

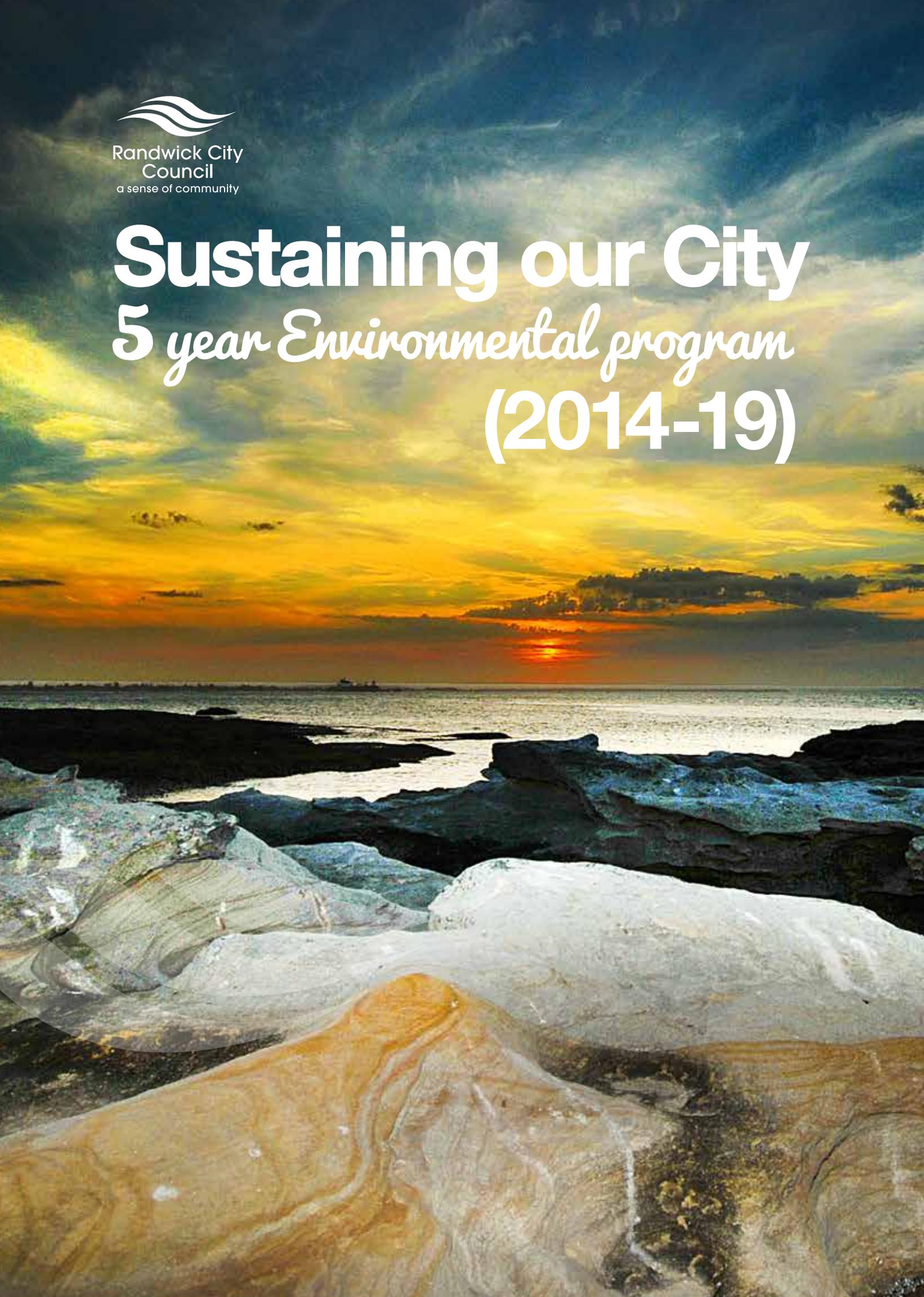


Randwick City
Council
a sense of community

Sustaining our City

5 year Environmental program

(2014-19)

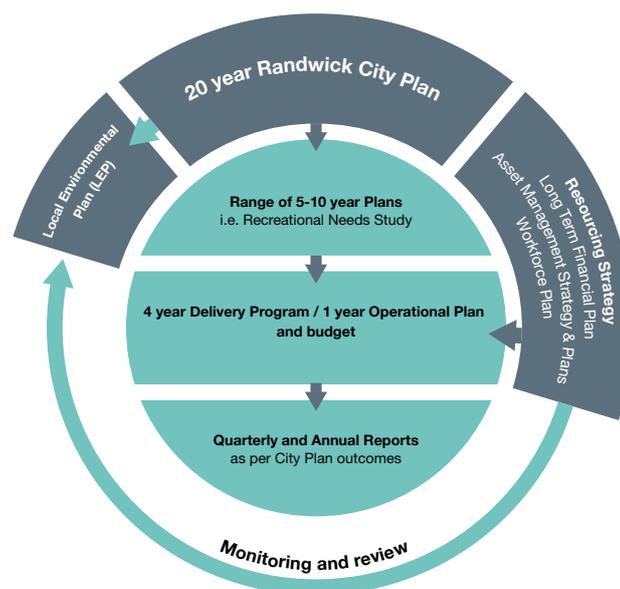


Relationship to the Randwick City Plan

The Randwick City Plan reflects the community’s aspirations for the future. It is based on the extensive research, input from the ongoing and well thought out community engagement processes that are in place and reflects the changes in community expectations as captured through biennial community surveys. It is also based on the knowledge that Council has about its community and the local area. It reflects NSW 2012, the ten year State Plan, the Metropolitan Plan for Sydney 2036 and other key relevant State and regional plans and integrates with key internal documents such as the new Local Environment Plan and Development Control Plans.

The Randwick City Plan was adopted by the Council for implementation in 2006, revised in 2009 and updated in 2012. The City Plan describes the strategic directions for all areas of the Council’s operations including the City’s built environment, economic activity, transport and its natural environment, with the articulated outcomes to be achieved by 2025.

The Randwick City Plan is an overarching document underpinned by a suite of medium term plans and the Resourcing Strategy that explains how we will meet our obligations now and in the future taking into account our workforce, our finances and our assets.



The outcomes and directions in the Randwick City Plan direct the specific strategies that we develop in our Sustaining our City program.

The Randwick City Plan is based on sound principles including the **Principles for Sustainable Cities**.

Devised within the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the principles assist cities in achieving sustainable development. These provide a sound way forward and closely align with our own themes and outcomes.

The overarching vision for these principles is to *'Create an environmentally healthy, vibrant and sustainable city where people respect one another and nature, to the benefit of all.'*

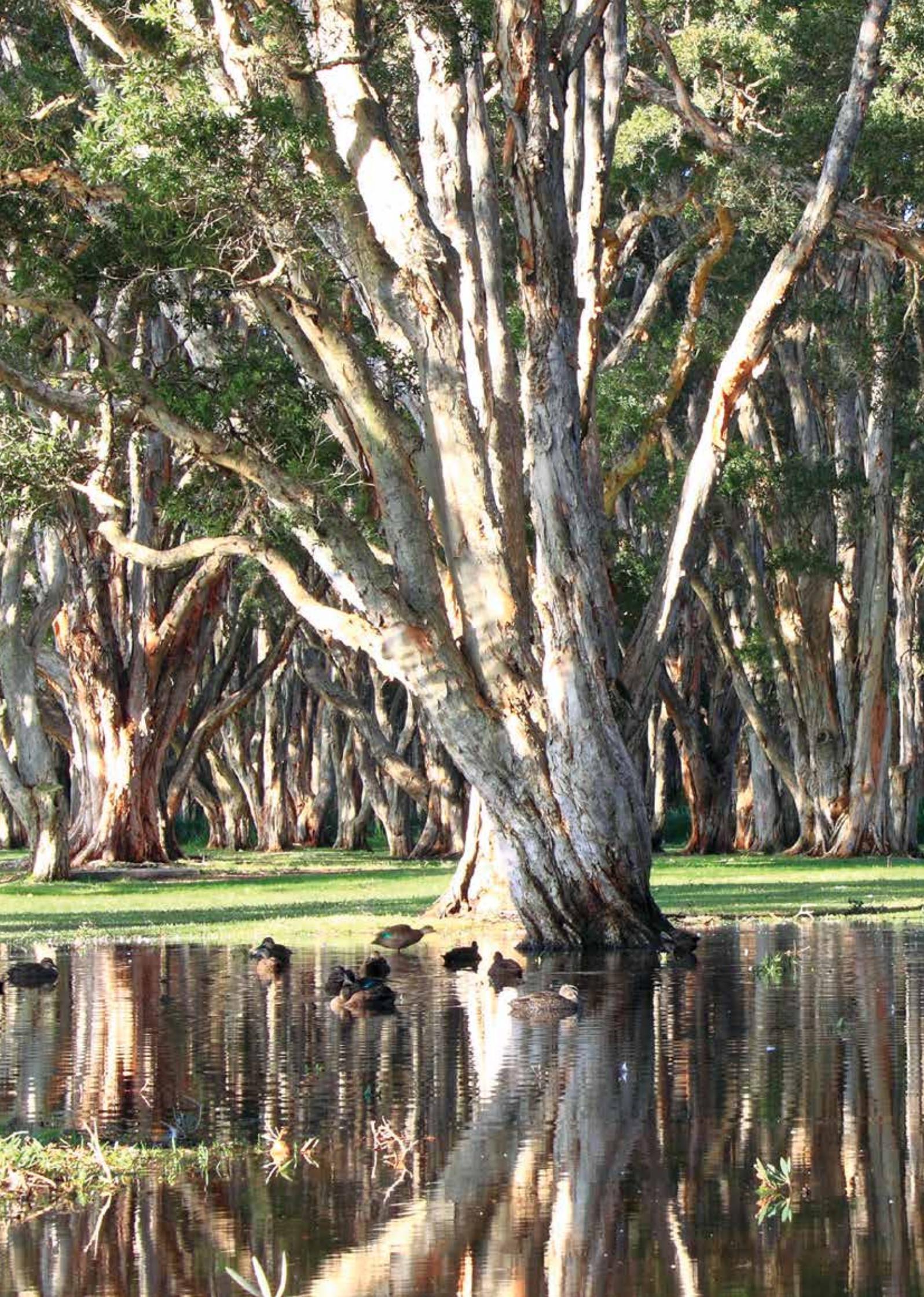
The Principles are:

1. Provide a long-term vision based on: sustainability; intergenerational, social, economic and political equity; and each city's individuality.
2. Achieve long-term economic and social security.
3. Recognise the intrinsic value of biodiversity and natural ecosystems, and protect and restore them.
4. Enable communities to minimise their ecological footprint.
5. Build on characteristics of ecosystems in the development and nurturing of healthy and sustainable cities.
6. Recognise and build on the distinctive characteristics of cities, including their human and cultural values, history and natural systems.
7. Empower people and foster participation.
8. Expand and enable cooperative networks to work towards a common, sustainable future.
9. Promote sustainable production and consumption, through appropriate use of environmentally sound technologies and effective demand management.
10. Enable continual improvement, based on accountability, transparency and good governance.

Leadership in Sustainability

A key outcome for the Randwick City Plan is Leadership in Sustainability where we seek to demonstrate leadership and achieve a sustainable future through applying best practice financial, environmental, organisational, social and planning strategies.

Randwick City Council is a leader in creating a more environmentally sustainable city through its own actions and by increasing community participation and involvement in sustainability practices. We intend to build on our successes and previous programs by enhancing community partnerships and planning for and managing environmental risks and their potential impacts.



Looking after our environment

The theme 'Looking after our environment' responds to pressures facing our natural and built environment now and into the future. We aim to improve the way we conserve our resources and the natural systems that provide us with the high quality of life we all enjoy. We aim to further minimise waste, water and energy use and pollution and to encourage the community to take similar steps where they can.

The progress that governments and the community have made in achieving the current level of clean air, high quality drinking water and marine water quality and the extent of parks and open spaces along our cliff tops, coastal and inland areas must

be appreciated. It has taken a concerted effort over a long period of time to deliver these positive environmental outcomes and the work associated with this theme aims to build upon these important results.

A snapshot of Randwick City

Randwick City's physical and natural environment has a range of magnificent features, from dramatic sandstone geological formations, significant flora and fauna populations, wetlands, open beaches and aquatic reserves. We have nine beaches spread along 29 kilometres of coastline and 243 hectares of remnant bushland.

Randwick City is located in the eastern suburbs of the Sydney metropolitan area. To the north it is bounded by Centennial Park, its eastern boundary is the Pacific Ocean, and its southern boundary is Botany Bay. The western boundary is generally defined by the line of open space largely occupied by golf courses that were developed over low lying land that is known historically as the Lachlan Swamp and Botany Wetlands.

Randwick City has an area of 37.4 square kilometres (3742 hectares), and contains the suburbs of Chifley, Clovelly, Coogee, Kensington, Kingsford, La Perouse, Little Bay, Malabar, Maroubra, Matraville, South Coogee, Phillip Bay and Randwick.

Our City has extensive parkland and open space areas including Centennial Park, Malabar Headland, Heffron Park and Botany Bay National Park that provide opportunities for recreation, relaxation and community interaction. These large areas of open space provide a habitat for over 500 species of indigenous plants and 250 species of terrestrial native vertebrate animals, including several remnant communities of threatened flora and fauna species.

Another of Randwick's great natural assets is its 29 kilometres of coastline. The coastal environment strongly influences the area's character and functions, with uses ranging from tourist destinations, beachside residences and open spaces to industrial developments and port facilities.

Our responsibilities

Council and the community have a joint responsibility to conserve and maintain these unique features of our City, not just for the benefit of humans, but also for the part it plays in keeping our planet healthy. Our responsibility extends to fostering the continued existence of our local biodiversity, taking into account the genetic, species and ecosystem diversity. The educational, recreational and research opportunities afforded by our local biodiversity, its heritage value and the impetus it provides for our local economy are all important factors that we consider in developing our programs, policies and strategies.

Natural resource management needs to be coordinated to safeguard and protect our water, biodiversity, coastal areas, land capability and community access to and the use of these resources. Our natural resources are constantly under pressure from the impact of residents and visitors, changes in land use as well as climate change and pollution. The Council, the community and other levels of government have to manage these pressures effectively to ensure the natural and physical environment remains healthy into the long term.

While we work closely with regional organisations and State and Federal governments to maintain a healthy environment now and into the future, our focus is on our local area. Our programs, policies and strategies aim to influence sustainable behaviour throughout our City. They include practical solutions such as reducing the over-use of water, energy and other natural resources, achieving greater resource recovery by minimising the amount of waste sent to landfill and revegetating our parks and streets as well as improving biodiversity values in our bushland areas.



Leadership in Environmental sustainability

The community is concerned for and supports the continued health and resilience of our local and wider environment. Our policies and programs aim to assist the community develop more sustainable lifestyles that take into consideration our environment. Community members who adopt sustainability practices and achieve reductions in energy and water use and lower levels of greenhouse gas emissions, help shape and protect our environmental assets, while contributing to the quality of our lifestyle and the character of our City.

A key direction for the Council over the long term City Plan is to minimise our City's use of non-renewable resources and consequently the overall impact we have on our environment. The way we live, move around and interact with our environment will be significantly enhanced through sustainable design practices, community programs and our own activities. In assessing the way our environment is managed we will apply ecologically sustainable principles.

We are committed to making Council-owned sites, infrastructure and assets energy and water efficient, while promoting sustainable development on private property through our development controls and policies. We will encourage and support residents to be less reliant on cars, to shop locally, and to walk or cycle for a range of recreational and commuter purposes.

We will build on our partnerships with government agencies and other stakeholders that also manage and influence the conservation and protection of our natural and built environment. Our focus will be on achieving the best possible results for our community and the environment.

On a more individual level, we will deliver a wide range of sustainable education activities and opportunities for residents to live more sustainably around their home, school or workplace. We will aim to continue and expand our environmental and sustainability efforts through Council's proactive Sustaining our City program.

By continuing to place an emphasis on risk management we will develop our ability to manage change and adapt to the environmental challenges that face our City. In this regard, important immediate actions lie in planning for climate change with our community and key stakeholders. This planning will look at adaptation and mitigation and assess the risks and our possible responses.

Our precautionary approach to the management of environmental risks includes reviewing flood risks, coastal inundation and potential impacts of natural disasters, as well as the remediation and improved management of contaminated Council/public land. We will develop plans of management for each remediation area so that the community understands and can participate in the process.



Local biodiversity and natural heritage:

Managing our local native species of aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna, especially threatened species and remnant bushland

Biodiversity takes into account the variety of all life forms, the different plants, animals and micro-organisms, the genes they contain and the ecosystems they have formed. It is essential to protect biodiversity as it ensures the continuation of natural processes that protect life on our planet.

Our emphasis on maintaining biodiversity and recognising our natural heritage is in identifying, protecting, conserving and enhancing our native species of terrestrial and marine flora and fauna and their habitats. We will work to prevent the loss of our remnant bushland areas and to bring wildlife back to our City on both public and private land. We will promote the area's local biodiversity by increasing community understanding and involvement in our conservation programs. We will also be looking to protect local bushland for flora and fauna conservation and continuing to campaign to save the significant flora and fauna populations on Malabar Headland.

Our street trees are also an important part of the open space landscape particularly in the coastal areas of the City where there are significant stands of indigenous vegetation. Street trees provide habitats for fauna such as birds and wildlife and create corridors for their movement. Good

management of our street trees is essential for the protection and enhancement of wildlife habitats.

Federal, State and local governments are working in partnership with businesses and the community on natural resource management (NRM). State-wide NRM targets encompass community education and participation, biodiversity, water quality, coastal issues and land management.

The Council's planning takes direction from the Local Government and Shires Association guidelines Integrating NRM into corporate planning and reporting (Volume 1) and Integrating NRM into land-use planning (Volume 2), and the Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority's Catchment Action Plan.

The Sydney Metro Catchment Management Authority and Office of Environment and Heritage have guidelines for the management of four items found in Randwick City currently listed under the Threatened Species Conservation Act. They include the Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub, Acacia Terminalis native wattle shrub, the Grey Headed Flying Fox and the Green and Golden Bell Frog. The Threatened Species Conservation Act is considered in our strategic planning and assessment of development applications.



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Waste management:

Reducing waste generation and facilitating resource recovery from waste.

The Council is responsible for the collection and disposal of waste generated by households and in public areas. We collect domestic garbage, as well as recycling and green waste. Our frequency of service for public areas takes account of the season and the popularity of the area.

Our Waste Management Strategy and Action Plan sets out how we will reduce the amount of waste generated and the amount of waste going to landfill and its potential impact on the environment. We will investigate opportunities for improved resource

recovery and implementation of environmentally sound collection methods. We will strive to divert at least 66 per cent of our waste from landfills by 2014, and following maximum resource recovery only treated residual waste will be sent to landfill by 2020. We will be relying on high levels of community participation and awareness of waste avoidance, recycling and resource recovery strategies to reach these targets. Waste generation is affected by individual choices, and our community can help to reduce the waste by taking some simple and straightforward actions in relation to consumption and re-use of resources.

Water management:

Managing the local water cycle, encompassing marine, freshwater and ground water systems and our beaches.

Water management within our City means increasing water conservation and efficiency both by increasing water re-use and by improving water use in new and retrofitted development. It also involves making efforts to improve the quality of freshwater and marine water and improving our understanding and management of flooding and groundwater. We will implement many of these

initiatives through our Sustaining our City program, including the installation of a range of water treatment devices to enable re-use and recycling of stormwater and other wastewater.

In the longer term, we will investigate and develop 'total water cycle management' strategies for our key catchments with a focus on water harvesting and water re-use opportunities.



Energy conservation and greenhouse gas emissions:

Increasing energy conservation and efficiency, improving local air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the Council, our community, businesses and transport

Energy conservation and efficiency not only contributes to reduced greenhouse gas emissions but also saves money and is a more efficient way of using our natural resources.

The Council demonstrates leadership by reducing its energy consumption as a consequence saving money for ratepayers and by encouraging individuals to reduce their own use of energy and emissions of greenhouse gases and air pollutants. Council will actively promote and adopt the use of renewable energy where it can.

As part of the implementation of the Cities for Climate Protection program, Council has undertaken energy and water audits of its highest

energy consuming buildings and operations. These audits are now being utilised to identify priority actions and investments Council can make to be more efficient and save on its energy and water usage. Previous plans are being consolidated into a new Energy and Greenhouse Action Plan and investigation will continue into the best opportunities for Council to expand its renewable energy projects, potentially considering opportunities that may include solar, wind and wave power into the future.



Outcomes

We aim to achieve the long term outcomes and directions in the theme **Looking after our environment** in the 20 year City Plan through the integrated actions in the Delivery Program, Operational Plan and the Sustaining our City Program.

The outcome that most relates to 'Looking after our environment' is 'A healthy environment'.

OUTCOME 10: A healthy environment

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

City Plan Directions	Sustaining Our City program actions (2014-19)
10a: Council's programs and partnerships foster sustainable behavioural changes and outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop, implement and review programs aimed at improving sustainability outcomes for residents, schools, businesses and staff.• Expand external partnerships supporting Council's sustainability initiatives• 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.• Investigate and implement incentives aimed at increasing the level of participation of businesses, schools and residents in resource conservation programs.• Construct/upgrade cycle ways and pedestrian access to<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anzac Parade;• Malabar Road;• Matraville• Support the <i>expert group</i> of scientists from the University of New South Wales who will advise council on sustainability and environmental best practices.• Continue to deliver sustainable education workshops, courses and events for residents

City Plan Directions	Sustaining Our City program actions (2014-19)
<p>10b:</p> <p>Policies and programs are developed and implemented in response to environmental risks and their potential impacts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement a long term sustainability framework for Randwick • Develop and implement environmental strategies for remediation of contaminated Council / public land. • Implement recommendations contained in the NSW Government's Floodplain Development Manual and relevant flood studies carried out for Randwick. • Administer and implement Council's Tree Preservation Orders and review process and formally incorporate environmental risk and assessment.
<p>10c:</p> <p>Bushland, open spaces and biodiversity are protected and enhanced for future generations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete further stages of Coastal Walkway including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Malabar Headland Sections; ○ Malabar to La Perouse (adjacent to golf courses) ○ South Coogee to North Maroubra • Develop and install interpretive signage project for our coastline • Continue native plant and animal monitoring via Bushland programs • Continue dune protection and restoration at South Maroubra and Yarra Bay • Implement annual tree planting programs ensuring that species comply with Council's Street Tree Master Plan • Continue expanding our 'Green Corridor', street and park planting across public and private land and private land habitat planting (including Native Haven advice and support for schools and households)
<p>10d:</p> <p>Waste is managed sustainably to ensure highest level of resource recovery.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement community engagement programs on waste and recycling. • Investigate new recycled materials and sustainable processes for road and footpath upgrades • Develop and implement Council's Resource Recovery Strategy to minimise the level of waste going to landfill. • Implement and review actions identified in Council's Litter and Illegal Dumping Management Plan.

City Plan Directions

Sustaining Our City program actions (2014-19)

10e:

A total water cycle management approach including water conservation, re-use and water quality improvements is adopted.

- Stormwater harvesting and irrigation projects including:
 - Alison Park;
 - Purcell Park;
 - Frenchmans Bay;
 - Randwick Environmental Park.
- Building / amenities upgrades at:
 - Administration Building
 - Bowen Library
 - Coogee beach facilities
 - Heffron Park sports centre
- Contribute to projects and studies aimed at improving water quality of our marine and coastal areas.
- Installation of Gross Pollution Traps

10f:

Energy conservation and efficiency programs are implemented.

- Further installations of renewable energy/solar panel installations at Council sites including parks
- Implementation of cogeneration technology
- Implement LED energy efficient streetlight program for Council's parks
- Implement range of energy efficiency measures across Council sites and community
- Implement energy efficiency upgrades including lighting and air conditioning at Bowen Library and Community Centre and Council's Administration Building.



Our Headline measures for this theme are:

- Mains water consumed by the Council's operations per day on average in kilolitres per day
- Net tonnes of greenhouse emissions from the Council's operation in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent
- Energy (electricity and gas) consumed by the Council's top 10 consuming sites in gigajoules per annum
- Household residential mains water consumption in Randwick City – kilolitres per household per year
- Electricity consumed by residential properties in the Randwick City LGA – kilowatt-hours per household per year
- Solar energy generation exported to back to the Ausgrid network from small power systems within Randwick City – megawatt-hours per annum
- 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
- Water quality of beaches - percentage of beaches with a swimming suitability grade of good to very good
- Amount of residential waste diverted from landfill – tonnes of waste diverted per year
- Percentage of surveyed residents with a high degree of concern about the environment
- Biodiversity - percentage of open space land zoned for environmental protection

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