

CLIMATE CHANGE STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Scenic Rim Regional Council is committed to upholding the guiding expectations identified in the Scenic Rim Community Plan 2011-2026 (Revised 2018). These can broadly be summarised as ensuring the long term economic, social and environmental sustainability of the region. Council recognises the significant impacts that climate change presents for our region along with the direct and indirect impacts of severe weather and disaster events including flood, fire and drought. In the face of global uncertainty, we need to consider the challenge of climate change as a threat to achieving the best future for our region.

While the future presents many challenges, Council is well placed to work together with local communities, businesses, industries and other levels of government in mitigating and adapting to climate change. It is our intent to rise to this challenge, ensuring our Council plays a pivotal role in support of our unique and diverse region.

The key themes below provide a focus for further action.

- Respect and learn from the strong scientific evidence surrounding human influence on climate and the associated impacts on human and natural systems including threats to our life supporting ecosystems;
- Acknowledge the Scenic Rim region is at risk from climate change, with associated impacts for community health and wellbeing, economic productivity, the natural environment, biodiversity and essential infrastructure and services;
- Commit to a more sustainable future through exploring how climate change adaptation and mitigation can be mainstreamed into decision making;
- Engage with our diverse communities to ensure the path forward is unifying for the Scenic Rim region.
- Lead our local community through advocacy and collaboration in reducing our dependence on natural resources as we transition to a carbon neutral economy.
- Recognise that transition to a carbon neutral economy will bring challenges and costs to Council and the community
- Develop strong partnerships and alliances with community, industry and partners to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.
- Advocate at all levels of government to support and contribute in our response to climate change through practical action to ensure the financial burden of such actions does not land unfairly on Council or our communities