

The Randwick area contains a magnificent array of natural features and we have a responsibility to conserve its diversity for future generations. To do this we are committed to leading our community in environmental sustainability; responding strategically to risks to the environment; protecting our biodiversity and natural heritage; identifying ways of disposing of our waste in a sustainable manner; conserving our potable water; and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.

Related plans

Energy Savings Action Plan

The NSW Government requirements for metropolitan councils are currently under review and as a result Council has adopted an approach to prioritising and reporting on our energy saving efforts. We are preparing an Energy and Greenhouse Management Plan to consolidate initiatives aimed at reducing energy use and accounting for energy savings and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from Council's operations. Included in this analysis is an investigation into new energy saving targets for Council to apply as a means of monitoring our ongoing energy conservation progress.

Our most recent initiative was the installation of 10 Kilowatts of solar panels to our Administration Building. We will install an additional 30 kilowatts of solar panels at the new Des Renford Leisure Centre as well as an additional 30 kilowatts on the roof of the Bowen Library. This will almost double our current renewable energy generation from 73 kilowatts to 133 kilowatts of solar panels.

Water Savings Action Plan

While NSW Government requirements for water savings for metropolitan councils remain under review, we continue to invest in major water saving projects across Council. This includes obtaining NSW Government funding of approx \$1 million to contribute to our stormwater harvesting projects, particularly at Bicentennial Park, Yarra Bay; Chifley playing fields and Dunningham Reserve, Coogee. These harvesting projects are likely to save approximately 500 million litres of water per annum for re-uses that include irrigation of playing fields, vehicle wash down areas and toilet flushing.

Waste Management Strategy

We continue to implement our Strategic Waste Management Plan. The Plan's vision is to achieve 66 per cent reduction target for waste being disposed at landfill by 2014.

Key programs are underway to increase recycling, reduce litter and illegal waste dumping, and increase resource recovery of materials used. Current efforts have resulted in Council achieving approximately 55 per cent waste diversion. We are continuing to investigate a range of alternative waste technologies and participate in a number of innovative waste reduction initiatives aimed at achieving this waste reduction target ahead of the 2014 deadline.

Sand dune regeneration at Maroubra Beach.

Looking after our environment

Our outcome

- A healthy environment

Outcome 10: A healthy environment

Our natural environment will be protected, enhanced and promoted for future generations.

Actions for Outcome 10

	4 Year Delivery Program (2013-17)	1 year Operational Plan actions (2013-14)
10a: Council's programs and partnerships foster sustainable behavioural changes and outcomes.		
10a.1	Develop, implement and review programs aimed at improving sustainability outcomes for residents, schools, businesses and staff.	Deliver calendar of sustainability courses, workshops and events for the Randwick community and review outcomes. Undertake community engagement activities around the potential continuation of the Environment Levy 2014-19.
10a.2	Expand external partnerships supporting Council's sustainability initiatives e.g. UNSW and business.	Broaden support of Council sustainability initiatives and programs with external partners and funding programs.
10a.3	Continue the development, implementation and review of the 3-Council collaboration project with Waverley and Woollahra Councils to reduce resource consumption across the 3 local government areas.	Establish and monitor outcomes of specific initiatives and programs conducted as part of the 3-Council collaboration to reduce resource consumption across the Eastern suburbs.
10a.4	Investigate and implement incentives aimed at increasing the level of participation of businesses, schools and residents in resource conservation programs.	Continue the delivery of the business water audit project. Deliver two school sustainability projects. Expand the energy saving program for residents.
10b: Policies and programs are developed and implemented in response to environmental risks and their potential impacts.		
10b.1	Develop and implement a long term sustainability framework for Randwick.	Prepare draft strategic sustainability framework for Council.
10b.2	Develop and implement environmental strategies for remediation of contaminated Council / public land.	Upgrade of Chifley Sports Reserve with remediation and redevelopment for installation of baseball fields, new playing surfaces, new paths, sports field lighting, two car parks, exercise stations and landscaping. Implement the remediation and civil works of the Chifley Sports Reserve Plan of Management.
10b.3	Implement recommendations contained in the NSW Government's Floodplain Development Manual and relevant flood studies carried out for Randwick.	Finalise floodplain risk management studies and plans for Centennial Park catchment, Maroubra Bay catchment and Coogee Bay Catchment. Finalise floodplain risk management studies and plans for Centennial Park catchment, Maroubra Bay catchment and Coogee Bay Catchment.
10b.4	Administer and implement Council's Tree Preservation Orders and review process and formally incorporate environmental risk and assessment.	Implement Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and process tree pruning/removal applications incorporating relevant environmental risk assessments.
10b.5	Administer and coordinate Council's Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Plan.	Review and update Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Plan for Council.

	4 Year Delivery Program (2013-17)	1 year Operational Plan actions (2013-14)
10c: Bushland, open spaces and biodiversity are protected and enhanced for future generations.		
10c.1	Implement and monitor Randwick's regulatory responsibilities especially in relation to the enhancement of our native and indigenous flora and fauna.	Implement the bush regeneration and revegetation program including development of green corridors. Maintain a database of terrestrial native animals and plants. Control noxious and environmental weeds and pest animals.
10c.2	Implement annual tree planting programs ensuring that species comply with Council's Street Tree Master Plan.	Implement ongoing annual street tree planting program, Community Street Tree Planting project, National Tree Day and Trees for Mum projects.
10d: Waste is managed sustainably to ensure highest level of resource recovery.		
10d.1	Develop and implement Council's Resource Recovery Strategy to minimise the level of waste going to landfill.	Establish and monitor outcomes of projects and programs conducted to reduce waste going to landfill in accordance with targets set. Continue negotiations with contactors to increase diversion of waste to Alternative Waste Technology facility and review new technologies available.
10d.2	Implement and review actions identified in Council's Litter and Illegal Dumping Management Plan.	Prioritise and implement projects to counter illegal dumping and litter across Randwick. Monitor data for illegal dumping hotspots to initiate education programs.
10d.3	Develop and implement community engagement programs on waste and recycling.	Deliver waste education programs and review outcomes for the Randwick community.
10e: A total water cycle management approach including water conservation, re-use and water quality improvements is adopted.		
10e.1	Develop and implement projects to improve water conservation and efficiency across Council and the community.	Prioritise and implement water conservation projects across the City. Increase stormwater, rainwater and wastewater harvesting opportunities within Randwick City. Connecting Council irrigation assets to the web managed irrinet system.
10e.2	Contribute to projects and studies aimed at improving water quality of our marine and coastal areas.	Implement Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) projects. Improve water quality at our beaches and coastal areas.

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4 Year Delivery Program (2013-17)	1 year Operational Plan actions (2013-14)
10f: Energy conservation and efficiency programs are implemented.	
10f.1 Develop and implement projects to improve energy conservation and efficiency across Council and the community.	Prioritise and implement energy saving and efficiency projects across the City.
10f.2 Investigate and implement renewable energy projects across Randwick City.	Prepare strategic priorities for expanding renewable energy across the City and commence implementation.

Our measures for this outcome include:

- LAOE01** Mains water consumed by the Council's operations per day on average - 20% reduction by 2012 from the 2005 baseline of 540 kL per day
- LAOE02** Net tonnes of greenhouse emissions from the Council's operation - 20% reduction by 2012 from the 1998-99 baseline of 13,680 tonnes - per annum
- LAOE03** Energy (electricity and gas) consumed by the Council's top 10 consuming sites per annum - 20% reduction by 2012 from the 2005-06 baseline of 18,712.6 GJ
- LAOE04** Household residential mains water consumption in Randwick City - per household per year
- LAOE05** Electricity consumed by residential properties in the Randwick City LGA - per household per year
- LAOE06** Solar energy generation exported back to the Ausgrid network from small power systems within Randwick City - per annum (MWh)
- LAOE07** Air Quality Index measured in the grounds of the Randwick Army Barracks - number of days the index exceeded the NSW Department of Environment and Heritage healthy index range of 0-66 per annum
- LAOE08** Water quality of beaches - percentage of beaches with a swimming suitability grade of good to very good
- LAOE09** Amount of residential waste diverted from landfill - target of at least 66% by 2014
- LAOE10** Percentage of surveyed residents with a high degree of concern about the environment
- LAOE11** Biodiversity - percentage of open space land zoned for environmental protection



Sustaining our City

Council's annual environmental levy program and the Sustaining our City initiative are delivering on our commitment for environmental improvements for local residents and businesses in terms of savings across water, energy and waste.

The Sustaining our City Program is based on:

- coastal protection
- resource consumption, particularly focussing on conserving water, reducing energy consumption, and avoiding waste
- tackling greenhouse issues, with a focus on sustainable transportation such as cycling and walking
- protecting biodiversity
- community participation.

The following table highlights some of the innovative Sustaining our City initiatives and their positive results:

Initiative	Achievement
Green Money Recycling Rewards Scheme - provides residents with 'green' money points for their recycling which they can redeem for discounts when they shop at local businesses.	More than 2000 residents have been saving around \$242 per annum and increasing their recycling by approximately 1.4 kilograms each fortnight.
Compost Revolution Program - providing compost bins or worm farms to residents to help lower the volume of food waste going into household rubbish bins.	This program has almost 5,000 residents composting 400 tonnes of organic food waste for use in backyard veggie gardens. 20 other local councils across New South Wales and Victoria have sought our guidance in adopting the Compost Revolution Program in their areas.
Sustainable Business Program - provides free water audits for local businesses and looks for ways to help them save water and money.	This program has achieved savings to businesses of more than 200,000 litres of water per day and more than \$200,000 from water bills per annum.