PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MORNINGTON PENINSULA SHIRE

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY 2019-2020

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

An Australian Government Initiative

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: Mornington Peninsula Shire

REPORTING PERIOD: Financial year 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
	25 August 2021

Name of Signatory

John Baker

Position of Signatory

CEO

Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

Mornington Peninsula Shire (the Shire) is a local council in South-eastern Metropolitan Melbourne, Victoria. the Shire is responsible for more than 70 services from family and children's services, traffic regulation, open space, youth facilities, waste management and community buildings.

The Shire is planning to be carbon neutral certified under the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisations from financial year 2020 (FY 2019/2020) onward. This Public Disclosure Summary (PDS) presents our first year of certification and describes an emissions inventory for the period from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

"The Mornington Peninsula Shire Council has committed to become carbon neutral by 2021. Gaining certification under Climate Active demonstrates credible and transparent leadership to our community and beyond."

Organisation description

Mornington Peninsula Shire is responsible for maintaining an extensive range of facilities and delivering a diverse range of services including roads, bridges, drains, town halls, libraries, recreation facilities, pools, golf courses, waste transfer centres and landfill, car parks, streetlighting, pump stations, camping grounds, public toilets, bus shelters, maternal and child health centres, preschools, community hubs and houses, event venues, parks and gardens.

Most Council's operations are run out of three main service centres including Rosebud, Mornington and Hastings. Additional operations are run out of several sites throughout the Shire, which includes the Rye Landfill and waste transfer centre. Key services provided to the residents of Mornington Peninsula Shire include:

- Aquatic and recreational facilities,
- Home based services (e.g. meals on wheels, senior citizens care),
- Waste services,
- Roads, footpaths and drainage,
- Planning services,
- Transport and traffic management,
- Local law enforcement,
- Community safety and emergency management,

- Sports grounds and club facilities,
- Parks, bushland and open space,
- Community gardens,
- Education facilities,
- Child and family health,
- Social planning,
- Public lighting,
- Environmental health,
- Tourism services.

2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

Diagram of the certification boundary

Mornington Peninsula Shire's emissions inventory has been prepared in accordance with the Climate Active Standard for Organisations. The organisational/certification boundary has been defined based on an operational control approach. The Shire was deemed to have operational control over facilities where the Shire has the ability to introduce and implement operating policies, health and safety policies and environmental policies. These facilities include:

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

Based on this analysis, we identified a number of types of assets and facilities that are under Shire's operational control, including:

- the Council owned landfill (Rye landfill),
- public street lighting,
- Council's fleet vehicles,
- Community facilities such as community halls, centres and houses, as well as libraries, education centres, galleries and Men's Sheds,
- Recreational facilities such as aquatic centres, leisure centres, lifesaving clubs, camping facilities, sports pavilions and clubs,
- Historic and heritage facilities such as The Briars homestead and wildlife sanctuary and the Fisherman's Historical Cottage,
- Children's service facilities such as preschools, maternal and child health centres and toy libraries,
- Municipal facilities such as municipal offices, animal shelters and waste disposal facilities; and
- Public amenities such as public toilets and showers.

The following emissions sources are included in Mornington Peninsular Shire's emissions inventory, which includes all direct (Scope 1) and indirect (Scope 2) emissions sources as well as applicable other indirect (Scope 3) emissions sources.

Quantified

Scope 1

Landfill gas – Council owned landfill

LPG consumption of Council assets

Natural Gas consumption of Council assets

Council fleet fuel use (Petrol & Diesel)

Fugitive emissions from refrigerants

Scope 2

Electricity consumption of Council assets and street lighting

Scope 3

Professional Services

Maintenance (including contractor fuel use)

ICT services

Purchased paper

Water consumption of Council assets

Business travel (flights and grey fleet)

Employee commuting

Carbon neutral product (paper)

Non-quantified

Construction materials (e.g. asphalt, concrete & cement)

Excluded

Food and catering

ICT equipment

Base building services

Freight, postage & courier

Non-quantified sources

The following emissions source was non-quantified in line with the guidance of the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisations:

- Construction materials (asphalt, cement, concrete and other road building materials) – data unavailable)

The emissions source has been non quantified because it meets the following criteria:

- Data unavailable (but uplift applied)

An uplift factor of 1% has been applied to the total carbon footprint (see table 3) and a data management plan was developed (see section 'Data management plan').

"The Mornington Peninsula Shire Council has committed to become carbon neutral by 2021. Gaining certification under Climate Active demonstrates credible and transparent leadership to our community and beyond."

Data management plan

Construction Materials

As a first step, the Shire will work with its capital works and maintenance contractors to access and record data (i.e. volume and $ spend) on construction materials such as asphalt, concrete and cement. The Shire will also look to include relevant contract conditions in all major maintenance and capital works contracts to ensure that, going forward, we are able to accurately capture this information. We plan to have this in place within the next 3 years.

Leased Facility Utilities

The Shire will work with lessees of its tenanted facilities to access utility data. The Shire has also begun and will continue to introduce utility data provision requirements into all leases and licences upon creation or renewal to ensure utility data is accessible for carbon accounting purposes. This requirement will be formalised in revised Commercial and Community Facilities Tenancies Policies within the next two years.

Council Expenditure Data

The Shire has introduced a new backend accounting system in 2020/21 which has improved our ability to accurately categorise expenditure data. The Shire will continue to refine the categorisation to improve data accuracy.

The Shire is committed to continuous improvement in all data collection activities for carbon accounting to ensure improvement in consistency and completeness.

Excluded sources (outside of certification boundary)

The below emissions sources have been excluded as they have been assessed as not relevant according

to the relevance test. The impact of excluding these emissions sources is not expected to materially affect the overall total emissions.

Excluded emissions sources:

- Food and catering,
- ICT equipment,
- Base-building services of assets where Council is tenant, and
- Freight, postage & courier.

3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions reduction strategy

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council is currently on the pathway to carbon neutrality for its operations by 2021 following the adoption of its Carbon Neutral Policy in 2016.

Since adopting the Carbon Neutral Policy, the Shire has implemented several emissions reduction projects. For example, the Shire has:

- Installed over 1,200 kW of rooftop solar PV, reducing electricity emissions by over 1,500 tCO2-e annually,
- Replaced over 10,000 minor road mercury vapour streetlights with LED street lighting, reducing electricity emissions by over 3,500 tCO2-e annually, and
- Replaced over 5,000 lights at Council facilities with LED fittings, reducing electricity emissions by over 450 tCO2-e annually.

Council has adopted several other key strategies, plans and policies committing to additional and ongoing emissions reduction, which are described below.

Ensuring Our Future: Our Climate Emergency Response Plan

The Mornington Peninsula Shire Council declared a climate emergency in August 2019 and adopted a Climate Emergency Plan in August 2020. The plan expands on its Carbon Neutral Policy to address community emissions, whilst continuing to reduce operation emissions.

Key targets in the plan:

- By 2023, the Shire will source all electricity from renewable generation,
- By 2025, all Shire pool vehicles will emit zero-emissions from the tailpipe, and
- By 2030, all Shire fleet vehicles will emit zero emissions from the tailpipe, where fit for purpose options are available (including utility vehicles).

Key actions in the plan include:

1. Develop a Beyond Carbon Neutral Plan

In addition to the emissions reduction works already completed, the Shire will identify and deliver projects to minimise residual emissions. Key projects identified for investigation include:

- Major road and decorative LED public street lighting replacement,
- Additional solar PV and battery storage for Council facilities, and

- Energy efficiency, solar PV and battery storage for leased facilities.

2. Restrict new natural gas connections and develop a gas phase out strategy with clear targets

    - The Shire will reduce and eventually eliminate gas emissions by way of electrifying its facilities.

Beyond Zero Waste Strategy

Council adopted its Beyond Zero Waste Strategy in 2020. This strategy contains several key targets seeking to reduce emissions.

Overarching Goals: By 2030 we want to achieve the following targets:

- Annual reduction of 1.7% per person in waste related greenhouse gas emissions,
- 20% reduction in household waste,
- Divert 100% of household waste from landfill,
- 50% reduction in litter and 30% increase in illegal dumping incidents investigated,
- Recover 100% of non-kerbside recyclable materials from landfill, and
- Use at least 22,829 tonnes of recycle content in construction and civil works.

Our Waste Goal 2 – Net zero emissions

- Reduce and prevent food waste from landfill,
- Close and remediate Rye Landfill,
- Increase gas capture at the Rye landfill, and
- Establish an AWT plant and adopt energy from waste practices for residual waste.

Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) Policy for Council Building and Civil Works

This policy will ensure the application of ESD principles in the design, construction, refurbishment, operation and demolition of Council owned facilities and civil works. The policy will lead to the avoidance of embodied greenhouse gas emissions in materials and waste during construction and operational energy and water usage and waste.

Emissions summary (inventory)

Table 1

Emission source category	tonnes CO_2-e
Waste	8,837.00
Stationary Energy	925.40
Land and Sea Transport (fuel)	6,661.97
Land and Sea Transport (km)	1,602.15
Refrigerants	310.59
Electricity	8,274.98
Professional Services	1,358.61
Cleaning and Chemicals	1.22
Construction Materials and Services	144.41
Office equipment and supplies	35.12
ICT services and equipment	668.39
Air Transport (km)	1.67
Water	198.72
Total Net Emissions	29,020.22

Uplift factors

Table 2

Reason for uplift factor	tonnes CO_2-e
1% to account for construction materials	300.59
Total footprint to offset (uplift factors + net emissions)	29,320.81

Carbon neutral products

The Shire used the following carbon neutral products in FY20:

- 108 reams of A3 and 3,495 reams of A4 Winc® carbon neutral certified paper under the National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS) which makes up 99% of the Shire's paper use.

Electricity summary

Electricity was calculated using a Market-based approach.

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 have been provided for full disclosure and to ensure year on year comparisons can be made.

Market-based approach electricity summary

Table 3

Electricity inventory items	kWh	Emissions (tonnes CO2e)
Electricity Renewables	1,748,999	0.00
Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	0	0.00
Electricity Remaining	7,654,222	8,274,979.29
Renewable electricity percentage	19%	
Net emissions (Market based approach)		8,274,979.29

Location-based summary

Table 4

State/ Territory	Electricity Inventory items	kWh	Full Emission factor (Scope 2 +3)	Emissions (tonnes CO2e)
Vic	Electricity Renewables	-	-1.12	0.00
Vic	Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	-	-1.12	0.00
Vic	Netted off (exported on-site generation)	-	-1.02	0.00
Vic	Electricity Total	9,403,221	1.12	10,531,607.52
	Total net electricity emissions		*0.00*	*10,531,607.52*

4. CARBON OFFSETS

Offset strategy

Table 5

Offset purchasing strategy: **In arrears**	
1. Total offsets previously forward purchased and banked for this report	*0*
2. Total emissions liability to offset for this report	*29,321*
3. Net offset balance for this reporting period	*29,321*
4. Total offsets to be forward purchased to offset the next reporting period	*0*
5. Total offsets required for this report	*29,321*

Offsets summary

Table 6

Offsets cancelled for Climate Active Carbon Neutral Certification										
Project description	**Type of offset units**	**Registry**	**Date retired**	**Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)**	**Vintage**	**Eligible Quantity (TCO2-e)**	**Quantity used for previous reporting periods**	**Quantity banked for future reporting periods**	**Quantity used for this reporting period claim**	**Percentage of total (%)**
7 MW Bundled Hydro power project at Himachal Pradesh of Raajratna Energy Holdings Pvt. Ltd (Himachal Pradesh, India)	VCUs	APX VCS Registry	28 July 2021	10407-211909920-211925370-VCS-VCU-1491-VER-IN-1-2323-01012018-30112018-0	2018	15,451	0	0	15,451	53%
7 MW Bundled Hydro power project at Himachal Pradesh of Raajratna Energy Holdings Pvt. Ltd (Himachal Pradesh, India)	VCUs	APX VCS Registry	28 July 2021	10407-211902814-211909683-VCS-VCU-1491-VER-IN-1-2323-01012018-30112018-0	2018	6,870	0	0	6,870	23%
Anhui Guzhen Biomass Generation Project (Anhui Province, China)	VCUs (stapled to NCUs – see 'co-benefits' section)	APX VCS Registry	28 July 2021	10512-223921914-223925913-VCS-VCU-1317-VER-CN-1-1121-01102015-31122015-0	2015	4,000	0	0	4,000	14%

Northern Savanna Project, ERF104944 (Queensland, Australia)	ACCUs	ANREU	29 July 2021	3,801,418,092 - 3,801,420,391	2019-2020	2,300	0	800	1,500	5%
Longdowns Regeneration Project, ERF101812 (NSW, Australia)	ACCUs	ANREU	29 July 2021	3,810,417,130 - 3,810,419,729	2020-2021	2,600	0	1,100	1,500	5%
								Total offsets retired this report and used in this report		29,321
								Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports		1,900

Additional offsets cancelled for purposes other than Climate Active Carbon Neutral certification

Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Eligible Quantity (TCO2-e)	Purpose of cancellation	
Hebei Guyuan County Dongxinying 199.5 MW Wind Power Project (Hebei Province, China)	VCUs	APX VCS Registry	4 August 2020	4588-190365804-190367801-VCU-001-APX-CN-1-903-10012012-03102012-0	2012	1998	The Shire's garbage and recycling kerbside collection contractor offset its FY20 operations within the Shire, on behalf of the Shire.	

Type of offset units	Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)	Percentage of Total
Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs)	3,000	10%
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	26,321	90%

Co-benefits

This section details the non-carbon benefits, or also called co-benefits, of offset projects that we have selected for this reporting year. Co-benefits are positive impacts of carbon offsets projects beyond those associated with carbon sequestration and carbon storage.

7 MW Bundled Hydro power project

The 7 MW Bundled Hydro power project in India is a renewable energy project that involves the generation of electricity by using the available hydro potential in the tributaries of the Ravi River and exporting the generated electricity to the Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board. The project has a number of social, environmental and economic co-benefits including bringing electricity to local areas, avoiding the exploitation and depletion of natural, non-renewable resources such as coal/ petroleum/gas while at the same providing a clean energy. It also offers direct and indirect employment opportunities for the local community during the period of construction and after its subsequent commissioning. The project's benefits can be mapped against the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 7 'Affordable and Clean Energy', SDG 8 'Decent Work and Economic Growth', SDG 13 'Climate Action'.

Anhui Guzhen Biomass Generation Project & Orana Park project

The carbon offsets created by the Anhui Guzhen Biomass Generation Project in China (Verified Carbon Units) are stapled[1] with the equal amount of Australian vegetation offsets (Natural Capital Units[2]) created by the Orana Park project in Victoria, Australia. The Orana Park project is a 4,500ha farm north-west of Bendigo, Victoria owned and operated by the Tiverton Agriculture Impact Fund (TAIF). The aim of Orana Park is the full restoration of the riparian vegetation along the banks of the Loddon River which is part of the Murray-Darling basin, and the establishment of a purpose-built wildlife sanctuary for threatened species such as the Eastern Bettong and Bush Stone Curlew. We have selected this native vegetation restoration project because of the Council and community strong desire to see projects implemented as close to the Mornington Peninsula as possible and alignment with the objectives of Shire's Biodiversity Conservation Plan.

Northern Savanna Project

The Northern Savanna Project is a Savanna Fire Management project in Queensland, Australia that involves strategic and planned burning of savanna areas in northern Australia during the early dry season to reduce the risk of large and intense late dry season wild fires. The project aims to reduce the frequency and extent of those fires in savannas, by instigating cool, lower-intensity fires when the vegetation still contains some moisture from the wet season resulting in fewer greenhouse gas emissions and more carbon being sequestered in dead organic matter. The project is carried out by both Traditional Owners and local rangers, employing traditional knowledge and creating job opportunities for local communities. The project's benefits can be mapped against the following SDGs: SDG 8 'Decent Work and Economic Growth', SDG 13 'Climate Action', SDG 15 'Life on Land' and SDG 17 'Partnerships for the Goals'.

[1] Stapling means that a verified non-carbon offset (e.g. Natural Capital Unit) is stapled to an international carbon offset (e.g. Verified Carbon Units or VCU) to achieve both local co-benefits and carbon neutrality.

[2] One Natural Capital Unit represents the permanent protection of one square metre of very high conservation significance native habitat.

Longdowns Regeneration Project

Is Longdowns Regeneration Project is a Human-Induced Regeneration project in New South Wales, Australia. The project establishes permanent native forests through assisted regeneration from in-situ seed sources on land that was cleared of vegetation and where regrowth was suppressed for at least 10 years prior to the project having commenced. Suppression activities include excluding livestock, managing the time and extent of grazing and managing feral animals in a humane manner. Restoring native forests not only has carbon benefits but also create natural habitats and re-connects remnant vegetation. The project's benefits can be mapped against the following SDGs: SDG 8 'Decent Work and Economic Growth', SDG 13 'Climate Action', SDG 15 'Life on Land'.

5. USE OF TRADE MARK

Table 7

Description where trademark used	Logo type
Mornington Peninsula Shire intend to use the Climate Active trademark on email banners, Shire websites and social media, in its Peninsula Wide magazine, E-newsletters, Summer Guide and other publications, and on community information and Shire presentations.	Certified organisation

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	*The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions*	*The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.*	*Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.*	*The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.*	*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.*
Food and catering	No	No	No	Yes	No
ICT equipment	No	No	No	Yes	No
Base building services (assets where Council is tenant)	No	No	No	Yes	No
Freight, postage and courier	No	No	Yes	No	No

APPENDIX 2

Non-quantified emissions for organisations

Table 9

Non-quantification test				
Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	*Immaterial <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively*	*Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.*	*Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.*	*Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified*
Construction materials (e.g. asphalt, concrete, cement)	No	No	Yes	No