

City of Launceston Sustainability Action Plan 2024 in Review

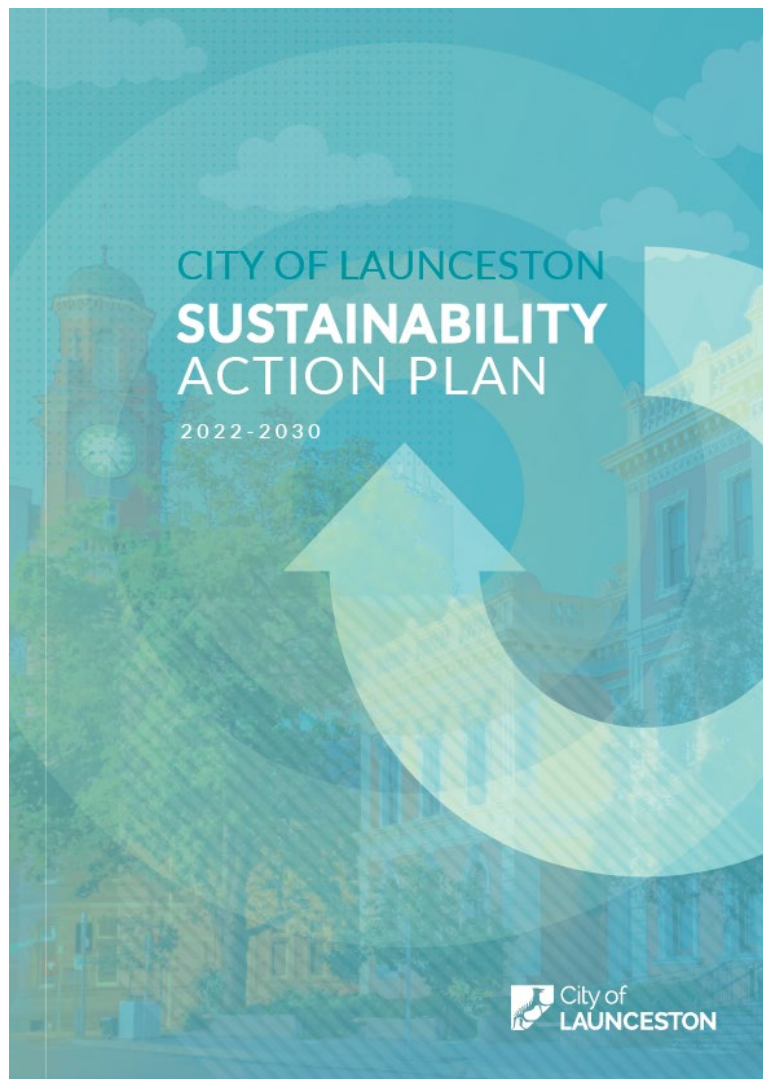


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1. Introduction

In January 2022, the City of Launceston Council formally endorsed the ***Sustainability Action Plan 2022-2030*** as the full implementation plan of the Sustainability Strategy. It sets out how we will improve environmental sustainability across the City of Launceston's operations, service delivery and assets, and how we will support and advocate for our community.

The City of Launceston Sustainability Team is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the Sustainability Action Plan and reporting on progress. The Sustainability Team implements the Action Plan in collaboration with all internal teams at the City of Launceston, as well as relevant industry, business and community groups.

The City of Launceston reports annually on the progress of each target and action and undertakes a review of actions and targets biannually. This is the third progress report which shows cumulative progress since 2022. A review was completed in 2024 and the next review is due in 2026.



2. Summary of Progress

The Sustainability Action Plan has 28 targets and 139 actions across six key priority areas. The purpose of the Review is to show progress against targets and actions and review the relevance of each.

The status of each target and action is shown as: Not yet commenced, In progress, Behind, Achieved, Ongoing, and Discontinued.



Not yet commenced



In progress



Behind



Achieved



Ongoing



Discontinued

2.1 Progress in 2024

Throughout 2024, 24 actions were achieved and 19 new actions commenced. Nine actions and one target are behind planned commencement or completion date however all actions and target are in progress except one action (Natural Capital - Action 5.10).

2.2 Progress to date

Since the endorsement of the Sustainability Action Plan in 2022, eight targets (out of 28) have been achieved, 14 targets are in progress and on schedule to achieve target (as per planned timeframes) and one target is behind schedule (Target 3.2 in Adaptation & Resilience) due to limited resourcing. Actions to achieve Target 3.2 will commence in 2025/26.

- **Target 3.2** All asset and operational procedures are updated to consider future climate projections by 2023 - an organisational wide update of procedures is planned in the coming 12 months and climate considerations will be included in the update.

Out of 139 actions, 67 actions have been achieved (including 39 ongoing), 40 actions are in progress, 21 are yet to commence (as per planned timeframes) and two are now discontinued (refer to Section 3.2). Nine actions (with two actions repeated over two key priority areas i.e. Action 1.6 / 6.2 and Action 3.13 / 6.1) are behind schedule with eight in progress and due for completion in 2025. The end of 2024 presents the first timing milestone with all 'short term' actions due for completion.

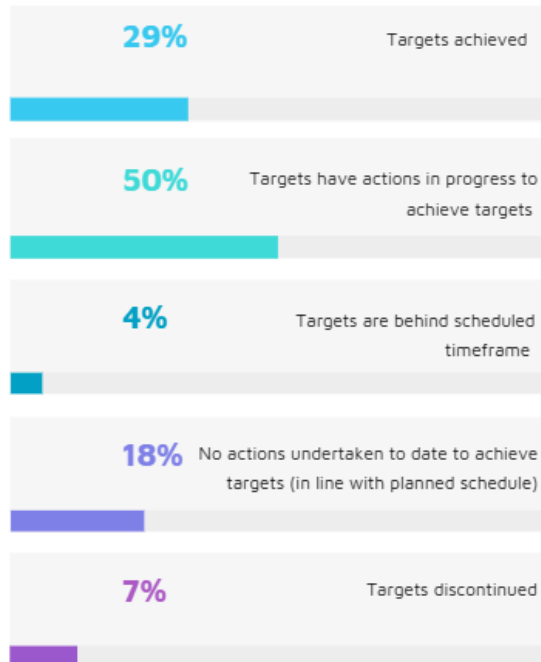
Further details on actions behind schedule is presented below:

- **Action 1.6 / 6.2** Update Council's procurement policy and strategy to ensure goods and services purchased by Council meet criteria for environmental, social and governance responsibility - an updated policy and strategy have been drafted however there is a hold on all new updates to strategies and policies
- **Action 3.7** Review and update the public risk register in relation to climate change risks (as needed) - a draft climate risk register has been developed and will be finalised in 2025.
- **Action 3.13 / 6.1** As part of developing the Environmental Sustainable Buildings Policy or Guideline for the design, construction and major refurbishments of City of Launceston buildings, ensure the climate adaptation component includes key adaptation solutions - a draft ESD Policy developed in 2024 which encompasses climate adaptation components. Further engagement is needed across relevant teams and a technical guidance document to be developed for implementation.
- **Action 4.11** Conduct an audit of the City of Launceston's operational waste (generation and disposal) to identify material usage minimisation, reuse, recovery and optimisation - an organisational wide waste audit commenced in late 2024 to inform the management and diversion of waste. The project is expected to be completed in mid-2025.
- **Action 5.10** Develop site specific water quality objectives for turbidity and dissolved oxygen (DO) based on historic water quality results - this action has been postponed to 2025. Other methods are being implemented to measure water quality, therefore the action's relevancy will be determined in 2025.
- **Action 5.11** Undertake sediment and erosion control measure improvements for developments - in 2023, several external documents were updated including the Urban Waterway Health Program and the State guidelines on erosion and sediment control. An internal policy review for sediment and erosion control has commenced but completion is postponed for 2025 due to staff changes.
- **Action 6.16** Ensure end of life building, plant and equipment are disposed of in accordance to waste management hierarchy and policies - the disposal of all end of life equipment follows the waste hierarchy. A formal policy/procedure will be developed as part of the organisation wide waste audit (Action 4.11).

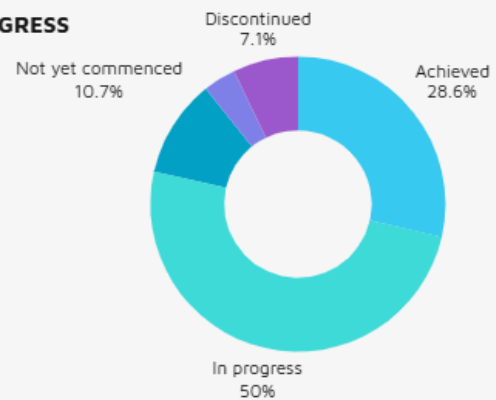
A summary of the Sustainability Action Plan's progress to date (as of 31 December 2024) is presented below.

TARGETS

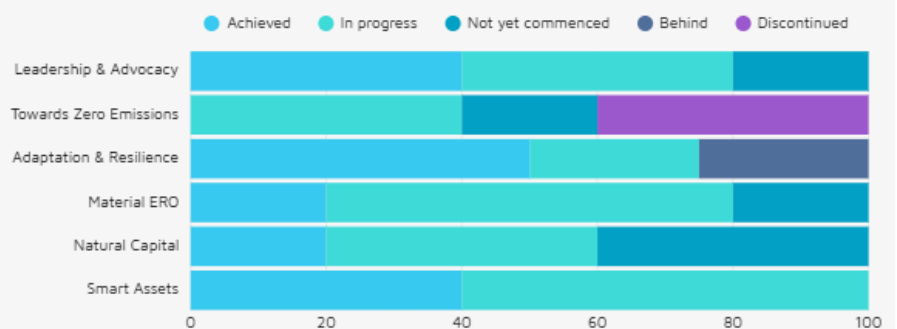
PROGRESS TO DATE as of Jan 2025



SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

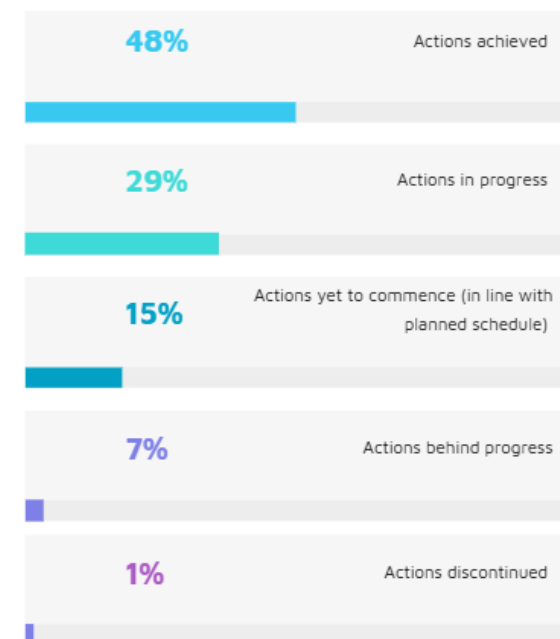


SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACROSS ALL KEY PRIORITY AREAS (JAN 2025)

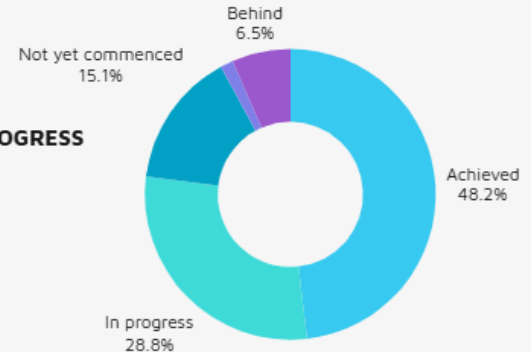


ACTIONS

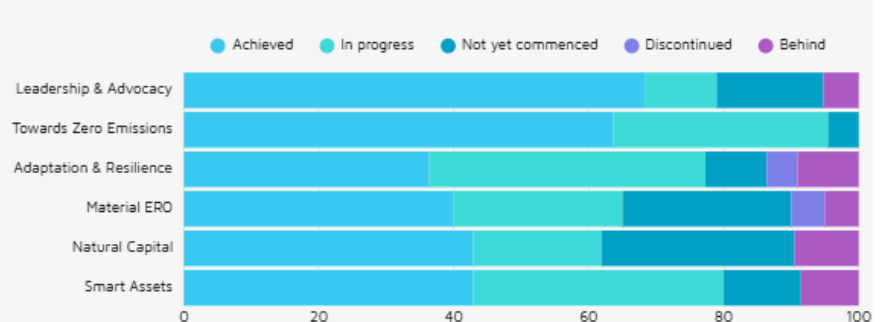
PROGRESS TO DATE as of Jan 2025



SUMMARY OF PROGRESS



SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACROSS ALL KEY PRIORITY AREAS (JAN 2025)



3. Key Priority Area Summary

3.1 Leadership & Advocacy

This key priority area aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Communicate, monitor and assess the City of Launceston's progress in sustainability performance
2. Build our capacity in delivering sustainability outcomes
3. Enhance the sustainability outcomes of our procurement process and supply chain
4. Advocate for the community on sustainability related matters outside of the City of Launceston's control.

The Sustainable Development Goals that this key area contributes to include:



The status and commentary for each target and action based on performance indicators are summarised below:

Target	Commentary	Status
1. Achieve a higher performance score in aligning with the SDGs by 2026 and again in 2030	Due to commence in 2026/27	Not yet commenced
2. The Sustainability Action Plan's progress is reported annually and the review is completed bi-annually	Progress reporting has been completed annually and a review biannually (this report)	Achieved / ongoing
3. All Council decisions are based on sustainability principles by 2026	Key areas of work include sustainability training for all staff to commence in 2024, exploring sustainable procurement and the inclusion of sustainability in our Strategic Plan	In progress
4. Achieve all Cities Power Partnership pledges by 2030	Progress is underway for all five pledges. Key achievements to date include: increasing the renewable energy mix for buildings and fleet; the construction of an End of Trip facility for staff at Town Hall; lobbying State and Federal Govt. to transition Metro buses to zero emission vehicles and support the roll out of e-scooters; and continuing to have no investment in fossil fuel -aligned investments	In progress
5. All sustainability communication mediums are updated and accessible to the community by 2022	The CoL sustainability webpage was updated with new information, reports, projects and relevant resource links	Achieved

Action	Timeframe	Cost	Commentary	Status
1.1a Develop a framework to monitor and assess actions and provide publicly available updates on the progress of the Sustainability Action Plan annually - develop framework	Short term / ongoing	\$	Tracking framework developed	Achieved
1.1b Develop a framework to monitor and assess actions and provide publicly available updates on the progress of the Sustainability Action Plan annually - provide public updates annually	Short term / ongoing	\$	Ongoing publication of updates (this progress report) on the Council website	Achieved / ongoing
1.2 Review and update the City of Launceston's sustainability content on Council's website and social media platforms	Short term / ongoing	\$	Updated and additional sustainability content added to Council's website	Achieved / ongoing
1.3a Undertake a follow up review at the mid and end point of this Action Plan (2026/27) to ensure we are on track to achieving a higher performance score for the relevant SDGs. Publicly report on our progress - midpoint assessment in 2026/27	Moderate to long term	\$	Due to commence in 2026/27	Not yet commenced
1.3b Undertake a follow up review at the mid and end point of this Action Plan (2026/27) to ensure we are on track to achieving a higher performance score for the relevant SDGs. Publicly report on our progress - end point assessment in 2030	Long term	\$	Due to commence in 2030	Not yet commenced
1.4 Develop and roll out a sustainability education and awareness program across Council	Short to moderate term / ongoing	\$	Actions 1.4 and 5.17 will be combined (Action 5.17 is now discontinued). An environmental risk and sustainability education and awareness package was developed in 2024 and rolled out across the organisation. The package commenced with an online e-learning module mandatory for all staff followed by in-person workshops for all teams (to be continued throughout 2025).	Achieved / ongoing
1.5 Develop a Sustainability Working Group within Council to help implement the Sustainability Action Plan	Short term / ongoing	\$	A sustainability working group has been established consisting of staff leading the implementation of this plan	Achieved

1.6 / 6.2 Update Council's procurement policy and strategy to ensure goods and services purchased by Council meet criteria for environmental, social and governance responsibility	Short term	\$	An update of both the policy and procedure is in development. An updated version is expected in 2025	In progress (Behind schedule)
1.7 Assign sustainability weighting / evaluation criteria in tender evaluations to encourage the procurement of sustainable goods and services	Short term / ongoing	\$	Sustainability weighting and evaluation criteria now applied to tenders. CoL will continue to include sustainability weighting in future tenders and add this function in the new corporate application program for procurement. Updating CoL's procurement policy and strategy to include a minimum sustainability weighting is our ultimate goal.	Achieved / ongoing
1.8 Communicate with the City of Launceston's supply chain on our sustainability targets; include sustainable procurement awareness in our induction program for suppliers, and encourage transparency from suppliers on their sustainability targets and achievements	Short term / ongoing	\$	CoL tender documents include information on CoL's sustainability targets as well as questions to suppliers to encourage communicating their sustainability goals, targets and achievements. Some tenders include sustainability related questions that are not scored while others include sustainability performance scoring.	Achieved / ongoing
1.9 Participate in industry research, round table discussions, conferences, working groups etc. that contribute to delivering sustainable outcomes for the community	Short term / ongoing	\$	Some examples of CoL's participation include: PIA Tasmanian Built Environment Climate Action Summit; Exploring Sustainable Cities (Sustainable Cities conference; NTWMG Waste Conference; NESP2 Sustainable communities and waste hub; Climate Emergency Australia various webinars; Hydrogen CRC Industry Partner Workshop; Zero Waste Events Tasmania (ZWET) workshop and working group; presented at the LGAT Climate Change Conference; Tas Gov NRE Tas Catchment Yield Science Update project; Tas WMRR Forum; participated in UTAS Masters research project, "Auditing built environments for vulnerability to heatwaves"; Northern Region Drought Resilience Planning Project - Futures Scenario Workshop; Resilience Canopy workshop; Tamar Valley Zero workshop; and Climate Futures Natural Hazards Atlas for Tasmania	Achieved / ongoing

1.10 Continue the divestment from all direct fossil fuel aligned investments and further explore the divestment from indirect fossil fuel aligned activities e.g. banking and superannuation (in line with Cities Power Partnership pledges)	Moderate to long term / ongoing	\$	No direct investment in fossil fuel investments. Investigating CoL's indirect investments through banking and super funds	In progress
1.11 Share and emphasise our sustainability and collaboration wins to encourage similar rollout across the community	Short term / ongoing	\$	Ongoing promotion of Council's sustainability wins including: Waste videos on YouTube ; Natural capital wins such as revegetation programs, Bike week activities; Sustainable Community Working Group and other collaborating groups . Several new wins for 2024 include winning the overall Tasmanian Keep Australia Beautiful award for various sustainability projects and actions CoL has undertaken to reduce corporate GHG emissions by 33% from the previous years presented at the Sustainable Living Festival and Engage For Change Climate Talk Series.	Achieved / ongoing
1.12 Participate in a working group with local stakeholders in which sustainability is a key theme	Short term / ongoing	\$	Council's Sustainability Officer is a member of the Sustainable Community Working Group (SCWG) who meet monthly and aim to connect, educate and mobilise the community to enhance sustainability outcomes for Launceston	Achieved / ongoing
1.13 Increase funding allocation to community sustainability projects	Short to moderate term	\$\$	Due to commence in 2025	Not yet commenced
1.14 Advocate for State and Federal Governments to increase sustainable transport outcomes across the region including the introduction of rigorous minimum vehicle emissions standards; incentives for low and zero emission vehicles; change in legislation to support electric scooters; and the provision of funding for sustainable transport infrastructure (in line with Cities Power Partnership pledges)	Short term / ongoing	\$	Advocated for the change in legislation to support electric scooters; supported lobbying the Federal Government to reduce remove local government Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) for EVs (successful) and emissions standards (TBC); supported lobbying Metro and the State Government Minister for the extension of the free public transport that occurred in April 2022; currently supporting Metro's Zero Emissions Vehicle (ZEV) trial in Launceston	Achieved / ongoing
1.15 Advocate for product stewardship at State and Federal levels to minimise waste generation from product and packaging manufacturing	Moderate term / ongoing	\$	Advocacy through the NTWMP and the new NTWMP and now via NRE North with circular economy. E-waste, household batteries, paint, and drum muster stewardships are key examples. These streams are now managed and funded under their relevant program.	In progress

1.16 Support the delivery of a major sustainability event for the local community to increase the awareness of sustainable lifestyle choices	Moderate term	\$	Sponsored the Sustainable Living Festival Oct-21 and Mar-24 and CoL staff presented, hosted stalls and sat on the working group who delivered the festivals	Achieved
1.17 Undertake community engagement to further understand the sustainability priorities of the community and where the City of Launceston's support is most needed. Include actions as part of the first Sustainability Action Plan review (to be achieved biannually)	Short term / ongoing	\$\$	Two community surveys were delivered in 2024: "A Resilient City" from the Tomorrow Together engagement program and a Community Emissions survey as part of the engagement program "Low Carbon Launceston". Results were analysed and actions will be included in the Community Climate Action Plan 2025-35.	Achieved

3.2 Towards Zero Emissions

This key priority area aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Measure, monitor and track our emissions profile and progress in reducing emissions
2. Avoid and reduce our consumption of energy and materials and maximise efficiencies
3. Transition to electrification and renewable energy
4. Increase the diversion of waste to landfill
5. Explore and support emission capture and sequestration technologies and initiatives.

The Sustainable Development Goals that this key area contributes to include:

The Towards Zero Emissions key priority area will focus on improving the City of Launceston's performance score in SDGs:



The status and commentary for each target and action based on performance indicators are summarised below:

Target	Commentary	Status
1. Reduce City of Launceston's building and transport emissions by 20% (from the 2018/19 baseline) by 2030	Energy efficiency measures are being explored at high energy use sites. A Sustainable Fleet guideline was developed to transition fleet to zero emissions	In progress
2. Power all City of Launceston owned buildings by 100% renewable energy by 2025	Three facilities remain connected to gas. Transitioning these facilities is being explored	In progress
3. Achieve carbon neutrality as an organisation by 2025	Carbon neutrality will not be achieved due to emissions associated with Launceston's landfill. A new Science Derived Target will be set in 2025	Discontinued
4. Reduce the quantity of carbon offsets purchased in 2025 by 2030	Offsets will not be purchased	Discontinued

Action	Timeframe	Cost	Commentary	Status
2.1 Calculate City of Launceston's annual emissions from operations	Ongoing	\$	Achieved for the 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 financial years	Achieved / ongoing
2.2 Develop a framework to track emission reduction actions and provide publicly available updates on the progress of actions	Short term / ongoing	\$	Framework developed and updates published on the Council website	Achieved

2.3 Undertake a desktop audit of City of Launceston's high energy consuming facilities to identify energy opportunities	Short term / ongoing	\$	Energy data collated and annual comparisons completed each year	Achieved / ongoing
2.4 / 6.6 Continue upgrading the City of Launceston's facilities to increase energy efficiencies e.g. efficient heat, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, adequate insulation and ventilation, window glazing, high efficiency LED lighting and de-lamping etc.	Moderate term / ongoing	\$\$\$\$	Upgrade of lighting, heating and HVAC systems underway.	In progress
2.5 Transition gas powered facilities to electrification	Short to moderate term	\$\$\$\$	Launceston Leisure and Aquatic Centre (LAC) transitioned off gas to heat pumps and solar; UTAS stadium gas showers to be upgraded to electric; QVMAG gas boiler replacement to electric now has budget allocated for 2026/2027; working with stakeholders on the transition of Council's cremator off gas (no electric cremators currently exist in Australia)	In progress
2.6 / 6.17 Investigate opportunities to utilise low embodied emission, reusable and recycled materials for City of Launceston's construction works, including the construction of assets, asset upgrades and maintenance works whilst adhering to design and construction standards	Short term / ongoing	\$	CoL is currently investigating the procurement of road surfacing products that incorporates otherwise landfill-bound materials such as soft plastics, crumbed rubber, ground glass, road millings, reclaimed asphalt, and ink toners. CoL attended information sessions with Austral and Boral to understand lower embodied carbon alternatives to current material usage (e.g. concrete and bricks). CoL was successful in a grant to utilise recycled concrete for a bike path.	Achieved / ongoing
2.7 / 6.18 Continue the transition of powering buildings, fleet, plant and equipment by renewable energy sources	Long term / ongoing	\$\$\$\$	Council is continuing the transition of buildings to renewable energy with three facilities remaining on gas and ongoing installation of solar panels on Council-managed facilities (installed rooftop solar PV on 18 Council facilities). Council fleet consists of four electric vehicles and two hybrids. A Sustainable Fleet guideline has been developed to transition fleet to zero emissions	In progress
2.8 Set targets to increase the level of renewable power for the City of Launceston's operations over time (in line with Cities Power Partnership pledges)	Short term	\$	A Sustainable Fleet Guideline was developed and includes targets to transition fleet to zero emissions. Building related targets will be explored in 2025.	In progress

2.9 / 6.22 Investigate and trial alternative transport options for work travel e.g. introduction of electric bikes and scooters to City of Launceston's fleet	Short term / ongoing	\$\$	Micro mobility working committee established and two devices introduced to Council fleet at Town Hall. Additional devices will be added to the fleet across various Council sites.	Achieved / ongoing
2.10 Promote and incentivise sustainable and active employee travel to and from work (e.g. discounted Greencards, explore salary sacrificing electric bike, scooters and vehicle purchases, and conduct cycle and hands on maintenance education programs etc.)	Short to moderate term	\$	The Town Hall End of Trip facility was completed in Mar-23 and provides staff with appropriate amenities to support sustainable and active travel to and from work (e.g. showers, change rooms, lockers and secure micro mobility device storage). Council is also investigating other programs for staff incentives, namely discounted Greencards and salary sacrificing personal vehicles and micro-mobility devices	In progress
2.11 Coordinate the increase of gas capture capacity and efficiencies in the existing landfill gas extraction system	Long term / ongoing	\$	Gas pipeline infrastructure was installed in 2023 to increase gas capture efficiencies. Additional infrastructure will be installed on an as needed basis.	Achieved / ongoing
2.12 / 4.4 Promote commercial FOGO services for organisations generating large volumes of organic waste	Long term	\$	Several commercial companies onboarded including LGH, Harvest Markets, Lenah Meats, local events and Peppers Silos. In discussions with several more organisations to on-board in 2024. CoL is exploring directly servicing businesses and FOGO collection.	In progress
2.13 / 4.5 Continue to expand kerbside FOGO collection services to cover entire municipality	Moderate term	\$\$	All of municipality made eligible for voluntary kerbside FOGO from July 2022.	Achieved
2.14 Investigate the technology available to assess City of Launceston's carbon sinks and sequestration capacity	Moderate term	\$\$	Due to commence in 2025	Not yet commenced
2.15 Establish the City of Launceston's carbon offset options to achieve carbon neutrality by 2025	Short to moderate term / ongoing	\$\$	Carbon offsets scoping study completed. CoL will not proceed in purchasing carbon offsets.	Achieved
2.16 Calculate annual community emissions	Ongoing	\$	Annual emissions calculated	Achieved / ongoing

2.17 Set emissions reduction targets for community emissions	Moderate term	\$-\$	A community emissions target has been set as part of the Community Climate Action Plan due for endorsement in 2025	Achieved
2.18 In partnership with key stakeholders, develop and promote communication tools to educate the community on climate change and climate mitigation actions that can be undertaken in homes and businesses to reduce emissions	Short to moderate term	\$\$	The Climate Change Summary Report was completed and uploaded to our webpage in 2022. Additionally, partnerships include with ClimateClever, the Sustainable Community Working Group and the Van Diemen Project. Tools available on Council website " Living Sustainably "	Achieved
2.19 Explore publicly available data on the proportion of energy type used in the municipality to identify opportunities for the City of Launceston to support the community in transitioning to clean, safe and affordable energy	Moderate term	\$	Publicly available data on the municipality's proportion of energy type was identified as part of the Community Climate Action Plan. Actions contained in the Plan identify the opportunities for our community to transition to low or zero emissions energy types e.g. solar or transitioning from gas to electricity.	Achieved
2.20 Promote any upcoming state and federal grant funding to the community to stimulate locally driven emissions reduction actions	Ongoing	\$	Several grants promoted including: Solar sports complexes grant; Business Resource Efficiency Program (BREP); Healthy Tasmania Fund - Healthy Focus Grants - includes climate change consideration; Community Led Climate Solutions Grant Program; and NRM North's Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Grants	Achieved / Ongoing
2.21 Support schools and businesses in the delivery of emissions reduction initiatives e.g. ClimateClever	Short term / ongoing	\$\$	Schools, businesses and homes supported during 2021 and 2022 including direct engagement, promotion on the Council website, and hosting of a community online webinar presentation. Further engagement completed in 2024 as part of the Low Carbon Launceston engagement program. Dedicated actions for schools and businesses are contained in the Community Climate Action Plan due for endorsement in 2025.	Achieved / ongoing

2.22 In partnership with key stakeholders, support local industry to transition to low emissions farming and regenerative agriculture practices	Short to moderate term / ongoing	\$	Financially supported by Council, Tamar NRM delivered a series of "On Farm" forums in 2023 aimed at local farmers and interested community members. Workshops focussed on topics relevant to small and new land holders, such as fire, forestry, fences, carbon farming, soil, succession planning, water, waste, and weeds. Further work will be conducted in this space.	In progress

3.3 Adaptation & Resilience

This key area aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Improve understanding and communication of climate change risks and impacts across the City of Launceston's services, operations, assets, local community and the region
2. Increase the resilience of the City of Launceston's service delivery, operations and assets to a changing climate
3. Increase the resilience of residents and businesses enabling better preparedness, response and recovery from the impacts of climate change
4. Seek opportunities to collaborate on climate adaptation with key stakeholders and all levels of government.

The Sustainable Development Goals and Cities Power Partnership pledge that this key area contributes to include:

The Adaptation & Resilience key priority area will focus on improving the City of Launceston's performance score in SDGs:



The status and commentary for each target and action based on performance indicators are summarised below:

Target	Commentary	Status
1. All City of Launceston owned new builds and major refurbishments apply climate adaptation principles commencing 2022	Designs to date at Albert Hall and Princess Theatre have included climate adaptation considerations	Achieved / ongoing
2. All asset and operational procedures are updated to consider future climate projections by 2023	In progress. A review of all procedures is due to commence in 2025	In progress (Behind schedule)
3. Resident-facing disaster guidance for high climate risks is developed and made available to the public by 2023	Fire and flood guidance documents are in draft but not yet public. The Climate Change Summary Report which includes projected climate risks was published in 2022	Achieved / ongoing
4. Increase the tree canopy cover percentage on City of Launceston owned land (from the 2021 baseline) by 2025 and again by 2030 (shared target with Natural Capital)	The Urban Greening Strategy was endorsed in 2023 and sets out how we will achieve an increased tree canopy cover	In progress

Action	Timeframe	Cost	Commentary	Status
3.1 Participate in a working group to collaborate and progress climate adaptation at a regional or state level	Short term / ongoing	\$\$	CoL is a member of the Northern Tasmanian Alliance for Resilient Councils (NTARC) which works collaboratively with other Councils and the State to assess and adapt to climate risks	Achieved / Ongoing
3.2 Develop publicly available climate change educational resources targeted at the local level	Short term	\$	Launceston climate projections and summary project finalised and published on the Council website . Information to be shared with community groups and schools in 2023	Achieved
3.3 Develop a climate change communication plan for internal and external purposes (at either a municipal or regional level)	Moderate	\$-\$\$	Scope of works has been developed and work is due to commence in 2025 at a regional level under NTARC	In progress
3.4 Utilising the most recent climate projections for the municipality, review the City of Launceston's climate vulnerabilities and risks (including physical, transition and liability risks) to operations, services and assets, and update adaptation actions (as needed) to increase resilience (e.g. heat island affect and water availability)	Moderate term	\$\$-\$\$\$	In partnership with NTARC, CoL has developed a draft climate risk register and adaptation plan which will be finalised in 2025.	In progress
3.5 In partnership with NRM groups, utilise the most recent climate projections for the municipality and review the City of Launceston's previous vulnerability assessments on its natural resource management, including high value and susceptible vegetation communities, and adapt management practices to increase resilience	Moderate term	\$-\$\$\$	Due to commence in 2025	Not yet commenced
3.6 Work with local Tasmanian Aboriginal people to increase Council's understanding of culturally significant sites on the City of Launceston's managed land and the need to protect them from the impacts of climate change.	Long term / ongoing	\$\$	As a part of the development of CoL's Heritage Interpretation Strategy, Council has engaged Milangkani Projects to develop a Tasmanian Aboriginal Community Consultation Framework. This framework will support Council's intent to work in partnership with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community to identify and protect culturally	In progress

			significant sites across the municipality, such sites may include Cataract Gorge or Punchbowl Reserve.	
3.7 Review and update the public risk register in relation to climate change risks (as needed)	Short term / ongoing	\$	In partnership with NTARC, CoL has developed a draft climate risk register which will be finalised in 2025.	In progress (behind schedule)
3.8 Review the City of Launceston's service delivery to determine whether additional or modified climate responsive services are required to adapt to a changing climate	Moderate term	\$	Review is to commence in 2025/26. Discussions underway with Council's Governance team for inclusion in Council's risk register	In progress
3.9 Review the City of Launceston's emergency management planning and emergency response and recovery plans to ensure they are based on the most recent climate projections	Short term / ongoing	\$	The Emergency Response Framework and Emergency Response Strategy includes recent climate projections and endorsed in 2022.	Achieved
3.10 Review the alternative emergency egress roads from residential areas that are vulnerable to bushfire and flooding	Short term / ongoing	\$	<p>Tas Fire Service hosted bushfire planning information sessions; Launceston Levee Protected Lands Response Plan has been endorsed and includes a Traffic Management Plan for evacuation of Invermay (highest risk to human life is Invermay) and surrounding suburbs. CoL officers have been heavily involved in the development of this plan.</p> <p>More broadly, the SES is undertaking a state-wide flood mapping project to inform flood risk on a state-wide level. This will include an analysis of Launceston's rural areas and provide additional information. This project is now with the SES.</p>	Achieved
3.11 Undertake a review of land use planning in levee protected areas to minimise the flood risk for future developments	Short term	\$	The Planning Scheme Amendment was initiated at the Council Meeting on 12 December 2024.	Achieved
3.12 Integrate updated climate risks and adaptation actions in the City of Launceston's future strategic documents	Moderate Short to long term / ongoing	\$	This action was due to commence in 2025, however, Council has updated the timeframe to be short term to commence earlier align with best practice governance.	In progress

			Reference to climate risks and adaptation actions are included in some specific strategy documents including Transport Strategy, Urban Forest Strategy, Storm System Management Plan, and Urban Waterway Program. Climate risks are included in several individual asset management risk registers. However, there is limited reference to climate change/ environmental sustainability in the Strategic Plan (update due 2025), the Long Term Financial Management Plan (including Financial Management Risks), and the Asset Management Policy. Climate risks and adaptation actions will be integrated into these strategic documents as part of upcoming reviews	
3.13 As part of developing the Environmental Sustainable Buildings Policy or Guideline for the design, construction and major refurbishments of City of Launceston buildings, ensure the climate adaptation component includes key adaptation solutions such as adaptive building location, use of future climate appropriate building materials, and engineering solutions to increased extreme weather events and a changing climate (e.g. increased guttering and downpipe capacity, increased roof durability, water sensitive urban design (WSUD), rainwater harvesting, thermal comfort, increased tree canopy cover in adjacent areas, self-sufficient powered emergency facilities etc.)	Short term / ongoing	\$	Relevant Council documents reviewed in 2023 and draft ESD Policy developed in 2024 which encompasses climate adaptation components. Further engagement is needed across relevant teams and a technical guidance document to be developed for implementation.	In progress (behind schedule)

3.14 Target priority areas for design alternatives to the use of hard impermeable surfaces (e.g. concrete/asphalt infill to road verges, car parks, stormwater drains etc.) to adapt to the impacts of climate change and increase green cover throughout the city (e.g. WSUD for improved filtration of stormwater runoff in heavy rainfall events and green infrastructure to moderate microclimates during heatwaves while providing habitat for local biodiversity)	Moderate term	\$-\$\$\$	<p>Various projects have included alternatives to hard impermeable surfaces e.g. CBD raingardens, Newnham reserve stormwater mitigation project, and the urban waterways program.</p> <p>Prioritising permeable surfaces will be included in the ESD Policy for CoL projects.</p>	In progress
3.15 Review and update our insurances and indemnities in regards to liability of property damage in flood, storm and bushfire events	Short term / ongoing	\$	CoL review and update our climate risk profile and general information as part of our annual insurance renewal	Achieved / ongoing
3.16 In partnership with the Tasmanian Fire Service, investigate treatment options for fuel modified buffer zones within the City of Launceston's managed reserves to appropriately reduce fuel loads around infrastructure and assets	Short to moderate term	\$-\$\$	CoL engaged with TFS on buffer zones (e.g. removing and modifying vegetation) and is progressing fire management and fuel reduction activities for adaptation and resilience. The Bushfire Management Strategy for Council Owned and Managed Land 2015-2025 will be reviewed in 2025	In progress
3.17 Engage with local Tasmanian Aboriginal people on the use of traditional knowledge to better manage the landscape (e.g. cultural burning practices) and explore the opportunity for a collaborative trial on City of Launceston's managed land	Short to moderate term	\$	<p>CoL has attended cultural burning workshops held by NRM North and engaged with Aboriginal groups exploring the possible burns on land within the municipality. Engagement has provided CoL with further knowledge on cultural weaving to ensure preferred reed species are included in species list for rehabilitation works. CoL has engaged with Connected Beginnings (early childhood learning) and Pakana Rangers (part of TAC) about a waterway rehabilitation project.</p> <p>Further work will be undertaken as part of the Aboriginal Partnership Plan</p>	In progress

3.18 Review all strategy documentation relevant to flora to ensure the impacts of climate change have been considered in future planning and works (e.g. species tolerant to increased temperatures, extended dry periods, and high intensity rainfall events, species with higher sequestration rates, species that provide greater shade)	Moderate to long term	\$	Due to commence in 2025. The Urban Forestry Strategy will include these considerations	Not yet commenced
3.19 / 5.8 Develop and implement an Urban Forestry Strategy (with the inclusion of a baseline assessment, setting of targets to increase tree canopy cover, applying a climate adaptation approach and increasing green infrastructure)	Short term	\$\$- \$\$\$	The Urban Forestry Strategy and Implementation Plan was endorsed in 2023	Achieved
3.20 Support the capacity building of the community to be prepared for, adapt, and build resilience to the impacts of climate change (e.g. extreme storms, bushfire, flooding, drought and increased temperatures) on health, lifestyle and physical assets	Short term / ongoing	\$\$- \$\$\$	CoL online assets updated to provide the community information to understand their disaster risk profile and plan for emergencies; a physical resource hub for disaster planning has been set up in the Customer Service Area; the State Emergency Service (SES) has released the Levee-Protected Areas Community Flood Guides, designed to support residents living behind levees. These guides provide critical preparedness information, including evacuation triggers, to help residents plan effectively for potential flood events; CoL helped facilitate training in conjunction with the Resilience Canopy, a nation-wide program aimed at building strong and challenge-ready communities, able to adapt to future shocks and stresses from natural hazards or other societal challenges.	Achieved / ongoing
3.21 Promote and share community climate adaptation initiatives and achievements	Short to moderate term	\$	Through the process of developing the content for The Adaptation Game (TAG), community adaptation initiatives will be collated and promoted. TAG is to commence in 2025.	In progress

3.4 Material Efficiency, Recovery & Optimisation

This key priority area aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Avoid and reduce community waste generation
2. Increase the diversion of waste to landfill and reduce contamination within waste streams
3. Avoid and reduce waste generation from the City of Launceston's operations and owned facilities
4. Support the development of new technologies in alternatives to landfill.

The Sustainable Development Goals and Cities Power Partnership pledge that this key area contributes to include:

The Material Efficiency, Recovery & Optimisation key priority area will focus on improving the City of Launceston's performance score in SDGs:



The status and commentary for each target and action based on performance indicators are summarised below:

Target	Commentary	Status
1. 90% of City of Launceston operational waste is diverted from landfill by 2030	An organisational wide waste audit commenced in late 2024 to inform the management and diversion of waste	In progress
2. 80% of community waste is diverted from landfill by 2030	Diversion rates are estimated at 40% and are continuing to increase	In progress
3. 25% of community organic waste is diverted from landfill by 2025	Diversion rates are estimated at 40% and are continuing to increase	Achieved
4. 100% of households are provided FOGO kerbside bins by 2030	An estimated 53% of households are equipped with FOGO bins based on a voluntary basis	In progress
5. Kerbside recycling contamination rate is less than 10% by 2025	Contamination rates are estimated to be at 15-20%. Further education and awareness is needed to further reduce contamination rates	In progress

Action	Timeframe	Cost	Commentary	Status
4.1 Using a waste hierarchy lens, develop and implement a Council wide communication, awareness and education plan and program to build staff capacity to minimise material usage and increase material recovery and optimisation	Long term / ongoing	\$\$	Due to commence in 2025 following the completion of the organisation wide waste audit (Action 4.11). Actions 4.1 and 4.13 will be combined (Action 4.13 is now discontinued).	Not yet commenced

4.2 Review sustainable landfill and FOGO pricing to drive higher waste avoidance, reduction, reuse, recycle and composting rates, and implement changes if necessary	Short to moderate term / ongoing	\$	Pricing is now set and will be reviewed annually	Achieved / Ongoing
4.3 Review kerbside collection stream types and frequency, and implement changes if necessary	Long term	\$\$\$\$	Due to commence in 2027	Not yet commenced
4.4 / 2.12 Promote commercial FOGO services for organisations generating large volumes of organic waste	Long term / ongoing	\$	Several commercial companies on boarded including LGH, Harvest Markets, Crips, Lenah Game Meats, Peppers Silos and local events. Discussions occurring with local supermarkets and additional hotels	In progress
4.5 / 2.13 Continue to expand kerbside FOGO collection services to cover entire Local Government Authority boundary	Moderate term	\$\$	All of municipality made eligible for voluntary kerbside FOGO from July 1 2022	Achieved
4.6 Invest in expanding the composting facility to cater for increases in materials	Moderate to long term	\$\$\$\$	Due to commence in 2025	Not yet commenced
4.7 Plan for and establish a construction and demolition recovery facility	Moderate term	\$\$\$\$	Scoping study and audit now complete. Feasibility study completed in 2024.	In progress
4.8 Conduct kerbside (general waste), landfill and transfer station audits to increase understanding of waste materials and opportunities to divert from landfill	Short to moderate term	\$\$\$	Audit completed. Next audit due in 2024/25	Achieved / Ongoing
4.9 Upgrade waste transfer stations to meet best practice standards	Long term	\$\$\$\$	Due to commence in 2027	Not yet commenced
4.10 Include best practice waste management practices in tender specifications	Short term / ongoing	\$	Several tenders published in 2022 and 2023 included best practice waste management conditions in tender specifications. CoL working to include best practice waste management practices in all tender specifications	In progress
4.11 Conduct an audit of the City of Launceston's operational waste (generation and disposal) to identify material usage minimisation, reuse, recovery and optimisation	Short term	\$\$	An organisational wide waste audit commenced in late 2024 to inform the management and diversion of waste. The project is expected to be completed in mid-2025.	In progress (behind schedule)

4.12 Increase our knowledge of the life cycle analysis for a selection of Council's frequently used materials or products (e.g. building foundation materials, road base, timber, office paper etc.) and determine whether a more sustainable alternative is available (e.g. lower embodied energy and emissions, higher recycled content, forest stewardship certified (FSC) etc.)	Moderate term	\$-\$\$	CoL is currently investigating the procurement of road surfacing products that incorporates otherwise landfill-bound materials such as soft plastics, crumbed rubber, ground glass, road millings, reclaimed asphalt, and ink toners. CoL has attended information sessions with Austral and Boral to understand lower embodied carbon alternatives to current material usage (e.g. concrete and bricks). A grant was successful to trial e-concrete for a bike path in Kings Meadows. CoL is increasing knowledge in sustainable timber products (e.g. scientifically engineered timber). LCA and embodied carbon calculation tools have been researched for future use.	Achieved / ongoing
4.13 Promote waste avoidance and resource efficiencies to employees and at the City of Launceston's owned community facilities through education and awareness programs and effective signage	Short term	\$	<p>Actions 4.1 and 4.13 will be combined (Action 4.13 is now discontinued).</p> <p>Education and awareness has been conducted through bin signage and volunteers stationed at bins at events on Council land. Employees are reminded of Council waste education videos on YouTube. In 2023, FOGO waste collection was rolled out at Town Hall and the uniform reuse and recycle station expanded at Town Hall and Remount Road - both accompanied by appropriate signage and communication and awareness delivery. The roll out of FOGO waste collection across other CoL sites will be explored in 2024.</p>	Discontinued
4.14 Introduce and implement a policy to have mandatory best practice waste collection systems at the City of Launceston's main buildings (e.g. recycling and FOGO, tender specifications, lease agreements)	Moderate term	\$	FOGO and soft clear plastics are now collected at Town Hall. A roll out of these bins and an accompanying policy will commence following the completion of the organisation wide waste audit (Action 4.11).	Not yet commenced
4.15 Increase the accessibility of electronic document programs to reduce paper usage e.g. e-forms, e-sign and file share	Short term	\$\$	Council electronic signature procedure (for internal documentation purposes) developed and implemented. QR codes used as an alternative to paper noticeboards. Council introduced an electronically editable version for the majority of public-facing Council forms.	Achieved / ongoing

4.16 Develop a Landfill Plan to understand future capacity and timeframes	Short term	\$\$	The Landfill Development Plan has been developed (Dec 2022)	Achieved
4.17 Explore, review and participate in research and development in alternatives to landfill technologies e.g. bioenergy and waste to energy	Long term	\$\$	Council participating in research discussions. Circular North's investigation into the future of waste management for the region and will include a waste to energy component	In progress
4.18 Expand Action 4.1 to develop and implement a community wide communication, awareness and education plan and program to build the community's capacity to minimise material usage, reduce contamination within waste streams, and divert waste from landfill	Long term / ongoing	\$\$	Circular North is now leading waste education however Council will continue educating wherever possible. Council has previously conducted and supported waste education at local schools, Harvest Markets, Tamar NRM's Plastic Free Launceston working group, Business Resource Efficiency Program (BREP). Council participated in the steering committee and technical committee for NTWMP. Council also hosted the Waste NoT Awards for several years.	In progress
4.19 Support community reuse and/or repair projects e.g. Tool Library, Repair Cafe etc.	Moderate term	\$	Council supported the opening of Launceston's first Tool Library (Nov 2022) and provided The Redress Hub with textiles waste audit data. Council was successful in obtaining a grant to trial the Launceston Repair Café in April 2024. The Repair Café is now a permanent initiative led by CoL and occurs every month.	Achieved
4.20 Increase community recycling opportunities e.g. public place recycling hubs and mobile units	Ongoing	\$\$	Council's current community recycling programs include hosting community recycling hubs, the Lilydale recycling trailer, and bike tyre recycling pilot program	Achieved / ongoing

3.5 Natural Capital

This key area aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Increase understanding of our natural capital
2. Protect and improve our air, land, water and ecosystems
3. Enhance the resilience of natural systems to change
4. Utilise our natural capital to increase community resilience and liveability.

The Sustainable Development Goals and Cities Power Partnership pledge that this key area contributes to include:

The Natural Capital key priority area will focus on improving the City of Launceston's performance score in SDGs:



The status and commentary for each target and action based on performance indicators are summarised below:

Target	Commentary	Status
1. Increase the collection of targeted data for evidence-based decision making by 2022	Several ongoing key data collection activities inform management plans (e.g. eDNA and AusRivas sampling methods informs the Urban Waterways Health Management Plan and Rehabilitation Plans)	Achieved / Ongoing
2. Increase the tree canopy cover percentage on City of Launceston owned land (from the 2021 baseline) by 2025 and again by 2030 (shared target with Adaptation & Resilience)	The Urban Greening Strategy was endorsed in December 2023 and implementation is underway. Planting to increase canopy cover will commence in 2025	In progress
3. Improve urban waterway health by 2025 and again by 2030	Analysis of bi-annual macroinvertebrate monitoring of urban waterways will assist evaluation in 2025	In progress
4. No net loss in 'biocondition' rating in City of Launceston's key reserves by 2030	Biocondition assessments are due to commence from 2025	Not yet commenced
5. Increase the extent of wetlands by 2030	Commencement date to be confirmed	Not yet commenced

Action	Timeframe	Cost	Commentary	Status
5.1 Undertake a biocondition assessment of the City of Launceston's key reserves to evaluate biodiversity	Moderate term	\$\$	Due to commence from 2025	Not yet commenced

5.2 In line (and if needed) with the findings from the City of Launceston's biocondition assessment, undertake improvement works to increase biodiversity values	Moderate to long term	\$\$-\$\$\$\$	Due to commence in 2025/26	Not yet commenced
5.3 Incorporate biocondition assessment findings into reserve management practices (with the inclusion of invasive species management)	Moderate term	\$	Due to commence in 2025/26	Not yet commenced
5.4 Assess vegetation management practices to optimise soil and plant health and carbon sequestration (e.g. species selection and watering schedules adapted to future climate projections, the use of pesticides and fertilizers and the impact to soil and plant growth)	Moderate term	\$	Due to commence in 2025/26	Not yet commenced
5.5 Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Natural Science Department to register 5,000 biological specimens per year, with up to 10% of specimens from the Launceston municipality	Short term / Ongoing	\$\$	5,000 biological specimens per year, with up to 10% of specimens from the Launceston municipality	Achieved / Ongoing
5.6 Develop a procedure to manage the finding of listed threatened species on Council owned and managed land	Moderate term	\$	Due to commence in 2025	Not yet commenced
5.7 Continue bi-annual macroinvertebrate monitoring of urban waterways to evaluate waterway health	Short term / ongoing	\$	Biannual sampling completed in 2022, 2023 and 2024	Achieved / Ongoing
5.8 / 3.19 Develop and implement an Urban Forestry Strategy (with the inclusion of a baseline assessment, setting of targets to increase tree canopy cover, applying a climate adaptation approach and increasing green infrastructure)	Short term	\$\$-\$\$\$	Urban Greening Strategy endorsed in December 2023 and an Implementation Plan developed. Tasmania's first Urban Forester was employed by Council in 2023 to implement the plan.	Achieved / Ongoing
5.9 Develop and implement an updated Public Open Space Strategy (with the inclusion of a baseline assessment, setting of targets to increase inclusivity and accessibility to public open space, applying passive cooling principles, and utilising recycled and sustainable materials in infrastructure design and construction)	Short term	\$\$\$	The Recreation and Open Space Strategy is currently in development. Public consultation ended in December 2023 and the final strategy document is due for endorsement in July 2024.	Achieved / Ongoing

5.10 Develop site specific water quality objectives for turbidity and dissolved oxygen (DO) based on historic water quality results	Short term	\$	This action has been postponed to 2025. Other methods are being implemented to measure water quality, therefore the action's relevancy will be determined in 2025.	Not yet commenced (behind schedule)
5.11 Undertake sediment and erosion control measure improvements for developments	Short term	\$	In 2023, several external documents were updated including the Urban Waterway Health Program and the State guidelines on erosion and sediment control. An internal policy review for sediment and erosion control has commenced but completion is postponed for 2025 due to staff changes.	In progress (behind schedule)
5.12 Increase riparian vegetation in urban watercourses including targeted restoration of threatened species	Ongoing	\$\$	Riparian restoration and revegetation works completed include 2022: Newnham Reserve Stage 1 (civil works and revegetation); landfill open drain (revegetation 8,000 plants); Queechy Lake (weed removal and revegetation) and Jingleers Drive Jingleer Creek tributary (earthworks and revegetation); 2023: Jingleer Creek tributary Stage 2, Newnham Creek at Hortus Place and Queechy Lake; 2024: stabilisation/revegetation at Kings Meadows Rivulet and Aram Place. Large scale creek rehab at Hargrave Crescent Reserve. Bridge abutment planting at Ravenswood Road. Willow removal and revegetation at Queechy Lake in the northeast corner	Achieved / Ongoing
5.13 Facilitate and support further reinstating and expanding wetlands	Moderate term	\$- \$\$\$\$	CoL is supporting TEMT with the design of the North Esk Wetlands Project, funded through the Urban Rivers and Catchments Program.	In progress
5.14 Target priority areas for daylighting of stormwater pipe assets (e.g. expose the flow of a previously covered stormwater drainage) into urban watercourses when assets reach end of life	Moderate to long term	\$\$\$\$	Commencement date is determined by asset failure.	Not yet commenced
5.15 Support revegetation projects to reduce fragmentation of native vegetation and improve connectivity for fauna populations that have become isolated due to land clearing	Moderate to long term	\$- \$\$\$	Revegetation projects completed to date include: landfill revegetation project (8,500 plants); landfill open drain (8,000 plants); Council's Bushland Crew annual revegetation program	In progress

			(3,000 plants); Newnham Reserve Stage 2 (14,420 plants), Queechy Lake (1,065 plants), Newnham Creek realignment Hortus Place. Actions in the UGS that include establishing biodiversity corridors. Mayfield Precinct Plan completed in 2024 with revegetation works to commence in 2025.	
5.16 Continue implementation and review of the Willow Management Plan	Short term / ongoing	\$\$	Willow management works ongoing. Willow Management Plan reviewed and updated in 2023.	Achieved / Ongoing
5.17 Improve environmental awareness among our employees	Short to moderate term	\$\$	Actions 5.17 and 1.4 will be combined and this action is discontinued. Refer to Action 1.4 for relevant update	Discontinued
5.18 Explore options for community education around urban waterways including educational signage in high foot traffic areas	Short term	\$\$	Community education delivered including: installation of Stormwater pollution educational signage at two locations in Kings Meadows; Council supported Tamar NRM Source to Sea project ; Council participated as subject matter experts providing exercises and talks on macroinvertebrates and waterway health, the impacts of changing land use on waterways and flood infrastructure and the impact of urbanisation on hydraulic capacity and flow; hands-on education on reducing our waste in waterways (from QVMAG Museum) to primary school students as part of the school's sustainability studies; and QVMAG Big Day of Science, educational and interactive stall on urban waterways	Achieved / Ongoing
5.19 Communicate and share data on terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity including listed species, threatening processes and plans to prevent degradation and species loss	Moderate term	\$\$	QVMAG routinely upload data to Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) and share the collection with experts. Once biocondition assessments commence, Council will work towards uploading data/findings to Tasmania's Natural Values website and providing relevant mapping. CoL is active on the TEER working group and provide macroinvertebrate data to enable inclusion of urban waterways in the Freshwater Report Card.	Achieved / Ongoing

				The Kings Meadow Rivulet and Queechy Lake for floating wetland trial was featured in the media. In 2024, QVMAG hosted a Wetland Exhibition.	
5.20 Establish engagement programs with local schools to improve the understanding of our natural capital and ecosystem services	Moderate term	\$		Delivered engagement programs including: "Story of an Estuary", hands-on education on reducing our waste in waterways (from QVMAG Museum) to primary school students as part of the school's sustainability studies and assisted in the delivering of the Source to Sea school program. In 2024, CoL presented on the Urban Greening Strategy at East Tamar Primary, Riverside Kinder and Scotch.	In progress
5.21 Hold a native plant giveaway for residents to support the increase in urban forestry cover	Short term	\$-\$		Two plant giveaways were delivered in 2024 - the Sustainability Living Festival and as part of the Urban Greening Strategy Precinct Plans at Mayfield	Achieved
5.22 Explore options to support the community in identifying opportunities to enhance local sustainable food systems	Long term	\$		Under the My Place My Future Plan, Council supported TheFARM (Food & Resilience Movement) which addresses wellbeing, social inclusion, food security and development of a social enterprise in the Northern Suburbs. The Project lead is the Northern Suburbs Community Centre, partners include Starting Point Neighbourhood House, City of Launceston, 24 Carrot Gardens, UTAS, City of Gastronomy & Migrant Resource Centre. CoL has also supported the official launch of Tamar NRM's Community Gardens Open Days	In progress

3.6 Smart Assets

This key priority area aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Ensure our governance practices support smart and sustainable assets
2. Increase our knowledge on the current sustainability performance of our assets
3. Facilitate and support the sustainable operation and management of assets
4. Transition to more recycled, efficient and decarbonised assets
5. Apply a sustainability lens to the renewal, upgrade and construction of assets
6. Transition Launceston to a smart sustainable city.

The Sustainable Development Goals and Cities Power Partnership pledge that this key area contributes to include:

The Smart Assets key priority area will focus on improving the City of Launceston's performance score in SDGs:



The status and commentary for each target and action based on performance indicators are summarised below:

Target	Commentary	Status
1. All City of Launceston owned new builds and major refurbishments apply environmental sustainable design principles commencing 2022	Designs to date at Albert Hall and Princess Theatre have included climate adaptation considerations. An ESD Policy is in development.	Achieved / ongoing
2. Rooftop solar PV is installed on all City of Launceston owned buildings with high energy usage (>200,000 kWh) by 2025	All sites with high-energy use have rooftop solar PV installed except Albert Hall which is undergoing major refurbishment. Solar PV is included in Albert Hall's design and construction is due for completion in 2025	In progress
3. Reduce the City of Launceston's annual fleet fuel consumption by 20% per capita (from the 2018/19 baseline) by 2030	Fuel consumption per capita for vehicles has reduced slightly due to the introduction of EVs. A Sustainable Fleet Guide was developed in late 2023 and details our pathway to significantly reduce fleet emissions	In progress
4. Reduce the City of Launceston's volume of potable water used for non-potable purposes by 2025 and again by 2030	Data loggers on water meters are enabling further understanding of water use patterns. Management measures and targets will be explored in 2025	In progress
5. Install four additional publicly accessible electric vehicle charging stations by 2025	Four electric vehicle chargers were installed in 2022 at Cataract Gorge, Riverbend Park, the Inveresk half-circle car park and at the Lilydale Memorial Hall	Achieved

Action	Timeframe	Cost	Commentary	Status
6.1 / 3.13 Investigate opportunities to progress towards an Environmental Sustainable Buildings Policy or Guideline to support the design, construction and major refurbishments of environmental sustainable designed (ESD) for City of Launceston owned buildings (with the inclusion of best practice design guides (minimum design/operation rating system (Green Star, NABERs etc.), minimum renewable energy requirements, adequate building and window orientation, colour/material external fabric, external shading, enhanced natural light, green roof/walls, smart building systems, adequate insulation and ventilation, energy efficient lighting and appliances, rain capture systems, water efficient fittings, minimum reuse and recycled material content, maximum car park spaces, minimum greenspace allocation, vegetation increase/retainment, and climate adaptation principles etc.)	Short term / ongoing	\$\$	Relevant Council documents reviewed in 2023 and draft ESD Policy developed in 2024. Further engagement is needed across relevant teams and a technical guidance document to be developed for implementation.	In progress (behind schedule)
6.2 / 1.6 Update our procurement policy and strategy to ensure goods and services purchased by Council meet criteria for environmental, social and governance responsibility	Short term / ongoing	\$	An update of both the policy and procedure is in development. An updated version is expected in 2025	In progress (Behind schedule)
6.3 Update our Strategic Asset Management Plan to include sustainability considerations	Short to moderate term	\$	Council's Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) updated to included sustainability as one of the four over-arching objectives	Achieved
6.4 Develop a Smart City Strategy to provide a road map to transition the City of Launceston to a leading smart and sustainable city	Moderate to long term	\$\$-\$\$\$	The City Innovation Strategy was endorsed in 2023. The switch from Smart City to a City Innovation Strategy emphasises the focus on people more so than technology.	Achieved
6.5 Review building access to promote diversity and inclusion	Moderate term	\$	Due to commence in 2025	Not yet commenced

6.6 / 2.4 Continue upgrading our facilities to increase energy efficiencies e.g. efficient heat, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, adequate insulation and ventilation, window glazing, high efficiency LED lighting and de-lamping etc.	Moderate term / ongoing	\$\$\$\$	Upgrade of lighting and HVAC systems underway at various sites including Princess Theatre, Albert Hall and LAC.	In progress
6.7 Continue to install smart meters and building control systems across our assets to understand energy usage, solar power generation, and increase energy efficiencies	Moderate to long term	\$\$\$\$	Smart meters installed on all rooftop solar PV systems to determine solar energy generation. Investigations underway to determine which buildings would benefit from the installation of smart meters and building control systems to identify future energy saving opportunities.	In progress
6.8 Procure an Energy Management Systems (EMS) to maximise data collection and optimise building efficiencies	Short to moderate term	\$-\$	Council is using Energy Detective to monitor electricity usage across sites	Achieved
6.9 As required, upgrade corporate and commercial equipment (e.g. hot water cylinders, hand dryers, fridges, coolers) to modern energy efficient models	Short term / ongoing	\$	Council completed an audit of current equipment and no upgrades were identified	Achieved / Ongoing
6. 10 Conduct a lighting audit across the City of Launceston's assets and replace inefficient lighting	Moderate term	\$	Lighting audit underway at various sites. Inefficient lights replaced, sensor lights installed and de-lamping where possible	In progress
6.11 Review the City of Launceston's corporate building's health profile (e.g. lighting, acoustics, air quality, workspace, biophilic design) to support staff wellbeing	Moderate term / ongoing	\$\$	Due to commence 2025	Not yet commenced
6.12 Continue the roll out of rooftop solar PV installations on buildings with high daytime energy usage (>200,000 kWh)	Long term / ongoing	\$\$\$\$	All sites with high-energy use have rooftop solar PV installed except Albert Hall which is undergoing major refurbishment. Solar PV is included in Albert Hall's design and construction is due for completion in 2025	In progress
6.13 Explore the use of solar batteries for buildings with high night time energy usage	Long term / ongoing	\$	Investigations concluded that batteries are not yet financially viable for Council. The use of batteries will be revisited in 2025 focusing more on energy security.	Achieved / ongoing

6.14 Update building leasing contract renewal terms to improve sustainability performance of Council leased facilities	Long term / ongoing	\$	Internal discussions underway regarding information to be included in lease renewals e.g. building is to be operated as per building guide, building induction to be provided by Council to tenants, implementing Council's Single-Use Plastics Policy	In progress
6.15 Document and share operating guides for building occupants to maximise operating efficiencies	Short term / ongoing	\$	An audit of several buildings found occupants were operating the buildings efficiently and effectively.	Achieved
6.16 Ensure end of life building, plant and equipment are disposed of in accordance to waste management hierarchy and policies	Short term / ongoing	\$	The disposal of all end of life equipment follows the waste hierarchy. A formal policy/procedure will be developed as part of the organisation wide waste audit (Action 4.11).	In progress (Behind schedule)
6.17 / 2.6 Investigate opportunities to utilise low embodied emission, reusable, and recycled materials for Council construction works, including the construction of assets, asset upgrades and maintenance works whilst adhering to design and construction standards	Short term / ongoing	\$	CoL is currently investigating the procurement of road surfacing products that incorporates otherwise landfill-bound materials such as soft plastics, crumbed rubber, ground glass, road millings, reclaimed asphalt, and ink toners. CoL attended information sessions with Austral and Boral to understand lower embodied carbon alternatives to current material usage (e.g. concrete and bricks). CoL was successful in a grant to utilise recycled concrete for a bike path.	Achieved / ongoing
6.18 / 2.7 Continue the transition of powering buildings, fleet, plant and equipment by renewable energy sources	Long term / ongoing	\$\$\$\$	Council is continuing the transition of buildings to renewable energy with three facilities remaining on gas and ongoing installation of solar panels on Council-managed facilities (installed more than 1,785 panels or 466kW across 13 Council facilities). Council fleet consists of three electric vehicles, two hybrids, one electric truck and two micromobility devices (escooter and ebike). Minor and major plant is being electrified including lawn mowers, street sweepers, power tools and landscaping tools.	In progress
6.19 Explore the transition of the City of Launceston's Tiger Bus to be powered by renewable energy (e.g. electric or hydrogen fuel cell)	Short to moderate term	\$\$-\$\$\$	Discussions underway on renewable energy options	In progress

6.20 Develop and implement a sustainable fleet guideline, including a fuel consumption rate of 6L/100km and a maximum tailpipe emission standard of 130g CO2/km for all new light vehicles	Short term	\$	A Sustainable Fleet Guideline (ECM_4959530) was developed in 2023 and sets out Council's objectives and targets to reduce fuel use and transition off fossil fuel powered fleet	Achieved
6.21 Construct an End of Trip facility for the City of Launceston's employees at Town Hall to encourage an increased uptake of active transport to and from work. Promote the facility to the public to encourage other organisations to follow suit	Short term / ongoing	\$\$\$\$	End of Trip facility completed in Jan 2023	Achieved
6.22 / 2.9 Investigate and trial alternative transport options for work travel e.g. introduction of electric bikes and scooters to the City of Launceston's fleet	Short term / ongoing	\$\$	Micromobility working committee established and two devices (escooter and ebike) introduced into Council fleet at Town Hall on a trial basis throughout 2024. Trial now complete and devices will be purchased for permanent inclusion into staff fleet at Town Hall. Additional sites will be explored e.g. QVMAG Royal Park and Inveresk	Achieved
6.23 Conduct fuel efficient driver awareness for our employees	Moderate term	\$\$	Fuel efficient driver awareness is now included in the staff vehicle induction training. Further awareness will be delivered to staff via internal communication platforms	In progress
6.24 Explore the use of smart sensors across the City to measure usage and improve user experience of Council facilities and assets e.g. people counters, river level sensors, public bbq usage sensors, public wifi, digital bus signage etc.	Moderate term / ongoing	\$\$-\$\$\$\$	Council has installed IoT sensors and devices across the city to capture data to help decision making, measure success and to improve the overall experience of the community. Examples include a digital bus stop sign trial to provide real-time information to commuters, free public Wi-Fi as a service to support tourism and digital inclusion, air quality and dB level sensors to help benchmark and understand environmental conditions, and river level sensors to provide real time data to help inform decision making during a flood event.	Achieved / ongoing
6.25 Conduct a desktop water audit across Council assets and identify areas for increased efficiencies	Short term	\$	Council completed a desktop water audit in 2023 using billing data. Data analysis then informed the site selection for 25 data loggers to be installed typically focussing on complex and high water use sites. Data loggers identified water leaks and provided a range of	Achieved

			recommendations to progress water efficiency across Council assets.	
6.26 Develop and implement a water conservation and efficiency plan for the City of Launceston's assets and operations (e.g. parks and recreation areas, facilities, Town Hall, community centres etc.) exploring the use of water efficient technologies, smart meters, recycled/grey water, rainwater harvesting etc.	Moderate term	\$\$	An initial water efficiency program kicked off in 2024 with data loggers installed at 14 sites. The project to date has addressed leaks, inefficiencies, and outdated infrastructure through billing data analysis, data logger installations, and on-site inspections. Key stakeholders included City of Launceston and TasWater. The project achieved 215.8 kL/day in water savings, \$92,714 in annual cost reductions, and enhanced staff capacity in water management and efficiencies. Further work will continue in 2025.	In progress
6.27 Develop and implement a water and energy saving awareness program for employees	Moderate term	\$\$	Due to commence in 2025/26	Not yet commenced
6.28 Improve signage throughout the City promoting sustainability related assets and initiatives e.g. signs and maps of ecological systems, public transportation, public facilities, green infrastructure and open space placed in pedestrian zones	Moderate term	\$\$	As part of Council's ABCDE Learning Site project, the community aimed to improve public education around the health of the Kings Meadows Rivulet. Signs were installed to encourage residents to consider the waterway in their everyday activities. Further work is underway to increase signage	In progress
6.29 Facilitate and support the required infrastructure to support zero emissions vehicle uptake in Launceston	Long term / ongoing	\$\$\$\$	Council has installed 7 public electric vehicle charging stations across the municipality: Lilydale, Cataract Gorge, Riverbend Park, Inveresk, York St car park, Paterson St East car park and Paterson St West car park. Council will continue to facilitate and support the roll out of infrastructure to further support zero emissions vehicle uptake in Launceston. CoL played a key role in the Beam e-scooter introduction to Launceston in efforts to increase connectivity and decrease dependence on vehicles.	Achieved / ongoing
6.30 Explore the roll out of a public trial on electric scooters in collaboration with other Councils	Short term	\$\$-\$	Public trial completed in 2021/2022 and e-scooters rolled across the city.	Achieved

6.31 In line with the Launceston Transport Strategy 2020-2040 (and in line with Cities Power Partnership pledges), support the roll out of sustainable and active transport infrastructure by industry and state government to increase zero emissions mobility uptake in the community	Long term	\$\$\$\$	Discussions underway with Tasmanian waste contractors and Metro Tasmania regarding zero emission large vehicle trials in Launceston. Metro Tasmania is set to trial four electric buses in Launceston in 2024. Forster Street bike path completed. CoL was successful in a grant for a new shared bike path in Kings Meadows.	In progress
6.32 Communicate and share our progress on what Council is doing to encourage more public transport use throughout the city	Short term / ongoing	\$	Council upgraded 26 bus stops in 2023 and 40 in 2024. An access ramp installed across Lindsey St, installed central refuge islands on Dowling St, Woodlands Grove and Hobblers Bridge Road. CoL's support for Metro's electric bus trials ongoing.	Achieved / ongoing
6.33 Support cycling across the city through the provision of adequate cycle lanes, bike parking and end of trip facilities (in line with Cities Power Partnership pledges)	Long term	\$\$\$\$	Forster Street Bike Path completed in 2024; 20 hoop bike stands are installed in 2024; CoL was successful in a grant for a new shared bike path in Kings Meadows. Further plans underway as part of the City Heart Project.	In progress
6.34 In line with the Launceston Transport Strategy 2020-2040, develop and implement a public car-parking strategy that promotes sustainable transport modes	Long term / ongoing	\$\$\$	Due to commence in 2025	Not yet commenced
6.35 Through the Intelligent Transport System upgrade, utilise the City of Launceston's real-time data on traffic network utilisation and congestion for decision making on future transport infrastructure upgrades	Long term / ongoing	\$\$\$	Real time data from the ITS has informed speed limit reductions, validated traffic modelling results for major developments, determine impact of temporary transport network interventions, and respond to customer service requests.	In progress

4. List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

BMS	Building Management System
CER	Clean Energy Regulator
ELT	Executive Leadership Team
ESD	Environmental Sustainable Design/ Development
EV	Electric Vehicle
FOGO	Food Organics and Garden Organics
FY	Financial Year
HVAC	Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning
NABERS	National Australian Built Environment Rating System
NGER	The National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting
QVMAG	The Queen Victorian Museum and Art Gallery
SCWG	Sustainable Community Working Group
UTAS	The University of Tasmania
TBC	To Be Confirmed
T&D	Transmission and Distribution Losses