

Integrated Climate Strategy Annual Report 2024/25

Friday, 17 October 2025
Audit and Risk Committee

Strategic Alignment - Our Environment

Public

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This purpose of this report is to present the first annual report for the Integrated Climate Strategy 2030—Resilient, Protected, Sustainable (ICS), adopted by Council on 11 June 2024 ([Link 1](#)). The ICS Annual Report 2024/25 is provided as **Attachment A**.

The City of Adelaide (CoA) is proud to be amongst a group of leading Australian local governments voluntarily aligning annual reporting of its climate strategy with the Australian Sustainability Reporting Standards (ASRS).

While the CoA is not yet captured under the ASRS, proactive voluntary reporting aims to increase transparency for residents, businesses and partners on how the CoA is acting on and mitigating current and future climate change risks.

The ICS Annual Report is structured to describe progress against the ICS and management of climate-related risk for the 2024/25 financial year, aligned with the core elements of the ASRS:

- Governance – processes for monitoring and managing climate-related risks and opportunities.
- Strategy – our approach to managing climate-related risks and opportunities.
- Risk management – processes for identifying, assessing, prioritising and monitoring climate-related risks and opportunities.
- Metrics and targets – our performance related to climate risks and opportunities, including progress on targets.

The ICS Annual Report 2024/25 is consistent with the Risk and Reporting Framework presented to the Audit and Risk Committee on 27 September 2024 ([Link 2](#)), which was prepared to support the delivery and monitoring of the ICS. The Council noted this framework at its meeting on 8 October 2024 ([Link 3](#)).

Priorities in the ICS are funded annually through the CoA's Annual Business Plan and Budget process. The priorities for 2025/26 are detailed in **Attachment B** and included in the ICS Annual Report 2024/25.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receives and notes the Integrated Climate Strategy 2030 – Resilient, Protected, Sustainable (ICS), Annual Report 2024/25 as contained in **Attachment A** to Item 4.3 on the Agenda for the Audit and Risk Committee held on 17 October 2025 in support of the delivery and monitoring of the ICS.
 2. Receives and notes the 2025/26 Implementation Plan for the Integrated Climate Strategy 2030 – Resilient, Protected, Sustainable (ICS), Annual Report 2024/25 as contained in **Attachment B** to Item 4.3 on the Agenda for the Audit and Risk Committee held on 17 October 2025.
 3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, to make minor, typographical and technical amendments to the documents as contained in **Attachment A** and **Attachment B** to Item 4.3 on the Agenda for the Audit and Risk Committee held on 17 October 2025 for the purpose of finalising the document.
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IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Environment Outcome: A sustainable City where climate resilience is embedded in all that we do.
Policy	The ICS includes actions to integrate climate risk into governance documents, processes, facility planning and management, and service provisions so that risk can be managed.
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	The Climate-Related Financial Disclosures Framework in Australia mandates that organisations, including the CoA, recognise climate change as a material risk. It requires integration of climate risk management and adaptation strategies into operations to mitigate legal and liability exposure and enhance climate resilience. The CoA Strategic Risk Register identifies climate change adaptation and vulnerability as a strategic risk. Climate-related risks and opportunities are included within the CoA's Enterprise Risk Management Framework.
Opportunities	The financial implications of implementing the ICS are being addressed through the CoA's Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Management Plans.
25/26 Budget Allocation	The 2025/26 Annual Business Plan and Budget includes strategic investment in climate initiatives totalling \$6.02M, in addition to standard operating expenditure, that includes: - Resilient Flood Planning - \$1.10M - Peacock Road Cycle Route - \$0.50M - London Road Depot Electrification - \$0.20M - City Public Realm Greening - \$3.90M - Brown Hill Keswick Creek - \$0.32M The 2025/26 implementation plan for the ICS is contained in Attachment B .
Proposed 26/27 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The ICS has a timeframe for delivery of 2030.
25/26 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

Purpose

- 1. This report presents the first annual report for the Integrated Climate Strategy 2030 – Resilient, Protected, Sustainable (ICS) adopted by the Council on 11 June 2024 ([Link 1](#)). The ICS Annual Report 2024/25 is provided as (**Attachment A**).
- 2. The City of Adelaide (CoA) is proud to be amongst a group of leading Australian local governments voluntarily aligning annual reporting against its climate strategy with the Australian Sustainability Reporting Standards (ASRS).
- 3. While the CoA is not yet captured under the ASRS, proactive voluntary reporting aims to increase transparency for residents, businesses and partners on how the CoA is acting on and mitigating current and future climate change risks.

ICS Annual Report 2024/25

- 4. The ICS Annual Report is structured to describe progress against the ICS and management of climate-related risk for the 2024/25 financial year, aligned with the core elements of the ASRS:
 - 4.1. Governance – processes for monitoring and managing climate-related risks and opportunities.
 - 4.2. Strategy – our approach to managing climate-related risks and opportunities.
 - 4.3. Risk management – processes for identifying, assessing, prioritising and monitoring climate-related risks and opportunities.
 - 4.4. Metrics and targets – our performance related to climate risks and opportunities, including progress on targets.
- 5. The ICS Annual Report 2024/25 is consistent with the Risk and Reporting Framework presented to the Audit and Risk Committee on 27 September 2024 ([Link 2](#)), which was prepared to support the delivery and monitoring of the ICS. The Council noted this framework at its meeting on 8 October 2024 ([Link 3](#)).
- 6. The ICS Annual Report sets out achievements aligned with the Council’s Strategic Plan 2024-2028, goals and targets in the ICS, and the 2024/25 climate-related commitments in the Annual Business Plan and Budget 2024/25.
- 7. The following table summarises the achievement of targets from the Strategic Plan 2024-2028:

Target		Achievement
Develop a Sustainability Governance and Reporting Framework by 2025 and capture and share data and learnings	✓	This project was completed with a new governance framework used to assist in preparing and assessing budget proposals for 2025/26.
Establish a baseline to measure circularity in the City of Adelaide and initiate targets to increase circular economy outcomes	✓	Work commenced in March 2025 to identify measures that could contribute to establishing a circular economy baseline in the City of Adelaide.
Support a net increase in street trees annually aligned to heat island data within Council’s Climate Strategy	✓	The Street Tree Greening program commenced in 2024/25 and will be continued in 2025/26. A total of 273 new trees were planted in 2024/25.
Develop a target to increase green spaces to support our environment	✓	The ICS adopted on 11 June 2024 sets targets for greening supported by sustainable water resources, including a 40% canopy cover target by 2035.

- 8. In addition to the Strategic Plan 2024-2028 targets, 23 commitments from the ICS were identified for delivery in 2024/25. A statement of achievement is provided in **Attachment A**.
- 9. Council has completed or is progressing projects under all five goals in the ICS. Key highlights include:
 - 9.1. The Integrated Climate Strategy received a commendation award at the Planning Institute of Australia, SA Division, Planning Awards in December 2024. The City of Adelaide City Plan – Adelaide 2036 was also awarded a commendation.

- 9.2. Delivery of a successful year of the Sustainability Incentives Scheme with funding fully expended. The program delivered 125 projects resulting in an estimated emissions reduction of 13,034 tCO₂e over the lifespan of the products and services provided.
- 9.3. Installation of 50 microclimate sensors (air temperature, humidity, air pressure) across the city to establish baseline conditions and accurately plot the existing urban heat island effect.
- 9.4. Delivery of the north-south bikeways project, ride to work day, world car free day activities and support for ride programs to increase cycling participation. The north-south bikeway was completed with bike volumes increased by approximately 20% compared to May 2024 data.
- 9.5. Delivery of an embodied carbon study to support updates to Technical Standards Details and promote low-carbon, circular material practices in infrastructure.

Risk Management

10. The ICS Annual Report identifies the CoA's existing 20 climate-related risks and their priority.
11. CoA commenced a review of the climate-related risk and opportunity register in June 2025 to ensure that it best aligns with the ICS, informs updates to strategies, and adapts to changes in climate science or CoA operations.
12. The updated register will include chronic and acute physical risks, transition and liability transitional risks, as well as opportunities. The focus will be on strategic risks, not risks specific to a single site, program, project or policy.
13. Aligned with the SA Government Sustainability Report 2024 and the South Australian Climate Change Risk Assessment (yet to be published), the 2025 climate-related risk and opportunity will assess risks against the following scenarios:
 - 13.1. Short-term: 2030 Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 4.5 (medium emissions)
 - 13.2. Mid-term: 2050 RCP 4.5 (medium emissions)
 - 13.3. Long-term: 2090 RCP 4.5 (medium emissions).

Note: RCP is the national standard used to represent plausible future scenario of greenhouse gas concentrations.

2025/26 ICS Implementation Plan

14. Priorities in the ICS are funded annually through the CoA's Annual Business Plan and Budget process.
15. The priorities for 2025/26 are detailed in **Attachment B** and included in the ICS Annual Report, as follows:
 - 15.1. Urban heat
 - 15.1.1. Adelaide Park Lands greening.
 - 15.1.2. City public realm greening.
 - 15.1.3. Cool wayfinding tool development.
 - 15.1.4. Partner with Green Adelaide to update tree canopy mapping.
 - 15.2. Urban responses
 - 15.2.1. Deliver the Sustainability Incentive Scheme, which supports the community in implementing changes to reduce carbon emissions.
 - 15.2.2. Work with the State Government to build the case for a Planning and Design Code Amendment that improves waste management systems for multi-unit dwellings.
 - 15.2.3. Deliver the Adaptive Reuse City Housing Initiative (ARCHI).
 - 15.2.4. Deliver the London Road Works Depot electrification project.
 - 15.3. Biodiversity
 - 15.3.1. Develop urban biodiversity corridors and connection mapping.
 - 15.4. Flooding
 - 15.4.1. Undertake resilient flood planning.
 - 15.4.2. Develop a stormwater management plan for the City of Adelaide.

15.5. Movement and transport

- 15.5.1. Enable on-street EV chargers in select locations which support the transition to EVs and minimise impacts on public realm.
- 15.5.2. Deliver the Peacock Road Cycle Route and separated bike lane.

Next Steps

- 16. Pending Council decision, the ICS Annual Report 2024/25 will be finalised and published to the CoA website.
- 17. Key achievements will be reported in the City of Adelaide Annual Report as required under section 131 of the *Local Government Act 1999* (SA).
- 18. An updated climate related risk and opportunity register is scheduled to be presented to the Audit and Risk Committee in late 2025.
- 19. The Administration will work throughout 2025/26 to deliver the ICS to ensure that climate risk continues to be managed.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – [Integrated Climate Strategy 2030 – Resilient, Protected , Sustainable](#)

Link 2 – [Audit and Risk Committee, 27 September 2024, Integrated Climate Strategy Reporting Framework \(Item 8.6\)](#)

Link 3 – [Council Agenda - Tuesday, 8 October 2024, Recommendations of the Audit and Risk Committee \(Item 12\)](#)

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Integrated Climate Strategy 2030 – Resilient, Protected, Sustainable, Annual Report 2024/25

Attachment B – 2025/26 Implementation Plan - Integrated Climate Strategy 2030 – Resilient, Protected, Sustainable