

A Smarter, Better World: Energy Policy



Photo by RawFilm

Yarra Greens Policies
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We acknowledge that climate change poses one of the greatest threats to our world in human history and needs urgent local, national and global action. Having initiated the Climate Emergency Plan, we commit to implementing ambitious actions to help mitigate climate change and build resilience.

Climate emergency planning touches all areas of local government's operations, and will be considered in every decision we make.

We commit to:

Renewables uptake

- Help provide information, pathways and solutions that enable all residents, businesses and organisations to move towards a zero carbon future, through viable energy efficiency and renewable energy uptake.
- Support the installation of resilient community-scale grid systems including battery storage.
- Support mechanisms to facilitate solar installation and building upgrades for rental properties and apartment buildings.
- Ensure the continuing resourcing of the Yarra Energy Foundation as an independent not-for-profit organisation leading Yarra's transition beyond zero carbon.

Transport emissions

Help to reduce transport emissions by:

- creating walkable neighbourhoods;
- encouraging localised living through planning decisions;
- prioritising improvements to cycling and pedestrian facilities; and
- supporting the local sharing economy and event creation.
- See Yarra Greens 2020 Transport Policy for further details.

Council operations

- Lead by example by moving Yarra Council operations beyond its current carbon neutral status to become carbon positive.
- Improve energy efficiency of Council buildings.
- Transition all Council buildings away from gas.
- Encourage and enable sustainable transport by staff.
- Transition Council's vehicle fleet to 100% renewable energy.
- Ensure that Council's investments, banking and procurement services do not support companies involved in the extraction, processing or trade of fossil fuels.



Advocacy

Advocate to State Government to:

- Close coal power stations;
- Introduce a moratorium on onshore conventional gas; and
- Support the development of large and small scale renewable power sources, including locally distributed power schemes.
- Mandate and enforce more ambitious environmental standards for all new residential and commercial developments, including renewable energy and efficiency requirements, green space, water, waste and recycling.

Other actions

- Ensure that climate action is diligently undertaken as a matter of urgency and in accordance with Yarra's Climate Emergency Plan.
- To address urban heat island effect through increasing green spaces, tree canopy and green roofing.
- Support community-led action on climate change.

To find out how you can get involved in with your local greens community, or to read our other policies, please visit:

greens.org.au/vic/lga/yarra

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