

# Devonport City Council



*The City with Spirit*



Environment Strategy 2019-2024

**Next Date of Review:** July 2024  
**Document Controller:** Community Services Manager  
**Document Reviewer:** General Manager  
**Date Adopted by Council:** 23 July 2018

# Contents

1. Purpose	4
1.1 Methodology	4
1.2 Implementation	4
2. Policy Context	5
2.1 Relevant Legislation and Plans	5
2.2 Devonport City Council Areas of Responsibility	6
3. Our Environment	6
3.1 Flora and Fauna	6
3.2 Waterways	9
3.3 Coastal Areas	9
3.4 Climate	9
3.5 Cultural Heritage	10
3.6 Community Use	10
4. Consultation Outcomes - Key Findings	10
5. Guiding Principles	13
6. Strategic Directions	13
6.1 Strategic Focus 1: Conserving Our Biodiversity	13
6.2 Strategic Focus 2: Healthy Waterways and Coasts	15
6.3 Strategic Focus 3: Living Lightly	16
Appendix 1 - Action Plan	18

# 1. Purpose

The City of Devonport's 2019-2024 Environment Strategy provides a framework to assist Council deliver Goal 1 of the Devonport Strategic Plan 2009-2030:

*Through the integration of sustainable practices, we will ensure Devonport's viability socially, economically and environmentally, preserving our natural geography and landscapes for future generations. Planned and sustainable management of energy, air, water and waste will assist in the delivery of a healthy environment.*

This strategy outlines Council's environmental management activities over a five-year period commencing 2018-19, grouped under three focus areas:

1. Conserving our Biodiversity
2. Healthy Waterways and Coasts
3. Living Lightly

## 1.1 Methodology

Development of this strategy has involved:

1. Analysis of key environmental values and threatening processes in the Devonport municipality;
2. Community consultation in the form of an online survey and workshops;
3. Establishment of an Environmental Strategy Working Group comprising two Devonport Aldermen and four community members. The Group identified priority areas for action and solutions based on analysis of community input;
4. Consideration of current best practice environmental management opportunities for local government potentially applicable to the size of municipality and resourcing options; and
5. Development of strategic outcomes, actions, and targets in consultation with the Environmental Strategy Working Group and Council officers.

## 1.2 Implementation

Devonport City Council will be responsible for facilitating the implementation of the Strategy. Review of Strategic Focus Areas and Actions will occur on an annual basis by a working group comprising key stakeholders/partners and Council officers. The group will review current actions; identify changing issues, needs, and opportunities; and plan for future and upcoming activities.

Progress of the Strategy will be reported to Council annually and to the wider community via a range of Council communication mediums.

## 2. Policy Context

### 2.1 Relevant Legislation and Plans

There are a host of strategies, policies and legislation that influence and guide Council in the management of our natural resources, the following are of relevance to this Strategy.

#### **Federal Government**

- Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
- Aboriginal Relics Act 1975

#### **Tasmanian Government**

- Cat Management Act 2009
- Crown Lands Act 1976
- Dog Control Act 2002
- Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995
- Natural Resource Management Act 2002
- Nature Conservation Act 2002
- State Coastal Policy 1996
- State Policy on Water Quality Management
- Tasmanian Planning Scheme
- Threatened Species Protection Act 1995
- Weed Management Act 1999

#### **Regional Level – Cradle Coast**

- Natural Resource Management Strategy, Cradle Coast 2015–2020
- Cradle Coast Waste Management Group Strategic Plan 2017-2022

#### **Local Government - Devonport City Council**

The Strategy replaces Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy, Energy Efficiency Strategy and Weed Strategy. 70% of activities under these strategies have been completed or are active. Of the 127 actions, 43 have been completed, 38 are ongoing, 8 are in progress, 22 are under consideration and 16 are no longer required due to change in Council policy.

Several existing Council plans and policies complement the Environmental Strategy including:

- City of Devonport Strategic Plan 2009-2030
- Bike Riding Strategy 2015-2020
- Corporate Climate Change Adaption Plan 2018-2023
- Digital Strategy 2017-2021

- Don Reserve & Kelcey Tier Fire Management Plans 2017
- Don Reserve Environmental Management Plan 2015-2020
- Live & Learn Strategy
- Pedestrian Strategy 2016-2021
- Procurement Policy
- Public Open Space Strategy
- Dog Management Policy
- Waste Strategy 2018-2023

## 2.2 Devonport City Council Areas of Responsibility

Council's role and areas of responsibility regarding environmental management, include:

- Planning - developing and implementing planning policies and strategies that promote sustainability;
- Regulation – abiding with relevant local, state, and national legislation;
- Owner - as the owner and manager of public land Council has an important investment in and impact on balancing management of environmental assets with community use;
- Services - provision of services to the community and local businesses, that minimises Council's (and the broader community) impact on the environment, e.g. waste management;
- Partnerships and Engagement - Council facilitates initiatives to improve environmental management by providing advice, raising community awareness and co-ordinating and supporting community efforts; and
- Advocacy - advocating for environmental issues of concern on behalf of the Devonport community

## 3. Our Environment

Devonport is one of 29 local government areas in Tasmania, located in the centre north of the state. The municipality is 114 square kilometres in size and predominately urban in nature surrounded by productive agricultural landscapes. The primary legislation to which Council must comply is the *Local Government Act 1993*.

### 3.1 Flora and Fauna

Much of the City's natural vegetation is held in the two largest formal reserve areas – Don Reserve and Kelcey Tier Greenbelt. Smaller public reserves containing remnant vegetation in varying condition include the Clayton Drive Reserve, Turners Wetland Reserve, Hiller Street Flora Reserve, Mary Street Wetlands and Bluff Road Coastal Reserve. There are also

unreserved areas of remnant vegetation on public and private land.

Our two larger reserves are of high conservation value due to significant remnant vegetation and faunal communities. These support a high number of recorded native species:

- 148 flora species
- 75 bird species
- 15 mammal species
- 8 bat species
- a range of reptile, amphibians, invertebrate and fish species – the number of which has not been verified

Known endangered, threatened or vulnerable species include:

Common name	Scientific Name	Status under Nature Conservation Act 2002	Status under Threatened Species Act 1995	Status under Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
Spotted-tailed Quoll	<i>Dasyurus maculatus maculatus</i>		Rare	Vulnerable
Eastern Quoll	<i>Dasyurus viverrinus</i>		Not listed	Endangered
Eastern Barred Bandicoot	<i>Perameles gunnii gunnii</i>		Not listed	Vulnerable
Tasmanian Devil	<i>Sarcophilus harrisii</i>		Endangered	Endangered
Grey Goshawk	<i>Accipiter novaehollandiae</i>		Edangered	Endangered
Tasmanian Wedge-tailed Eagle	<i>Aquila audax fleayi</i>		Endangered	Endangered
Australasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>		Not listed	Endangered
Tasmanian Azure Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx azureus diemenensis</i>		Endnagered	Endangered
White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>		Vulnerable	Marine
Swift Parrot	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>		Endangered	Critically Endangered

Common name	Scientific Name	Status under Nature Conservation Act 2002	Status under Threatened Species Act 1995	Status under Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
Hooded Plover	<i>Thinornis rubricollis</i>		Not listed	Vulnerable
Masked Owl	<i>Tyto novaehollandiae castanops</i>		Endangered	Vulnerable
Green and Golden Frog	<i>Litoria raniformis</i>		Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Giant Freshwater Crayfish	<i>Astacopsis gouldi</i>		Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Central North Burrowing Crayfish	<i>Engaeus granulatus</i>		Endangered	Endangered
Australian Grayling	<i>Prototroctes maraena</i>		Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Blue Pincushion	<i>Brunonia australis</i>		Rare	Not listed
Showy Willowherb	<i>Epilobium pallidiflorum</i>		Rare	Not listed
Fragrant Hempbush	<i>Gynatrix pulchella</i>		Rare	Not listed
Slender Waterpepper	<i>Persicaria decipiens</i>		Vulnerable	Not listed
Slender Curved Riceflower	<i>Pimelea curviflora var. gracilis</i>		Rare	Not listed
Northern Pinkbells	<i>Tetralthea ciliata</i>		Rare	Not listed
Black Gum forest and woodland	<i>Eucalyptus ovata forest and woodland</i>	Threatened		Not listed
Coast Paperbark swamp forest	<i>Melaleuca ericifolia swamp forest</i>	Threatened		Not listed
Wetlands or saltmarsh	<i>Subtropical and temperate coastal saltmarsh</i>	Threatened		Vulnerable

Common name	Scientific Name	Status under Nature Conservation Act 2002	Status under Threatened Species Act 1995	Status under Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
Black Peppermint forest and woodland	<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i> forest and woodland on sandstone	Threatened		Not listed
White Gum and Blue Gum coastal forest	<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> – <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> coastal forest and woodland	Threatened		Not listed
White Gum wet forest	<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> wet forest	Threatened		Not listed
Riparian Scrub	<i>Riparian scrub</i>	Threatened		Not listed

### 3.2 Waterways

The Devonport municipality has two main waterways flowing through it – the Mersey River and Don River – which are part of the larger Mersey River Catchment that flows into the Bass Strait. Waterways and associated tributaries and wetlands play an integral role in the landscape, sustaining flora and fauna, and providing connectivity between bushland areas to allow for the movement of animals across the landscape.

### 3.3 Coastal Areas

Coastal areas are commonly defined as the interface or transition areas between land and sea. Devonport's coastlines support a range of vegetation types and significant fauna such as penguin and resident and migratory seabird colonies. A large proportion of the coastal zone is owned by the Crown, with Council leasing areas to manage public infrastructure (for instance, walkways).

### 3.4 Climate

Devonport has a temperate climate with a moderate temperature range (average daily maximum is around 21.5°C in February and 12.7°C in July). Average temperatures have risen since the 1950s, at a rate of up to 0.15 °C per decade.

Devonport's average annual rainfall is around 750 to 1000 mm per year with a distinct seasonal cycle with most of the rain falling in the winter. For example, Devonport Airport receives an average of 41 mm in January, 96 mm in July. There has been a decline in average annual rainfall since the mid-1970s, and this decline has been strongest in autumn.

### 3.5 Cultural Heritage

Tasmania's Aboriginal cultural heritage provides a spiritual connection for Tasmanian Aboriginal people today and valuable information about one of the oldest living cultures in the world. Aboriginal cultural heritage is the tangible and intangible legacy of Tasmania's Aboriginal people. It refers to those places, objects and traditions that have been passed down to us from past generations.

It also includes intangible places where there may be no physical evidence of past cultural activities. These include places of spiritual or ceremonial significance or trade and travel routes. Any major projects or development within the municipality must comply with the Aboriginal Relics Act 1975.

European heritage places are listed under the Tasmanian Heritage Register. The Tasmanian Heritage Council and Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, work with the community to identify and promote sustainable use and sensitive development of heritage places so they can be used and enjoyed now and in the future. The majority of Devonport's listed heritage places comprise of built infrastructure.

### 3.6 Community Use

The natural landscape provides a range of values and uses by residents and visitors – recreational, scenic, spiritual, and as an educational resource. However, the level of community awareness and value placed on the role of our natural environment, and the effects of urban impacts, varies considerably in the community.

## 4. Consultation Outcomes - Key Findings

The Strategy draws on community comments raised through three main avenues:

1. Community survey – resident and broader community survey, March 2018 (21 respondents)
2. Youth workshops – two workshops held at Don College, March - April 2018 (18 participants)
3. Environmental Strategy Working Group workshops, April – May 2018 (6 participants)

The main findings are summarised below, in no order of importance. Refer to the Consultation Outcomes Report for unedited feedback.

Focus Area	Issues of Concern	Opportunities
Biodiversity	Invasive species – weeds, cats, dogs, biosecurity	Dog/cat/animal control Weed control Education
	Waste – litter, dumping green waste	Compliance, education, green waste bins
	Climate change	Monitoring impact
	Urban development encroaching on natural habitat / fragmentation	Bushland conservation / revegetation Sensitive development
	Illegal clearing of vegetation Planting non-native species in reserves Unauthorised tracks through reserves Bushfires	Compliance, education
	Native animal / plant diseases	Reporting, biosecurity
	Decline in biodiversity health	Monitoring Bushland conservation - revegetation, weed control Wildlife corridors Planting natives in Council reserve's and private gardens
Waterways & Coasts	Stormwater, sewerage, agricultural run-off	Use natural pesticides Gross pollutants traps
	Pollution – plastics, litter	Regular beach clean ups – community involvement More bins near waterways / beaches Promotion/education re impact on marine life
	Climate change – sea level rise, erosion, and flooding	
	Uncontrolled animals (dogs) disturbing habitat Uncontrolled vehicular access on beaches Vandalism	Signage, education, compliance

Focus Area	Issues of Concern	Opportunities
Energy	Lack of public and active transport	Carpool / ride sharing Bike hire system Improved timetabling
	Low level of renewable energy uptake by Council and residents	Provide incentives, education Community / privately funded generation schemes
	Reliance on cars, fossil fuels	Electric vehicles, bikes etc
	Human induced climate change - greenhouse emissions	Energy efficient buildings/appliances LED public / street lighting
Sustainable Living	Waste – food waste, green waste, lack of recycling, landfill, illegal dumping/litter	Less packaging Green waste bins Communal compost bins Establish partnerships to collect/use business food waste, supermarkets etc Recycling bins in public spaces Container Deposit Scheme Education re recycling, composting, reuse etc Produce veg/fruit beds instead of flower beds in public gardens Biodegradable products Zero waste policies
	Overconsumption	Water reuse Smart technology to minimise water use Water efficient appliances
General	Lack of knowledge and education	Incentives, volunteerism, awareness programs, target schools
	Anti-social behaviour	Knowledge, education, compliance Community wide ownership/pride programs
	Lack of resources to address environmental issues	Partnerships, grants, education (preventative approach)

## 5. Guiding Principles

The following principles will guide Council's approach, in partnership with other organisations, in the delivery of actions outlined in this strategy.

1. Devonport's natural resources should be used in a sustainable manner for the benefit of all people, in a way that is compatible with and does not impact, on ecological health and biodiversity.
2. Council will aim to ensure that our activities do not adversely impact the state of the environment beyond the Devonport local government area.
3. Consultation and engagement shall be undertaken where the public and stakeholders have an interest in decisions or activities impacting the natural environment.
4. Community expectations to deliver stronger environmental performance are to be balanced with other community priorities and resources available.
5. Integrated management, protection and appropriate use of environmental resources is a shared responsibility between all sectors of the community.
6. Council will have the courage to innovate and take risks if it means making a difference. In doing so, approaches taken will not diminish the potential of Devonport's environmental resources for future generations.

## 6. Strategic Directions

The goal of the Strategy over the next five years is:

*Through the integration of sustainable practices, we will ensure Devonport's viability socially, economically and environmentally, preserving our natural geography and landscapes for future generations. Planned and sustainable management of energy, air, water and waste will assist in the delivery of a healthy environment.*

This will be achieved by undertaking several actions grouped under three focus areas:

- 1. Conserving Our Biodiversity**
- 2. Healthy Waterways and Coasts**
- 3. Living Lightly**

Key challenges, desired outcomes and suggested actions have been developed from consideration of community, working group and Council officer input; current and future trends in the state of the natural environment and environmental management practice; as well as relevant policy frameworks. A detailed action plan is provided in Appendix A.

### 6.1 Strategic Focus 1: Conserving Our Biodiversity

Biodiversity is the variety of all life forms on earth - the different plants, animals and micro-organisms and the ecosystems of which they are a part. This focus area includes activities that aim to improve the health of Devonport's biological resources and address threatening processes in a way that ensures their long-term resilience, health, and viability.

### **Key Challenges and Threatening Processes:**

- Urban development and use
  - Encroachment of private properties into bushland reserves
  - Unauthorised clearing of bushland understorey including creation of lawn and excessive mowing
  - Unauthorised poisoning and clearing of trees/native vegetation
  - Creation of new tracks and walking shortcuts in bushland reserves
- Invasive flora and fauna
  - Spread of weeds
  - Dumping of domestic and garden refuse in or near bushland reserves;
  - Lack of control of domestic pets
  - Introduced species / biosecurity
- Bushfires
- Climate variability and change altering ecosystems
- Potential for increase in native plant and animal diseases

### **Desired Outcomes:**

- Reduction in the extent of declared and environmental weeds
- Habitat sites and threatened species are protected, and the area of revegetation is increased
- Greater community awareness and participation
- Increase in the extent of weed hygiene practices of Council
- Responsible pet ownership
- Decrease in illegal dumping of garden waste, clearing native vegetation, planting of non-local native species in or near bushland reserves

### **Actions:**

#### Invasive Flora and Fauna

- Develop and implement an annual works plan for the control of priority and declared weeds
- Maintain public awareness of, and engagement in, weed identification and control activities
- Encourage responsible pet ownership
- Work with state agencies and relevant partners to plan and manage the control of stray and feral animals
- Report sightings of introduced species to DPIPWE

- Target identified priority weeds on Council roads as part of the roadside maintenance weed spraying program
- Increase the extent of hygiene practices into DCC contract process, operations, and activities on Council land to minimise the risk of weed spread into new or sensitive areas.

#### Biodiversity Health

- Develop a Master Plan for the Kelcey Tier Greenbelt
- Undertake revegetation where required to support biodiversity
- Manage known threatened species populations to best-practice standards
- Encourage community awareness of and involvement in conservation activities
- Address through compliance, incentives, or education:
  - illegal dumping of (garden) waste;
  - removal/degradation of native vegetation
- Manage bushfire hazard reduction burns with consideration of ecological priorities
- Monitor priority species and habitat

## 6.2 Strategic Focus 2: Healthy Waterways and Coasts

Our waterways and coasts are important ecological, cultural, aesthetic, and recreational components of the landscape. Waterways have intrinsic ecological value and provide a wide range of ecosystem services. Ecosystem services result from a waterway's hydrology, landforms, vegetation, fauna, and micro-organisms, which function together as an ecosystem to provide beneficial outcomes for people, and other ecosystems.

This focus area includes initiatives that aim to improve water quality and reduce urban activities on the sensitive coastal environment.

#### Threatening Processes and Key Challenges:

- Water pollution from land use activities, e.g. stormwater runoff, contamination
- Erosion and siltation
- Ecosystem degradation - litter, lack of control domestic pets
- Coastal zone / beaches - unauthorised motorised vehicles on beaches, uncontrolled pets, horse riding, inappropriate placement of walking tracks, resulting in:
  - Direct impacts on flora through loss of vegetation cover and subsequent erosion
  - Direct impacts on fauna such as migratory and resident shorebirds include disturbances (causing birds to leave nests, eggs and chicks or feeding and roosting areas), collisions, nest destruction and the crushing of chicks and hatchlings
  - Direct impacts on cultural heritage sites
  - Indirect impacts on native flora and fauna through the introduction of weeds and pests competing for habitat and/or out-competing native species. Possible implications of vehicle hygiene and the transmission of diseases such as *Phytophthora*.

### **Desired Outcomes:**

- Reduction in land pollution entering waterways
- Reduction in streambank erosion
- Increase in health of riparian zones
- No disturbance to shorebird breeding patterns
- Increase in community awareness and engagement in protecting waterways and coasts

### **Actions:**

- Revegetate and /or improve health of riparian zones
- Engage volunteers in activities to protect our waterways and coasts
- Progressively extend installation of Gross Pollutants Traps across the stormwater system
- Integrate Water Sensitive Urban Design into new Council projects and developments where possible
- Unauthorised activity on beaches/coastline – advocate for improved understanding of the issue's significance and develop appropriate responses

## **6.3 Strategic Focus 3: Living Lightly**

Australia ranks as the country with the 6th highest ecological footprint in the world, at 6.6 global hectares person. A global hectare is the amount of land required to support a community's demand for goods and services and absorb its waste including greenhouse gasses. This is over 3 times the average global footprint. This is based on average per capita consumption of food, transport, housing, goods, and services.

The 'Living Lightly' focus area includes projects that focus on reducing our ecological footprint through more efficient use of energy and water, reducing waste and use of more environmentally friendly goods and services.

### **Threatening Processes and Key Challenges:**

- Overconsumption of water, energy, goods, and services
- Human induced climate change

### **Actions:**

#### Energy Efficiency

- Progressively upgrade Council-owned building, street and park lights with energy efficient light emitting diode (LED) lights
- Investigate alternative power generation opportunities
- Continue to undertake building retrofits (general energy efficiency) for large facilities
- Investigate electric vehicle charging infrastructure

- Promote or deliver active transport and energy efficiency community education programs
- Reduce Council fleet emissions by transitioning to low carbon vehicles, reviewing service schedules, exploring alternative transport options
- Embed energy efficiency across DCC operations
- Provide advice, advocate, or facilitate community scale enterprises that utilise alternative energy generation and consumption
- Support new community or business initiatives that utilise low carbon approaches
- Continue to support TasNetworks to roll out street light LED changeover program

#### Water Sensitivity

- Promote water saving/efficiency programs/opportunities for residents
- Install smart technology for high water-using properties / facilities
- Progressively retrofit high water-using properties with water-efficient fixtures and fittings

#### Liveable City

- Implement actions in the Waste Strategy that aim to firstly reduce the amount of waste generated and secondly reduce the amount of landfill through resource recovery and recycling
- Implement the DCC Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan to improve climate resilience
- Ensure sustainability considerations in procurement decisions, including mandatory weightings in tenders, where appropriate
- Identify, collect, and report on environmental data that will inform future decision-making and achievement of all targets in this Strategy

## Appendix 1 - Action Plan

### Action:

The activity or output to be undertaken

### Responsibility:

The department in the Devonport City Council that will lead the action

### Priority:

Actions assessed using two criteria:

1. Level of importance / strategic impact (community benefit)
2. Ease of implementation (considering time, resources, complexity)
  - High: Critical importance, high impact, easy to implement. Complete within 1-2 years.
  - Medium: Complimentary to existing services, high impact, more difficult to implement. Complete within 3-5 years.
  - Low: Limited impact, difficult to implement. Complete within 5+ years.

### Resources Required:

The level of human or financial resources required:

A-OPEX: Annual operational expenditure by Council – staffing or operational resource allocated as part of the annual plan

F-OPEX: Future operational expenditure by Council – identified increased requirements for future consideration in annual allocation.

CAPEX: 2017/18 allocated capital expenditure – identified infrastructure requirements of Council

F-CAPEX: Future capital expenditure – no current allocation, would need to be considered in future capital budget

External: Cash or resources sourced outside of Council, e.g., grants, sponsorships, in-kind support from partners

### STRATEGIC FOCUS 1. CONSERVING OUR BIODIVERSITY

Action	Details	Responsibility	Priority	Resources	
Invasive Flora and Fauna					
1.1	Develop and implement an annual works plan for the control of priority and declared weeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual mapping of weed distribution</li> <li>• Explore low impact weed control methods</li> </ul>	Community Services	High	A-OPEX

Action	Details	Responsibility	Priority	Resources	
1.2	Maintain public awareness of and engagement in weed identification and control activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide advice to private property owners when requested</li> <li>Work with private property owners with declared weeds to contain or eradicate infestation</li> <li>Deliver education and hands-on programs</li> </ul>	Community Services	High	A-OPEX External
1.3	Encourage responsible pet ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cat management</li> <li>Promote on-leash dog control in Council parks and reserves as per the Dog Management Policy (includes updating signage)</li> </ul>	Risk Management Infrastructure & Works	High	A-OPEX
1.4	Work with state agencies and relevant partners to plan and manage the control of stray and feral animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with DPIPWE / Cradle Coast NRM to implement the Tasmanian Cat Management Plan</li> </ul>	Risk Management	High	A-OPEX
1.5	Report sightings of introduced species to DPIPWE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist DPIPWE to raise community awareness and reporting of introduced species</li> <li>Where required manage potential impacts in consultation with DPIPWE</li> <li>Includes threatening pathogens</li> </ul>	Risk Management	High	A-OPEX
1.6	Target identified priority weeds on Council roads as part of the roadside maintenance weed spraying program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On non-Council roads, advise the property owner of the priority weeds as required</li> </ul>	Infrastructure & Works Community Services	Medium	F-OPEX

Action		Details	Responsibility	Priority	Resources
1.7	Increase the extent of hygiene practices into DCC contract process, operations, and activities on Council land to minimise the risk of weed spread into new or sensitive areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May require wash down facilities in strategic locations</li> <li>• Determine areas considered 'sensitive'</li> </ul>	Infrastructure & Works Community Services	Medium	A-OPEX F-CAPEX
<b>Biodiversity Health</b>					
1.8	Develop a Master Plan for the Kelcey Tier Greenbelt	Considers natural, social, recreational, and cultural values	Community Services	High	A-OPEX
1.9	Undertake revegetation where required to support biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use local native species</li> <li>• Encourage development of flora and fauna corridors</li> <li>• Consider use of local native species on nature strips and in parks &amp; reserves in accordance with Council policy</li> </ul>	Community Services Infrastructure & Works	High	A-OPEX External
1.10	Manage known threatened species populations to best-practice standards	For instance, continue to manage Clayton Drive Reserve to increase habitat health for the translocated Central North Burrowing Crayfish	Infrastructure & Works Community Services	High	A-OPEX
1.11	Encourage community awareness of and involvement in conservation activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support volunteer and school participation</li> <li>• Deliver community events celebrating biodiversity e.g. National Tree Day, Clean up Australia Day, Biodiversity month, Bioblitz</li> <li>• Develop or review relevant promotional material, consider using digital platforms</li> </ul>	Community Services	High	A-OPEX External

Action		Details	Responsibility	Priority	Resources
1.12	Address through compliance, incentives, or education: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>illegal dumping of (garden) waste</li> <li>removal/degradation of native vegetation</li> </ul>	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planting of non-native species in reserves</li> <li>Planting environmental weeds in gardens</li> </ul>	Risk Management Community Services	High	A-OPEX
1.13	Manage bushfire hazard reduction burns with consideration of ecological priorities	As outlined in the Don Reserve and Kelcey Tier Greenbelt Bushfire Management Plans	Infrastructure & Works Community Services	High	A-OPEX External
1.14	Monitor priority species and habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Record in database linked to Council's GIS</li> <li>Consider reporting on city wide ecological health every 10 years</li> </ul>	Community Services	Medium	F-OPEX External

### Targets:

- The area of revegetation is increased by 100% by 2024 from 2017-18 levels
- A 25% increase in community participation by 2024 from 2018-2019 levels
- Increase in the extent of hygiene practices of Council and integration into contracts
- Decrease in reports of illegal dumping of garden waste / clearing native vegetation by 2024 from 2018-2019

### STRATEGIC FOCUS 2. HEALTHY WATERWAYS AND COASTS

Action		Details	Responsibility	Priority	Resources
2.1	Revegetate and /or improve health of riparian zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improves water quality and aquatic ecosystem health</li> <li>Reduces stream bank erosion and sedimentation</li> <li>Use local native species</li> </ul>	Community Services	High	F-OPEX External
2.2	Engage volunteers in activities to protect our waterways and coasts	Hands-on and education projects	Community Services	High	A-OPEX External

Action		Details	Responsibility	Priority	Resources
2.3	Progressively extend installation of gross pollutants traps across the stormwater system	High volume stormwater drains to have gross pollutant traps installed with their effectiveness monitored	Infrastructure & Works	High	A-OPEX F-CAPEX
2.4	Integrate Water Sensitive Urban Design into new Council projects and developments where possible	Design that filters pollution from stormwater runoff	Infrastructure & Works	High	A-OPEX F-OPEX
2.5	Unauthorised activity on beaches / coastline – advocate for improved understanding of the issue's significance and develop appropriate responses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May require a combination of access restriction, enforcement, and community education approaches</li> <li>Will require multi-stakeholder approach</li> </ul>	Community Services	Low	A-OPEX External

### Targets:

- The area of rehabilitation work in riparian zones is increased by 100% by 2024 from 2018-19 levels
- A 25% increase in community participation by 2024 from 2018-2019 levels
- No evidence of disturbance to shorebird breeding sites

### STRATEGIC FOCUS 3. LIVING LIGHTLY

Action		Details	Responsibility	Priority	Resources
Energy Efficiency					
3.1	Progressively upgrade Council-owned building, street and park lights with energy efficient light emitting diode (LED) lights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lighting upgraded upon replacement of globes or for new projects</li> <li>Consider using smart technology, solar lighting where appropriate</li> <li>Develop tools to assist staff with purchase of energy efficient fixtures, fittings, and appliances</li> </ul>	Infrastructure & Works	High	A-OPEX F-CAPEX

Action		Details	Responsibility	Priority	Resources
3.2	Investigate alternative power generation opportunities	Includes solar & wind generation, use of battery storage, considering whole of life cycle, payback periods etc	Infrastructure & Works	High	F-CAPEX External
3.3	Continue to undertake building retrofits (general energy efficiency) for large facilities	Consider energy saving measures - heating, cooling, ventilation, and loss	Infrastructure & Works	High	F-CAPEX F-OPEX External
3.4	Investigate electric vehicle charging infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include consideration of alternative power sources</li> <li>• Promote existing local charging stations</li> </ul>	Infrastructure & Works	High	F-CAPEX External
3.5	Promote or deliver active transport and energy efficiency community education programs	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host ride to work / walk to work programs, and other active transport programs in conjunction with the Bike Strategy and Pedestrian Strategy</li> <li>• Deliver Living Lightly Expo</li> <li>• Promote car/ride sharing schemes as they become available</li> </ul>	Community Services	High	A-OPEX External
3.6	Reduce Council fleet emissions by transitioning to low carbon vehicles, reviewing service schedules, exploring alternative transport options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on technological improvements</li> <li>• Investigate whole of life efficiency when purchasing fleet vehicles</li> <li>• Explore alternative transport options to reduce number of use of fleet, e.g. electric bikes / scooters</li> </ul>	Infrastructure & Works	Medium	F-CAPEX

Action		Details	Responsibility	Priority	Resources
3.7	Embed energy efficiency across DCC operations	Develop staff behaviour change education program	Community Services	Medium	F-OPEX
3.8	Provide advice, advocate, or facilitate community scale enterprises that utilise alternative energy generation and consumption	Explore opportunities for shared power schemes, community shareholders, bulk buy schemes etc	Community Services Economic Development	Medium	F-OPEX External
3.9	Support new community or business initiatives that utilise low carbon approaches	Strengthen business/ industry partnerships to support and encourage new and emerging low carbon opportunities, for instance, ebike hire for visitors, co/tri-generation	Community Services Economic Development	Medium	F-OPEX External
3.10	Continue to support TasNetworks to roll out street light LED changeover program	Street lights are owned, maintained, and replaced under a negotiated arrangement with TasNetworks. TasNetworks plan to change all lamps to LED in the next 8-10 years	Infrastructure & Works	Low	External
<b>Water Sensitivity</b>					
3.11	Promote water saving/ efficiency programs/ opportunities for residents	Rainwater tanks, treated use of greywater in accordance with planning/health regulations	Community Services	High	A-OPEX
3.12	Install smart technology for high water-using properties / facilities	For example, sensors that irrigate sports field as required given level of dryness as opposed to regular times	Infrastructure & Works	Medium	A-OPEX F-CAPEX External
3.13	Progressively retrofit high water-using properties with water efficient fixtures and fittings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Includes development of tools to assist staff with purchase of water efficient fixtures, fittings, and appliances</li> <li>Extends to leased Council facilities</li> </ul>	Infrastructure & Works	Medium	A-OPEX F-CAPEX External

Action	Details	Responsibility	Priority	Resources	
Liveable City					
3.14	Implement actions in the Waste Strategy that aim to firstly reduce the amount of waste generated and secondly reduce the amount of landfill through resource recovery and recycling	Some Waste Strategy actions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities for recycling/ composting and use of biodegradable serving equipment at public events</li> <li>Support composting schemes, community gardens/ enterprises and nature strip edible gardens to reduce food waste</li> <li>Explore opportunities to segregate green waste from landfill</li> <li>Promote reuse through local business and charities</li> </ul>	Infrastructure & Works Community Services	Varied as per Waste Strategy	Varied as per Waste Strategy
3.15	Implement the DCC Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan to improve climate resilience	For instance, regarding Sea Level Rise and Storm Tide Risk - assess risks, prioritise works and implement dune / foreshore restoration programmes as required	All departments	Varied as per Adaptation Plan	Varied as per Adaption Plan
3.16	Ensure sustainability considerations in procurement decisions, including mandatory weightings in tenders, where appropriate	Improve procurement guidelines, processes, and tools to support staff to actively engage in sustainable procurement	Organisational Performance	Medium	A-OPEX
3.17	Identify, collect, and report on environmental data that will inform future decision-making and achievement of Strategy targets	Review Environmental Strategy targets and align with data collection and analysis capabilities where required	Community Services	Medium	F-OPEX



### Targets:

- 5% of electricity used in Council's largest facilities obtained from localised renewable energy sources
- 5% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions across Council operations by June 2024, based on June 2019 levels
- 5% reduction on 2017-2018 energy usage in Council's largest facilities by 2024
- Zero increase in potable water use of Council's largest water consuming facilities by June 2024 from 2019 baseline
- Environmental sustainability is considered across all areas of Council, in decisions, project development and implementation, and reported accordingly to the community by 2024
- Increase in number of Council-delivered, or supported 'living lightly' community education programs by 2024 from 2018-19 levels

**Devonport City Council**  
**PO Box 604, Devonport Tasmania 7310**  
**Phone: 03 6424 0511**  
**[www.devonport.tas.gov.au](http://www.devonport.tas.gov.au)**