

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY.

PROGRESSING OUR STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY PRIORITIES.

As the level of government closest to the community, Council plays an important role in protecting our local communities and positioning our Region to thrive.

As we move towards 2030, Council's Sustainability Strategy recognises the need to address four strategic priorities:

- Prioritise a healthy natural environment by protecting, maintaining and enhancing our natural assets;
- Transition towards net zero emissions by accelerating local climate action;
- Create a climate resilient region by preparing our Council, Region and community to adapt and prosper in a changing climate; and
- Build a low-carbon circular economy by working with business, industry and government to ensure our Region thrives.

Together the priorities help to focus attention on the actions necessary to align with national and state policies and targets; strengthen our community, environmental and economic resilience; and position us to make the most of emerging opportunities for our region.

Since adopting its first Sustainability Strategy back in 2018, Council has established a clear sustainability governance framework and continues to implement an annual action plan that sets out targeted improvement initiatives. Council's Sustainability Strategy delivers on our vision for a sustainable future through four interconnected pathways. Council is working together with our local residents, communities, businesses, industries and other levels of government to lead sustainability action .

Whilst there is still much work to be done, Council has made good progress in establishing some of the foundational policies, partnerships and programs required to deliver on these priorities. This coordinated approach is integrating sustainability considerations across Council's many diverse functions and has already achieved some significant outcomes over the last 5 years.

The Sustainability Strategy Snapshot outlines some of the achievements to date, as they relate to the strategic sustainability priorities.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES.

SNAPSHOT
AS AT JUNE 2023

PRIORITISE A HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



provided to local residents as part of the Native Plant Program since it was established in 2018.



supported by \$75,140 in Environment and Sustainability Grants since the program was established in 2019.



invested to support local skilling, maintenance and enhancement works at 8 project sites since the Natural Resource Management program was established in 2018.



planted to shade and cool key streets, parks, playgrounds and footpaths since 2018.



exploring opportunities to adopt sustainable behaviours via Council's Living Sustainably program.



working together to reduce impacts to the Reef and our local communities.



in place to guide invasive pest and animal management at a local level whilst assisting state and national initiatives.



shows the Fitzroy River Estuary (downstream of Rockhampton) holding steady with a B rating.



established in 2023 to help increase the Region's tree canopy and vegetation.

TRANSITION TOWARDS NET ZERO EMISSIONS



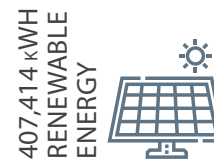
for the Rockhampton Local Government Area holding steady at 1,707,000 tCO₂e per annum based on compared with the FY2018-19 Rockhampton Local Government Area Baseline.



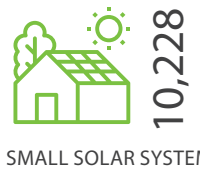
and FY2020-21 Corporate Emissions Baseline established to reduce Council's emissions in line with state and national targets.



achieved through organisational improvements as at the FY2021-22 Corporate Emissions Inventory.



generated per annum via solar installations at 10 Council facilities.



installed in Rockhampton LGA (postcodes 4700 and 4701) as at April 2023.

CREATE A CLIMATE RESILIENT REGION



working together since 2018 to address climate related risks as part of the Queensland Climate Resilient Councils program.



planning underway as part of local implementation of the Climate Risk Management Framework for Queensland Local Government commencing in 2023.



from 19 Local Governments taking action for the Reef and their communities recognised in the Reef Guardian Council Climate Change Initiatives Snapshot 2022.



established for the Fitzroy and Capricornia Regions in partnership with Queensland Government in 2022.



by continuing to work with our local community and other government agencies to prevent, prepare, respond and recover from disasters.

BUILD A LOW-CARBON CIRCULAR ECONOMY



under development including supply chain and precinct visioning, Reef Water Quality improvements and a water hyacinth harvesting trial.



approved by Council in 2022, supporting the development of a Circular Economy Plan to help maximise the value of the resources we use, minimise the waste we create, cut emissions and pollution and help boost our local economy.



boosted through innovative initiatives including a 12 month FOGO trial, landfill gas capture and flaring, installation of a polystyrene processing facility and new solar panel diversion arrangements.



spent locally as part of Council's commitment to support our Region's economy, local businesses and community through the Local Preference Policy.



driving local energy generation to help grow new jobs and industries as part of the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan.