



2010 Sustainable Cities Awards Recommendation Report



Sean Rooney

October 2010



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1. Executive Summary

1.1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities Awards is to recognise and celebrate the work of individuals and organisations working in Australian cities to make their communities more sustainable.

The awards span all facets of sustainability and praises the combination of collaboration, innovation, on-ground action and results that underpin the efforts of each of the State and Territory finalists.

1.2. CATEGORY AWARD RECOMMENDATIONS¹

1.2.1. Community Action and Partnerships

Based on the judge's assessment the recommended winner of the Community Action & Partnerships Award is: ***Redland City Council QUEENSLAND***

Redland City Council has demonstrated leadership and achievement in three specific programs that brought together a mix of partners from the Council, local landholders, community groups and residents, to address local sustainability issues. These projects are:

- f* The IndigiScapes environmental education centre - The centre is a hub of environmental resources for the local community and a popular place for people to visit and relax. The Centre boasts interpretive walks, native landscaped gardens, a cafe, native nursery and many related environmentally focussed events. One of the main aims of IndigiScapes is to *create advocacy in the community through effective engagement and education opportunities.*
- f* Habitat Protection Programs - to date approximately 850 landholders have formed partnerships with Council through participating in Habitat Protection Programs and close to 1746Ha is under agreement. The programs provided by Redland City Council include: Your Backyard Garden Program; Rural Support Program; Land for Wildlife Program; Waterway Extension Program; Koala Conservation Agreement Program; Voluntary Conservation Agreement Program.
- f* Wildlife Programs – The Council provides a number of programs and supports many organisations in raising community awareness of koalas. Some of the programs that are

¹ The judging score tables for each award category are provided in Attachment One

provided by the Redland City Council in relation to wildlife include: Redlands 24 hour Wildlife Rescue service; Koala Watch; and the Wildlife Schools Program.

1.2.2. 'Dame Phyllis Frost' Litter Prevention

Based on the judge's assessment the recommended winner of the 'Dame Phyllis Frost' Litter Prevention Award is: *The Department of Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY*

Consistent with the objectives and intent of the Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention award category, DECCEW presented an effective, event related, litter education program specifically focussed on litter prevention.

Tropfest is Australia's most popular short film festival and Canberra's Tropfest screening is the second largest hosting site in the country – attracting a crowd of over 23,500 people. The ACT Government hosted this event for the first time in 2010 and provided an opportunity to raise awareness of GreenPower and to promote recycling. At the event no public waste collection bins were used. Instead the public were directed to take their rubbish to a centrally located waste sorting site. The area consisted of waste volunteers who helped guide the public to sort their own waste into colour coded waste buckets which were then transferred by the volunteers into larger storage bins. The initiative resulted in more than one tonne of total event waste being redirected to composting or recycling depots, rather than landfill.

1.2.3. Resource Recovery & Waste Management

Based on the judge's assessment the recommended winner of the Resource Recovery & Waste Management Award is: *Hornsby Shire Council NEW SOUTH WALES*

The Hornsby Shire Council has an impressive and comprehensive approach to resource recovery and waste management in the Shire. In particular the following programs/projects were noted for their effectiveness:

- f* Community workshops – over 250 Hornsby residents have participated in GreenHome workshops and the GreenStyle program in 2010 including education in waste management such as recycling, composting and waste avoidance.
- f* Waste Education Van & Schools Education Program – encouragement of sustainability initiatives through the Hornsby Environment Network for Schools. This program also equips teachers to implement sustainability principles into their schools' practices and curriculum.

Sixty five teachers have attended from thirty four schools since it began in 2007. This represents almost two thirds of the Shire's schools.

- f School 'waste watchers' program (ongoing for 8 years) and with over 300 students at 24 different schools participating in 2010.
- f E-waste weekend drop off collection for recycling for 2010 collected approximately 75 tonnes and E-waste weekday drop off collections collected approx 100 tonnes between March - August 2010.
- f Battery collection for 2009 - approximately 196 kg. Collections for 2010 Jan – June are approx 363 kg.
- f Business Energy Savings Program & Resource Recovery Workshop over 150 businesses have participated in Council run programs.
- f Successful programs such as: e-waste collection, battery collection, fridge buy-back, drum muster, chemical collection, clothing exchange, and the 'Return to Glory' recycled art competition and exhibition
- f Face-to-face – attendance at public events, through displays and stalls e.g. the Country and Garden Festival, Australia Day at Hornsby Mall, unit block expos, shopping centres, One World Festival and Bushland Shire Festivals.

It is also recommended that the ***City of Stirling WESTERN AUSTRALIA*** be acknowledged as 'highly commended' in this award category. This high commendation recognises the City of Stirling's waste management and resource recovery programs an achievements including:

- f **Single Bin Recycling:** The Council and Atlas Group commissioned Australia's first 'resource recovery facility' where all waste is recycled. Public are not required to separate recyclables thereby using a single bin collection system. The contents of each bin are processed mechanically with all recoverable materials separated. Single bin system reduces CO2 emissions by 50,000 tonnes pa compared with traditional two bin system. Also achieves reduced waste to landfill, conservation of raw materials, reduced GHG's due to recycling organics, and increases materials recycled.
- f e-waste recycling program saw a total of 68 tonnes collected and recycled through the Recycling Centre Balcatta (RCB). The city contributed to the diversion of 64.6 tonnes of this material resulting in only 3.5 tonnes ending up in landfill. With every tonne of e-waste recycled there are saving of 3 to 5 tonnes on GHG emissions, so RCB is averaging a saving of 8.7 to 14.5 tonnes GHG per month. Overall 96% of all materials collected was diverted from landfill. COS also takes e-waste from other regions outside of the city and this is accepted free of charge
- f **School Battery Recycling Program** – collection and recycling of dry cell batteries, encouraging recovery and safe disposal. Fifty five schools currently participate and COS offers financial

rewards to schools based on average battery weight collected per student. To date 2.3tonnes of dry cell batteries collected pa equating to at total of over 40 tonnes of batteries.

1.2.4. Environmental Innovation & Protection

Based on the judge's assessment the recommended winner of the Environmental Innovation & Protection Award is: ***City of Stirling WESTERN AUSTRALIA***

The City of Stirling's approach to environmental management is comprehensive and effective. Their approach combines planning, community engagement, education, and on-ground action. Of particular note are:

- f* Million Trees Initiative – a program to plant 100,000 trees per year over 10 years by 2020
- f* Water Smart Parks strategy – The program integrates with Million Trees Initiative and Urban Bushland Conservation Strategy and reduces water use, power consumption, fertilisation, environmental impacts, and maintenance costs. It also increases biodiversity and enhances remnant bushland. The program manages park lands and open space as designated ecozones and hydrozones, and incorporates a trial of new centrally controlled technology incorporating water metering, weather stations, and soil moisture sensors. The program has delivered significant reductions in water use.
- f* Clubs Forever Go Green program aims to assist local sporting clubs and community organisations implement small, yet significant, environmental actions including: water reduction; waste reduction; carbon footprint reduction; energy reduction; paper reduction. 450 clubs/groups involved with the aim to reduce day to day impact on the environment save energy, water and waste costs and provide more sustainable facilities to support continued physical activity.

It is also recommended that the ***Clarence City Council TASMANIA*** be acknowledged as 'highly commended' in this award category. This high commendation acknowledges the Council's leadership approach to addressing climate change and water resource management through three specific programs. These being:

- f* 'Climate Change Impacts on Clarence Coastal Areas' - An integrated assessment of the future impacts of coastal processes on local low lying areas, which has led to major amendments to the Clarence Planning Scheme. 2010 winner of the 'Urban Planning Reforms' category of the 2010 National Awards for Local Government.
- f* SMART (Social Marketing and Awareness Raising Tool) - Communications package and SMART pilot project funded by CCC, HCC and KCC, delivered through the STCA RCCI to increase the communities' understanding of key climate change concepts.

- f Cambridge Sewerage Strategy - Council responding to rapidly expanding commercial development in the Cambridge area and increasing pressure on wastewater treatment facilities and infrastructure by constructing a state of the art wastewater treatment facility. Winner of 2009 National Awards for Local Government – Innovation in Natural Resource Management category.

1.2.5. Water Conservation

Based on the judge's assessment the recommended winner of the Water Conservation Award is: ***City of Onkaparinga SOUTH AUSTRALIA***

- f The City of Onkaparinga is recognised for its strategic and innovative approach to managing water resources in the area. Key elements of the approach include:
 - f “Water Proofing the South” is a major integrated water resource management project initiated by the City of Onkaparinga. The combined total of works for Stages One and Two of the project is over \$65M. The project sees water better managed and re-used for agriculture, viticulture and urban applications. This is achieved through an integrated system of Managed Aquifer Recovery schemes, urban wetlands, engineering infrastructure and stormwater harvesting across the city.
 - f Hart Road Wetland is a collaboration between the Stormwater Management Authority, Department of Environment and the developers of the Sunday and Bayswood estates. The wetland forms part of the Aldinga Drainage Scheme, providing flood detention and controlled discharge into the Aldinga Scrub, reinstating important natural environmental surface flows and near surface flows to the perched aquifer and scrub. And provides important habitat for a range of fauna species known to frequent the area, and provides a habitat island, important ephemeral wetland and aquatic plant zones.

It is also recommended that the ***Hornsby Shire Council NEW SOUTH WALES*** be acknowledged as ‘highly commended’ in this award category. This high commendation recognises Hornsby Shire Council’s water management and conservation programs an achievements including:

- f Sustainable Water Strategy – 18% reduction achieved to date
- f A portfolio of Council projects that : constructed five large stormwater treatment systems; completed two water harvesting projects (stormwater and treated leachate) for sportfield irrigation; incorporated streetscape raingardens into traffic calming devices and street trees; on-going long term water quality monitoring program at urban, rural, industrial, bushland and estuarine sites throughout Hornsby Shire; community workshops/displays on rainwater tanks, greywater reuse & water conservation; and Estuary Open Day – showcasing work being done to protect and conserve the health and productivity of the lower Hawkesbury River estuary.

- f Industry partner to national stormwater research program ‘Cities as Water Supply Catchments’ and also commissioned research into the types of microplastics found within local waterways.

1.2.6. Energy Innovation

Based on the judge’s assessment the recommended winner of the Energy Innovation Award is: ***Melton Shire Council VICTORIA***

The Melton Shire Council is demonstrating leadership and innovation in finding ways to reduce energy use as well as generate power from renewable sources, delivering overall carbon emissions reductions. Examples include:

- f The Big Roofs Project sees MSC, as part of the Western Greenhouse Alliance, applying the Council’s Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to identify large roofs in the area for installation of photovoltaic solar panels, water capture and the location of wind power generators. As part of the project CSIRO and Arup are developing guidelines for the building owners to explain the potential for energy generation and water capture. MSC has also mapped sites for wind turbines in Melton’s industrial and rural planning zones.
- f Solar Suburb – MSC is exploring the potential for wind, solar and biomass based energy generation in the proposed Toolern housing development. Guided by MSC’s vision for a sustainable community four shortlisted developers are preparing detailed proposals for the 8,000 lots in the project. Council is also investigating a 200 home Zero Emissions Precinct in the development.
- f In an Australian first, Western Water is using new technology to transform sewerage gases into 100 percent renewable energy, ultimately producing carbon neutral recycled water at a treatment plant in Melton Shire. The \$2million cogeneration facility opened in June 2010. The plant has dual benefit of capturing methane emissions, while creating 100% renewable energy to power the Class A recycled water plant. The methane gas is captured, and then burnt inside a micro-turbine that produces electricity for use on site. Waste heat from the process is also captured and used to assist in the anaerobic digestion process that produces the methane. Recycled water from the treatment plant is then piped to the new township of Eynesbury where it is used in households to flush toilets, water gardens and wash cars.

1.2.7. Heritage & Culture

Based on the judge's assessment the recommended winner of the Heritage & Culture Award is: ***Darwin City Council NORTHERN TERRITORY***

The Darwin City Council has demonstrated leadership and collaboration in working with the local Larrakia Rangers (traditional owners) in protecting and managing a site of significant cultural and natural heritage. The dunes of Mindil Beach are a place of cultural significance to the local traditional owners and are home to a number of Indigenous burial sites. The site is registered with the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority. The "Protecting the Dunes of Mindil Beach" project sees the Council, Larrakia Rangers and other community groups working together to protect and restore the site as erosion has threatened to expose known locations of human burial remains. Through this project revegetation, re-fencing and new beach access points have mitigated immediate threats. Furthermore, the Larrakia Rangers are involved in other natural resource management projects applying traditional knowledge and land management practices to manage local environmental issues in effective and culturally appropriate ways.

In addition, the Darwin City Council is also undertaking major activities to protect and conserve one of the most important heritage listed sites in Darwin – the Gardens Road Cemetery. DCC is the second year of a three year program of works at the cemetery including drainage; fencing; records audit, memorial restoration; identification of unmarked graves, landscaping and signage. A similar program is also underway at Darwin's Pioneer Cemetery.

It is also recommended that the ***Department of Environment, Climate Change, Energy & Water AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY*** be acknowledged as 'highly commended' in this award category. This high commendation reflects DEECEW's innovative and collaborative approach to engaging local Indigenous people in natural resource management policies and programs in the ACT. DEECEW and ACT NRM Council successfully worked with the local Ngunnawal community to build a strong partnership focussed on bringing together care of culture, land and people to contribute to a more sustainable community. This included taking time to sit together, exchange knowledge and understanding, and undertake activities that enhance culture, land and people. From this process came the "Understanding the Land Through the Eyes of the Ngunnawal" project – an Indigenous natural resource management curriculum program for schools in the ACT. This is the first, locally specific, Indigenous natural resource management curriculum package developed in Australia.

1.2.8. Young Legends

Based on the judge's assessment the recommended winner of the Young Legends Award is: ***Department of Environment, Climate Change, Energy & Water AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY***

The ACT Government helps schools to save energy and water, improve waste management, protect biodiversity and cut greenhouse gas emissions through the Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative ACT (AuSSI-ACT). AuSSI-ACT provides advice and assistance to ACT government and non-government schools participating in the program. There are a total of 114 ACTSmart schools in the ACT of a total of 127 schools in Canberra.

Positive results have been achieved through the AuSSI program with audit figures showing favourable outcomes. For example: in terms of waste, nine accredited waste wise schools showed enthusiastic students assisting in reducing waste sent to landfill. Collectively, these schools used to send 282,000 litres of waste to landfill. They now send 119,000 litres of waste to landfill – a total reduction of 58%. And, in terms of water, a total of 22 schools have been accredited as ACTSmart water-wise schools. In total, these schools have reduced water consumption by 30,306 kilolitres or reduced costs by \$61,218 per annum (approx 37%).

1.3. NATIONAL AWARD RECOMMENDATION²

Based on the judge's assessment the recommended national winner of the Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities Awards is: ***City of Stirling WESTERN AUSTRALIA***

Based on the judge's assessment and scoring, the National Award was closely contested when scores across all award categories were calculated. Notwithstanding this, the City of Stirling in Western Australia emerged as the National Award winner.

Underpinning the awarding of National Winner of the Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities Award to the City of Stirling are a number of factors. ***The National Award recognises the City of Stirling's comprehensive approach to creating a more sustainable city through the combination of a strong vision, inclusive planning, effective on-ground actions, and demonstrated impact and results.***

Key Features of the Council's approach include:

- f The Council's proactive, collaborative and consultative approach to addressing sustainability challenges and opportunities in the community including:
 - o A clear vision – *'to lead in the delivery of responsive, sustainable services to the City's diverse community. In doing this, the City seeks to preserve and enhance its environment, and lifestyle, now and into the future'*
 - o Integrating sustainability principles into strategic planning; applying GRI indicators to measure performance; and adopting a shared responsibility approach, across all stakeholders, to addressing local sustainability issues
 - o Council's strategic and deliberate focus on partnerships and alliances, and its own operational effectiveness, in delivering outcomes and measuring performance
- f The Council's performance in winning two national category awards in the Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities Awards. These being:
 - o Resource Recovery and Waste Management
 - o Environmental Innovation and Protection
- f The Council's portfolio of major programs addressing local sustainability issues in a strategic, holistic and collaborative way including:
 - o The Million-Trees Initiative
 - o The Water Smart Parks program
 - o Single Bin Recycling service
 - o Environmental conservation and remediation programs undertaken in partnership by Council, local community groups and schools

² The judging score tables for the National Award is provided in Attachment Two

- Community programs such as Adopt-a-Park; Joondanna Community Food Garden; School Battery Recycling Program; Clubs Forever Go Green program; and public open space exercise equipment.
- f* The Council's demonstration of leadership through its actions and achievements including reducing energy use/GHG emissions through: implementing virtual IT servers; using 100% green power; applying energy efficiency behaviours and technologies in Council owned/operated facilities; incorporating hybrid vehicles into the Council fleet; and implementing a travel smart program for all Council staff including initiatives rewarding public transport and cycle travel.
- f* A suite of new initiatives including:
 - the redevelopment of the Stirling City Centre through the first planning and infrastructure alliance involving State and Local Government in WA – the Stirling Alliance
 - the development of an on-line Sustainable Living Guide to provide a comprehensive, informative and reliable source of information and education on the wide range of sustainable living issues, with links to relevant Council pages promoting events, activities, rebates and volunteering opportunities
 - a range of draft policies under development that will drive future sustainability outcomes including: planning & sustainability strategy; sustainable building design policy; and renewable energy systems policy.
- f* The overall leadership of the Council, both politically and operationally, and the professionalism, commitment and passion of Council staff

2. Methodology

In judging State and Territory winners for the national Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities Awards a process combining desktop reviews, site visits and quantitative assessment was applied. The methodology was informed by the Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Communities Awards categories and points table.

Each State/Territory winner was assessed in each of the following award categories with scores awarded for identified elements within each category.

<p>Community Action & Partnerships (200 points)</p> <p>Recognises achievement in community beautification, presentation, health, wellbeing and pride. Also recognises partnerships between government, business, industry and local community networks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>f</i> Planning (50 points) <i>f</i> Action (50 points) <i>f</i> Impact (50 points) <i>f</i> Collaboration (50 points)
<p>'Dame Phyllis Frost' Litter Prevention (200 points)</p> <p>Recognises community litter management, reduction and education initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>f</i> Management (50 points) <i>f</i> Education (50 points) <i>f</i> Reduction (50 points) <i>f</i> Impact (50 points)
<p>Resource Recovery & Waste Management (100 points)</p> <p>Recognises achievement in resource recovery and waste management including initiatives which conserve resources, recover and reuse materials and the appropriate disposal of non-recyclable materials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>f</i> Community Engagement (25 points) <i>f</i> Action (25 points) <i>f</i> Facilities/Infrastructure (25 points) <i>f</i> Impact (25 points)
<p>Environmental Innovation & Protection (100 points)</p> <p>Recognises innovative principles and actions associated with developing sustainable communities. Also recognises protection of the natural environment focusing on the conservation of native flora and fauna.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>f</i> Planning (25 points) <i>f</i> Action (25 points)

<p><i>f</i> Impact (25 points)</p> <p><i>f</i> Innovation (25 points)</p>
<p>Water Conservation (100 points)</p> <p>Recognises sustainable water management within communities which has combined innovative water conservation and water re-use initiatives at the private, industrial and municipal levels, benefiting society and nature.</p> <p><i>f</i> Planning (25 points)</p> <p><i>f</i> Action (25 points)</p> <p><i>f</i> Impact (25 points)</p> <p><i>f</i> Innovation (25 points)</p>
<p>Energy Innovation (100 points)</p> <p>Recognises sustainable energy management which focuses on innovative energy efficiency measures and climate change issues.</p> <p><i>f</i> Planning (25 points)</p> <p><i>f</i> Action (25 points)</p> <p><i>f</i> Impact (25 points)</p> <p><i>f</i> Innovation (25 points)</p>
<p>Heritage & Culture</p> <p>Recognises communities which proudly preserve and value cultural history.</p> <p><i>f</i> Planning (25 points)</p> <p><i>f</i> Action (25 points)</p> <p><i>f</i> Impact (25 points)</p> <p><i>f</i> Collaboration (25 points)</p>
<p>Young Legends</p> <p>Recognises positive environmental outcomes which encourage and promote youth initiative and environmental education and/or achievement.</p> <p><i>f</i> Action (50 points)</p> <p><i>f</i> Impact (50 points)</p>

From the assessment winners in each category were identified. Following this, the overall national award winner was identified through further deliberation.

3. Assessment of State/Territory Winners

3.1. VICTORIA

NOMINEE	Melton Shire Council
POPULATION	35,490
LOCATION	54km North West of Melbourne

CATEGORY	HIGHLIGHTS
Community Action & Partnerships	<p><i>f</i> Friends of Melton Botanic Garden (FOMBG) formed in 2003 and have 135 members including 6 local businesses and local members of parliament. FOMBG has been successful in attracting funds from Council, Victorian and Australian Governments for studies and planning activities. On ground works have been undertaken for weed control and indigenous plantings. And, the group has produced educational display for use at local events.</p> <p><i>f</i> Stream Care Partnerships – since 2005 MSC has worked with community groups and private landholders to rehabilitate the creeks in Melton. Between 2005 to 2009 MSC received \$355K in grants and contributed a further \$422K for revegetation works.</p> <p><i>f</i> Friends of Toolern Creek received Council support for the Platypus Festival with 800 attendees in 2009.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention	<p><i>f</i> MSC supports Clean Up Australia Day where local residents and groups come together to reduce and remove litter. In 2010 250 participants were involved across 14 sites.</p> <p><i>f</i> Schools Clean Up Day is promoted by Council with 9 schools participating in 2010.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Resource Recovery & Waste Management	<p><i>f</i> MSC has in place a Zero Waste Strategy (2005-2015) and supporting Education Strategy.</p> <p><i>f</i> In 2010 an ‘at call’ trial for hard waste removal. To date 70% of materials collected have been re-used or recycled.</p> <p><i>f</i> Melton Recycling Facility has the highest recycling recovery rate in metropolitan Melbourne in 2009 at 67%.</p> <p><i>f</i> 54% of residents have a green waste bin for kerbside collection.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Environmental	<p><i>f</i> Pinkerton Landcare & Environment Group (PLEG) assist in the</p>

<p>Innovation & Protection</p>	<p>management of nearly 200 hectares of endangered grasslands and grassy woodlands owned by the MSC.</p> <p><i>f</i> In April this year Western Water and MSC signed a statutory agreement to ensure the protection of the Pinkerton Forest in its natural state in perpetuity.</p> <p><i>f</i> A pair of White-bellied Sea Eagles, listed as endangered in Victoria were supported by the PLEG to successfully nest and raise a pair of fledglings in 2009.</p> <p><i>f</i> PLEG and Western Water are currently working to create a habitat corridor between two fragmented patches of native remnant vegetation. The corridor will expand the available area for the variety of indigenous flora and fauna which are found at the two sites.</p> <p><i>f</i> The group has also been working with the Victorian National Parks Association to monitor the endangered Golden Sun Moth.</p> <p><i>f</i> PLEG currently has 15 members and a recent open day attracted 70 people.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Water Conservation</p>	<p><i>f</i> MSC has achieved remarkable water savings through the installation of onsite water treatment and reuse systems, water outflow reduction systems and associated initiatives as Melton Waves swimming centre. A reduction of more than 50% in water use has been achieved over a 3 year period.</p> <p><i>f</i> Within Melton Shire an extensive recycled water pipeline from Sunbury water treatment plant supplies the Melton Golf Course, the Willow historical precinct and local wineries with Class A recycled water.</p>
<p>Energy Innovation</p>	<p><i>f</i> The Big Roofs Project sees MSC, as part of the Western Greenhouse Alliance, applying the Council's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to identify large roofs in the area for installation of photovoltaic solar panels, water capture and the location of wind power generators. To date 14 sq.kms of industrial roof space has been mapped with these roofs being suitable for solar panels and the capture of rainwater. As part of the project CSIRO and Arup are developing guidelines for the building owners to explain the potential for energy generation and water capture. MSC has also mapped sites for wind turbines in Melton's industrial and rural planning zones.</p> <p><i>f</i> Solar Suburb – MSC is exploring the potential for wind, solar and biomass based energy generation in the proposed Toolern housing development. Guided by MSC's vision for a sustainable community four shortlisted</p>

	<p>developers are preparing detailed proposals for the 8,000 lots in the project. Council is also investigating a 200 home Zero Emissions Precinct in the development.</p> <p><i>f</i> In an Australian first, Western Water is using new technology to transform sewerage gases into 100 percent renewable energy, ultimately producing carbon neutral recycled water at a treatment plant in Melton Shire. The \$2million cogeneration facility opened in June 2010. The plant has dual benefit of capturing methane emissions, while creating 100% renewable energy to power the Class A recycled water plant. The methane gas is captured, and then burnt inside a micro-turbine that produces electricity for use on site. Waste heat from the process is also captured and used to assist in the anaerobic digestion process that produces the methane. Recycled water from the treatment plant is piped to the new township of Eynesbury where it is used in homes to flush toilets, water gardens and wash cars.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Heritage & Culture	<p><i>f</i> Diggers Rest residents planned and delivered a number of events to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Australia’s first powered, controlled, and sustained flight. The original flight was undertaken by Harry Houdini in Diggers Rest in 1911. 20 local residents, alongside a number of local organisations worked together over a 3 year period on the project. A commemoration ceremony was attended by 300 people on 18th March 2010, with a further 7,000 people attending the associate Festival of Flight on the 21st March 2010.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Young Legends	<p><i>f</i> Students from two local schools have created indigenous wildflower grasslands at the front of their schools to generate interest in Melton’s unique environment and to educate the community about the importance of re-establishing and preserving the local flora and fauna of the Western Volcanic Plains region. As part of the Civics and Citizenship curriculum some 250 grade three and four students participated in the program. The program is being repeated in other schools in 2010.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>

RECOMMENDATION:

Category Award Winner: Energy Innovation

JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (VICTORIA)



3.2. TASMANIA

NOMINEE	Clarence City Council
POPULATION	50,257
LOCATION	8km East of Hobart

CATEGORY	HIGHLIGHTS
Community Action & Partnerships	<p><i>f</i> CCC has a number strategies and action plans aligned to achieving the goal of a sustainable city. Some examples of partnership and community action activities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community Participation Strategy - A strategy to actively engage the community in Council activities and issues, and to increase awareness and participation in community affairs and events. ○ Youth Services - Council operates a youth resource and information centre and supports the Youth Network Advisory Group (YNAG), which advises Council on youth issues, and works collaboratively with schools, police, businesses, service providers, community groups and other youth groups. ○ ManVan - Partnership between the Clarence Positive Ageing Advisory Committee and other organisations to provide a mobile information centre for advice on men's health issues. ○ Events Program - Council provides strategic direction for community events and is strongly committed to events that generate participation across all sectors of the community and contribute to the cultural and economic life of Clarence. ○ Southern Regional Bicycle Strategy - Southern Tasmanian Council's joint approach towards enhancing cycling infrastructure. ○ Clarence Tracks and Trails Strategy - Provides a framework for developing an integrated network of tracks and trails throughout Clarence. The Clarence Tracks and Trails Action Plan was named the Tasmanian overall winner in the 2009 Heart Foundation Local Government Awards. ○ Derwent Estuary Program - A partnership between State and Local government, industry and the community, established to restore and promote the Derwent estuary. ○ Clarence Community Grants Program - A three-tiered program of community grants provided by the Council - Quick Response, Community Support and Partnership Grants <p><i>f</i></p>

<p>Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention</p>	<p><i>f</i> Litter traps in Rosny Mall - Traps were installed in partnership with the Derwent Estuary Program.</p> <p><i>f</i> Gross Pollutant Traps - Traps have been installed at strategic points around Clarence to trap garbage and pollutants from the Kangaroo Bay Rivulet and prevent them from reaching the Derwent River.</p> <p><i>f</i> Foreshore Cleanup Groups - Network of community groups cleaning up foreshore litter.</p> <p><i>f</i> Volunteer individuals supported with extra wheelie bin - Individuals who volunteer to collect litter in their local area are given an extra wheelie bin.</p> <p><i>f</i> Southern Waste Strategy Authority litter campaign - Council supports through the SWSA, the 'Do the right thing' and 'Don't litter Tasmania' promotional campaigns.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Resource Recovery & Waste Management</p>	<p><i>f</i> Recycling Garbage, Green waste and Recycling collection. Electronic waste recycling (only Tasmanian Council), ChemSafe collection day.</p> <p><i>f</i> Dial a Garbo Service - Annual kerbside collection of large items of rubbish which cannot normally be collected.</p> <p><i>f</i> Waste Transfer Station - 1st in Tasmania - The Waste Transfer Station accepts domestic commercial waste and recyclable materials and provides a 50% waste diversion. The WTS also operates a tip shop.</p> <p><i>f</i> Public Place Recycling - Recycling bins are gradually being installed in public areas throughout the whole of Clarence and are already located in the main population centres.</p> <p><i>f</i> Event recycling - All Council events utilise onsite recycling.</p> <p><i>f</i> Recycled Glass Car park - In an environmental first for Australia, Council has designed, developed and managed the construction of a car park using a break-through recycled glass product.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Environmental Innovation & Protection</p>	<p><i>f</i> Climate Change Projects - inc 'Climate Change Impacts on Clarence Coastal Areas' - An integrated assessment of the future impacts of coastal processes on local low lying areas, which has led to major amendments to the Clarence Planning Scheme. 2010 winner of the 'Urban Planning Reforms' category of the 2010 National Awards for Local Government.</p> <p><i>f</i> SMART (Social Marketing and Awareness Raising Tool) - Communications package and SMART pilot project funded by CCC, HCC and KCC, delivered through the STCA RCCI to increase the communities' understanding of key climate change concepts.</p> <p><i>f</i> Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction - Corporate target to reduce</p>

	<p>operational emissions down to 20% below 2003 levels.</p> <p><i>f</i> Other related programs and projects include: Renewable Energy Policy; Clarence Residential Strategy; Bushland and Coastal Management Strategy; Beach protection program; Landcare / Coastcare groups, support and grants; Pacific Oyster Removal by Community Groups; Terinna Street wetlands; Park at 27 Acton Court - Designed by local children; and Fire Management Plan</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Water Conservation</p>	<p><i>f</i> Water Recycling Scheme - Engineering and environmental project designed and built to divert treated effluent from the River Derwent to supply nutrient rich irrigation water for agricultural, horticultural and recreational purposes.</p> <p><i>f</i> Cambridge Sewerage Strategy - Council responding to rapidly expanding commercial development in the Cambridge area and increasing pressure on wastewater treatment facilities and infrastructure by constructing a state of the art wastewater treatment facility. Winner of 2009 National Awards for Local Government – Innovation in Natural Resource Management category.</p> <p><i>f</i> Stormwater Management Strategy - Water sensitive stormwater management is being introduced in new developments and major works eg: Cambridge Park commercial/industrial area.</p> <p><i>f</i> Stormwater harvesting for irrigation - Cambridge Soccer Ground and Symmons Park</p> <p><i>f</i> Water friendly garden - A public water friendly garden was established at the Rosny Farm utilising plants endemic to Clarence. A booklet is available, which describes these plants and their uses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Cambridge Park - Bio-remediation Ponds - Stormwater retention systems constructed in a commercial/industrial precinct to retain rainwater for irrigation purposes. <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Energy Innovation</p>	<p><i>f</i> Energy Audit Kits - Council has made Energy Audit Kits available free of charge to local residents</p> <p><i>f</i> Energy Audits/Grants for business - Collaborative project between Council and Business East to provide free energy audits and cash rebates to local businesses.</p> <p><i>f</i> Subdivisions using energy efficient Street lighting - All new subdivision developments are now required to install modern energy efficient street lighting.</p>

	<p><i>f</i> Solar lights installed in public places - Percy Street and CCC Park.</p> <p><i>f</i> Wind Turbines - 1st Council to approve wind turbine use in residential developments - Lindisfarne wind turbines. Anonometers have been installed on CCC buildings (measure wind speed).</p> <p><i>f</i> Council initiatives include: fleet vehicles comply with relevant emission standards; Vehicle Booking System optimises use of vehicles/fuel consumptions; 2 bicycles have been purchased for Council staff to use; Green smart public transport cards are available to Council staff for travel to/from Council business; and CCC one of 10 councils nationally to receive a \$10,000 grant from the Federal Government to develop a greenhouse gas and energy info management system</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Heritage & Culture	<p><i>f</i> Cultural History Plan - Identifies initiatives and significant activities to promote and preserve the cultural heritage of Clarence.</p> <p><i>f</i> Lindisfarne Heritage Study - This study has provided guidelines for future preservation of historic buildings in Lindisfarne.</p> <p><i>f</i> A Heritage Architect Officer is now employed by Council</p> <p><i>f</i> Rosny Farm redevelopment - Rosny Farm underwent a program of redevelopment in 2006 transforming it into an exciting new visual and performing arts space.</p> <p><i>f</i> Local history interpretation includes: Ferry history at Bellerive; history of Bellerive Village and the Bellerive Heritage Trail - Bellerive Oval to Rosny Farm; Charles Darwin Trail</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Young Legends	<p><i>f</i> MacKillop College - Various environmental projects - Work has been progressed at the school to address water conservation, energy efficiency and other environmental issues.</p> <p><i>f</i> Graffiti Program - Clarence City Council's multi-faceted approach to graffiti control which culminates in a Stencil Art Festival.</p> <p><i>f</i> RED Program (Recycling + Education = a Difference) - A recycling education program for primary schools (currently 5 schools). Involves the collection of plastic bags and green reusable shopping bags (made from a form of plastic) from schools and Eastlands Shopping Centre to be made into recycled products like bollards, walkways and play equipment. Clarence is the first council alongside Glenorchy to do this and if successful will be rolled out to other 12 Southern Councils under the Southern Waste Strategy Authority school program.</p> <p><i>f</i> School involvement in NRM includes:</p>



JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (TASMANIA)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Geilston Bay Rivulet regeneration - GB High Schoolo Risdon Vale Rivulet rejuvenation - Primary Schoolo Revegetation of 2nd Bluff - Clarence Higho Lauderdale Tip regeneration planting - Sandford Scoutso Lauderdale Primary School tree preservation and seed orchard <p><i>f</i> Move Well Eat Well' - South Arm Primary - Creation of a school culture, which encourages healthy eating habits and physical activity.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
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RECOMMENDATION

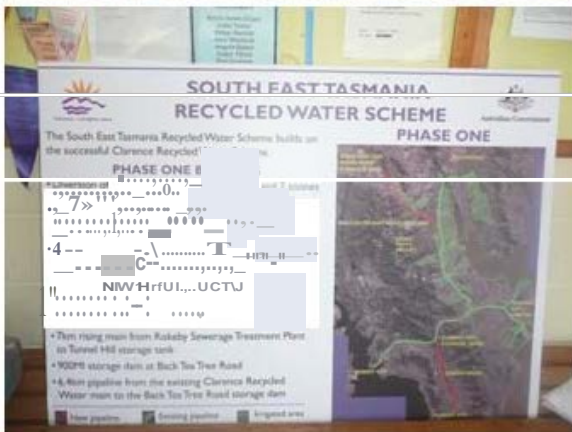
Highly Commended: Environmental Innovation and Protection



JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (TASMANIA)



JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (TASMANIA)



3.3. SOUTH AUSTRALIA

NOMINEE	City of Onkaparinga
POPULATION	160,000
LOCATION	South of Adelaide

CATEGORY	HIGHLIGHTS
Community Action & Partnerships	<p><i>f</i> Community Plan 2028 – strong vibrant communities - Our Community Plan sets the strategic directions for OCC. At the heart of this plan is a commitment to build a common sustainable future where strong vibrant communities can prosper.</p> <p><i>f</i> Measuring our Progress - the Community Wellbeing Monitor (CWBM) – Was developed by Council in 2009 in partnership with Flinders University to monitor our progress in achieving the outcomes sought in the Community Plan.</p> <p><i>f</i> Leadership Onkaparinga - We established the Leadership Onkaparinga program in 2007. It is offered free to residents who are keen to learn effective communication and project management skills, and techniques on how best to analyse strengths and opportunities and influence change.</p> <p><i>f</i> Social Enterprise Project - Christie Downs and Hackham West have been identified as suburbs experiencing a high degree of disadvantage in our region and we are working in partnership with Southern Junction Community Services to establish a social enterprise with a goal of employment for those in most need.</p> <p><i>f</i> Christies Downs Regeneration Project - Christie Downs is an area of older public housing that has a number of social, economic and urban design challenges. In July 2009 we began planning an urban regeneration project with a community reference group. The results of these activities were the creation of design criteria for the regeneration of Christie Downs.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention	<p><i>f</i> Waste Education - The recent review of our waste services recommended a \$68,000 increase in our waste education budget. This additional funding will be targeted towards an expansion of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o a doubling of our waste education presentations to schools and community groups from 50 to 100 per year. The talks cover the kerbside collection and other recycling opportunities o a doubling of our worm farming & composting workshops from 4 to 8 per annum. We also subsidise the cost of worm farms, worms and compost bins by 50%.

	<p><i>f</i> We also work with the Woodcroft Primary School on their Sustainability Program which involves Years 3 – 7 improving the ecological footprint of their school. The students are now recycling & worm farming and participated in our Recycled Art and Fashion Challenge.</p> <p><i>f</i> Waste Nott Recycling Store - We have established this store to divert business waste (off cuts & ends of runs) to sell on as craft materials.</p> <p><i>f</i> South Port Noarlunga – Australia’s Cleanest Beach 2009/10 - We supported the South Port Noarlunga Coastcare Group to plant 1000 local indigenous seedlings in the dunes and were delighted when this group won the KESAB Clean Beach award earlier this year.</p>
<p>Resource Recovery & Waste Management</p>	<p><i>f</i> Our waste services and programs reflect a waste minimisation approach, and we aim to be consistent in both our Council operations and in the services and messages that we give to our community.</p> <p><i>f</i> Council operations - The Woodcroft Library and Neighbourhood centre is undergoing an \$8 million dollar upgrade which will see the building transformed into a showcase for green building technologies. A key element of the project is to recycle or reuse as much of the original building materials as possible.</p> <p><i>f</i> In 2009/10 we diverted over 8,000 tonnes from landfill. We chip 100% of our tree prunings to produce mulch which is returned to our parks and gardens. A food organics recycling pilot was introduced earlier this year into Council offices and libraries, diverting 233 litres of waste into our green organics system. This program has been extended to the Seaford Depot where the waste is being fed into a worm farm that feeds a staff vegetable garden, and a Bokashi system is being introduced at the Port Noarlunga Arts Centre.</p> <p><i>f</i> Kerbside pick-up - We operate a 3 bin kerbside collection system of 140 litre waste collected weekly, a 240 litre recycling pick up fortnightly and a monthly green waste collection. Schools and community organisations are also supplied with recycling and green organics kerbside bins. Our kerbside system was given a 92% satisfaction rating from a November 2009 Community Perception Survey for the range of services we provide and the way in which they are delivered (450 responses). Bin audits are completed three times a year to assess both usage and contamination.</p> <p><i>f</i> Drop-off - In addition to the monthly green waste kerbside pick up, residents can drop off the equivalent of a trailer-load of garden waste once a month during spring, and around 5,000 residents currently use this</p>

	<p>service.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Environmental Innovation & Protection	<p><i>f</i> Community Plan provides for sustainable future growth of the city. Supporting programs include: Green Buildings Initiative; Sustainable Lifestyles Challenge; and the Sustainable Living Expo</p> <p><i>f</i> Native vegetation - In July 2010 Council approved the native vegetation strategy for 2010 -2014. Council cares for some 491 hectares of remnant vegetation on 48 Council reserves. There are currently 53 Environmental Volunteer sites in the City of Onkaparinga where groups and individuals undertake regular conservation works on council land to protect and restore bushland or coastal vegetation.</p> <p><i>f</i> Hart Road Wetland - Construction of this wetland commenced in January 2008, with funding support from the Stormwater Management Authority, Department of Environment and contributions from the developers of the Sunday and Bayswood estates (total project cost \$1.45 m). The wetland serves a number of functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ it forms part of the Aldinga Drainage Scheme, providing flood detention and controlled discharge into the Aldinga Scrub, reinstating important natural environmental surface flows and near surface flows to the perched aquifer and scrub ○ to provide important habitat for a range of fauna species known to frequent the area and provides a habitat island and important ephemeral wetland and macrophyte zones. <p><i>f</i> The construction of this project was completed in 2009 and although the wetland is still maturing, there are already significant environmental outcomes that are being observed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Stemodia florenta</i> (Blue rod) was thought to have been extinct in the Adelaide region but has been identified flourishing in an area of Aldinga Scrub that has been rehydrated for the first time in decades ○ a bird species, the Painted Snipe which is listed as vulnerable has returned to the area ○ <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> (River Red Gums) were once common in the area but have been in decline for many years, and are now regenerating around the edges of seasonally inundated areas. <p><i>f</i> Hart Road Wetland won the Parks and Leisure Australia state and national awards as well as the State Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia award in 2009.</p> <p><i>f</i> Hooded Plover program – COO supports local volunteers who identify</p>

	<p>Hooded Plovers nests at breeding time and produce signage that identifies the site so that beachgoers can take care not to disturb the nesting birds.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Water Conservation</p>	<p><i>f</i> Water Futures - Water Futures 2008–2013 is our strategic framework for the management of all of our water resources — mains water, surface water (including stormwater), groundwater and wastewater.</p> <p><i>f</i> Our objectives are to: conserve water; protect water quality (surface and groundwater); reduce reliance on water sourced from the River Murray; protect water dependent ecosystems (including coast and marine); and promote economic development opportunities.</p> <p><i>f</i> Water Proofing the South is a major integrated water resource management project initiated by the City of Onkaparinga. It is being delivered in two stages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stage 1 (\$185m federal, state, council and private sector funding) will deliver 3.8GL of agricultural, viticultural and urban waste water reuse and 1.1GL of additional storage. We are working with SA Water and the privately owned Willunga Basin Water Company with support from the Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges natural Resources Management Board and the Flinders University’s Centre for Coastal and Catchment Environments. We have received \$34.5m in National Water Initiative funding for this project. ○ Projects due to be completed by October 2010 along Christies Creek include 2 wetlands, 2 detention basins, a storage dam pipework to distribute the treated waste water for irrigation. Landscape and recreational amenity improvements will follow to create inviting community spaces. ○ Stage 2 (\$30m of federal, state and council funding) will capture, store, treat and reuse stormwater through an integrated system of Managed Aquifer Recovery (MAR) Schemes across the city. It is expected that this will result in the direct substitution of 1.4GL of potable demands in the urban area, representing an estimated 4% reduction in the potable water use across the city. An additional 0.8GL will be available for agricultural purposes offsetting potable demands on groundwater, surface water and mains water. ○ This will be achieved through 4 new wetlands and MAR schemes, an extensive network of pipe transfer infrastructure across the city to distribute harvested stormwater to irrigate reserves, sports fields and ovals; and preserving 20% of water injected into the aquifer for

	<p>environmental purposes.</p> <p><i>f</i> Sellicks Creek watercourse restoration - Sellicks Creek began as a drainage furrow created by a farmer many decades ago, and became a gorge almost 1.5 kilometres long, 10 metres deep and up to an incredible 30 metres wide in places. We responded to community concerns about the impact of this erosion on the Gulf St Vincent and the amenity of the local area, and began work in 2006 to create a series of ponds, channels and weirs which will eventually extend over 700 metres upstream from the where the creek meets the sea. The weirs and ponds are slowing down the water flow protecting the channel from further erosion, providing water quality improvement through settlement within a large sedimentation basin, and a feature for local residents that were once an eyesore.</p> <p><i>f</i> Reducing our organisation’s water use - Around 85% of the water that is used by the organisation is utilised to irrigate our parks and reserves. In the past decade we have reduced the amount of water we used for irrigation despite the increase in areas requiring irrigation. Water conservation measures include climate data to control computer operated irrigation systems on 50 sporting ovals and reserves, reducing irrigated turf area, increasing drip and subsurface irrigation, eliminating daylight watering, selecting indigenous, native and drought resistant plants, using water retaining crystals, using dust suppressant materials as part of road maintenance instead of water, and using treated wastewater to irrigate the Willunga Golf Course and a sports complex at O’Sullivan Beach.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Energy Innovation</p>	<p><i>f</i> Climate Change Strategy - In 2008 we were the first South Australian Council to prepare a comprehensive Climate Change Strategy, which addressed our role in reducing greenhouse emissions and adapting to climate change. In 2008 we also established the Climate Change Response Fund, which has 1% of general rate revenue allocated to</p> <p><i>f</i> Energy Futures - The growth of our region continues to place additional demands on our current energy resources, presenting our region with both challenges and opportunities. Our new Energy Futures Strategy has a focus on the role of council in ensuring the energy security for our city in the strategic areas of energy supply, energy demand, infrastructure and assets and economic development. It builds on our existing initiatives including Futurtec and the Community Owned Renewable Energy (CORE) projects.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>

Heritage & Culture	<p><i>f</i> The City of Onkaparinga is Kaurna Yerta country. For over 40 000 years indigenous people, the Kaurna, lived over the area called Ngankiparringa (City of Onkaparinga). We employ Kaurna site monitors on major construction projects to observe excavation works and notify whether any possible Aboriginal sites, objects or remains may have been disturbed during works. Upon notification we immediately stop works and follow the appropriate process according to the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988.</p> <p><i>f</i> The history profiles of all suburbs are featured on our website, as are the heritage places of national, state and local significance.</p> <p><i>f</i> We have established the Local Heritage Incentive Scheme to offer practical and financial assistance to the owners of heritage places to help them maintain and develop their properties.</p> <p><i>f</i> The Local Heritage Fund offers the owners of local heritage properties a subsidy for works associated with the conservation of their building(s).</p> <p><i>f</i> A Built Heritage Project Grants program also supports significant local heritage projects within our city that involves conservation work costing a minimum of \$17,000.</p> <p><i>f</i> With funding assistance from Heritage SA, Council provides free expert architectural advice for property owners of state and local heritage items within the City of Onkaparinga</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Young Legends	<p><i>f</i> Civic Salad and Civic Communities provide opportunities for schools and community groups to join in activities to increase their understanding of civics, citizenship, democracy and community engagement.</p> <p><i>f</i> Mock Council meeting - school classes and community groups can also visit the council chambers and take part in a mock Council meeting. It's a great way for participants to learn about the democratic role of elected members and how community opinion can influence Council decisions.</p> <p><i>f</i> Creating Places – Parks and Reserves - This program engages upper primary school and high school students in the design and development of their local reserves and parks, and younger children in the design of public art works.</p> <p><i>f</i> Recycled Art & Fashion Challenge - Students from schools, kindergartens and TAFE were invited to take part in a recycled art and fashion challenge as part of the Sustainable Living Expo on 1-2 May 2010.</p> <p><i>f</i> We work with the Woodcroft Primary School on their Sustainability Program which involves Years 3 – 7 improving the ecological footprint of their school. The students are now recycling & worm-farming and</p>

	<p>participated in our Recycled Art and Fashion Challenge. <i>f</i></p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION</p>	
<p>Category Award Winner: Water Conservation</p>	

JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)



3.4. WESTERN AUSTRALIA

NOMINEE	City of Stirling
POPULATION	193,300
LOCATION	10km North North West of Perth

CATEGORY	HIGHLIGHTS
Community Action & Partnerships	<p><i>f</i> ‘Adopt-a-Park’ program is a community led initiative, coordinated by COS, that sees local residents take ownership/stewardship of individual park lands in the city. Volunteers play an active role in monitoring parks, improving amenity, managing litter, and educating/informing park users on local issues and community initiatives. There are 209 participants in this program with 122 parks and reserves ‘adopted’.</p> <p><i>f</i> Joondanna Community Food Garden sees City land used by a local community to grow fruit, vegetables, herbs and native plants. This garden is a pilot site with COS providing a supervisory role, with day to day activities and management provided by the community.</p> <p><i>f</i> Million Trees Initiative – program to plant 100,000 trees per year over 10 years by 2020. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an Annual Tree Planting program for residents with over 1000 requests last year - Urban Bushland Conservation program with 150 school children from Lake Gwelup School planting over 3000 saplings in Lake Gwelup Reserve - Allpike Peugeot dealership works in partnership with COS to increase the number of street trees within the city with 54 planted to date - Carbon Neutral Tree Planting Day saw 30 COS staff (and family and friends) plant over 10,000 native seedlings in Mundaring <p><i>f</i> Public Open Space Exercise Equipment – COS with Rotary piloted state-of-the-art outdoor gym equipment at Jackadder Reserve. Based on this successful pilot further funding from Federal Govt has been secured to build in similar equipment in other locations. COS also piloted innovative new recreation concept – ‘Calico’ (Calories In, Calories Out) stretching stations. These being a service of interactive station in a local parkland, 500m apart serving as stretching stations and distance markers.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Dame Phyllis Frost Litter	<p><i>f</i> Clean Up Australia day 2009 – 35 registered sites saw volunteers collect 1.3tonnes of waste</p>

Prevention	<p><i>f</i> Clean Beaches litter activities include: tractor drawn ‘surf rake’; footpath sweeper; front lift bins (125 tonnes of waste pa), beach litter bins</p> <p><i>f</i> City Bins: East side = 941 and West side = 1057 with approx 450 tonnes collected in 2009/10</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Resource Recovery & Waste Management	<p><i>f</i> Single Bin Recycling: COS and Atlas Group commissioned Australia’s first ‘resource recovery facility’ where all waste is recycled. Public not required to separate recyclables thereby using a single bin collection system. The contents of each bin collected are processed mechanically with all recoverable materials separated. Single bin system reduces CO2 emissions by 50,000 tonnes pa compared with traditional two bin system. Also achieves reduced waste to landfill, conservation of raw materials, reduced GHG’s due to recycling organics, increases materials recycled.</p> <p><i>f</i> e-waste recycling program saw a total of 68 tonnes collected and recycled through the Recycling Centre Balcatta (RCB). The city contributed to the diversion of 64.6 tonnes of this material resulting in on 3.5 tonnes ending up in landfill. With every tonne of e-waste recycled there are saving of 3 to 5 tonnes on GHG emissions, so RCB is averaging a saving of 8.7 to 14.5 tonnes GHG per month. Overall 96% of all materials collected was diverted from landfill. COS also takes e-waste from other regions outside of the city and this is accepted free of charge</p> <p><i>f</i> School Battery Recycling Program – collection and recycling of dry cell batteries, encouraging recovery and safe disposal. 55 schools currently participate and COS offers financial rewards to schools based on average battery weight collected per student). To date 2.3tonnes of dry cell batteries collected pa equating to at total of over 40 tonnes of batteries</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Environmental Innovation & Protection	<p><i>f</i> Million Trees Initiative – see ‘Community Action’ category</p> <p><i>f</i> Parkland management – 12 reserves identified for implementation of hydrozones and ecozones. Conversion of 4.5 hectares of irrigated turf to ecozones to reduce water use. Shade sails no longer used playgrounds, rather large trees being used for shade. Enhanced vegetation cover in reserves and wildlife movement corridors established.</p> <p><i>f</i> Water Smart Parks strategy – see ‘Water Conservation’ category</p> <p><i>f</i> Clubs Forever Go Green program aims to assist local sporting clubs and community organisations implement small, yet significant, environmental actions including: water reduction; waste reduction; carbon footprint reduction; energy reduction; paper reduction. 450 clubs/groups involved</p>

	<p>with the aim to reduce day to day impact on the environment save energy, water and waste costs and provide more sustainable facilities to support continued physical activity.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Water Conservation	<p><i>f</i> Water Smart Parks strategy – has designated ‘water smart’ reserves (hydrozones and ecozones). The program integrates with Million Trees Initiative and Urban Bushland Conservation Strategy. Reduces water use, power consumption and fertilisation, environmental impacts, and maintenance costs. Increases biodiversity and enhances remnant bushland. Includes Water Conservation Plan with upgrade schedule for inefficient irrigation infrastructure and program to introduce graduated use of groundwater on reserves. Winner of WA Environment Award in 2009 and ICLEI conducting case study on COS water smart parks plan. Incorporates trial of new centrally controlled technology incorporating water metering, weather stations, and soil moisture sensors. In 2006/07 COS water use was 22% above allocation and since Water Smart was implemented COS is currently 16% below water allocation, thereby providing significant water savings, whilst maintaining amenity and delivering multiple sustainability outcomes. In addition to water savings the strategy has savings in power usage and infrastructure costs.</p> <p><i>f</i> COS buildings and pools – water wise technologies retrofitted in Council premises and significant water reduction achieved at pool</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Energy Innovation	<p><i>f</i> ‘Going Virtual’ program uses innovative technology to reduce the number of Council computer servers. Has reduced servers from 45 to 7 equating to 700 tonnes of CO2 avoided.</p> <p><i>f</i> Greenpower – COS purchased 100% natural power for use in its Admin. Building and this saves approx 1,400 tonnes of CO2 pa.</p> <p><i>f</i> COS community centres program has reduced energy consumption, energy costs and CO2 emissions through use of energy efficient lighting, mechanical services upgrades, installation of light timers, and use of skylights.</p> <p><i>f</i> Hybrid Vehicles – COS has 5 hybrid vehicles</p> <p><i>f</i> Travel Smart – program to reduce energy consumption associated with Council staff travel. Includes: smart riders program providing 2 weeks free public transport; staff encouraged to cycle to work with a ‘mileage allowance’ paid to staff who commute by bike; Walking School Bus, walk/cycle school days and COS School Travel Plan programs in place</p>

	<p>with more than 50% of primary schools participating in Travel Smart program. Individualised travel planning service delivered to 13,000 households providing tailored information and services to assist in reducing care use. Program resulted in 11% reduction in car trips made and 25 hours of extra physical activity per participant through walking and cycling.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Heritage & Culture	<p><i>f</i> Mount Flora Regional Museum – previously a water tank now converted into local museum that exhibits artefacts interpreting local history</p> <p><i>f</i> Heritage Protection Areas aligned to statutory requirements. In addition work currently underway to review Character Retention Guidelines to incorporate sustainability considerations.</p> <p><i>f</i> COS has heritage incentive/education programs including Heritage Awards, Heritage Values Study, Home Loan Subsidy Scheme, and education and heritage walks</p> <p><i>f</i> Reel Connections program working with indigenous and culturally/linguistically diverse youth is a multimedia training program.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Young Legends	<p><i>f</i> School Battery Recycling program – see ‘Resource Recovery & Waste Management’ category</p> <p><i>f</i> School Students Planting – Three schools (Gwelup Primary, St.Mary’s Anglican Girls Primary, and St.John’s Catholic Primary) involved collectively for over 15 years in local revegetation work. To date just under 25,000 trees planted in the past 6 years.</p> <p><i>f</i> Arbor Day program see COS receive requests from between 60-70 schools for trees, shrubs and groundcovers provided by COS nursery. School are given plants and students are awarded Tree Warden certificates in honour of caring of and protecting all trees in streets and reserves in proximity to their homes.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>

RECOMMENDATION

Highly Commended: Resource Recovery & Waste Management
Category Award Winner: Environmental Innovation & Protection
OVERALL KAB SC NATIONAL AWARD WINNER

JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (WESTERN AUSTRALIA)



Million Trees Initiative

The City of Stirling aims to plant one million trees and shrubs within the City by 2020.

Supporting Water Smart Parks (efficient watering of parks and reserves) and the City's Green Plan – our strategy to conserve urban bushlands to promote local biodiversity.



JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (WESTERN AUSTRALIA)



3.5. NEW SOUTH WALES

NOMINEE	Hornsby Shire Council
POPULATION	97,000
LOCATION	25km North of Sydney

CATEGORY	HIGHLIGHTS
Community Action & Partnerships	<p><i>f</i> Council’s vision of ‘creating a living environment’ encompasses many community actions and partnerships delivering a range of projects and events (25 listed in the awards submission)</p> <p><i>f</i> Council’s key partners involved in ongoing sustainability activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environment Trust – provided seed funding for the development of the Hornsby Shire 2020 – Our Framework for a Sustainable Future. ○ Sustainable Futures Australia – provided expertise in developing the Framework and undertaking staff engagement. ○ NSW Local Government Managers Association: Sustainable Health Check – enabled Council to identify opportunities to assist us in meeting our strategic vision and responding to future issues facing the organisation. ○ Institute for Sustainable Futures – developed the Hornsby Futures Research Paper, identifying issues which may impact on Council’s planning and policies in the future. ○ State Departments - Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW, Department of Industry and Investment NSW, Department of Fair Trading. ○ Sydney Water – Council Partnership Pilot Program to reduce water usage of 50 (high volume water users) Small to Medium sized businesses in Hornsby Shire. ○ Utility providers – Energy Australia, AGL, Country Energy, etc. ○ Sustainable Action Committee – comprising residents, staff and Councillors. Workshops conducted with the group to identify what ‘...creating a living environment’ means to them and how Council’s strategic themes could be rolled out as we move towards 2020. <p><i>f</i></p>
Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention	<p><i>f</i> Hornsby Shire Council’s Waste Management Team are on the forefront of developing and implementing innovative waste management and waste education initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community workshops – over 250 Hornsby residents have

	<p>participated in Greenhome workshops and the Greenstyle program this year including education in waste management such as recycling, composting and waste avoidance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Waste Education Van & Schools Education Program – encouragement of sustainability initiatives through the HENS network. ○ Established a drop off facility for small batteries and light globes. ○ Recycling facility tours.
<p>Resource Recovery & Waste Management</p>	<p><i>f</i> Domestic recycling, green waste and garbage service to approximately 55000 households. Recycling rate of approximately 56%.</p> <p><i>f</i> Recycling of kerbside waste collection rate at approximately 30%.</p> <p><i>f</i> E-waste weekend drop off collection for recycling for 2010 collected approximately 75 tonnes and E-waste weekday drop off collections collected approx 100 tonnes between March - August 2010.</p> <p><i>f</i> Battery collection for 2009 - approximately 196 kg. Collections for 2010 Jan – June are approx 363 kg.</p> <p><i>f</i> Fourteen chipping and mulch days offered to the community.</p> <p><i>f</i> Fridge buy-back clock up 43 tonnes for recycling.</p> <p><i>f</i> Drum muster collection continued with two collections in 2009 and one collection in 2010.</p> <p><i>f</i> Chemical collection days received over 70 kg of chemicals in 2009/10.</p> <p><i>f</i> School waste watches programme continued again (been going for 8 years) and saw over 300 students at 24 different schools again this year.</p> <p><i>f</i> ‘Return to Glory’ - Recycled art competition and exhibition ran again this year with close to 50 entries and over 200 visitors to the exhibition. The show continues with a travelling photographic display of the artworks.</p> <p><i>f</i> The Clothing Exchange was run successfully again this year (fourth time in Hornsby Shire).</p> <p><i>f</i> Community workshops in waste management such as recycling, composting, waste avoidance, eco gardening, composting and worm farming.</p> <p><i>f</i> Face-to-face – attendance at public events, through displays and stalls e.g. the Country and Garden Festival, Australia Day at Hornsby Mall, unit block expos, shopping centres, One World Festival and Bushland Shire Festivals.</p> <p><i>f</i> Business Energy Savings Program & Resource Recovery Workshop over 150 businesses have participated in Council run programs.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>

<p>Environmental Innovation & Protection</p>	<p><i>f</i> Council engages with groups of people and individuals, connected by geographical location, special interest or affiliation. Community education and participation is based on consulting, involving, collaborating and empowering our residents and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sustainable Action Committee – seeks to cultivate a healthy community, where people empower each other to conserve resources and to preserve and enhance the natural environment, including working within our own networks to support and bring about this change ○ Greenstyle Program – Over 137 homes have taken part in the program to date and had sustainability assessments of their homes and participated in workshops. ○ Rural Lands Incentive Program – Over 140 rural homes have participated to date in property planning assessments, workshops and received incentives to improve stormwater management and biodiversity on their properties. ○ Hornsby Environment Network for Schools – meetings held each term to engage and equip teachers to implement sustainability principles into their schools’ practices and curriculum. Sixty five teachers have attended from thirty four schools since it began in 2007. This represents almost two thirds of the Shire’s schools. ○ 5836 native plants given away at nursery open days – propagated by staff and volunteers. ○ Vegetation mapping providing information for conservation and development. ○ 50th Anniversary of Council’s Tree Preservation Order. ○ Bushland & riparian restoration works undertaken in Endangered Ecological Communities and wetlands. ○ Street Tree Planting program. <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Water Conservation</p>	<p><i>f</i> Sustainable Water Strategy – 18% reduction achieved to date.</p> <p><i>f</i> Industry partner to national stormwater research program ‘Cities as Water Supply Catchments’.</p> <p><i>f</i> Commissioned research into the types of microplastics found within local waterways.</p> <p><i>f</i> Council projects: constructed five large stormwater treatment systems; completed two water harvesting projects (stormwater and treated leachate) for sportfield irrigation; incorporated streetscape rain-gardens into traffic</p>

	<p>calming devices and street trees; on-going long term water quality monitoring program at urban, rural, industrial, bushland and estuarine sites throughout Hornsby Shire; community workshops/displays on rainwater tanks, greywater reuse & water conservation; and Estuary Open Day – showcasing work being done to protect and conserve the health and productivity of the lower Hawkesbury River estuary.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Energy Innovation</p>	<p><i>f</i> Installation of a 15kW, 25m high wind turbine to reduce the energy required to run a fire control centre in Berowra – medium sized wind turbine in urban setting makes this project exceptional. The turbine in combination with a 3kW photovoltaic system will provide 30% of the electricity required to power the new rural fire station. The wind turbine will play an important role in educating our community about alternative energy sources.</p> <p><i>f</i> HVAC Predictive Maintenance project - Council has partnered with CSIRO Energy Technology to trial an innovative and pioneering tool to identify and gain greenhouse gas, energy and water saving opportunities based on CSIRO’s “Intelligent Energy” technology. Implemented at Council’s five libraries, the savings will result from predictive maintenance and retuning plant control software that monitors and optimises all building equipment. It alerts staff when the system starts to degrade so they can pro-actively maintain the system, restoring optimum efficiency before any substantial increase in CO2 emissions.</p> <p><i>f</i> Installation of Ark technology in Hornsby Shire Council’s Administration Building – this patented technology is designed to save electricity costs and CO2 emissions by optimising the voltage and power quality from the supply network to match the building’s power usage needs.</p> <p><i>f</i> Initiation of rollout of 1.5kW photovoltaic systems at all suitable sports grounds, childcare and community buildings.</p> <p><i>f</i> Installation of remote control technology of power supply to sports amenities buildings to reduce unnecessary power usage when not in use.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Heritage & Culture</p>	<p><i>f</i> Council’s is proud of its most recent achievements involving the identification, documentation, promotion and conservation of heritage assets within the Shire including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Council reviewed the Heritage Committee Constitution, increasing the number of technical representatives to up to four members. o Council requested the gazettal of the findings of Heritage Review

	<p>Stage 4, involving an independent heritage assessment of numerous sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Local heritage assistance funds were allocated towards 10 projects providing kick-start assistance for works exceeding \$176,540. With annual assistance equalling \$60,000, Council has one of the highest valued funds of NSW councils. Since 1995, 172 projects valued at over \$2.1 million have been supported. ○ Council has been conserving Bar Island, a small island in the lower Hawkesbury River which is listed on the Register of the National Estate. Council recently installed interpretive signs informing the community about the Island’s Aboriginal, European and natural heritage. ○ Council commenced a significant project to restore the Hornsby Depression Era Heritage Steps. The detailed survey and conservation specifications will be used to commence restoration of the steps. ○ Council is co-ordinating the adaptive reuse of Wallarobba, a Federation house built in 1903 and occupied by Alfred R. Parker, a Councillor of Hornsby Shire (1926-30) and Lord Mayor of Sydney (1934). The heritage building will be used as an arts/cultural facility, whilst enhancing where possible, the heritage of the site. <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Young Legends</p>	<p><i>f</i> Youth Week 2010 & Rock the Block 2 Band Competition 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promotion: Throughout the promotion of Youth Week 2010 and the Rock the Block 2 Band Competition, young people from Hornsby Shire were engaged via sustainable methods such as face to face contact and through the use of emailing, text messaging and via posts on Council’s website and Youth Portal – designed by local young people ○ Transportation - Youth Week events were held at various venues throughout Hornsby Shire as a way of catering to the needs of a geographically diverse community. As such, transportation was provided in the form of coach buses that were utilised as shuttles to and from two of our events: ○ Recycling Opportunities - At many of the events held during Youth Week 2010 and the Rock the Block 2 Band Competition 2010, bottled soft drinks and water were provided free of charge to event participants. At each event where bottled drinks were distributed, Council staff ensured that numerous recycling bins were provided

	throughout the venues and clearly labelled as such. <i>f</i>
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RECOMMENDATION

Category Award Winner: Resource Recovery & Waste Management

Highly Commended: Water Conservation

JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (NEW SOUTH WALES)



JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (NEW SOUTH WALES)



3.6. AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

NOMINEE	Department of Environment, Climate Change, Energy & Water (DECCEW)
POPULATION	347,000
LOCATION	Canberra

CATEGORY	HIGHLIGHTS
Community Action & Partnerships	<p><i>f</i> Banksia Street Wetlands is Canberra's first retrofitted urban wetland to incorporate an ephemeral section which dries out in Summer. The wetland was planned by the community based catchment group and has transformed a neglected public park into an urban wetland ecosystem increasing water quality, biodiversity and amenity. Funding support for the project came from the ACT and Australian Governments. Over 100 residents participated in planting days as well as local school children and Indigenous youth at risk.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention	<p><i>f</i> Tropfest is Australia's most popular short film festival and Canberra's Tropfest screening is the second largest hosting site in the country – attracting a crowd of over 23,500 people. The ACT Government hosted this event for the first time in 2010 and provided an opportunity to raise awareness of GreenPower and to promote recycling. At the event no public waste collection bins were used. Instead the public were directed to take their rubbish to a centrally located waste sorting site. The area consisted of waste volunteers who helped guide the public to sort their own waste into colour coded waste buckets which were then transferred by the volunteers into larger storage bins. The initiative resulted in more than one tonne of total event waste being redirected to composting or recycling depots, rather than landfill.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Resource Recovery & Waste Management	<p><i>f</i> ACTSmart Business and Office Programs were launched in August 2009 to assist businesses put more effective recycling and waste management practices into action. The program provides a good practice guide as well as advice in establishing an organisation's waste management system, also including waste audits and staff education. To date 150 organisations have signed up with 25 receiving accreditation. An example of the impact of this program is the Crowne Plaza Hotel reducing their monthly waste to landfill by 21 tonnes (61%)</p> <p><i>f</i></p>

<p>Environmental Innovation & Protection</p>	<p><i>f</i> DECCEW and the ACT NRM Council supports the work of community catchment groups in working on local environment projects that address biodiversity, water quality and other sustainability issues. Partnerships form a cornerstone of these programs with a major recent success being a project in collaboration with the local Ngunnawal Indigenous elders. This project resulted in the production of the “Understanding the Land Through the Eyes of the Ngunnawal” – a natural resource management program for schools in the ACT. This is the first locally specific Indigenous natural resource management curriculum package developed in Australia.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Water Conservation</p>	<p><i>f</i> The ToiletSmart program assists ACT residential property owners replace single flush toilets with four star, water efficient, dual flush toilets. Since May 2008 the program has assisted ACT residents replace around 5,000 single flush toilets. For an average household single year water savings through installing water efficient toilets is around 36,000 litres.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Energy Innovation</p>	<p><i>f</i> The Home Energy Action Kit enables residents to perform an energy audit of the own home and develop an Home Energy Action Plan. The kits are borrowed from any ACT Public Library and contain the equipment, instructions and worksheets to assist householders to find practical ways to save energy around the home – reducing costs and greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p><i>f</i> ACT Energy Wise is a program that provides subsidised home energy audits to identify priority areas for energy efficiency improvement, and then a \$500 rebate on completed improvements to the value of at least \$2000. This program is integrated in the Sustainable Schools Initiative by a school signing up for the program and for staff and students to undertake energy audits to identify areas for improvement. The Home Energy Advice Team (HEAT) further supports the process by providing a consultant to work with the school to discuss findings of the audit and make recommendations.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Heritage & Culture</p>	<p><i>f</i> Engagement of local Indigenous people in natural resource management is becoming a key policy, program and investment priority for many Australian governments and NRM bodies. Key to this engagement is recognition of the intimate and seamless interplay between Indigenous culture, land and people. DECCEW and ACT NRM Council successfully worked with the local Ngunnawal community in the ACT to build a strong</p>

	<p>partnership focussed on bringing together care of culture, land and people to contribute to a more sustainable community. In practical terms this included taking time to sit together, exchange knowledge and understanding, and undertake activities that enhance culture, land and people. From this process came the “Understanding the Land Through the Eyes of the Ngunnawal” project (See Environmental Innovation & Protection award category)</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Young Legends</p>	<p><i>f</i> The ACT Government helps schools to save energy and water, improve waste management, protect biodiversity and cut greenhouse gas emissions through the Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative ACT (AuSSI-ACT). AuSSI-ACT provides advice and assistance to ACT government and non-government schools participating in the program. There are a total of 114 ACTSmart schools in the ACT of a total of 127 schools in Canberra. On commencing the program, participating schools are encouraged to establish an environmental leadership team of students, teachers and members of the wider school community. These teams are then supported by ACTSmart officers to assist the schools in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Conducting water, waste and energy audits o Manage and maintain environment centres in schools o Report to the school community on environmental achievements and initiatives o Participate in environmental conferences and special events <p><i>f</i> Achievements in AuSSI schools in recent months include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 23,000 ACT students participated in school Earth Hour in March 2010 and held energy wise assemblies in their schools o Students from 13 ACT schools last year participated in the International River Health conference where they developed and presented workshops to their peers on emerging environmental issues o Students from St.Francis Xavier College developed and managed Sustainable Careers Expo for all ACT high school and college students in 2009 <p><i>f</i> Postive results have been achieved through the AuSSI program with audit figures showing favourable outcomes. For example: in terms of waste, nine accredited waste wise schools showed enthusiastic students assisting in reducing waste sent to landfill. Collectively, these schools used to send 282,000 litres of waste to landfill. They now send 119,000 litres of waste to landfill – a total reduction of 58%. And, in terms of water, a total of 22</p>

	<p>schools have been accredited as ACTSmart water-wise schools. In total, these schools have reduced water consumption by 30,306 kilolitres or reduced costs by \$61,218 per annum (approx 37%).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>f</i></p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>Category Award Winner: Young Legends</p> <p>Highly Commended: Heritage & Culture</p>	

JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY)



JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY)



3.7. NORTHERN TERRITORY

NOMINEE	Darwin City Council
POPULATION	125,000
LOCATION	Darwin

CATEGORY	HIGHLIGHTS
Community Action & Partnerships	<p><i>f</i> DCC has undertaken in partnership many projects focussed on local sustainability outcomes. As an example: two projects were supported by the Australian Government and delivered in partnership with DCC, the Larakia Rangers and Conservation Volunteers Australia and the Darwin North Rotary Club. These projects aimed at enhancing biodiversity, protecting natural icons and engaging local communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Protecting the Dunes of Mindil Beach – the site of this project has cultural significance as it is home to a number of Indigenous burial sites. Erosion has threatened to expose know locations of human burial remains. Through this project revegetation, re-fencing and new beach access activities has mitigated immediate threats. The project used planks made from recycled materials to provide new beach access pathways and used a water saving seed called ‘terracottem’ when planting new native plants and runners. o Zero Toad project – new methods were applied to environmentally and humanely eradicate cane toads <p><i>f</i> A major DCC project is the revitalisation of the Darwin City Centre. Local businesses, residents and visitors benefit through this project through participating in the design and development of the city centre</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention	<p><i>f</i> Royal Darwin Show – DCC’s Waste Management & Recycling Section alongside DCC’s Climate Change and Environment Section produced a lively display to assist the community understand how to best manage waste and recycle more.</p> <p><i>f</i> Darwin Community Events – Council provides ‘hands on’ participation in a diverse range of community events including World Environment Day, NT Tropical Gardens and Sustainable Living Fair, Clean Up Australia Day, Landcare Week and Darwin Harbour Clean Up.</p> <p><i>f</i> Shoal Bay Landfill School Tours – DCC has provided additional resources to conduct school tours of Shoal Bay Waste Disposal site. School groups are taken through all facets of the site and are provided with explanations about all the processes that take place to ensure maximum waste</p>

	<p>management outcomes. The program educates and informs the reduce/re-use/recycle philosophy.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Resource Recovery & Waste Management	<p><i>f</i> Shoal Bay Renewable Energy Facility – DCC is proud to have the first renewable energy facility in the Tropical Australia at the waste disposal site. This DCC and Land Management Services project reduces landfill GHG emissions by 97% (or more than 46,000 tonnes of CO2 equiv.) and provides electricity for 1,000 homes from the 1 megawatt power station driven by landfill gases captured through vacuum collection from the landfill site.</p> <p><i>f</i> Pre-Cyclone clean up – DCC in cooperations with Territory Government conducts an annual pre-cyclone clean up that provides kerbside collection of ‘hard’ rubbish prior to the onset of the cyclone season. In 2009 two clean up days were conducted with 440 tonnes of material collected. Of which all recyclable and re-useable materials were diverted from landfill.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Environmental Innovation & Protection	<p><i>f</i> DCC Evolving Darwin Strategic Plan provides direction and investment to address local environmental sustainability issues: key actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o DCC adoption of Strategic Plan goal area for environmental sustainability with four key outcomes and seven underpinning strategies o Environmental Management Plan focussed on protection and enhancement of local environment through dividing the LGA into 24 Enviro.Management Units o Plan supported by DCC’s Climate Change Advisory Committee o DCC achieved Milestone 4 in ICLEI’s Cities for Climate Protection program <p><i>f</i></p>
Water Conservation	<p><i>f</i> DCC responsible for management and maintenance of 655 ha of public parkland, native bush habitat, foreshore and recreational open spaces of which nearly 50% is irrigated. DCC has undertaken studies to identify opportunities for water efficiency, harvesting and re-use.</p> <p><i>f</i> Other activities include: on-going water quality testing and management; council facilities water audits; all public toilets replaced with Exeloos, and 19 water sensitive urban design tree pits installed in city centre.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Energy Innovation	<p><i>f</i> Building energy audits for all DCC buildings undertaken</p> <p><i>f</i> Plans to retrofit China Town multi-storey car park with solar panels</p>

	<p><i>f</i> Working on a longer term project to replace/install street, park and traffic lights with more energy efficient solutions</p> <p><i>f</i> Through the City Centre Revitalisation project DCC will be installing solar panels on the roofs of three existing structures as a demonstration project for the community.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Heritage & Culture	<p><i>f</i> Mindil Beach Indigenous burial sites have major cultural significance (registered site with Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority). The rehabilitation project undertaken in collaboration with Larrakia Rangers, the traditional land owners, has mitigated erosion threat.</p> <p><i>f</i> The aim of the Gardens Road Cemetery project was to protect what is one fo the most important heritage listed sites in Darwin. The site was suffering from slow, but persistent, degradation due to natural elements and vandalism. DCC is the second year of a three year program of works at the cemetery including drainage; fencing; records audit, memorial restoration; identification of unmarked graves, landscaping and signage. A similar program is also underway at the Pioneer Cemetery</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Young Legends	<p><i>f</i> DCC participates in the CSIRO Student Fair where invited schools attend educational work stations provided by various organisations. DCC partnered with Cleanaway to provide education on reduce, recycle, re-use. Students had the opportunity to participate in a number of activities with Council providing prizes.</p> <p><i>f</i> DCC waste management and recycling messages are integrated into the School Holidays Program at the Darwin Libraries. Creative storytelling, music/songs and artwork are being employed to provide early information to children. Two programs were conducted in 2009 and DCC's climate change and environment team will also be providing input into the 2010 school holiday program.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>

RECOMMENDATION

Category Award Winner: Heritage & Culture

JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (NORTHERN TERRITORY)



3.8. QUEENSLAND

NOMINEE	Redland City Council
POPULATION	141,000
LOCATION	Brisbane

CATEGORY	HIGHLIGHTS
Community Action & Partnerships	<p><i>f</i> Redland City Council (RCC) is host to a unique environmental education centre called IndigiScapes. The centre is a hub of environmental resources for the local community and a popular place for people to visit and relax, making it an ideal place for creating community partnerships. The centre itself boasts interpretive walks, native landscaped gardens, a cafe, native nursery and many related environmentally focussed events. One of the main aims of IndigiScapes is to create advocacy in the community through effective engagement and education opportunities.</p> <p><i>f</i> Habitat Protection Programs - to date approximately 850 landholders have formed partnerships with RCC through participating in Habitat Protection Programs and close to 1746Ha are under agreement. The programs provided by Redland City Council include: Your Backyard Garden Program; Rural Support Program; Land for Wildlife Program; Waterway Extension Program; Koala Conservation Agreement Program; Voluntary Conservation Agreement Program.</p> <p><i>f</i> Wildlife Programs - RCC provides a number of programs and supports many organisations in raising community awareness of koalas. Some of the programs that are provided by the Redland City Council in relation to wildlife include: Redlands 24 hour Wildlife Rescue service; Koala Watch; Wildlife Schools Program.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention	<p><i>f</i> RCC recognises the importance of education in tackling the issue of litter and puts significant resources towards tackling the issue within our schools and also the broader community. Partnerships with existing Council Programs include: the Young Citizen Program (YCP) offers schools lessons on local politics.</p> <p><i>f</i> New Education Programs and Initiatives have recently developed multiple new teaching and learning resources. It is envisaged that these resources will be uploaded on to the Council website for schools, teachers and community groups to be able to make use of them.</p> <p><i>f</i> School Holiday Activities and Local Events - our Education Officer has revamped the Waste Operations Display that featured at Council's 'Fun in</p>

	<p>the Parks’ program to feature more on recycling and waste minimisation in the Redlands. In addition to information on Education programs and recycling right, Waste Operations also offer a nature walk through the parks to investigate the effects of litter on wildlife. There are six ‘learning stations’ planted throughout the park that feature a poster with an image of a real animal in danger from litter, as well as a soft toy that needs ‘rescuing’ by the students. Hands on fun where kids can learn about how litter can harm our natural environment and the animals that depend on it.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Resource Recovery & Waste Management</p>	<p><i>f</i> RCC has developed two documents that will assist Council in becoming one of Queensland’s leading Council’s in resource recovery and waste management. These two documents are: Draft Sustainable Resource Future (Waste Strategy) 2010 – 2020; and Draft Redlands Waste Education Strategy</p> <p><i>f</i> Council has a full time Education Officer (Resources and Waste) dedicated in providing waste minimisation education to schools, businesses and community groups. Since joining RCC six months ago, this Education Officer has increased education visits by 43% from the previous financial year and it is expected that over the next financial year, education visits will increase by at least another 40% bringing the total to 158 visits across the Redlands. 5200 children and adults have participated in these visits in 2010 alone.</p> <p><i>f</i> New Education Programs and Initiatives include: School excursions to the Redland Bay Waste Transfer Station (including RecycleWorld), Birkdale Waste Transfer Station and closed landfill at Judy Holt Park have been to allow students a broader understanding of waste minimisation.</p> <p><i>f</i> Organic Recycling - over 30 worm farms have been donated to schools as part of an education program on organic waste minimisation since 2009. Over 600 people participated in the program so far. We are also working with a number of schools to introduce composting and worm farming to help minimise waste in their school.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Environmental Innovation & Protection</p>	<p><i>f</i> To achieve the goal of a sustainable carrying capacity for the Redlands, Council is commissioning a study that identifies sustainable population and dwelling numbers for the Redlands, bearing in mind the vision and values of Redlands 2030. This study will inform future planning, including the review of the Redlands Planning Scheme and associated strategies.</p> <p><i>f</i> In 2010, Council will begin a project that will create a set of major green</p>

	<p>corridors and recreation pathways across the entire Redlands. The project will kick-start achievement of the Redlands 2030 goal to create extensive wildlife linkages and corridors. It will harness the power of seven ‘Cs’ – communities, centres, cities, catchments, culture, conservation areas and citizens – to connect people, plants and animals across private, Council and public land.</p> <p><i>f</i> The Redlands IndigiScapes Centre also stands as evidence for a commitment to the environment – this environment centre was opened in 2000 and showcases local native plants of the Redlands in a landscaped botanic gardens. For ten years visitors have come to relax, enjoy and learn in a beautiful bush setting with visitation growing every year to 8000 in 2001 to more than 44,000 in 2009.</p> <p><i>f</i> Extension programs run from the centre currently engage more than 1000 local residents as volunteers or participant landholders in one of our support programs. The level of partnership between Council and the community has allowed Redlands to be the most innovative environmental community in south-east Queensland with actions to match.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Water Conservation	<p><i>f</i> The waterways of the Redlands are unique in that they provide a management challenge as the creeks often become small pools in the landscapes with no rivers to support flows in the area. RCC has completed Waterway Management Plans for Eprapah, Tingalpa and Hilliard’s Creeks including recommendations and actions about improving the health of the creeks and wetlands. Partnerships with SEQ Catchments, State Government, Universities, Queensland Museum and other interested community organisations have also been developed through this process.</p> <p><i>f</i> In recognition of the challenges faced with Redlands waterways and the poor results reflected in the SEQ Healthy Waterways Partnership report card, RCC has developed a number of programs that seek to enhance the quality of water and sustainable use of the waterways. These programs will also contribute to the implementation of the South East Queensland Healthy Waterways Strategy. These programs include: Waterways Extension Program; Fish, Creeks and Us Program; Creek Crew; Hotspot Water Quality Monitoring Program; and Riparian Restoration Programs</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Energy Innovation	<p><i>f</i> In 2010 RCC adopted the Redlands 2030 Community Plan after much consultation with the Redlands community. This is the Redland community’s long term plan for creating a better future – a sustainable future. This plan</p>

	<p>specifically recognises goals of the Redlands community including: A culture of sustainability; A community prepared for climate change; Environmentally sustainable buildings; Energy efficiency</p> <p><i>f</i> This process has already started with Council and community partnerships in a range of areas: Earth Hour; Green Lane Diaries and RCC walking the walk through both engineered and environmental solutions over the last few years to mitigate electricity consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p><i>f</i> RCC’s green waste is trucked to Rocky Point Green Power Plant (RPGPP). This facility uses bagasse (a by-product of the sugar milling process), approved wood residues, and other biomass materials to generate renewable electricity and steam power to the Rocky Point Sugar Mill and Distillery. It is one of the largest biomass projects in Australia. RPGPP is accredited by the Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA) as a green power generator.</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
Heritage & Culture	<p><i>f</i> The Redlands 2030 Community Plan strongly recognises the rich Aboriginal heritage of the Redlands (Quandamooka) and the Traditional Owners’ ongoing custodianship of Quandamooka land and waters. It commits us all to work together for the future of Quandamooka Country. Amongst other things, the community plan recognises;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Traditional Owners and members of the Aboriginal community have a leading role in managing natural and cultural resources. o The unique and ongoing relationship between Redlands’ First Peoples and their land and waters is widely understood, and the visions expressed by the Aboriginal community become part of broader community planning. o Residents and visitors understand Quandamooka values systems and observe protocols and ceremonies for acknowledging the Traditional Owners and their relationship to country. o Indigenous knowledge, culture and heritage are shared through festivals and the arts, tourism, educational activities, interpretive information, dual naming and signage, and a cultural and interpretive centre. <p><i>f</i> Minjerriba Knowledge Centre - the proposed Minjerriba Knowledge Centre for North Stradbroke Island will make a huge contribution to achieving the Redlands 2030 goals of community education and an enduring, living culture. Inspired by the work of the late Oodgeroo</p>

	<p>Noonuccal (Aunty Kath Walker) and the Quandamooka peoples' long held dream for a cultural centre on North Stradbroke Island, Council is working with local Aboriginal organisations to secure support for a Minjerriba Knowledge Centre. The centre is imagined as a keeping place for precious records, images and artefacts; a space for presenting intangible knowledge including traditional songs and dances; and a site for storytelling, exhibitions, a library and research. Council is exploring partnerships, first with community and then government and business investors, with the aim of finalising governance, finance and construction arrangements by 2014</p> <p><i>f</i></p>
<p>Young Legends</p>	<p><i>f</i> Through the Redlands IndigiScapes Centre, RCC is perfectly placed to engage local schools and youth in environmental education activities. This extends beyond the classroom and into their school environment and also the greater community, creating a next generation of environmentally aware Redlands residents and Redlands leaders.</p> <p><i>f</i> Staff from Redlands IndigiScapes Centre have worked with many local schools in changing their gardens to local native plants and have even held a workshop for all local groundsmen to make them aware of 'school suitable' local plants.</p> <p><i>f</i> Redlands IndigiScapes Centre provides free environmental education programs to all schools in the Redlands as well as an advisory service to schools on weed identification and removal and revegetation projects that don't involve students.</p> <p><i>f</i> 23 out of the 36 Redland schools participated in this year's National Tree Day. Each received 40 free locally native plants for planting within their school grounds.</p> <p><i>f</i> Council staff worked with a group of children (IndigiKids Crew) from the Redlands to create a performance based on koalas in the Redlands. They rehearsed at IndigiScapes over a couple of months and performed at the Indigi Koala Day Out in 2009 – helping to spread the koala conservation message. (Picture 14 – Indigi Kids Crew)</p> <p><i>f</i> 6 schools (Carmel College, Coolnwynpin Primary, Dunwich State School, Macleay Island Primary, Russell Island Primary and Victoria Pt High) in the Redlands are Land for Wildlife properties and 2 further schools (Mt Cotton Primary and Redland Bay Primary) are working towards this.</p> <p><i>f</i> Redland Bay Primary School has approximately 25 students in their environment club, involved in weed identification and removal and the planting of butterfly food plants. Council has supported the group with</p>

	<p>worm farming, recycling and carried out a spotlight evening for environment club members and their families.</p> <p><i>f</i> Coolnwynpin Primary School have had an environment club at the school nearly 18 years. Council has worked with the school to carry out plantings of koala food trees in conjunction with the Koala Action Group. They were the first school in the Redlands to be signed up as a Land for Wildlife.</p> <p><i>f</i> Bayview Primary School is a new school in the Redlands and all the buildings have been designed with solar passive design limiting the need for air conditioners and, heating. Staff from the Redlands IndigiScapes Centre have worked with the school on a Year 5,6 & 7 koala project and local park walk and study to see environmental problems and what can be done to help the park area improve.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>f</i></p>
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RECOMMENDATION

Category Award Winner: Community Action & Partnerships

JUDGING TOUR IMAGES (QUEENSLAND)



4. Judge's Reflections

4.1. Purpose

In the spirit of continuous improvement, this section provides reflections from the national judge for consideration by Keep Australia Beautiful in order to further improve and enhance the Sustainable Cities Awards program.

4.2. KAB National

It was pleasing to note that reflections/suggestions provided in the 2009 Sustainable Cities Awards Recommendation Report were addressed by KAB National. These included:

- f* Agreeing a clear and consistent statement affirming the intent and purpose of the Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities (KABSC) Awards program
- f* Articulating the point/s of differentiation between KABSC and KAB Tidy Towns award programs
- f* Conducting a review of the criteria under each award category and scoring system
- f* Consideration of the timing of State/Territory winner announcements to accommodate adequate travel time for the national judging process

Upon reflection of the 2010 judging process the following reflections/suggestions are raised:

- f* A noticeable increase in the compliance of submissions with the national criteria was noted in 2010. Notwithstanding this, many/most submissions did not comply with word limits, at times affecting the quality of information provided
- f* Consider limiting the number of initiatives submitted under each award category – many 2010 national award submissions were noticeable for the quantity of initiatives nominated per category leading, in many cases, to very large category submissions (greater than 400 word limit) but with very little detail (in some cases only a dot point!)
- f* The timing of State/Territory award winner announcements again led to a very hectic judging period. This remains problematic in balancing the judge's work and family commitments with a very compressed travel schedule.
- f* Media activities related to the judging visits in 2010 were higher than in the previous two years. Some challenges did emerge regarding scheduling of interviews and undertaking judging visits concurrently. Noting that KAB CEO provided great support in undertaking media duties when itinerary conflicts arose. Having said this, the issue of media scheduling needs to be considered in future planning

