

Environmental Sustainability Performance Report 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

Improving the environmental outcomes of Council's operations

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS
20,429
tCO₂e

TARGETING ZERO EMISSIONS FROM COUNCIL'S OPERATIONS BY 2030

68

ANNUAL CHANGE



1196
tCO₂e

6%
Decrease

52kW of new solar and replacement of 6,400 streetlights with LED lightbulbs have been major contributors to the decrease in Council's emissions.

COUNCIL'S EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS ARE EQUIVALENT TO 68 AVERAGE HOUSEHOLDS' ANNUAL CARBON FOOTPRINT

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS SOURCES

PETROL

538 tCO₂e



DIESEL

2,581 tCO₂e



ANNUAL CHANGE



44%
Increase

ANNUAL CHANGE



5%
Increase

ELECTRICITY IN STREETLIGHTS

1,962 tCO₂e



ELECTRICITY IN FACILITIES

13,700 tCO₂e



ANNUAL CHANGE



14%
Decrease

ANNUAL CHANGE



8%
Decrease

COVID-19 rules for staff travelling together in Council vehicles has increased passenger vehicle use and fuel consumption. Increased emissions from wastewater treatment plants are associated with increased loads received and treated.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FUGITIVE EMISSIONS

1,647 tCO₂e



ANNUAL CHANGE



16%
Increase

ELECTRICITY

GRID ELECTRICITY CONSUMED

21,539,036 kWh



SOLAR GENERATION

667,470 kWh



ANNUAL CHANGE



1.6%
Increase

ANNUAL CHANGE



7%
Increase

SURPLUS SOLAR TO THE GRID FROM COUNCIL SITES

131,930 kWh



PROPORTION OF SELF-GENERATED RENEWABLE ENERGY



ANNUAL CHANGE



64%
Increase

ANNUAL CHANGE



17%
Increase

REDUCTION IN ELECTRICITY-RELATED CARBON EMISSIONS

2020/2021



17%
Decrease

2019/2020



9%
Decrease

2018/2019



6%
Decrease

2017/2018



3%
Decrease

TARGETING 25% LESS EMISSIONS FROM ELECTRICITY THAN 2016/2017 BY 2022 AND 50% BY 2025

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OFFICE WASTE

MURWILLUMBAH ADMIN OFFICE

An office audit was not completed again this year due to large numbers of staff working from home in response to COVID-19.



2018/2019

4,433 kg ↓ **52%** Recycled

2016/2017

5,308 kg ↓ **96%** Recycled

2014/2015

5,958 kg **7%** Recycled

PRINTED PAPER

TOTAL PHOTOCOPIER PRINTS



2020/2021

1,741,673 ↓ **17%** Decrease

2019/2020

2,086,481 ↓ **15%** Decrease

2018/2019

2,455,680 ↑ **16%** Increase

2017/2018

2,125,822

WATER USE

PUBLIC PARKS



79,775 ML

ANNUAL CHANGE ↓ **44%** Decrease

COUNCIL FACILITIES

91,792 ML

ANNUAL CHANGE ↓ **18%** Decrease

Wetter conditions reduced watering demand. **Note:** Data reported in the 2019/2020 report has been updated with more accurate figures.

FLEET VEHICLES KILOMETRES TRAVELLED

Council leases 38 hybrid vehicles as part of its passenger fleet of 104 vehicles, exceeding the NSW Government 10% target for electric or hybrid vehicles in Government agencies' passenger car fleets.

PASSENGER/
COMMERCIAL
DIESEL



3,031,203 KM

ANNUAL CHANGE ↓ **7%** Decrease

PASSENGER/
COMMERCIAL
ULP



2,591,754 KM

ANNUAL CHANGE ↑ **20%** Increase

TRUCKS
HEAVY/MEDIUM



1,663,684 KM

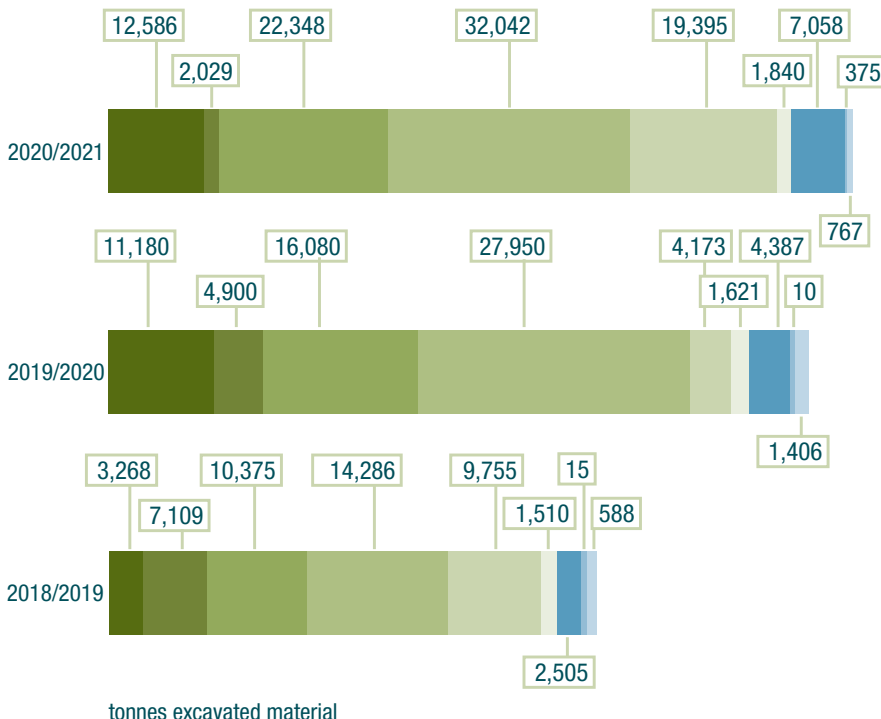
ANNUAL CHANGE ↓ **4%** Decrease

Total kilometres travelled remained steady compared to the previous 12 months due to ongoing COVID-19 travel restrictions and Council's work from home arrangements.

CONSTRUCTION AND ROAD MATERIAL WASTE



90% of material excavated from infrastructure worksites is repurposed, particularly roads material which is re-used in the rebuilding of sealed roads and regrading of gravel roads. Every tonne reused avoids a tonne of virgin material being excavated.



- REUSED AND REPURPOSED**
- To Council controlled/approved projects
 - Disposed at private sites
 - Virgin natural material
 - Public roads material
 - Recycled asphalt pavement
 - Concrete
- Other Categories:**
- Contaminated soils
 - Asbestos
 - Acid sulphate soils