 (Climate Emergency) has been updated to include more information about tipping points etc to illustrate the nature of the Climate Emergency.
<p>Darebin should focus on working with local businesses instead of lobbying higher levels of government to do things. Obtain funding from state and federal governments to implement programs on a local scale. Change is better if it is done locally as it is more likely to benefit the recipient.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council has nominated a number of opportunities to partner with or obtain funding from state or federal governments to deliver programs which respond to or reduce the Climate Emergency. For example 5.2.4 has actions to partner with VicRoads to install energy efficient lights and improve home energy efficiency through the Victorian Government Energy Efficiency Scoreboard. Local programs sometimes need action and support (beyond funding) at the state and federal level for them to succeed. • Sections 6.2.4 (Key Direction # 2 Energy Efficiency), 6.3.4 (Key Direction # 3 Renewable Energy) and 6.7.4 (Key Direction # 7 Adaptation and Resilience) all include specific actions relating

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	<p>to Council working with local businesses to respond or adapt to the Climate Emergency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The language across all directions has also been updated to make it clear that businesses are addressed as part of the Darebin community.
The Darebin municipality needs to lead by example, for example a solar system should be on every Council building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council has installed 377kw worth of solar on its own buildings and is in the process of identifying further feasible sites for future installations as part of our commitment to doubling solar in Darebin in the next five years, including a further 440kW on Council buildings.
Money should be spent on advertising the Climate Emergency, like the very effective TAC road accident campaigns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development of a flagship Climate Emergency campaign is one of the key actions under Direction 1, and includes engagement with various media platforms.
The community engagement commitments relating to climate emergency response awareness need to be strengthened (see similar feedback / comment under # 8 Engaging the community)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council is also using a new strategic advocacy framework to plan advocacy action for the whole of Council over the next year. This includes how we advocate with partners and other agencies, as well as how we communicate with the media and the public, and one of the areas to be addressed is responding to the climate emergency.
Ensure the Climate Emergency messaging does not disempower the community by creating an impending sense of disaster. Need to make it positive, engaging and energising. Focus on a mass mobilisation of people's energy by making it uplifting and attractive to be part of.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using this Strategic Advocacy Framework, we will develop specific advocacy initiatives which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large-scale, Darebin Council-led campaigns Participation in alliance-led campaigns Sustained, ongoing and opportunistic advocacy Responsive advocacy.
The Plan needs more detail on how Council proposes to engage with the state and federal governments to raise the priority given to Climate Emergency action and on the specific programs and initiatives under each key direction requiring action by other government levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The climate emergency mobilisation message will be woven throughout Council's sustainability communications and engagement offerings in a way that is empowering, with an emphasis on positive ways that our community can contribute, and reporting back on the action Council and its partners are taking.
Mixed feedback on the use of the wording 'Climate emergency mobilisation and leadership' with some respondents praising it as 'essential' and others calling it 'disempowering' or even 'a joke'. 'Mobilisation' appeared to be popular.	
One respondent felt that this plan reaches beyond Council's role into what "state or federal govt should be paying for" and that Council should instead focus on providing "more and better parks, child care facilities ... roads and rubbish."	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As stated in the draft plan, Council has unanimously declared that we are in a state of climate emergency and committed to taking strong action to address this. We are still committed to delivering our normal range of services to the community. The plan includes actions on improving our open spaces and waste minimisation services. According to the Victorian Government's Climate Change Adaptation Plan (2017-2020, p 29), "local governments play a critical role in helping their

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	<p>communities adapt to climate change.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to the Local Government Act 1989, Part 1A, 3C, the Objectives of a Council include the following (emphasis added): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The primary objective of a Council is to endeavour to achieve the best outcomes for the local community having regard to the <i>long term and cumulative effects of decisions...</i> (2) (a) to promote the social, economic and <i>environmental viability and sustainability</i> of the municipal district...
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# 2: Energy Efficiency	
Feedback / Comment	Proposed response
<p>Darebin Planning Committee should be ensuring that what is built is built to the required energy standards.</p> <p>New Buildings including apartments should perform at a minimum 6 star energy rating. What is Council's role in ensuring the building meets the energy rating on the plan council approves?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darebin Planning Scheme Amendment GC42 is currently with the Minister for approval – once adopted it will enable planners to mandate best practice across a range of Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) principles, including energy efficiency. • The most effective way to raise the energy efficiency performance across housing stock is to introduce State Government legislated mandatory energy performance disclosure and minimum energy standards when homes are rented or sold. The draft Plan commits Council to work with State Government and Green Building Council of Australia to achieve this (see 6.2.4). • Section 6.2.4 also refers to advocacy on State Government mandated monitoring and verification of new housing and renovations. • Section 6.8.4 outlines how Council will give residents practical ways to increase energy efficiency and adapt to a changing climate.
<p>What can be done to improve the energy efficiency of government / social housing, particularly older energy inefficient stock?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 6.2.4 includes advocating to the State government to provide energy efficient / environmentally sustainable public housing.
<p>Can Council consider ways to incentivise landlords to install Solar energy on rentals as they do in the UK?</p> <p>How do we encourage/support landlords to invest in energy efficiency?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A coordinated/integrated response across local, state and federal governments is required to create market conditions which encourage landlords to act. This would include setting mandatory energy efficiency ratings (state government) and offering subsidies (local/state government) and/or tax offsets (federal government) as incentives to meet them. Mandatory residential energy disclosure in the ACT has encouraged homeowners to improve energy performance which has been shown to increase the market value of energy-efficient homes. • Section 6.2.4 indicates Council will work with State government and the community to use the Energy Efficiency Scorecard to improve transparency. • The expanded Solar Saver program will be looking at ways to work with tenants and landlords.

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<p>Should we be subsidising solar installations (under the SolarSaver and Bulk Buy programs) if the building isn't energy efficient in the first place?</p> <p>Can Council subsidise home energy retrofits?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Draft Plan commits council to supporting both energy efficiency measures (home retrofitting programs, Victorian Government Energy Efficiency Programs – see 6.2.4) and increased solar PV (see 6.3.4). In past rounds of the Solar Saver Program, energy efficiency advice was provided to participating households.
<p>Give greater support to businesses to reduce their emission and promote those businesses who are setting an example.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 6.2.4 details how Council will support businesses to reduce emissions through the Green Business Program. Darebin businesses who are leading in energy and resource efficiency and waste reduction are recognised and celebrated on Council's social media platforms, websites, in the sustainability e-newsletter and other promotions and through the biennial Sustainability Awards (see 5.8.4).
<p>Reduce Council's resource consumption</p> <p>The impacts of embodied energy and materials use needs to be addressed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESD guidelines have been developed for Council building projects and include a requirement for a green star rating (which includes materials). These are currently being reviewed and incorporated into a formal ESD Policy.
<p>There are well researched human health implications of LED light – the blue light affects human health, Council needs to evaluate how to avoid negative human health impacts of a mass LED light change over.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to Victoria's Safer Design Guidelines, white lights (with blue colour rendering) have health benefits through improving safety. Blue-white lights benefit from significantly reduced distortion of object sizes against their background compared to traditional yellow lights. They also offer more accurate rendition of greens and browns making objects and people easier to see.

# 3: Renewable energy and fuel switching	
Feedback / Comment	Proposed response
<p>Does pulling out of GreenPower contradict Councils commitment to ambitious action to combat the climate emergency? If Council isn't generating its own renewable energy equivalent to or greater than the renewable energy it purchased through GreenPower, then this is a backward step.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council's position is that the funds currently spent on GreenPower could be more effectively spent on local energy efficiency and to green our power procurement. Council will investigate alternative renewable energy purchasing arrangements to that end and has received a New Energy Jobs Fund for this purpose.
<p>Clarify whether the Plan assumes solar systems installed in Darebin contribute zero emissions to the Darebin target. Electricity sold back to the grid is included in state government emissions reduction reporting, so it is double counted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We don't claim energy exported to the grid by local solar installations as emissions savings, so there is no double counting. The reduction in energy use will be seen in the NAGA municipal energy profile drawn from NMI energy use data. This only shows behind-the-meter energy use and doesn't show energy exported. As part of joining the Covenant of Mayors Darebin will report against international standards.
<p>Can the Solar Saver program include renters?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council is looking at ways to include renters in the Expanded Solar Saver program, and will be putting

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<p>Promote the Solar Saver program more widely, particularly to vulnerable / disadvantaged communities. Information about the Solar Saver program is hard to find on the Darebin website Work through community networks to ensure everyone knows about this</p>	<p>increased resources into promoting the program throughout Darebin, including targeted communications and activating community networks to reach CALD community groups, vulnerable residents, and small businesses.</p>
<p>Expand the solar bulk buy program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all Darebin based business to get solar • all schools to go solar • provide a further Solar bulk buy discount for residents or businesses who group together, on top of council's bulk buy discount. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An expanded version of the solar bulk-buy program will be undertaken over the next four years and the areas suggested will be explored in the design of the program.
<p>Is it possible to have community solar systems on apartment blocks? How can we support community solar grids / systems?</p> <p>Investigate a pilot community owned renewable energy project that creates an income stream for Council and the community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will work with the Darebin Energy Foundation to explore options for supporting the establishment of a local community-owned renewable energy project (see actions under Direction #3; Direction #8.)

# 4: Zero emissions transport	
Feedback / Comment	Proposed response
<p>There needs to be better infrastructure for cyclists, including more dedicated off-road cycling paths. This requires collaboration between Councils.</p> <p>We need secure bike parking and more bike tracks connecting to significant sites (hospital, market, schools, etc.). Lighting on bike paths needs to be improved.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 5.4.4 includes a commitment to creating a cohesive and safe high quality network of bicycle routes in Darebin. • Council is currently completing the actions within the Darebin Cycling Strategy 2013-18, including works on key and local cycling corridors. A new strategy and investment plan will be developed this year, and we will be seeking community input to this. • Bicycle parking is installed as part of our master plans, through new developments and on request.
<p>The BMW 330e PHEV or other available PHEV's are an appropriate / sufficiently modest choice for Council fleet vehicles.</p> <p>Council fleet purchases should be zero emissions first before considering other options such as electric with range extenders or hybrid cars</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These options will be considered as part of Councils commitment to explore electric vehicle options for fleet (see 5.4.4)
<p>Could Darebin offer an electric</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council previously offered an electric bike bulk

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vehicle or bike bulk buy program to the community?	buy, at that point there was very low take up. We will investigate the feasibility of such a program again.
Install electric vehicle and bike charging stations in safe places.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council is currently investigating options.
Provide electric bike training for CALD and elderly communities, to help overcome road safety concerns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council is currently working with community groups on this and would welcome further requests for training.
Promote ride/car-sharing in Darebin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will be promoting car-sharing in the coming year.
Look to the Copenhagen example where parking spaces have been reduced by 4% per annum over 10 years. Bring in more charges for parking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council is developing a Parking Strategy this year, and will seek community input throughout the development of the strategy.
Work with bus operators and the community to create 'bikes on buses' bus routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darebin recently participated in a bikes-on-buses trial and will be reviewing the results with partners to determine the feasibility of expanding the trial. For more information see: http://www.busvic.asn.au/public/bikes-on-buses/
Adopt world's best practice for traffic speed in local areas, shopping strips and around major trip generators (eg hospitals, all education locations, parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council committed to reducing speed limits to 40km/h in residential areas for 30% of the municipality by 2020 in the new Council Plan. • Council will also continue to design and implement spaces around key trip generators that support low speed behaviour.
Advocate for an extension to the public transport network. Extend tram disability access beyond Northcote.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council committed to advocating for an extension to tram Route 11 up to Edwardes Street, and to advocating for upgrading of tram stops on Route 86 in the new Council Plan.
Ensure children and young people experience / participate in active transport from a young age.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council has audited safe travel to school routes for almost all primary schools in Darebin, and are progressively implementing the recommendations. • Council also invests strongly in Walk to School Month, and offers a range of programs and support to schools to encourage active travel to school.
Create a walking strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council is due to release a new walking strategy in the next year.
Create Local Area Management Plans and reduce local area speed limits - create a 30km/h demonstration project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council has reviewed the whole municipality to prioritise traffic management and will be introducing traffic management measures on the highest-risk roads. • Council also committed to reducing speed limits to 40km/h in residential areas for 30% of the municipality by 2020 in the new Council Plan. Further speed reductions, such as a 30km/h trial would be best placed within a larger project context.
Consider the air and noise pollution aspect of transport not just the climate change aspect. Considering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The health impacts of air pollution can be woven into Council engagement and advocacy around

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climate change only misses some really important environmental considerations eg Benzene emissions, particulate emissions.	sustainable transport.
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# 5: Waste minimisation	
Feedback / Comment	Response
Include consumption with the waste key direction and expand on actions to address the significant impacts of diet and consumption on emissions and waste	Consumption and food have been included in Direction #5 (Consumption and Waste Minimisation).
<p>Why doesn't Darebin recycle soft plastics? Can Darebin declare a ban on single-use plastics?</p> <p>Provide more information on where soft plastics can be recycled.</p> <p>Ban plastic bags. Ban junk mail.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will consider flexible plastic recycling with its recycling contractor. • Council has recently passed a resolution to eliminate single-use plastic items. We continue to advocate to the State to introduce a ban and pending this outcome, will consider the possibility of banning plastic bags through Council's General Local Law. • Information on where soft plastics can be recycled is available on Council's website at: http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/en/Darebin-Living/RubbishRecyclingandCleaning/Recycling-and-Green-Waste • Elimination of single use plastic items, in line with the resolution discussed above will be added to 5.5.4 'Council corporate actions'. • Banning junk mail is not within Council's control.
Address the excessive use of wrapping and packaging of consumer goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will continue to advocate for decreased waste generation, including packaging.
Research and promote sustainable sanitary protection options and link with health and sex education in schools. Develop reusable nappy project to reduce disposable nappy waste, like the City of Casey example.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar initiatives in neighbouring municipalities have met with limited success and Councils have elected to leave promotion of reusable nappies to the private companies that produce them as the receptive audience appears to be quite small and relatively self-motivated.
<p>Research shows that a well-managed capped landfill site which converts emissions to energy results in less emissions than a typical residential compost system.</p> <p>Can Council provide households with compost information / education and bins?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darebin's landfill is sent to a renewable energy landfill run by Hanson, in Wollert. It is reportedly one of only two Melbourne landfills accredited to ISO 14001 Environmental Standards and focuses on producing alternative energy, landfill rehabilitation and protection of groundwater. • The landfill recirculates its leachate back into the waste, resulting in a significant amount of methane gas generated, however 85% of methane generated at the site is captured and used to produce electricity. The landfill has conducted a Carbon Footprint study which indicates that it has a better greenhouse gas performance than many high-

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	<p>technology disposal systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Metropolitan Waste Resource Recovery Group is currently exploring the feasibility of alternative waste to energy technologies and Darebin Council is participating in this. The environmental and economic benefits will be considered alongside other issues in the final determination. For more information see: http://www.hansonlandfill.com.au/Sustainability • Council has been selling compost bins, worm farms and bokashi buckets for a number of years via our Customer Service Centres. Due to the ready availability of these products, we are ending this program. We have also been running composting workshops for a number of years as part of our Environmental Education Program (see Section 5.8.4). To keep updated on these programs, sign up to Sustainability News at www.darebin.vic.gov.au/subscribe. • For more information on home composting also see our Sustainable Gardening in Darebin booklet or our website: http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/Darebin-Living/Caring-for-the-environment/Gardening.
Other councils recycle food waste, why can't Darebin?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direction 5 includes an action at 5.5.4 to "investigate providing food waste service options to residents". Council will be conducting a food waste collection trial over six months during this financial year.
Explore a biochar initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council is interested in biochar potential and is currently exploring options.
Advocate for more legal levers to reduce waste, such as a Victorian Waste Minimisation Act to manage / reduce waste to landfill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will continue to advocate for decreased waste generation, including using legal levers and other approaches.
Provide more waste educational experiences eg. offer tours to a recycling centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Direction #5 outlines our continued commitment to waste education and specific associated activities.
Community recycling scrap waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council encourages recycling through many avenues including household collection and the Darebin Reuse and Recycling Centre, however, some clubs or individuals from the community may also be recycling items on a smaller scale – for example, sports clubs recycling metal cans for local profit raising. Some local businesses may also do this as part of their work. Council is supportive of these initiatives.
We need to pay more for waste to become compliant, but that must be transparent so that we understand every kilo of waste is costing us xxx and every kilo of waste is costing rate payers xxxx. This might change behaviour.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We agree that behaviour change needs to occur around waste generation and management. Several measures aligned with this suggestion are included in 6.5.4, including to "develop and implement options for identifying, educating and potentially penalising those who misuse waste and recycling systems".

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# 6: Fossil fuel divestment	
Feedback / Comment	Proposed response
Support businesses and residents to divest from fossil fuels.	Section 6.6.3 includes an action to provide community sessions on divestment and relevant campaigns.
Expand scope of divestment to include other high emissions sources other than fossil fuels. Energy. Eg. animal agriculture	Council's Divestment Strategy currently only covers fossil fuels, however this may be expanded in future as part of our review of all programs and policies.

# 7: Adaptation and resilience	
Feedback / Comment	Proposed response
<p>Why can't Darebin match the City of Melbourne (CoM) tree canopy target of 40%?</p> <p>How can Council encourage / provide incentives to private landowners to retain trees?</p> <p>Plant trees in public spaces/parks /gardens to replace the trees being lost to higher density development</p> <p>Increase developer contributions to 12% and join up actual land contribution where possible to create green pockets in amongst high density living (a green breathing space)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CoM target is to increase tree canopy cover in public spaces from 22% to 40% by 2040. The Darebin Urban Forest strategy goal is to increase total (public and private) tree canopy cover from 14% to 25% by 2028. While Council can control the public canopy (as resources and budget for tree planting allow), it does not have the same control over private canopy cover. However Council is committed to working with private landowners and developers to increase canopy cover, through for example the Development Contributions Plan. Council has committed to a policy of achieving a net increase in green open space, and has resolved to form a Nature Trust in 2017. Developer contributions and connected green space corridors will be considered by the Trust as part of delivering best practice open space design appropriate for the growing population.
<p>The Nature Trust is a great idea, but ensure that it addresses and includes the use of edible planting, and addresses biodiversity in a broad rather than a narrow sense (eg food as well as bird/animal habitat).</p> <p>Providing space and infrastructure for community gardens and more green space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the functions of the Trust is to provide expert input into the development and implementation of the Darebin Open Space strategy. There will be opportunities during the consultation phase to suggest integrating edible plantings with the urban greening and biodiversity outcomes sought under the strategy. Council has committed to increasing green space (see above) and to providing the opportunity to establish a community garden facility every year until 2020 (GreenStreets Streetscape Strategy)
What is Council doing around flood mitigation, storm water capture and recycling?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 5.7.4 details how Council plans to develop integrated water systems to support a resilient city, including implementing large scale stormwater harvesting and increase permeable surfaces to relieve flooding in high risk areas.
Work with Melbourne Water and VicForests to shutdown logging in catchment areas (especially closed catchments) to protect water quality and preserve high carbon sequestering mountain ash forests. Ensure no wood or paper products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocacy relating to forests may be considered as part of Darebin's new advocacy agenda and/or when the Darebin Nature Trust is established.

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<p>bought by Council are sourced from native forests.</p>	
<p>Council has some great Urban Food Production initiatives but could be much more strategic about the placing, development and support of community gardens.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council has developed a much better understanding of what makes community gardens successful over the last 5 to 10 years. The Communal Food Garden Assessment Guidelines and Checklist were developed in 2014 to assist Council staff and the community identify sites which have the most potential for success. • Council received a grant in 2017 to explore how Council can better support 5 community food projects in East Preston and Reservoir, (including 3 community gardens), to be resilient and sustainable over the long term.
<p>What is the urban food production goal and the framework for how it will be achieved? How will the issue of contaminated land be dealt with?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Urban Food Production (UFP) Strategy aims to support the creation of local food systems in Darebin (as well as across other Melbourne urban and peri-urban areas and regional Victoria) to reduce reliance on globalised carbon intensive food systems. • The Strategy outlines the role of Council in delivering the goal through 4 key areas: Home Food Growing, 2. Community Gardens 3. Other UFP Models and 4. Integrated Approach to Planning for UFP. • As a general rule Council recommends growing food in raised beds filled with clean soil from a trusted source. Council has engaged soil engineers for specific projects such as the All Nations Kitchen Garden to ensure the risk of contamination is mitigated. Council will continue to keep abreast of the evolving science and policy related to growing food in urban areas/soils, through agencies such as the EPA and the University of Melbourne's Urban Agriculture faculty.
<p>Consider buying back urban farmlets when subdivisions happen, to protect high yield food gardens and create edible pocket parks for the community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the Urban Food Production Strategy, Council has (and will continue to) advocate to have urban food production / urban agriculture recognised in the State Planning Policy Framework so it can be integrated in the Metropolitan Planning Strategy and VCAT decisions. This would allow for far greater consideration of urban farmlets and other urban food initiatives as part of weighing up the net community benefit of urban development / planning applications.
<p>Suggestion about encouraging common compost bins in neighbourhoods to be used by households and/or community gardens to increase food production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite interest from some members of the community, surveying done by Council on the issue of shared local composting initiatives indicated a low level of support. Council suggests that residents organise this locally if they are interested in their own neighbourhood.

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<p>Suggestion about implementing small monthly community/farmers markets at railway stations to connect farmers with Darebin residents as well as selling local hand-made goods and produce.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council would welcome the opportunity to support community-led initiatives of this kind, for example through Darebin's Community Grants.
<p># 8: Engaging the community</p>	
<p>Feedback / Comment</p>	<p>Proposed response</p>
<p>Consumption within Darebin needs to be addressed by the plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating residents on the impacts of the purchases they make is included in the workshops and events held as part of Council's Environmental Education and Sustainable Homes and Communities program and this theme will be strengthened.
<p>Run a campaign to engage Darebin's residents with the impacts of diet choices.</p>	<p>Key direction 5 has been expanded to include consumption more broadly (including food, materials and embodied energy).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions under 6.5.4 now include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Through the organisational review of all Council programs and policies embed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ questioning and where possible avoiding consumption ▪ specifically reducing consumption of high-impact products (including food choices) ▪ providing more vegetarian and other sustainable catering options at Council events. ○ Give greater explicit prominence to reducing consumption (including carbon intensive dietary choices) in existing programs such as the Sustainable Homes and Communities Program, the biennial Sustainability Awards, Sustainability News and other programs. Consider introducing a specific program/campaign on reducing high-impact choices (e.g. Meat Free Mondays) as part of the Environmental Education Program ○ Consider updating and relaunching the Budget Bites booklet and pocket guide and / or promote other sustainable food guides/ ○ Explore possibilities for consumption-related advocacy and engagement through Darebin's new Strategic Advocacy Framework.
<p>Significantly increase education around the Climate Emergency and what individuals, households and businesses within Darebin can do. There is a lack of up-to-date, consistent and accessible advice, for example on home energy efficiency checks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 6.8.4 details a number of Council actions to work directly with residents and businesses on practical ways to help restore a safe climate and adapt to climate change. • The Plan commits Council to increasing community awareness and visibility of climate emergency information and advice by using multiple platforms such as on-line / web-based,

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<p>Raise awareness and engagement by promoting meat free Mondays, no plastic bag use and '5 ways to reduce your carbon footprint'. Set up a Climate Emergency advice line.</p> <p>Make it easier for renovators to know how to improve energy performance</p> <p>Provide Climate Emergency education in schools \</p>	<p>networking and other events and workshops. The awareness raising initiatives suggested in the consultation will be considered as part of this work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council are currently developing a single use plastic elimination strategy which will include a comprehensive awareness and engagement strategy. • As part of the Environmental Education program, Council will continue to hold workshops on incorporating energy efficiency measures in homes through design, renovation and retrofitting.
<p>Greater community engagement, including CALD and Low SES groups. We must reach everyone, not just those communities that are on social media.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will remain a Council focus and will be one of the aims of the expanded Round 3 of the Solar Saver program and solar bulk buy program.
<p>Establish a voluntary register (with some reward) for businesses and households that install solar and transition from gas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This can be considered as part of the 6.8.4 action to recognise community and business climate emergency actions and 6.3.4 actions to expand the Solar Saver program and switching from gas to electricity.
<p>Every key direction needs community engagement actions to achieve their respective objectives, so it would be more effective to strengthen community engagement under each direction rather than have a separate 'Engaging the community' direction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community engagement measures are needed (and reflected) under each direction, and in addition we believe a specific direction on community engagement will ensure a coherent and focussed approach to engagement across all directions and areas of Council and will also reflect how Council's ongoing environmental education activities will be shaped to contribute the community's engagement with the Climate Emergency.
<p>Provide more support to local groups that are trying to make things happen, including providing venues at low/no cost.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several specific measures aligned with this suggestion are included in 6.1.3 and 6.8.4 (including providing "support including grants and the provision of venues").
<p>Story telling is making a difference... I'd advocate the council finds ways to tell lots of stories.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several measures aligned with these suggestions are included in 6.8.4 including: "Provide regular stories for Darebin Community News... and regular features for Council social media platforms" – these could include both community success stories, and progress reports on Council's own initiatives.
<p>"Implementing this plan will be a good start - strong leadership by Council can be a powerful support for local community action."</p>	
<p>Regularly provide information about the seriousness of the climate emergency, actions that council is taking to address the emergency and guidance on how to take action</p>	

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# 9: Darebin Energy Foundation (DEF)	
Feedback / Comment	Proposed response
Need to more clearly define what the DEF will do.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed role of the DEF has been set out in section 5.9.2 of the plan. This will evolve to align with the final Climate Emergency Plan.
DEF should look at Green bonds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See above – this can be considered as part of the strategies developed by DEF to fulfil its function and goals.
Will the DEF be involved in developing the outwards/upwards advocacy program (e.g. other Councils/state/fed government)? Or will it focus on action within Darebin?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See above – one of the roles proposed is to advocate to state and federal governments on policy and to increase climate change action and funding
<p>DEF should be renamed the 'Darebin Climate Emergency Foundation' or 'Darebin Climate Foundation' to encompass climate emergency action beyond energy.</p> <p>The focus of DEF needs to include all areas of emissions including diet and consumption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once formed, the DEF could consider appropriate names for the foundation.
Why not partner with the Moreland or Yarra Energy Foundations? Will the investment in a separate foundation result in better outcomes versus funding Council's environment department to do this work?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing the Darebin Energy Foundation is a key commitment Council has made. The initial phase will set up the governance and further define the role of the Foundation, tailored to the present needs of Darebin and the Climate Emergency Plan. We will be working closely with neighbouring Councils who have set up similar entities to learn from their experiences. Council officers will be working closely and in synergy with the foundation, which will add to and enhance the work that Council can do itself, rather than duplicating effort.
Hold your fire on the Darebin Energy Foundation! At the very least go and talk to the staff at Moreland and Yarra Councils to ensure you get the full picture. ... The way you set it up from a governance point of view will be critical.	

Question 2: How council can help / motivate households or businesses to take action on climate change

Feedback / Comment	Proposed response
Several respondents suggested more awareness and education interventions, such as "small but specific workshops for residents to learn what they can do at home," programming at Neighbourhood Houses, and recognising and promoting success stories.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council will continue to offer a range of sustainable living workshops, build community leadership through the Sustainable Homes and Communities Program and celebrate community achievements through Sustainability News and the Darebin (and Banyule) Sustainability Awards.

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<p>Many online respondents suggested encouraging meat-free and vegan diets.</p>	<p>Key direction 5 has been expanded to include consumption more broadly (including food, materials and embodied energy).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions under 6.5.4 now include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Through the organisational review of all Council programs and policies embed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ questioning and where possible avoiding consumption ▪ specifically reducing consumption of high-impact products (including food choices) ▪ providing more vegetarian and other sustainable catering options at Council events. ○ Give greater explicit prominence to reducing consumption (including carbon intensive dietary choices) in existing programs such as the Sustainable Homes and Communities Program, the biennial Sustainability Awards, Sustainability News and other programs. Consider introducing a specific program/campaign on reducing high-impact choices (e.g. Meat Free Mondays) as part of the Environmental Education Program ○ Consider updating and relaunching the Budget Bites booklet and pocket guide and / or promote other sustainable food guides/ • Explore possibilities for consumption-related advocacy and engagement through Darebin's new Strategic Advocacy Framework
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Question 3: Other comments / suggestions for the plan

Feedback / Comment	Proposed response
<p>The Climate Emergency goals are not strong enough – for example 4.1 should say Council will aim for negative rather than zero greenhouse gas emissions for Council and community. Returning to a safe climate requires the use of drawdown options.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new sub-section has been added to Section 5 (Our Climate Emergency Goals) to clarify Council's targets and associated timelines. • Council acknowledges the need to move beyond zero emissions and will develop a drawdown plan to establish what Darebin should and can do to contribute to drawdown.
<p>The Climate Emergency goals should be more values driven – what is it we are trying to protect? Make it clearer that this issue impacts everyone. It is more than an emissions reduction target.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Overarching Goals in Section 5 outline what is we are aiming to protect, i.e.: "maximum protection for the community of Darebin, and for people, civilisation and species globally, especially the most vulnerable."
<p>The plan should be renamed 'Darebin Council Climate Change Action Strategy':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Council' because the consultation has involved only a small sample of the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council often includes 'Darebin' in the title of its strategic documents to reflect the fact that they apply to the whole municipality. • The title of the document reflects both

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<p>whole community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Change' instead of 'Emergency' because it is not realistic for a single Council to meaningfully address the Climate Emergency • 'Strategy' instead of Plan to reflect the aim to address a serious challenge or threat (rather than just outline policy directions) 	<p>feedback from previous consultations on the Climate Action Plan and Council's recognition of, and commitment to address, the state of climate emergency we are in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan includes policy statements, strategic directions and a plan of action.
<p>Embody a state of emergency by giving the draft Plan a tighter more focussed structure – be clearer about how the initiatives / actions for each key direction apply to businesses, institutions, owner-residents, landlords & renters, Council, and NAGA (Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional references to the intended audience have been added where further clarity was needed.
<p>'Climate Emergency' suggests a dynamic rapidly changing situation – how can a plan which is set for 4 years capture the rate of change implied by a Climate Emergency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual reviews will ensure that we are addressing developments as they arise.
<p>The Council and community emissions profiles reported in the plan currently exclude emissions relating to diet and consumption. These need to be addressed if we are to respond effectively to the Climate Emergency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumption and food have been included in Direction 5.
<p>Establish a website which maintains a real-time dashboard of the coordinated contributions which LGAs (starting with NAGA councils) are making to progressing climate change mitigation and the renewables revolution. This would demonstrate that local government and communities are making clear progress and not waiting for state and federal governments to provide leadership / guidance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darebin will be joining the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate Energy, which has been formed for these kinds of purposes. Darebin (and participating local governments around the world) will report publicly on our emissions reductions and progress against other goals. For more information see: http://www.globalcovenantofmayors.org/
<p>Identify performance indicators which clearly reflect whether targets have been met over the course of the plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As set out in Section 7 (Measuring, reporting, reviewing and revising' Council will report annually on the progress of the Plan's implementation, including actions undertaken, headline indicators and emissions reduction projections. • A new sub-section has been added to Section 5 (Our Climate Emergency Goals) to clarify Council's targets and associated timelines. • When Darebin joins the Covenant of Mayors we will be reporting against international standards on our emissions.
<p>Apart from # 3 Renewable energy, the other key directions seem too broad without measurable objectives</p>	
<p>How will the Climate Emergency be monitored? Will there be any modelling? Examples / case studies to follow?</p> <p>Need a clearer and more extensive monitoring and evaluation framework, which considers how the community can be involved, without making it too complex or onerous. Timeframes need to be</p>	

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clearer.	
The current budget does not seem to cover the cost of monitoring and evaluation	
Report on the Climate Emergency in Council's annual report	
What is Council's policy on Climate refugees? Council has pledged its support for refugees, so a clear link should be made between the Climate Emergency and Council's role in supporting refugees including climate refugees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy relating to climate justice and climate refugees may be considered as part of Darebin's new strategic advocacy framework.
Providing as a preamble to the plan an explanation of the past historical challenges and seismic shifts in order to build confidence in this plan succeeding from a grassroots levels and spreading onwards and outwards as more people begin supporting this movement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory text in Direction #1 (Climate Mobilisation and Leadership) has been updated.
One online respondent believed Council should lobby the federal government to "stop population growth and immigration into Australia".	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This approach is not aligned with Council's policies.
Encourage increased housing density via infill building of efficient, dense housing, especially near existing transport and services. [This] needs to be given prominent attention and encouragement in this plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darebin Planning Scheme Amendment GC42 builds on the overarching ESD objectives of the State Planning Policy Framework, the Municipal Strategic Statement and local policies contained within the Darebin Planning Scheme. This amendment seeks to ensure that all development that requires a planning permit achieves best practice across a wide range of ESD principles, including energy efficiency, water resources, indoor environment quality, stormwater management, transport, waste management and urban ecology. • Under the Urban Food Production Strategy, Council advocates to have urban food production / urban agriculture recognised in the State Planning Policy Framework so it can be integrated in the Metropolitan Planning Strategy and VCAT decisions. This would allow for far greater consideration of urban farmlets and other urban food initiatives as part of weighing up the net community benefit of urban development / planning applications.
All new homes to have minimum solar applied as part of the build - with assistance to put additional solar on.	
We need to preserve existing robust residences and their gardens for future food security. Higher densities should predominantly be constructed on brownfield sites. In existing residential areas, only the worst quality housing stock should be demolished and only for the purpose of public housing/co housing projects. We need higher standards for new builds and more incentives could be given to encourage people to convert their lawns into food forests.	