

## OUR BUILT ENVIRONMENT

### HOW CAN WE LIVE GREENER?

The City of Charles Sturt is an urban environment with over 44,000 households and 8,000 businesses within an area of around 56 square kms. Council itself owns over 200 buildings and over 200 hectares of irrigated areas, including 160 ha of open turf area and 53 ha of sporting grounds.

Each and every building and home uses water and energy, as well as depending on its waste being managed or removed properly.

#### Some issues already raised

- Government incentives for energy and water efficiency have been reduced.
- Low financial incentive to upgrade premises where Council's tenants (i.e sports clubs & community groups) pay the energy bills.
- Streetlights are a big energy user but Council has low influence over the types of technologies used.
- Need to prepare for impacts of climate change i.e. more frequent and hotter heat waves, higher intensity rain, sea level rise.
- Some recyclable waste is still going to landfill i.e. food waste, waste from higher density developments, and difficult wastes (such as mattresses).

#### Things we could do

- Provide targeted information, on-site services, and specific support to local businesses and residents on energy, waste and water efficiency.
- Help local sporting clubs and community groups to become more energy and water efficient.
- Promote and expand Council's food waste service.
- Continue to be active at creating user-friendly and equitable waste and recycling services.

What other issues or actions should we be aware of?  
What else would you like to see happening?

