

# Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan

Friday, 3 February 2023

Audit and Risk Committee

Strategic Alignment - Environmental Leadership

**Program Contact:**

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Public

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Shaping

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## 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 second quarter of the 2022-2023 financial year. At the 28 October 2022 Audit and Risk Committee it was requested that progress of the Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan 2021-2026, be reported in more detail.

There are 95 actions listed in the Climate Risk Adaptation Action Plan. 43 of these actions are due to be completed in 2022-2023. Of the 43 actions due to be completed by end of June 2023, 15 are complete, 18 are in progress and 10 are not started. Of those not started all are planned to commence this financial year with the exception of one action which is reliant on a change to State Government Legislation. Of the actions in progress and not started, 13 are being reviewed against their initial completion date and will be reviewed, restructured and retimed during quarter three.

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## 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	<b>Strategic Alignment – Environmental Leadership</b> 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	CoA exposure to corporate climate change governance, physical and transition risks were identified in the Climate Change Risk Assessment Report. Actioning the Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan (Plan) 2021-2026 will 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

1. In 2020, CoA completed a comprehensive corporate Climate Change Risk Assessment – view [Link 1](#).
  - 1.1. The assessment considered organisational risks pertaining to governance and physical assets and services arising from climate change, and risks and opportunities posed to the organisation by a transition to a low carbon economy.
  - 1.2. Eight key governance related improvement opportunities, and 283 physical and 32 transitional risks were identified in the assessment.
2. In 2021, a climate change risk adaptation action planning process was undertaken to address the highest risks.
3. The Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan 2021-2026 ([Link 2](#)) was adopted by Council on 14 December 2021.
4. Actions in the Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan 2021-2026 are prioritised for implementation based on multi-criteria assessment including consideration of organisation capacity and budget impact.
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.
6. At the 28 October 2022 Audit and Risk Committee it was requested that quarterly progress on the Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan 2021-2026, be reported in more detail.
7. A summary list of the actions due to be completed in 2022-2023 and their status as of 31 December 2022 is provided – view [Link 3](#).
8. In summary, of the 95 actions in total, 43 are due to be completed by June 2023. Of these actions, 15 are complete, 18 are in progress and 10 are not started. Of the actions in progress and not started, 13 are at risk of not meeting the initial deadline and will be reviewed and retimed during quarter three.
  - 8.1. One additional action has been completed ahead of schedule as follows:
    - 8.1.1. Action G7 *Endorse a Climate Change Risk Adaptation Action Plan and integrate risks into existing CoA governance risk management processes.*
  - 8.2. Key highlights for the quarter include:
    - 8.2.1. Community consultation on the draft CoA Climate Change Policy, in response to Action G8 - *Consider the development of a Climate Change Policy*. The consultation feedback is scheduled to be presented to Council in the first half of 2023.
    - 8.2.2. A staying cool campaign was run in conjunction with Boxing Day promotions for Rundle Mall in response to Action 2.1 - *By December 2022, develop and implement promotion/campaign centred on the Rundle Mall as a cool refuge during heat wave events (eg "we're still cool" campaign)*.
    - 8.2.3. CoA tree canopy data is being measured for 2022 for comparison with the 2015 baseline in response 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*. A consultancy to develop an Urban Greening Strategy was also awarded in December 2023.
    - 8.2.4. Gathering up to date data pertaining to species and condition of all city street trees to facilitate improved asset management has occurred, in response to Action 4.6 - *By June 2023, complete a full audit of trees and species planted in the public spaces within the city and its parklands*. Data on Park Lands trees is being gathered in 2023.
    - 8.2.5. Research conducted in collaboration with Adelaide University regarding employee safety and wellbeing in the heat was finalised, in response to Action 5.1 - *By December 2022, commence implementation of the Safety and Wellbeing research (currently underway) into workplace heat management*.
    - 8.2.6. Action 5.7, *To produce a validated work zone map indicating high/medium/low risk areas for heat exposure and a matrix which can be used for the allocation and prioritisation of activities during forecast heatwaves/extreme heat events*, has also been completed. The identification of cool refuges, development of a protocol for reallocating outdoor employees during extreme heat conditions and review of the safe work heat policy has commenced.

- 8.2.7. As part of the Homelessness and Vulnerable People Project communication of State Government extreme weather alerts (code red and code blue) has increased. A partnership has been formed with the LGA to better formalise response to extreme weather, in response to Action 8.1 - *By December 2022, approach the State Government to request CoA be involved in extreme weather planning* and Action 8.3 - *By December 2022, partner with the LGA to formalise an approach to people experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable community members*.
9. Key actions expected to be progressed next quarter include; audit of key CoA buildings to identify energy efficiency and climate resilience needs and opportunities, commencement of a detailed investigation of existing stormwater assets as phase one of the Resilient Flood Planning project; and the development of a community engagement campaign pertaining to the benefits of trees and canopy.
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## 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 Q2 2022-23 progress summary table

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## ATTACHMENTS

Nil

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