



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

7 APRIL 2026

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that an **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING of ORANGE CITY COUNCIL** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE** on **Tuesday, 7 April 2026**.

Scott Maunder
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

For apologies please contact Executive Support on 6393 8391.

AGENDA

EVACUATION PROCEDURE

In the event of an emergency, the building may be evacuated. You will be required to vacate the building by the rear entrance and gather at the entrance to the car park. This is Council's designated emergency muster point.

Under no circumstances is anyone permitted to re-enter the building until the all clear has been given and the area deemed safe by authorised personnel.

In the event of an evacuation, a member of Council staff will assist any member of the public with a disability to vacate the building.

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1 INTRODUCTION

MEMBERS

Cr D Mallard (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

1.1 Apologies and Leave of Absence

1.2 Declaration of pecuniary interests, significant non-pecuniary interests and less than significant non-pecuniary interests

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the Local Government Act, 1993 (the Act) regulate the way in which Councillors and designated staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public role.

The Act prescribes that where a member of Council (or a Committee of Council) has a direct or indirect financial (pecuniary) interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council (or Committee), that interest must be disclosed as soon as practicable after the start of the meeting and the reasons given for declaring such interest.

As members are aware, the provisions of the Local Government Act restrict any member who has declared a pecuniary interest in any matter from participating in the discussion or voting on that matter, and requires that member to vacate the Chamber.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code of Conduct also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Committee Members now disclose any conflicts of interest in matters under consideration by the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee at this meeting.

Attachment 1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026

2 COMMITTEE MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee 6 February 2026

RECORD NUMBER: 2026/616

AUTHOR: Eli Todman, Sustainability Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026 are provided to the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee for adoption.

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy “8.2 Develop and promote initiatives to reduce water, energy and water waste in consultation with the community”.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 That Council acknowledge the reports presented to the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee at its meeting held on 6 February 2026.**
- 2 That the minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee from its meeting held on 6 February 2026 be adopted.**

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation of this report has been assessed against Council’s key risk categories and the following comments are provided:

Service/Project Delivery	Adoption of the minutes ensures continuity of committee-related actions and avoids delays in progressing endorsed initiatives.
Financial	Nil
Reputation/Political	Transparent reporting and adoption of committee minutes supports good governance and reduces the risk of perceived inaction or poor oversight.
Environment	Nil
Compliance	Adoption of the minutes supports compliance with Council’s governance framework and reduces the risk of procedural irregularities.
People & WHS	Nil
Information Technology/ Cyber Security	Nil

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The Committee Agenda and Minutes are attached for the information of Council.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026, [2026/154](#)
- 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026, [2026/108](#)

Attachment 1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

HELD IN COUNCILLORS WORKROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE

ON 6 FEBRUARY 2026

COMMENCING AT 8:01 AM

1 INTRODUCTION**ATTENDANCE**

Cr David Mallard (Chairperson), Nick King, Andrew Kennedy, Stephen Nugent, Reg Kidd (*Audiovisual Link*), Shahreen Alford, Amanda Lockwood, Jennifer Lacey, Cyril Smith, Cynthia Jarratt, Belana Oliver, Water Treatment Manager, Water and Sewerage Strategic Manager, Natural Resources and Biosecurity Coordinator, Manager Compliance

1.1 APOLOGIES**RESOLVED****Member S Alford/Member A Kennedy**

That the apologies be accepted from Peter West & Cr Melanie McDonell for the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting on 6 February 2026.

1.2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson conducted an Acknowledgement of Country.

Member R Kidd & Member C Jarratt joined the meeting with the time being 8:03am

1.3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil.

2 PREVIOUS MINUTES**RESOLVED****Member A Kennedy/Member B Oliver**

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 5 December 2025 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting held on 5 December 2025.

Attachment 1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026**3 PRESENTATIONS****3.1 CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/7

Minutes from the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee adopted at the 3 February 2026 meeting.

Council is participating in the ZapCat program, which provides residents with instant estimates for household efficiency upgrades.

Member R Kidd suggested Council consider supporting senior citizens to access the platform through dedicated workshops.

The Chair informed the Committee of the resolution from the 16 December Council meeting regarding the removal of a large Eucalyptus tree as part of DA 9 Hilldale Crescent.

RECOMMENDATION**Member N King/Member S Nugent**

That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee:

1. Acknowledge the verbal report provided by the Chair.
2. Support the recommendation from the 18 December Parks, Trees and Waterways Community Committee minutes;

That the verbal report by the Chairperson on matters presented to Council be noted, including the further discussions held on the removal of healthy trees by Council resolution in the future.

4 GENERAL REPORTS**4.1 PROJECT GROUP UPDATES**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/6

Biodiversity Subgroup Update – Provided by Member S Alford

- The Biodiversity Strategy remains on hold pending further advice from the Director Development Services
- The subgroup discussed current biosecurity concerns, with the Natural Resources and Biosecurity Coordinator outlining current focus areas and strategic direction
- The Common Myna control program was discussed, with group to continue to investigate viable management options
- Nelson Park / Rifle Range Creek restoration concept plans shared. A cost analysis will now be developed for subsequent discussion with Council staff

Climate Action Subgroup Update – Provided by the Chair

- Council has engaged Ironbark Sustainability and Meiklejohn Consulting to develop the Community Climate Change Management Plan, with community consultation scheduled in March

Attachment 1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026

6 FEBRUARY 2026

RECOMMENDATION**Member S Alford/Member S Nugent**

That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee acknowledge the verbal reports provided by the project groups.

Member J Lacey left the meeting with the time being 8:50am

Member C Jarratt left the meeting with the time being 9:03am

Member C Smith left the meeting with the time being 9:15am

Member C Smith returned to the meeting with the time being 9:19am

Member A Lockwood left the meeting with the time being 9:20am

4.2 STRATEGIC POLICY REVIEW

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/2741

RECOMMENDATION**Member R Kidd/Member N King**

That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee note the Policy, acknowledging that it forms part of a broader strategic policy framework, and make the following recommendations:

1. Update section 9.3 to read "Council staff *will* contact these organisations...".
2. Place Strategic Policy – ST59 – Feral & Infant Animal Management on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days.

4.3 CLIMATE CHANGE MANAGEMENT PLAN - ANNUAL REVIEW

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/4

RECOMMENDATION**Member S Nugent/Member S Alford**

That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee acknowledge the report provided by the Sustainability Officer on the Climate Change Management Plan.

4.4 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS REPORT

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/8

RECOMMENDATION**Member A Kennedy/Member B Oliver**

That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee acknowledge the information provided in the report.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9:37AM.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

6 FEBRUARY 2026

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that an **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING of ORANGE CITY COUNCIL** will be held in the **COUNCILLORS WORKROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE** on **Friday, 6 February 2026** commencing at **8:00 AM**.

Scott Maunder
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

For apologies, please contact Eli Todman on 6393 8208.

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026

AGENDA

EVACUATION PROCEDURE

In the event of an emergency, the building may be evacuated. You will be required to vacate the building. The Committee Clerk will now identify the emergency muster point.

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Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026

1 INTRODUCTION**MEMBERS**

Cr David Mallard (Chairperson), Cr Melanie McDonell, Peter West, Nick King, Andrew Kennedy, Stephen Nugent, Reg Kidd, Shahreen Alford, Amanda Lockwood, Jennifer Lacey, Cyril Smith, Cynthia Jarratt, Belana Oliver, Director Development Services, Manager Building and Environment, Water Treatment Manager, Manager City Presentation, Manager Waste Services and Technical Support, Water and Sewerage Strategic Manager

1.1 Apologies**1.2 Acknowledgement of Country**

I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, the people of the Wiradjuri Nation. I pay my respects to Elders past and present, and extend those respects to Aboriginal Peoples of Orange and surrounds, and Aboriginal people here with us today.

1.3 Declaration of pecuniary interests, significant non-pecuniary interests and less than significant non-pecuniary interests

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the Local Government Act, 1993 (the Act) regulate the way in which Councillors and designated staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public role.

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Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code of Conduct also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Committee Members now disclose any conflicts of interest in matters under consideration by the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee at this meeting.

**Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community
Committee held on 6 February 2026**

2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 5 December 2025 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate records of the proceedings of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting held on 5 December 2025.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 5 December 2025

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026



MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**HELD IN COUNCILLORS WORKROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE****ON 5 DECEMBER 2025****COMMENCING AT 8:02 AM**

1 INTRODUCTION**ATTENDANCE**

Cr David Mallard (Chairperson), Cr Melanie McDonell([Audiovisual Link](#)), Peter West([Audiovisual Link](#)), Nick King, Andrew Kennedy, Reg Kidd([Audiovisual Link](#)), Cyril Smith, Manager Waste Services and Technical Support

1.1 APOLOGIES**RESOLVED****Member A Kennedy/Member N King**

That the apologies be accepted from Stephen Nugent, Shahreen Alford, Cynthia Jarratt and Jennifer Lacey for the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting on 5 December 2025.

1.2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson conducted an Acknowledgement of Country.

1.3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil.

2 PREVIOUS MINUTES**RESOLVED****Member N King/Member R Kidd**

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 3 October 2025 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting held on 3 October 2025.

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026

5 DECEMBER 2025

3 PRESENTATIONS**3.1 CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/2343

The Chair provided an update on the outcomes of the Council meeting held on 4 November 2025, noting that the minutes were adopted without discussion. The Chair also advised the Committee that Eleanor Pratten, Council's Sustainability Project Officer, has resigned from her position and recommended that a letter of thanks be sent in recognition of her contributions during her time with Council.

RECOMMENDATION**Member A Kennedy/Cr D Mallard**

1. That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee acknowledge the verbal report provided by the Chair.
2. That a letter of thanks be forwarded to Eleanor Pratten for her contributions to sustainability programs at Orange City Council.

4 GENERAL REPORTS**4.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - 2026 MEETING DATES & TIMES**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/2340

Meetings will occur at 8:00 AM Friday on the following dates for 2026:

- 6 February
- 10 April
- 5 June
- 7 August
- 2 October
- 4 December

Each meeting will be held in the councillors workroom unless otherwise advised by the clerk or chair.

RECOMMENDATION**Cr D Mallard/Member N King**

That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee note the meeting dates set for 2026.

4.2 PROJECT GROUP UPDATES

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/2341

RECOMMENDATION**Member N King/Member R Kidd**

That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee acknowledge the verbal reports provided by the project groups.

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026

5 DECEMBER 2025

4.3 SUSTAINABLE LIVING WEEK 2025 - OUTCOMES REPORT

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/2492

RECOMMENDATION**Member P West/Member A Kennedy**

That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee acknowledge the report provided by the Sustainability Officer on Orange Sustainable Living Week 2025.

4.4 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS REPORT

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/2342

Members highlighted the success of permanent water saving standards in reducing residential water consumption and discussed the feasibility of easing restrictions when water storage levels are high. The matter was taken on notice as no relevant Council staff were present to provide comment.

The Committee also noted that the Aquatic Centre presents a significant opportunity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as it consistently remains the highest consumer of natural gas among Council facilities.

Additionally, the Committee acknowledged the partnership previously held between Council and Wangarang for the management of the Ophir Road Resource Recovery Centre. The Committee noted that this partnership has recently concluded and commended Wangarang for their valuable service throughout the arrangement.

RECOMMENDATION**Member N King/Member R Kidd**

1. That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee acknowledge the information provided in the report.
2. That a letter of thanks be forwarded to Wangarang Industries for their valuable service during the management of the Ophir Road Resource Recovery Centre.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9:15AM.

**Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community
Committee held on 6 February 2026**

3 PRESENTATIONS**3.1 Chairperson Report**

The Chairperson will provide a verbal report with feedback on Council's adoption of Committee recommendations and share any other information relevant to the ESCC.

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026

4 GENERAL REPORTS
4.1 Project Group Updates
RECORD NUMBER: 2026/6

AUTHOR: Eli Todman, Sustainability Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is an opportunity for project groups to provide a verbal update on current focus areas.

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy “8.2 Develop and promote initiatives to reduce water, energy and water waste in consultation with the community”.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee acknowledge the verbal reports provided by the project groups.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation of this report has been assessed against Council’s key risk categories, and the following comments are provided:

Service/Project Delivery	Nil.
Financial	Nil.
Reputation/Political	Nil.
Environment	Nil.
Compliance	Nil.
People & WHS	Nil.
Information Technology/Cyber Security	Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Environmental Sustainability Community Committee Action Plan 2025 - 2028, D25/108056

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026
Attachment 1 Environmental Sustainability Community Committee Action Plan 2025 - 2028
COMMUNITY COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

D25/108056

ACTION OR PROJECT	COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE	TASKS	RESPONSIBILITY OF	COST IMPLICATIONS	START DATE	END DATE	COMMENTS/PROGRESS	UPDATED
BIODIVERSITY								
Biodiversity Strategy	7.1: Ensure best practice in climate change mitigation and adaptation options for Council and community projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review draft table of content for strategy Director for Development Services to provide update on progress and input areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Community members 	TBC			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director Development Services to provide update at 6 February ESCC meeting 	19/01/2026
Biosecurity "Plan"	7.1: Ensure best practice in climate change mitigation and adaptation options for Council and community projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff to identify opportunities for group input into biosecurity programs 	Staff	Nil			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinator Natural Resources and Biosecurity to provide guidance on how ESCC can further support weed control programs 	19/01/2026
Nelson Park / Rifle Rang Creek restoration	7.1: Ensure best practice in climate change mitigation and adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop high-level project plan Identify funding opportunities 	Committee	TBC			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convenor to develop high-level project plan Members to research similar projects to 	19/01/2026

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026
Attachment 1 Environmental Sustainability Community Committee Action Plan 2025 - 2028


ACTION OR PROJECT	COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE	TASKS	RESPONSIBILITY OF	COST IMPLICATIONS	START DATE	END DATE	COMMENTS/PROGRESS	UPDATED
	options for Council and community projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief PTWCC and relevant council staff on project details 					reference during scoping phase.	
Common Myna Control Program	7.1: Ensure best practice in climate change mitigation and adaptation options for Council and community projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to Committee on Dubbo Program for discussion Manager City Presentation to provide update on existing programs in Orange 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Staff 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group to discuss further during 6 February ESCC meeting and determine next steps 	19/01/2026
CLIMATE ACTION								
Community Climate Change Management Plan	8.2: Develop and promote initiatives to reduce water, energy and waste in consultation with the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff to share key dates for engagement and opportunities for input 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members Staff 	Nil			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program delivery expected to commence in January 2026 	19/01/2026
Sustainable Living Week	8.2: Develop and promote initiatives to reduce water,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Rotary with the organisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members Staff 	Nil				19/01/2026

ESCC Action Plan 2025 - 2028

2

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026
Attachment 1 Environmental Sustainability Community Committee Action Plan 2025 - 2028


ACTION OR PROJECT	COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE	TASKS	RESPONSIBILITY OF	COST IMPLICATIONS	START DATE	END DATE	COMMENTS/PROGRESS	UPDATED
	energy and waste in consultation with the community.	of the 2026 Orange Sustainable Living Week						
PROCESS IMPROVEMENT								
Agenda process	13.3: Provide opportunities for widespread and quality engagement and, where appropriate, shared decision making.	Draft agenda template	Staff	Nil			Meeting required to review and update as required, will then include as a future ESCC item for adoption by the Committee	19/01/2026
Staff project updates	13.3: Provide opportunities for widespread and quality engagement and, where appropriate, shared decision making.	Draft sustainability works report	Staff	Nil			Complete – standing agenda item. Will continue to be refined.	17/11/2025
Collaboration	13.3: Provide opportunities for widespread and quality engagement	Investigate Teams and possible training setup/training session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Committee members 	Nil			Staff to confirm time with IT Team and members to run through access away from Council network	19/01/2026

ESCC Action Plan 2025 - 2028

3

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026
Attachment 1 Environmental Sustainability Community Committee Action Plan 2025 - 2028


ACTION OR PROJECT	COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE	TASKS	RESPONSIBILITY OF	COST IMPLICATIONS	START DATE	END DATE	COMMENTS/PROGRESS	UPDATED
	and, where appropriate, shared decision making.							

SUPPORTING INFORMATION ON COMPLETING AND UPDATING THE ACTION PLAN

The Community Committee Action Plan outlines what the committee will contribute during the Council term. It should be **updated at least after each meeting**, and otherwise as required.

This template is provided to assist in developing the action plan, and to provide consistency across all community committees.

Action/Project: The general activity or project that the committee is providing advice and information on for Council, or is going to undertake themselves.

Community Strategic Plan Reference: The Community Strategic Plan is Council's chief planning document. It outlines the aspirations and needs of the Orange community and is a 10-year plan to guide Council and community activity. Linking activities to the goals outlined in this plan helps keep everyone working toward the same vision.

Tasks: These are the individual tasks that need to be undertaken to complete the action or project successfully. There may only be one task, or there may be several tasks included in a project.

Responsibility of: Is this an action or project that Council and its staff are responsible for, or is this something the community committee is going to undertake?

Cost Implications: Are there any costs involved with the project? If any recommendations are being made that impact the already approved Council budget, this needs to go to a full general Council meeting for discussion and resolution.

Start and End Dates: Some activities will be short term activities, some will be for a much longer period, perhaps even across the entire Council term. Providing start and end dates gives the committee (and Council) a timeline and targets to work towards. Dates can always be adjusted as needed.

Comments/Progress: Any time there is movement or progress regarding an action or project, it is recorded to keep track of where it is up to and what needs to happen next.

Updated: Record the date of when the last changes to an activity or project were made. This will help identify any projects or initiatives that may have stalled and need action to be moved along.

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026

4.2 Strategic Policy Review

RECORD NUMBER: 2025/2741

AUTHOR: Eli Todman, Sustainability Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents Strategic Policy - ST59 - Feral & Infant Animal Management which has been drafted and is recommended for placement on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days. Feedback from the Committee is sought before referring the policy back to Council to commence the exhibition period. The policy have also been referred to the Companion Animal Community Committee for the same process.

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy "15.1 Provide representative, responsible and accountable community governance".

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Council's Strategic Policies are reviewed and amended to ensure ongoing compliance with legislation and industry best practice.

Policies of Council are of two types – Strategic Policies are determined by Council, and relate to Councillors, required by Legislation or Regulation and/or have an impact on the Orange community. The Local Government Act 1993 requires the public exhibition of Policies (if new or include significant changes) and adoption by Council. Operational Policies are determined and implemented by the Chief Executive Officer and relate to staff and the operations of the organisation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee provides any feedback and recommends that Council place Strategic Policy - ST59 - Feral & Infant Animal Management on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation of this report has been assessed against Council's key risk categories and the following comments are provided:

Service/Project Delivery	Public feedback may delay implementation or require changes to planned services.
Financial	Exhibition may lead to cost implications if significant revisions or additional consultation are required.
Reputation/Political	Public disagreement or backlash could affect Council's reputation or political standing.
Environment	Community input may highlight overlooked environmental impacts or concerns.
Compliance	Failure to exhibit policies appropriately may breach statutory consultation requirements.
People & WHS	Feedback may raise workforce-related risks or highlight gaps in safety-related provisions.
Information Technology/ Cyber Security	Online exhibition platforms may be vulnerable to data breaches or cyber threats.

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026

4.2 Strategic Policy Review

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

It is recommended the policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days to allow for Council and public review and submissions.

Strategic Policy - ST59 - Feral & Infant Animal Management

Reference	Update
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Policy

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 FOR EXHIBITION - Strategic Policy - ST59 - Feral & Infant Animal Management, D25/141260

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026

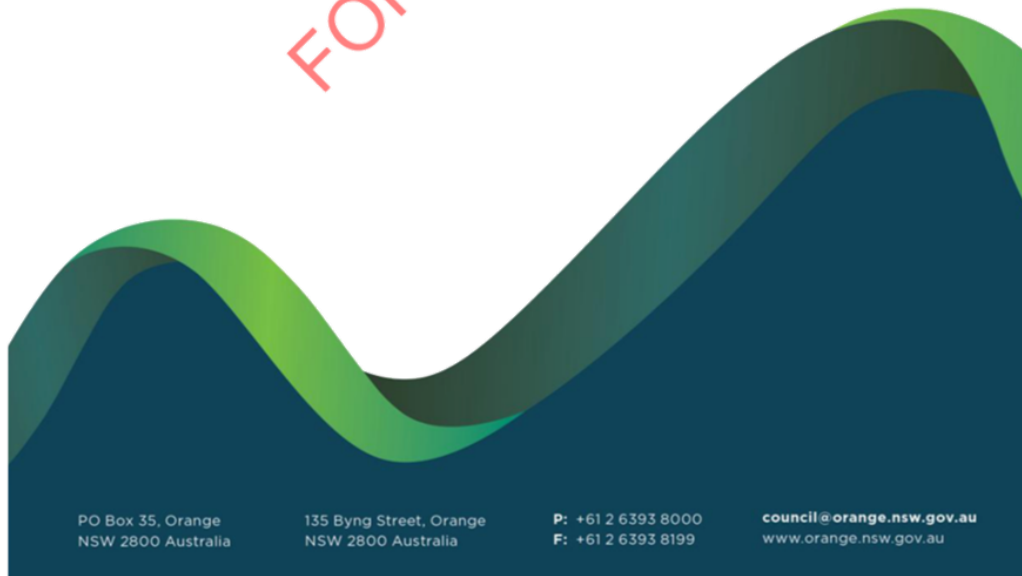
Attachment 1 FOR EXHIBITION - Strategic Policy - ST59 - Feral & Infant Animal Management



Strategic Policy – ST59

Feral & Infant Animal Management

FOR EXHIBITION



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Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026
Attachment 1 FOR EXHIBITION - Strategic Policy - ST59 - Feral & Infant Animal Management

STRATEGIC POLICY – ST59

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To outline Council's approach to the management of Feral and Infant companion animals.

2 APPLICABILITY

- 2.1 This policy applies to feral and infant companion animals that come into the care of Council by seizure or surrender under the Companion Animals Act 1998 (The Act).
- 2.2 This policy applies to all Council Staff involved in the care, management and decision-making related to companion animals, including seizure and surrender.

3 OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 To establish a mechanism by which to manage feral companion animals that pose a high risk to staff and the community; and infant animals that cannot survive without constant and intensive care.

4 LEGISLATION

- 4.1 This policy is in accordance with the requirements of the Companion Animals Act 1998.

5 RESPONSIBILITIES

Title	Responsibilities
Manager Compliance, Senior Ranger, Pound Supervisor	Make determinations regarding the feral or infant status of companion animals in Council's care and take, or authorise the taking of, action to manage those animals in accordance with this policy and legislation.

6 DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Feral Companion Animal	A dog or cat that is unidentified, is confirmed or suspected to have been living in undomesticated circumstances and demonstrates wild behaviour that would make handling the

Term	Definition
	animal a risk to staff and rehoming it a risk to the community.
Infant Companion Animal	A dog or cat that is very young and is unable to feed or fend for itself and has come into Council's care without its mother, requiring intensive care.
Unidentified	Meaning the animal has not been microchipped per the requirements of the Act and is not wearing an identification tag/collar featuring the contact details of its owner.

7 DETERMINATION

- 7.1 Council's Pound Supervisor, Senior Ranger or Manager Compliance may determine an animal to be **feral** if:

- Council staff are unable to locate a microchip or identification tag/collar on the animal, and
- Council staff suspect, or can confirm, the animal has been living in undomesticated circumstances, and
- The animal displays wild behaviour that would pose a risk to the safety of the staff responsible for its care and handling or to the community should it be rehomed.

- 7.2 Council's Pound Supervisor, Senior Ranger or manager Compliance may determine an animal to be an **infant** if:

- The animal appears to Council staff to be very young, and
- Through observation, the animal demonstrates an inability to feed or fend for itself.

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026
Attachment 1 FOR EXHIBITION - Strategic Policy - ST59 - Feral & Infant Animal Management

STRATEGIC POLICY – ST59

8 MANAGEMENT OF FERAL AND INFANT ANIMALS

8.1 Per Section 64(2) of the Act, companion animals determined to be feral or infant in accordance with this policy may be humanely euthanised by a veterinarian prior to the end of the holding periods prescribed by Section 64 of the Act.

8.2 Infant animals may only be euthanised under Section 8.1 of this policy following investigation of alternatives to euthanasia as outlined in Section 9.3 of this policy.

9 CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES TO EUTHANASIA

9.1 Per section 64(5) of the Act, Council must consider whether alternatives to euthanasia exist prior to taking such action under this policy.

9.2 Feral companion animals are unsuitable for alternative care arrangements because:

- The wild behaviour of feral animals poses a safety risk to the staff caring for them, whether they are Council staff or belonging to a rescue or rehoming organisation.
- Their wild behaviour makes them unsafe to rehome in the community.
- Euthanising feral companion animals helps to reduce feral population in the

region – decreasing the likelihood of such animals ending up in Council’s care in the future and helping to protect native wildlife.

9.3 Infant animals require round-the-clock care that Council staff cannot provide, but may be provided by reputable rescue or welfare organisations, should they be released into their care:

- Council staff should contact these organisations as soon as possible once an animal is determined to be an infant under this policy with the intention of releasing the animal into their care.
- Should these organisations be uncontactable, unable or unwilling to care for the infant animal, action may be taken under section 9 of this policy.

10 RECORDKEEPING

10.1 All determinations made in accordance with the policy. Including the reasons supporting those determinations, shall be recorded in Councils electronic Records Management System.

11 RELATED DOCUMENTS

- OP023 - Operational Policy - Records & Information Management
- Companion Animal Act 1998

All policies can be reviewed or revoked by Council, at any time.

ST59 - Strategic Policy - Feral & Infant Animal Management

• New policy

Review Due: November 2028	Version V1_25	Last Revision: December 2025
Approved By:	Minute Number:	Approval Date:

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026
4.3 Climate Change Management Plan - Annual Review

RECORD NUMBER: 2026/4

AUTHOR: Eli Todman, Sustainability Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2021, Council adopted the Climate Change Management Plan to embed sustainability into its operations. This report reviews progress on the actions outlined in the Plan, identifies achievements to date, and highlights priority areas for implementation and improvement as we move into the final year of the plan.

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy “8.2 Develop and promote initiatives to reduce water, energy and water waste in consultation with the community”.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee acknowledge the report provided by the Sustainability Officer on the Climate Change Management Plan.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation of this report has been assessed against Council’s key risk categories and the following comments are provided:

Service/Project Delivery	The Plan is on track, with strong progress demonstrated across all focus areas. Continued delivery relies on ensuring internal resources remain available to support implementation.
Financial	Actions within the Plan are being delivered within allocated budgets. Future financial considerations include potential costs associated with consultant engagement, infrastructure upgrades, and adaptation measures identified in the 2027 Climate Risk Assessment review.
Reputation/Political	Successful implementation of the Plan strengthens Council’s reputation as a leader in sustainability and climate action. Delays or failure to meet targets could attract negative attention from stakeholders and the community.
Environment	The Plan directly contributes to reducing Council’s operational emissions and improving climate resilience. Failure to deliver actions may result in missed opportunities for emissions reduction and increased vulnerability to climate impacts.
Compliance	The Plan supports compliance with state and national climate targets, including NSW Net Zero by 2050. Ongoing monitoring ensures alignment with legislative and policy requirements.
People & WHS	Nil.
Information Technology/ Cyber Security	Nil.

Attachment 2 Agenda of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 6 February 2026

4.3 Climate Change Management Plan - Annual Review
SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The [Climate Change Management Plan](#) (the Plan), adopted in 2021, is Council’s primary framework for embedding environmental sustainability across its operations. It focuses on seven key mitigation and adaptation areas that guide efforts to reduce emissions, build resilience, and integrate sustainability into decision-making:

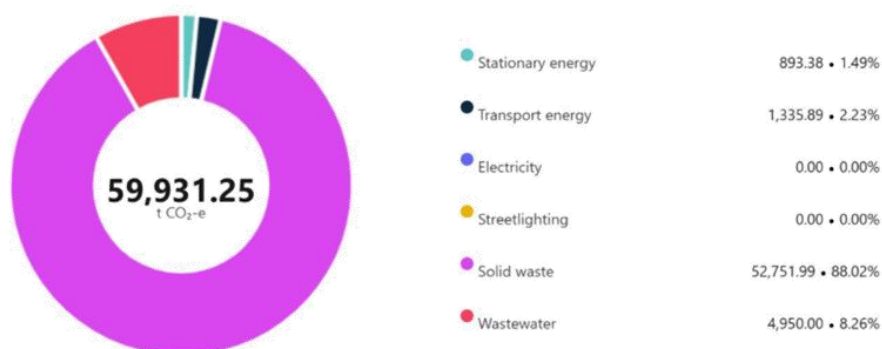
1. Measuring and understanding Council’s operational emissions
2. Building a low-carbon culture within the organisation
3. Reducing emissions from Council events
4. Improving energy efficiency and carbon reduction in Council buildings
5. Procuring carbon-neutral goods and services and reducing emissions from waste
6. Transitioning to low-emission transport
7. Strengthening climate adaptation and resilience

Each focus area includes specific actions to track progress and ensure delivery within the set timeframe. The Plan is reviewed annually to monitor implementation, identify resource needs, and adjust priorities as required. At its conclusion in 2026, a final review will include an independent gap analysis to identify challenges and opportunities for embedding sustainability across the organisation. Community-focused actions will be addressed in greater detail through the Community Climate Change Management Plan, while operational adaptation actions will be further considered during Council’s Climate Change Risk Assessment review in 2027.

1. Understanding Council’s Operational Emissions

Completed: 8 | On track: 2 | Late: 0 | Not started: 0

Council has adopted a Net Zero by 2050 target, guided by the Operational [Emissions Reduction Plan](#) (2023). A robust emissions tracking tool has been established, providing profiles for Scope 1 and 2 emissions. Work is underway to expand this to Scope 3 emissions, enabling a complete understanding of emissions associated with Council operations.



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4.3 Climate Change Management Plan - Annual Review**2. Develop a Low Carbon Culture****Completed: 2 | On track: 6 | Late: 0 | Not started: 0**

Significant progress has been made to embed sustainability internally and externally. Internally, initiatives such as the Green Team, sustainability-focused staff inductions, and integration with the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework have strengthened organisational outcomes. Externally, collaboration through the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee, the Electrify Everything campaign, and Sustainable Living Week have driven community engagement and supported meaningful action.

3. Council Events**Completed: 4 | On track: 2 | Late: 0 | Not started: 0**

Council introduced a Sustainable Events Guide to embed best practices and reduce environmental impacts across all events. This commitment was demonstrated at Zest Fest 2025, where significant efforts were made to reduce waste and improve resource recovery rates.

4. Carbon Reduction for Council Buildings**Completed: 2 | On track: 5 | Late: 0 | Not started: 0**

Work is progressing on the Sustainable Council Buildings Policy and Standards, with draft versions now complete. Processes are being refined, and adoption by the Executive Leadership Team is expected by mid-2026. Education initiatives, including staff inductions and e-learning modules, are supporting implementation.

5. Carbon Neutral Goods and Services & Reduce Emissions from Waste**Completed: 2 | On track: 7 | Late: 0 | Not started: 0**

Updates to procurement policy and procedures are underway to embed sustainability considerations into purchasing decisions. The 3-bin system has expanded across more facilities, including Giyalang Ganya, the Cottage, the Museum, the Art Gallery, and the Visitor Information Centre, with upcoming installations at the Library and Depot to ensure consistent waste separation.

6. Reduced Carbon Transport**Completed: 0 | On track: 8 | Late: 0 | Not started: 0**

Council supported low-carbon transport by hosting a Biketober event for staff to encourage active commuting. Work progressed on the Open Space & Recreation Strategy and Active Transport Strategy, both aimed at creating safer, better-connected environments for walking and cycling. Internally, the updated fleet policy promotes low-emission transport, with two leaseback staff now driving battery-electric vehicles and two using plug-in hybrids.

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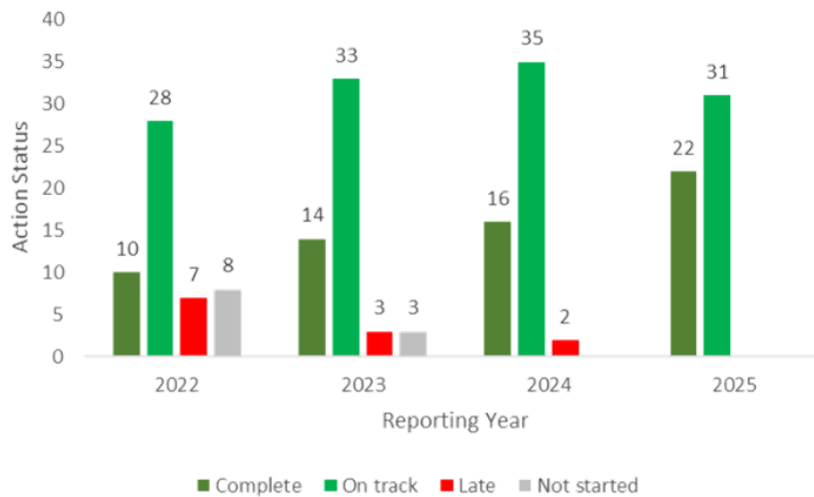
4.3 Climate Change Management Plan - Annual Review
7. Adaptation

Completed: 4 | On track: 1 | Late: 0 | Not started: 0

A comprehensive review of Council’s Climate Change Risk Assessment is scheduled for 2027 to guide future adaptation planning. Climate adaptation actions have been embedded in the Community Strategic Plan, ensuring integration into long-term priorities. Council’s climate-related communications campaign continues, with recent messaging focused on improving disaster preparedness and heatwave resilience in the Orange community.

Year-to-Year Comparison

The chart below illustrates the annual progress of actions under the Climate Change Management Plan from 2022 to 2025. Overall, it shows a positive trend, with a steady increase in completed actions and a significant reduction in late or unstarted actions over time. By the end of 2025, all actions are either completed or on track, indicating strong progress toward achieving the Plan’s objectives.



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4.4 Sustainability Programs Report

RECORD NUMBER: 2026/8

AUTHOR: Eli Todman, Sustainability Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to keep Environmental Sustainability Community Committee members informed on sustainability programs at Orange City Council.

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy "8.2 Develop and promote initiatives to reduce water, energy and water waste in consultation with the community".

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee acknowledge the information provided in the report.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation of this report has been assessed against Council's key risk categories, and the following comments are provided:

Service/Project Delivery	Nil.
Financial	Nil.
Reputation/Political	Nil.
Environment	Nil.
Compliance	Nil.
People & WHS	Nil.
Information Technology/Cyber Security	Nil.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION
Water

Permanent Water Saving Standards came into effect on Friday 25 June 2021. The target water usage under the current *Permanent Water Saving Standards* is 220 litres per person per day.

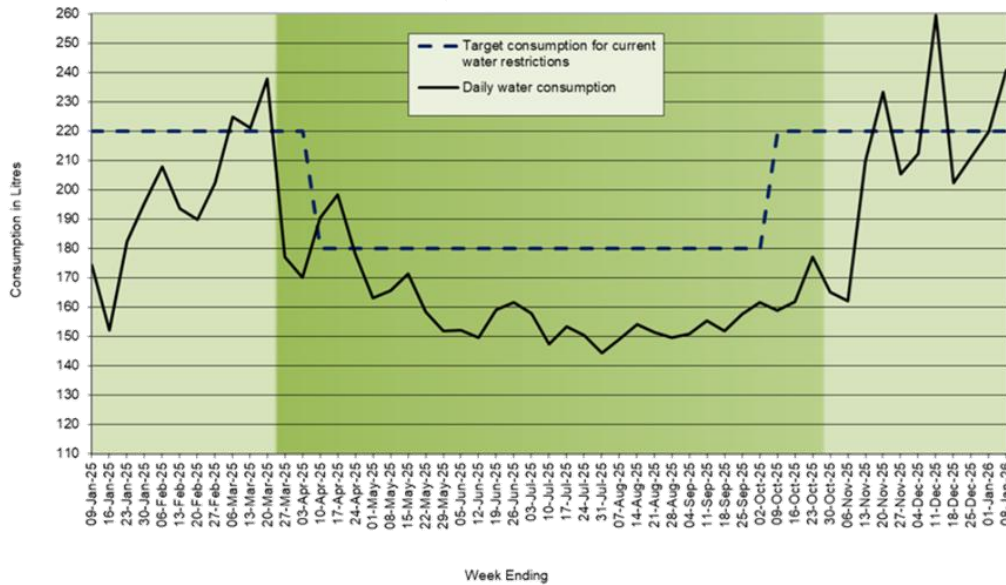
Average daily residential water consumption for the period 13 November 2025 to 8 January 2026 was 219 litres per person per day.

The graph below shows the average daily residential water consumption trend from 9 January 2025 to 8 January 2026.

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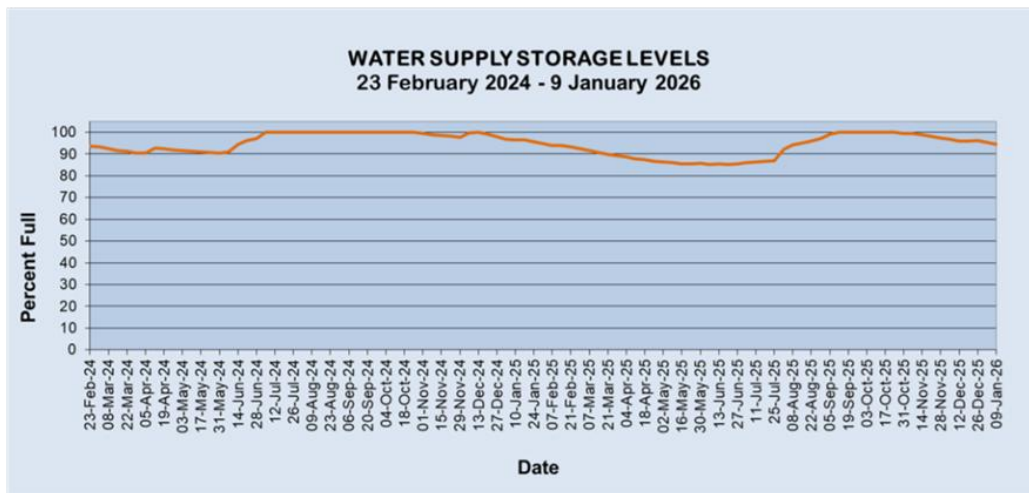
4.4 Sustainability Programs Report

**Daily Water Consumption
9 January 2025 - 8 January 2026**



Water Storage Levels

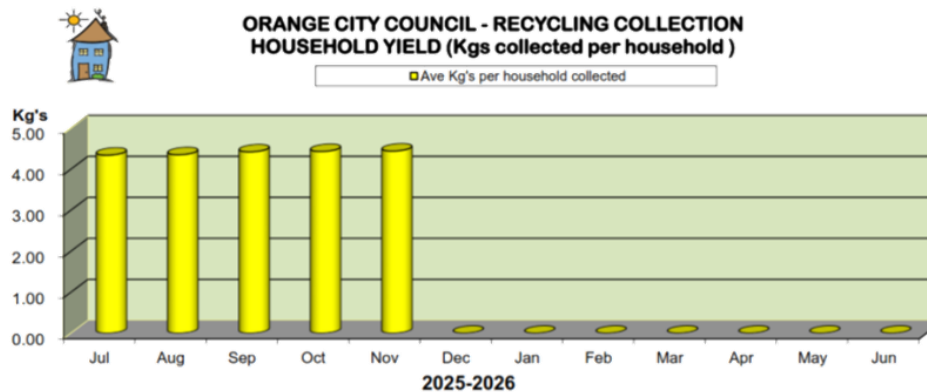
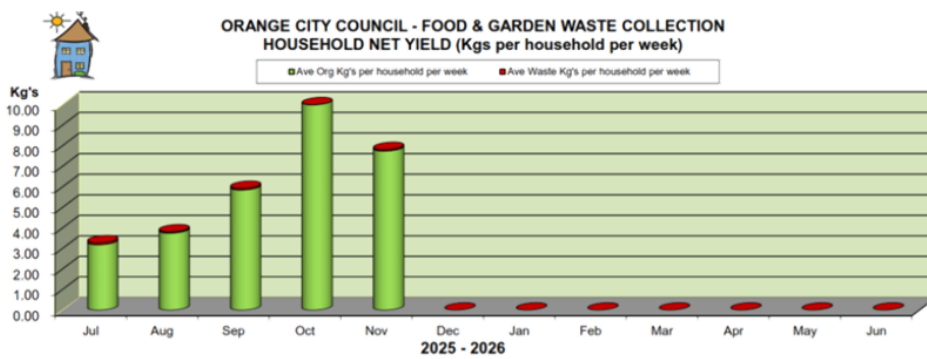
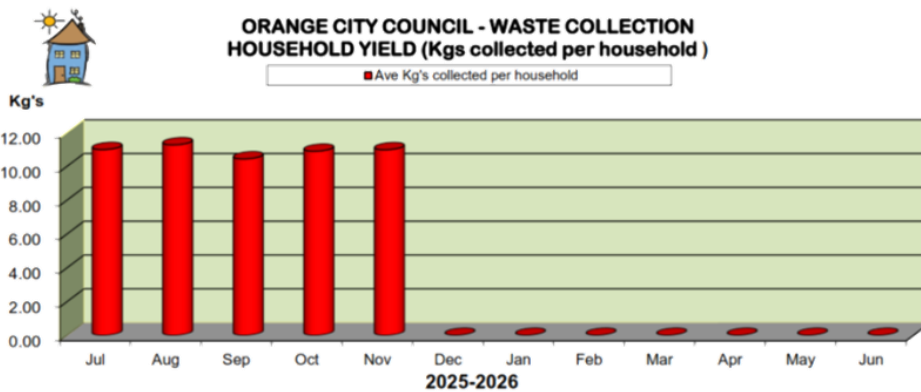
The water storage trend for the combined storages from 23 February 2024 to 9 January 2026 is shown in the graph below.



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4.4 Sustainability Programs Report
Waste and Recycling

Recent tonnages and contamination for residential kerbside collection.

	Waste landfill	Recycling	FOGO
Tonnage	790.11 tonnes	177.22 tonnes	613.26 tonnes
Contamination		9.95%	0.8%

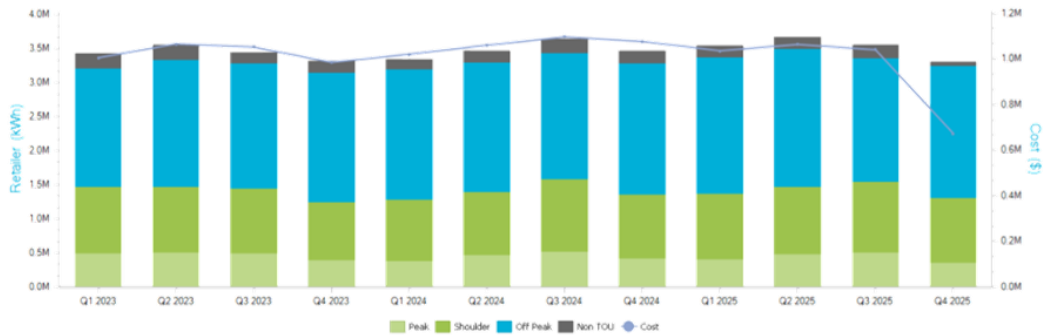


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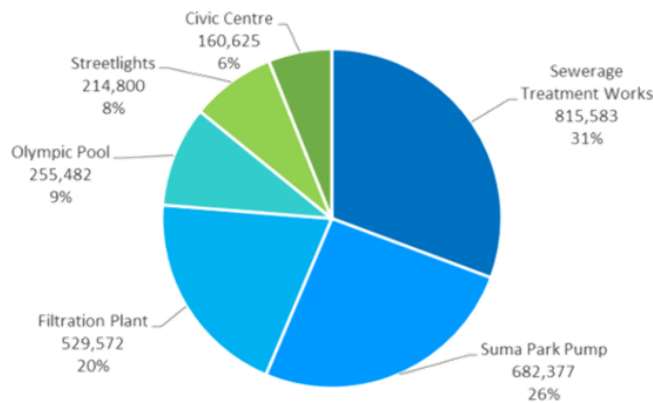
4.4 Sustainability Programs Report

Electricity Consumption

Council historical electricity consumption across all sites is presented below. Please note all electricity is sourced from 100% Renewable Energy (Iberdrola) or Greenpower (AGL).



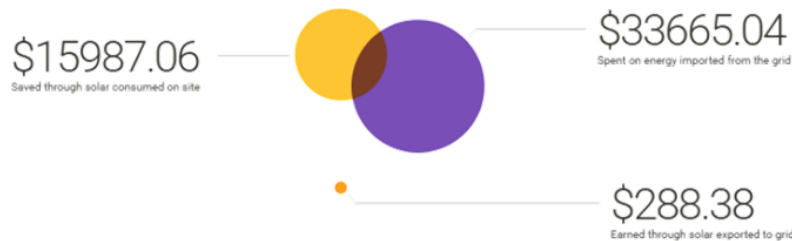
The graph below shows the top 6 energy consuming sites during Q4 2025.



Electricity Generation

Council has 19 sites with solar PV arrays, with sizes ranging from 1.4kW (Botanic Gardens) up to 198kW (Aquatic Centre), with a total capacity of 743kW. Of these sites, 6 can be monitored remotely. The following provides an example of energy savings achieved in 2025 from the 99kW solar system installed at the Orange Library.

BREAKDOWN (in 2025)



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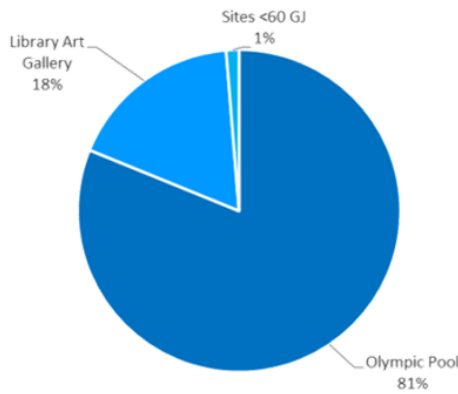
4.4 Sustainability Programs Report

Gas Consumption

Council has 19 sites currently with a gas connection. Historical consumption is presented in the graph below. Please note discrepancies in historic gas consumption are due to gaps in data captured. This issue was rectified in Q3 2023.



The graph below presents the share of gas usage by council facilities during the November 2025 – January 2026 period.



Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Usage

Council operates 9 charging ports across 4 sites.

Charging sessions (the number of times a vehicle has been plugged in to charge), since December 2024 are presented below.




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4.4 Sustainability Programs Report

Note the EV Charger integration dates are as follows:

- Lake Canobolas – 18 December 2024
- Botanic Gardens – 18 December 2024
- Aquatic Centre - 10 January 2025
- Library – 10 March 2025

The cumulative lifetime statistics for charging sessions are presented below.

	kWh charged		Revenue
	3173.936		\$2425.28
	Petrol offset (L)		Carbon offset (kg)
	1699.18		751.16

General Project Updates
Community Climate Change Management Plan

Delivery of the Community Climate Change Management Plan will commence at the end of January, with key milestones and timelines shared with this Committee once confirmed. The Plan will provide Council and the community with practical, measurable actions to reduce emissions, build resilience, and support the transition to a low-carbon future. It will also outline clear accountability and progress tracking to ensure Orange meets its climate goals in line with state and national targets.

Purified Recycled Water Demonstration Plant

Council has commissioned a \$460,000 preliminary business case for a Purified Recycled Water (PRW) demonstration plant and education centre, led by global consulting firm TSA Riley. The project will explore PRW as a rainfall-independent water source to improve water security and educate the community, with initial use proposed for industrial purposes such as Cadia mine. If successful, the plant could produce around 3.5 megalitres per day, about a quarter of Orange's daily needs, and potentially become a future supply source for residents.

East Orange Harvesting Wetlands Project

Council will proceed with Stage Two of the East Orange Harvesting Wetlands project, following a recent court decision. The \$10 million initiative, jointly funded by the NSW Government and Council, will add 600 ML of secure stormwater yield annually to Orange's water supply and create a new community recreation space. This builds on Stage One which already supplies 900 ML per year, about 20% of Orange's water needs, making this a key step in drought resilience and water security. Construction is expected to start in late 2026 and will be finished in 2027.

