



WINNER

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Melton City Council

Melton LEADS Empowering our Community

Centred on Melton Council's Greenhouse Action Plan the LEADS (Lead, Educate, Advocate, Demonstrate, Sustainability)

project was implemented to reduce Melton's greenhouse gas emissions by reducing energy use. Retrofit initiatives included the replacing of 3,800 streetlights with LED and T5s and upgrading nine community facilities to reduce energy. The federal government provided \$1.97 million to assist funding of the LEADS Project. The project aims to reduce greenhouse emissions by 2,900 tonnes with cost savings of \$316,450 pa.

Council officers working with local disadvantaged households and surveys of Melton community organisations identified that residents were unable to pay energy bills. To empower the local community to reduce their energy consumption, three education programs were created: the Professional Leader course for professionals who work with the community, the Energy Leaders course for local volunteer groups, and an Ambassador course for culturally diverse and financially disadvantaged residents. Council held a Sustainability Expo this year that provided advice and information to assist residents in reducing their energy use.