

about ... Climate Change Adaptation Plan

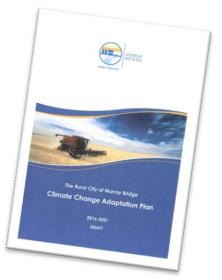
Community Update March 2016

Council has developed a Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

Scientific research has found that the earth's climate is rapidly changing. There has been increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice and rising average sea levels. We have been experiencing more extremes in temperature, drought and higher bushfire risk.

Adaptation will be necessary to address impacts resulting from the warming which cannot be avoided. There is no alternative but to undertake adaptation planning, and building the capacity and flexibility to cope with whatever evolving climate may bring.

The Climate Change Adaptation Plan has being developed to guide Council in adapting to changing climatic conditions at a Local Government level. In alignment with its strategic objectives for environmental sustainability, Council has developed a Climate Change Adaptation Plan (the Plan).



The Plan has clear Objectives, Strategies and Actions that will be used to guide Council in its operations. It focuses on the effects that extremes in climatic conditions such as heat waves, drought and more frequent and intense storms will have on Council infrastructure.

Our vulnerable members of the community have the least capacity to cope and adapt to extreme weather events such as heatwaves and Council will need to play an important role in supporting these members of the community.

The Plan highlights our exposure to extreme heatwave events that will increase Bushfire Risk and how Council can be proactive in developing a program for bushfire management and provide support for our emergency services. The Plan also details how Council will assist essential service providers to allow services to be delivered to our community.

A copy of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan can be found on Council's website: <u>www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au</u> or you can ask to see a hard copy of the Plan at the Local Government Centre or the Library.

If you would like further information on the Climate Change Adaptation Plan, please contact Council's Senior Environment Officer, Tony Wilson on 8539 1142 or email <u>t.wilson@murraybridge.sa.gov.au</u>

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