



EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY
STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN
2018 – 2019
ADOPTED BY COUNCIL 27 AUGUST 2018

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1.0 Our Mission

What?

To promote a coordinated and strategic approach to Dubbo Regional Council Education for Sustainability programs ultimately providing the community as a whole with the awareness, knowledge, skills, values and motivation to live sustainably.

Why?

The community's vision for a sustainable future is highlighted within Council's 2040 Community Strategic Plan with a strong focus on considering environmental, economic and social values in all decisions.

Creating a sustainable future for the Dubbo region requires that individuals and organisations have the knowledge, skills, values, capacity and motivation to respond to the complex sustainability issues they encounter in their daily lives and have the ability to make informed decisions based on a consideration of their environmental, social and economic impact.

Local government is increasingly identified as being responsible for playing a leading role in education for a sustainable community, or Education for Sustainability programs. This is supported by the *Local Government Act 1993* which

requires councils to have regard to ecologically sustainable development (ESD) in carrying out their responsibilities and the identification of Local Government roles in the State Government's *NSW State Plan 2021 and Make the Change: A framework for education and engagement for environmental sustainability 2014-2021*. In addition, the development of the Strategy and Action Plan is supported by the 2040 Community Strategic Plan under Strategic Outcome 5.9.1 *The community and Council is supported in becoming sustainable* and 5.9.1.1 *An Environmental Education Strategy is prepared and implemented*.

Who?

Dubbo Regional Council, in partnership with State Government, industry, neighbouring councils, educators and the general community.

How?

Through providing a coordinated cross Council approach in delivering the educational components of Council's Delivery Program strategies and actions through a focus on four key priority Education for Sustainability areas: Sustainable Community; Sustainable Home & Business; Sustainable Future (Children & Youth); and Sustainable Council.



2.0 Background

2.1 What is Education for Sustainability?

Education for Sustainability is defined as “a continuous learning process based on respect for life” (GSC 2004), and is characterised by a bottom-up approach promoting participation, partnerships, ownership, empowerment, capacity building, critical thinking, futures thinking and values clarification (Manly Environment Centre 2003).

The *Make the Change: A framework for education and engagement for environmental sustainability 2014-2021* (AAEE NSW 2015) defines best practice education for sustainability using six guiding principles:

- *Sharing values that underpin sustainability within a quadruple bottom line context.*
- *Fostering a spirit of active citizenship in caring for the environment.*
- *Respecting and reflecting local Aboriginal culture and heritage and including cultural and place-based learning.*
- *Reflecting and addressing the needs of the specific target audiences in program design and delivery.*
- *Working within, and expanding, the evidence base underpinning education and engagement, through reflection, monitoring and evaluation for continuous improvement.*
- *Expanding collaboration and participatory engagement and promoting critical thinking, problem solving and action, through lifelong learning.*

2.2 Education for Sustainability Policy Context

Education for a sustainable community, or Education for Sustainability, is recognised as an integral component of the pursuit of sustainability on all scales of management – international, national, state and local.

International

At an international level the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2030 Agenda) tackles key global challenges including climate change, environmental degradation, rising inequality and social conflict. The 2030 Agenda was agreed to by 193 Member States at an historic UN Summit in September 2015 and replaces the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It is a call for action by all countries, developed and non-developed, to promote prosperity while protecting the planet and includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets (www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment).

Notably Goal 4 of the SDGs relates to ensuring inclusive and quality education for all and promotes lifelong learning opportunities.

Target 4.7 of Goal 4 states that by 2030 learners must acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, such as through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles.



Sustainable Development Goal 4:

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Target 4.7:

By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.

National

Since 1992, the pursuit of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) has been increasingly incorporated into the policies and programs of Australian governments such as through the Inter-Governmental Agreement on the Environment (IGAE) and the Heads of Agreement on Commonwealth/State Roles and Responsibilities for the Environment.

Most recently Australia is a signatory of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and will deliver its first Voluntary National Review regarding how it is meeting the 2030 Agenda at the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York in 2018. One of the ways in which the Commonwealth Department of Education and Training is addressing *Goal 4 Quality Education Target 4.7* of the SDGs is through mainstreaming sustainability within the Australian curriculum. Sustainability is one of three cross-curriculum priorities required to be embedded into all learning areas. Visit the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority for further information (www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/cross-curriculum-priorities).

State

The New South Wales government outlines its overarching key sustainable development goals or priorities for action within the NSW State Plan 2021 (NSW 2021) and also the Premier's Priorities. These strategic documents provide Local Government with a point of reference for identifying relevant issues, including environmental, for inclusion within Council Community Strategic Plans.

In addition, the State Government's *Make the Change: A Framework for education and engagement for sustainability 2014-2021* compliments NSW 2021 and establishes a way forward for Education for Sustainability in NSW by seeking to build community awareness, knowledge and skills in natural resource management. The Framework was developed in 2015 by NSW Government Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) in collaboration with the Australian Association of Environmental Education NSW Chapter.

Finally, the State Government's NSW School Syllabus now includes 'Sustainability' as a cross-curriculum priority in all learning areas. This is in line with the Australian Curriculum requirements above.

Local

Local Government has a key role to play in helping to identify and implement local actions to address the key UN Sustainable Development goals and targets, including education for sustainable development. This is supported by the *Local Government Act 1993* which requires councils to have regard to ecologically sustainable development (ESD) in carrying out their responsibilities.

In addition, the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework requires councils to address social, environmental, economic and civic leadership issues in an integrated way. The recently developed Community Strategic Plan 2040 (CSP) outlines the community's 22 year vision for the Dubbo region with a strong focus on considering environmental, economic and social values in all decisions.

The *Dubbo Education for Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan* will assist Council and the community to meet its future aspirations or outcomes for the Dubbo region and the local environment through building awareness, knowledge, skills, values and motivation to live sustainably.

3.0 Our Strategy

3.1 Objective

The Dubbo Education for Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan (DEFSSAP) aims to promote a coordinated and strategic approach to Dubbo Regional Council Education for Sustainability programs. The objectives of the DEFSSAP are:

- Provide a strategic and coordinated direction for future Education for Sustainability programs undertaken by Dubbo Regional Council which address Council Delivery Program strategies and actions;
- Integrate Dubbo Regional Council's education programs and initiatives;
- Ensure Education for Sustainability priorities of Dubbo Regional Council are consistent with local, state and national priorities; and
- Provide the local community with the awareness, knowledge, skills, values and motivation to effectively contribute to a sustainable Dubbo region.

3.2 Policy Context

The DEFSSAP aims to help Council meet the community's future environmental sustainability aspirations as driven by the 2040 Community Strategic Plan (CSP) through building community awareness, knowledge, skills, values and motivation to live sustainably.

In particular, the development of the revised Strategy and Action Plan is stipulated by the CSP under Strategic Outcome *5.9.1 The community and Council is supported in becoming sustainable* and associated Strategy *5.9.1.1 An Environmental Education Strategy is prepared and implemented*.

The DEFSSAP will provide a coordinated cross Council approach in delivering the educational components of Council's Delivery Program strategies and actions through a focus on four key priority Education for Sustainability areas: *Sustainable Community, Sustainable Home & Business, Sustainable Future (Children & Youth), and Sustainable Council*.

3.3 Key Priority Education for Sustainability Strategy Areas & Actions

The DEFSSAP provides a coordinated cross Council approach in delivering the educational components of Council's Delivery Program strategies and actions through a focus on four key priority Education for Sustainability areas: *Sustainable Community, Sustainable Home & Business, Sustainable Future (Children & Youth), and Sustainable Council*.

3.3.1 Sustainable Community

Goal:

To build positive community behaviour towards and community pride in our local built and natural environment in order to maintain the economic, social and environmental values of our community.

Target Audience:

General Community and Visitors

Core Program Actions:

- Coordination of community participation volunteers and activities, particularly those involving environmental management of open space;
- Development and installation of educational signage, displays, or art in public places and/or on community facilities;
- Development and implementation of educational programs which increase positive community and visitor behaviour towards the local built and natural environment (e.g. anti-litter and public place recycling campaigns, stormwater pollution education campaigns);
- Promotion and organisation of exhibitions, events, and festivals which foster community pride in the local built and natural environment;
- Co-operative promotion of the Dubbo region as a location for nature based tourism;
- Promotion of community achievements that have fostered pride in the local built and natural environment; and
- Annual reporting of activities undertaken by Council to build positive community behaviour towards and community pride in our local built and natural environment through State of Environment Reporting.

Example of Actions undertaken by Council:

- Clean Up Australia Day activities
- Community tree planting days (e.g. National and School Tree Days)
- Egret Park Wetland stormwater management demonstration site
- Enviroscape Stormwater Solutions Model (available for loan)
- Western Plains Cultural Centre exhibitions (e.g. Waste to Art, Built for Bush)
- Stormwater education program



Future Actions:

| Activity | Environmental Issue Addressed | Responsible Division | Support Areas - Sustainability & Education Officer | Start Date | Finish Date |
|---|--|---|---|------------------|------------------|
| Raise private landholder awareness and knowledge of their responsibilities in relation to biosecurity (e.g. weeds/feral animal management), through providing information on Council's website and social media platforms. | Land degradation/ Biosecurity | Community & Recreation | Support on Request | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| Partner with Central West LLS, CWCEWA and/or other State Agencies to conduct an annual 'rural living' workshop each year addressing private land management issues in rural residential areas such as biosecurity (weed and feral animal control), bushfire protection, biodiversity conservation, and waste management. CW LLS to promote the 'Rural Living Handbook' at workshop. | Land degradation/ Biosecurity Biodiversity/Waste | Community & Recreation (Natural Resources)/ Planning & Environment (Rangers) | Support On Request. Ranger Services generally participate in any LLS organised events. | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| Network with and provide support to local environmental volunteer groups, such as providing opportunities to participate in programs along the Macquarie River corridor. | Land degradation/ Weeds/ Biodiversity/ Stormwater Pollution/Litter | Community & Recreation | Support on Request | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| Promote and host two community Clean Up Australia Day events (Dubbo and Wellington) along the Macquarie River, in partnership with local environmental groups. | Litter/Stormwater Pollution | Community & Recreation | Support On Request (e.g. Promotion and Advertising) | Feb 19 | Mar 19 |
| Promote and conduct in partnership with local environmental groups at least four community tree planting activities along the Macquarie River each year including a National Tree Day event in Dubbo and Wellington. | Climate Change/ Biodiversity/ Reconnect with Nature | Community & Recreation | Support On Request (e.g. Promotion and Advertising) | Jul 18 Jul 19 | Jun 19 Jun 20 |
| Organise, promote and host the annual public art competition and exhibition 'Waste 2 Art'. Conduct exhibition tours for community groups on request. | Waste/Resource Use/Litter | Community & Recreation | Support on Request (e.g. Promotion) | Mar 18 Mar 19 | Jun 18 Jun 19 |
| Raise community awareness and knowledge about the impacts of stormwater pollution on our local waterways, and things we can all do to keep our waterways clean and health, through providing information on Council's website and social media platforms. | Litter/Stormwater Pollution | Infrastructure & Operations | Support On Request | Ongoing | Ongoing |

| Activity | Environmental Issue Addressed | Responsible Division | Support Areas - Sustainability & Education Officer | Start Date | Finish Date |
|---|---|-----------------------------|--|------------------|------------------|
| Develop with the local community, and run, an annual multi media campaign (e.g. newspaper, radio, TV, social media, poster, signage, brochure) with branding "It's our Macquarie" during the summer months. Investigate partnering with schools to help develop the key messages. | Litter/ Stormwater Pollution | Infrastructure & Operations | Liaise with Manager Communications & Stakeholder Engagement, and schools, to scope, develop and run the Campaign. | Oct 18 | Mar 19 |
| Develop and install interpretative signage at Gross Pollutant Traps (as directed) which highlight their role in protecting local waterways and carry campaign branding Its Our Macquarie! | Litter/Stormwater Pollution | Infrastructure & Operations | Signage Development | Oct 18 | Mar 19 |
| Develop and conduct a program to install 'Drains are just for rain' (or similar) stencils on stormwater outlets in newly developed areas or problem hotspots in Dubbo and Wellington. In addition, develop a brochure to letterbox drop to households/businesses in the vicinity. | Litter/Stormwater Pollution | Infrastructure & Operations | Program Development (Stencil and Brochure Development, Site Selection) | Oct 18 Oct 19 | Mar 19 Mar 20 |
| Investigate the development of a sponsorship program for sporting clubs who utilise parks or ovals along the Macquarie River to purchase a team uniform with the key branding "It's Our Macquarie" in order to increase awareness of storm water pollution. | Litter/Stormwater Pollution | Infrastructure & Operations | Program Investigation and Development | Nov 18 | Feb 19 |
| Lobby the CWCEWA to develop and promote a series of nature based activities (e.g. walks, tours) across the Central West region during September in celebration of 'Biodiversity Month' (September). | Biodiversity/ Reconnect with Nature/Tourism | Community & Recreation | Request Council's Alliance Representative (Environmental Planner) to lobby for the program to be investigated and if suitable implemented. | Jan 19 | Sep 19 |
| Support the annual NSW Office of Environment and Heritage's Wambuu Dreaming Festival which aims to celebrate the importance and value of the Macquarie River and local waterways by participating as an exhibitor and/or conducting a water conservation and/or stormwater pollution themed activity. | Water / Stormwater Pollution / Litter / Reconnect with Nature | Infrastructure & Operations | Seek a quotation from KAB Enviro Mentors Program to participate in this community event in 2018. Support for 2019 to be advised. | Sep 18 Sep 19 | Oct 18 Oct 19 |

Future Actions:

| Activity | Environmental Issue Addressed | Responsible Division | Support Areas - Sustainability & Education Officer | Start Date | Finish Date |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|------------------|
| Develop and run an annual multi media campaign (e.g. newspaper, radio, TV, social media, posters, signage, brochures) prompting community members to report illegal dumping via the State Government's RIDonline reporting tool. | Illegal Dumping/ Stormwater Pollution | Infrastructure & Operations | Liaise with Manager Communications and Stakeholder Engagement to scope, develop and run the Campaign on behalf of Manager Solid Waste. | Mar 18 Mar 19 | Jun 18 Jun 19 |
| Develop and conduct daily tours of the Wellington Caves Complex for visitors, community, university and school groups with a focus on highlighting the importance of the site from a natural earth science and natural resource management perspective. Look to update the current school's education pack (dated 2012) to further integrate Sustainability as a cross Curriculum priority. | Natural Resource Management / Geology / Biodiversity/ Tourism | Economic Development and Business | Support On Request | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| Collate and develop an annual State of Environment Report for the Dubbo Regional Council area | Local Environment Health & Management | Planning & Environment | Data Collation & Reporting | Apr18 Apr19 | Nov 18 Nov 19 |





3.3.2 Sustainable Home & Business

Goal:

To empower households and local businesses to sustainably use and protect natural resources at home and at work, particularly energy, land, waste and water resources, in order to maintain the economic, social and environmental values of our community and to reduce the impacts of climate change nationally.

Target Audience:

Households, Local Businesses

Core Program Actions:

- Provision of information to households and local businesses on how to sustainably use and protect natural resources at home and at work, including energy, land, waste and water resources;
- Promotion of Council Services available to assist households and businesses to adopt a sustainable lifestyle, such as domestic and commercial recycling services;
- Promotion and/or participation in national, state, regional and local community education programs aimed at encouraging households and local businesses to sustainably use and protect natural resources at home and at work;
- Development and implementation of Council educational programs aimed at encouraging households and local businesses to sustainably use and protect natural resources at home & at work;

- Reporting of household natural resource use, particularly waste and water consumption data, through State of Environment Reporting;
- Promotion of local business sustainability initiatives where possible, such as through State of Environment Reporting;
- Review and evaluation of Council information and services required and available to assist households and local businesses to adopt a sustainable lifestyle or workplace (e.g. customer satisfaction surveys, review of Council website information).

Example of Actions undertaken by Council:

- Council website information
- Dubbo Sustainable City face book page
- Promotion of NSW Government programs
- Promotion and participation in Earth Hour, International Composting Awareness Week, National Recycling Week, and National Water Week activities
- Dubbo Show stallholder and displays
- Dubbo Sustainable City Expo (Annual Event)
- Salinity information, including Salinity In Your Backyard Booklet, Building in a Saline Environment



Future Actions:

| Activity | Environmental Issue Addressed | Responsible Division | Support Areas - Sustainability & Education Officer | Start Date | Finish Date |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|------------|-------------|
| Raise private landholder awareness and knowledge of their responsibilities in relation to biosecurity (e.g. weeds/ feral animal management), through providing information on Council's website and social media platforms. | Resource Use (Energy, Waste, Water) | Planning & Environment | Maintain DSC Facebook page | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| Develop a range of information resources promoting Council waste, recycling, water and sewer services (e.g. annual waste & recycling calendar, chemical collection event flyers, recycling and water wise factsheets, septic safe brochures, videos). | Resource Use (Waste, Water) | Infrastructure & Operations | Support On Request | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| Develop and conduct an education campaign in relation to the roll out of the new Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) Service in 2018. To include a media campaign, information packs with bins, hot stamped bin lids and kitchen caddies, truck signage/ slogans, information stands etc.]. | Waste | Infrastructure & Operations (EnviroCom) | Support on Request | Jan 18 | Dec 18 |
| Host an information stand at the annual Dubbo Show to raise community awareness and knowledge of Council environmental services, programs and initiatives. Investigate the option of creating or part sponsoring a 'sustainable alley or pavilion' at the Dubbo Show in future (similar to Tamworth). | Various (incl. waste) | Planning & Environment / Community & Recreation/ | Develop and man information stand in partnership with other Divisions | May 18 | May 18 |
| | | Infrastructure & Operations | | May 19 | May 19 |
| Host an information stand at the annual Dubbo Seniors Week Expo to raise community awareness and knowledge of Council environmental services, programs and initiatives. | Various | Planning & Environment / Community & Recreation/ | Develop and man information stand in partnership with other Divisions | Apr 19 | Apr 19 |
| | | Infrastructure & Operations | | | |
| Organise and/or conduct at least one environmentally themed (e.g. Earth Hour or World Environment Day) Lunchtime Talk per year at the Dubbo and Wellington branches of the Macquarie Regional Library for adults. In addition, distribute an information brochure relating to how residents can take action at home to address this issue or theme | Resource Use (Energy, Waste, Water) | Community & Recreation | Organise, Develop and/or Conduct Talk; Information Brochure Development where required | Feb 19 | Jun 19 |

| Activity | Environmental Issue Addressed | Responsible Division | Support Areas - Sustainability & Education Officer | Start Date | Finish Date |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|------------------|------------------|
| In celebration of <i>National Recycling Week</i> each year offer and conduct a community tour of Council's waste and recycling facilities. Community groups to provide own transport to and from sites. | Waste / Energy / Climate Change | Infrastructure & Operations (EnviroCom) | Promotion, Tour Bookings and Delivery. EnviroCom to develop Tour content and provide resources | Sep 19 | Nov 19 |
| In celebration of <i>National Water Week</i> each year offer and conduct a community tour of Council's water and sewer facilities. Community groups to provide own transport to and from sites. | Waste / Energy / Climate Change | Infrastructure & Operations (EnviroCom) | Support Client Services Coordinator On Request (e.g. assistance with educational material, tour bookings or promotion of event). | Aug 19 | Oct 19 |
| Investigate the option of developing a community renewable energy tour of the recently installed solar and wind farms within the LGA, or other local sites, to promote the benefits of renewable energy to the local community. | Energy / Climate Change | Planning & Environment | Scope Project, including contacting wind/solar farm companies and community groups to gauge interest. | June 18 | Dec 18 |
| Run an annual multi media campaign (e.g. newspaper, radio, social media, poster, brochure) with key program branding 'Wood Smoke Isn't Good Smoke' to highlight the implications of household wood smoke on public health and the local environment with a focus on hotspot areas (e.g. South Dubbo) | Air Pollution | Planning & Environment | Campaign Development and Implementation | Mar 18 Apr 19 | Jul 18 Jul 19 |
| Lobby the CWCEWA to organise an annual educational workshop aimed at improving the performance of the building and development industry in erosion & sediment control and also waste management. | Stormwater Pollution / Litter/ Waste | Planning & Environment | Request Council's Alliance representative (Environmental Planner) lobby the Alliance to investigate and host a workshop. | Aug 18 Aug 19 | Dec 18 Dec 19 |

| Activity | Environmental Issue Addressed | Responsible Division | Support Areas - Sustainability & Education Officer | Start Date | Finish Date |
|--|---|---|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Investigate the option of partnering with the Dubbo Chamber of Commerce, Wellington Chamber of Commerce and OEH Sustainability Advantage to hold an annual World Environment Day event (June 5) in Dubbo showcasing how global, national and local businesses are operating more sustainably (last Green Rhino year winners) and encourage submissions to the upcoming Green Rhino Awards. An environmental and industry theme to be picked each year. | Resource Use (Energy, Waste, Water) / World Environment Day | Planning & Environment | Event Development and Implementation | Jan 19 | June 19 |
| Organise and host the annual Dubbo Sustainable City Expo and Science Festival in August including exhibits and workshops on how residents and businesses can reduce their energy and water bills, create less waste, and live in harmony with the environment. In addition, promote the important role science (particularly environmental science) plays in ensuring a sustainable | Resource Use (Energy, Waste, Water) / Science & Innovation | Planning & Environment | Event Development and Implementation | May 18 May 19 | Aug 18 Aug 19 |
| Conduct (on request) a Community Group Recycling Workshop to increase community awareness and understanding of the importance of waste minimisation and recycling. In addition, distribute any Council waste collection service information brochures or flyers. | Waste/Litter | Infrastructure & Operations (EnviroCom) | Support On Request | On Request | On Request |
| Share information on local environmental issues, Council environmental education programs and events, with local indigenous networks. | Various | Community & Recreation | Networking with Aboriginal Liaison Officer | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| Lobby the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) Sustainability Advantage (SA) Program to sponsor the Green Rhino Awards annually to help raise the profile of local businesses operating more sustainably. | Resource Use (Energy, Waste, Water) | Environment and Planning | Lobby OEH SA Program to sponsor GR Awards annually | Jan 19 | June 19 |
| Investigate the option of including an 'environment person of the year' award as part of Council's annual Australia Day Award Ceremony. If approved, develop award criteria, judging and sponsorship. | Various | Environment and Planning | Award Development. Sponsorship & Judging | Future Invest-igation | Future Invest-igation |

3.3.3 Sustainable Future – Children & Youth

Goal:

To empower childcare centres, pre-schools, schools, after school & vacation care, and youth services to operate more sustainably and to deliver education for sustainability to children and youth in Dubbo in order to maintain the economic, social and environmental values of our community and to reduce the impacts of future climate change nationally.

Target Audience:

Childcare Centres, Pre Schools, Schools, After School & Vacation Care, Youth Services

Core Program Actions:

- Review and evaluation of Council information and services available to assist children and youth services to adopt a sustainable workplace and/or to deliver Education for Sustainability;
- Promotion, or if feasible provision, of information, tools, resources, and programs to assist children and youth services to adopt sustainable workplace practices and/or to deliver Education for Sustainability;
- Promotion, or if feasible coordination, of professional development days for children and youth services focusing on sustainable workplace practices and/or Education for Sustainability;
- Promotion, or if feasible coordination, of exhibitions, events, and festivals which foster children and youth pride in the local built and natural environment (Note: Any events are to be coordinated with Sustainable Community programs);
- Promotion, or if feasible coordination, of environmental youth leadership programs (e.g. GoMAD); and
- Recognition of children and youth services achievement in sustainability.

Example of Actions undertaken by Council:

- Teacher professional development days
- Kerbside Recycling Information, Statistics and Teachers Resources
- Enviroscape Stormwater Solutions Model (available for loan)
- Road Safety Programs, including Ride to School/Work Days
- Stormwater education programme activities
- National Recycling Week activities
- National Water Week activities
- World Environment Day activities



Future Actions:

| Activity | Environmental Issue Addressed | Responsible Division | Support Areas - Sustainability & Education Officer | Start Date | Finish Date |
|---|---|--|--|------------------|------------------|
| Conduct at least one environmentally themed <i>Storytime</i> and <i>Rhyme Time</i> session per year at the Dubbo and Wellington branches of the Macquarie Regional Library for children 0 to 5 years and their parents or carers. In addition, distribute an information brochure relating to how parents and carers can take action at home to address this issue or theme. | Resource Use (Waste, Water, Energy) / Litter / Stormwater Pollution | Community & Recreation | Assist/Mentor Library Staff; Information Brochure Development where required | Apr 19 | Jun 19 |
| Conduct an Early Learning Centres (ELC) Waste Education Program to introduce young children (4-5 years) to waste and recycling basics, and the issue of littering. Presentations to be offered in Dubbo and Wellington during block outreach periods. | Waste / Litter | Infrastructure & Operations (EnviroCom) | This activity is carried out by EnviroCom so no support required. | July 18 | June 19 |
| Conduct an Early Learning Professional Development (ELC PD) Session in Dubbo and Wellington to empower early learning educators to improve waste management practices within their centres and promote year-round waste education. Include the provision of EnviroCom's <i>Tom, Sam and Kate's Adventures: An Early Years Resource for Waste and Litter Reduction</i> kits and associated training. | Waste / Litter | Infrastructure & Operations (EnviroCom) | Investigate willingness of other divisions to support/fund the introduction of stormwater, water or energy modules | July 18 | June 19 |
| Conduct a Primary School Environmental Education Program to increase student awareness and knowledge of the importance of waste minimisation and recycling, litter reduction, water conservation and other local sustainability issues. | Resource Use (Waste, Water, Energy) / Litter / Stormwater Pollution | Infrastructure & Operations (KAB Enviro Mentors) | Investigate capacity to conduct additional water, energy and stormwater modules. | Mar 18 Mar 19 | Oct 18 Oct 19 |
| Conduct Waste 2 Art exhibition tours for school groups, or alternatively visit schools to promote and discuss Waste 2 Art and related environmental issues. | Waste/Resource Use/Litter | Community & Recreation | Support on Request (e.g. Promotion) | Mar 18 Mar 19 | Jun 18 Jun 19 |

| Activity | Environmental Issue Addressed | Responsible Division | Support Areas - Sustainability & Education Officer | Start Date | Finish Date |
|---|---------------------------------|---|--|------------------|------------------|
| Partner the GoMAD (Go Make A Difference) Challenge and provide mentoring support for any local school projects identified under the Program. The Challenge is a collaboration between NSW Environmental and Zoo Education Centres and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage. It involves an initial youth forum followed by a school project (Terms 1-3) focusing on a student identified local environmental issue. | Various | Planning & Environment | Council to provide mentoring support on request. SEO to be Council contact and source relevant Council staff mentors. | Feb 18 Feb 19 | Sep 18 Sep 19 |
| Offer support on request to secondary schools to complete their Environmental Management Plans and improve waste and recycling systems. | Waste | Infrastructure & Operations (EnviroCom) | Support On Request | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| In celebration of <i>National Recycling Week</i> each year develop, promote and conduct primary and secondary school tours of Council's waste and recycling facilities. Schools to provide teacher supervision and own transport to and from sites. | Waste / Energy / Climate Change | Infrastructure & Operations (EnviroCom) | Promotion, Tour Bookings and Delivery. EnviroCom to develop Tour content and provide resources | Sep 19 | Nov 19 |
| In celebration of <i>National Water Week</i> each year offer and conduct primary and secondary school tours of Council's water and sewer facilities. Schools to provide teacher supervision and own transport to and from sites. | Water / Energy / Climate Change | Infrastructure & Operations | Support Client Services Coordinator On Request (e.g. assistance with educational material, tour bookings or promotion of event). | Aug 19 | Oct 19 |
| Investigate the option of developing a school renewable energy tour of the recently installed solar and wind farms within the LGA, or other local sites, to promote the benefits of renewable energy to the local community. | Energy / Climate Change | Planning & Environment | Scope Project, including contacting wind/solar farm companies and schools to gauge interest. | June 18 | Dec 18 |
| Share information on local environmental issues, Council environmental education programs and events, with local youth networks, including the Youth Council | Various | Community & Recreation | Networking with Youth Development Officer | Ongoing | Ongoing |

| Activity | Environmental Issue Addressed | Responsible Division | Support Areas - Sustainability & Education Officer | Start Date | Finish Date |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|--|------------|-------------|
| Actively participate as a member of, and promote locally, the Western Rivers Environmental Education Network (AAEE NSW) which aims to assist environmental educators in western NSW to work together, share knowledge, and encourage best practice sustainability education and engagement. | Various | Planning & Environment | WREEN Member | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| Investigate integrating digital engagement into any proposed early learning, school and/or youth education programs (e.g. video conferencing, apps) | Various | Planning & Environment | Keep up to date with digital engagement options and investigate the incorporation of these options into programs | Ongoing | Ongoing |



3.3.4 Sustainable Council

Goal:

To connect staff, share knowledge and advice in order to create a sustainable community within Council.

Sustainability Principles:

This priority education area also assists Council to deliver on the following sustainability principles:

- Everyone is accountable for sustainability;
- Sustainability is demystified for our staff, council and the community;
- We promote and celebrate our wins;
- Sustainability is integrated into purchasing and procurement;
- Sustainability is integrated into our corporate planning framework;
- Decision making reflects sustainability principles; and
- We measure our effectiveness in improving sustainability

Target Audience:

Council Staff, Councillors

Core Program Actions:

- Ongoing review of the extent to which sustainable workplace practices and procedures are in place across Council;
- Development of tools and resources to assist Council to implement sustainable workplace practices;

- Development of tools and resources, and implementation of activities, to raise Council staff and councillor awareness of the importance of implementing sustainable workplace practices;
- Coordination and implementation of Council staff and councillor training in sustainable workplace practices;
- Participation in national, state, or regional business education programs aimed at encouraging Council to adopt sustainable workplace practices; and
- Recognition of Council staff and councillor achievements in sustainability.

Example of Actions undertaken by Council:

- Monitoring and reporting of Council natural resource use through e21 and State of Environment Reporting
- Staff engagement activities, including Energy Olympics, Friday File Fling, Earth Hour
- Participation in the LG NSW Staff Sustainability Training for councillors, outdoor staff, indoor policy staff, sustainability team
- Promotion of Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance's training for council staff
- Staff sustainability attitudinal surveys
- Participation in State Government's Sustainability Advantage programs



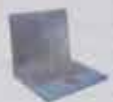






Future Actions:

| Activity | Environmental Issue Addressed | Responsible Division | Support Areas - Sustainability & Education Officer | Start Date | Finish Date |
|--|---|---|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Organise and host a Council staff training session through Local Government Procurement's Sustainable Choice Program in the newly released ISO 20400:2017 guidance standard on sustainable procurement. | Sustainable Procurement / Resource Use (Waste, Water, Energy) | Corporate Services | Assist Corporate Procurement Specialist to organise and host training locally | Apr 18 | Jun 18 |
| Organise a Council staff training session in planning for and achieving 'energy smart' facilities and assets. This workshop could include topics such as considering energy use in proposed capital works; conducting energy audits and developing action plans; financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades; monitoring and accounting for energy use (e.g. energy management software 'e21'). This session could assist in the revision Council's energy strategy and implementation plan. | Energy Efficiency / Renewable Energy | Economic Development and Business / Corporate Services / Planning & Environment | Partner with Manager Property Assets and Corporate Procurement Specialist to organise and host training locally | Nov 18 | Mar 19 |
| Lobby the CWCEWA to investigate the need for, and if appropriate organise and host a Councillor training session introducing natural resource management principles, legislation, roles and responsibilities of Council and Councillors. | Land Management / Biodiversity / Planning | Planning & Environment | Request Council's Alliance representative (Environmental Planner) lobby the Alliance to investigate and if needed host a workshop. | Jul 18 | Dec 18 |
| Organise for relevant Council staff to complete a training session regarding workplace sustainability utilising Council's Sustainability Advantage Program support hours. The Sustainability Advantage Program is facilitated by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage with an annual paid membership. | Sustainable Procurement / Resource Use (Waste, Water, Energy) | Planning & Environment | This action is for future investigation upon the finalisation of Council roles and positions. | Future Investigation | Future Investigation |
| Develop and conduct a 'sustainability in the workplace' information session as part of all Council Staff Induction Day Programs (e.g. brief talk, short video, fact sheet and giveaways). | Sustainable Procurement / Resource Use (Waste, Water, Energy) | Planning & Environment | In collaboration with the HR Learning and Development Officer develop and conduct sessions, purchase resources | Nov 18 | Mar 19 |


| Activity | Environmental Issue Addressed | Responsible Division | Support Areas - Sustainability & Education Officer | Start Date | Finish Date |
|---|---|------------------------|---|------------------|------------------|
| Continue to develop Bathroom Educational Posters to promote sustainability projects, Council services (e.g. waste), or other environmental issues, utilising the 'bathroom poster' system in Council office buildings. | Various | Planning & Environment | Develop and distribute posters to key staff for placement in bathrooms. | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| Promote and share environmental education and sustainability activities progress and success via Informal Reports, Executive Leadership Team Reports (if required), Council Staff Newsletters, Council Information sessions and Local Government Awards. | Various | Planning & Environment | Develop and submit reports when required. | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| Conduct at least two staff engagement activities per year to increase staff awareness, knowledge and engagement in world, national and/or local sustainability challenges and initiatives. For example Business Clean Up Australia Day, National Recycling Week, National Water Week, Earth Hour, National Threatened Species Day, World Water Day, National Tree Day. | Resource Use (Waste, Water, Energy) / Stormwater Pollution / Litter / Climate Change / Biodiversity | Planning & Environment | Develop, organise and host Staff Engagement Activities | Jan 18 Jan 19 | Dec 18 Dec 19 |
| Actively participate as a member of the Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance (CWCEWA) which aims to assist councils to complete on-ground works, grant funding opportunities, environmental reporting, and Council staff capacity building events. The Alliance includes 18 Councils, and both the Central Tablelands and Central West Local Land Services (LLS). | Various | Planning & Environment | Environmental Planner (EP) to be main Council contact and to attend Alliance meetings. SEO to table any items/ issues through EP. | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| In partnership with the Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance develop and distribute to staff and the general community an annual Council State of Environment Report (SOE). | Environmental Health / Condition | Environment & Planning | Data collation and entry, report editing and distribution | Apr 18 Apr 19 | Nov 18 Nov 19 |
| In partnership with the Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance support neighbouring councils to develop annual State of Environment Reports and the annual Regional State of Environment Report (RSOE). | Environmental Health / Condition | Environment & Planning | RSOE Committee Representative | Apr 18 Apr 19 | Nov 18 Nov 19 |



Tips for a Sustainable Office

| | | |
|--|---|---|
|  <p>Before leaving the room ensure all appliances and equipment are turned off (e.g. laptops, monitors, computers etc.)</p> |  <p>Are you sure you need to print? Double check whether you actually need to print a document or file</p> | <p>The tea caddy change, connecting, sharing knowledge and advising how council staff can become a model for sustainability</p>  <p>Shaping Sustainability</p> |
|  <p>Recycle your cans, bottles, paper and plastic. You can even recycle batteries. Look here!</p> |  <p>Away from your computer for more than 10 minutes? Turn off the monitor to save power.</p> | |
|  <p>If you are the last to leave the area please switch off the lights (including bathroom)</p> |  <p>Check to ensure your default printer settings are set to double sided and black and white. Use colour only when necessary.</p> | |

Keep an eye out for more sustainable tips and visit the Sustainability page on Councilpedia under the heading of Committees - Sustainability Team <http://www.dubbo.nsw.gov.au/multimedia/>



3.4 Monitoring and Reporting

Any progress achieved against the Strategy and Action Plan will be reported on by the Responsible Officer through the standard Council Integrated Planning and Reporting process:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Informal Report for Councillors | Monthly |
| Progress Reports | Every Six Months |
| Annual Report | Annually (November) |

Any future education programs being investigated or scoped (e.g. programs not yet identified within Council's adopted Delivery and Operational Plans) are to be tabled to the relevant Director and/or Executive Leadership Team for consideration and approval before commencement.

3.5 Review Process

The actions within the DEFSSAP will be reviewed by 31 December annually, with revised actions to be incorporated into Council's Operational Plan for the following financial year.

4.0 Annual International, National and Local Environmental Events

There are a number of international, national and local environmental events held each year that Council could incorporate into the four priority EfS areas in order to meet and deliver Council Delivery Program strategies and actions (Table 4).

Table 4: Annual International, National and Local Environmental Events

| Month | Event | Type |
|-----------|---|---------------|
| January | Australia Day | National |
| February | World Wetlands Day | International |
| March | Business Clean Up Day, Schools Clean Up Day, Clean Up Australia Day | National |
| | World Forestry Day | International |
| | World Water Day | International |
| | World Meteorological Day | International |
| April | Earth Hour | International |
| | World Health Day | International |
| | World Heritage Day | International |
| | Earth Day | International |
| May | Seniors Week | National |
| | Dubbo Show | Local |
| | International Composting Awareness Week | International |
| | World Migratory Bird Day | International |
| | National Volunteer Week | National |
| | Walk Safely to School Day | National |
| | International Biodiversity Day | International |
| June | World Turtle Day | International |
| | World Environment Day | International |
| | World Ocean Day | International |
| July | World Day to Combat Desertification | International |
| | NAIDOC Week | National |
| | Schools Tree Day | National |
| August | Local Government Week | National |
| | National Tree Day | National |
| | International Day of the World's Indigenous People | International |
| | National Science Week | National |
| | Keep Australia Beautiful Week | National |
| September | Dubbo Sustainable City Expo and Science Festival | Local |
| | National Threatened Species Day | National |
| | National Landcare Week | National |
| | Sustainable House Day | National |
| | International Day For Preserving the Ozone Layer | International |
| | World Water Monitoring Day | International |
| October | Clean up the World Weekend | International |
| | Walk to Work Day | National |
| | World Habitat Day | National |
| | National Ride to Work Day | National |
| | National Water Week | National |
| November | Wambuul Dreaming | Local |
| | National Recycling Week | National |
| December | World Fisheries Day | International |
| | International Volunteers Day | International |

5.0 Funding Opportunities

Funding opportunities come and go. Some funding programs are in place for consecutive years, others are one-offs. To keep up-to-date on funding opportunities Council staff are advised to stay in touch with their regional networks and regularly visit resource sites such as the following:

NSW State Government

Community Builders

communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/funding-grants

Office of Environment and Heritage

environment.nsw.gov.au/grantsandfunding

The annual 'education specific' grants include:

- Environmental Education Grants of between \$5,000 and \$100,000 are awarded annually to projects that increase environmental awareness.
- The Eco Schools Program provides grants to schools to provide opportunities to involve students and the community in developing and implementing environmental management projects.
- Protecting Our Places grants are awarded to projects that protect land that is culturally significant to Aboriginal people and support education projects about the environment and its importance in Aboriginal life.
- Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Grants are available to community, state and local government organisations to facilitate projects to prevent or reduce pollution, the waste stream or environmental degradation of any kind. These projects also aim to improve the capacity of communities and organisations to protect, restore and enhance the environment.

- The Aboriginal Lands Clean-Up Program supports partnership projects between Local Aboriginal Land Councils and local governments that seek to address the social and environmental issues of illegal dumping occurring on Aboriginal owned lands.
- The Saving our Species (SoS) Partnership Grants program, a contestable grants program seeking to achieve long-term outcomes for threatened species in NSW.
- Climate Change Fund

NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

epa.nsw.gov.au/working-together/grants

- Waste Less Recycle More Initiative, provides \$137.7 million over five years for local government waste and resource recovery to help councils recycle more and reduce illegal dumping and littering.
- Love Food Hate Waste Grant Program - Stream 3 "Love Food Communities" will be available from early 2018, offering grants of up to \$250,000 to deliver a two-year whole-of-city approach to food waste prevention.

6.0 References

A number of resources have been referred to in the development of this Strategy and Action Plan:

Australian Association for Environmental Education NSW Chapter (October 2015), *Make the Change: A framework for education and engagement for environmental sustainability 2014-2021*. Available at aaeensw.org.au/our-work/make-change

Dubbo City Council (2016), *Dubbo City Council Sustainability/Environmental Preliminary Resource Assessment*, Available at TRIM Ref ID16/391, ID16/209, ED16/22089

Dubbo City Council (2016), *Dubbo City Council Action Plan for the Management of Litter entering the Macquarie River*, Available at TRIM Ref ID16/132, ID16/238, ED16/19107

Dubbo City Council (2013), *Dubbo Education for Sustainability Strategy*, Dubbo City Council, Dubbo NSW

Dubbo Regional Council, (2018) *Dubbo Community Strategic Plan 2040 (Dubbo 2040)*, Dubbo Regional Council, Dubbo NSW

GEMS (September 2008), *Dubbo City Council Stormwater Education Strategy*, Dubbo City Council, Dubbo NSW

NSW Council on Environmental Education (October 2006), *Learning for Sustainability: NSW Environmental Education Plan 2007-2010*, NSW Government.

NSW Department of Education and Training (2001) *Environmental Education Policy for Schools*. Available at www.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library

NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet (September 2011), *State Plan 2021*, Available at www.ipc.nsw.gov.au

NSW Office of *Local Government (1993)*, Local Government Act 1993, Available at: www.legislation.nsw.gov.au

United Nations General Assembly (September 2015), *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda)*, Available at un.org/sustainabledevelopment (Includes the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 Targets)



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