

# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Environmental sustainability affects decisions we make at every level of planning and implementation. It underpins the four key themes in Council's Community Strategic Plan of liveable, sustainable, productive and collaborative.



The overarching Environmental Sustainability Strategy will be addressing Climate Change Adaptation, Urban Heat, Water Sensitivity, Urban Forest and Biodiversity Management. The Strategy will be setting goals and targets.



Community consultation has been undertaken to gauge concerns about environmental matters.

## MILESTONE

Feb 2019	<b>Study Commenced</b>
Mar – Jun 2019	<b>Community Consultation</b>
Jul 2019	<b>Draft Community Stakeholder Engagement Report for Council consideration</b>
Aug 2019	<b>Engagement Highlights Report</b>
Sep – Feb 2020	<b>Preparation of Draft Strategy</b>
2020	<b>Adoption of Draft Strategy</b>



Carrs Bush

For more information visit:  
[future.hornsby.nsw.gov.au](http://future.hornsby.nsw.gov.au)



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## CONSIDERATIONS

Arising from the engagement activities, the key areas of importance and main considerations around creating a sustainable environment in the future include:

- Protection and conservation of existing trees and biodiversity, with particular attention to endangered species.
- Anticipating and utilising new technologies (e.g. e-bikes).
- Building community resilience to environmental related risk (e.g urban heat).
- Addressing population growth by planning for adequate infrastructure, ensuring that new developments respectfully address the natural environment and preserve biodiversity.
- To maintain bushland character, Hornsby's residents need to be part of the solution.

- Informing and educating citizens, connecting people and place, greening urban areas and creating healthy habitats (and improving water quality and flows).

A frequent theme throughout the engagement was 'over development', followed closely by concern about population growth, management and policy and increased traffic.

## RELATED STUDIES

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy is being informed by a number of plans including Urban Forest Strategy, Climate Change Adaption Plan, Biodiversity Management Plan and Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increasing building design excellence and the need to improve building standards to be more sustainable.
- Community emission reduction target.
- Council and community need to work together (co-design) to maintain the Shire's character and improve liveability.
- Multiple, integrated benefits of current and future liveability initiatives need to be better communicated and articulated.

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