

ACT'S CLIMATE STRATEGY TO A NET ZERO EMISSIONS TERRITORY

WHAT WE HEARD REPORT



CLIMATE STRATEGY

Climate change is already affecting communities around the world. In Canberra, climate change means longer, hotter summers and more heatwaves, increased risk of bushfires and more variable rainfall.

With the ACT community's support, the Government has committed to a target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 at the latest as part of its commitment to the global effort to limit global warming to two degrees.

In 2017, the ACT Government released the ACT's Climate Strategy to a Net Zero Emissions Territory Discussion Paper. This paper provided background on key issues and posed questions to elicit advice from the community on the Government's plan to achieve net zero emissions for the ACT.

THE CONVERSATION

From 11 December 2017 to 9 April 2018 we asked the ACT community to comment on our discussion paper.

Engagement occurred through a variety of formats including formal submissions, online forums, emails, roundtables, meetings and conversations at events and stalls. We also ran a photo competition.

WHO ENGAGED

Community Councils across Canberra, peak bodies and organisations, members of the general public and academics engaged with the ideas in the discussion paper.

Key insights from the community

Transport

- 1 There is strong support for promoting uptake of zero emissions vehicles.
- 2 Support exists for further improving the ACT's public transport and active travel networks.
- 3 Suggestions on ways to increase uptake of public transport and reduce private car use were made.

Energy and Buildings

- 4 There is strong support for improving energy efficiency standards and building codes.
- 5 Additional support for encouraging solar uptake on roofs, including helping body corporates install solar in apartment buildings.

Waste

- 6 There is also strong support for diverting organic waste from landfill, including more green bins and organics collection.
- 7 Appropriate measures need to be considered around converting waste to energy. This includes options such as anaerobic digestion and gas capture and combustion, with mixed views received on this approach.

Developing the new climate change strategy

- 8 General support for the targets proposed in the discussion paper.
- 9 Some support for not utilising carbon offsets, and adopting a social cost of carbon to invest in abatement activities.



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WHAT'S NEXT?

Policy officers are distilling the ideas and comments received during the consultation period, and talking to various parts of Government that work on the types of actions raised. A considered strategy including an action plan will be put to Government for consideration.

You can register to receive project updates at:
<https://www.yoursay.act.gov.au/zero-emissions>

To find out more about the ACT's Climate Strategy and other initiatives, policies and projects in Canberra visit www.yoursay.act.gov.au or follow us on Facebook or Twitter

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

3,000

We reached over 3,000 people via YourSay

1,700

We spoke to around 1,700 individuals at stalls, events and meetings

16

We delivered 16 presentations to groups and events

8

We attended 8 major events including the Canberra Show and the Multicultural Festival

116

We received 116 entries to the photo competition

60,000

We reached a social media audience of around 60,000

100

We received 100 written submissions

1,100

We received over 1,100 contributions via YourSay