

How can Council best support climate action in our community? Please input your ideas below for the Climate Action Plan (CAP)

No.	Suggestion	Votes	Visits	Suggestion Description	Council response	Reply 1	Reply 2
1	Zero carbon, Renewables and EV Charging	7	50	<p>1. Council should commit to zero carbon by 2025 (or 2030 at the latest)</p> <p>2. Council should support/subsidise EV Charging stations (and if pay for use they should pay for themselves.....over time). If we can install four at the winery (free) then I believe our town should also have them. They will help visitation all year round and encourage the uptake of EV vehicles in our area.</p> <p>3. I believe that Council should work closely with Helen Haines to promote her plan re community/regional energy hubs.</p> <p>4. I believe that all new housing developments should be forced to install water tanks, PV panels (and be their own energy hub) and recycle water. I realise that Local gov't can't force this but they can lobby/encourage State Gov't to amend planning regulations to insist on this.</p>	<p>1. Included in CAP</p> <p>2. Option in CAP</p> <p>3. Not Included in CAP</p> <p>4. Option in CAP</p>	<p>Great suggestions David! And imagine if rates could be linked to a businesses carbon footprint? And enable Mansfield region (collectively) to reduce our load on the grid, and start to push our renewable back the other way!</p> <p>We need to seek the communities collective interest and present to Helen Haines -the Community Action Group and Renewable Energy Mansfield could collectively bring these ideas together for long term community benefit.</p> <p>Housing developments should be 'sustainable'!!!! That includes heat, water, energy and transport. How can the region continue to bring in external 'city minded' developers that literally create an issue for the next decade around these key deficiencies. If they are not 'sustainable' there should be a bid or community consultation to make them see this as a priority to garner community support (perhaps a NE rating etc)?</p>	<p>Couldn't have put it better, fantastic set of priorities.</p> <p>Reply 3: A great start in the smaller towns like Woods Point, Gaffney's Creek and Matlock would be an option to be able to recycle. Currently everthing just goes into a skip bin. As the tip doesn't have any gates etc out of town people regularly dump large items that would usually cost them elsewhere. Making more landfill for the shire.</p>
2	Mansfield Shire to reach zero emissions by 2022.	0	33	<p>While other councils are aiming for zero emissions by 2030, I hope to see Mansfield reach zero emission by 2022 (at least). I hope to see Mansfield Shire lead the way .</p> <p>1. Council to install solar and back up batteries on existing buildings in the town, i.e schools, community buildings, sports complex.</p> <p>2. Strict and accountable recycling, compost and education on house hold waste. Recycling of ag waste, specifically bailing twine and silage wrap, worm farms and e-waste to be exemplary on a national level.</p> <p>3. Policy around climate action in Council operations (again to lead the way).</p> <p>4. soil regeneration throughout big and small ag enterprises to become the expectation (we seem to be the last doing this).</p> <p>5. Local food promotion and delivery for better health, food security and reduction in food travel and waste.</p> <p>6. Policy in all planning to have all new and renovated buildings with a minimum of 8 star rating and full solar and battery set up.</p>	<p>0. Included in CAP</p> <p>1. Installation on Council buildings in CAP and underway</p> <p>2. Partially included in new recycling and waste contract</p> <p>3. Included in CAP</p> <p>4. Not Included in CAP</p> <p>5. Not Included in CAP</p> <p>6. Option in CAP</p>	<p>Yes and yes!</p> <p>1) Council solar and renewables - community investment strategy?</p> <p>2) Local recycling - join Community Action Group ... we are keen to explore and find local solutions of shortening the supply chain!</p> <p>3) Climate Action - Council delivered their 'climate action plan' ... just needs to adhere and follow it!</p> <p>4) Soil regeneration - how about we just incentivise regenerative farmers to increase the carbon and natural capital in soils. A carrot rather than a stick! And best of all, local businesses can offset direct with local farmers..... bettering our region on both counts!</p> <p>5) We also need more local producers, and to understand more the metrics around what the local food 'system' demands. So much is dependant on demand ... and seasonal variation. And yes for local cafes, restaurants and supermarkets to see the bigger picture benefits for supporting our local producers, and building local provenance around our clean and green image.</p> <p>6) Local development ... so yes! Why would we destroy our local old growth forestry and trees, to build 'more houses'? The Council should consider the 'big picture' of high value sustainable development, rather than cheap and short term 'bums on seats' developments that are not thought out in relation to energy, water, waste. Surely a longer term view is needed more than ever?</p>	
3	Increase percentage of tree cover in the townships	2	28	<p>Plant fast growing deciduous and native trees along streets and urban township areas such as parks. This will reduce the overall heat impact and make the town more liveable over hot, dry summers. Have a target of percentage tree coverage in the townships. Trees provide great shade and will keep temperature down. Easy to do. Just decide on the percentage increase and go for it. It will make a difference.</p>	<p>Option in CAP</p>	<p>We need to seek the communities collective interest and present to Helen Haines -the Community Action Group and Renewable Energy Mansfield could collectively bring these ideas together for long term community benefit.</p>	<p>Native trees are a fire hazard.</p>
4	How about we let residents dispose of their rubbish at a realistic cost.	3	28	<p>We once received a coupon with our rates notices to dispose of rubbish at the tip. Move along and that has ceased also prices at the "recycling centre" have increased exponentially . Result people no longer take rubbish there and dispose of it by other means, usually fire. As a Shire here is an opportunity to do something positive.</p>	<p>Not Included in CAP</p> <p>To see what can be disposed of at the tip and the cost please go to https://www.mansfield.vic.gov.au/residents/house-and-property/waste/resource-recovery-centre</p>		
5	Solar, grow veg, insulation, tiny houses	1	16	<p>Suggestions for the climate/environmental project, from link: Easy access to solar panels (& batteries) with easy access to the solar rebates too. Free/Discount backyard compost bins and veggie garden boxes for everyone. More tiny housing. Free/discount insulation materials for everyone & installers. Discounts on double glazed glass.</p>	<p>Not Included in CAP</p>	<p>Housing developments should be 'sustainable'!!!! That includes heat, water, energy and transport. How can the region continue to bring in external 'city minded' developers that literally create an issue for the next decade around these key deficiencies. If they are not 'sustainable' there should be a bid or community consultation to make them see this as a priority to garner community support (perhaps a NE rating etc)?</p>	<p>Perhaps a conversation around tiny housing - and the Councils appetite or 'interest' in this concept. Includes affordable housing, diversifying incomes on farms.</p> <p>REM are doing some good work around the information and access to Solar (let's not repeat what is already working).</p> <p>A green waste or more education around local composting options a good thing. Not sure that council can/will provide 'free' bins, but perhaps they could be subsidised?</p>
6	Community veggie gardens	0	17	<p>Adding: Community veggie gardens. (Generally: more plants is good, better food security, people won't have to travel as much - not all people initially have motivation to grow at home)</p>	<p>Not Included in CAP</p>		
7	Introduce an environmental levy for all visitors. Perhaps we a \$2 bridge toll.	0	25	<p>This levy would be used to provide and maintain more garbage bins. And pay for environmental officer to inspect camp sites. Plant disiduous trees. Put up better information signs and directions to bin sites. I have seen many drive through coin Bridge tolls in the USA work quite effectively.</p>	<p>Not Included in CAP</p>	<p>Great idea ... a toll on the bridge ... but who would administer? Would the 'CityLinks' of the world consider this as a regional support? Rather than visitors having to have 'another' toll. Eastlink and Citylink seem to work this out?</p>	

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8	Add a 2nd sewage pump out station for caravans.	2	17	The current station is often full during holiday weekends and requires council to be notified for emptying.	Not Included in CAP	Simple issue. Simple solution! A measure that triggers at peak times. And a second local composting dump. Great suggestion!	
9	Solar panels for Shire Offices and other buildings	1	18	Solar panels would reduce electricity costs at each of the shires buildings. Panels could possibly be funded by subscription. I imagine it would cost somewhere in the order of \$30k to mount panels on the main shire office. Shares valued at \$1000 could be offered to the public. Any feed in tariff could be used as a return on investment and returned to investors. Whilst this would not be a commercial return it may assist to incentivize participants. EV charging stations could be fed by panels on buildings to parking bays for either the shires own shire Electric vehicles or to public charging stations in the vicinity of shire offices. The idea is not to remove electricity bills completely but to reduce costs and provide EV charging in a low carbon manner	Installation on Council buildings in CAP and underway	Such an easy win where is the business plan for this? Bring it to a community meeting - and seek local investment that can co-invest with the Council (hopefully!)	Fully support this endeavour.
10	Leader in climate action	3	26	It would be very exciting to see Mansfield Shire lead the way in a commitment to zero emissions in an ambitious time frame. As a small (but growing) Shire, surely we have the ability to make this happen. It would additionally save money on Council operations and therefore rate payers money would be spent on a healthier environment for residents. Solar on all Council buildings, carbon farming, local food sold to local people, better recycling and management of organic waste. Education and festivals on energy smart / waste free Mansfield. All developments and renovations to be at 7 star rating or above.	1. Included in CAP 2. Installation on Council buildings in CAP and underway 3. Option in CAP 4. Not Included in CAP 5. Included in new recycling and waste contract 6. Option in CAP 7. Option in CAP	Great suggestions! The local 'Community Action Group' is completely 'community' driven. But many of us are passionate about enabling parts of this to come to fruition - and need as many community voices as we can muster! Carbon farming - there are carbon offset projects that could directly benefit local regenerative farmers, and enable businesses to become carbon neutral. This area given our sunshine could be a leader in this! * Local food - we need to support more local producers, to grow more food locally, and to have restaurants, cafes and supermarkets be willing to actively support local producers with fair prices and provenance. Plus local processing facilities that can enable farmers to do what they do best (grow food). * Recycling - big question! What are the areas of 'recycling' that the community could own, invest in and benefit from? That the council cannot or isn't managing (soft plastics or green waste a good start?) * Broader council recycling - how can Mansfield Shire get more involved in NE recycling initiatives? Considering that bottle and can recycling is just 2hrs over the border. How can we have a vendor machine that can tackle some of the complex issues of high volumes of tourism and local waste, and put money back into our local economy? * Organic waste - we need farms to register, and make sure there are no (!!) residues in the waste from golf courses or curated grounds of any type. To avoid any contamination events. * Education and festivals - absolutely! Watch this space for our next event in May! * Developments - yes Council(ors) should all be concerned about the types of future and developments we want to see. How to protect all the reasons people come to Mansfield. And not take out all the redgums from the 'RedGum' estate ... just to name one! We need sustainable development around people, place, land and food this includes water, energy and transport..... to name a few! And city developments are not (!!!) suited to this region ... we need appropriate regional development that protects the natural environment, and enhances all the reasons why people want to live here. Great work! Keep the voices coming!	Excellent.
11	Better local support for community driven Net-Zero Climate Action outcomes	1	11	Look at ways other regional communities are tackling our climate emergency. Net-Zero. Renewable Energy. Regenerative Agriculture. Innovative waste options (compost, green waste, soft plastics). Ind electorate has a golden opportunity to be a leader in this area - if it can tackle, engage community and build investment confidence. No longer can the Council or community look away, and think it's someone else's problem. Mansfield Shire and every local community member can be part of the solution, and the community needs to actively engage in this discussion and question. 1) Food and Farming - support local farmers, encourage and invest in local processing and vertical integration of supply chains across the region. Address some of the damaging effects of conventional agriculture in regards to tillage, loss of precious top soil, nutrient run off, toxic chemicals into local waterways, blue green algae risk, pressure on prices and production for local farmers. Plus supporting local farmers with local provenance, seasonal fares dedicated food education for consumers/eaters, and better transparency around local and value for our producers. 2) Renewables and Net-Zero. Consider local community owned investment strategies to achieve Net-Zero across community and local/council owned assets (sports facilities, pools and Council buildings). Then to expand to schools, local business and communities to achieve net-zero in energy. To look at Virtual Energy Networks, and communities that could benefit across the region. Plus encourage more education around renewables, grants and households achieving energy Net-Zero. 3) Waste - a big one! Better education - the better quality 'waste' is - the less it costs! Target the low hanging fruit, soft plastics and green waste should be processed locally in this Shire. It could assist with a circular economy and put jobs, opportunities and investment back into the region. Identify what is needed, what are the higher levels of waste and how this can be best achieved. Green Waste - given the contamination events over the past few months, there needs to be a high level of vigilance around contaminants before ANY waste is included. Consider the suitable sites for green waste collection, and to consider how this could be incorporated to become a 'composted' local product. With residue testing and value to local farmers - keen to look at reducing their input/fertiliser costs, along with utilising a local and trusted source. 4) Sustainability - also a big one! Better education. With so many people moving to this area - remind them of the natural environment! Waste, their carbon footprint, growing their own food, recycling and transport. Look at options that could assist with all of these - ride sharing, local food boxes, energy, water efficiency. 5) Protecting our local environment. Fundamentally our Council (and all Councillors) should be passionately protecting our environment. This includes our trees, rivers, water systems, biodiversity and nature. all decisions for the local region, should have these as fundamental considerations, and without respect for these what hope do we have to protect this region from developers, hungry to see 'more people' and more development at whatever cost. There is a cost to everything ... and ultimately our environment pays the 'true cost' in the degradation of our soils, of water systems, in our natural capital across these regions. This should drive our considerations to all of the above suggestions, and it should be strongly protected by all Councillors. 6) Respect for our indigenous past and people. This region needs to be honest about our history with our indigenous people ... and to move forward we need to own and acknowledge the pain and suffering we have caused. In all our decisions around 'climate action' we need to consult our local indigenous people, and include them in all decision making. And make sure that we have their support in future development, ongoing community growth and activating local outcomes.	0. Included in CAP 1. Not Included in CAP 2. Panel installation on Council buildings in CAP and underway 3. Included in new recycling and waste contract 4. Not Included in CAP 5. Included in CAP and planning regulations 6. Council MOU is being negotiated with indigenous traditional owner groups.		

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12	Introduce a garden/green waste recycling systme	1	3	At present there is no scheme or alternative for disposing of our garden waste. I believe that this often leads to residents disposing of green waste in inappropriate places, particularly our bushland areas. Such activities can and often do, lead to exotic species overtaking our beautiful native bush. I have personally witnessed this in another major regional centre. A council-operated green waste composting system has the potential to "pay it's own way" if the end product is offered for sale at a reasonable price to consumers and gardeners.	Included in new recycling and waste contract		
13	Have your representative to the Municipal Assn lobby the state government to raise the bulding code to at least seven star rating.	3	5	The current building standard permits the construction of building which for their life are high energy users	Option in CAP		
14	Lead by example. Have an energy assessment of the current shire offices and take measures to reduce energy consumption and save money	2	5	eg replace the single glazed windows in metal frames with double glazed with thermal break. Check insulation and where possible increase.	Option in CAP		
15	Electric vehicles are on the increase. Aer we a tourist town being left behind?	4	6	Provide electric vehicle charging stations	Option in CAP	Residents will also benefit greatly from the installation of EV charging points/stations. In a bid to reduce carbon emissions, EVs will be the ONLY way within this decade. Vehicles, users of gasoline and diesel, are being phased down. If our Shire doesn't take the initiative to address these issues now, we will all be the poorer for it.	
16	car park shade trees	2	5	The hard surfaces contribute significantly to local warming. Hot cars use more energy for their air conditioning. It should be mandatory that with every new car parking area, adequate shade trees be provided. It is apparent that on a hot day the car parking places providing shade are the first to be taken. That clearly demonstrates what the community wants.	Option in CAP		
17	Please Act on this - Renewables, Organic Waste Management, Tree Preservation.	1	5	<p>Fixable Change</p> <p>By Claire Horneman and Jewel Hemenstall, aged 11</p> <p>Climate Change, it's not something to joke about anymore. The council should focus more on creating zero carbon emissions. Like Helen Haines suggested during her address to parliament, 'Building renewable assets is like the new Goldrush, Mansfield doesn't want to miss out.' And just like many other locals we think it shouldn't. The fact that we are children doesn't matter either, its more our future than yours. We want to live in Mansfield for the next 80 years. How long will you be in Mansfield for?</p> <p>Renewables,</p> <p>We've got two ideas for this topic:</p> <p>1.The shire could purchase electric vehicles for their employees to use. It would reduce carbon levels by a lot, and building charging stations for these vehicles may cost money, but it will certainly be worth it in the long run. This will attract tourists who drive EV to our town, increasing tourist businesses.</p> <p>2. Solar farms and/or windmills. This is self-explanatory. You can use these energy sources for shire buildings, and streetlights. Another idea for streetlights is motion sensor lights, we noticed the lights are on all night and it seems no one is making use of them.</p> <p>Organic waste</p> <p>Methane seems to do a lot of damage if you investigate it. It makes up a large percentage of the gas from natural sources and is 28 times more powerful than carbon dioxide at warming the earth over 100 years, which makes it a big problem.</p> <p>To fix this a lot of Australian towns and cities have introduced a curb side compost disposal unit. People put their organic waste into the green compost bin and a garbage truck picks it up and takes it to a facility where it gets composted to reduce methane levels. We believe Mansfield should build an organic waste facility to compost our own waste. Mansfield does some composting, but curb collection is an important part of this.</p> <p>Tree preservation</p> <p>As we know, trees absorb carbon and produce clean air (O2) and by cutting down those trees, we are not only reducing the clean air but also putting more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. And in certain spots around town, you can see the area where trees used to be, now gone. There is a perfect solution to this problem, and we have a couple of ideas for it:</p> <p>1.There can be a limit to how many trees you can cut down a month/year.</p> <p>2.Foodworks and plenty of local establishments sell firewood, you can just buy this from there.</p> <p>3.Only chop the trees that are already on the ground, maybe ants and wildlife live here, but you'll just have to find another tree in that case.</p> <p>4.For every tree that's cut down we could plant 1 or 2 trees in an area that's safe. We could build a farm or a paddock where we could plant these trees, or anywhere really.</p> <p>In conclusion, the mayor when addressing climate change management mentioned in the newspaper, 'It needs to be affordable, achievable, and practical'. Becoming carbon neutral may not be those things, but it will be worth it to save our planet and reduce bushfires and floods. This is very important. Think of the devastation from those bush fires. If declaring a climate emergency like many other shires will help, then that's what we should do. Please act on this,</p>	<p>1. Option in CAP</p> <p>2. Included in CAP</p> <p>2a. Included in new recycling and waste contract</p>		

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18	Zero net emissions Shire by 2030	3	4	To strive to make our outlying towns self-sufficient with power hubs, power generators (solar panels), EV charging stations. To create opportunities for tourists to invest in our region by offsetting their travel and holiday To create more power resilient township by investing in structures to accommodate alternative power To encourage community ownership of energy supply To demonstrate that clean energy technologies work and a low carbon future is possible	Zero net emissions Shire by 2030 is included in CAP remainder not included in CAP		
19	1) First and foremost the council should declare a climate emergency as this, above all else, will help to prioritise and inform all council	3	3		Not Included in CAP		
20	2) Commit to net-zero carbon emissions asap.	2	1		Included in CAP		
21	3) Foster greater collaboration with community groups such as REM in order to help realise projects which accomplish climate change, economi	1	4		Option in CAP		
22	4) Carry out a full assessment of current and future climate hazards and vulnerabilities and prepare a climate change mitigation and adaptat	4	1		Completed as part of Mansfield Emergency Management Plan		
23	5) Take a leadership role in actively promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies and aim for whole of community engagemen	2	1	Micro grids would be helpful. A 'new' Industrial estate or current area of decent size running its own self sufficient mini grid /power and supplementary water supply.	Option in CAP Microgrid not included in CAP		
24	6) Promote and assist with schemes that help to move the Shire as a whole towards net-zero goals	1	1		Option in CAP		
25	7) Support and commit to facilitating a local solar garden and community battery storage facility.	1	2		Not Included in CAP		
26	8) Endorse and actively support REMs "EV Charging Network and Tourism Route" strategy.	1	1		Option in CAP		
27	9) Endorse and actively support Helen Haine's Local Power plan	2	4	Through the Federal government, Helen Haines maybe in a position to influence funding allocations. A project of this type is very close to her major interests.	Not Included in CAP		
28	10) Sustainable homes	2	5	10) Use everything possible (Planning overlays, caveats etc) to better direct developers and home builders to adopt far more sustainable practices and as well as build more energy efficient homes, with regard to orientation roofing, insulation, hot water and cooking options, water tanks, PV arrays, etc etc. Lobby the relevant areas of government for these changes.	Option in CAP		
29	11) Bring forward the green waste collection rollout.	1	0		Included in new recycling and waste contract		
30	12 Explore business opportunities around recycling, particularly green waste and local processing	1	3		Included in new recycling and waste contract		
31	13) Once net-zero has been achieved for the council ensure that all grid-purchased power is renewable electricity.	1	3		Included in CAP		
32	14) Explore options for localised pumped hydro	2	3		Not Included in CAP		
33	15) Aim for a carbon neutral shire by 2040	1	4		Included in CAP		

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34	16) Develop a circular economy	3	2		Included in new recycling and waste contract		
35	17) Support expansion of carbon farming and blue carbon	1	2		Option in CAP		
36	18) Aim for an excess of locally generated renewable power in order to attract and stimulate new business and manufacturing opportunities.	2	2		Not Included in CAP		
37	19) Seek to obtain funding for a project officer to assist in the aforementioned processes and provide support to community groups.	1	2		Funded as part of Council's FY 2022/23 budget		
38	Build a micro grid for the town and surrounding district from a community owned local renewable energy source	1	3		Not Included in CAP		
39	Sustainable Building and Landscape Design	0	1		Option in CAP		
40	Integrated Water Cycle Management-IWCM	2	1		Included in Council's draft Domestic Waste Water Strategy		
41	Greater protection for significant native vegetation in all zones including commercial and industrial zones	2	1		Included in Council's existing planning regulations		
42	Commit to zero net emissions ASAP and COMMIT to it ...	0	2	* 'in-shire' waste recycling operation * renewable 'in-shire' energy generation including 'waste to energy' power * educate and incentivise efficient recycling in all areas but urgently in ag waste ie silage wrap and net wrap	Net zero emission included in CAP Remainder included in Council's new recycling and waste contract		
43	1. Community Energy Hubs	3	5	Create Community Energy Hubs at each of our shire's townships in order to create grid stability, resilience and community ownership of our critical utility infrastructure. Hubs to involve small, medium and large scale green power generation, energy storage and pier to pier trading. This in turn will see millions of dollars retained within the local community through the reduction of utility bill payment to retailers outside the shire.	Not Included in CAP		
44	2. Council to declare a climate emergency.	1	3	Council should follow the lead of many other councils and declare a climate emergency. This will steer and influence all of council's decisions and demonstrate clear leadership from our elected officials. The Climate Action Plan, if ambitious and well considered, is a step in the right direction. Ultimately, the majority of the public are tired of the inaction from all levels of government. Council's time to act is NOW.	Not Included in CAP	Council and elected officials should already have taken on board the issue of climate. Not sure if stating a non measurable target will achieve functional change. We already have enough emergencies declared. Initiation of an action plan to make for a 'walking softer upon the earth' and all the components within, whilst still providing manufacturing and income is a less fearful response. (Bearing in mind that solar panel components we use are being made by slave labour in China and Rare Earth mining has its own issues of slave labour and pollution in the immediacy of some mines.	
45	3. EV infrastructure and tourist routes	2	1	The adoption of EVs is inevitable and imminent. We are a shire that depends on tourism yet there is no coherent policy or movement from Council for the implementation of EV charging infrastructure and the financial benefits this can have for our shire through EV tourism. I recommend the Shire actively supports REMs EV Tourism Strategy and becomes a leading shire in this field. The opportunity has almost past.	Option in CAP		
46	4. Improvements to Planning and Building Infrastructure.	2	0	The quality and performance of many residential developments and buildings being constructed around the shire is poor at best. I appreciate there are limits to what influence Council can have on the State Planning Guidelines and the Building Code but Council should do all in its power to advocate for higher standards from developers and greater energy efficiency in all buildings. Council should advocate for changes to the state guidelines and codes, actively engage in education of the public, developers and builders, apply covenants requiring higher standards where possible, actively promote renewable energy (particularly to green field developers) and support community efforts such as the Sustainable House Day.	Option in CAP		
47	5. Large scale renewable energy generation and export - set targets.	1	3	Council should set targets to be a net electricity exporter. We should actively promote our shire to large scale renewable energy generation and storage projects but always seek community investment and benefit in return (as per Helen Haines Local Power Plan).	Not Included in CAP		
48	6. Set minimum tree cover and planting targets	0	2	Within urban areas, Council should set targets for tree cover to reduce the heat island effect, sequester carbon and improve aesthetic and tourism outcomes. In rural areas, Council should promote the benefits of paddock tree protection and renewal and the establishment of windbreaks and wildlife corridors. Council should provide greater support to environment organisations such as Landcare and lobby for State and Federal funding to increase tree cover within the Shire.	Option in CAP		
49	7. Carbon Sequestration	2	3	Council should promote and support our rural community to provide carbon sequestration. This has the potential to become a significant industry within our Shire with financial and environmental benefits to landholders and the broader community.	Option in CAP		

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50	8. Council to set zero emissions targets for it's operations.	0	4	Council can, and should, easily achieve zero emissions targets for all of it's operations. This is within Council's immediate budget and would show clear leadership and vision to the community.	Included in CAP		
51	9. Fund a Climate Action Facilitator	2	2	So many climate and environment initiatives have been driven by members of the public on a voluntary basis. Council could provide a suitably qualified, funded member of staff to assist voluntary groups with administration, grant applications, knowledge, continuity, collaboration etc. There are discussions around the establishment of a Power Hub within the north east. Council should actively support this initiative given the synergies with this suggest action.	Not Included in CAP		
52	Education, whether through schools or community groups on the importance of and implementation of caring for our environment.	0	2		Not Included in CAP		
53	Acknowledging the environment we have in this shire as an incredibly valuable asset to protect and derive income from for the next generatio	1	3		Included in CAP		
54	Support and promote Helen Haines' Local Power plan	1	2	Details at https://www.helenhaines.org/media/parliament-to-inquire-into-locally-owned-renewables	Not Included in CAP		
55	Actively promote the retention of all native vegetation for carbon sequestration	0	2	Native vegetation, including ground covers such as native grasses (often lost through ploughing), wattles and 'scrub', as well as trees are still being illegally removed. Loss of vegetation is a significant contributor to greenhouse emissions and needs to end. Increase both positive education about the carbon sequestration value of all native vegetation (and what it is) and improve vigilance and follow through on illegal removal. As an example, I heard that a well known local drafting company was advising planning applicants who required a bushfire management plan to remove as much native vegetation as possible BEFORE assessment for bushfire risk.	Option in CAP		
56	Engage expert consultants for carbon accounting of Council's operations and infrastructure, unless there are staff who can do this work	1	1	If this can be done in house, great, but staff must have the skills, knowledge and time if they are to do this, and be given sufficient hours for the work. Otherwise better to tender for consultants who are fully qualified to do this work.	Completed by the consultants who drafted CAP		
57	Establish and support a 'repair' centre in Mansfield to encourage re-use	1	4	Avoids carbon embedded in the manufacture and transport of new goods and the raw materials used to make them, avoids waste and offers alternative to consumerism mindset.	Not Included in CAP		
58	Evaluate Council properties which may have remnant native vegetation or which could be re-vegetated with indigenous plants.	1	2	Ensure that these sites are well managed to retain carbon sequestration values. Increase these values (and incidentally habitat values) through additional planting. It may be possible to establish some as in-house native vegetation offset sites.	Option in CAP		
59	Include carbon emissions from all activities on public land in Mansfield Shire in carbon accounting reports and make these widely available	0	5	Activities on public land including new roads and tracks, logging and planned burning are known to release carbon either directly or by the loss of carbon sequestration in trees, other plants and soils. While these are exempt from native vegetation clearing regulations, residents and ratepayers would benefit from the knowledge of climate impacts as well as perceived/actual benefits.	Included in CAP		
60	Mitigation:	0	2	Ongoing shade tree planting in public open space	Option in CAP		
61	Mitigation:	1	1	Water sensitive design in new public assets	Not Included in CAP		
62	Political	0	2	Leadership in support for Local Power Plan developed by Helen Haines. The plan is based on a pilot scheme in Victoria which delivered a 13-fold return on government investment. Based on that evidence, the Local Power Plan could generate over \$6 billion of economic activity for regional Australia. Federal inaction needs to be called out at a local level.	Not Included in CAP		
63	Join the Climate Council's Cities Power Partnership to accelerate net zero emissions targets and take action to mitigate climate change	0	1	https://citiespowerpartnership.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Information-for-Councils-Update-2021_spreads_web-VF.pdf	Actions included in CAP.		
64	Support electric vehicle charging stations in Mansfield	0	0	Mansfield should be supporting the advance of EV transport by facilitating the ability to charge the cars quickly and efficiently in Mansfield. We are in a perfect position from Melbourne for a day trip, and the town would benefit from the tourism generated by these forward thinking drivers as well as being part of a green revolution to increase sustainability of our transportation choices, and increase consumer confidence for people to invest in these options.	Option in CAP		

How can Council best support climate action in our community? Please input your ideas below for the Climate Action Plan (CAP)

No.	Suggestion	Votes	Visits	Suggestion Description	Council response	Reply 1	Reply 2
65	Support the development of the Great Forest National Park and protect old growth forests	1	1	https://www.greatforestnationalpark.com.au/	Not Included in CAP as outside Council's local government area.		
66	Solar Array rooftop and EV charging station for proposed new carpark on the old Caltex site on the south side of High Street	1	0	I was delighted to read in the Courier, that the shire had bought the stagnant former Caltex site on the south side of High Street. I think there is a great opportunity to help reduce fossil fuel power use and also add to the amenity of the the CBD with the addition of shaded parking by the use of solar panels which create energy for an EV charging station.	Not Included in CAP	<p>This is a fantastic idea, the shire should be encouraging EVs. Not having a public charging station doesn't help people make the switch away from fossil fuels.</p> <p>"Mayor Cr Mark Holcombe said Council's role was to advocate for EV charging options.</p> <p>"We are very supportive of community-led renewable energy programs," said Cr Holcombe."</p> <p>Council's role could also lead the way, as well as supporting community-led renewable energy programs, other local council have: https://evse.com.au/council-government-charging</p>	