

# CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

## 2022–2030

### A Message from the Mayor

*I am pleased to be the Mayor of the first Council in South Australia to declare a Climate Emergency. It is a privilege to support and demonstrate our commitment to a safer more resilient future through this Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP). Council is committed to supporting our community of Gawler as we reduce our emissions and continue to adapt to our changing climate.*

*We are taking this action as an intergenerational agreement with emerging and future generations to play our part towards global action to protect our way of life, our businesses, our economy and our local environment. Climate change presents the biggest threat to current and future generations, and solutions will only be successful when communities, businesses and all levels of Government collaborate and implement solutions.*

*Many of the actions we commit to in this Plan will also result in social and environmental benefits as well as reducing costs.*

*I look forward to working in partnership with our community of Gawler as we respond to the Climate Emergency for a better future.*



**Karen Redman**  
Mayor

## GAWLER

The Town of Gawler is located approximately 42km north of Adelaide at the gateway to the Barossa and Northern regions.

Includes suburbs of Evanston, Evanston Gardens, Evanston Park, Evanston South, Gawler, Gawler East, Gawler South, Gawler West, Hillier, Kudla, Reid, Uleybury (part) and Willaston.

■ Established in 1839

■ 41 square kilometres on traditional lands occupied by Kurna people

## OUR MISSION

“Rapidly decarbonise council operations by 2030, lead and enable climate action across our community and businesses to achieve net zero emissions and adapt to climate impacts.”

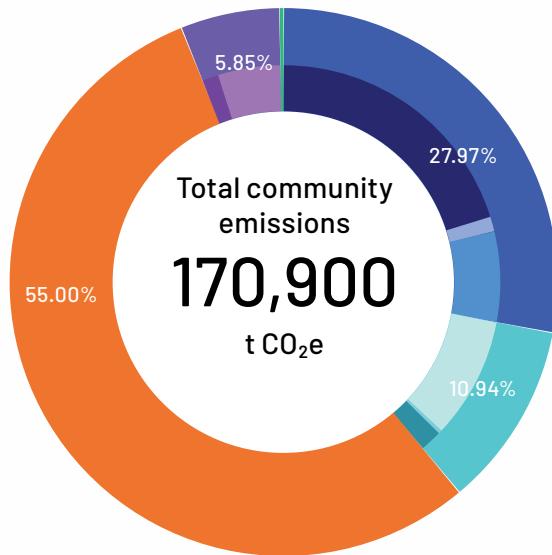


# TOWN OF GAWLER

## 2018 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



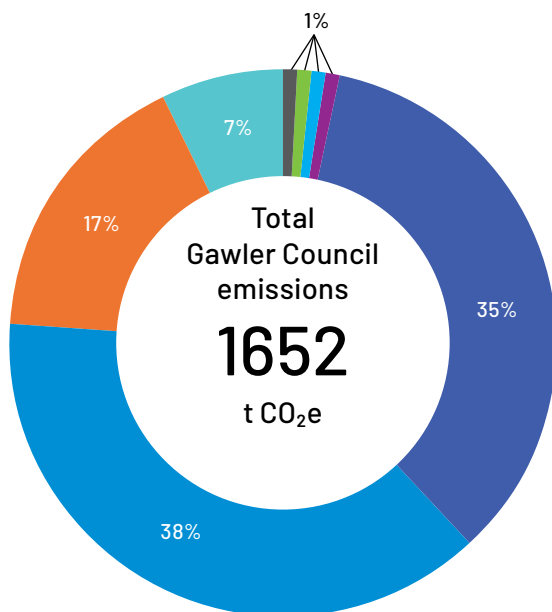
### Gawler Municipal Emissions Snapshot



Waste	5.85%	
Transport	55.00%	
Electricity	27.97%	
Residential	20.13%	
Commercial	1.11%	
Industrial	6.73%	
Gas	10.94%	
Residential	9.07%	
Commercial	0.23%	
Industrial	1.64%	
Agriculture	0.24%	

# GAWLER COUNCIL OPERATIONS

## 2018-19 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



Council Imported Electricity	35%	
Street Lighting Electricity	38%	
Transport Diesel & Petrol	17%	
Natural Gas	7%	
Office Waste	1%	
Water Embodied Emissions	1%	
Other Procurement Emissions	1%	
Nominated Unknowns	1%	

Gawler



# SUPPORTING COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION

## Community goals

### LEAD GOAL

**Communities are empowered to achieve net zero emissions by 2030**

- GOAL 1** Communities have access to affordable 100% renewable electricity.
- GOAL 2** Communities are supported in the transition to electric vehicles by 2030.
- GOAL 3** Connected, safe and cooler walking and cycling routes.
- GOAL 4** Gawler community is able to utilise existing and new technology and practices that reduce consumption of energy at an affordable price.
- GOAL 5** Communities are resilient and prepared to cope with the increased frequency and severity of extreme weather, bushfire events and other natural disasters.
- GOAL 6** Climate risks and impacts are assessed and understood whilst addressing barriers that restrict climate change action, and we advocate on behalf of the community.

# TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE IN COUNCIL OPERATIONS

## Council operation goals

### LEAD GOAL

**Net zero emissions for Council operations and community emissions by 2030**

- GOAL 7** A 25% improvement in efficiency for buildings and operations that require electricity by 2027.
- GOAL 8** 100% renewable electricity by Council by 2023.
- GOAL 9** Zero use of natural gas and liquid petroleum gas by 2025.
- GOAL 10** Council to transition its fleet to electric vehicles by 2030.
- GOAL 11** To be a leader in procurement of low carbon goods and services, precluding single use plastics, eliminating waste and maximising circular economy outcomes.
- GOAL 12** To establish a best practice approach in identifying and managing climate change risks for Council and our community.
- GOAL 13** To be recognised as a sub national leader in taking climate change action.

## Achieving our goals

**Council will direct its efforts to achieve our goals through:**

- Community participation:
  - ☐ Collaborating with community and business to reduce emissions, and;
  - ☐ Supporting communities to adapt to climate change.
- Leading by example:
  - ☐ Reducing emissions in Council operations;
  - ☐ Assessing climate risks to Council and community, and;
  - ☐ And adapting to climate change.
- Engagement and advocacy:
  - ☐ Collaborating at local, regional, and state level with a range of stakeholders, and;
  - ☐ Addressing barriers to action and advocating for reforms at all levels of Government where necessary.

# Engaging and advocating on behalf of our communities

To support the community (households and businesses) in their efforts to reduce emissions and adapt to continuing climate change impacts, Council commits to:

- Keeping our community informed of progress on the implementation of the CEAP;
- Supporting community efforts to reduce emissions and costs, and;
- Serving as an advocate:
  - **LOCAL:** Working constructively with local community and business groups in the Town of Gawler;
  - **REGIONAL:** Collaborating with other councils and the State Government through a Climate Change Sector Agreement with shared goals and a clear process;
  - **STATE:** Engaging with the Local Government Association and councils across South Australia, and;
  - **NATIONAL:** Engaging proactively with state and federal governments in consultation on policy, planning and initiatives that can support our communities in reducing emissions.

## Adapting to climate change

### Climate change is creating:

- More frequent and extreme heat waves;
- Increasing days above 35 degrees Celsius restricting outdoor work, productivity and services;
- Increased frequency and severity of bushfires, and;
- More extreme flooding conditions, particularly flash flooding.

### Impacts include:

- Increasing risks to health and wellbeing of gawler community and workers;
- Changes in our economy, transport systems and lifestyles;
- Technology and industrial change;
- Workforce change;
- Economic change and financial impacts;
- More frequent new vector borne and other diseases being experienced locally, and;
- Changing insurance and governance risks.

### Council commits to:

- Undertake climate Risk and Governance Assessments with Senior Staff and Elected Members;
- Continue and improve Emergency Response Planning, participating in Zone Emergency Management and Bushfire Management Committees, and;
- Enhance risk reduction efforts to improve resilience to more frequent and extreme weather events such as storms and flooding, drought, heatwaves and bushfire.