

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE CHARTER

FEBRUARY 2022

**PREPARED BY:
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE UNIT**



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SUTHERLAND SHIRE

1. NAME

Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee

2. PURPOSE

This Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee is established to assist in guiding Council towards achieving the Outcomes identified in Chapter 2 of the Sutherland Shire Community Strategic Plan (CSP), those being:

- Effectively manage and conserve our resources.
- Enhance and protect diverse natural habitats.
- Protect our beaches, rivers and oceans.
- Environment and climate risks and impacts are understood and managed.

Due to the key role played by the Lucas Heights Resource Recovery Park (LHRRP) in achieving many of the above outcomes, the Sub-Committee will also assist Council in determining appropriate development of the LHRRP site, including appropriate commercial arrangements.

3. OBJECTIVES

- To consider and recommend programs and projects which avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle our natural resources
- To consider and recommend programs and projects which promote and pursue energy and water efficiency, productivity and clean generation, including those at the LHRRP.
- To consider and recommend programs and projects which promote partnerships that encourage awareness about sustainable practices and behavioural change within individuals, businesses and residents.
- To consider and recommend programs and projects to reduce the Council's ecological footprint.
- To consider and recommend programs and projects which empower and enable the community to reduce our collective greenhouse gas emissions output.
- To consider the sustainable waste management needs of Sutherland Shire up to and beyond 2037.
- To consider and recommend programs and projects which enhance and protect our diverse flora, fauna and ecological communities.
- To consider and recommend programs and projects which manage, promote and enhance our tree canopy in urban and natural areas.
- To consider and recommend programs and projects which promote and facilitate responsible urban planning which balances growth with environmental sustainability and protection.
- To consider and recommend programs and projects which manage catchments effectively to improve the cleanliness, health and biodiversity of our waterways.
- To consider and recommend programs and projects which work in partnership with the community to build resilience, plan for and respond to the immediate and long-term impacts of climate change.

- To consider and recommend programs and projects which monitor and manage the environment to minimise the impacts of natural disasters
- To gain an understanding of any future proposals by the operators of the LHRRP to modify the operation of the Lucas Heights facility and how this relates to the Deed of Agreement (DoA) and Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA).
- To consider the interests of the residents of western areas of the Shire in the future operation of the LHRRP.
- To consider and recommend opportunities for carbon emission reductions by Council from the effective future management of the LHRRP.
- To consider and recommend possible future uses of the current site up to and beyond 2037
- To consider and recommend amendments to the existing VPA and Deed to facilitate Council's desired outcomes up and beyond 2037

4. MEMBERSHIP

Sub-Committee Membership shall consist of:

4.1 Voting Members

- Three (3) E Ward Councillors
- Four (4) other Councillors

4.2 Non-Voting Members

- Any other interested Councillors
- Council Staff

4.3 Chairperson

A Councillor appointed by Council.

4.4 Deputy Chairperson

A Councillor appointed by Council.

5. MEMBER COMPLIANCE

All Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee members shall be bound by the provision of this Charter, the Code of Conduct for Councillors, the Code of Conduct for Council Staff and the Code of Conduct for Council Committee Members, Delegates of Council and Council Advisers.

6. AUTHORITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

The Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee was established on the authority of Council at its Meeting held on 21 February 2022 (COR017-22, Minute No. 24).

The Sub-Committee has not been granted authority to make any decisions, only to make recommendations to Council. Some of the discussion during Sub-Committee meetings may be in relation to financial matters regarding LHRRP operations, which must be kept confidential.

7. MEETINGS

8.1 Agendas and Minutes

The agenda shall be determined by the Chairperson of the Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee and circulated to Members at least one week prior to any meeting.

Minutes of all meetings are to be recorded accurately, approved by the Chairperson and circulated to members within three weeks following the meeting.

8.2 Meeting Frequency

Meetings will be arranged on an as needs basis until the work of the Sub-Committee meeting is completed.

8.3 Quorum

The quorum of the Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee shall be three (3) Voting Members.

8.4 Voting

Each Voting Member shall be entitled to one (1) vote in respect to any matter and the decision of the Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee shall be by the majority of votes cast in favour. The Chairperson shall have a casting vote.

Decisions requiring a vote shall not be made at any meeting unless a quorum is present.

8.5 Venue

The venue shall be at Council's Administration Building or at a meeting place determined by the Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee.

8.6 Procedural Matters

In relation to any procedural matter, the ruling of the Chairperson shall be final.

8. TERM AND TENURE OF SUB-COMMITTEE

9.1 Term of Sub-Committee

As required until objectives are achieved.

9.2 Tenure of Office

Voting Members shall hold office as determined by Council and, where applicable, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act.

Non-Voting Members shall remain while such persons continue to hold the position as stated or as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

9.3 Vacancies

A vacancy on the Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

9. VARIATION OF THE CHARTER

This Charter may be added to, repealed, or amended by resolution of the Council in consultation with or upon the recommendation of the Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee.

End of Document

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