

**DRAFT  
SUSTAINABILITY  
STRATEGY  
2018 - 2023**

**BROKEN HILL**

**CITY COUNCIL**

**AUSTRALIA'S FIRST  
HERITAGE LISTED CITY**

<b>QUALITY CONTROL</b>			
<b>KEY DIRECTION</b>	3. Our Environment		
<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	3.1 Our Environmental footprint is minimised		
<b>FUNCTION</b>	Environmental Footprint		
<b>STRATEGY</b>	3.1.2 Increase use and innovation of renewable resources and decrease the use of non-renewable resources		
<b>FILE REFERENCE No</b>	18/41	<b>EDRMS No</b>	D18/61326
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	Chief Operations Officer		
<b>REVIEW DATE</b>	December 2023		
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# 1. INTRODUCTION

Broken Hill City Council is committed to developing a sustainable and liveable City.

We recognise that we must protect and enhance our natural and built environments if we want a sustainable, vibrant and liveable future.

Council faces a number of challenges within its fiscal climate to ensure energy, procurement, carbon footprint, water, waste, environmental impacts and built environment are managed so future generations can enjoy the City in which we live in.

Our daily routines are changing so we can plan for tomorrow and use innovation to become more sustainable. We all must do our bit to help.

This Strategy provides a direction for Council about how to consider everything we do so we can start working in a more sustainable way. It identifies 11 action plans which include energy, water, waste, transport and the built environment.

The Sustainability Strategy was developed in response to Council's Broken Hill 2033 Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

In 2010, during the development of the CSP, the community was consulted about their aspirations for Broken Hill. The community told Council they had the following aspirations:

- A cleaner and greener City
- Reliable and affordable water and electricity
- Increased social investment in environment and community by the mining sector
- Improved recycling programs

Further community engagement in 2013 resulted in additional aspirations:

- Council to play a greater advocacy/lobbyist role
- Management of health impacts associated with environmental lead

Among the highest priority issues identified by the community were a 'sustainable economy' and 'Trees, parks and open spaces'. The importance the community gives to the environment is reflected in Key Direction 3 in the CSP.

## **Key Direction 3 – Our Environment**

The Community Strategic Plan identifies four key directions for our community. Key Direction 3 is 'Our Environment' and relates to the conservation and preservation of the natural environment and greater reduction of the human impact on the surrounding environment to ensure a sustainable and healthy community. It contains a number of strategies to better manage and use the natural resources within the Broken Hill region.

## **Our Vision for Our Environment**

We value our wide streetscapes, quality of life and stunning vistas; we are committed to conservation and preservation of the natural environment and greater reduction of the human impact to ensure a sustainable and healthy community.

As part of Key Direction 3 – Our Environment, three objectives were identified:

- 3.1 Our environmental footprint is minimised;
- 3.2 Natural flora and fauna environments are enhanced and protected;
- 3.3 Proactive, innovative and responsible planning that supports the community, the environment and beautification of the City.

Each objective is further broken up into goals.

### **Objective 3.1 – Our Environmental Footprint Is Minimised**

The goals under Objective 3.1 are the following:

- 3.1.1 Reduce resource consumption and minimise waste
- 3.1.2 Increase use and innovation of renewable resources and decrease the use of non-renewable resources
- 3.1.3 Change consumer behaviour to reduce impacts on the environment without affecting quality of life
- 3.1.4 Reuse and recycling of resources is embraced by the community
- 3.1.5 Secure a permanent clean, reliable and sustainable water supply for the area
- 3.1.6 Investigate and plan for the minimisation of environmental impacts associated with mining activity on the City
- 3.1.7 Secure the water supply in the Menindee Lakes system to provide protection to cultural and ecological interests and social and recreational opportunities for the City's residents and visitors to our region

### **Objective 3.2 – Natural Flora and Fauna Environments are Enhanced and Protected**

The goals under Objective 3.2 are the following:

- 3.2.1 Protect and enhance regeneration areas for the benefit of the City
- 3.2.2 Increase awareness and understanding of the natural environment
- 3.2.3 Increase involvement in actively protecting the natural environment
- 3.2.4 Manage the impact of pests and weeds on Broken Hill's natural environment

### **Objective 3.3 – Proactive, Innovative and Responsible Planning Supports the Community, the Environment and Beautification of the City**

The goals under Objective 3.3 are the following:

- 3.1 Encourage environmentally sustainable building and subdivision design
- 3.3.2 Preserve the heritage and streetscapes of Australia's First Heritage Listed City
- 3.3.3 Reuse and repurposing of the existing built environment is managed in a sustainable manner

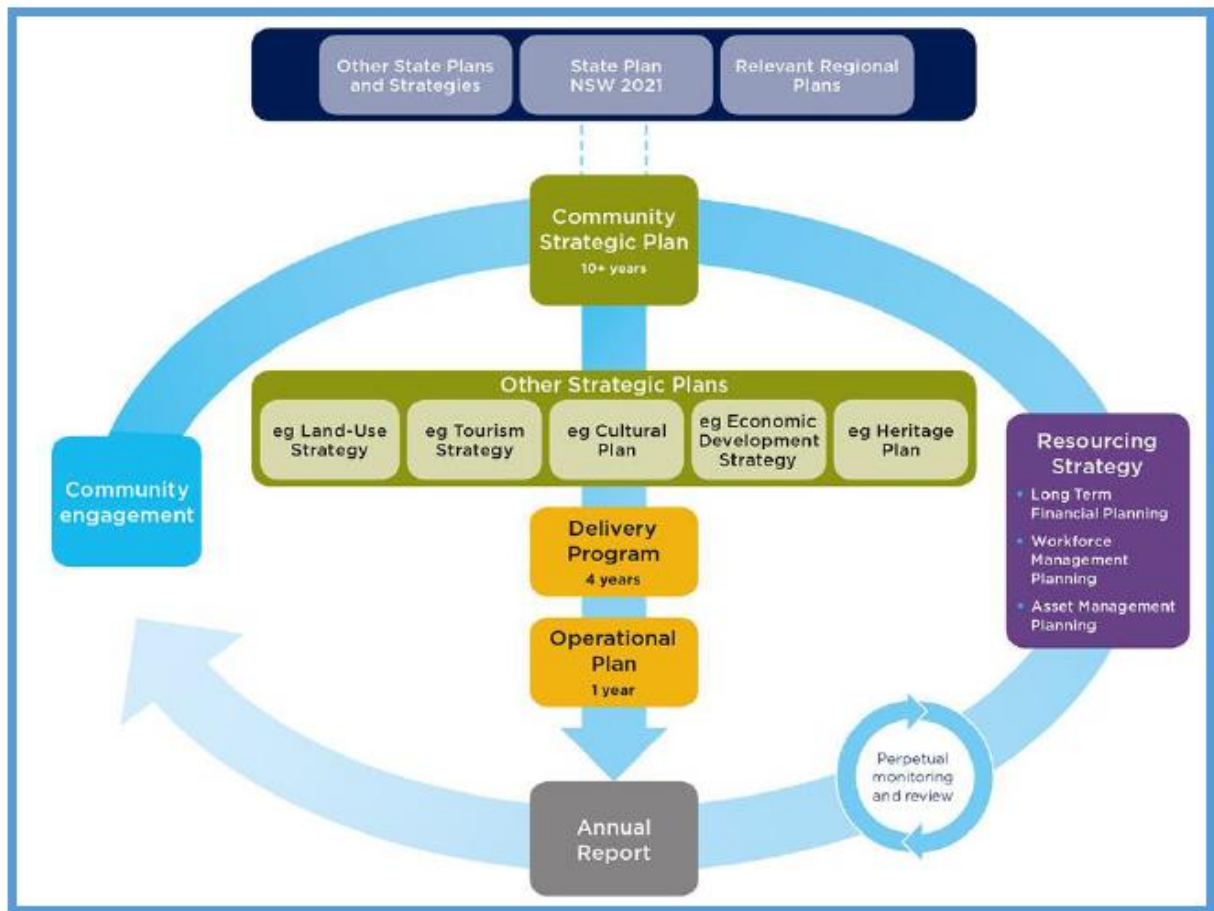
This strategy aims to make Broken Hill more sustainable to not only preserve our way of life but also ensure our natural assets are available for future generations.



## 2. PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

Under the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, Broken Hill City Council uses the CSP to determine which goals and strategies can be implemented at Council. This Sustainability Strategy forms part of Council's 'Other Strategic Plans'.

Goals and actions of this Sustainability Strategy are included in a four-year Council Delivery Program. Every four years, Council develops a Delivery Program that sets the targets for the Council term in line with objectives of the Community Strategic Plan. The Annual Operational Plan is a plan which focuses on the short-term and details which activities and projects from the Delivery Program will be implemented.



Goals and actions within this Sustainability Strategy will be embedded within the Delivery and Operational Plans, and progress reported through Council's Annual Report.

### 3. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

The SDGs are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The SDGs build on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, eight targets identified in the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted in September 2000, while including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities.

The SDGs were agreed and adopted by the United Nations in September 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Each of the 17 Goals are underpinned by targets.



Broken Hill City Council has identified the SDGs and the actions in this strategy which it can contribute to. Going forward, we will make sure to incorporate the SDGs into all strategies and plans in organisational planning. We will also align our strategy and communication material with the SDGs.

#### Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



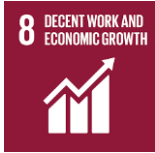
#### SDG Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all



#### SDG Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.



#### Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work



**Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**



**Goal 12: Ensure the sustainable consumption and production patterns**



**Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**





## **5. SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLANS 2018 – 2023**

The Sustainability Strategy is underpinned by 11 action plans. The plans were developed to achieve the goals under the CSP's Key Direction 3 – Our Environment.

1. Energy Efficiency
2. Renewable Energy
3. Gas Consumption
4. Transport Energy
5. Sustainable Procurement
6. Carbon Emissions
7. Water
8. Waste
9. Minimising the Environmental Impacts of Mining
10. Enhancing and Protecting the Natural Flora and Fauna
11. Built Environment

## 5.1 Energy Efficiency Plan

Reduce energy use, costs and greenhouse gas emissions



Initiative	Action	Timing	Who	Targets
Energy Audits	Contract energy audits for the Administration Building, Art Gallery and Civic Centre, including solar feasibility studies and recommendations for sub metering.	2019/2020	COO	Energy audits completed for Administration Building, Art Gallery and Civic Centre.
Lighting	Plan and implement LED lighting upgrades for all Council buildings and facilities.	2022/2023	COO	All Council buildings and facilities have LED lighting installed.
	Investigate, plan and install lighting controls such as timers, sensors and master switches for the Administration Building, Art Gallery and Civic Centre. Install lighting controls.	2019/2020	COO	Lighting controls installed in Administration Building, Art Gallery and Civic Centre.
Sub-metering	Develop implementation plan and install sub-metering, based on recommendations in the energy audit reports, at the Administration Building, Art Gallery and Civic Centre.	2020/2021	COO	Installation of sub-meters complete as per implementation plan.
Maintenance plans	Review, update or develop maintenance plans for all Council buildings and facilities.	2021/2022	COO	All Council buildings and facilities have asset management plans that are 100% compliant with maintenance schedules.
Council new buildings and building upgrades	Develop guideline for including energy efficiency in the planning for all new Council buildings or Council building upgrades.	2019/2020	COO/CFO	Energy efficiency guideline developed. Planning for all Council buildings include energy efficiency measures.
Streetlighting	Continue with the Southern Lights Project	2020/2021	CFO	All streetlights upgraded to LEDs

## 5.2 Renewable Energy Plan

Produce energy from renewable sources to reduce costs and greenhouse gas emissions



Initiative	Action	Timing	Who	Targets
100% Renewable Status – Broken Hill City Council (Cities Power Partnership Pledge)	Investigate opportunities for Council buildings and facilities to achieve 100% renewable status.	2022/2023	COO/CFO	100% renewable energy plan complete for Council buildings and facilities.
100% renewable status - City of Broken Hill by 2030 (Cities Power Partnership Pledge)	Set city-level renewable energy or emissions reduction targets and sustainable energy policies to provide a common goal and shared expectation for local residents and businesses.	Ongoing	COO	Increased annual uptake of renewables by the community and businesses.

### 5.3 Gas Consumption Plan

Reduce energy use, costs and greenhouse gas emissions



Initiative	Action	Timing	Who	Targets
Energy Audits	Contract energy audits on the Administration Building, Art Gallery and Civic Centre, including recommendations on reducing gas consumption.	2019/2020	COO	Energy audits completed for Administration Building, Art Gallery and Civic Centre.

## 5.4 Transport Energy Plan

Reduce fuel consumption and promote active transport (reduce Greenhouse Gases)



Initiative	Action	Timing	Who	Targets
Council Light Fleet Efficiency (Cities Power Partnership Pledge)	Introduction of digital technology to monitor the use of Council light fleet.	2019/2020	CFO	Investigation performed and introduction of digital technology. Ongoing efficiency in fuel consumption.
	Staff awareness around the use of Council light fleet (eg discourage idling).	2019/2020	CFO	Staff consultation undertaken. Efficient use of light fleet achieves a reduction in fuel consumption.
	The introduction of hybrid vehicles to Council's light fleet as part of fleet replacement.	2022/2023	CFO/COO	100% of light fleet to hybrid by 2023.
Active Transport - Staff	Promote walking and cycling to work.	Ongoing	HR	Survey undertaken on staff which shows increased uptake of staff using active transport options like walking or cycling.
City's Liveability (Cities Power Partnership Pledge)	Renew and improve our cycling, walking and mobility connections by providing adequate cycle lanes (both space and connectivity) in road design and supporting cyclists through providing parking, and end-of-date-ride facilities (covered, secure bike storage, showers, bicycle maintenance and incentives).	2018/2019	COO	Investigation performed and mobility connections implemented.
	Improved road maintenance.	Ongoing	COO	Annual reduction in complaints on road conditions.

## 5.5 Sustainable Procurement Plane

Use procurement to support positive environmental, social and economic outcomes



Initiative	Action	Timing	Who	Targets
Procurement policy	Review of the existing procurement policy and procedure to align with ISO 20400 Standard - Sustainable Procurement.	2020/2021	CFO/COO	Procurement policy includes environmental and social sustainability.



## 5.6 Carbon Emissions Plan

Measure and reduce greenhouse gas emissions



Initiative	Action	Timing	Who	Targets
Carbon Emissions reporting	Report carbon emissions for electricity annually (Council Annual Report).	2018/2019	COO	Emissions from electricity annually and reported in Council's Annual Report.
	Investigate opportunities to report carbon emissions for water, fuel and gas consumption, as well as air travel and waste.	2020/2021	COO	Emissions from water, fuel and gas, air travel and waste being measured and reported in Council's Annual Report.
Partnerships	Maintain and build a relationship with Cities Power Partnership (CPP) and monitor progress against CPP pledges.	Ongoing	COO	Membership with CPP. Pledges achieved.
Carbon neutrality	Undertake feasibility study for Carbon neutrality for Council operations.	2022/2023	COO	Feasibility study undertaken and implementation plan developed.

## 5.7 Water Plan

Reduce water use, costs and have a positive impact on liveability



Initiative	Action	Timing	Who	Targets
Water efficiency - Council	Investigate water efficiency, grey water, water-sensitive design, smart technology actions for Council buildings and facilities.	2018/2019	COO	Reduction in water consumption.
	Ensure the efficient use of water through staff education programs.	2019/2020	COO	Reduction in water consumption.
	Develop maintenance programs to ensure that water infrastructure is maintained to optimum efficiency (leaks, etc).	2019/2020	COO	Maintenance Program Developed.
	Monitor maintenance programs to ensure that water infrastructure is maintained to optimum efficiency (leaks, etc).	Ongoing	COO	Reduction in water consumption.
Fair water pricing	Advocate to ensure water price parity for Broken Hill - State Government/IPART.	Ongoing	GM	Water prices consistent with other NSW jurisdictions.
Environmental flows	Continue to advocate for the ecological/environmental improvement of Menindee Lakes (State/Federal Government), to have a positive impact on the liveability of the Broken Hill community.	Ongoing	GM	Continual advocacy to ensure environmental flows to Menindee Lakes.
Water efficiency - Community	Investigate water efficiency, grey water, water-sensitive design standards into the Council's Development Control Plan (DCP).	2018/2019	COO	Water reduction standards included in DCP.

## 5.8 Waste Plan

Reduce waste to landfill, increase recycling and re-use of resources



Initiative	Action	Timing	Who	Targets
Waste strategy	Review Waste Strategy	2018/2019	COO	Waste strategy review completed
Reduce waste at Council buildings and facilities	Incorporate waste initiatives for Council buildings and facilities to avoid and reduce waste, and increase recycling or reuse.	2019/2020	COO	Increase recycling and reuse and decreased cost of resource purchases.
	Staff awareness program developed for new and existing staff to reduce waste in the workplace (to be included in induction program).	2019/2020	COO/HR/Comms	Staff awareness program developed.
	Training/Induction of staff on Waste Reduction Program.	2019/2020 Ongoing	HR	All staff (existing and new) have attended training on waste reduction in the workplace.
	Operations manuals for all Council facilities updated to include waste reduction initiatives.	2019/2020	COO	Operations manuals updated with waste reduction initiatives.
	Develop a plan to increase the collection of green/organic material from Council Parks and Gardens to be processed for use in Council Facilities.	2019/2020	COO	A plan developed to increase the use of green/organic material. Material being used at Council Facilities.
Landfill management	Undertake full-service review for the landfill.	2018/19	CFO	Service review completed. Actions approved by Service Review Steering Group.
Waste collection	Undertake full-service review for waste collection (domestic and commercial).	2018/19	CFO	Service review completed. Actions approved by Service Review Steering Group.
Partnerships	Develop/formalise partnerships with the Container Deposit Scheme, Lifeline, Green	Ongoing	COO	Reduction in waste to landfill.

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Targets</b>
	Waste, food and organic waste; investigate opportunities for a Circular Economy.			Creating economic benefits and jobs in Broken Hill.
Development Control Plan (DCP)	DCP to include waste reduction initiatives for new-builds and renovations (Construction and Demolition waste).	2018/2019	COO	DCP updated with waste reduction initiatives included.
Community awareness of waste at non Council events	Develop a Hire Agreement for non-Council event organisers to hire out recycle bins for use at community events.	2018/2019	COO	Hire Agreement developed.
	Engage with Non-Council event organisers to increase recycling at non-Council events.	2018/19	COO/Com ms	Increase uptake of non-Council events hiring recycle bins to divert waste from landfill.
Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Broken Hill	Advocate (State/Federal Governments) for Broken Hill to be the location of choice for a large-scale MRF to manage Australia's waste.	Ongoing	GM	MRF in Broken Hill planned.
Create a circular economy	Investigate opportunities for small-scale commercial operators to manufacture products from Broken Hill's waste.	Ongoing	COO	Establish factory. Economic benefits and local jobs created.

## 5.9 Plan for Minimising the Environmental Impacts of Mining

Improve the liveability of Broken Hill



Initiative	Action	Timing	Who	Targets
Bypass for heavy vehicles	Advocate (State and Federal Government) to divert mining trucks out of the CBD.	Ongoing	GM	Broken Hill bypass for heavy vehicles planned.
Broken Hill Lead Reference Group	Advocate to ensure the continuation of the Broken Hill Lead Reference Group (State Government).	2018/2019	GM	Broken Hill Lead Reference Group work funded by the State Government.
	Continue to facilitate the Broken Hill Lead Reference Group to address the effects of lead contamination on the City of Broken Hill.	Ongoing to 2021	COO	Organisations involved in lead management achieve their functions as captured in the annual report. Annual report by Council on the ongoing management of lead contamination.

## 5.10 Plan for Enhancing and Protecting the Natural Flora and Fauna

Improve the liveability of Broken Hill



Initiative	Action	Timing	Who	Targets
Bypass for heavy vehicles	Advocate (State and Federal Government) to divert mining trucks out of the CBD.	Ongoing	GM	Broken Hill bypass for heavy vehicles planned.
Broken Hill Lead Reference Group	Advocate to ensure the continuation of the Broken Hill Lead Reference Group (State Government).	2018/2019	GM	Broken Hill Lead Reference Group work funded by the State Government.
	Continue to facilitate the Broken Hill Lead Reference Group to address the effects of lead contamination on the City of Broken Hill.	Ongoing to 2021	COO	Organisations involved in lead management achieve their functions as captured in the annual report. Annual report by Council on the ongoing management of lead contamination.



## 5.11 Built Environment Plan

Increase the liveability of Broken Hill



Initiative	Action	Timing	Who	KPIs/Targets
Development Control Plan (DCP)	Review the DCP to enhance the natural environment and landscaped areas in new develop applications for industrial land.	2019/2020	COO	Increased vegetation with a set minimum percentage of land requiring landscaping within the development.
Increase the liveability of Broken Hill	Develop a Concept Plan to beautify Argent Street with a focus on increasing vegetation.	2018/2019	COO	Concept Plan developed.



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