



Reference: AF12/377 SM

26 October 2015

## MEMBERS

**NOTICE** is hereby given that the Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee will meet in the following Meeting Room on the day, date and time as follows:

**Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee**  
(Conference Room - Level 1):

Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015 at 7:30 a.m.

An agenda for the meeting is enclosed herewith.

**Mark McSHANE**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE  
Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015 at 7.30 a.m.

AGENDA

1. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS - Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA) Liaison - Direct Action Plan - Ref. AF11/950
2. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - Expression of Interest - Salvage Yard - 3 Eucalypt Drive, Mount Gambier - Ref. AF14/34
3. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - Solar Photovoltaic Systems Maintenance - Library Solar Update - Ref. AF15/319
4. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee - Reports for Information - Ref. AF12/377

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE

Meeting to be held in the Conference Room, Operational Services Area, Level One of Civic Centre,  
10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier, on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015 at 7:30 a.m.

AGENDA

PRESENT: Cr P Richardson (Presiding Member)  
Crs D Mutton, I Von Stanke and S Mezinec

COUNCIL OFFICERS: Daryl Sexton, Director - Operational Services  
Aaron Izzard, Environmental Sustainability Officer  
Carmel Ron, Environmental Sustainability Officer  
Sarah Moretti, Administration Officer - Operational Services

APOLOGIES: moved the apology received from be accepted.  
seconded

COUNCIL MEMBERS

AS OBSERVERS:

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THIS LAND.**

MINUTES: moved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 be taken as read and confirmed.  
seconded

QUESTIONS: (a) With Notice - nil submitted.  
(b) Without Notice -

**1. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS - Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA) Liaison - Direct Action Plan - Ref. AF11/950**

*Goal: Environment*

*Strategic Objective: (i) Systematically build Council as an environmentally sustainable organisation  
(ii) Plan and implement infrastructure to protect and enhance the natural and built environment, including in response to climate change influences*

The Environmental Sustainability Officer reported:

- (a) The "Direct Action Plan" is the Federal Government's policy for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with human influenced global warming. The LGA recently commissioned Australian Integrated Carbon Financial Services to review the Direct Action Plan in order to provide guidance to local government on how it may relate to councils. For more information and a copy of the document refer to LGA circular 43.7 <http://www.lga.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?c=65893>;
- (b) Central to the Direct Action Plan is the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF). The ERF is a reverse auction process where the Federal Government pay the lowest price they can for carbon emissions abatement. The government pay per Australian Carbon Credit Unit (ACCU). One ACCU is equivalent to 1 tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The average price paid per ACCU in the first round of auctions was \$13.95. The minimum volume of ACCUs that a seller needs to offer is 2,000 ACCUs per year – that's 2,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. At the above price that would equate to \$27,900 per year.

Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee Agenda for 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015 Cont'd...

- (c) Under the ERF numerous audit reports and other paperwork would be required over the life of a project, which may include engaging an independent carbon auditor. This could cost anywhere from \$2k to \$40k with each potential project and it should seriously be considered whether the potential funding is worth that effort and cost or not.
- (d) Activities that Council may undertake that could possibly be eligible under the ERF include:
- Source separating organic waste – e.g. a universal organics bin with kitchen caddies.
  - Energy efficiency upgrades of Council facilities.
  - Putting a biofilter on Caroline Landfill.
  - Changing street lighting to LEDs. Street lights are by far Council's biggest electricity consumer. In 2013-2014 they used 1,276,152 kWh. The Main Corner was Council's next biggest consumer at 317,953 kWh. GHG emissions from street lights in 2013-2014 would have been approximately 778 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e. (Street lights are not owned by Council)
- (e) The City of Mount Gambier's total emissions in 2013-2014 was 8,135 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e – 6,818 tonnes of that was from the landfill.

Given this relatively small volume of GHG emissions, it is highly unlikely that any project, or combination of projects, Council would undertake would reach the minimum of 2,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per year.

- (f) The LGA, LCLGA or some other organisation, could play a role in aggregating smaller projects across councils – in order to get economies of scale, meet the minimum requirements, as well as look after all the reporting and auditing requirements. If there was an opportunity to aggregate projects with other councils then the City of Mount Gambier could possibly contribute projects towards that, and then be able to get access to this funding.

moved it be recommended:

- (a) The report be received;
- (b) Council write to the LGA thanking them for commission the review of the Federal Government's Direct Action Plan, and request that they consider playing a role in aggregating projects across Councils for consideration under the Emissions Reduction Fund.

seconded

**2. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - Expression of Interest - Salvage Yard - 3 Eucalypt Drive, Mount Gambier - Ref. AF14/34**

*Goal: Building Communities*

*Strategic Objective: (i) Strive for an increase in services and facilities to ensure the community has equitable access and that the identified needs of the community are met*

The Director - Operational Services reported:

- (a) A formal Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) process has been conducted seeking business models and interest in the operation of a salvage yard at Council's Eucalypt Drive site;
- (b) the REOI was advertised in The Border Watch, Council website and SA Tender website;

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- (c) one (1) formal submission was received by the closing date of 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015;
- (d) the one (1) submission did not present a 'business model' nor provide any supporting commentary / detail on the proposed salvage business, and accordingly did not meet the REOI minimum requirements;
- (e) notwithstanding the outcome of the formal REOI process, several other prospective proponents are still expressing a level of interest in pursuing a future opportunity for the operation of a salvage yard at the site;
- (f) having tested the market in a formal sense, it is proposed that the formal REOI process be abandoned, and that future activity toward securing a salvage yard operator be targeted negotiations with specific waste industry participants or organisations with suitable resourcing and experience that would support the operation of a salvage yard.

moved it be recommended:

- (a) The report be received and contents noted;
- (b) the formal Request for Expression of Interest process be abandoned, and the single respondent be notified accordingly;
- (c) the Chief Executive Officer be authorized to negotiate with targeted waste industry participants and other organisations with resourcing and experience considered suitable for the operation of a salvage yard in conjunction with the Eucalypt Drive Waste Transfer Station;
- (d) a further report be presented to Council to consider any salvage yard or similar business proposal arising from the negotiations authorized in resolution (c).

seconded

### 3. **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - Solar Photovoltaic Systems Maintenance - Library Solar Update - Ref. AF15/319**

*Goal: Environment*

*Strategic Objective: (i) Systematically build Council as an environmentally sustainable organisation*

The Environmental Sustainability Officer reported:

- (a) The solar power system on the roof of the Library was switched on in May 2015. Since that time the system has produced 25,574 kWh of electricity (at the time of writing this report). This is equivalent to powering an average sized home for over 4 years;
- (b) at times the system is producing all of the Library's electricity, as indicated in the graph below;



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(c) the reduction on last year's electricity use by month is below:

- October 36.5% reduction
- September 25.5% reduction
- August 17.9% reduction
- July 15.4% reduction
- June 11.3% reduction

As expected, the percentage is increasing as the weather becomes sunnier.

moved it be recommended:

(a) The report be received;

seconded

4. **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee - Reports for Information - Ref. AF12/377**

The Environmental Sustainability Officer reported:

(a) Environmental Sustainability Program 2015 - Project Progress

The current table outlining projects for 2015 is attached to the agenda for Members information.

moved it be recommended:

(a) The report be received;

(b) item (a) as above be received and noted for information.

seconded

**MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

The meeting closed at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m.

26 October 2015  
AF12/377  
SM

## Environmental Sustainability Program 2015 – Project Progress

**Updated: 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Progress Notes</b>
Salvage Yard	Investigate opportunities for re-establishing a salvage yard in Eucalypt Drive.	EOI closed on Friday 2 October 2015. A recommendation on the way forward is contained in this month's ESSC agenda.
Caroline Landfill Audit	Audit the trucks depositing waste to the landfill to identify opportunities to reduce the amount of recyclables and organics that are being deposited.	Contractors have been contacted to let them know the results of the audit and to find a way forward to reduce contamination.
Organics Next Steps	Investigate opportunities for reducing the amount of organic waste being put in Council's kerbside rubbish bins.	At the March 2015 Council meeting Council approved the release of 2,000 kitchen caddies with bio-bags to organics bin subscribers in the 2015-2016 financial year. Bulk buy opportunities for compost bins and worm farms are also being investigated.
Library Solar Power System	Installation of a 57kW solar system on the roof of the Library, to supply 25-30% of the Library's electricity needs.	The system is now switched on and fully functional. The display inside the library will be switched on in the near future.
Blue Lake Solar Lighting	Involves the installation of solar lights around the footpath around the Blue Lake.	Installation of the lights is now complete. All lights are now operating as designed.
Park & Stride Mount Gambier	The aim of this 12 month project is to encourage community members who come to central Mount Gambier to shop, to park in an off-street car park and walk to shop, rather than drive from shop to shop.	The program has been launched. So far there have been over 650 Facebook page likes, 150 Surveys completed, over 150 people make the public commitment, and thousands of Facebook 'Post Reach'. A variety of prizes have been given including shop vouchers and P&S eftpos cards.
Bin Tagging	This involves checking the contents of waste and recycling bins from 150 properties, and give specific feedback about what goes in which bins.	The second round of bin tagging will commence on Tuesday 27 October 2015.
Efficient Homes Project	This project involves installing temperature loggers in houses constructed of a variety of materials – rammed earth, modern eclectic, modern brick veneer and limestone – and leaving them in situ for 12 months.	Final report has been prepared and has been placed on Council's website. Loggers have been installed in three new homes for 2015-2016. The final set of loggers will be installed in the fourth home in October.
Aquatic Centre Energy Audit	An audit of the electricity use of the Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre. It is anticipated that the auditors will make recommendations for improving the efficiency of the facility, leading to long term reductions in electricity costs.	Follow up investigations are currently being undertaken.
2015 KESAB Awards	Nominate City of Mount Gambier for numerous categories within the KESAB awards.	2015 submission has been submitted. Judging took place on the 22 <sup>nd</sup> of September. The awards ceremony will be held on the 13 <sup>th</sup> of November in Adelaide.
Resource Efficiency Review	Review of Council operations to identify what level of resources are currently being used, and identify opportunities for increased efficiency.	Some initial data received from Finance and suppliers. Analysis of data will commence in the near future as the ESO work program allows.
Fruit Tree EOI	Involved working with residents to put a small number of fruit trees in their local reserve.	In conjunction with local residents 6 fruit trees were planted in the Limestone Court reserve on Thursday 2 July 2015. The 2015-2016 EOI will be released in the first half of 2016.

Carbon Reporting	Measure and report on Council's carbon emissions for the 2014-2015 financial year. Assess if Council triggers any carbon and/or climate change legislation.	The 2014-2015 report is currently being written.
Mount Gambier: Edible City	Run a series of workshops on home food production, from beginner to more advanced topics.	Webpage is live. Workshops are being organised. Workshops were held over the weekend of 18-20 September, they were well attended and received.
Smaller Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Smart Living profiles.</li> <li>- Talks at schools and community groups on environment and sustainability topics.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Five Smart Living profiles have been completed.</li> <li>- Talks undertaken on an ongoing basis upon request. Numerous radio interviews have been undertaken.</li> </ul>
Environmental Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clean Up Australia Day</li> <li>- Earth Hour</li> <li>- Ride to Work Day</li> <li>- Walk to Work Day</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Completed.</li> <li>- Completed.</li> <li>- Completed.</li> <li>- Friday 8 November.</li> </ul>