



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MORELAND CITY COUNCIL

**ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
2019-20**

Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: Moreland City Council

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020

Declaration

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this Public Disclosure Statement is true and correct and meets the requirements of the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard.



Signature

Date: 13/05/2021

Name of Signatory: Victoria Hart

Position of Signatory: Unit Manager Sustainable Built Environment



Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science,
Energy and Resources

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1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

Moreland City Council is certified carbon neutral for its organisational corporate emissions, from 2012 onwards. Moreland City Council works hard to continually reduce emissions. This is demonstrated by the Zero Carbon Moreland – Climate Emergency 2040 Framework, adopted in 2018. The Framework combines three previous strategies, the Zero Carbon Evolution Strategy (2014) (ZCE), the ZCE – Refresh to 2020, and the Corporate Carbon Reduction Strategy.

Council is certified carbon neutral for its operations for the financial year 2019/20, with the baseline year 2011/12.

Council's carbon neutral certification includes the following Council entities and activities:

- Administration buildings
- Community facilities
- Childcare centres
- Theatre and art gallery
- Kindergartens
- Libraries
- Parks
- Public lighting
- Leisure/recreation centres
- Vehicle fleet
- Waste collection contractor fleet

Organisation description

Moreland City Council covers the inner and mid-northern suburbs of Melbourne. It lies between 4 and 14km north of central Melbourne and covers a diverse range of communities. Centrally located on the northern doorstep of Melbourne's CBD, Moreland is undergoing a sustained period of urban regeneration. Moreland has housing choices ranging from restored heritage cottages, modern family homes and stylish inner-urban apartments to recycled industrial buildings.

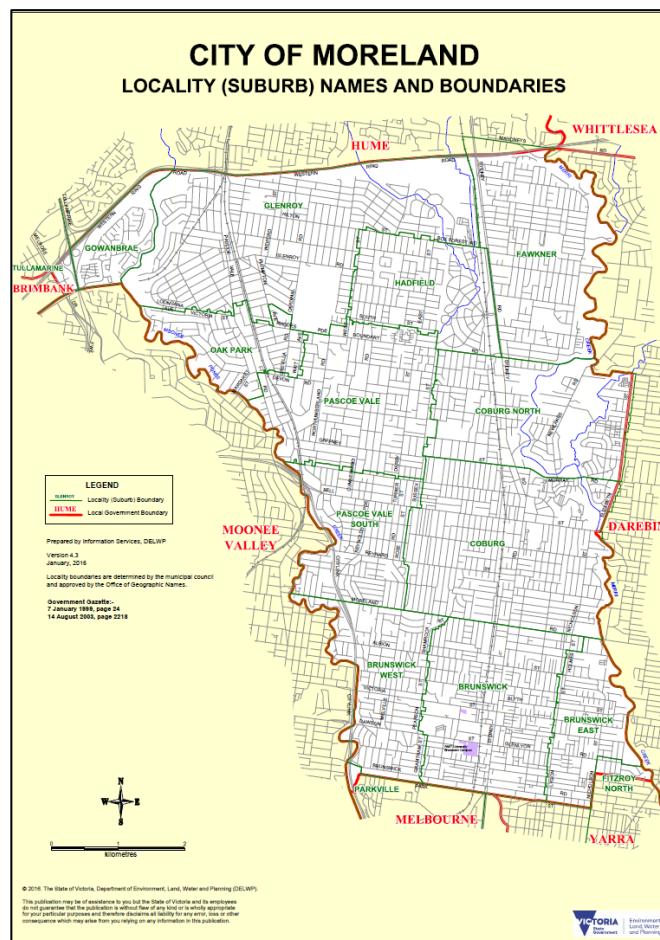
Moreland's current population of 185,767 (as of June 2019) is forecast to grow to 228,425 by 2036. Significant growth has occurred in the last five years (the biggest increase for two decades). Moreland City Council covers the suburbs of Brunswick, Brunswick East, Brunswick West, Pascoe Vale, Pascoe Vale South, Coburg, Coburg North, Hadfield, Fawkner, Glenroy, Oak Park and Gowanbrae. Small sections of the suburbs of Fitzroy North and Tullamarine are also located in the City.

Key features of Moreland's regional context include:

- Proximity to Melbourne's Central Business District (CBD); and
- Good transport links to the CBD, ports, airport and industrial areas.

Moreland City Council (Council) provides services to the community within its geographic area. Council provides these services through its buildings and facilities, fleet, in-house waste collection services as well as the use of contractors for waste collection services and the provision of public (street) lighting. These services are the primary business activities that result in carbon emissions.

Moreland City Council currently has over 300 buildings within its portfolio, including civic centres, aquatic and sports leisure centres, community centres, pavilions, maternal/childcare centres, kindergartens, libraries



and depots, as well as other facilities including public lighting and parks and reserves. The majority of these buildings/facilities are used by Council; however, some are leased by third parties. Council also leases some third-party buildings/facilities to provide various community services.

This inventory has been prepared based on the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisations (earlier the National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS)). The standard is aligned with the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007 (NGER Act), as well as the Greenhouse Gas Protocol's Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard.

This submission considers the following greenhouse gases:

- carbon dioxide
- methane
- nitrous dioxide
- synthetic gases (R22, R507, R134a, R407C, R410a, HFC-134a, SF6)

2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

Diagram of the certification boundary

In 2012 Council established its emissions boundary, based on the GHG Protocol's *Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard*, Carbon Neutral Guidelines, and *AS ISO 14064.1-2006*. Council included emission sources based on the operational control approach, defined in accordance with the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act.

Facilities where Council has operational control are those where Council:

- pays the utility costs for the facility
- has the ability to set operating policies, health and safety policies and environmental policies

Operational control was assessed at all Council facilities and buildings, which include:

- Council owned and operated facilities
- Council facilities leased out to a third party
- Facilities Council leased from a third party

An analysis confirmed that all sites owned and operated by Council or leased from third parties and operated by Council are under Council's operational control. Council facilities that are leased to third parties are considered to be under Council's operational control only where Council pays the utility costs.

Emission sources included in the boundary of this inventory are:

<u>Quantified</u>	<u>Non-Quantified</u>	<u>Excluded</u>
<p>Scope 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stationary fuels (LPG, diesel and unleaded) - Natural gas - Fugitive emissions (refrigerants) - Lubricants - Transport fuels purchased for Council fleet vehicles <p>Scope 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electricity from grid <p>Scope 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Street lighting - Contractor fuels - Water - Electricity: transmission & distribution losses associated with electricity purchased by Council (excluding street lighting) - Electricity: grid electricity from facilities where Council does not have operational control but has financial control (including unmetered lighting) - Transport Fuels: emissions associated with the extraction, production, and transportation of fuels - Natural gas: emissions associated with the extraction, production and distribution of natural gas - Natural gas: facilities where Council does not have operational control but pays bill - Waste disposal - Stationary fuels: emissions associated with the extraction, production, and transportation of fuels - Employee business travel (public transport, flights, hire cars, taxis) - Paper consumption - Lubricants: emissions associated with the extraction, production, and transportation of lubricants - Accommodation - Asphalt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some outdoor events - Contractor energy - Construction/demolition activities - Embodied emissions of purchased products and services - Transport emissions from purchased products and materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community emissions and other emission sources outside of Council's operational control
Within emissions boundary		

Non-quantified sources

The following emissions sources are within the reporting boundary but are currently non-quantified, due to lack of available data or difficulty in accessing what data is available:

Table 1. Non-quantified emissions		
Emission Source	Scope	Justification for non-quantification & overall implications for footprint
Some outdoor events	3	<i>Immaterial (<1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively)</i>
Contractor energy	3	<i>Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years (*)</i>
Construction/demolition activities	3	<i>Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years (*)</i>
Embodied emissions of purchased products and services, e.g., IT equipment, chlorine, office printing, telecommunications, stationery, food and catering, cleaning services	3	<i>Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years (*)</i>
Transport emissions from purchased products and materials, e.g., postage, couriers, freight.	3	<i>Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years (*)</i>

** Refer the section on data management plan. Within FY 20/21, council is looking to develop a data management and collection process to account for the non-quantified emissions*

Data management plan

In FY 20/21, Council is looking to develop a data management and collection process to account for the non-quantified emissions listed below:

- Contractor energy – identify high-cost contractors, contact them to determine any available data and flag the potential need to provide data in future. If data is not available, review the available Climate Active emission factors to determine an appropriate fit and develop a plan for future collection and reporting.
- Construction/demolition activities – assess available data and assess its usefulness. If no data is available, Council will develop a plan for gathering the data in future.
- Embodied emissions of purchased products and services, e.g., IT equipment, chlorine, office printing, telecommunications, stationery, food and catering, cleaning services – determine what cost data is available and what it covers. Develop a plan to analyse available data and identify steps to improve data quality.
- Transport emissions from purchased products and materials, e.g., postage, couriers, freight – determine what cost data is available and what it covers. Develop a plan to analyse available data and identify steps to improve data quality.

Council is also looking to improve the tools used to interrogate and present our energy and water data.

Excluded sources (outside of certification boundary)

All emissions not listed above were determined to be outside the inventory boundary.

One example of an excluded emissions source is domestic waste from the community. Emissions from Council operations to collect waste is within the inventory boundary. However, emissions from community

waste in landfill are outside the boundary since the landfill is outside council's boundary (operated by Darebin City Council) and Council has no operational control over the landfill.

Emissions generated by Moreland residents or businesses are also outside the inventory boundary for the same reason – outside of operational control.

3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions reduction strategy

Moreland City Council has always been a leader in environmental initiatives, including action on climate change. Council's three previous strategies, the Climate Action Plan, Carbon Management Strategy and Corporate Carbon Reduction Strategy, were combined into the [Zero Carbon Moreland – Climate Emergency 2040 Framework \(PDF 1Mb\)](#). This was adopted in 2018 to provide a pathway both for Moreland City Council to maintain its commitment of corporate carbon neutrality and to aim for a zero-carbon municipality by 2040. The overarching Framework will inform 5-yearly action plans to drive the transition to zero emissions. The initial [Zero Carbon Climate Emergency Action Plan](#) (2020 – 2025) has been adopted by Moreland City Council.

The Moreland Zero Carbon – 2040 Framework defines priorities for driving emissions reductions across three target areas: energy transition, sustainable transport and waste and consumption. Five-yearly Zero Carbon Action Plans will be developed to set medium-term targets and map out priority projects and programs (including advocacy). These five-yearly action plans will be checked for consistency against the 2040 Vision and Principles.

Emissions over time

Table 1 compares 2019/20 emissions to 2018/19 as well as to the baseline year 2011/12. Greenhouse gas emissions were ~60% lower in 2019/20 compared to 2018/19.

Scope 1 emissions increased by less than 2%

- Diesel consumption increased by ~4%. This is believed to be due to an increase in the generation of domestic waste during Covid-related lockdowns. The increased weight meant that Council waste trucks consumed more fuel in collecting and disposing of this waste. The increase in diesel was partially offset by a reduction in gas consumption by ~13%, due to Covid-related closures of aquatic centres and Council offices.

Scope 2 emissions dropped 100%

- The decrease in scope 2 emissions in 19/20 compared to previous years was largely due to the procurement of renewable zero-carbon electricity through the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project (MREP).
- Street lighting upgrades, installation of solar photovoltaic systems and other energy-efficiency initiatives also helped reduce emissions.

Scope 3 emissions decreased by ~61%

- This was mostly due to the purchase of renewable electricity through MREP, which reduced both scope 2 and associated scope 3 emissions (e.g., from transmission and distribution losses).

- Council slightly increased of its use of asphalt
- Water consumption decreased slightly due to Covid-related closures of aquatic centres and offices

Other factors

- Updates to the National Greenhouse Accounts Factors, published by the Department of Environment in August 2019

Table 1

Emissions since base year			
	Base year: 2011-12	Previous year: 2018-19	Current year 2019-20
Scope 1	4,970	4,022	4,098
Scope 2	5,879	5,922	0
Scope 3	10,404	6,383	2,464
<i>Total tCO2e</i>	21,253	16,327	6,562

Emissions reduction actions

Moreland City Council have been able to successfully reduce our emissions due to a number of key projects:

Melbourne Renewable Energy Project

The Melbourne Renewable Energy Project (MREP) marked the first time in Australia that a group of local governments, cultural institutions, universities and corporations have collectively purchased renewable energy from a newly built facility. The 39-turbine Crowlands Windfarm near Ararat is owned and operated by Melbourne-based clean energy company Pacific Hydro. Under this project, fourteen members of the buying group combined their purchasing power and committed to purchase 88 GWh of electricity per year from the windfarm under a long-term power purchase agreement. The agreement enabled financing and construction arrangements for the project; and because the windfarm generates more than the purchasing group's needs, it brings additional renewable energy into the market.

Council has been a partner in the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project (MREP) consortium for the full 2019/20 financial year. Through this consortium, the majority of Council's electricity has been sourced from Crowlands Windfarm. This electricity is therefore 100% (zero emissions) renewable, backed by Large-Scale Generation Certificates (LGCs). The only electricity emissions not covered by MREP are a few small

unmetered sites that cannot be incorporated into the contract or leased sites where a third party is paying the electricity bill.

Certificate type	Fuel source	Generation year	Generation state	Certificate tag	Certificate serial number	Certificate quantity
LGC	Wind	2019	VIC	MOREL Volun 2019 MREP	4545 - 5694	1150
LGC	Wind	2019	VIC	MOREL Volun 2019 MREP	151770 - 153511	1742
LGC	Wind	2019	VIC	MOREL Volun 2019 MREP	114984 - 116535	1552
LGC	Wind	2019	VIC	MOREL Volun 2019 MREP	91650 - 91922	273
LGC	Wind	2019	VIC	MOREL Volun 2019 MREP	90467 - 91649	1183
LGC	Wind	2019	VIC	Moreland City Council 1&2Q Volun	4515 - 4544	30
LGC	Wind	2020	VIC	Morel 1Q20 Volunt	9577 - 11012	1436
LGC	Wind	2020	VIC	MorelCC VolQ2-20	67945 - 69151	1207
LGC	Wind	2020	VIC	MorelCC VolQ3-20	144962 - 146185	1224
LGC	Wind	2020	VIC	Morel 1Q20 Comp	4538 - 4881	344
LGC	Wind	2020	VIC	Morel ComQ2-20	137665 - 137953	289
LGC	Wind	2020	VIC	Morel ComQ3-20	139933 - 140225	293

Renewable energy – solar

In 2019/20 Council installed two solar systems on Council buildings leased to the community, under the 'Solar on Leased' programme. This is an innovative approach where Council pays for the initial installation and for on-going maintenance. The community group leasing the site then repays the cost of the system over 5-10 years from cost savings made on their electricity bills. Repayments are designed so that the community group sees reductions in its electricity bills from the day solar is installed. The following solar installations were carried out under this programme:

- Brunswick Velodrome Pavilion (7kW)
- Moomba Park kindergarten (5kW)

Council currently has 826 kW of solar installations across 37 sites.

Batteries

To fully benefit from solar installations, sites should consume electricity generated by solar, rather than exporting it to the grid. Council has therefore installed a Tesla Powerwall 2 at Newlands Neighbourhood House. This site has a 7kW solar system, installed in 2015. This trial is being assessed to fully understand the financial and educational impacts of the battery.

Electric vehicles (EVs)

A key focus in 2019/20 has been to expand Council's fleet of EVs and its network of public chargers. Moreland Council now has 25 pure electric vehicles (EVs) in its light vehicle fleet, making it the largest Council EV fleet in Victoria. A new public EV charging hub has been installed in Brunswick, which consists of four charging bays and includes two new fast charge stations. Council now has 16 public EV charging

stations including five DC fast chargers, with all electricity supplied through Pacific Hydro (Crowlands Wind Farm). These stations are free to use for the public. As a result of its work in this space, Council was awarded the 2020 Fleet Environment Award by the Australasian Fleet Management Association (AfMA).

Under construction – Glenroy Community Hub

Construction has begun on the \$27.5 Glenroy Community Hub, which will be home for a range of Council services, including a library, kindergarten and maternal child health. The building will be Passive House-certified, demonstrating Council's commitment to world-leading, sustainable design. Currently no community centre in Australia has received such certification. The site will be highly energy-efficient, will have 270 kW of solar installed, and will support the health and well-being of users.

Emissions summary (inventory)

Table 2 below provides a summary of council emissions by scope and emission category:

Table 2

Scope	Emission source category	tonnes CO ₂ -e
1	Lubricants	1.67
1	Stationary Fuels	23.2
1	Transport Fuels	2,154.01
1	Fugitive Emissions	172.67
1	Natural Gas	1,747.32
2	Electricity (location-based approach)	0
3	Asphalt	369.12
3	Water	314.97
3	Accommodation	0.5
3	Public transport	0.57
3	Flights	0.64
3	Contractor Fuels	1,749.63
3	Office paper	3.54
3	Hire Cars and Taxis	3.45
3	Waste Disposal	21.14
<i>Total Net Emissions</i>		6,562.43

Uplift factors

Table 3

Reason for uplift factor	tonnes CO ₂ -e
None	0
<i>Total footprint to offset (uplift factors + net emissions)</i>	
	6,562.43

Carbon neutral products

Carbon neutral paper (Winc® carbon neutral copy paper¹) was purchased to cover a significant majority of business requirements.

¹ <https://www.winc.com.au/>

Electricity summary

Electricity was calculated using a location-based approach. However, a summary of emissions using both approaches has been provided for full disclosure and to ensure year-on-year comparisons can be made.

The Climate Active team are consulting on the use of a market vs location-based approach for electricity accounting with a view to finalising a policy decision for the carbon neutral certification by July 2020. Given a decision is still pending on the accounting way forward, a summary of emissions using both measures has been provided for full disclosure and to ensure year on year comparisons can be made.

Market-based approach - reflects the emissions intensity of different electricity products markets and choices. Table 4 below shows council's electricity emissions summary using a market-based approach.

Table 4

Electricity inventory items	kWh	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)
Electricity Renewables	12,886,396	0.00
Electricity Remaining	(5,024,948)	(5,432.47)
Renewable electricity percentage	163%	-
<i>Net emissions (Market based approach)</i>	NA	0.00

Location-based approach - reflects the average emissions intensity of the electricity grid in the location (state) in which energy consumption occurs. This method provides an overall picture of electricity emissions of the entity in the context of its location, and the emissions intensity of the electricity grid it relies on. Table 5 below shows Council's electricity emissions summary using a location-based approach.

Table 5

State/Territory	Electricity Inventory items	kWh	Full Emission factor (Scope 2 +3)	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)
Vic	Electricity Renewables	11,569,897	-1.12	(12,958.28)
Vic	Netted off (exported on-site)	63,399	-1.02	(64.67)
Vic	Electricity Total	7,924,847	1.12	8,875.83
	<i>Total net electricity</i>		<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>

4. CARBON OFFSETS

A carbon offset is generated from an activity that prevents, reduces or removes greenhouse gas emissions from being released into the atmosphere, compensating for emissions occurring elsewhere. Carbon offsets are tradeable units that represent abatement of greenhouse gas emissions. Offsets represent the rights to a greenhouse gas reduction, and purchased carbon offsets are retired through a registered third party to avoid double-counting. Moreland City Council has retired eligible carbon offset units from eligible projects to compensate for its emissions for this reporting period.

Offset purchasing strategy:

Council seeks to position itself as a carbon neutral organisation and to recognise this through an accreditation process. Accreditation requires the purchase of verified carbon offsets. In August 2020, Council updated and endorsed its Carbon Offset Policy, which established a framework for purchasing carbon offsets. The policy covers the procurement process and lists criteria for offset selection. The policy's objectives are to:

- Guide Council's own decision-making in maintaining carbon neutral certification; and
- Demonstrate leadership in Council's own decision making in responding to climate change on a corporate level and continue to lead the community towards carbon neutrality.

In accordance with Climate Active (earlier NCOS) guidelines, Council purchased and cancelled the required offsets. Any excess offsets will be carried forward to Council's carbon neutral claim in subsequent years. The offset suppliers for the year 2019 – 2020 were selected based on Council's Carbon Offset Policy criteria.

Offsets summary

Table 6

1. Total offsets required for this report				6,562					
2. Offsets retired in previous reports and used in this report				622					
3. Net offsets required for this report				5,940					
Project description	Eligible offset units type	Registry unit retired in	Date retired	Serial number (including hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Quantity (tonnes CO2-e)	Quantity used for previous report	Quantity to be banked for future years	Quantity to be used this report
Gold Standard-accredited Mersin Wind Farm Project, Turkey	GS VERs	Impact Registry	25 Jan 2021	GS1-1-TR-GS753-12-2014-7213-15354-21293	2014	5,940	0		5,940
Saipuram Wind Energies Private Limited, Andhra Pradesh, India	VCUs	APX	30 Jun 2019	6715-339145855-339152354-VCU-034-APX-IN-1-1788-31032017-31122017-0²	2017	6,500	3,911	1,967	622
							<i>Total offsets retired this report and used in this report</i>		6,562
							<i>Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports</i>		1,967

² ID: 1788, Issuance Date: 22/05/2019, Retirement/cancellation Date: 30/06/2019

Co-benefits

The Mersin Wind Farm Project, located in Mersin Province, Mut District, Mediterranean Region in Turkey, consists of 14 x 3 MW and 6 x 3.45 MW wind turbines with a total capacity of 62.7 MW plus development of a high voltage transmission line between the project and the national grid. The project is approximately 4 km away from the Özlük Village, the nearest village, in an area that is not favourable for agricultural use. The exported electricity, approximately 208 GWh per year, is delivered to the Turkish national grid which has an emissions intensity of 0.5596 tCO₂e/MWh.

Electricity generated by the project would otherwise have been supplied by thermal fossil fuel power stations, improving air quality and reducing reliance on fossil fuels. The project created local employment during both the construction and operational phases. It has also contributed to the local and regional economy since most of the equipment and subcontractors were procured locally. The project owner has also contributed to educational quality of the villages nearby by investing in primary schools in six nearby villages. The project has had an insignificant impact on biodiversity with no endangered or protected species in the project's impact area.

5. USE OF TRADE MARK

Table 7

Description where trademark used	Logo type
Council's website	Certified organisation
Council's Annual Report	Certified organisation
Council email signatures	Certified organisation
Presentations to other Councils	Certified organisation
Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA) events	Certified organisation
Council presentation banners	Certified organisation
Decals on Council's electric vehicle	Certified organisation
Council Buildings	Certified organisation

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Moreland City Council is committed to continuously improving our inventory. Improvements this year include work on a data management plan and collection process to account for non-quantifiable emissions.

Further, Council will continue to reduce its carbon emissions to reach our goal of 100% emissions reduction by 2040. Council will:

- Continue zero emissions vehicle roll out throughout Council's fleet
- Continue expansion of the public EV charging network, exploring on-street chargers
- Collaborate with energy utilities investigating V2G (Vehicle to Grid technology)
- Continue the collaboration with partner Councils in the development and implementation of a transport hydrogen refuelling station that could in future be utilised by Moreland's heavy fleet
- Progressively transition fossil gas infrastructure to high-efficiency electric
- Progress the energy efficiency roll-out across small facilities
- Continue to implement solar where feasible
- Explore embodied energy in Council's civil works portfolio, undertaking trials as needed

APPENDIX 1

Excluded emissions

To be deemed relevant an emission must meet two of the five relevance criteria. Excluded emissions are detailed below against each of the five criteria.

Table 8

Relevance test					
Excluded emission sources	<i>The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions</i>	<i>The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.</i>	<i>Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.</i>	<i>The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.</i>	<i>The emissions are from outsourced activities previously undertaken within the organisation's boundary, or from outsourced activities typically undertaken within the boundary for comparable organisations.</i>
Community Waste	Yes	No	No	No	No
Community Energy	Yes	No	No	No	No

APPENDIX 2

Non-quantified emissions for organisations

Table 9

Non-quantification test				
Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	<i>Immaterial <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively</i>	<i>Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.</i>	<i>Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.</i>	<i>Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified</i>
Some outdoor events	Yes	NA	NA	NA
Contractor energy	NA	NA	Yes*	NA
Construction/demolition activities	NA	NA	Yes*	NA
Embodied emissions of purchased products and services, e.g., IT equipment, chlorine, office printing, telecommunications, stationery, food and catering, cleaning services	NA	NA	Yes*	NA
Transport emissions from purchased products and materials, e.g., postage, couriers, freight.	NA	NA	Yes*	NA

* Refer the section on data management plan. Within FY 20/21, council is looking to develop a data management and collection process to account for the non-quantified emissions.