



Climate Action Plan

Part 1 – Towards Zero Emissions 2020–2030



Natural | Connected | Prosperous

Acknowledgement of Country

Kaya, Nala Maat Kaya Noonduk (Hello, Our Family Welcomes You) to Wadandi / Pibulmun Boodja (Saltwater People's Country). We all come together on Boodja (Country). While on Wadandi / Pibulmun Boodja we ask that you respect the land by walking softly and take the time to listen to Boodja as she Wongi (Talks).

We respect the presence of the **Demmala Goomala** (Ancestors) whose **Djanga** (Spirits) reside on Boodja and whose **Djenna** (Feet) walk the land and whose **Djanga Korda** (Heart Spirit) flows through all creation.

Wooditjup (Margaret River) is the heart of Wadandi / Pibulmun Boodja (Country), a meeting place between land and sea, connecting us all with Wadandi / Pibulmun Boodja.

The **Wadandi / Pibulmun Boodja** (Motherland) reaches from Bunbury, along the coast of Geographe Bay, extending to **Yallingup** (Place of Holes) to **Taalinup**, Augusta (Place of the Knob Sedge Reed) inland to **Nannup** (the Stopping Place), taking in the region of **Undalup** (Busselton). The **Wadan Boodja** (Sea Country) is of great spiritual significance to the coastal **Wadandi** people.

Boodja – Land, Country, Mother Earth – is our most important resource. No matter what culture or religion, all of us rely on **Nala Boodja** (Our Country).

It is up to all of us to listen to the land, understand the connection to Country that we all have and realise how urgent it is to work together to make better decisions on how we can create that balance, ensuring sustainability for the generations to come in order to protect and preserve the beauty of **Boodja**.

While living, travelling, visiting and holidaying on Wadandi / Pibulmun Boodja (Saltwater People's Country) we ask that you respect the area and walk softly on the Country, taking the time to listen to Boodja (Country) as she Wongi (Talks) of the season and leave nothing but footprints.

Wadandi Traditional Cultural Custodian Wayne "Wonitji" Webb.

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This document is available in alternative formats upon request including in large and standard print, electronically by email, in audio on CD and on the shire's website at **amrshire.wa.gov.au**.



Foreword

The Shire of Augusta Margaret River is well placed through our legislative responsibilities and links within the community to influence the greenhouse gas emissions generated by our own activities. The Shire is also able to play a key role in supporting local households and businesses to mitigate the effects of climate change through initiatives in areas like energy use, waste disposal, land use change and transport.

It has been suggested local governments have the capacity to influence activities that contribute up to 50% of our national greenhouse gas emissions. When combined, the efforts of local government and their communities can make a real difference.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions also has other benefits for local government and their communities, from improving local air quality and traffic congestion to reducing energy costs for residents and businesses, to generating new jobs, industries and incomes for local government. The Shire is also mindful of the financial benefits of initiatives such as well-considered uptake of renewable energy. Through diligence in the preparation of actions and their implementation, the Council can achieve positive environmental and economic outcomes for the community.

The Shire of Augusta Margaret River is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from its corporate operations and will play a lead role in reducing emissions from our community.

Through implementing this Climate Action Plan, Council aims to improve energy conservation and promote renewable energy. The Shire completed an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions from our own activities (Shire organisation) and those within the Shire as a whole (community) taken from base year 2007.

This plan identifies a wide range of actions to be undertaken by the Shire organisation, and also actions to assist the community to reduce emissions and achieve carbon reduction targets. The plan has been prepared in partnership with the community and the Shire looks forward to working with the community to achieve broad, positive and proactive change.

Such actions are likely to bring environmental, social and economic benefits for all residents of the Shire, now and in the future.



Cr Ian Earl Shire President



Stephanie Addison-Brown Chief Executive Officer

Introduction

Within the Shire of Augusta Margaret River, as in the rest of the world, climate change is occurring and is affecting our lives.

The world's leading scientists warn that the worst impacts of climate change can still be avoided, but change must occur quickly.

The Shire's Climate Action Plan sets out practical, economically responsible and inclusive measures, which the Shire will put into place over the next 10 years in order to make a meaningful contribution to the worldwide mitigation task. In 2022, the Shire will also produce a similar plan to guide adaptation measures.

The shire has a strong track record in providing support and leadership on climate change. The first 'Local Energy Action Plan' or LEAP was endorsed in 2010 with updates in 2014 and 2018. However, a shortcoming of the plan was the lack of community ownership, which was identified as a necessary requirement of achieving greater emissions reductions across the community.

Priority Actions from the Climate Action Summit

- 1. Assist Augusta Margaret River Clean Community Energy group to develop a major community renewable energy project
- 2. Develop a community renewable energy power sharing system
- 3. Revegetate riparian zones, buffers, shelter belts, corridors, catchments, parks
- 4. Support agricultural transition to regenerative farming
- 5. Incorporate sustainability planning regulations into the Local Planning Scheme
- 6. Develop and promote programs to think local, buy local, swap, share and exchange
- 7. Support the development of new, sustainable and local industries
- 8. Provide low carbon public, tourist and school transport
- 9. Support transition to electric vehicles
- 10. Coordinate, champion and implement the AMR Climate Action Plan
- 11. Lobby for change at the State and Federal political level

The foundations of this new plan stem from a grassroots community-led initiative supported by the Shire, which culminated in a 'Climate Action Summit'. Extensive community consultation identified 50 potential projects, which were presented to Summit attendees. Attendees agreed on 11 Priority Actions to be developed into collaborative projects developed through partnerships between government, local business and community.

Most of these projects are already underway and progressing well. A summary of progress to date can be found in Appendix C Climate Action Report Card. The following plan outlines the Shire's role in delivering these projects and other actions required to meet our emissions reduction targets and assist the community to meet their targets.

The 'Augusta Margaret River Climate Action Plan 2020-2030 towards zero emissions' recognises that zero emissions targets are an accepted norm across international and Australian jurisdictions and will, in a short space of time, become legislative requirements. Therefore, early and sustained action will provide the smoothest transition for the organisation to excel in a carbon-constrained environment.

Actions are set out under the following themes:

Waste



Policy and Education

Setting the right culture through community partnerships, lobbying and behaviour change



Energy and Emissions Focussing on how we avoid,

swap and offset our emissions



Transport Switching to electric vehicles and encouraging ecomobility



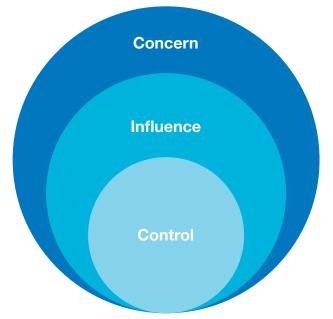
Encouraging our community to reduce, reuse and recycle as we work towards zero waste and conscious consumption



What can we do?

In addition to meeting the emissions reduction requirements of its own operations, the Shire has an important role to play in providing direction and leadership for the community and industry within its borders.

Nonetheless, we understand that many of the structural changes and policy reforms needed to address climate change are outside the direct control of local governments. In addition to meeting the emissions reduction requirements of its own operations, the Shire has an important role to play in providing direction and leadership for the community and industry within its borders. The circles of concern, influence and control¹ help us to focus our climate action in a meaningful way.



Concern

The Shire has little control over international expectations and commitments, but we can respond and adapt to changes at this level.

Influence

The Shire doesn't directly control community emissions or State and Federal government climate policy. However, we can educate, collaborate, support and advocate for change.

Control

The Shire can control how we manage our assets and infrastructure, our internal policies and how we carry out our statutory responsibilities.

¹Adapted from the City of Yarra Climate Emergency Plan 2020-2024

Our progress so far....

Climate Action Timeline

LOCAL		
Local rainfall begins rapid decline	970's	
Augusta Margaret River Shire set a of 20%* reduction in emissions by *below 2006/7	2020	
 Joined Cities for Climate Protection Program	2007	
Local Energy Action Plan (LEAP) adopted, updated and targets refined	2010 2014 2018	
 30% reduction in building and fleet emissions by 2020 20% reduction in per capita streetligh emissions by 20/22 20% reduction in community emission by 20/22 20-25% renewables by 20/22 		
Council declares a climate emergency	2019	
Net zero emissions by	2030	
 Climate Action Plan finalised, and targets updated	2021	

American Petroleum Institute links 1951 atmospheric carbon to fossil fuels First warning issued by US 1957 oceanographer First World Climate Conference 1979 held in Geneva Intergovernmental Panel on 1988 Climate Change established UN Framework Convention on 1992 Climate Change Rio Kyoto Protocol sets 1997 emissions targets An Inconvenient Truth premieres 2006 at Sundance Several summits fail to reach 2000's international agreement 2015 Paris Agreement Greta Thunberg begins her 2018 School Strike for Climate Catastrophic bushfires cover 2019 much of Australia Australia fails to commit to a net 2020 zero target The world looks to Glasgow for 2021

international climate action

INTERNATIONAL

Historical Targets

The Shire's actions have previously been directed by the emissions reduction targets contained within the Local Energy Action Plan, which has been revised over time. The 2018 targets (which will be replaced by this Climate Action Plan) were:

Historical Targets

Community

- Assist community to reduce emissions by 20% by 2022.
- Encourage community to source 25% renewable energy by 2022.

Organisational

- Reduce emissions from Shire buildings and fleet by 30% by 2020.
- Reduce emissions generated from street lighting by 20% by 2022.

Transport 57% Electricity 23% Waste 4%

Current Emissions

Community

Emissions data has previously been difficult to accurately measure on a community-wide basis. Recently, an Australia-wide project has made this information available for all shires from 2018 (see figure and Appendix B).

Energy and waste data allow community progress to be tracked against the targets. Overall, energy emissions have continued to grow above 2007 levels. However, given our population grew by nearly 43% between 2007 and 2018 and is likely to keep growing at 3.2% each year, per capita projections show the previous target for 2022 is still within reach.

There are currently 1,981 solar installations across the Shire totalling 9,973 kW. It is estimated that systems are installed on 22% of dwellings⁴. With the South West Interconnected System (our local grid) already over 20% renewable, our community will easily meet the 25% renewable energy target by 2022.

Oaultan aminaiana 1000	Desidential standards	Description of a local state of the	Masta	Tetel
Carbon emissions tCO2	Residential electricity	Business electricity	Waste	Total
Actual				
2007 ²	35,134	36,850	18,862	90,846
2018 ³	55,600	42,300	12,600	110,500
Target – 20% reduction by 2022*				
Not adjusted for growth	28,107	29,480	15,090	72,677
Adjusted for expected growth	45,449	47,669	24,400	117,519
*I lainer 0007 og the base været for e				

*Using 2007 as the base year for emissions

² Figures from Local Energy Action Plan

³ Figures from Snapshot data (see Appendix B)

⁴ Figures valid as of 31st December 2020 from https://pv-map.apvi.org.au

Shire Organisation

Carbon emissions (tCO2)	Buildings	Fleet	Offsets	Total (buildings + fleet - offsets)	Streetlights	Total (all)
Actual						
2007	1,367	853		2,219	324	2,543
2020	1,290	934	- 550	1,674	477	2,151
Target – 30% reduction					20% by 2022	
2020	956	597		1,553	268	1,821
Target – Net zero						
2030	0	0		0	0	0

The Shire currently purchases 550t of carbon offsets each year to help offset emissions, but this is not enough to meet our targets. While we may have been close to meeting the target for buildings and fleet, streetlights are significantly impacting our ability to meet previously agreed targets. As a result, we emitted 330tCO₂ over our target of 1,821tCO₂ in 2020. Streetlights are managed by Western Power, with the Shire paying the bill. This has created an ongoing issue for local governments wanting to tackle energy efficiency and emissions due to a lack of control. The current review of State energy policies may provide new opportunities to address this over the next few years.



Where to from here?



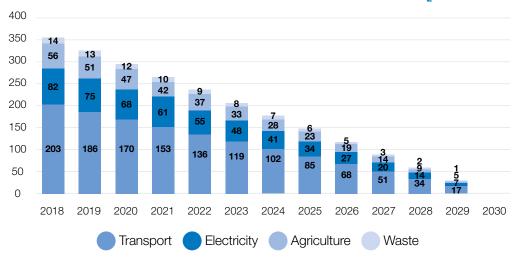
The Shire is setting a new target of **net zero emissions by 2030** for the community and the organisation.

Re-thinking Targets

Over time, targets – as they must be – have been influenced by a global context, taking into account what appears to be possible and desirable in both a political and technological sense.

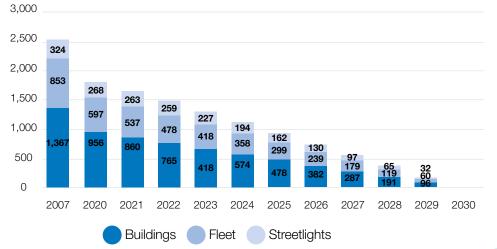
Since the Climate Action Summit, and arguably, because of a groundswell of local action across the globe like the Summit, State and Federal governments and corporations have made significant commitments towards cutting carbon emissions. While it has always been necessary, it now appears possible that a zero net emissions economy can be created within a short space of time. The Shire must now position itself to respond to the inevitable requirements, which will need to be imposed by State and Federal governments, service companies and partner industries in the very near future to ensure that all institutions, corporations and individuals play their part in dramatically reducing emissions.

Our community appears ready for the challenge. More than 80% of responses to the draft Climate Action Plan either supported the proposed targets or called for greater action. In fact, over half the responses to the draft called for stronger targets and/or greater action. Moving now towards a zero emissions 'footing' will significantly reduce the cost burden of implementing the necessary changes by allowing them to occur over a longer period of time.



Net zero 2030 target – community emissions (ktCO₂)









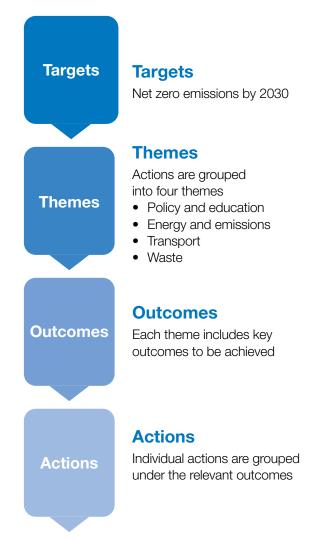
Action Plan Overview

The following pages outline the actions that will deliver on our organisational and community emissions targets.

The four themes represent key areas of the organisation where significant focus is required. Actions are grouped under desired outcomes within each theme.

This plan provides a summary of actions to which the Shire commits itself to undertaking over the next ten years. Further detail will be provided through an Implementation Plan which will include timelines and resourcing along with tracking the progress against each action. It is expected that the plan will be regularly reviewed and updated in response to community expectations, budgets, technology and policy changes.

The Shire and community will work together to deliver the priority projects from the Climate Action Summit together with the organisational actions outlined in this plan. Annual updates will be provided to the community on how the projects are progressing and to what extent they are facilitating progress towards zero net emissions.







These actions involve setting the right culture through community partnerships, sector transition, lobbying and behaviour change. They are supported through planning controls, education and improved carbon accounting. Outcomes can be difficult to measure but policy and education drive the cultural shifts required to reduce emissions.

Sustainability education is provided to the community each year through the Living Smart program and Low Impact Living workshops. There are also a number of community organisations actively promoting more sustainable lifestyles.

We have a diverse local economy with great opportunities for value adding and boutique experiences. Our clean, green image can be supported by leading the way on regenerative agriculture and developing sustainable, local industries.

We are currently reviewing our Local Planning Strategy and Scheme, which is providing the opportunity to build in climate considerations. Improving the quality of the built environment will reduce emissions and ensure liveability in a changing climate. Our Shire organisation carbon emissions are currently captured through Azility, while community emissions are estimated using Snapshot (see Appendix C). We will work to make this information more readily accessible to the community.

Strong action at the local level can drive change at a larger scale. By advocating for change we can influence State and Federal governments. Divesting from fossil fuels and investing in renewables will influence the broader markets and accelerate positive change. Any organisation or individual has the ability to influence markets through their banking, superannuation and investment choices.

Policy and Education Outcomes and Actions

- Outcome Community groups are empowered to lead action on climate
 We support our traditional owners and local climate champions to lead and inspire community action
- 1.1. Make annual grant funding available for local community groups to promote sustainability to the broader community
- 1.2. Monitor the progress of Climate Summit projects via regular meetings with key partners and provide advice and coordination where necessary (Project Plan 10)
- 1.3. Participate in the Shire-funded cultural burning workshop and identify further opportunities to collaborate with local traditional owners on low carbon land management, as per agreement
 - Outcome The community is empowered to take action on climate
- **2.** We inform and educate our community to encourage sustainable behaviour change and enable the transition to net zero households
- 2.1. Fund an annual community sustainability education course
- 2.2. Organise and deliver low impact living workshops
- 2.3. Utilise media and Shire communications to provide the community with the latest information on sustainability, renewable energy and simple steps to reduce emissions

Outcome - A vibrant and sustainable local economy

- **3.** We encourage the development of sustainable local industries and help to facilitate the transition to a net zero economy
- 3.1. Implement the Sustainable Economy Strategy
- 3.2. Monitor the success of the Shire-funded transition to regenerative farming project and direct educators to appropriate funding opportunities (Project Plan 4)
- 3.3. Modify the land use planning framework via a new Local Planning Scheme to support the development of new, sustainable and local industries (Project Plan 7)
- 3.4. Develop and promote programs to think local, buy local, swap, share and exchange such as the Local is More Campaign (Project Plan 6)
- 3.5. Obtain Eco-destination accreditation for the whole Shire
- 3.6. Make annual grant funding available to local businesses to undertake sustainability improvements as per the Sustainable Economy Strategy
- 3.7. Facilitate industry specific planning to transition to a net zero economy

- 4. Outcome Net Zero Shire organisation emissions
- We understand and implement the changes required to reach net zero
- 4.1. Part fund and host a PhD student to explore effective climate responses in a local government context using the Shire as a case study
- 4.2. Implement the findings of the PhD study to mainstream climate considerations within the organisation
- 4.3. Develop a complementary climate change adaptation plan
- 5. Outcome Climate considerations are built into the planning framework We use planning policy to help drive the transition to net zero
- 5.1. Incorporate sustainability planning regulations into the Local Planning Scheme (Project Plan 5)
- 5.2. Develop a style guide for developments to increase urban greening
- 5.3. Develop a tree preservation process
- 5.4. Set canopy targets for urban areas
- 5.5. Develop a clearing offsets plan
- 5.6. Facilitate Shire organisation and community transition to carbon neutral buildings and infrastructure through policy and education around industry best practice
 - Outcome Carbon emissions are measured and publicly available
- 6. We share data on community emissions and monitor emissions from streetlights, waste management, Shire buildings and fleet
- 6.1. Continue to monitor and review the Shire's energy, water and fuel data
- 6.2. Provide an annual update to Council and community on progress against the Climate Action Plan and emissions reduction targets
- 7. Outcome We inspire strong action beyond our community We lead by example and advocate for broader change beyond our boundaries
- 7.1. Develop a divestment plan to ensure all Shire investments are emissions free
- 7.2. Encourage other local governments to adopt net zero targets
- 7.3. Join a local government climate alliance to share learnings on the transition
- 7.4. Join Climate Emergency Australia
- 7.5. Advocate for a stronger position on climate change at the State and Federal level (Project Plan 11)







These actions focus on how we avoid, swap and offset our emissions. The cheapest energy is the energy we don't use, whether through good design or efficiency upgrades. For the remaining energy, we can choose emission-free sources, and any residual emissions can be offset through carbon capture.

Avoid

Energy efficiency Good design Divestment

Swap

Renewable energy Alternative fuels

Offset

Capture carbon Purchase offsets

At a local level, the Augusta Margaret River Clean Community Energy group is developing a community-led renewable energy project with wind, solar and a biodigester, and administering a revolving fund to increase community solar installations and energy efficiency upgrades. Individual households and businesses are also charging ahead with solar installations.

There has been 125 kW solar installed across Shire buildings, with another 100kW due for installation on the Margaret River Administration Building this year. We also partnered with Western Power to install a 116kW battery at the Recreation Centre, which helps to stabilise the local grid and provides new opportunities for more solar installations.

Upgrades to lighting, pumps and water heating at the Recreation Centre have improved the energy efficiency and switched from gas to electricity. New opportunities arise to improve energy efficiency with technological advances and as new technology becomes more affordable.

Currently, a portion of Shire organisation emissions are offset with carbon credits each year. We also support significant revegetation projects, which actively draw down carbon.

Energy and Emissions Outcomes and Actions Outcome – Broad community access to renewable energy 1. We encourage the rapid uptake of local renewable energy in our community Consider support requests for non-commercial community renewable energy projects - e.g. funding for 1.1. related research (Project Plan 1) Investigate community renewable energy power sharing opportunities such as local demonstration projects 1.2. (Project Plan 2) 1.3. Investigate opportunities to facilitate household solar PV installation, particularly for low income households Investigate offering no interest loans to community groups to enable installation of solar PV and energy 1.4. efficiency upgrades **Outcome – Renewable energy on Shire infrastructure** 2. We investigate and pursue opportunities to install renewable energy on Shire facilities 2.1. Install a 20KW solar PV on the machinery shed of the Shire depot building 2.2. Install a 100kW solar PV system on the roof of the Shire offices Investigate expanding the solar PV installation on the Margaret River Recreation Centre as part of the rebuild 2.3. of the roof structure 2.4. Consider opportunities presented by WALGA's Power Purchase Agreement Outcome – Buildings and facilities use energy efficiently 3. We look for opportunities to improve the energy efficiency of our own facilities and advocate for life cycle assessments across all new builds and retrofits Lobby for whole of life costs to be factored into State and Federal infrastructure projects (e.g. State housing 3.1. projects for vulnerable community members) 3.2. Lobby for State Government to adopt the 2019 National Construction Code and future upgrades to the code 3.3. Prepare energy audits for key Shire buildings, and implement outcomes of audits following review of cost/benefit Review the Shire Administration Office Building Management System to determine where cost and energy 3.4. savings can be made. 3.5. Adopt life cycle assessment tools to guide asset planning Outcome – Energy efficient lighting is installed across the Shire 4. We look for opportunities to upgrade to more efficient forms of lighting 4.1. Install a centralised lighting system at the Margaret River Recreation Centre 4.2. Convert to LED lighting on Gloucester Park sport ovals 4.3. Undertake a cost benefit analysis of converting streetlights to LED **Outcome – Homes, businesses and Shire facilities are all electric** 5. We support the Shire organisation and community transition away from gas 5.1. Support transition to all electric buildings 5.2. Encourage community to retrofit with efficient electric appliances 5.3. Provide information on climate friendly alternatives to wood burning for heating Outcome – Carbon is actively captured and remaining emissions are offset 6. We use carbon offsets to neutralise the emissions we can't avoid yet and to meet our targets 6.1. Purchase Green Power to reduce emissions from grid electricity Offset 550 t CO2 each year through an accredited (preferably local) source as a means of offsetting a portion 6.2. of the Shire's emissions Continue to revegetate priority riparian zones, buffers, shelter belts, corridors, catchments and parks etc. 6.3.

(Project Plan 3)

6.4. Encourage landholders to increase carbon sequestration through land management practices





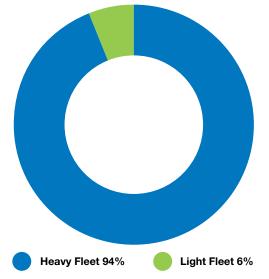
At 50% of our communities' emissions, transport is an area requiring some serious attention. Luckily there are some great opportunities, with the price and range of electric vehicles improving rapidly.

Hybrid and plugin hybrid vehicles have been trialled in the Shire fleet, with plans to transition to hybrids and electric vehicles over time. Electric equipment is also being trialled in the Parks and Gardens team to move away from fossil fuels and provide a safer work environment.

Electric vehicle charging infrastructure has been installed in Margaret River and Augusta as part of the RAC Electric Highway project. The use of these charging stations is rapidly increasing as more people switch to electric vehicles.

EcoMobility gives priority to walking, cycling, public transport, and shared light electric vehicles. It promotes travel through integrated, socially-inclusive, and environmentally-friendly options without depending on privately-owned vehicles.

Shire Vehicle Fleet Energy Consumption



New walk and bike trails are being constructed and connected into the existing infrastructure to support EcoMobility⁵, including a dedicated bike lane in the Margaret River main street. Existing paths have also been upgraded, but there are still plenty of opportunities for improvement.

⁵ https://sustainablemobility.iclei.org/

Transport Outcomes and Actions

- 1. Outcome Shire vehicles and equipment are fossil fuel free We transition our fleet and equipment away from fossil fuels
- 1.1. Progressively transition the light fleet to electric vehicles (Project Plan 9)
- 1.2. Monitor technological advances in heavy fleet and investigate electric or hydrogen alternatives and conversions
- 1.3. Investigate alternative fuels for existing heavy fleet
- 1.4. Install electric vehicle chargers at the Shire depots and offices to facilitate a transition to electric vehicles
- 1.5. Progressively transition to electric and solar-powered equipment (i.e. mowers, blowers, snippers etc.) as it becomes available and affordable
- 2. Outcome Community embraces electric vehicles We encourage our community to embrace electric vehicles
- 2.1. Lead the transition to electric vehicles by demonstrating their effectiveness and providing second-hand vehicles to the market when the Shire disposes of them (Project Plan 9)
- 2.2. Provide parking/planning incentives for EV charging
- 2.3. Lobby State Government to accelerate the electric vehicle transition
- 2.4. Encourage car sharing and EV bulk buying opportunities within the community
- 2.5. Lobby Federal Government to set emission standards for vehicles and support transition to electric vehicles
- **3.** Outcome EcoMobility is supported We encourage climate and people-friendly transport options
- 3.1. Continue to provide infrastructure in appropriate places to encourage walking, biking etc (e.g. connecting and extending paths)
- 3.2. Provide bike lockers at bus stops
- 3.3. Continue to provide electric bikes for staff use
- 3.4. Implement the Department of Transport Your Move program https://yourmove.org.au/
- 4. Outcome Emission-free local public transport is available We advocate for local, low carbon public transport
- 4.1. Advocate for business and State Government to provide low carbon public, tourist and school transport (see Project Plan 8)





These actions encourage our community to reduce, reuse and recycle as we work towards zero waste and conscious consumption.

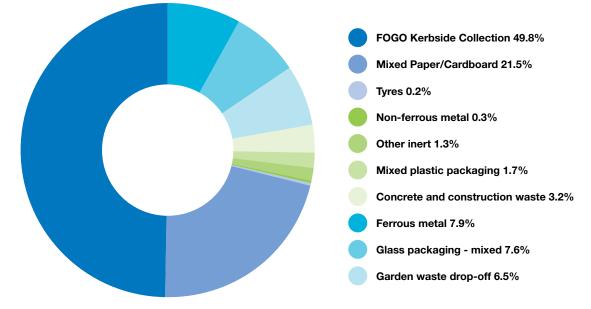
Several strategies were implemented during 2019/20 to improve landfill diversion rates in an effort to achieve the State Government's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 targets.

The introduction of the Shire's three-bin FOGO (Food Organic Garden Organic) kerbside collection service in July 2019 saw landfill diversion rates jump from 22% to 58% – a significant increase in the amount of residential waste diverted from landfill when compared with the former 2-bin system. FOGO material collected through the Shire's lime green lidded bins is transported to Bunbury Harvey Regional Council's Banksia Road Organics Processing Facility where it is commercially composted into organically certified compost.

The State's container deposit scheme is also increasing the recycling rates for beverage containers and providing a welcome funding source for local charities.



For more information visit our website amrshire.wa.gov.au/wasteservices



Material Diverted from Landfill – 2019/20

The chart above provides a breakdown of waste material diverted from landfill, which was received through the Shire's rural transfer stations, dropped off at the Shire's Davis Road Recycling and Waste Management Facility, and collected through the Shire's residential kerbside collection service.

Waste Outcomes and Actions 1. Outcome – Visitors and locals minimise waste We provide waste education to support the transition to zero waste for our residents, businesses and visitors 1.1. Continue to implement a waste education campaign for locals 1.2. Develop and implement a waste education campaign for visitors 1.3. Facilitate peer-to-peer learning from businesses and community members who are seen to be leaders in best practice waste management

- 1.4. Support waste education and resource recovery programs in schools
- 2. Outcome Recycling is supported across the Shire We encourage people to reduce, reuse and recycle wherever they are in the Shire
- 2.1. Provide recycling and FOGO bins in public places
- 2.2. Continue to implement a commercial three-bin program and work towards making it mandatory
- 2.3. Investigate commercial waste audits to help businesses address waste streams
- 2.4. Work with the construction industry to reduce construction waste
- 2.5. Develop a guide and policy for waste-wise events held in the Shire, in accordance with the Sustainable Events Strategy
- **3.** Outcome Local infrastructure supports zero waste vision We support the transition to zero waste through the development of our local waste infrastructure
- 3.1. Consider support for the development of a local green waste composting facility
- 3.2. Convert Davis Road Putrescible Landfill site to a transfer station

Appendix A Global and Local Context

Global Context

Climate change has resulted in increased extreme weather events like heatwaves, droughts, bushfires and coastal flooding.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Projections

Australia was a participant at the United Nations Climate Change Conference, which led to the historic Paris Agreement on climate change. Signatories to the Paris Agreement agreed to take universal action to limit global warming to well below 2°c (preferably 1.5°c) to achieve net zero emissions, and to increase resilience to the emerging impacts of climate change. Subsequent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports have found that current national pledges will see Earth reaching at least 3 degrees above pre-industrial levels by 2100, which is catastrophic¹.

The Greenhouse Effect

The Greenhouse effect is the natural system that warms the earth to a habitable temperature. Scientific evaluation shows that since industrialisation, human activities, such as burning fossil fuels, vegetation clearance, and poor land management practices has led to an imbalance in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

The atmosphere regulates the temperature on earth by absorbing or reflecting energy from the sun back into space. It is this infrared radiation that is absorbed by greenhouse gases in the lower atmosphere that warms the Earth and creates a greenhouse effect.

Key findings of the IPCC include:

- Global temperatures have been rising rapidly, posing grave risks for humanity.
- The global effort to tackle climate change has begun but must be accelerated.
- Australia is one of the most vulnerable developed countries to the impacts of climate change but is contributing little to solutions.
- Inaction has already cost us dearly. A 1.5°c world, our best possible future, will change our lives even further.
- Limiting global warming to no more than 1.5°c is a formidable challenge but solutions are available.

1 UN Emissions Gap Report 2020 https://www.unep.org/emissions-gap-report-2020

Local Context

The Shire of Augusta Margaret River Council adopted a Local Energy Action Plan (LEAP) in 2010, with subsequent modifications to the document occurring in 2014 and 2018. The LEAP focused on reducing Shire emissions as an organisation and assisting the wider community to reduce their emissions, through supporting community sustainability initiatives.

In November 2018, Council made a decision to host a Climate Action Summit in the first half of 2019. Community members, Shire, State and Federal Government representatives attended the summit with the intent of developing ambitious and well considered actions on climate change that can be undertaken by whole of community. Secondly, it seeks to inform development of a Climate Action Plan (CAP) to replace the previous LEAP.

On 28 May 2019, the Shire of Augusta Margaret River, allied with the community, as represented by the 'Climate Action Augusta Margaret River' group, hosted a one-day Climate Action Summit, in partnership with Surfing Western Australia and the World Surf League. The Summit's focus was on 'climate change mitigation', with later engagement intended to explore climate change adaptation.

In response to climate change, there is a global movement to reach net zero emissions. The Shire and the broader community are committed to achieving this ambitious target by 2030, building on its sustainability achievements to date and driving towards a carbon free and climate resilient future.

Climate change forms one of the core principles of the Shire's Community Strategic Plan 2036, acknowledging the pivotal role the Shire and community play in addressing climate change over the next 20 years.

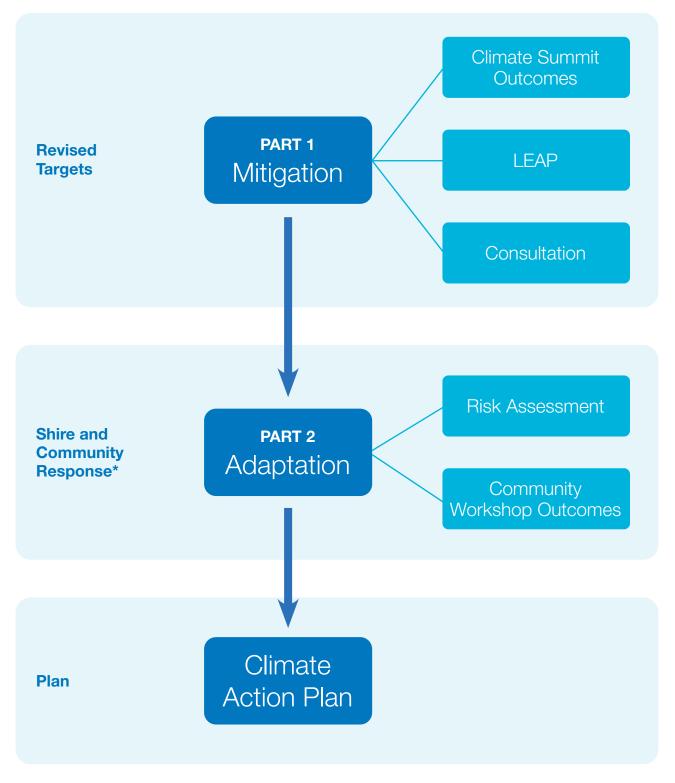
The CAP is based on a 10-year period of 2020-2030, with periodic reviews planned. The CAP is a two-part plan, with this document concentrating on reducing and offsetting emissions.

This document proposes a number of actions targeted towards reducing the organisations emissions and encouraging the community to reduce their emissions. This CAP details both the Shire's commitment to actions arising from the Summit and the Shire's actions aimed at reducing emissions, as modified from the LEAP document. A second component of the CAP 'Part 2 – Adapting to a changing climate' will be developed in conjunction with the community. The goal of the adaptation phase will be to reduce the Shire organisation and community's vulnerability to the harmful effects of climate change (including sea-level encroachment, more intense extreme weather events or food insecurity). The adaptation phase will involve conducting a risk assessment of the potential impacts of climate change, to both Council and community activities.

Adaptation planning will involve embedding 'planning for climate change' into all Shire functions, including bushfire planning, health and well-being, biodiversity, built form and infrastructure. The Climate Action Plan Framework is outlined below. Some current adaptation measures undertaken by the Shire have been captured in this initial CAP Part 1.

The CAP signifies the Shire's commitment to addressing climate change. Other sectors including residential and business, and environmental groups in the community are encouraged to develop their own versions of a Climate Action Plan.

Climate Action Plan Framework



*Environmental, social and economic responses to manage climate change impacts in the areas of emergency management, biodiversity, health and well-being, planning etc.

Climate Action Summit

On 28 May 2019, the Shire of Augusta Margaret allied with 'Climate Action Augusta Margaret River' to host a one-day Climate Action Summit, in partnership with Surfing Western Australia and the World Surf League.

The Summit's focus was on climate change mitigation. The intention of this work was to engage the community in leading climate action and gather insights to develop this Climate Action Plan.

Methodology

In late 2018, the Shire of Augusta Margaret River directed the Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) to create a whole of community approach to reducing greenhouse emissions and moderating the impacts of climate change on the Shire from an environmental, social, cultural and economic perspective. To work collectively with the community, the SAC established the Climate Action Augusta Margaret River Working Group to direct the solutions and establish a clear pathway for creating positive change. The working group undertook pre-summit consultation from 14 April 2019 to 7 May 2019 through an online survey and several face-to-face workshops. This process generated 249 unique proposals, which were then consolidated for consideration and reflection at the Summit.

Consultation	Attendees/submissions
Climate Action Workshop – Margaret River	60
Climate Action Workshop – Alexander Bridge	25
Climate Action Workshop – Margaret River	35
Climate Action Workshop – Augusta	12
Community Health & Network Group Meeting	15
Community Access & Inclusion Reference Group	12
Sustainable Economy Advisory Committee	12
Youth Climate Action Summit	35
Community Action Submissions	43
Total	249



Summit Outcomes

The objective of the Climate Action Summit was to establish a process by which the community could prioritise a number of foundational projects within different categories. These projects were then progressed through a project planning exercise to initiate greater depth in thinking for each project and to feed actions into the Climate Action Plan. Overall, 50 projects were presented to Summit attendees across various key activity areas. Attendees were asked to vote for their top three projects under each theme. Summit attendees agreed on 11 Priority Actions to be further developed (see Appendix D for details).

Priority Actions

- 1. Assist Augusta Margaret River Clean Community Energy group to develop a major community renewable energy project (Community/Shire)
- 2. Develop a community renewable energy power sharing system (Community/Shire)
- 3. Revegetate riparian zones, buffers, shelter belts, corridors, catchments, parks (Community/Shire)
- 4. Support agricultural transition to regenerative farming (Community/Shire)
- 5. Incorporate sustainability planning regulations into the Local Planning Scheme (Shire)
- 6. Develop and promote programs to think local, buy local, swap, share and exchange (Business/Community/Shire)
- 7. Support the development of new, sustainable and local industries (Business/Community/Shire)
- 8. Provide low carbon public, tourist and school transport (Shire/State Government/Business)
- 9. Support transition to electric vehicles (Shire/Business/Community)
- 10. Coordinate, champion and implement the AMR Climate Action Plan (Community/ Shire)
- 11. Lobby for change at the State and Federal political level (Community/Shire)

The outcomes of the Summit create the foundation for the Shire and community to confidently move forward with an initial 11 projects to input into the inaugural Climate Action Plan and further progress their implementation in partnership with the community. The nature of the projects requires a range of stakeholders to be involved in further project development including diligence and feasibility, as well as recognising that established businesses; community groups and the Shire are accountable for delivery, whilst concurrently playing an advocacy role in influencing support from State Government.

A Project Plan was developed for each priority action, and a lead stakeholder assigned to each action. The Shire is responsible for implementing and/or facilitating each one of these projects. The Shire's role varies across the projects but it remains commited to supporting the Community to deliver these projects.

Appendix B Snapshot Community Emissions Data

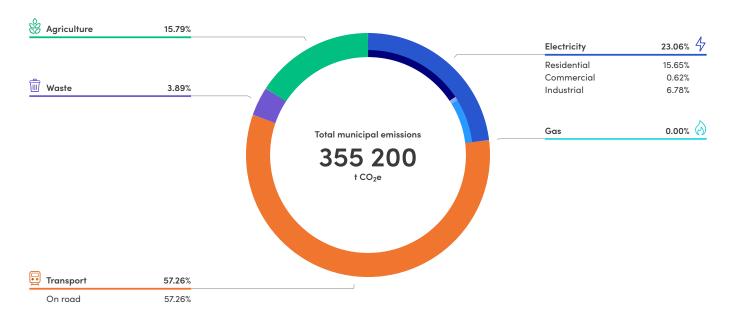
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Augusta-Margaret River

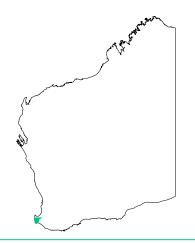


2018 municipal emissions snapshot



Augusta-Margaret River is a rural municipality that is small in area relative to the state average and has a very low urban density. It's major emissions source is on road transportation, due to the community's larger commuting and other travel requirements. The second largest source of emissions is electricity consumption.

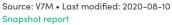
There are many reasons why a profile can change over time including changes in emissions sources, updates to methodology and more accurate data sources. Read our FAQs for more information.



Source	Sector	Emissions (t CO_2e)
Electricity	Residential	55 600
	Commercial	2 200
	Industrial	24 100
🔵 Gas	Residential	0
	Commercial	0
	Industrial	0
Transport	On road	203 400
	Domestic air trav	vel 0
Waste	Landfill	12 600
	Water	1 200
Agriculture		56 100
Land Use		11 700

Land Use data is not used in the chart nor the displayed total municipal emissions.

Characteristics	
Land area	2 122 km ²
Population	15 700
Gross regional product	\$ 929 750 000
Climate zone	5



ZERO

About this report

Sources of emissions

Snapshot Report

This report outlines the major sources of carbon emissions for the entire municipality. Due to the approximate nature of the profile, the emission values are represented as rounded numbers. This report includes the following sources:

- Stationary energy (grid supplied electricity/gas)
- Transport (on-road use and domestic passenger air travel)
- Waste (landfill and wastewater)
- Agriculture (enteric fermentation, manure management, and synthetic fertilizer use)
- Land Use Change (land clearance and reforestation)

It has been developed to be consistent with the Global Protocol of Carbon Emissions reporting (GPC Protocol), the main international standard for cities and local government areas.

Inclusions & Exclusions

The Snapshot provides you with a profile of your municipality's emissions for the inventory year (2017) and gives a breakdown of emissions by sector. This Snapshot of your local government area's greenhouse gas emissions profile is based on portioning state level data sets. Snapshot can be used alongside local data sets where more detail is needed.

There are a number of minor emissions sources that are included as part of a larger total or excluded. The full list of inclusions and exclusions can be found in the Methodology document.

Understanding uncertainty

With any data, there is some level of uncertainty. This report will be more accurate for municipalities that are closer to the average across Australia. You may have local data that doesn't match up exactly with what you are seeing here. That's ok – the purpose of this profile is to provide comparisons that work for everyone across Australia, and it may be that in some areas there is locally supplied data which is more accurate or measures different areas than the Snapshots. What makes it unique is that it uses a common framework. This means the total of all local profiles match the national emissions total and no emissions go unaccounted for.

CO₂e

Carbon dioxide equivalent

All data is presented in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e). This measure combine all the different greenhouse gases (such as methane) into a single figure + represents an equivalent amount of carbon dioxide being released.

Characteristics

Climate Zone 5

Warm temperate

For help using this report to plan CO₂ reductions strategies, please see our <u>user guide</u>.

6

Appendix C Climate Summit Report Card

P. C. Stemmer B. B.



COMMUNITY PROJECTS 2020 STATUS UPDATE



PROJECT WELL UNDERWAY

Revegetate riparian zones, buffers, shelter belts, corridors, catchments, parks

Support agricultural transition to more sustainable practice

Incorporate sustainability planning regulations into the Local Planning Scheme PROJECT COMMENCED P WITH INITIAL PROGRESS P

Assist Augusta Margaret River Clean Community Energy group to develop a major community <u>renewable energy project</u>

Coordinate, champion and implement the AMR Climate Action Plan

Lobby for change at the state and federal political level

PROJECT STILL IN PLANNING

> Develop a community renewable energy power sharing system

Support the development of new, sustainable and local industries

Support transition to electric vehicles

PROJECT NOT YET FEASIBLE

Provide low carbon public, tourist and school transport

Develop and promote programs to think local, buy local, swap, share and exchange

PROJECTS WELL UNDERWAY

















PROJECT WELL UNDERWAY

Revegetate riparian zones, buffers, shelter belts, corridors, catchments, parks

Support agricultural transition to more sustainable practice

Incorporate sustainability planning regulations into the Local Planning Scheme

Develop and promote programs to think local, buy local, swap, share and exchange

ACTIVITIES

◆ Nature Conservation Margaret River Region have planted 14,680 native seedlings including 11,530 as part of a Western Ringtail Possum habitat enhancement project (undertaken in conjunction with South West Catchment Council), 2260 at various foreshore, bushland and coastal sites with local primary school students, and 890 on Augusta Margaret River Shire reserves.

• 450 native seedlings were planted on Yalgardup Brook as an offset for the 2019 Climate Summit event.

• Lower Blackwood Land Conservation District Committee (LCDC) have undertaken riparian fencing and revegetation through a Regional Estuaries Initiative project, resulting in 14ha of riparian revegetation and 38km of stock exclusion fencing in the catchment.

• MRBTA have established revegetation plans and planted 1500 native seedlings at its sites across the region.

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Nature Conservation Margaret River Region announced significant funding agreements with the Wright Burt Foundation and LINE IN THE SAND. The Wright Burt Foundation's contribution goes to underpin core operations, while Line in the Sand is partnering with Nature Conservation Margaret River Region on a range of coastal programs.

• Augusta Margaret River Shire continues to fund community based revegetation projects through its Environmental Management Fund.

• Nature Conservation Margaret River Region has secured State NRM funding for a For Nature Landowner Stewardship Program which will assist landowners to undertaken conservation action including revegetation with local native species.

• Lower Blackwood LCDC will continue to deliver riparian fencing and revegetation from 2021-2024 through Healthy Estuaries WA, undertaken in partnership with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.





M







PROJECT WELL UNDERWAY

Revegetate riparian zones, buffers, shelter belts, corridors, catchments, parks

Support agricultural transition to more sustainable practice

Incorporate sustainability planning regulations into the Local Planning Scheme

Develop and promote programs to think local, buy local, swap, share and exchange

ACTIVITIES

wine.com

◆ Lower Blackwood LCDC undertook a Regenerative Agriculture in Practice - Adapting for a Changing Climate project throughout 2020.This project was aimed at increasing awareness, knowledge and understanding, access to advice and adoption of regenerative agriculture techniques by farmers in the Lower Blackwood Catchment.

• Lower Blackwood LCDC have also developed a Regen Ag 'Info Hub' on their website. The Hub consists of Guides and reading on the topics of soil health, pasture biodiversity, regen grazing and regen ag, water health, stock health, bio-stimulants, weeds and ferals, farmer profiles and case studies, podcasts and webinars.

• The Landsmith Collection (which includes Voyager Estate) hosted a free Field Day in November 2019 for around 70+ community members interested in starting on a regenerative farming journey.

▲ AMRCCE has now completed its Z-Filter on-farm trial with funding from the State Government's Regional Estuaries Initiative through the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. The trial was assessed whether it was possible, both practically and economically, for farmers to separate the effluent into reusable liquid filtrate (water) and stackable manure solids.

• Margaret River Wine Association formed a Sustainability Sub-Committee and have now developed a Sustainability Action Plan.

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Lower Blackwood LCDC and Margaret River Wine Association have signed an MOU to work together on sustainability initiatives.

• Lower Blackwood LCDC have received funding from the Augusta Margaret River Shire to undertake a Regenerative Agriculture in Practice - 'Building Resilience' project throughout 2021. The project will see continuation and further development of it's Regenerative Grazing program with an additional focus on building soil health and resilience.

• Margaret River Wine Association will hold workshops for its members on Biodiversity, Soil and other Sustainability topics throughout 2021.

• Margaret River Wine Association has received a \$42k grant from the AMR Shire to support Sustainability Plans in 2021 and employ a Sustainability Engagement Officer for the next 12 months to assist members in the Shire to join the Sustainable Winegrowing Australia program.

• 21 wine producers in the region have now gained organic certification for some or all of their vineyards.

• AMRCCE's Z-Filter on-farm trial was very successful. The results showed that the Z-Filter very effectively separated the solids and liquid (filtrate) components of the effluent allowing the farmer to reuse the filtrate with onsite bore water and to irrigate over large existing irrigation areas using existing irrigation equipment directly offsetting synthetic fertiliser use, with anticipated savings benefit. It also provided the farmer with separated Filter Cake to apply to the land boosting of soil productivity in previously underperforming areas.





PROJECT WELL UNDERWAY

Revegetate riparian zones, buffers, shelter belts, corridors, catchments, parks

Support agricultural transition to more sustainable practice

Incorporate sustainability planning regulations into the Local Planning Scheme

Develop and promote programs to think local, buy local, swap, share and exchange

ACTIVITIES

• The Local Planning Strategy and Scheme are currently undergoing major updates with a strong focus on sustainability.

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Public consultation on the Draft Local Planning Strategy occurred late last year with consultation on the Draft Scheme occurring this year.

















MARGARET RIVER BUSSELTON TOURISM ASSOCIATION

PROJECT WELL UNDERWAY

Revegetate riparian zones, buffers, shelter belts, corridors, catchments, parks

Support agricultural transition to more sustainable practice

Incorporate sustainability planning regulations into the Local Planning Scheme

Develop and promote programs to think local, buy local, swap, share and exchange

ACTIVITIES

• A major initiative to promote participation in the local economy was launched through the LOCAL-IS-More Campaign. The launch was supported by a number of promotion and education initiatives including events, website, social media, special local offer, window decals and a support local pledge.

• Live Local Month saw over 35 events take place throughout November 2020, including the Margaret River Farmers Markets and Town Square Markets, as well as feature events including the Live Local Night Market, the Festival of Forgotten Skills, Produce Swap Shuffle Share, Undalup Bush Tucker Workshop and Intercultural Morning Tea.

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

• A pledge to encourage locals to choose, think and support local first is available on the LOCAL-IS-More website.

• MRBTA stocks the retail products of 55 local suppliers at its sites across the region including support for Owl Friendly Margaret River, the Western Ringtail Possum Action Group and the Friends of the Cape to Cape Track.

PROJECT COMMENCED WITH INITIAL PROGRESS







PROJECT COMMENCED WITH INITIAL PROGRESS ACTIVITIES

Assist Augusta Margaret River Clean Community Energy group to develop a major community renewable energy project

Coordinate, champion and implement the AMR Climate Action Plan

Lobby for change at the state and federal political level • Augusta Margaret River Clean Community Energy (AMRCCE) has been working on a feasibility study and gaining approvals for a 10MW Grid Connected windfarm in the Scott River. AMRCCE aims to find a suitable partner to develop / operate the wind farm whilst securing a community shareholding to fund ongoing projects to reduce community emissions.

- PROGRESS TO DATE:
- Optional locations identified within 3 km of Beenup substation
- Access Agreements obtained
- Modelling undertaken with publicly available and gifted wind data
- Onsite wind monitoring completed
- Western Power Connection Application commenced
- Potential finance opportunities explored
- Conceptual Development Application underway
- Wind data analysed and advice on turbine specifications received

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Augusta Margaret River Shire has allocated \$30,000 in support of AMRCCE for FY21.

• AMRCCE is now a Registered Charity with Deductible Gift Recipient status which enables it to provide tax deductibility to donations towards its activities.







PROJECT COMMENCED WITH INITIAL PROGRESS ACTIVITIES

Assist Augusta Margaret River Clean Community Energy group to develop a major community renewable energy project

Coordinate, champion and implement the AMR Climate Action Plan

Lobby for change at the state and federal political level • Climate Action Augusta Margaret River continues to monitor, promote and facilitate progress of the community projects identified as an outcome of the Climate Action Summit.

• Augusta Margaret River Shire's draft Climate Action Plan was released for review in 2020.

• MRBTA has partnered with UWA on a climate change research project involving the monitoring of Karri Trees.

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ In August 2020, Augusta Margaret River Shire Council endorsed the Corporate Business Plan 2020-2024 which included a series of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the Chief Executive Officer. One of the KPIs was "Maintain the Shire as a leader in climate change mitigation and adaptation improving our scores across the ten WALGA climate excellence categories".

• Augusta Margaret River Shire will sponsor a PhD student through Edith Cowan University South West to undertake three years research on climate action and adaptation and report on opportunities for mainstreaming responses to climate change across the Shire.

• The Climate Action Summit was awarded Runner Up for Australasian Project of the Year and Winner in the Environment Category at the 2020 International Association for Public Participation Core Value Awards.

• Augusta Margaret River Shire has installed 20kW solar at the Margaret River depot.

• MRBTA has installed solar power at Margaret River Visitor Centre and Lake Cave.









PROJECT COMMENCED WITH INITIAL PROGRESS ACTIVITIES

Assist Augusta Margaret River Clean Community Energy group to develop a major community renewable energy project

Coordinate, champion and implement the AMR Climate Action Plan

Lobby for change at the state and federal political level

• WA Forest Alliance 'Forests for Climate, Forests for Life' campaign was launched and a Forest Rally held in Margaret River in August 2020.

• A letter writing workshop was hosted by Margaret River Regional Environment Centre.

• The Nannas for Native Forests group was launched including mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers from all walks of life and all political persuasions, who share a deep concern for the well-being of future generations.

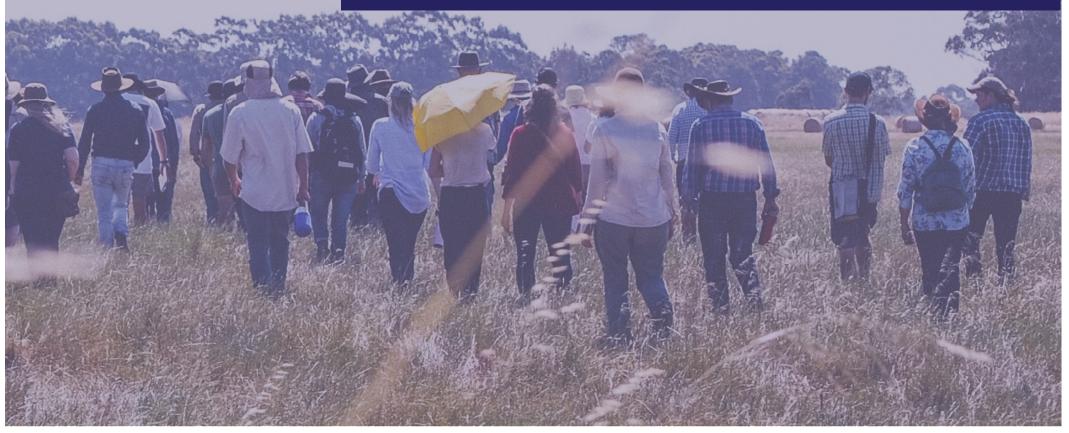
KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

• On 9th September 2020 AMR Shire Council endorsed the following five Forest for Climate actions:

- Immediately protect mature native forests as biodiverse carbon stores
- Protect degraded forests as Future Forests and allow them to recover their full biological potential
- Complete the transition of the timber industry to sustainably managed plantations and farm forestry
- Develop a targeted, strategic approach to fire management with guidance from Noongar fire practitioners and ecologists
- Rule out native forest bioenergy
- The following three major aims of Forests for Life:
 - To protect forests from threatening processes
 - To develop a world-class farm forestry sector in south-west Western Australia; and
 - To meaningfully account for the critical role forests play in the mitigation of, and adaptation to climate change

• It was also endorsed that the CEO write to the Premier, Opposition Leader, relevant ministers and local Members of Parliament to express Council's position.

PROJECTS STILL IN PLANNING







PROJECT STILL IN PLANNING

Develop a community renewable energy power sharing system

Support the development of new, sustainable and local industries

Support transition to electric vehicles

ACTIVITIES

- AMRCCE continues to investigate and evaluate establishing a community retail partnership with suitable partner(s).
- Support for a local revolving fund has been obtained from Corena (corenafund.org.au) who have provided AMRCCE access to policies and processes from their funding model.

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

• AMRCCE is finalising the terms of an agreement to enter into a community retail partnership to be announced during March 2021.

• AMRCCE was successful in the Shire's Community Resilience grants and obtained a \$50,000 loan (non-recourse) to provide seed funding and \$15,000 funding to improve their website to support a revolving fund which makes interest free loans to community groups for emissions reduction projects.

• The AMRCCE Revolving Fund is expected to be in operation by the end of the 2020/21 financial year.







PROJECT STILL IN PLANNING

Develop a community renewable energy power sharing system

Support the development of new, sustainable and local industries

Support transition to electric vehicles

ACTIVITIES

• Augusta Margaret River Shire is in the process of drafting a Sustainable Economy Strategy which will be supported by a Sustainable Economy Grants scheme.

• Ecotourism Australia's Global Eco Asia-Pacific Tourism Conference was held in Margaret River in December 2020.

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Augusta Margaret River Shire's economic stimulus grants supported businesses focused on plastic recycling, eco-tourism and primary producer marketing.

• Augusta Margaret River Shire and MRBTA have sought ECO Destination Certification through Ecotourism Australia. The Certification approves destinations committed to sustainable practices and to quality, nature-based tourism experiences.

• Currently 12 tourism businesses in the Shire have had their sustainable credentials certified by either Ecotourism Australia or Tourism Council WA, including MRBTA-managed attractions. In February 2021 MRBTA and the Shire of Augusta Margaret River launched a program to support 10 new businesses to gain ECO Certification with Ecotourism Australia.

• Development of a Sustainable Industries Cluster is scheduled for 2021.





MARGARET RIVER BUSSELTON TOURISM ASSOCIATION

PROJECT STILL IN PLANNING

Develop a community renewable energy power sharing system

Support the development of new, sustainable and local industries

Support transition to electric vehicles

ACTIVITIES

• Augusta Margaret River Shire continues to investigate transition of shire fleet to electric vehicles.

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Augusta Margaret River Shire has purchased a number of hybrid and plug in hybrid vehicles and recently purchased 2 electric bikes.

• MRBTA has 8 hybrid vehicles in use across the organisation.

PROJECT NOT YET FEASIBLE



PROJECT NOT YET FEASIBLE

COMMENTS

• There are currently issues with commercial viability for this project.

• Expecting significant price reductions over the next few years and potentially some state government initiatives to address this.

Provide low carbon public, tourist and school transport



Climate Action Augusta Margaret River would like to acknowledge that we operate on the country of the Wadandi and Pibelmen people, and recognise their ancestors and descendants as the traditional owners of this country. We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded and that this always was and always will be Aboriginal land.

Appendix D Climate Action Summit

PROJECT 1: Assist Augusta Margaret River Clean Community Energy Group to Spearhead a Major Renewable Energy Project

Project Description Assist the development of a bankable business case and Western Power (WP) Access Offer for a 10MW wind and biogas grid connected renewable energy facility in Scott River. If feasible, AMRCCE will seek suitable partner(s) as developer/operator and take a community shareholding in the facility. Use community returns to further reduce emissions in Shire with a focus on those excluded by socio-economic reasons.

Lead Organisation	Augusta Margaret River Clean Community Energy Incorporated (AMRCCE)
Cost	 The feasibility study and connection application costs are estimated to be approximately \$1.8 million. Shire contributions following completion of milestones.
Risks and Unintended Consequences	 Expenditure of time and money and project is found not to be feasible. Project does not find suitable partners. Project team becomes fatigued.
	Supporters: • Augusta Margaret River Shire/Lower Blackwood LCDC
Potential Project Partners	Potential Partners: • Industry Stakeholder lead Gail Gifford • State and Federal Governments • ARENA
Funding	Shire, grants, donations, fundraising and pro-bono expertise.
Intended Outcome	 Recruit support to engage specific stakeholders (e.g. wineries, dairies, growers) in biogas development phase. Recruit support to broaden community engagement with AMRCCE and generally on renewable energy.
Project Support	 Ongoing Shire sponsorship and financial support. Shire to consider future supply of green waste to project. Assist to obtain broad community support (volunteers, membership and fundraising). Shire potential to sponsor Open Day and interim activities of community interest (e.g. transport of turbines).
Timing	 2016 Shire Working Party conducts high-level feasibility study. 2017 AMRCCE is formed to take project forward. 2022 Expected date for grid connection of the wind/biogas energy facility. Review ½ yearly intervals.
Next Steps	 Greater community profile of AMRCCE (Suzanne Hicks). Saturday Morning Farmers Markets (SH). Open Day for key Stakeholders and community (all). Drip feed media (i.e. newspaper articles) on AMRCCE project updates and milestones (SH). (Lower Blackwood LCDC is the landcare group with responsibility for the area surrounding Beenup and they work in close cooperation with Nature Conservation which operates in the northern area of the Shire) Target stakeholders (Gail Gifford).

PROJECT 2: Develop a	Community Renewable Energy Power Sharing System
 Project Description – Decentralised Energy Decide on project description which may include one or both of the following: 1. Virtual power plant with PV proof and solar battery with capacity and services. 2. Investigate solar PV bulk-buy purchasing agreements throughout community 	
Intended Outcome	 Maximise people using renewables because: affordable, available and accessible. Reduce costs of energy bills/save planet Reduce carbon emissions Reduce CO² output Create renewable grid by 2030 Link with AMRCCE project Project is designed to be rolled out across the south west Investigate solar PV for charities/schools/community groups
Risks and Unintended Consequences	 Some people may not pay bills Social housing needs to be given more thought/support e.g. discounts on energy bills Solar PV equipment needs to be recycled Solar PV price continues to decrease below agreed bulk buy price.
Potential Project Lead	 Climate Action Reference group – decide on project description in consultation with community. Industry leaders – i.e. Plico Energy and Dunsborough Community Energy Project and other solar PV companies. Shire – play a lead role in promotion of the project, in particular solar PV bulk-buy opportunities. Community – provide face-to-face consultation with local business and residential sectors on benefits of the project.
Potential Project Support	 Link with State Government/Synergy, Western Power Link with existing projects who can support the project and potentially provide energy for battery top up at night i.e. AMRCCE.
Cost	 Cost of individual or bulk-guy solar PV systems (with or without batteries) needs to be established for our Shire
Potential Funding	 Fair/equitable fund required to be established for this project. Investigate funding opportunities i.e. SUSI Partners funding
Timing	 Further develop Project Plan Create specific Augusta/Margaret River Renewable Association Liaise with Shire and local groups to help parallel project Undertake consultation with key groups in the community where solar can be installed i.e. residential, industry, business etc. Start installation

PROJECT 3: Revegetate Riparian Zones, buffers, Shelter Belts, Corridors, Catchments and Parks

Project Description

- Revegetation across the landscape including riparian areas, wind breaks, shelter belts, roadsides, private land, enhancement of remnant vegetation etc.
- Knowledge sharing and inspiration, funding assistance, engaging landholders, demonstration projects initiated, weed eradication, planning regulation and bushfire control, community planting days

Intended Outcome	 Reduced fire risk due to moist understory Continued management Local knowledge education Making restoration economically viable Improved biodiversity Central information source Registering tree planting Raffle for trees Trees for weeds - incentive
Risks and Unintended Consequences	Bushfire regulations (risk)Lack of educationLack of funding
Potential Project Lead	 Nature Conservation MRR Role for Shire on roadsides, parks, reserves and as support for wider community engagement.
Potential Project Support	 Landowners Gondwana Link Fire services Shire, particularly through Environmental Management Fund (EMF) grants WA Forest Alliance – Forests for Life Schools "Adopt a Spot" program
Cost	 Anticipated cost is \$100k (including support person)/annum
Potential Funding	Impact investorsLandowner incentivesEMF grant funding from the Shire
Timing	Staged approach to the project.Ongoing project delivery
Next Steps	 Discussions between Nature Conservation and Shire about future of Shire stewardship program Link into regenerative agriculture project NCMRR Stewardship Program currently being developed and hoping to fund through Lotterywest grant next year

PROJECT 4: Support Agric	cultural transition to Regenerative Farming
Project Description	
Best practice developed on the following:	
 Soil – living soil/soil health/maintain and improve soil carbon/improve mineral balance 	
Water – retention and management/quality	
 Plants – pasture biodiversity 	
• Animals – diets/methane, av	wareness campaign, demonstration/farm trials, high school farm education program
	 Improve over time (long-term journey)
	Value adding opportunities
Intended Outcome	Awareness
	• Extension
	Adoption
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	 Concerns about profitability
	 Achievability
Risks and Unintended	 Beware of greenwashing
Consequences	 Large scale/corporation owned farms
	Cost of food
	Regulation e.g. farm gate milk
	Lower South West Growers Group
	SWCC support
	Agriculture Department
Potential Project Lead	Southern Dirt
-	• LBLCDC
	• Regen WA
	• ihemp and others
Potential Project Support	• Shire
Cost	• TBD
	• LBLCDC received EMF funding in 2018-19 for this project. Build from this
Potential Funding	project.
	 Dept. Agriculture have funding for sustainable agriculture
Timing	3 months to gather representatives
i inining	• 6-9 months hubs
	 Identify hubs/needs/gaps and nominations for representatives on a lead group
Next Steps	 Identify knowledge gaps/opportunities/barriers
	 Run best practice education and training/demonstration sites

PROJECT 5: Incorporate Sustainability Planning Regulations into Local Planning Scheme

Project Description

• Front end framing of 'Sustainability' incorporating measures into LPS's

• Local Planning Scheme and Local Planning Strategy – to frame/encourage/ensure sustainability as the driver of growth in the region

Intended Outcome	 Local Planning Scheme and Local Planning Strategy considerations Orientation/setbacks for northern access/guaranteed solar access Energy efficiency of new homes/solar passive Incentivise development that exceeds minimum standards Increase biodiversity (contribute back to biosphere), decrease impact on biodiversity Increase capacity of system/scheme to promote sustainability Consolidation of population growth – localised food production Community gardens/food Access and transport New development to protect and retain remnant vegetation Stormwater use in pros and community gardens Post development flows
Risks and Unintended Consequences	 Promotion of ongoing 'growth' is unsustainable Legacy issues from past planning decisions Housing affordability Lack of evidence/modelling to support decisions
Potential Project Lead	Shire of Augusta Margaret RiverConsult with DLPH
Potential Project Support	University (ECU and Curtin)Building ground representatives
Cost	• In house, staff, community pays
Potential Funding	Rate revenue
Timing	• 2019-2022 estimate
Next Steps	 Acknowledge/set limits to growth Interpret the above and put targets into place E.V charging infrastructure, technological measures Sense of place

PROJECT 6: Develop and Promote Programs to Think Local, Buy Local, Swap, Share and Scheme

Project Description

• Promote sourcing, buying, sharing, purchasing networks and policies including projects such as:

- Living smart, Swap Shuffle, share neighbourhood food, garden tip shop, fix it up café, festival of forgotten skills, think local webpage to share information

- Source (buy...) education campaign, promote benefits (money recirculating)

Intended Outcome	 Create a more circular economy with less waste Lower carbon emissions Foster local business and industry
Risks and Unintended Consequences	 Risk- preaching to converted – need to promote widely to kids Alienating people who perceive excluded by costs – encourage affordable choices Impact on retailers of swap/share/recycle if we curtail buying → opportunity for business e.g. repairs
Potential Project Lead	Transition MR 2020Hub to bring all players and attract more funding
Potential Project Support	 Shire Tip and Waste Education Programme, Fair Harvest, Shire of Augusta Margaret River Margaret River Farmers Market MR Chamber of Commerce, Men's Shed, Retirement village – Skills, fix it up Tourism Association Schools – e.g. canteens SEAC Community centre, Rotary/Lions MR Producers Association Witchcliffe Ecovillage (construction waste depot)
Cost	 \$5k seed funding and volunteer input
Potential Funding	 Shire funded \$9k in 2018-19 through EMF Rotary/MR Chamber of Commerce SW Development Commission Local Campaign Community Funding Industry Engagement
Timing	Start 2020 (Facilitated)Established/self-supporting network by 2021
Next Steps	 Transition to MR produce Apply for Shire EMF funding for 2020 Facilitate wide community partnership → to develop ongoing, self-supporting network of local producers, services and consumers

Project 7: Support the Development of New, Sustainable and Local Industries

Project Description

Support and develop new sustainable and local industries: Hemp Natural, reuse of waste, "Precious Waste" e-platform

Intended Outcome	 Mitigation of cause – carbon Inspire, educate, champion Promote circular economy to reduce transport carbon, packaging, waste More employment/career opportunities in new economy
Risks and Unintended Consequences	Possible damage to existing industry?Growth pressurePossible perception as 'green tape'
Potential Project Lead	 SEAC, MRCCI, Transition, Traders Cowaramup, Traders MLBTA Potential Project Support Tertiary campus – training, research and advice, industrial, co- working space, investor scheme, recognition scheme Business template "Green business" MRCCI Awards Shire
Cost	 SEAC – Officer and membership \$ and time
Potential Funding	 AMR Shire SED Officer GLS BBR grant Community crowd funding and investment grants Investment (local and bigger funding) Self – funding Industry partnerships
Timing	SEAC commenced May 2019GLS action planning July 2019
Next Steps	 Electric bike friendly Mentorship Swap job to reduce travel Remote working from home – encouragement?, internet connection issue? Capitalise on excess energy in the daytime for businesses Incentivise Differential notes

Project 8: Provide Low Carbon Public, Tourist And School Transport

Project Description

- Bicycles for public use with bicycle stations, investigate public bus service on local routes within the Shire (electric buses/hydrogen)
- Set up a team to undertake a high level feasibility study where is the demand, who should operate (i.e. current operators vs new)
- Look at study on price sensitivity, where the high volume routes are
- Investigate electric vehicle manufacturers to see if interested in sponsoring and MR brand
- Speak to existing operators about existing hurdles to be able to go low carbon, school bus convert to low carbon

Intended Outcome	 Links with other sustainability projects i.e. Windfarm community benefit fed into projects such as this Amount of people using, availability of the service, affordability for all, accessibility to those without access to vehicle Provide incentives to existing operators to switch to low carbon vehicles, develop media and communications plan
Risks and Unintended Consequences	 Availability of mechanics skilled in maintaining low carbon vehicles Electric vehicles – less noise = increased risk of accident Limited route distances due to capacity Additional upgrades required for other infrastructure e.g. electric charging points, additional bike lanes
Potential Project Lead	 Call for expressions of interest from community and industry to form a group Obtaining people with appropriate skills base
Potential Project Support	 Shire to provide support/guidance/access to resources (advocacy role only). Industry expert support Education department discussions on how they award contracts to transporters i.e. building in requirement for low carbon vehicle incentives into procurement procedures Lobby State Government on changing targets for use of low carbon vehicles and support
Cost	 Depends on the type of transport option and availability Cost for feasibility study, operation, maintenance
Potential Funding	 Sponsorship from existing low carbon vehicle manufacturers Windfarm community benefit money Grants (local, State etc.) Corporate sponsors (e.g. RAC)
Timing	 2-3 years including feasibility study, community consultation, funding and implementation on the ground Break into small scale first i.e. bikes first
Next Steps	 Expression of interest into forming a project lead group/working party Research existing best practice on other communities Resourcing options and responsibilities in the group High level feasibility study – then form set of projects and priorities Form links with universities and other experts Make contact with Peter Newman (CUSP)

Project 9: Support Transition	n To Electric Vehicles (EV's)
in AMR Shire	
Intended Outcome	 For ownership of EV to be more affordable and desirable Well connected and well known EV network in AMR Shire and WA By 2025 AMR Shire to be EV friendly
Risks and Unintended Consequences	 Not supporting/inability to support local manufacturers Current lack of support for sudden influx of EV units Unaffordable for lower income residents Must be linked with renewable energy grid (i.e. not coal burning) Impact on grid
Potential Project Lead	 AMR Shire → fleet transition to EV's (including rubbish collection), Sustainability Reference Group, Big business – EV stations Developers – build in EV charging stations in new developments (powered by solar)
Potential Project Support	 Federal and State Government (EV stations) LG (AMR Shire) and neighbouring shires RACWA (stations) Local business – stations at wineries?
Cost	Research requiredLong-term
Potential Funding	 Infrastructure funding EV stations – State Government Shire increase investment in EV stations (counteract with changing incentives) State Government incentive – buy them then allow by purchase contract
Timing	• By 2025 AMR Shire to be EV friendly (which will coincide with price parity)
Next Steps	 Encourage EV ownership Profile existing EV users Identify suitable locations and partnerships for EV charging stations Shire to begin conversion to EV fleet EV for MR CBD Work with community clean energy project (for charging stations)

Project 10: Coordinate, Champion and Implement The AMR Climate Action Plan

Project Description

 Diverse group/ reaffirm priorities, Climate economy – systems approach, community development, project steering group, declare a climate emergency – gives more power to the group, carbon economy language, take from advocacy to mainstream, auditing/monitoring/measuring, caring/nurturing – inclusive approach. Not about costs – about opportunities, economic development, governance structure – integrate Shire policy/projects.

 Integrating diverse elements of the plan, keep everyone on track, vision creation, create strategic pathway, work with/coordinate all the projects to link up, help groups to work together for seamless integration, holistic/coordinated communication
 Flat structure. If this falls over then other projects could fall over, too large for group to manage, exhaustion of topics → hard to keep up energy/enthusiasm, establish Shire/community relationship, separate groups may not want a plan leader
 Climate Action Reference Group, including experts, one rep from each priority project, champions from community, young people effective communicators/ marketing, partner with Shire
 Artists/creatives/ wine and food/interesting stuff? Other project groups, visiting luminaries/events, Indigenous Business Farmers groups Schools/P&Cs MRBTA State and Federal Government
 Minimum cost for- Meeting place, time, volunteers, Shire staff, professional marketing, digital/print communication, wine and food
 Look for Federal/State funding Art events Sponsorships Fundraising Shire contribution? Carbon offset scheme (also educates)
 Must be collaborated quickly to maintain momentum Each project to have built in timing goals – separate from overall group This group to facilitate/educate/mentor/coordinate/leverage funding opportunity/ organise events/liaise with other groups
 Seek nominations (group from this event or others – call for nominees They can then decide on the best team mix – permeable membership boundaries Information sharing – first meeting facilitated Developing background culture and understanding

Project 11: Lobby for Change at the State and Federal Political Level

Project Description

- Build an integrated social movement led by young people for climate justice, Democracy school with ongoing activist skills training
- Communications across different platforms
- Strategising to perform effective actions at key moments in partnership with Shire and other organisations
- Taking action school strikes, meeting with politicians, arts-based activist, petitions, litigation
- Partnerships and support from Shire, organisations and businesses.

Intended Outcome	 A strong intergenerational movement led by young people Legislation change Community and resilience Ongoing relationship between youth population (YP), community and politicians Education Removal of social licence of companies destroying the planet
Risks and Unintended Consequences	 Negative reaction from government, people don't want to be involved Exhaustion and fatigue – mental health Give up hope, require transport to Perth and other cities for training
Potential Project Lead	 Young people with strong support of city, YACP lead, community development trainee at the Shire Primary school leadership groups, MR Regional Environment Centre
Potential Project Support	 Project Support: Shire, Transition Margaret River, MRRCC, NCMRR, Businesses – pledge to support AMR for climate justice – network of supporters Support through: Training/education, co-organising actions, promotions
Cost	• Time, training/education
Potential Funding	 Donations from business – goods, training and venues, MRRCC could establish a bank account
Timing	Immediate General strike – 20 September 2019Continue and flourish after
Next Steps	 Form AMR Climate Justice Council – YP Council and Adult Council YP hold first meeting – open for all YP led but with support of community allies (some adults) as mentors, support and logistics Communicate to community Start running training (democracy school) Compile list of people, organisations and businesses willing to speak out and support young people.



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- 08 9780 5255 Speak and Listen users phone 1300 555 727 then ask for 08 9780 5255
- NRS (www.relayservice.com.au) then ask for 08 9780 5255