

Media Enquiry



04 March 2025

From Dandenong Journal

Just wanted to ask how many council staff are there working on the climate and sustainability team?

How much should the average be?

When can we see the council being up to speed with climate reports and initiatives?

Will Council consider engaging with the youth through Sweltering Cities similar to City of Casey?

What is the average or the recommended number of staff on climate and sustainability for councils, if there are any?

I'm alluding to the last council meeting where a lot of questions were raised on the climate and sustainability reporting including an update on the council's annual climate change policy report.

If you can also briefly add any council initiatives on climate that were adopted after the Sweltering Cities 'Prepare for Heatwave-Emergency Management Exercise' event in September 2023, that would be great to highlight.

Follow up questions

Also like to add, how many council staff are on the sustainability team currently and how many more is the council looking to recruit? And when?

Has anything contributed to delaying the recruitment process?

Is the council facing any challenges in the recruitment?

Media Response

07 March 2025

**Please attribute the following response to Greater Dandenong City Council
Acting Chief Executive Officer, Sanjay Manivasagasivam:**

At Greater Dandenong City Council, we have five positions directly within our sustainability team and are currently advertising for a sixth position. We will be further increasing our sustainability/environment staffing numbers in the new financial year, with additional positions in the 2025/26 budget.

There are also many other positions within the organisation that directly support our sustainability, climate change and environmental agenda. In addition, all staff are responsible for ensuring Council addresses the challenge of climate change, and we are required to consider this in all the decisions we make.

As well as addressing the challenges that climate change brings to Council, we are also actively engaging the community to support them in making changes to address climate change.

ENDS