

RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

PROJECT NAME Town of Victoria Park Climate Emergency Plan

DATE April 2020

PURPOSE This memo includes all public comments received on the draft Climate Emergency Plan and the Town of Victoria Park's response to those comments.

PERTH OFFICE
Suite 4, 26 Railway Road
Subiaco
Western Australia 6008

P +61 8 9380 4988
F +61 8 9380 9636
emergeassociates.com.au

Emerge Environmental Services Pty Ltd ABN
57144772510 trading as Emmerge Associates

After a year of preparation, the draft Climate Emergency Plan was released for public comment in January 2021. The comments were largely supportive with 81% of respondents supportive of the plan and the remainder supportive subject to suggested changes. The following comments were received on the draft Plan with the Town of Victoria Park's response provided.

Comment	Town of Victoria Park response
Introduction	
1. There should be more focus on strategies to protect the Town's existing mature trees - on both private and public land. Planting new trees on verges and in parks is very nice, but won't make up for the continuing canopy loss across the Town.	This is addressed in the Urban Forest Strategy and council planning scheme.
2. The introduction is clear and reasonable. I am pleased that this local governments are responding to the climate crisis. I am on board with this mission.	Noted.
3. move acknowledgement of country up in the document lots of words, the few images in this section explain the section well	Acknowledgement of country repositioned. Noted.
4. Generally good. With increased storms, research I have been involved with and researched indicate flash flooding risks will increase, as will the risk of damaging hail. Also do not underestimate the implications of sea level rise and the potential impacts of tropical cyclones / extra-tropical transitioning tropical cyclones upon the Town and the SW of WA.	Noted. Climate projections summarised in section 4.4
5. I believe all members of our community should be engaged in the movement to tackle our warming climate. It is a responsibility for all to be involved in the change required.	Noted.
6. I am very happy that, finally, the Town of Victoria Park is giving this issue attention. It has been a pressing issue for a long time, but the Town has always been reluctant, and it has taken years since a Climate Emergency was declared by the Town to get to this stage. Despite a lack of bolder ambitions, this plan is a reasonable start, if it actually gets implemented. The Town is know for very good plans, no doubt about it -- it is time to show they can actually be made into action. I general, would like to see bolder action in regards to waste, active transportation (actively encouraging people to cycle and walk by making that not only easier and safer, but a priority for the Town), procurement (which is completely absent in this plan) and collaboration with community and community organisations when it comes to adaptation and future resilience.	Noted. This plan works alongside several strategic documents including the Integrated Movement Network Strategy, which is focused on active transport, the Strategic Waste Management Plan, the Procurement policy which includes sustainability requirements. The focus of the Council Action Plan is to implement carbon reduction and resilience for council assets and infrastructure and educate the community and businesses. The Town recognises the importance of working with community and community organisations, and collaboration with these

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	spheres is something that we will explore once we operationalise the Climate Emergency Plan itself.
7. Comprehensive	Noted.
<p>The 4th aim of 'Climate Resilience' could be strengthened by inclusion of this aspects in 'Community and Business', which in the current version only refers to supporting and educating the community and business in working toward a zero carbon target. It is just as important that this education be expanded to adaptation. The last element of the final sentence which implies that actions in the Town can contribute to 'avoiding significant changes to our climate' should be reconsidered as it is clear that significant changes to our climate will occur.</p> <p>The Scope of the Plan has minimal coverage of adaptation. It appears that only one dot point under the 'Council Action Plan' refers to adaptation. The Intro does make the point the reduction emissions as the local level, while a critical element of the Plan, do not make up a significant proportion of Australia's emissions, and will therefore not impact on the magnitude of climate change. On the other hand, adaptation actions at the local level, will impact directly on the local community and on balance, I think greater emphasis is required on this aspect.</p>	<p>Noted. Aim has been updated to include climate resilience in the Community and Business Aim.</p> <p>Noted, although changes to the climate are anticipated under every emissions scenario the consensus is that immediate action will avoid significant changes.</p> <p>Priority 5 is focused on adaptation alone. Several of the local adaptation actions are interwoven into more technical documents and standards and we anticipate this section will expand over the plan's delivery.</p>
Background and Context	
8. Urban Forest Strategy mapped the 2016 canopy at 10%. 5 years later, this figure will be even lower due to the constant removal of trees from development sites. The Town's policy on tree removal on development sites has not worked and needs urgent review. In particular, 'battle axing' must be outlawed as it cannot accommodate large trees.	The action plan includes a commitment to implement the Urban Forest Strategy under both Priority 5 and 8. Further detail on tree retention is not within the scope of this plan and more applicable the Urban Forest Strategy and supporting planning mechanisms.
9. The background and context seem to be informed by the leading data from all the relevant sectors.	Noted.
10. remove all town framework stuff no one cares reduce state govt section good LG section	Noted. Information kept as context.
11. Good. Should also mention the need to be selective with the tree planting, focussing on a diversity of trees that sequester larger quantities of C)2. Also the plan should address the need to ensure council buildings and assets are made more resilient to the growing risk of damage from a range of severe weather phenomena.	<p>Tree planting addressed in the Urban Forest Strategy. Action 8.4 includes commitment to partner with a research institute in regard to carbon sequestration capacity of trees and the Town's Urban Forest.</p> <p>New action added to Priority 5 relating to the resilience of new and existing facilities and assets</p>
12. The IPCC report into climate change provides an evidence based way to include relevant and up to date evidence on our changing climate.	The information included in this Plan utilises the CSIRO information which uses IPCC reports to provide more detailed climate impacts for the SW of Australia. See Section 4.4.
13. I support the intent of the plan, however the heritage / original dwelling plan and environmental plan are mutually exclusive in certain aspects. It's simply not economically viable to make a 70 year	The upgrade of private dwellings to be more energy efficient is outside the scope of this plan and council's mandate,

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old weatherboard house energy efficient. Perhaps changes in council new build and modern house renovation policies incentivising certain frontage styles and colours for the ToVP is a better way to maintain the look and feel of the town while still allowing the replacement of old energy inefficient properties with modern energy efficient properties.	although plan includes actions relating to providing the community advice and education on options available.
14. comprehensive information on our current emissions and where they come from	Noted.
15. Mention of the Climate Health WA Inquiry, including the submission made by the Town of Victoria Park, seems like an important part of the this section that has been overlooked. The ToVP submission clearly discusses some of the key health risks to the community from climate change. It seems sensible that the community education aspect of the Plan should also include this.	Noted. Reference to the inquiry has been added in. Community & business aim updated to include both carbon reduction and climate resilience as an outcome.
Our Framework	
16. Looks good	Noted.
17. Strongly support the planned approach, particularly the intent to deliver real emissions reductions - not just achieving carbon neutrality by using offsets. Recommend that many of the solutions are incentivised to drive similar changes for ToVP businesses & residents.	Noted. Incentive based mechanisms proposed in Priority Area 6&7 respectively.
18. I wonder if the plan is achievable in the allotted timeframes	Ongoing monitoring will help ensure targets are met.
19. The economic focus of the framework is an effective strategy.	Noted.
20. economic argument section very good, money is what is going to get people to change behaviours maybe need to be a bit harsher as to why we are implementing this framework, if average temps rise then life is going to be extremely difficult and miserable with chaotic weather events, this feels like a very safe document for a very unsafe phenomena	Noted.
21. Generally good. Note in your table 1 the changes relate to the period 1990-2005, not the pre-industrial levels as mandates in the Paris Accord. Currently Perth is around +1.2C above pre-industrial and this could be +1.8-2.0C by 2030 and +3C by 2070. The 2030 values are largely independent from the RCP scenario as these changes are essentially locked in by the current global levels of emissions and their trajectories going forward. Also note global sea levels as at 202 are around 24cm higher than in pre-industrial levels. Note the Fremantle tide gauge has been relocated several times and hence the accuracy of the observed long term sea level trends based upon this source are questionable as the site changes were not well documented or adequately surveyed.	Noted. The information is based on the CSIRO report. The focus of the plan is to acknowledge the changes and the variability in those projections, and propose our response accordingly. Further detail is not considered relevant to the Plan.
22. I support the framework on terms of identifying council emissions but there could be further scope to include the emissions from households. This could include transport, the use of gas for heating and cooking, waste and possible power sharing in the future. Providing information and education on a community level is important to disseminate information regarding reducing individual / family carbon footprints.	Inclusion of household emissions is outside of the scope of this plan and outside the scope of the Town of Victoria Park. The plan provides council actions to support and educate the community as well as the Community Action Plan for the community to take ownership of their own individual or family carbon footprint.
23. The priority areas are good and include community and business as well as council responsibilities. I am not sure the residual emissions	Noted. The Town will conduct a revision of the Climate Emergency Plan in 2023, 2027

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<p>are that residual they account for half of emissions. Would like to see increased targets maybe over a longer period to reduce the residual that needs to be offset. Hope that our tree strategy will contribute more to the offsets than outside the town. While costs are shown, want to be assured that council will commit to budgeting for this in the next and future budgets. A lot of the budget areas mention staff time only. Concerned that there should be a dedicated staff person and not sure that is budgeted for. Similar to the Urban Forest Officer employed to manage the Urban Forest Strategy, we should have a climate change plan officer or similar.</p>	<p>and 2030 to reassess actions, progress and include additional actions where required. This will also include a review of the targets. Ideally, the target will be increased over time.</p> <p>The Town has considered the addition of a dedicated officer to facilitate delivery of the Climate Emergency Plan.</p>
<p>24. Adaptation seems to be missing from the 4 key principles. The Economic Argument section does include the importance of climate resilience which is encouraging, but overall this aspect does seem to be underplayed in the Plan. Actions on climate resilience should not be restricted to the 'Council' element of the Plan, but also to the community and businesses.</p>	<p>Noted. The key principles have been updated.</p>
<p>Measuring our emissions</p>	
<p>25. Methods to measure emissions is understandably a developing process. Glad to see action is taken. Pleased to see both direct and indirect emissions taken into consideration.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>26. extremely interesting and valuable section, identifying the priority emissions from the town and focusing to reduce those large volumes will create the best return on investment and likely to be more accepted by community and decision makers.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>27. Should recognise the very high up-front warming capacity of methane. It is around 100 times that of CO2 for the first decade, with its shorter half life than CO2 dropping this to around 26% more over centennial time frames. So targetting methane has higher up-front benefits. Also note that the NF3, HFCs and PFCs have much higher CO2 equivalent impacts and so they are also key initial targets to reduce emissions from.</p>	<p>Noted, however considered too detailed for this plan. The conversion of emissions to CO₂-e is in accordance with the standardized method for communicating GHG impact.</p>
<p>28. Measuring emissions across the Town of Victoria Park is fundamental in addressing current emissions and monitoring to ensure that strategies are effective and that goals are reached.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>29. I think it was going to be annual which is good. And need a clear indicator of how it is going. Maybe a barometer or graph as well as words on the website and it should be on the front page as well as a hard stand one at major town entry points. ie we have saved this much this year and emissions are down by x%</p>	<p>Noted. This will be addressed as part of ongoing implementation.</p>
<p>30. Check labelling of Plates.</p>	<p>Updated.</p>
<p>Monitoring and reporting</p>	
<p>31. Tree canopy audits should be occurring annually, as per the UFS, but have not been done in five years. Why not?</p>	<p>Not relevant to the scope of this plan. Plan includes action to implement UFS.</p>
<p>32. Important and generally very good. There must be an attention to identifying any additional factors that should be counted. One which I highlight in the following segments is: Food waste carbon cost. Different foods contain varying carbon emission costs, animal foods being the highest. Additional high</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

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carbon foods are short life foods flown in by air. These foods have a higher carbon cost and that must be calculated.	
33. does the town have the resources to report on this every year and measure CO2 and compare against targets? seems pretty resource intense, not sure this will be achieved?	The Town aims to accommodate this through future budget cycles. Also, the Town has considered the addition of a dedicated officer to facilitate delivery of the Climate Emergency Plan.
34. Seems reasonable	Noted.
35. Transparency to the community is vital for engagement, for accountability and for publicising the actions / improvements that are occurring.	Noted.
36. Regular reporting is essential and review of targets and actions. Some may not be working and resources could be more effective elsewhere. Others may need more resources to reach a target if they are a big contributor such as FOGO	Noted.
Priority Area 1: Embed a low carbon culture	
37. What about including 'carbon sequestration' (eg expanding tree canopy) as a priority area?	The priorities have been structured in accordance with our carbon hierarchy (section 4.3). Carbon sequestration is an offset of residual emissions and our core focus is on avoiding/reducing emissions and switching to low carbon alternatives. Priority 8 includes commitments regarding carbon sequestration.
38. Strongly supported - all future developments (public & private) approved by the Town should achieve the highest possible efficiency standards.	Noted.
<p>39. I am generally in agreement with these strategies.</p> <p>I find that strategies to ensure that catering is plant based for local events to reduce the carbon cost of the products, as generally animal foods carry a significantly larger carbon emissions cost than plant based foods. This impact can range up to 3 to 4 times the impact, and in some cases, when comparing foods per equal nutrient, protein or calorie value they can be in the region of 20 times more impactful in terms of Carbon emissions.</p> <p>Sourcing local produce is a good thing to do to mitigate carbon emissions, however, depending on the carbon price of the produce itself, the transport emissions can be relatively small. 'Eating local' has been described by a researcher as being 'one of the most misguided pieces of advice'.</p> <p>Here are two sources:</p> <p>https://ourworldindata.org/food-choice-vs-eating-local</p> <p>https://ourworldindata.org/environmental-impacts-of-food</p> <p>I further find that an emphasis on plant based diets can be a significant and integral part of a 'low carbon culture'.</p>	<p>Action 1.8 has been updated to include preference of low carbon food options.</p> <p><i>Action 1.8 Ensure that the catering and materials for all community events preference minimal waste and low carbon food (e.g. use local produce, vegetarian and vegan options)</i></p>

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40. these four sections make sense, is there an established evidence base that these four areas provide the best return and impact?	Unclear which four areas are being referred to, however the monitoring and reporting process will capture the return on investment.
41. Embedding a low carbon culture requires all council workers and activities to consider their carbon footprint. Ensuring all staff are well educated on this is an essential component so everyone understands the reasons why this is necessary.	This will be addressed in the targeted engagement under Action 1.2.
42. Leadership from the Town of Victoria Park and publishing said culture is important to encourage an evidence based discussion regarding climate change mitigation.	To be completed as part of ongoing monitoring and reporting.
43. If the Town is serious about this, it means examining every single decision in all parts of the organisation/community not only with energy efficiency in mind, but with a holistic sense of sustainability. This means sustaining the ability of future generations to live as well as we do, and our ancestors did, on this land. This is a huge challenge for the Town, if taken seriously, and as such it must be acknowledged as a transformational policy, not simply changing light bulbs or putting solar panels on roof tops. It means inviting the community to transform how we live in Vic Park and own the idea that Local Government, in the 21st century, means much more than roads, rubbish, rates.	This will be addressed in the targeted engagement under Action 1.2 and be part of the Operational Plans that follow.
44. Agree this is a great priority as it about cultural change and education that can be included in all areas of council business	Noted.
Priority Area 2: Reduce Emissions of Facilities and Assets	
45. Strongly supported, particularly the direct actions proposed.	Noted.
46. The work on light globes is reasonable. If Victoria Park were to promote and integrate a plant based centric food system, this would result in less energy usage in large scale fridge and freezer usage. This would reduce energy usage and CFC emissions which associated with freezers. It is largely animal foods which require constant refrigeration, whereas plant based produce largely requires no refrigeration, with few exceptions. Reducing the fridge and freezer departments in supermarkets would significantly help in reaching climate goals.	Noted. Plant based food comments and supermarket energy use considered outside of this Plan's scope.
47. Reducing emissions: Ensuring all new buildings are as energy efficient as possible is essential (such as the Macmillan Precinct facilities) with retrofitting considered for other assets.	Addressed under Action 2.9 for new facilities and 1.11 for existing facilities.
48. Facility emissions reduction should include measures such as heat pumps to reduce gas consumption for water heating, improve the energy efficiency of buildings, reduce waste and usage of paper / cardboard / plastics. Facilities should also have a waste plan to reduce organic waste and to improve recycling. Included in improving efficiency, methods such as improving insulation, outdoor wall / roof surfaces and possible painting of such surfaces to reduce heat absorption and thus air conditioning use. Agree with using energy efficient appliances throughout council buildings.	Measurement of facility emissions to be completed as part of audits – Action 2.12 Waste comments not applicable to this priority however addressed in the Strategic Waste MP.
49. That is a really low hanging fruit and should have been done ages ago -- I am sure the consultancy being paid to develop this plan can come up with amazing solutions for this beyond switching to LED lights.	The plan captures all actions that already being implemented to ensure they continue to be implemented. New actions

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<p>How about procurement policies and looking at the sustainability of everything the Town buys for its daily operations? How about advocating with State Govt organisations (Main Roads) to transform mobility with the Town, making it easier and safer for people to choose to walk and cycle everywhere? How about embedding sustainability into planning policies for developers/builders in town?</p>	<p>are proposed and have been prepared based on the key principles and carbon hierarchy. Further detail on technology innovations will be as part of the Operational Plans that will follow. Comments regarding mobility not applicable to this plan and are addressed in the Integrated Movement Network Strategy.</p>
<p>50. Support and this should include all council properties that are rented out and solar panels and batteries installed</p>	<p>Solar target addressed under Priority 4.</p>
<p>Priority Area 3: Reduce waste emissions</p>	
<p>51. There is a large opportunity to capture methane emissions from landfill and use this as a beneficial fuel that does not appear to be included.</p>	<p>Refer to Strategic Waste MP. Not within the scope of this plan or Council's mandate as waste is managed regionally.</p>
<p>52. I agree that we need to reduce food waste and manage food waste more appropriately. Hackney Council in London provides bins and biodegradable bags at no cost with street collection or food waste. Perhaps a strategy similar to this.</p> <p>I would like to highlight a factor to 'food waste' which has not been addressed which must be included in the indirect emissions. Apart from the emissions generated during the disposal of food waste, the impact of food waste is directly relevant and linked to the emissions generated to create that food. The highest impact food in terms of causing climate change is animal food. For animal foods, land use, deforestation, habitat destruction, methane emissions, CFC emissions and Co2 emissions can be 20 fold more impactful than plant based foods.</p> <p>(1) https://www.pnas.org/content/115/15/3804</p> <p>These impacts continue on to when the food is wasted. This must be counted</p> <p>"The environmental costs of the current food system and the disproportionate contribution of animal-based food items to these costs are by now firmly established"(1). The less food waste from these foods the lower the calculated carbon footprint of the town will be.</p> <p>The town must also calculate the cost of food storage and loss before consumption. "Conventional food loss refers to available food that is lost before consumption, notably due to spoilage and leaky supply chains." (1). The 'loss of fresh vegetables and meat being about 30% and 40% on a mass basis, respectively' (1). Animal food products have a higher loss rate than plant based foods. Moving to a plant based diet town will result in lower emissions for food loss prior to consumption.</p> <p>This may be relevant to consider when deciding on a menu for town events. Perhaps a falafel and hummus wrap which has a very low carbon impact and low food loss rate rather than an animal based sausage with an enormous carbon footprint and a higher food loss rate.</p>	<p>Noted. Food waste comments addressed under Strategic Waste MP. Comments on menus for council events addressed in Action 1.8, Priority 1. Note that food waste by council as an organisation is limited, the majority of food waste is generated by households.</p>

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53. Good. Need to educate the wider community on why this is needed to improve compliance / cooperation.	Noted.
54. Waste emissions currently include recycling which has a poor community look at the moment. There is not sufficient assurance that recycling bins will not be diverted to land fill. The priority of the council should be to ensure there is transparency in terms of what happens to recycled waste. Organic waste bins for residents should be expedited. Encouragement for residents to reduce their organic waste and include education regarding use of worm farms for individuals to reduce their organic waste.	Noted, however carbon emissions from recycling is minimal. This is more a waste comment and addressed in the Strategic Waste Management Plan.
55. Incentive backyard composting, institute FOGO, undertake serious campaign against food waste, support Repair Labs (which was born in Vic Park), educate, educate, educate, educate - get into the schools. Look at construction waste being generated in the town. Employ good, solid waste educators, not Local Government career people, but people who really care. Advocate with State Government for recycling and closing the loop, partner with social enterprises active in waste (Greenbatch, for instance). Rubbish is one of the traditional roles that Local Government should be active in, please get to it!	Community based waste actions included in the Community priority.
56. In particular support the focus on organic waste and this should be all about the hierarchy of avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle. Didn't see mention of home composting and neighbourhood composting, this needs to be included.	Community based waste actions included in the Community priority.
Priority Area 4: Switch to low carbon and renewables	
57. Highly support the transition to renewable power & green hydrogen.	Noted.
58. Generally I support an increase in the facilities for cyclists in any form. We need safer bicycle lanes on the roads with clearer markings. We need safer bike storage areas to reduce the change of theft. Any measure to make biking safer and easier will encourage people to do so.	Noted. Active transport addressed further in the Integrated Movement Network Strategy.
59. There is a need for a faster transition to electric or hydrogen powered vehicles. Note developments in the main vehicle manufacturing countries where they will cease making petroleum powered vehicles around 2030. So there is a need to transition to these vehicles more rapidly than in the plan.	Noted, however this target has been set based upon information from the Town's Fleet team and balancing the economic investment in EVs as well as the availability of EVs that meet the Town's requirements (e.g. utility vehicles compared to conventional cars)
60. There should be a commitment that the council sources 100% of their energy from renewable sources by 2030. For action to be meaningful on climate change, an ambitious target should be set. In combination with roof top solar, battery installation and sourcing electricity from renewable sources, within 10 years there seems no reason why 100% of energy consumption could not come from renewable sources.	This was addressed as part of feedback from elected members. One of the problems with 100% renewables is the cost associated with sourcing energy during non-generating hours (with respect to solar). Currently the price of small scale wind as well as batteries is expensive, but coming down quickly. The target was increased to 50% (rather than 30) and we do anticipate the Town to achieve a greater % over the course of the Plan implementation as prices become more affordable and the research, audits and partnerships proposed in the plan are implemented. Some additional wording

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	has been included in the plan regarding our aspirational target of 100% renewables and how the supporting strategies will help the Town realise this aspirational target without adversely affecting ratepayers.
61. Show some leadership in this area, please, it's a no brainer.	Please refer to response above.
62. Support	Noted.
Priority Area 5: Respond to immediate climate change impacts	
63. In terms of Table 6, Action 5.4 - it would be good to extend best practice to UHI mitigation as a key part of both mitigation and adaptation. The risks to health from extreme heat are mentioned in the ToVP submission to the Climate Health Inquiry and more coverage could be included here.	Thanks for your feedback and that is something that we will consider further. Action 5.6 does address a component of this query.
64. In terms of off-sets - Step 2 and Step 3 (location and social and environmental benefit, p33). Priority should be given to the ToVP. For example as part of the Urban Forest Strategy and revegetation at key locations such as Jiradup Bushland and the Kensington Sandpit - in preference to programs external to the Town.	This is captured under Action 8.3
65. Generally, the more trees the better. Tree canopy cover will help many make their way around in a hotter climate, the elderly and disabled particularly.	Implementation of the Urban Forest Strategy included as action. Detail in UFS.
66. my feedback for all of these sections are, do they target the big emission generators of the organisation and is there any evidence base for these actions being effective? try to avoid token efforts and actions that look good but dont have much impact.	Yes. Actions have targeted sectors of organisation that have the biggest emissions.
67. Should also improve resilience of facilities and assets to severe weather impacts, reducing costs of repair and loss of use of facilities following impacts of major events.	Noted, new action added to plan.
68. Agree with proposed response to climate impacts. Ensuring green spaces and continuation of local plant and tree planting. Planning for increased temperatures and residents who will need support should also be included.	Actions in the Plan address this point, including under Priority 6.
69. Support	Noted.
Priority Area 6: Support and educate our community	
70. There appears to be an opportunity to improve the direct incentivisation for community improvements (e.g. subsidized batteries or PV systems, similar to the CCTV program; or have a tiered Rates structure, where positive climate behaviours are rewarded with lower Rates, and negative climate behaviours result in higher Rates).	Action relating to investigation of incentives proposed.
71. This is absolutely imperative	Noted.
72. To offer assistance and guidance related to the issues I have raised related to the problem with animal foods, there are things which can be done to support and educate our community in this area: Plant based cooking assistance, such a guides, either in paper form or online. This would include a range or recipes and shopping guides. Plant based cooking classes which community members can participate in.	Not within the scope of this plan. Suggested this is more a community based initiative.

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<p>Primarily or entirely plant based food at Victoria Park events to encourage people to try new foods. A wide and varied range should be available, including substitute 'meat style' for those who may want something familiar.</p>	
<p>73. Agree. Badly needed. However facilities such as improved access to electric charging stations (now) and hydrogen facilities (future) will help encourage the community to act.</p>	<p>Noted. A new action relating to the investigation of electric vehicle infrastructure has been included in the report.</p>
<p>74. Leadership to lead the discussion on climate change is vital to show the community that local government identifies climate change as a major policy priority. Education should start at school but also include how residents can be involved and information on the Council website.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>75. There is so much that can be done here, if the Town is willing to truly partner with and support community organisations and local businesses working in that space. Again, employ waste educators, get into the schools, be everywhere with a sustainability message. It needs to be at the core of the Town as an organisation, though, so it's transformational and not tokenistic.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>76. This is very important. I believe that face to face training and support is much better (though more expensive) than online mechanisms. Behaviour change is more likely with intensive support.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Priority 7: Support and educate our businesses</p>	
<p>77. There appears to be an opportunity to improve the direct incentivisation for business improvements (e.g. a tiered Rates structure, where positive climate behaviours are rewarded with lower Rates, and negative climate behaviours result in higher Rates).</p> <p>Another opportunity is to incentivise climate-beneficial behaviours through the Development Approval process as well.</p>	<p>Action relating to investigation of incentives proposed.</p>
<p>78. My recommendations for Victoria Park businesses to reduce their carbon emissions is related to their participation in animal agriculture. It would seem that a large percentage of Victoria Park businesses are restaurants, or places that sell food. My recommendation is to incentivize plant based vending. A plant based restaurant or supermarket would not only result in enormously less emissions in the agricultural processes and transportation of the produce, but also the wasted would be less significant in terms of emissions due to the lower cost of production and wasted rate.</p> <p>This could be in the form of subsidies for plant based businesses, potentially in the form of a subsidized rent, subsidized council rates or a subsidy delivered in some kind in recognition of their contribution to lowering the impact on the environment and greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>This would act as an incentive for entrepreneurs to establish new plant based businesses. A subsidy or a bursary could be considered to assist those wishing to establish a fully plant based restaurant or grocers.</p> <p>A subsidy for grocers that reduce or eliminate their animal food stock must be considered.</p>	<p>The Town will investigate incentivisation mechanisms, as is flagged in actions such as 7.3 and 7.11.</p> <p>The information you have provided is useful and could be included in business education and behaviour change programs.</p>

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<p>A subsidy could also be considered to offer those already existing restaurants to reduce the animal food options on their menus and replace them with plant based options. The subsidy could be equal to the ratio of options on offer.</p> <p>Additionally, and perhaps a less appealing, but no less practical and effective approach, a tax could be introduced to charge to those businesses with a high 'red meat', 'dairy' and animal food in general content on their menus.</p> <p>https://ourworldindata.org/food-choice-vs-eating-local</p> <p>The above link details the findings that 'beef' stands to cause near 30 times the impact of in terms of emissions compared to plant based foods. Other animal foods such as cheese can be around 15 times the impact that plant foods.</p> <p>For a business to reduce their emissions, there is no single most effective way other than changing the menu.</p> <p>For more general strategies focused on education, guides and information sheets could be circulated to businesses, offering education on the benefits of a plant based menu.</p>	
79. Agree. Badly needed. I have been heavily involved in this in the financial sector where the current level of knowledge is poor.	Noted.
80. Local businesses need support to reduce their emissions, businesses who rent should have council support to move to renewable power / installation of solar / use of heat pumps to heat water / reduce use of gas in buildings. Liaising between council and business to achieve this shift is vital.	Noted.
81. As above	Noted.
82. Agree but i think businesses will need to see the economic benefits so this needs to be included in any support/programs/training etc.	Noted.
Priority Area 8: Offset residual emissions	
83. This should be the last resort, but agree that emissions that cannot be mitigated should be offset.	Noted.
<p>84. Eating red meat for a year is the equivalent of a long haul flight. To offset flights, offering no red meat at Victoria Park events would be a cost effective way to offset all air travel by 2025. It would likely save money on the long run as well.</p> <p>A range of falafel, seitan and tofu based options could be considered, as well as curried potatoes, roasted potatoes, or vegetable kababs.</p>	Not applicable to offset priority.
85. Agree. Note the above point also applies here as well.	Noted.
86. Agree with plan.	Noted.
87. Yep, last resort.	Noted.
88. Would like to see that residual emissions are less than suggested here. The Plan suggests around 51% residual, this is much more than a residual amount. If possible incorporate our Urban Forest Strategy canopy as part of the carbon offsets. Could the town offer offsets if companies invest in planting in the town?	Action relating to the quantification of UFS impact on sequestration potential is proposed.

Comment	Town of Victoria Park response
Community Action Plan	
<p>89. While the information is useful, I don't see this as driving behavioural change in any meaningful way. There needs to be more direct incentives / penalties to truly drive change.</p>	<p>This section of the document is a standalone educational document. Actions relating to the Town's influence are included in the Council Action Plan.</p>
<p>90. p35 The comment "There is more than one tree per home on private land" is clearly an average, and in fact there are many homes in the ToVP that have no trees. Averages are not useful for determining health risk associated with UHI. In addition, while the tree planting programs on public land are fantastic they should be considered in the context of the loss of tree canopy on private land. Are the tree canopy target in Vic Park achievable if the loss on private land is taken into account? The importance of tree canopy in terms of energy savings and C footprint should also be considered.</p>	<p>This is outside the scope of this plan and addressed in the UFS.</p>
<p>91. I appreciate the inclusion of 'Eat more fruit and Veg' in 7.3 'Reducing your emissions', however, there needs to be more detail. You must go into further detail about the specific foods that are low emission and an essential and beneficial inclusion in a diet. Nuts and seeds are mission. Nuts are commonly carbon NEGATIVE. https://ourworldindata.org/food-choice-vs-eating-local Eating nuts mitigates carbon emissions from other parts of the home. Plant based protein comes in the form of beans, lentils, tofu, quinoa, potatoes and chia seeds. Just an addition of a few more options in your plan could be the difference between someone understanding the practicality and unitality of a plant based diet. I understand why you suggested 'Meat Free Monday' and a 'Weekday Vegetarian or Vegan' plan, as I am aware people can be very cautious and anxious to change their diets, especially if they do not know a great deal about nutritional science or not a confident chef. That is why it is so important to offer clear help and guidance, and be precise in recommendations, offering varied and specific examples like you did with 'chickpeas', but there must be more. People shouldn't think that chickpeas are the only option. I understand the 'reduce' message and the 'two thirds of meals' recommendation, it being a significant part of peoples diets, but the facts of the matter are, we have 9 years now. We haven't got long. We don't have time to do this at only 60% effort. Can we just care about ours and our children's futures only on Mondays? Can we just care about our beautiful land and utterly unique fauna and flora only on weekdays, and then to heck with it on the weekend? You could at least suggest at the end, in addition to the 'reduction' messages: '... or, if you wish to significantly reduce your emissions you could eliminate animal foods and adopt a plant based diet, as it has been found in a recent Oxford study to be a suitable, and in many ways, superiorly healthy, diet for all stages of life.' https://www.pnas.org/content/116/46/23357</p>	<p>Whilst this detail is appreciated, this is an individual's decision and considered outside the scope of this plan. This information is useful and could be included in community education and behaviour change programs. A slight change in wording has been added to the report.</p>

Comment	Town of Victoria Park response
<p>I think this is at least warranted due to the severity of the situation. Suggesting to reduce is all well and good, but you must ALSO at least recommend eliminating animal foods entirely as well.</p>	
<p>92. if community members installed solar panels and stopped clearing trees on their lots then we would be in a much better position than we are. dont be afraid to tell people that the Town is extremely limited on its ability to impact this issue when compared to the actions that the community can take.</p>	<p>Noted. This section of the document is a standalone educational document. Actions relating to the Town's influence are included in the Council Action Plan.</p>
<p>93. Having the council lobbying for improved public transport systems would help here. For example, a renewables powered light rail system joining the Optus Stadium with the town centre with spur lines to Curtin University and maybe Carousel would reduce the need for use of cars within the Town. Also setting up community solar power storage battery systems would provide further incentives for the community to expand solar installations. Also note there are opportunities to expand the use of wind power generation.</p>	<p>This section of the document is a standalone educational document. Actions relating to the Town's influence are included in the Council Action Plan.</p>
<p>94. There needs to be more visible reporting of council and residential energy use and promotion through education, local magazines, online resources and monetary incentives from the council to encourage change of behaviour.</p>	<p>This section of the document is a standalone educational document. Actions relating to the Town's influence are included in the Council Action Plan.</p>
<p>95. I support the action plan as is.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>96. The community will give you opinions, but show some leadership! There is engagement fatigue in Vic Park - you cannot expect the community to comment on everything and be an expert on every single plan. That's why you employ consultants. On top of that, you will always have divergent opinions in the community, there will always be people who think you shouldn't go beyond RRR. Without bold action because the Town knows it's the right, moral thing to do, nothing will ever get done. Be a leader and show the way, people will come along.</p>	<p>Noted. The Town values the input of our community, which is particularly important on such critical issues such as climate change. The Town acts on behalf of our community, so we will always give our community an opportunity to be engaged and have their say.</p>
<p>97. Generally support but needs to be around behaviour change not just awareness raising. The move from awareness to behaviour change is difficult so requires intensive work</p>	<p>This section of the document is a standalone educational document. Actions relating to the Town's influence are included in the Council Action Plan.</p>
<p>Business Action Plan</p>	
<p>98. While the information is useful, I don't see this as driving behavioural change in any meaningful way. There needs to be more direct incentives / penalties to truly drive change.</p>	<p>This section of the document is a standalone educational document. Actions relating to the Town's influence are included in the Council Action Plan.</p>
<p>99. The large businesses such as Crown, Optus Stadium and Cafes could reduce their emissions by altering their menus to a majority or entirely plant based.</p> <p>This would have a significant impact on their waste emissions, as explained above, the waste from a plant based produce carries less emissions due to its production compared to a animal food waste, which carried the baggage of significantly higher emissions.</p> <p>Again, this production based emissions baggage MUST be added to the calculations. The ratio of animal/plant based emissions is relevant as to how much impact that waste has.</p>	<p>Not considered within the scope of this plan. As above. This section of the document is a standalone educational document. Actions relating to the Town's influence are included in the Council Action Plan.</p>

Comment	Town of Victoria Park response
Encourage businesses to offer fully plant based catering for events, functions and visitors. This would reduce their emissions enormously.	
100. focusing on the big polluters and seeing how the Town can impact them financially via procurement or other means is really the only way i see action being effective, i dont think business will do anything unless there is a clear financial benefit to them.	As above.
101. As above. Probably also promote moved to hydrogen powered commercial vehicles once the infrastructure is available to support his.	As above.
102. More than providing information, the council should actively engage business owners to promote changes in energy, reduction in paper / plastic / waste and ways business can change to be part of the climate response.	As above.
103. I support the action plan as is.	Noted.
104. Same as above	Noted.
105. As above and economic benefits needs to be highlighted	Noted.

