PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RANDWICK CITY COUNCIL

ORGANISATION
2019/20

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

An Australian Government Initiative

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: Randwick City Council

REPORTING PERIOD: Financial Year 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020

Declaration

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this Public Disclosure Statement is true and correct and meets the requirements of the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard.

Signature 

Date

4 December 2020

Name of Signatory

Peter Maganov

Position of Signatory

Manager Sustainability

Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Version number February 2021

1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This Climate Active certification includes the greenhouse gas emissions from the operations controlled by Randwick City Council between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020.

"Climate Active is a way of taking responsibility for the unavoidable emissions generated by an organisation's operations"

Organisation description

Randwick City Council is the local government authority for Randwick City in the eastern suburbs of Sydney, and area which covers 37 square kilometres and includes the suburbs of Chifley, Clovelly, Coogee, Kensington, Kingsford, La Perouse, Little Bay, Malabar, Maroubra, Matraville, Phillip Bay, Randwick and South Coogee.

Randwick City is known for its extensive parkland and open space areas including Centennial Park, Heffron Park and Kamay Botany Bay National Park; 29 kilometres of coastline with the magnificent Coastal Walkway linking ten beaches and eight ocean pools; excellent education and medical facilities including the University of NSW (UNSW), the Randwick Hospitals Complex and associated research and related services; a strong artistic and cultural focus; regionally significant recreational facilities; employment facilities such as Port Botany; and its proximity to the Sydney Central Business District and Sydney Airport.

2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

Diagram of the certification boundary

Quantified

Advertising & Promotion

Chlorine

Cleaning Services

Clothing

General Waste

Courier Services

Domestic Hotel

Electricity

Employee Commute

Food & Catering

Fleet Fuel

Garden & Green Waste

Computer Equipment

Flights

Marketing & Distribution

Natural Gas

Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment

Office Furniture

Paper

Postal Services

Printing and Stationery

Recycling

Refrigerants

Telecommunications, Telephone and Internet

Non-quantified

Bitumen

Excluded

NA

Non-quantified sources

Bitumen is a non-quantified source because a reasonable estimate cannot be obtained for how much is used throughout Randwick's operations. This is because bitumen is used by Council's contractors who do not split their bitumen amounts for each local government area. To account for this unavailable data, an uplift factor of 1% is applied.

Data management plan

The base year for Randwick City Council's carbon footprint is the 2017/18 financial year. To ensure consistency in data sources across reporting years, a separate document is kept by Randwick Council staff which lists the databases used to source data; the staff members responsible for the annual provision of data; and the budget codes used to track expenditure (where applicable).

If a more accurate data source or emissions factor becomes available between reporting years, it will be utilised or applied to the next reporting year's calculations.

Similarly, if the more accurate data sources or emission factors become available for calculations in previous reporting years, they will be used to re-calculate the emissions in all applicable reporting years.

"Through the Climate Active certification, Randwick Council gains a greater understanding of its sources of greenhouse gas emissions which empowers the Council to make evidence-based operational decisions to effectively reduce emissions."

The carbon neutral certification boundary will be kept consistent across reporting years. If Randwick Council is to undergo organisational changes, such as restructuring or the outsourcing of services, the potential changes in emissions will be accounted for under the fixed base year approach.

Where new sources of emissions become evident (i.e. emission sources not included in the base year inventory) and are estimated to exceed 5% of the Council's total annual emissions, they will be included in the next reporting year's calculations.

Similarly, if the new sources of emissions become evident for previous reporting years, and if they are estimated to exceed 5% of Council's total annual emissions in previous reporting years, they will be used to re-calculate the emissions in all applicable reporting years

New emission sources that have not formed part of the base year inventory and that are estimated to represent less than 5% of Council's total annual emissions will be regarded as insignificant. If the sum of multiple new emission sources exceeds 5%, then the significance threshold will be breached, and the same rules will apply.

Excluded sources (outside of certification boundary)

N.A.

3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions reduction strategy

In 2018, Randwick Council committed to an in-principle objective of achieving 100% renewable energy and net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. This target is in line with the Paris Agreement of 'keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius'.

A Renewable Energy Roadmap report, which covered the scopes of electricity, gas and transport, was completed in 2019 to reduce Council's emissions in line with this target. As greenhouse gas emissions from Council's electricity and gas consumption make up over 50% of Randwick Council's annual emissions, the transition to renewables has been a key focus of the Council's emission reduction journey.

Emissions over time

Table 1

Emissions since base year			
	Base year: 2017-18	Year 1: 2018-19	Current year Year 2: 2019-20
Total tCO2e	***14,385***	***14,573***	***10,370***

Emissions reduction actions

Randwick City Council's total greenhouse gas emissions decreased by 4,203 tCO2e between 2018-19 and 2019-20, a reduction of 28.8%.

This reduction can be attributed to both projects implemented by Council and the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic which decreased the occupancy of public and staff facilities.

The main emission reduction projects completed in 2019-20 were a renewable energy power purchase agreement for 20% of Council's electricity (1,849 tCO2e reduction), the completion of 25% of the street lighting upgrades (264 tCO2e reduction) and LED lighting upgrades across 17 Council sites (73 tCO2e reduction). A full list of all emission reduction actions can be found in Section 6, Additional Information.

Emissions summary (inventory)

Table 2

Emission source category	tonnes CO2-e
Accommodation and facilities	4.2
Air Transport (km)	7.9
Cleaning and Chemicals	165.0
Electricity	5820.0
Food	112.0
ICT services and equipment	263.0
Land and Sea Transport (fuel)	1884.2
Land and Sea Transport (km)	132.2
Office equipment & supplies	289.1
Postage, courier and freight	547.4
Products	11.5
Professional Services	89.4
Refrigerants	16.9
Stationary Energy	482.0
Taxi and Uber	1.2
Waste	295.8
Water	145.2
Total Net Emissions	***10,267***

Uplift factors

Table 3

Reason for uplift factor	tonnes CO2-e
1% uplift factor for bitumen emissions which cannot be accurately estimated with the data available.	103
Total footprint to offset (uplift factors + net emissions)	***10,370***

Carbon neutral products

Fuji Xerox Climate Active certified paper is used in many printers across Council.

Electricity summary

Electricity was calculated using a market-based approach.

Market-based approach summary

Electricity Inventory items	kWh	Emissions (tonnes CO2e)
Electricity Renewables	4,083,623	0.00
Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	0	0.00
Electricity Remaining	5,383,371	5,819.96
Renewable electricity percentage	43%	
Net emissions (Market based approach)		***5,820***

Location-based approach summary

State / Territory	Electricity Inventory items	kWh	Full Emission factor (Scope 2 +3)	Emissions (tonnes CO2e)
ACT/NSW	Electricity Renewables	2,322,695	-0.90	-2,090.43
ACT/NSW	Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	-	-0.90	0.00
ACT/NSW	Netted off (exported on-site generation)	-	-0.81	0.00
ACT/NSW	Electricity Total	9,000,952	0.90	8,100.86
Total net electricity emissions (Location based)				***6,010***

4. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets strategy

Offset purchasing strategy: In arrears	
1. Total offsets previously forward purchased and banked for this report	0 tCO2e
2. Total emissions liability to offset for this report	10,370 tCO2e
3. Net offset balance for this reporting period	10,400 tCO2e
4. Total offsets to be forward purchased to offset the next reporting period	30 tCO2e
5. Total offsets required for this report	10,370 tCO2e

Offsets summary

Proof of cancellation of offset units

Offsets cancelled for Climate Active Carbon Neutral Certification

Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Eligible Quantity (TCO2-e)	Quantity used for previous reporting periods	Quantity banked for future reporting periods	Quantity used for this reporting period claim	Percentage of total (%)
Chongqing Longshui 8MW Hydro Power Project, China	VCUs	VCS	27 Feb 2021	9668-116257686-116268085 VCS-VCU-291- VER CN-1-667 01012013-31122013-0	2013	10,400	0	30	10,370	100%
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report									**1,370**	
Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports									**30**	

Additional offsets cancelled for purposes other than Climate Active Carbon Neutral certification

Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Eligible Quantity (TCO2-e)	Purpose of cancellation	Percentage of total (%)
Watchbox Conservation Project, Australia	ABUs	Vegetation Link	27 Feb 2021	C1854_VOL001 (4706-5485)	N/A	780	Randwick Council has also purchased and retired 780 ABUs from the Watchbox Conservation Project in Victoria, to support local biodiversity.	100%

Type of offset units	Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)	Percentage of Total
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	10,370	100%

Co-benefits

Watchbox Conservation Project – Victoria, Australia

Type: Australian Biodiversity Units (ABUs - paired with VCUs)

This biodiversity project helps to protects several engaged species of flora and fauna, including the Black Falcon, Brush-Tailed Phascogale; Branching Groundsel, Clover Glycine. It is protected under a 'Trust for Nature' covenant in perpetuity and the site is predominantly made up of Grassy Dry Forest and Healthy Dry Forest. Each ABU represents 1.5m2 of high conservation value native habitat.

Run of River Hydro - Chongqing, China

Type: Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCU)

The green electricity power created by this project reduces the local region's reliance on thermal coal generation. It feeds into the Central china Power Grid and reduces 27,000 tonnes of GHG emissions annually.

5. USE OF TRADE MARK

Table 8

Description where trademark used	Logo type
Council website	Certified organisation
Email signatures	Certified organisation
Presentations	Certified organisation

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Emission Reduction Actions – 2019/20

Emission Source	Emission Reduction Action	Emission Reduction (tCO2e/yr)
Electricity	Installation of 10 kW rooftop solar array at Malabar Library	14
Electricity	20% Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for all of Council's electricity	1,849
Electricity	10% GreenPower for small sites (July – December 2019)	45
Electricity	Install smart HVAC timers at Bowen Library.	18
Electricity	Implementation of sub-metering across Council's 4 largest sites.	NA
Electricity	Installation of lighting timers at the Depot Warehouse.	19
Electricity	Street Lighting Upgrade (25% complete)	264
Electricity	LED upgrades at 17 Council sites.	73
Electricity	Reduction from 130 printers to 69 printers in Admin Building.	NA
Electricity	Replacement of 10 kW inverter at DRLC and recommissioning of 2 kW solar array at the Randwick Literary Institute.	NA
Electricity	Installation of an 8.3 kW solar array on a Council site leased to tenants.	NA
Transport	Purchase of 2 x electric cars, 1 x electric beach vehicle and 2 x electric bikes.	NA
Transport	Installation of Public EV Charging Station at DRLC.	NA
Total tCO2e		*2,282*

Randwick City Emission Reduction Programs

Randwick Council recognizes that its operational emissions, whilst significant, make up approximately 1.5% of the total annual emissions in its local government area. Community focused Sustaining Our City initiatives ensure that the Council and its residents work together to reduce their emissions. Current examples include:

Community Sustainable (Sustainability Rebates)

In 2020, Randwick Council launched Community Sustainable which supports houses, units and businesses in Randwick to implement energy and water saving initiatives. As part of Community Sustainable, properties in Randwick can receive up to $2,000 in 'sustainability rebates' for purchasing rooftop solar, rainwater tanks, pool pumps, insulation, or one or more of the other ‘sustainable products’.

Net Zero Emission Strategy, Randwick Collaboration Area

Randwick LGA is home to many large organisations and facilities such as the University of New South Wales (UNSW), the Prince of Wales Hospital and the Randwick Racecourse. In partnership with these organisations, a Net Zero Emission Strategy is being prepared to understand the emissions profile of these large organisations and to find opportunities for collaborative emission reduction projects. The strategy is expected to be finalised by the end of financial year 2020/21.

Solar My Schools

A regional environmental program run across the 3 eastern suburbs councils (Randwick, Waverley, Woollahra) to assist local schools (and other community centres) install quality rooftop PV systems. The program is now working with 60 of the 64 schools across the 3-Council region, and has installed 554 kW of solar to date (2019) in the Randwick LGA alone, with up to another 930 kW to be installed in 2020 and 2021.

Australian Energy Foundation

The Energy Advisory Service which is provided in partnership with the Australian Energy Foundation is an initiative to assist residents install rooftop solar and reduce their energy consumption. Through this program, 500 Randwick residents have attended information sessions, with over 150 residents installing solar.

Compost Revolution

Compost has been running since 2010 as part of a collaborative project with neighbouring Waverley and Woollahra Councils. The program enables residents across the 3 Council areas to obtain discounted compost bins or worm farms as well as technical support and advice to encourage them to avoid placing organic food waste into their red-lidded rubbish bins. Through the program, Randwick residents have composted approximately 2,000 tonnes of organic material composted annually, resulting in an equivalent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of approximately 500 tonnes.

EV Charging Stations

The first rollout of public electric vehicle (EV) charging stations included a total of 6 stations installed across the 3-council region in early 2019, 4 of which are located within the Randwick LGA.

APPENDIX 1

Excluded emissions

To be deemed relevant an emission must meet two of the five relevance criteria. Excluded emissions are detailed below against each of the five criteria.

Table 9

Relevance test					
Excluded emission sources	*The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions*	*The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.*	*Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.*	*The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.*	*The emissions are from outsourced activities previously undertaken within the organisation's boundary, or from outsourced activities typically undertaken within the boundary for comparable organisations.*
NA	-	-	-	-	-

APPENDIX 2

Non-quantified emissions for organisations

Table 10

Non-quantification test				
Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	*Immaterial <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively*	*Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.*	*Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.*	*Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified*
Bitumen	-	-	Yes (1%)	-

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