



City of Charles Sturt Community Emission Reduction Workshop Outcomes Summary

11th November 2022

Introduction

This document provides a summary of the community stakeholder engagement undertaken to collate residents' feedback and perceptions for the City of Charles Sturt Community Emissions Reduction Project and identify community emissions reduction initiatives which should be considered by the Council.

Community Member Presentations

Two residents provided presentations to attendees on their own community initiatives to encourage productive gardening and recycling.

David – Sustainable West

Volunteer organized recycling stations for items such as batteries, CD cases, glasses and oral care.



Brooklyn – Mudge Way Community Garden

Created a food garden with local residents on an underutilized reserve through working bees, bringing together community to share produce and cooking.



Stakeholder input

A community workshop session was held on the 25th of October 2022 to review the emissions reduction opportunities for the City of Charles Sturt community. Attendees at the workshop and contributors to this summary included over 15 residents.

Attendees were invited to provide feedback and ideas on how the community could reduce emissions for the following topics:

- Buildings
- Transport
- Waste + Circular Economy
- Renewable Energy
- Greening + Food
- Sustainable Buying
- Conversations



Community Workshop



Community Feedback



How can buildings consume less electricity and gas by improving energy efficiency?

Education/Awareness Campaign

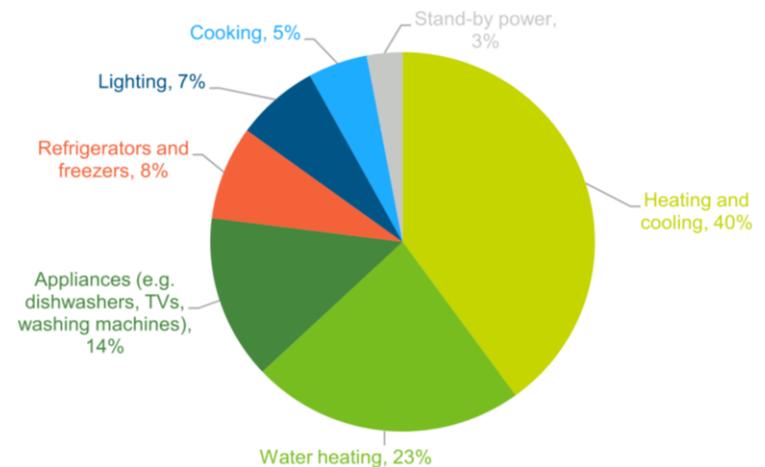
- Council to promote local green building case studies and showcase long term operational cost savings by designing and building sustainably.
- A 'What to ask your Builder' checklist for sustainability and energy efficiency.
- Facilitate a trusted Advisory Service and providers for the community building new homes
- Information on retrofitting for existing homes

New Development

- Encourage developers to provide information on operational costs of home designs and alternative options (i.e. comparison between gas instantaneous and electric heat pump hot water system), not just upfront costs.
- Implement a subdivision levy to raise revenue for improving greenspace
- Include sustainable design principles review/checklist when approving new development applications.
- Update Development Guidelines to increase requirements for sustainable building.
- Implement increased NatHERS Star ratings for new builds and renovations, above National Construction Code minimum (above 7 Stars)
- Restrict new gas connections, encouraging all-electric designs

Energy Efficiency

- Provide financial incentives such as grants, rebates, Green Loan schemes or reduced/discounted council rates for improving energy efficiency in homes, for example,
 - Installation of solar/batteries
 - Divesting from gas
 - Native gardens
 - Installing rainwater tanks
 - Double glazing/window upgrades
- Introduce climate levy for residents, that can be reduced through sustainable practices.
- Implement mandatory disclosure of NatHERS energy rating when houses are sold.



How can the community switch to sustainable transport options?

Cycling + Walking

- Bike repair workshops and tool kiosks to encourage the uptake of cycling and to educate the community of bike repairs and maintenance.
- Improve cycling infrastructure to create well-connected, continuous and separated cycling lanes. Expand the current bike lane network.
- Provide covered walking and cycling routes for all-weather access
- Improve park and ride facilities
- Install bike lockers near popular hubs, i.e. shopping centers



Vehicles

- Support, new EV charging infrastructure through installation and funding.
- Transition council fleet vehicles to electric options, to stimulate second-hand EV market in the future for residents
- Reduce on-street carparking to discourage private vehicle use
- Information on transition to EVs.

Public Transport

- Promote public transport and review routes
- Remove charges for taking bikes on public transport



How can the community reduce waste to landfill?

Resource Recovery

- Increased support/expansion of 'Sustainable West' initiative and make recycling easier to do. For example, incorporate recycling station in new Henley Community Centre and at all libraries.
- Council to fund 'hard to recycle' items long-term through schemes such as Terracycle, or encourage local business to offer these schemes, for example:
 - Beauty products
 - Blister pack
 - Garden pots
 - Clothing
- Implement 'Special Recycling Weeks' as part of kerbside collection or increased drop off points, for items such as:
 - Batteries
 - Pots and Pans
 - Timber
 - Solar panels
 - Appliances
- Facilitate community recycling/swap sessions
- Reduce recycling costs to residents at Beverley Recycling Centre, to discourage putting recyclables into landfill bins
- Implement Green Bin collections weekly and landfill collections fortnightly (optional)
- Incentives to households for reduction in kerbside landfill collection

Education/Awareness Campaign

- Incentives to households for reduction in kerbside landfill collection
- Provide education opportunities to residents on circular economy, recycling and household waste management and correct bin use, including 'Street Talks'.
- Information provided about how to recycle difficult items locally through reputable companies, in particular gas appliances and renovation items, for example:
 - Solar Panels
 - Gas Stoves
 - Gas heaters
 - Gas hot water heaters
 - Polystyrene
 - Clothing

Community Sharing

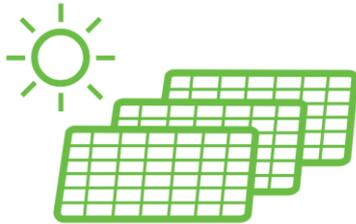
- Food swaps within the community to reduce food waste and provide access to fresh produce.
- Support local 'Repair Cafes'



How can buildings switch to renewable energy solutions?

Solar Targets + Infrastructure

- Household solar PV target of 60% (increase from 37.2%)
- Propose a demonstration suburb to 100% electrify
- Mandate infrastructure provisions for future solar PV and batteries in new development.
- Install community battery that does FCAs (spot market).
Implement for commercial/industrial businesses to make use of their High Voltage connection.



Households with solar PV

37.2%

City of
Charles
Sturt

41%

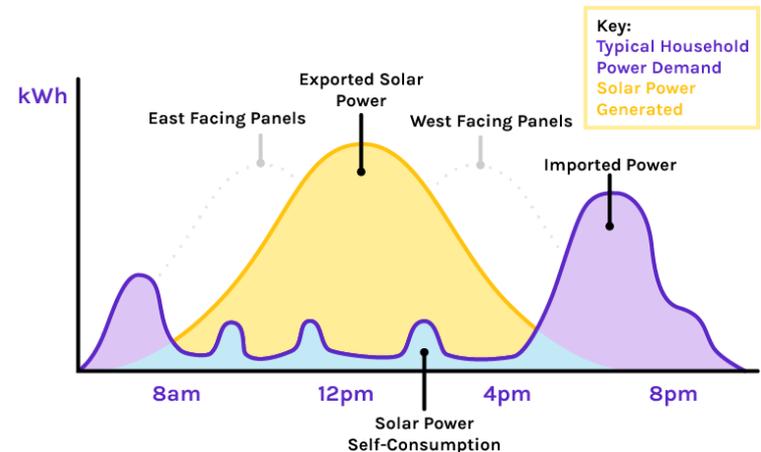
South
Australia

**= 81MW household solar PV
in City of Charles Sturt**

Education + Resources

- Provide information to residents on home batteries and solar, including recommended installers, energy usage patterns, types of solar, links to information sources and calculators

SOLAR POWER SELF-CONSUMPTION



How can communities increase landscaping and food production?

Food Waste Recovery

- Council support or sponsorship to food waste reduction/recovery initiatives
- Support food waste re-use to homeless persons
- City of Burnside example - check and label bins with ☺ or ☹ if landfill is full of food waste

Verges + Reserves

- Council leading by example in how to 'green' public areas using endemic plants and water sensitive urban design
- Increase permeable paving
- Encourage canopy increase in vacant spaces
- Rejuvenate poor vegetation areas by contracting for fruit and vegetable production in those areas
 - Grants/support to convert verge to plants or trees to reduce urban heat island effect
 - Broaden 'Verges Alive' initiative
 - Transition corner reserves into urban forests



Schools

- Primary school children to propagate and plant trees annually
- Give schools tree planting grants on campus
- Projects to enhance applied learning (e.g. Edible Gardens)



**GREEN
A
ELAIDE**

Assistance in the Home

- Reduced council rates for homes that demonstrate >15-20% green cover/green canopy
- Ban on artificial turf/grass
- Assistance to residents to set up vegetable gardens at home (e.g. setting up beds and bringing in soil)
- Incentives to plant biodiverse gardens
 - Offer free or subsidized native plants to improve biodiversity
 - Change current monoculture vegetation – more bushes/smaller plants
- Increased restrictions on tree removal on private land

How can the community make ethical and sustainable purchases?

Raise Awareness + Transparency

- Increase awareness of where products are being bought from.
- Informed consent for new home buyers – transparency for sustainable features and options



Select 'in-season' locally grown fruits and vegetables.



Purchase from brands with third-party certifications confirming ethical standards. Look out for the logos.

I CHOOSE SA



#ichoosesa

Purchase from local suppliers and shops, reducing transport associated emissions.



Investigate second hand, rather than buying new, for example:

- Online local 'buy, swap, sell' marketplaces
- Local 'buy nothing' group
- Op shops and second hand stores

How can the community support each other and increase awareness on climate action?

Education/Awareness Campaign

- Comprehensive educational material and links on council website to debunk mis-information and highlight up front cost versus operational cost of emissions reduction initiatives
- Signs with emissions reduction or recycling ideas placed in the community
- Use arts or artists as tools to help educate the community
- Council to promote consultants, experts, advisory services for residents, particularly for new building applications.
- Review panel to vet businesses (e.g. solar installers)
- Promotion of the benefits of keeping food waste from landfill
- Communication to be multilingual
- 'Good News' stories promoted on social media platforms
- Council endorsement/encouragement of key initiatives for the community/residents

Engagement

- Increase marketing of community workshops/programs to reach more residents and offer broader sessions times and dates (i.e. during the day, weekends) to maximize engagement.
- Online forums/groups
- One-on-one discussions, particularly to residents building and renovating homes, to increase understanding of sustainable options available.

Leadership

- Education for elected members on climate issues and emissions reduction strategies
- Survey prospective councilors on environmental and climate issues (green credentials) to enable residents to be informed when voting in council elections
- Implement 'Suburb Representatives' who can be point of contact for local interested residents to participate/volunteer in community projects



Partnership Projects

- Integrate council internship projects with tertiary institutions and the council's emissions reduction strategies

**Net Zero by
2030**

**75%
Emissions
Reduction by
2030**

**Net Zero
ASAP**

**Net Zero by
2040**

**60%
Emissions
Reduction by
2030**

Emissions Target

50-60% Emissions reduction by 2025-2030
Net Zero Emissions by 2030-2040

**80%
Emissions
Reduction**

**50%
Emissions
Reduction by
2030**

**50%
Emissions
Reduction by
2025**

**Carbon
neutral by
2040**



Your Home – Australia’s Guide to Environmentally Sustainable Homes

<https://www.yourhome.gov.au/>

Energy Rating

<https://www.energyrating.gov.au/>

Water Rating

<https://www.waterrating.gov.au/>

Renew E-Books on Sustainable Living

<https://renew.org.au/what-we-do/publications/>

Canstar Blue – Energy Connection & Disconnection Fee Explained

<https://www.canstarblue.com.au/gas/connection-disconnection-charges/#disconnection>

Greenpeace Green Electricity Guide

<https://greenelectricityguide.org.au/>

Make the Switch

<https://maketheswitch.org.au/how-to-switch/>

SA Government Energy Advisory Service

<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/energy-and-environment/energy-advice-and-education/energy-advisory-service>

My Cool Home – Adapt West

<https://www.adaptwest.com.au/my-cool-home>

Ecospecifier

www.ecospecifier.com.au

Global GreenTag

<https://www.globalgreentag.com/>

Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA)

<https://geca.eco/>

Carpet Institute of Australia, Environmental Certification Scheme

<https://www.carpetinstitute.com.au/environmental/>

Clean Energy Council Approved Solar Retailer

<https://www.cleanenergycouncil.org.au/consumers/buying-solar/find-an-approved-solar-retailer>

Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS)

<https://www.nathers.gov.au/>

National Construction Code (NCC)

<https://ncc.abcb.gov.au/>

Tankulator - Rainwater Tank Calculator

<http://tankulator.ata.org.au/>

Sustainable House Day

<https://sustainablehouseday.com/>

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