

# Environmental Sustainability Framework

*The Environmental Sustainability Framework is the practical reference framework through which Council implements the Colac Otway Shire Environmental Sustainability Policy.*

## Sustainability Principles

- **Protecting and enhancing the natural environment**, taking due care to avoid serious or irreversible environmental harm.
- **Integrating the principles of sustainability and sustainable development and climate change resilience into decision making.**
- Encouraging **sustainable procurement**.
- **Reducing resource consumption**, particularly energy and water.
- Capturing **renewable resources to generate energy**, such as solar.
- **Considering the waste hierarchy** when procuring, using and disposing of resources and materials.
- Operating in a sustainable manner and **reporting sustainability performance transparently**.
- **Encouraging and inspiring the community to live sustainable lifestyles** and build their resilience to future climate change.

## Focus Areas

- **Natural Environment**
- **Built Environment**
- **Greenhouse Gas Reduction**
- **Climate Change Adaptation**
- **Water**
- **Waste & Pollution**

## Sustainability Priorities

	Natural Environment	Built Environment	Greenhouse Gas Reduction	Climate Change Adaptation	Water	Waste & Pollution
Vision	A healthy and connected natural environment where indigenous landscapes are protected, valued and accessible.	Sustainable, resilient, and accessible towns and communities	A municipality that is energy efficient and rapidly moving towards a zero carbon future for a safe climate	A municipality that is adaptive and resilient to changes in short and long-term climatic conditions	A water sensitive municipality with healthy waterways	A healthy, clean and safe municipality that that enhances natural ecosystems, public health and livability & minimises waste generation and maximises reuse and recycling
Approaches & Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity protection and conservation</li> <li>• Adaptive environmental management</li> <li>• Connected natural systems</li> <li>• Engage and educate the community</li> <li>• Promote sustainable eco-tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban Greening</li> <li>• Environmentally Sustainable Design</li> <li>• Building resilience and livability</li> <li>• Urban connectivity and active transport</li> <li>• Sustainable land use planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve and embed energy efficiency</li> <li>• Promote and utilise renewable energy</li> <li>• Environmentally Sustainable Design</li> <li>• Electrification of council fleet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate risk management</li> <li>• Enhanced Emergency Management</li> <li>• Asset resilience and livability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated water management</li> <li>• Water sensitive urban design</li> <li>• Reduce reliance on potable water</li> <li>• Minimise urban impacts to waterways</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resource Efficiency</li> <li>• Reduce, reuse and recycle</li> <li>• Litter management</li> <li>• Environmental risk management</li> </ul>
Strategic Path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colac Otway Environment Strategy</li> <li>• Colac Otway Planning Scheme</li> <li>• Regulatory compliance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colac Otway Environment Strategy</li> <li>• Colac Otway Planning Scheme</li> <li>• Active Transport Strategy</li> <li>• Colac 2050 Growth Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colac Otway Environment Strategy</li> <li>• Colac Otway Carbon</li> <li>• Neutral Roadmap</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colac Otway Environment Strategy</li> <li>• Colac Otway Climate Change Adaptation Plan</li> <li>• Health and Well Being Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colac Otway Environment Strategy</li> <li>• Colac Stormwater Strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colac Otway Waste Management Strategy</li> <li>• Regulatory compliance</li> </ul>