

Media Response

20 March 2025

Please attribute response to acting CEO, Sanjay Manivasagasivam:

“Officers are currently reviewing the action plan, and will be providing an update to Council in the coming months.

The Sustainability Planner role was initially for a 3-year period, and was then made permanent.

Over the last five years, Council has made significant progress in the sustainability and climate change area, which includes reducing Council’s emissions by 82%, utilising only renewable electricity, installing over 600kw of solar panels on multiple Council sites, transitioning nearly 30 fleet vehicles to low emissions vehicles, and replacing a number of small gas assets with electric units.

In addition, Council has also planted over 2,000 trees each year since 2014, which has resulted in the municipal wide canopy coverage increasing from 9.9% in 2016 to 14.1% in 2023.”

ENDS

Media Enquiry

20 March 2025

Enquiry from Sahar Foladi from Dandenong Journal:

I am seeking clarification on climate emergency strategy and action plan 2020-2030.

There was a \$84,000 fund granted to the council in the 2020-21 budget to increase its sustainability team capacity to facilitate the strategy and action plan.

Was that position for sustainability planning officer an ongoing position or a limited time contract?

The report mentions 3 years full time, does that mean the role was terminated after that?