

Environment Advisory Committee



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Type	Advisory Committee
Purpose	To represent interests pertaining to all aspects of urban environmental sustainability including (but not limited to) climate change; resource efficiency across water, waste and energy; urban greening and natural capital; local food systems; and the built environment, by providing advice to Council on policy, strategy and other strategic opportunities to progress the organisation's response to these issues.
Objectives	<p>To capitalise on the knowledge, experience and skills available in the Yarra community to provide advice to Council in respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging and evolving environmental sustainability issues, challenges and opportunities relevant to the City of Yarra; • The delivery of its Council Plan in relation to environmental sustainability issues; • Development and strategic implementation of environment-related council strategies, including (but not limited to) the Yarra Environment Strategy, Climate Emergency Plan, Waste Minimisation and Resource Recovery Strategy, Urban Agriculture Strategy, Urban Forest Strategy, Nature Strategy and Integrated Water Strategy (as updated from time-to-time); • Key policy development on relevant issues; • Design and delivery of specific environment sustainability programs and projects by Council; • Engagement with the wider City of Yarra community to build awareness of environmental sustainability issues and activities; • Identifying strategic opportunities to collaborate with other organisations and groups to progress initiatives related to environmental sustainability issues. <p>From time to time, to establish working groups to further support the Committee in advising Council in specific policy areas or projects, such as responding to the climate emergency, waste minimisation, and urban agriculture and nature.</p>
Membership	<p>Two Councillors plus 16 community members made up of a minimum of two members from each the following specific subject areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate emergency • Waste management • Local food systems • Biodiversity and nature • Water
Chair	The Chair shall alternate between the two appointed Councillors.
Selection Criteria	<p>Council seeks applicants with an ability to work collaboratively with other members and Council, a strong interest and proven understanding of local environmental sustainability issues.</p> <p>Applicants will be selected on the basis of their capacity to form a committee with the following attributes:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity of environmental interests and knowledge including climate change; waste; transport; community development; engagement and behaviour change; urban agriculture; biodiversity; water; and built environment, or • Technical knowledge and experience in one of the following subject areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Climate emergency ○ Energy ○ Waste management ○ Local food systems ○ Biodiversity and nature ○ Water • Representation of members of different local community groups; • Representation of a variety of sectors in the municipality, including community agencies, business, education, and interested citizens; • A mix of skills and attributes to complement other members of the Committee.
Meeting arrangements	Meetings six times per year.
Departures from the Council Committees Policy	<p>The following additional provisions apply to this Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee may establish working groups, each of which must include at least one Advisory Committee member and may include additional co-opted members appointed by the Secretariat.