



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

WOOLLAHRA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

ORGANISATION

FY2019-20

Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement



An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: Woollahra Municipal Council

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020

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: 11/11/2020

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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1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This inventory has been prepared for the financial year from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 and covers the business operations of Woollahra Municipal Council.

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.

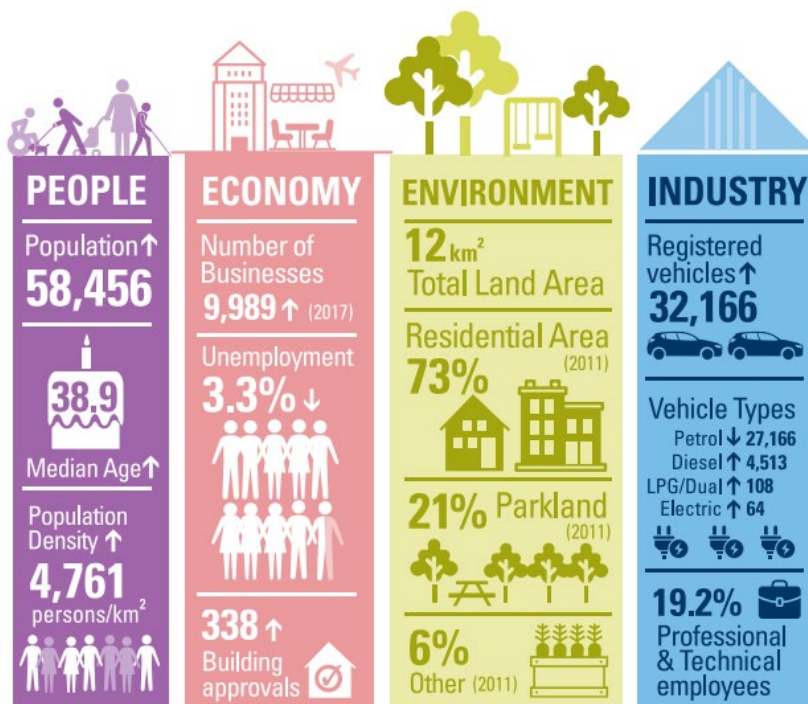
The greenhouse gases considered within the inventory are those that are commonly reported under the Kyoto Protocol; carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O) and synthetic gases - hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃). These have been expressed as carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂-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

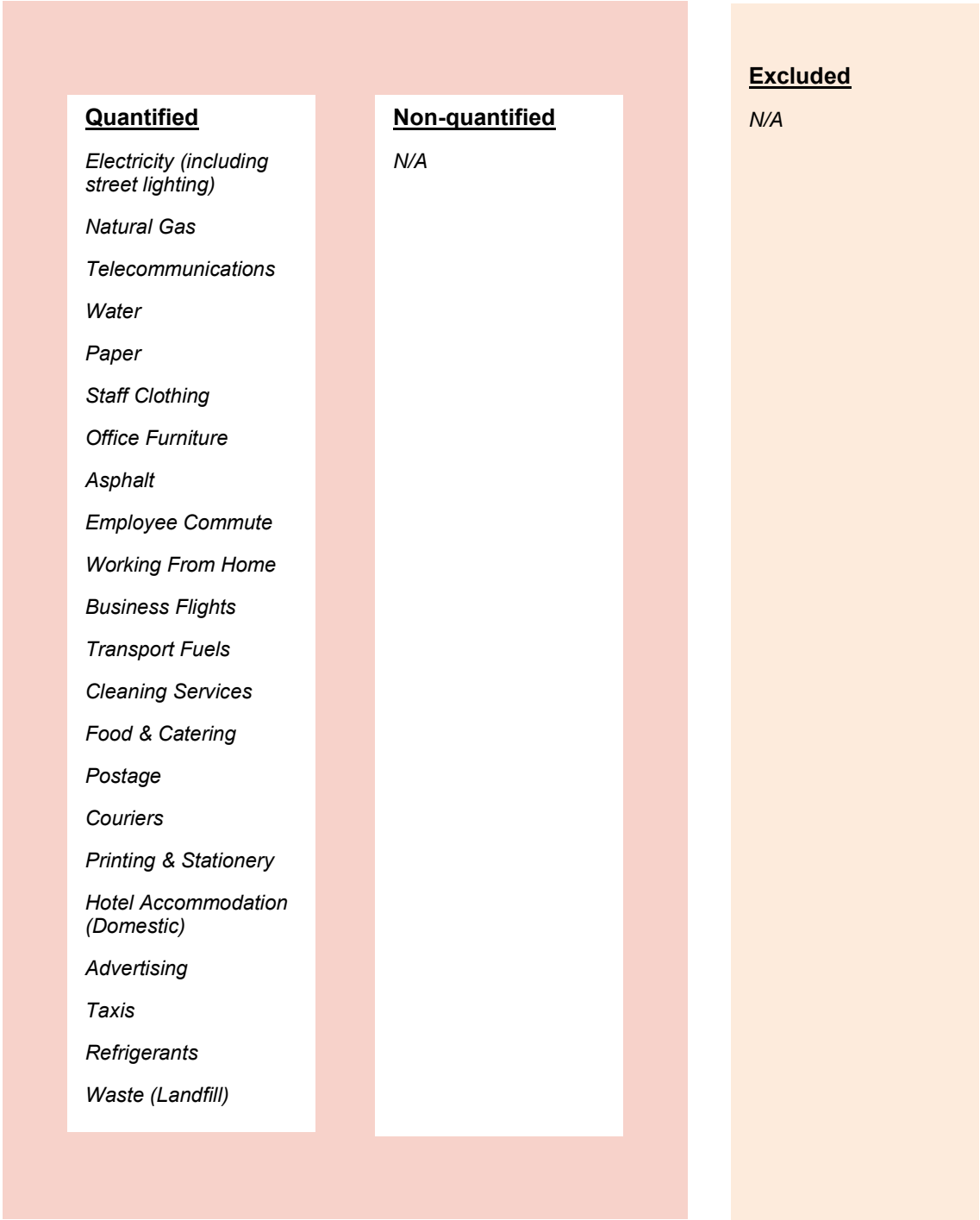
The Woollahra Municipality is located in Sydney's eastern suburbs, about 5 kilometres from the Sydney GPO. The Municipality is bounded by Port Jackson (Sydney Harbour) in the north, the Waverley Council area in the east, Randwick City in the south and the City of Sydney in the west. The original inhabitants 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 five 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.

Commencing July 1st 2019, 30% of electricity supplied to Council's five large sites will be 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 in 2022.

Council has committed significant resources over the next three years to fund a street lighting upgrade program to replace inefficient streetlights with new, energy efficient light fixtures. As electricity accounts for roughly 50% of Council's total emissions, with street lighting being the largest individual contributor, this initiative will significantly reduce Council's emissions.

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 13% from the base year due primarily to the commencement of Council’s new electricity contract which from July 1 2019 supplies 30% of council’s large site electricity use from renewable sources. 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: 2018-19	Current year Year 2: 2019-20
<i>Total tCO2e</i>	7,412.1	6,439.3

Emissions reduction actions

Council has undertaken the following actions to reduce emissions for the current year:

- Procuring 30% of electricity for Council’s large sites from renewable sources as part of a power purchase agreement. As part of this agreement, Council has voluntarily surrendered the large generation certificates to the Clean Energy Regulator.
- Replacing existing Ranger vehicles with hybrid vehicles to reduce fuel use.
- Encouraging staff to select more fuel-efficient vehicles as part of their vehicle lease-back arrangement.
- Continuing operation and maintenance of six solar hot water and five solar PV systems across Council assets.

Emissions summary (inventory)

Table 2

Emission source category	tonnes CO ₂ -e
Accommodation and facilities	6.35
Business Flights	4.91
Cleaning and Chemicals	63.01
Construction Materials and Services	364.18
Couriers	4.99
Electricity	3,102.53
Employee Commute	121.90
Food	38.08
ICT services and equipment	20.32
Office equipment & supplies	164.21
Postage	267.33
Products	12.07
Professional Services	45.27
Refrigerants	7.35
Stationary Energy	354.44
Taxis	0.32
Transport Fuels	1,247.74
Waste	223.64
Water	65.56
Working From Home	78.10
<i>Total Net Emissions</i>	6,192.30

Uplift factors

Table 3

Reason for uplift factor	tonnes CO ₂ -e
Uplift for additional Asphalt Services	247
<i>Total footprint to offset (uplift factors + net emissions)</i>	6,439.3

An uplift for asphalt services has been added to cover a miscalculation in the FY2019 asphalt emissions.

Carbon neutral products

N/A

Electricity summary

Electricity was calculated using a Location-based approach.

The Climate Active team are consulting on the use of a market vs location-based approach for electricity accounting with a view to finalising a policy decision for the carbon neutral certification by July 2020. Given a decision is still pending on the accounting way forward, a summary of emissions using both measures has been provided for full disclosure and to ensure year on year comparisons can be made.

Market-based approach electricity summary

Table 4

Electricity inventory items	kWh	Emissions (tonnes CO ₂ e)
Electricity Renewables	2,166,569	0.00
Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	0	0.00
Electricity Remaining	2,566,843	2,775.01
Renewable electricity percentage	46%	
<i>Net emissions (Market based approach)</i>		2,775.01

Location-based summary

Table 5

State/ Territory	Electricity Inventory items	kWh	Full Emission factor (Scope 2 +3)	Emissions (tonnes CO ₂ e)
ACT/NSW	Electricity Renewables	1,286,154	-0.90	-1,157.54
ACT/NSW	Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	-	-0.90	0.00
ACT/NSW	Netted off (exported on-site generation)	-	-0.81	0.00
ACT/NSW	Electricity Total	4,733,411	0.90	4,260.07
	<i>Total net electricity emissions</i>		<i>0.00</i>	3,102.53

4. CARBON OFFSETS

Offset purchasing strategy: in arrears

Offsets summary

Table 6

1. Total offsets required for this report				6,440					
2. Offsets retired in previous reports and used in this report				0					
3. Net offsets required for this report				6,440					
Project description	Eligible offset units type	Registry unit retired in	Date retired	Serial number (including hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Quantity (tonnes CO2-e)	Quantity used for previous report	Quantity to be banked for future years	Quantity to be used this report
Grid Interactive Solar Photovoltaic Power Project in Gujarat	VCUs	Verra	12 November 2020	7889-434654591-434658989-VCU-030-APX-IN-1-1413-01012015-31122015-0	2015	4,399	0	0	4,399
Mytrah Wind Power Project	VCUs	Verra	12 November 2020	7466-400413147-400414644-VCU-034-APX-IN-1-1521-01012019-01082019-0	2019	1,498	0	0	1,498
Ghani Solar Renewable Power Project by Greenko Group	VCUs	Verra	12 November 2020	6770-341949157-341949452-VCU-034-APX-IN-1-1792-31032017-31122017-0	2017	296	0	0	296
Ghani Solar Renewable Power Project by Greenko Group	VCUs	Verra	12 November 2020	6770-341949453-341949699-VCU-034-APX-IN-1-1792-31032017-31122017-0	2017	247	0	0	247
<i>Total offsets retired this report and used in this report</i>						6,440			

Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports **0**

Co-benefits

Grid Interactive Solar Photovoltaic Power Project in Gujarat

The solar project in India has numerous co-benefits. These include social and economic benefits for the local community. The solar project has increased employment and infrastructure in the region. The increase in employment enables greater socioeconomic outcomes for those, including greater access to social goods which improve quality of life. With India's demand for energy increasing diverting from coal is mitigating pollution from coal energy, providing greener options.

Mytrah Wind Power Project

As well as providing a source of clean energy, the Mytrah Energy Wind Power Project improves the overall well-being of local communities. The result of Mytrah's work is impressive and contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as it provides employment, clean water and sanitation, improved agricultural techniques, and opportunities for everyone - including women and youth. Here are just a few examples.

Lifting poverty, increasing the income of farmers: Mytrah's contribution includes teaching better, more environmentally-sound methods of fodder cultivation and livestock development. Farmers benefit from higher yields of milk, and higher incomes.

Providing training for youth: New training programs help youth find meaningful employment. Areas of study include IT, electrician courses, motor repairs and dairy management.

Creating educational programs for gender equality: Opportunities for adolescent girls include coaching and life skill training. Mytrah facilitates Adolescent Girls Collectives with an aim to restore the rights of young women through parent and community-wide participation.

Building better healthcare systems: This initiative provides training for healthcare workers. One successful program teaches early diagnosis for common diseases such as hypertension and diabetes. Today there is a clinic and laboratory staffed with skilled volunteers. The project also captures digital data.

Clean water and sanitation: The Swachh Bharat Sanitation Project improves the health and quality of life for rural-based people in the region. The initiative educates communities in sanitation and cleanliness and provides the necessary infrastructure.

Ghani Solar Renewable Power Project by Greenko Group

The main purpose of this project activity is to generate a clean form of electricity through renewable solar energy sources. The project activity involves installation of a 500 MW solar power project in Andhra Pradesh state of India. Over the 10 years of first crediting period, the project will replace anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG's) estimated to be approximately 887,800 tCO₂e per year, thereon displacing 919,800 MWh/year amount of electricity from the generation-mix of power plants connected to the Indian grid, which is mainly dominated by thermal/fossil fuel-based power plant.

Greenko Group is committed to practical and sustainable advancement in all areas of prevalence as part of being accountable towards their economic, environmental and social responsibilities. They have

launched the Suryamitra Skill Development Program in collaboration with State Nodal Agencies at various locations across India. Under this scheme they have introduced a Solar Skill Development Certification Program for students of the local communities to enhance their skills for employability and so far have provided employment to over 100 trainees of the Development Program. Greenko Group have also organised free general medical camps and eye camps across India in association with local hospitals to help provide quality health care to local communities.

5. USE OF TRADE MARK

Table 7

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 8

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					N/A

APPENDIX 2

Non-quantified emissions for organisations

Please advise which of the reasons applies to each of your non-quantified emissions. You may add rows if required.

Table 9

Non-quantification test				
Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	<i>Immaterial <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