

Priority 3 - Preparing for Climate Change

The State Public Health Plan highlights the need to prepare for the potential public health impacts of climate change with particular consideration of vulnerable sectors of the community.²

What are we already doing?

Within the Cities of Unley and Mitcham there has been a strong focus on measures to reduce greenhouse emissions by both Councils. Both Councils have previously been members of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives Cities for Climate Protection Program. Various initiatives have been undertaken to reduce greenhouse emissions from Council operations and in the wider community such as:

- Energy performance measures at Council facilities.
- Council fleet vehicles are assessed for fuel efficiency and greenhouse emissions.
- Use of accredited green power.
- Environmental performance considerations in Council procurement.
- Community education and support programs.
- Environmental grants programs.

Both Councils are currently engaged in regional projects to undertake 'climate change adaptation planning'. Mitcham Council is participating in the 'Resilient South' Climate Change Adaptation Project with the Cities of Onkaparinga, Holdfast Bay and Marion.²² The City of Unley is currently undertaking stage one of the regional climate change adaptation planning as part of the Eastern Region Alliance (ERA). Member Councils of ERA are the Cities of Burnside, Campbelltown, Norwood Payneham & St Peters, Prospect, Tea Tree Gully, Unley, and the Town of Walkerville.

Both Councils have committed to the incorporation of sustainability principles into their Development Plans to encourage sustainable development in the private realm.

State and Regional Strategy References

- South Australia: A Better Place to Live – Priority 3: Preparing for Climate Change.
- Climate Change Adaptation Framework for South Australia.
- The Green Infrastructure Strategy.
- Mount Lofty Ranges Regional NRM Board: Sub Region Priorities for Metropolitan Adelaide.

Strategic Directions

Action	Our Role	Rating	Council Project/ Strategy	Partners
Climate Change Research				
3.1 - Assess the impacts of climate change impacts to vulnerable communities within the region including the elderly, SRF residents, people with a disability and CALD communities in liaison with key partner authorities.	Coordinate	■	Resilient South (Mitcham) ERA Climate Change Adaptation Project City of Mitcham – Ageing Plan (proposed). City of Unley Age Friendly Strategy (proposed)	Resilient South ERA DPC SA Health FESC
Urban Planning for Climate Change				
3.2 – Incorporate and consider as needed design features for planning public realm to mitigate climate change impacts (for example, consider water availability, water sensitive urban design, shade provision and green infrastructure)	Coordinate	■	Water Proofing the East (Unley) City of Unley Environmental Sustainability Plan Mitcham Environment Framework.	DPTI DEWNR SA Health FESC ERA Resilient South
3.3 - Incorporate planning controls for mitigating the impacts of climate change in the private realm.	Coordinate	■	City of Unley Development Plan City of Mitcham Development Plan	DPTI DEWNR SA Health SAFECOM ERA Resilient South
Community Awareness and Information for Climate Change				
3.4 - Raise awareness and disseminate information to the community regarding heat wave safety and the facilities and community services available for extreme heat days (such as the Tele REDi system, Council transport services and Council venues).	Facilitate	★	City of Unley – Extreme Weather Procedure City of Mitcham – Fire Danger, Adverse Weather and Ultraviolet Radiation Policy City of Mitcham RedCross RediPlan	SA Health SAFECOM Redcross
3.5 - Educate the food business sector on food safety measures to be adopted during extreme heat events and power failures.	Facilitate	★		SA Health

Action	Our Role	Rating	Council Project/ Strategy	Partners
3.6 - Promote climate change mitigation and adaptation measures such as energy efficiency, water efficiency and sustainable urban design.	Facilitate	★	City of Unley - Environmental Sustainability Strategy. Mitcham Environment Framework.	

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