



# **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**WOOLLAHRA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

**ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION  
FY2020-21**

Australian Government  
**Climate Active**  
**Public Disclosure Statement**



An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: Woollahra Municipal Council

REPORTING PERIOD: Financial year 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

**Declaration**

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this Public Disclosure Statement is true and correct and meets the requirements of the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard.

Signature:

Date: 02/12/2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jimmy Thomas'.

Name of Signatory: Jimmy Thomas

Position of Signatory: Sustainability Projects Officer



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Industry, Science,**  
**Energy and Resources**

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Version number February 2021



# 1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

## Description of certification

This inventory has been prepared for the financial year from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 and covers the Australian business operations of Woollahra Municipal Council (ABN: 32 218 483 245).

The operational boundary has been defined based on an operational control test, in accordance with the principles of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007. This includes all operations which are controlled by Woollahra Municipal Council.

The methods used for collating data, performing calculations and presenting the carbon account are in accordance with the following standards:

- Climate Active Standards
- The Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (Revised Edition)
- National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008

Where possible, the calculation methodologies and emission factors used in this inventory are derived from the National Greenhouse Accounts (NGA) Factors in accordance with "Method 1" from the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008.

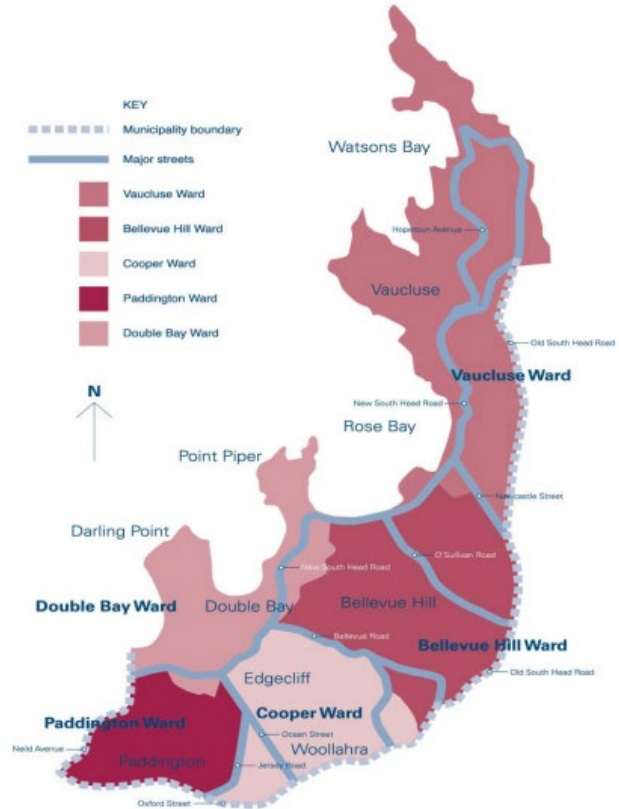
The greenhouse gases considered within the inventory are those that are commonly reported under the Kyoto Protocol; carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) and synthetic gases - hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF<sub>3</sub>). These have been expressed as carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>-e) using relative global warming potentials (GWPs).

*“Council declared a climate emergency in September 2019 and is committed to taking action to address climate change. While we are working hard to lower our emissions, achieving carbon neutral certification is a crucial step in taking responsibility for the emissions produced by Council’s operations.”*

## Organisation description

The Woollahra Municipality is located in Sydney's eastern suburbs, about 5 kilometres from the Sydney GPO. The Municipality is bounded by Port Jackson (Sydney Harbour) in the north, the Waverley Council area in the east, Randwick City in the south and the City of Sydney in the west. The original inhabitants of the Woollahra area were the Cadigal and Birrabirragal Aboriginal people and Woollahra is thought to be named from an Aboriginal word meaning "meeting ground".

The Woollahra Municipality includes the suburbs of Bellevue Hill, Darling Point, Double Bay, Edgecliff, Paddington (part), Point Piper, Rose Bay (part), Vaucluse (part), Watsons Bay and Woollahra. The Municipality encompasses a total land area of 12 square kilometres, including harbour foreshore and beaches. The area is predominantly residential, with some commercial land use, parklands and a military reserve. Natural features of the Municipality include 16 kilometres of harbour foreshore consisting of rocky headlands, coastal cliffs and beaches, approximately 30 hectares of bushland containing over 300 plant species including a number of threatened species. Other prominent features include Sydney Harbour National Park, the Macquarie Lighthouse, Gap Park and the Rose Bay Promenade.



## 2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

### Diagram of the certification boundary



**Non-quantified sources**

N/A

**Data management plan**

N/A

**Excluded sources (outside of certification boundary)**

N/A

*“At Woollahra Council we know that Australia’s carbon footprint is among the world’s highest, and while certainly a complex issue, it is something that we are committed to tackling at a local level.”*

# 3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

## Emissions reduction strategy

In 2010, Woollahra Municipal Council set a 30% emissions reduction target as part of its Carbon Reduction Strategy and Action Plan 2010-2025. Council has been steadily decreasing emissions through the implementation of a number of energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives including:

- Solar hot water systems installed at six Council sites.
- Solar photovoltaic systems installed at six Council sites.
- Lighting upgrades for all Council large sites.
- Lighting upgrades and sensor installation in all public amenities' blocks.
- Purchasing renewable energy as part of Council's electricity contracts.
- Replacing all residential streetlights with new, energy efficient fixtures.

Commencing July 1st 2019, 30% of electricity supplied to Council's five large sites is supplied by the Mooree Solar Farm as part of a power purchase agreement. Further, Council recently passed a notice of motion advocating for increasing the amount of renewable electricity to 100% in Council's next electricity contract commencing in 2022.

In September 2019, Council passed a Climate Emergency Declaration and is committed to taking action to reduce emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change. Accordingly, Council will continue to explore emission reduction opportunities such as energy efficiency projects, installation of renewable energy systems and transitioning the fleet to electric vehicles.

## Emissions over time

Council has reduced its emissions by 24% from the base year primarily due to the procurement of renewable electricity, the replacement of all residential streetlights with energy efficient fixtures and the installation of solar PV on Council assets. The changes in other emissions sources between the current year and base year are due to natural variations in Council's year to year operations.

Table 1

| Emissions since base year      |                       |                    |                                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
|                                | Base year:<br>2018-19 | Year 2:<br>2019-20 | Current year<br>Year 3: 2020-21 |
| <i>Total tCO<sub>2</sub>-e</i> | 7,412.1               | 6,439.3            | 5,616.2                         |

## Emissions reduction actions

Emissions reduction actions which were implemented during the 2020/21 financial year include:

- Replacement of all residential streetlights with energy efficient fixtures.
- Installation of a 62.7 kW solar PV system at the Double Bay Library.
- Replacing three internal combustion engine vehicles in Council's fleet with electric vehicles.

## Emissions summary (inventory)

Table 2

| Emission source category            | tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Accommodation and facilities        | 0.2                       |
| Business Flights                    | 0.0                       |
| Cleaning and Chemicals              | 87.6                      |
| Construction Materials and Services | 320.5                     |
| Electricity                         | 2,710.2                   |
| Food                                | 18.2                      |
| ICT services and equipment          | 23.0                      |
| Land and Sea Transport (\$)         | 0.2                       |
| Land and Sea Transport (fuel)       | 1,219.4                   |
| Land and Sea Transport (km)         | 83.1                      |
| Office equipment & supplies         | 121.9                     |
| Postage, courier and freight        | 52.5                      |
| Products                            | 13.2                      |
| Professional Services               | 53.5                      |
| Refrigerants                        | 8.4                       |
| Stationary Energy                   | 346.7                     |
| Waste                               | 242.3                     |
| Water                               | 221.5                     |
| Working from home                   | 93.9                      |
| <b>Total Net Emissions</b>          | <b>5,616.2</b>            |



## Uplift factors

Table 3

| Reason for uplift factor  | tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e |
|---|---------------------------|
| N/A   |                           |
| <i>Total footprint to offset (uplift factors + net emissions)</i> | <b>5,616.2</b>            |

## Carbon neutral products

This assessment and Climate Active submission was prepared with the assistance of [Pangolin Associates](#) and these services are also carbon neutral.

## Electricity summary

Electricity was calculated using a market-based approach.

### Market-based approach summary

Table 4

| Market Based Approach  | Activity Data (kWh) | Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e) | Renewable Percentage |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Behind the meter consumption of electricity generated                  | 0                   | 0                               | 0%                   |
| <b>Total non-grid electricity</b>                                      | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>                        | <b>0%</b>            |
| LGC Purchased and retired (kWh) (including PPAs & Precinct LGCs)       | 1,344,000           | 0                               | 28%                  |
| GreenPower   | 0                   | 0                               | 0%                   |
| Jurisdictional renewables (LGCs retired)                               | 0                   | 0                               | 0%                   |
| Jurisdictional renewables (LRET) (applied to ACT grid electricity)     | 0                   | 0                               | 0%                   |
| Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only) | 903,277             | 0                               | 19%                  |
| Residual Electricity   | 2,525,652           | 2,710,227                       | 0%                   |
| <b>Total grid electricity</b>  | <b>4,772,928</b>    | <b>2,710,227</b>                | <b>47%</b>           |
| <b>Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)</b>                    | <b>4,772,928</b>    | <b>2,710,227</b>                | <b>47%</b>           |
| Electricity renewables   | 2,247,277           | 0                               |                      |
| Residual Electricity   | 2,525,652           | 2,710,227                       |                      |
| <b>Exported on-site generated electricity</b>                          | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>                        |                      |
| Emission Footprint (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)                               |                     | 2,710,227                       |                      |

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| <b>Total renewables (grid and non-grid)</b>                       | <b>47.08%</b> |
| <b>Mandatory</b>  | <b>18.93%</b> |
| <b>Voluntary</b>  | <b>28.16%</b> |
| <b>Behind the meter</b>   | <b>0.00%</b>  |
| <b>Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO<sub>2</sub>e)</b> | <b>2,710</b>  |

*Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%*

**Location-based approach summary**  
**Table 5**

| Location-based approach                        | Activity Data (kWh) | Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e) |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| NSW  | 4,772,928           | 4,295,635                       |
| <b>Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)</b>        | <b>4,772,928</b>    | <b>4,295,635</b>                |
| NSW  | 0                   | 0                               |
| <b>Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)</b> | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>                        |
| <b>Total Electricity Consumed</b>              | <b>4,772,928</b>    | <b>4,295,635</b>                |

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| <b>Emission Footprint (tCO<sub>2</sub>-e)</b> | <b>4,296</b> |
|---|--------------|

## Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

The following RECs have been surrendered to reduce electricity emissions under the market-based reporting method.

**Table 6**

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| <b>1. Large-scale Generation certificates (LGCs)*</b> | 1,344 |
| <b>2. Other RECs</b>                                  | 0     |

\* LGCs in this table only include those surrendered voluntarily (including through PPA arrangements), and does not include those surrendered in relation to the LRET, GreenPower, and jurisdictional renewables.

| Project supported by LGC purchase                                 | Eligible units | Registry     | Surrender date | Accreditation code (LGCs) | Certificate serial number | Generation year | Quantity (MWh) | Fuel source | Location       |
|---|----------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| Solar Farm  | LGC            | REC Registry | 30 Aug 2021    | SRPVNS46                  | 128440 - 128851           | 2018            | 412            | Solar       | NSW, Australia |
| Solar Farm  | LGC            | REC Registry | 30 Aug 2021    | SRPVNS46                  | 46255 - 47186             | 2020            | 932            | Solar       | NSW, Australia |
| <i>Total LGCs surrendered this report and used in this report</i> |                |              |                |                           |                           |                 | 1,334          |             |                |

## 4. CARBON OFFSETS

### Offsets strategy

Table 7

| Offset purchasing strategy:  |       |
|--|-------|
| In arrears   |       |
| 1. Total offsets previously forward purchased and banked for this report     | 0     |
| 2. Total emissions liability to offset for this report                       | 5,617 |
| 3. Net offset balance for this reporting period                              | 5,617 |
| 4. Total offsets to be forward purchased to offset the next reporting period | 0     |
| 5. Total offsets required for this report                                    | 5,617 |

### Co-benefits

#### 216 MWac Kamuthi Solar Power Project

The solar PV plant is part of the world's largest single location solar power project of 648 MW capacity. The project will lead to emission reductions of around 8.65 million tCO<sub>2</sub>-e during the life of the project. The project also helps to improve the local community by providing permanent employment, rural infrastructure, community health benefits such as health camps which provide free treatment and medicine, and education initiatives.

#### Inner Mongolia Ximeng Zheligentu Wind Farm Phase I Project

The project makes contribution to the local sustainable development as follows:

**GHG and pollutant emission reduction through replacing fossil fuel combustion:** The proposed project is to replace grid-connected fossil fuel-fired power plants in the North China Power Grid, and thus reduce fossil fuel consumption and avoid CO<sub>2</sub> and pollutant emissions, such as sulfur dioxide and dust.

**Employment opportunities:** The conducting of the proposed project will offer job opportunities for local people.

**Economy development:** The region can achieve economic growth and booming of local tourism through the construction and operation of the project.

## Offsets summary

### Proof of cancellation of offset units

Table 8

| Offsets cancelled for Climate Active Carbon Neutral Certification      |                      |          |              |   |         |   |  |  |   |                         |
|--|----------------------|----------|--------------|---|---------|---|--|--|---|-------------------------|
| Project description  | Type of offset units | Registry | Date retired | Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)                          | Vintage | Eligible Quantity (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e) | Quantity used for previous reporting periods | Quantity banked for future reporting periods | Quantity used for this reporting period claim | Percentage of total (%) |
| 216 MWac Kamuthi Solar Power Project, India                            | VCUs                 | Verra    | 19 Oct 2021  | <a href="#">6883-356282674-356285040-VCU-034-APX-IN-1-1768-01012017-31122017-0</a>    | 2017    | 2,367                                   | 0  | 0  | 2,367   | 42%                     |
| Inner Mongolia Ximeng Zheligentu Wind Farm Phase I Project, China      | VCUs                 | Verra    | 19 Oct 2021  | <a href="#">9651-115154488-115157737-VCS-VCU-259-VER-CN-1-849-01012018-20072018-0</a> | 2018    | 3,250                                   | 0  | 0  | 3,250   | 58%                     |
| <b>Total offsets retired this report and used in this report</b>       |                      |          |              |   |         |   |  |  | 5,617   |                         |
| <b>Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports</b> |                      |          |              |   |         |   |  | 0  |   |                         |

| Type of offset units                 | Quantity (used for this reporting period claim) | Percentage of Total |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Verified Emissions Reductions (VERs) | 5,617   | 100%                |

## 5. USE OF TRADE MARK

Table 9

| Description where trademark used           | Logo type              |
|--|------------------------|
| Community Strategic Plan                   | Certified organisation |
| Annual Report                              | Certified organisation |
| Environment and Sustainability Action Plan | Certified organisation |
| Social Media                               | Certified organisation |
| Council Newsletter                         | Certified organisation |

## 6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

N/A

# APPENDIX 1

## Excluded emissions

To be deemed relevant an emission must meet two of the five relevance criteria. Excluded emissions are detailed below against each of the five criteria.

**Table 10**

| Relevance test            |   |  |   |   |  |
|---------------------------|---|--|---|---|--|
| Excluded emission sources | <i>The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions</i> | <i>The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.</i> | <i>Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.</i> | <i>The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.</i> | <i>The emissions are from outsourced activities previously undertaken within the organisation's boundary, or from outsourced activities typically undertaken within the boundary for comparable organisations.</i> |

N/A

# APPENDIX 2

## Non-quantified emissions for organisations

Table 11

| Non-quantification test                  |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| Relevant-non-quantified emission sources | <i>Immaterial &lt;1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively</i> | <i>Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.</i> | <i>Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.</i> | <i>Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified</i> |
| N/A                                      |  |  |   |   |





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