

Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan

Wednesday, 10 May 2023

Audit and Risk Committee

Strategic Alignment - Environmental Leadership

Program Contact:

Associate Director Park Lands,
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Public

Approving Officer:

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Shaping

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the Audit and Risk Committee with a progress update on the implementation of the Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan 2021-2026, for the third quarter of the 2022-2023 financial year. There are 95 actions listed in the Climate Risk Adaptation Action Plan for delivery between 2021-2026. A total of 15 actions have been completed to date.

As highlighted in the quarter two update, a re-timing process has been required for some actions within quarter three. Post re-timing, there are now 28 actions due in 2022/2023, 34 due in 2023/2024, 13 due in 2024/2025 and 20 due in 2025/2026 (5 of which are ongoing actions).

Progress highlights for the third quarter include, commencing energy efficiency and climate resilience audits of community centres and libraries, an analysis of the effects of predicted increases in heat and heatwaves on Rundle Mall economic activity and options to assist shading and cooling to maintain vibrancy and viability, a detailed investigation of the existing stormwater assets as phase one of a Resilient Flood Planning project funded by the Federal Government, an analysis of the climate change resilience of existing and alternative tree species, and the design of a community engagement campaign pertaining to the benefits of trees and canopy.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

1. Notes the report.
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IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2020-2024 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Environmental Leadership The City of Adelaide (CoA) 2020-2024 Strategic Plan includes an outcome to be a 'climate ready organisation and community'.
Policy	Not as a result of this report
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	City of Adelaide's exposure to corporate climate change governance, physical and transition risks were identified in the Climate Change Risk Assessment Report. Delivery of the Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan (Plan) 2021-2026 seeks to reduce this exposure.
Opportunities	The Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan includes actions to integrate climate risk into governance documents and processes, facility planning and management and service provision so risks can be managed.
22/23 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 23/24 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan will be actioned throughout 2021 to 2026 with a mid-point review in 2024 and final review of the Plan in 2026.
22/23 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

Background

1. The purpose of this report is to provide a progress update on implementation of the Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan 2021-2026, for the third quarter of the 2022-2023 financial year.
2. In 2020, CoA completed a comprehensive corporate Climate Change Risk Assessment – view [Link 1](#).
3. The Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan 2021-2026 ([Link 2](#)) was adopted by Council on 14 December 2021.
4. There are a total of 95 actions listed in the Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan 2021-2026. A total of 15 actions have been completed to date.
5. The actions are reported to the Audit and Risk Committee quarterly and are due for a mid-point review in 2024 and a final review in 2026.

Third Quarter Update

6. As flagged in the Quarter two update, a re-timing process has been required for some actions within Quarter three to ensure resourcing and related projects align for the success of the overall Action Plan.
7. The Steering Committee considered the re-timing of 24 actions at its meeting on 28 March 2023.
8. Of the 24 actions re-timed, four actions have been re-timed to be completed by 30 June 2023, nine actions have been re-timed to the 2023/2024 financial year, five actions have been re-timed to the 2025/2026 financial year and six re-timed to the 2025/2026 financial year (five of these are ongoing / continuing actions).
9. A summary table of the actions re-timed in quarter three of 2022/2023 and their status at 31 March 2023 is provided – view [Link 3](#).
10. Post re-timing, there are now 28 action due in 2022/2023, 34 due in 2023/2024, 13 due in 2024/2025 and 20 due in 2025/2026 (5 of which are ongoing actions).
11. Of the 28 due to be completed by June 2023, 15 are complete, nine are in progress and four are not started.
 - 11.1. The nine 'in progress' actions are expected to be completed by the 30 June 2023.
 - 11.2. Three of the four actions 'not started' are expected to have been commenced by the 30 June 2023. The commencement of the remaining action (5.11) is dependent on the completion of actions 4.6 and 5.6 which are 'in progress'.
12. A summary table of the actions due to be completed in 2022/2023 and their status at 31 March 2023 is provided – view [Link 4](#).
13. Key highlights for the third quarter include:
 - 13.1. The process for an audit of key CoA buildings (Community Centres and Libraries) to identify energy efficiency and climate resilience needs and opportunities commenced, in response to Actions 1.2 - *By June 2023, complete an audit of the key sites relating to energy efficiency and building thermal efficiency improvements, including active and passive cooling measures*, and in preparation for 1.9 - *By December 2023, review and revise any available reports that assess risk for specific key sites to ensure that they adequately consider climate change*.
 - 13.2. Commencement of the process for an analysis of the effects of predicted increases in heat and heatwaves on Rundle Mall economic activity and options to assist shading and cooling to maintain vibrancy and viability, in response to Action 2.3 - *By June 2023, prepare a cost-benefit analysis of cooling options installation, management, and economic impacts of encouraging people into the Mall on hot days*.
 - 13.3. Commencement of detailed investigations of existing stormwater assets as phase one of a Resilient Flood Planning project funded by the Federal Government, in response to Action 3.2 *By December 2023, leverage delivery of existing projects to create consolidated drainage models*, and 3.13 *By December 2024, undertake a survey of Council's drainage system to determine the current condition of the system and the need for future replacement/upgrade*.
 - 13.3.1. The Resilient Flood Planning project will, over the next 3 years, which involve surveying existing assets, developing accurate modelling, and setting stormwater service levels with community in order to plan and deliver a more climate resilient stormwater system.
 - 13.3.2. CoA was awarded a \$3.722M Preparing Australian Communities Program Grant from the National Recovery and Resilience Agency in 2022 to undertake the 3-year project.

- 13.4. An analysis of the climate change resilience of existing and alternative tree species commenced, in response to Action 4.1 - *By June 2023, review current species planting list and revise to ensure a more climate resilient species mix.* These findings will be useful for on the ground decision making, Asset Planning and will inform Action 4.2 - *By December 2023 develop and endorse an Urban Forest / Urban Greening Strategy, with the aim of increasing canopy cover, and the diversity and resilience of plantings.*
- 13.5. A community engagement campaign pertaining to the benefits of trees and canopy is in design, in response to Action 4.3 - *By December 2023, develop a targeted community engagement and education program relating to increase canopy cover and plantings diversity selected within the CoA area.* This relates to Action 4.2 - *By December 2023 develop and endorse an Urban Forest / Urban Greening Strategy, with the aim of increasing canopy cover, and the diversity and resilience of plantings.*

Next Quarter Actions

14. Key actions expected to be progressed next quarter, in addition to those highlighted above, include:
 - 14.1. Completing an audit of trees species in the Park Lands (street tree audit already complete)
 - 14.2. Developing a training program for working in heat conditions for outdoor employees
 - 14.3. Collaborating with State Government about alerts for those experiencing homelessness when an extreme rain event is notified.
 - 14.4. Enhancing communication approaches and community reach regarding existing programs (offered by State Government) that can be utilised by people experiencing homelessness during extreme weather conditions.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – Climate Change Risk Assessment June 2020

Link 2 – Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan 2021-2026

Link 3 - Climate Risk Adaptation Action Plan - Summary of Actions Re-timed in Q3 of 2022/2023

Link 4 – Climate Risk Adaptation Action Plan Q2 2022-23 progress summary table

ATTACHMENTS

Nil