



Environmental Management Plan 2025 - 2030



The Environmental Management Plan 2025-2030 was adopted by the City of Victor Harbor at a Council Meeting on Monday, 24 November 2025.



Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Victor Harbor acknowledges the Ramindjeri and Ngarrindjeri people as the Traditional Custodians of the land and surrounding waters where we live and work.

We acknowledge their deep connection to Country and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. This respect is extended to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across Australia.



Cover Image: Family visit to Conservation
Park by Heidi Who Photos

The Bluff in clouds by Trent John Martin
Photography



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Plan at a Glance

The following two pages summarise the core elements of the Environmental Management Plan. For further details please refer to the main contents of this document.

Vision

“ We protect and restore our environment to make Victor Harbor a sustainable place of choice to live, visit and enjoy. ”

Objectives



Adapt to the changing climate



Sustainably manage waste and resources



Enhance the health and biodiversity of our nature



Protect our coastlines and waterways



Create a sustainable, energy efficient city



Educate our community

Goals

70% waste diverted from kerbside landfill by 2030 (66% in 2024)

Increase tree canopy cover within township area (need to establish baseline)

Increase recycled water used by Council. Progress will be tracked through the number and scale of new water sensitive urban design systems installed, and their total capture capacity.

Maintain or **increase the number of biodiversity reserves** and **roadside vegetation sites** rated High or Very High (compared to 2022 BNAMP audit¹)

Increase community satisfaction with **coastal protection** and **environmental initiatives** (48% in 2023)

¹ BNAMP is Victor Harbor Biodiversity and Natural Assets Management Plan 2023-2028. Baseline was 40 reserves and 30 roadside sites were rated as high or very quality in 2022 audit.

Summary of Key Priority Actions

Objective and priority actions	Action Year [#]				
	1	2	3	4	5
1. Adapt to the changing climate					
Staff training and capacity building in climate change adaptation		High		High	
Progress 1-2 prioritised actions from regional climate action plan	High	High	High	High	High
Review Sustainability Policy to update to a Climate Change Policy*	High	High			
Complete climate risk assessment of council assets, land and services			Medium	Medium	
Support State policy reforms that encourage climate change adaptation*	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
2. Sustainably manage waste					
Adopt circular procurement policies and practices	High	High			
Create waste education material tailored for holiday and short-term rentals	Medium	Medium			
Review public litter bin locations and service levels	Medium	Medium			
Shift to zero waste for council run events and share guidelines with others			Medium	Medium	Medium
3. Enhance the health and biodiversity of our nature					
Deliver Biodiversity and Natural Assets Management Plan (BNAMP) actions	High	High	High	High	High
Update plant species guides prioritising fire, climate and biodiversity	High	High			
Establish key wildlife corridors to improve linkages between green spaces, particularly an east to west corridor that can link the Hindmarsh and Inman Rivers.*	High	High	High	High	High
Monitor biodiversity condition to inform update of BNAMP		Medium	Medium		
Review and update BNAMP with focus on nature positive principles				Medium	Medium
4. Protect our coastline and waterways					
Deliver VH Coastal Adaptation Study and Strategy (CASS)	High	High	High	High	High
Deliver VH relevant actions within Southern Fleurieu Coastal Action Plan	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
Apply WSUD and stormwater improvements in renewal of Council assets [^]	High	High	High	High	High
Develop Inman and Hindmarsh Rivers master plans*	Medium	Medium			
Support PhD project on coastal research and monitoring	High	High	High		
Advocate to State Government for improved water outcomes*	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
Work with SA Water to increase the recycled water supply and storage			Medium	Medium	Medium
5. Create a sustainable, energy efficient city					
Develop corporate emissions plan & review of corporate data tracking system	High	High			
Deliver Civic Centre solar system replacement & expansion project	High				
Capture baseline tree canopy data and set targets to prioritise tree planting*	High	High			
Update Tree Management Strategy and expand tree planting program	High	High	High	High	High
Support State policy reforms that support active and public transport*	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
6. Educate our community					
Seek opportunities to listen and partner with First Nations	High	High	High	High	High
Expand volunteer support and deliver more community education projects	High	High			
Increase communications on the benefits of nature and sustainable living	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
Explore opportunities for community renewables, batteries & electric transport	Medium	Medium			
Share revised plant species guides to encourage biodiverse private gardens				High	High

Colour legend depicts priority of delivering action

Low Medium High

[#] Action year 1 = 2025/2026, year 2 = 2026/2027, year 3 = 2027/2028, year 4 = 2028/2029, year 5 = 2029/2030

* Direct alignment to Victor Harbor Urban Growth Management Strategy

[^] Direct alignment to Victor Harbor Urban Stormwater Management Plan (USMP)



Introduction

Victor Harbor is a coastal city with a strong environmental identity. Surrounded by natural beauty, the area is known for its iconic granite coastline and islands, its native vegetation and wildlife, and its deep cultural heritage. With peak tourism periods swelling our growing community, environmental management in Victor Harbor must respond to both long-term sustainability and seasonal pressures. This Environmental Management Plan (EMP), recognises that our unique environment is central to our community's lifestyle, economy, and wellbeing—and requires active, ongoing care.

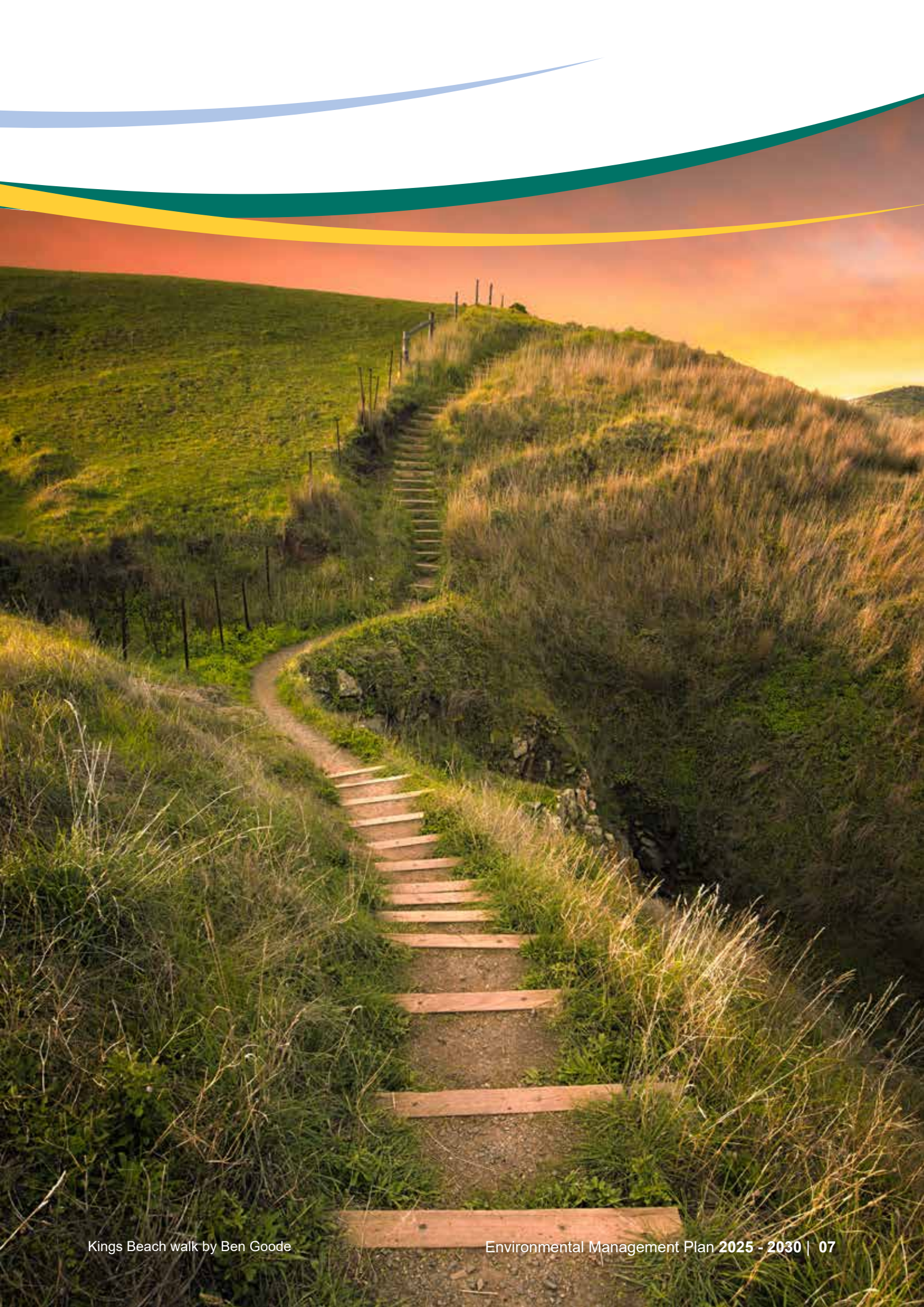
This Plan guides the City of Victor Harbor's efforts in protecting and enhancing the local environment in the way we manage our operations, services, and public land.

While the focus of this Plan is on council's own responsibilities, we recognise that creating a sustainable future is a shared responsibility. Councils play many roles: as land managers, service providers, advocates, partners, educators and regulators.

We work alongside our community, who also have a role in caring for the environment through everyday choices, championing local issues, and volunteering. Council partnerships with groups such as the Hills & Fleurieu Landscape Board, the Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority, and Resilient Hills & Coasts also support delivery of this Plan.

This Plan replaces council's 2019 Environmental Management Plan. It has been updated to align with council's Community Plan 2030 and draft Urban Growth Strategy, and to reflect emerging challenges and opportunities in climate change, biodiversity, sustainability and community expectations. It builds on the strong foundation of environmental achievements delivered between 2019 and 2025.

Development of this Plan was informed by feedback from Council staff, monitoring data, a review of the previous plan, and a workshop with key community and partner stakeholders. Their early contributions have shaped the direction of the Plan.



Strategic Context and Alignment

National

At a national level, Australia's climate and environmental priorities are framed by key documents such as the *National Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy*, *Australia's Strategy for Nature 2024-2031*, the *Threatened Species Action Plan*, and the *National Waste Policy*. These strategies emphasise the importance of local action in building resilience, protecting biodiversity, and shifting towards circular economy models.

State

Local governments operate under the *Local Government Act 1999*, which integrates sustainability into council responsibilities. South Australia's *Climate Change Action Plan 2021–2025* outlines the state's commitment to a net-zero emissions future, with actions that support resilience, renewable energy, and nature-based solutions. The *Green Industries SA* framework promotes resource efficiency and waste reduction. The *State Planning Policies* (especially for climate resilience and biodiversity) guide land use planning. The *Coast Protection Board* plays a key role in supporting councils to manage coastal hazards and protect sensitive foreshore environments. The *Biodiversity Act 2025* further strengthens the policy framework for nature protection, introducing new duties and mechanisms to halt biodiversity loss and promote ecological restoration across South Australia, including in urban areas.



Regional

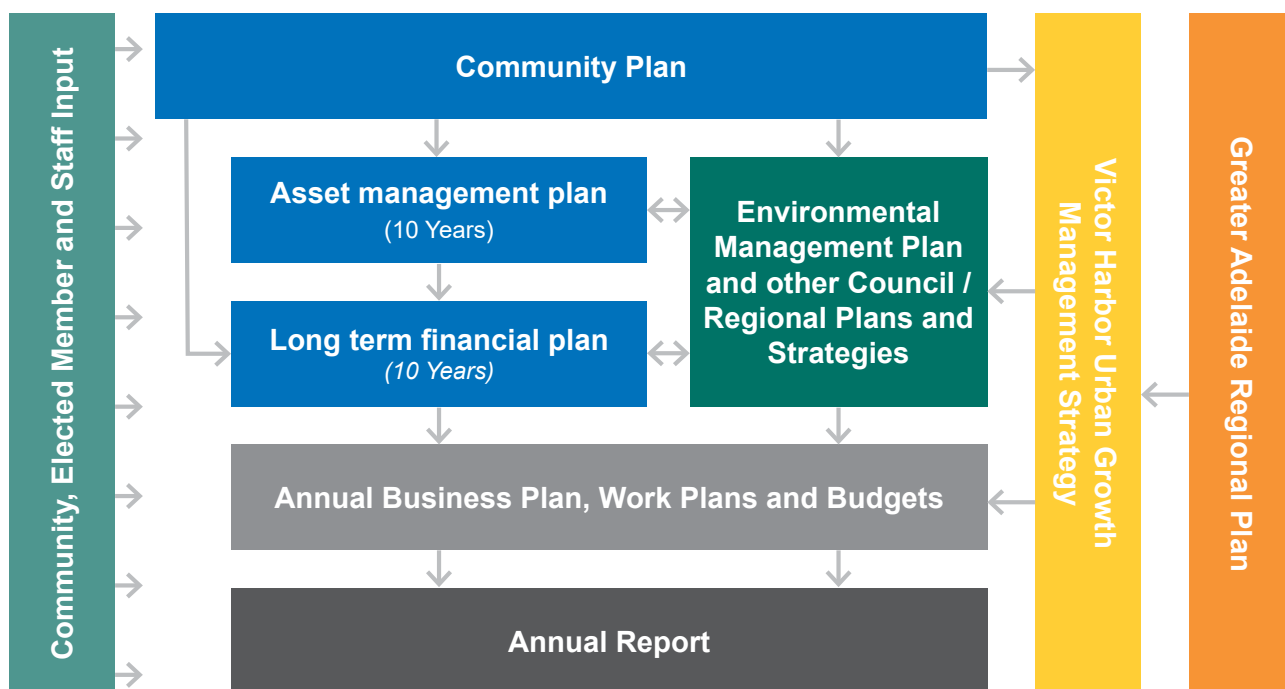
Urban growth areas across our region are guided by the *Greater Adelaide Regional Plan*. City of Victor Harbor is a member of the Resilient Hills & Coasts regional partnership, which supports coordinated climate action and capacity building. Our district is within the Hills & Fleurieu landscape region, where the *Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan* sets strategic priorities for biodiversity, sustainable agriculture, water, and land management. Regional Development Australia's *Regional Development Strategy* highlights opportunities for environmental sustainability to support the local economy. Waste management and recycling is delivered predominately through the *Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority* (FRWA).

Local

Several local plans and strategies complement and inform the EMP. Together, this suite of policies supports the integrated and place-based approach embedded in the Environmental Management Plan.

- **Community Plan 2036:** Sets a long-term vision that includes valuing the environment, protecting biodiversity, and adapting to climate change.
- **Urban Growth Management Strategy (2023–2045):** This strategy guides how and where Victor Harbor will grow. It promotes compact, climate-ready development and protection of key environmental assets.
- **Economic Development Strategy (2020-2030):** Highlights the need to manage natural assets and promote sustainability to support success of Victor Harbor's economy, with strong relationships to existing and future employing industries.
- **Open Space Strategy, Biodiversity Action Plan, Coastal Adaptation Strategy and other operational documents:** These provide implementation pathways for on-ground environmental initiatives and guide how council manages public land, restores habitat, and engages the community.

Council's Strategic Framework below outlines how key documents work together.



Current and Emerging Trends



Urban growth and land use change

Development continues to expand across Victor Harbor. While this brings housing and economic opportunities for a growing base population, it puts pressure on natural systems, stormwater and waste management. Growth areas are an opportunity to embed sustainability into the township.



Tourism and seasonal population

Tourism brings unique seasonal environmental pressures, including increased waste, water use, transport demands, and strain on natural areas. As tourism diversifies into eco-tourism, wellness, and events, there are growing opportunities to promote sustainable practices and reduce impacts.



Coastal vulnerability

Victor Harbor's coastline are critical assets and are highly exposed to erosion, sea level rise and storm surges. Impacts of marine heatwaves and acidification, like algal blooms, are impacting marine life, human health, and the regional economy. Long-term planning is needed to manage these pressures while protecting nature, culture and assets.



Drought and water security

Record-low rainfall across the Fleurieu Peninsula in 2024-25 has caused unprecedented demand for water deliveries to farms and homes, and severe impacts to biodiversity and urban greening assets. Water security, efficiency and alternative water sources can support drought management.



Climate change and extreme weather

Victor Harbor is experiencing a warmer, drier climate, with more extreme weather, drought, and coastal impacts. These changes affect natural systems, infrastructure and vulnerable people. There's an increasing need to design assets that adapt and reduce emissions to limit further change.



Biodiversity loss and fragmentation

Native vegetation continues to face pressure from development, invasive species, and climate change. Habitat fragmentation is reducing biodiversity and ecosystem health. Remnant vegetation, private land, and waterways are becoming critical for maintaining habitat connectivity.



Circular economy potential

Despite high per capita waste levels in Victor Harbor, there is growing interest in circular economy initiatives such as reuse, composting, and repair cafes. Victor Harbor is a state leader in rooftop solar. Supporting these local trends can reduce impacts and strengthen economic resilience.



Community expectations

Community concern around environmental issues is growing, particularly in waste, energy, biodiversity, and coastal protection. Residents are increasingly engaged through volunteering, local food, citizen science, and nature projects. Supporting this momentum is vital for long-term cultural change.



Vision, Goals & Objectives

Vision

“ We protect and restore our environment to make Victor Harbor a sustainable place of choice to live, visit and enjoy. ”

Goals

70% waste diverted from kerbside landfill by 2030 (66% in 2024)

Increase tree canopy cover within township area (need to establish baseline)

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Objectives



Adapt to the changing climate



Sustainably manage waste and resources



Enhance the health and biodiversity of our nature



Protect our coastlines and waterways



Create a sustainable, energy efficient city



Educate our community

² BNAMP is Victor Harbor Biodiversity and Natural Assets Management Plan 2023-2028. Baseline was 40 reserves and 30 roadside sites were rated as high or very quality in 2022 audit.

Objectives, Actions & Implementation

The following pages outline how Council will work towards each objective over the next five years. There is a description of each issue, how council manages it now, and a table with key improvement actions and the resourcing required to deliver them. Many of the actions are intrinsically linked and will support outcomes under other objectives.

Annual implementation will be specified through the Annual Business Plan and Council budget process. The plan is a roadmap to guide implementation, while allowing some flexibility for opportunities and changes that may emerge. Budget and staff time are limited. By prioritising actions and staging implementation, we can be strategic, practical and impactful.

Internal Environmental Working Group

Managing our environment is a full-council responsibility. A cross-council Environmental Working Group will meet at least twice a year, to support coordinated implementation, monitoring and evaluation. This will keep us adaptive and accountable, help us improve, and reduce risks of maladaptation.

Table Legend

Objective area	Key Performance Indicator (KPI)	Resourcing	Lead	Timing	Priority
Short description of action	Metric used to monitor progress and effectiveness	Indicative cash and/or staff cost to deliver the action. Capital budget is for assets, operating is for services \$ = 1-20K \$\$ = 20-50K \$\$\$ = 50-100K \$\$\$\$ = >100K	Council team or external partner with primary responsibility for delivery E&S = Environment & Sustainability SMT = Senior Management Team PT = Procurement Team OS = Open Space Team ET = Events Team FRWA = Fleurieu Resource Waste Authority LB = Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board I&E = Infrastructure & Engineering GIS = Geographic Information System Officer	Expected timeframe to start	Relative importance of delivering action L = Low M = Medium H = High



1. Adapt to the changing climate

Climate change is increasing the frequency and severity of extreme weather events such as heatwaves, drought, storms, bushfires and coastal erosion. Victor Harbor is already experiencing these impacts, especially coastal erosion and heatwaves, and compounding risks like the 2025 microalgal bloom driven by a marine heatwave. These changes pose risks to public safety, infrastructure, biodiversity, economy, and community wellbeing.

Council plays an important role in preparing and adapting by integrating climate resilience into how we plan, build, and manage our assets (including natural assets) and services. This includes identifying vulnerabilities, working with our regional partners, and embedding adaptation in planning and asset management processes.

The City of Victor Harbor is a committed member of the Resilient Hills & Coasts (RHC) partnership and contributed to a regional climate vulnerability assessment and action planning. Through this collaboration, Council is actively working to address key local risks.

Looking ahead, Council will continue to strengthen its capacity to plan and respond to climate risks. This includes reviewing infrastructure and open space design to consider climate projections, embedding adaptation thinking across departments, and identifying opportunities for shared benefits—such as public spaces that can act as refuges in extreme weather.

1.0 Adapt to the changing climate	KPI	Resourcing	Lead	Timing	Priority
1. Staff training and capacity building in climate change adaptation	1+ session per 2 years	Existing operating & staff	E&S	Bi-annual	H
2. Progress 1-2 prioritised actions from regional climate action plan ³ or vulnerability assessment per year	1-2 projects completed & maintain membership	Annual budget bid / grants \$ - \$\$\$\$	E&S	Annual	H
3. Review City of Victor Harbor Sustainability Policy to update or replace to a Climate Change Policy*	Policy endorsed	Existing staff	E&S	Year 1-2	H
4. Complete first pass climate risk assessment of council assets, land and services	Risk assessment completed & risk register updated	New operating \$	SMT	Year 3-4	M
5. Support State Government policy reforms that encourage climate change adaptation*	Participation in state reforms	Existing staff	SMT	Ad hoc	L

³ Regional Climate Action Plan 2025-2030 (ReCAP) available at www.resilienthillscoasts.com/plans

* Direct alignment to Victor Harbor Urban Growth Management Strategy



2. Sustainably manage waste and resources

Australia is shifting towards a circular economy, with stronger national targets for waste reduction, resource recovery, and less reliance on landfill. South Australia is a national leader in waste and recycling, but local governments still face persistent challenges such as contamination, rapid industry and policy changes, and illegal dumping.

Waste and recycling services in Victor Harbor are primarily delivered through the Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority (FRWA), a regional subsidiary of Fleurieu Peninsula member councils. The City of Victor Harbor works closely with FRWA to manage waste collection, implement waste education programs, and monitor performance. Council supports efforts to improve landfill diversion and expand community awareness of how to recycle right.

Local waste monitoring shows moderate resource recovery rates and highlights opportunities for improvement—particularly through behaviour change, community-led repair and reuse initiatives, and reducing contamination in household bins. Council also plays an active role in enforcing illegal dumping regulations and advocating for improved waste outcomes through regional planning and collaboration.

Looking ahead, Council will continue to partner with FRWA, support innovation, and encourage the community to minimise waste with a focus on seasonal holiday stays.

2.0 Sustainably manage waste	KPI	Resourcing	Lead	Timing	Priority
1. Adopt circular procurement policies and practices	All relevant policies and procedures integrate circular economy principles	Existing staff	PT	Year 1-2	H
2. Create waste education material tailored for holiday and short-term rentals	Take up rates of materials	New operating \$	FRWA	Year 1-2	L
3. Review public litter bin locations and service levels to reduce issues and improve efficiency	Audit completed	Existing staff	OS	Year 1-2	M
4. Shift to zero waste for council run events (eg. compostable food vendor packaging) and share guidelines with others	Zero waste council events by 2030	Existing staff	ET	Year 3-5	M



3. Enhance the health and biodiversity of our nature

Australia faces accelerating biodiversity loss due to clearing, invasive species, fragmentation and climate pressures. Victor Harbor is home to remnant bushland, wetlands, and coastal habitats that support native species and ecological communities. Council works actively to protect and restore these areas through on-ground management, strategic planning, and partnerships.

Ongoing collaboration with the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board, the National Parks and Wildlife Service, and community groups is central to our approach. Volunteer-led activities such as Bushcare and community planting programs make a significant contribution to habitat restoration, supported by Council coordination and resources. Refer to the community objective (chapter 6 of this plan) for more.

Council's **Biodiversity and Natural Assets Management Plan 2023–28** guides current work and priorities. This includes weed control, pest management, staff training in native vegetation awareness, and integration of biodiversity goals into land use planning. Looking forward, opportunities to enhance biodiversity corridors across the region, move to nature positive approaches and to improve data on local species and ecosystem condition will help Council track progress and prioritise investment.

3.0 Enhance the health and biodiversity of our nature	KPI	Resourcing	Lead	Timing	Priority
1. Deliver Biodiversity and Natural Assets Management Plan (BNAMP) 4 actions	80% actions on track	Existing operating + new project \$\$	E&S	Annual	H
2. Update plant species guides for Council reserves, streets, verges and new developments, prioritising fire wise, climate ready and biodiversity considerations	Updated guides	New operating and/or staff time	OS	Year 1-2	H
3. Establish key wildlife corridors to improve linkages between green spaces, particularly an east to west corridor that can link the Hindmarsh and Inman Rivers.*	Plans developed and on-ground actions started	New project \$\$ - \$\$\$	E&S	Plan Year 1-2 Actions Year 2-5	H
4. Monitor biodiversity condition to inform update of BNAMP	Audit reserves and roadsides by 2028	\$\$ - \$\$\$	E&S	Year 2-3	M
5. Review and update BNAMP with focus on nature positive principles	Updated plan by 2029	\$-\$	E&S	Year 3-4	M

⁴ Biodiversity and Natural Assets Management Plan 2023 – 2028 available at www.victor.sa.gov.au/your-council/publications/other-management-plans-and-strategies

* Direct link to the Victor Harbor Urban Growth Management Strategy



4. Protect our coastline and waterways

Coastal, estuary and waterway health are increasingly threatened by human activity, climate change, and urban development. Rising seas, increased ocean temperatures, more intense storm events, and land-based pollution are all shaping the future of coastal communities like Victor Harbor.

Victor Harbor's coastline is central to the city's identity, ecology, and economy. Coastal erosion is being actively managed at key locations, with both natural dune systems and engineered protections. Estuarine areas and catchments are also under pressure, particularly from declining water quality and limited environmental flows, linked to stormwater runoff and surrounding land use.

Council is working to protect these natural assets through a combination of planning, infrastructure, volunteers, agency partnerships and advocacy.

The Southern Fleurieu Coastal Adaptation Plan and associated regional studies inform a long-term, place-based response to climate risks. Council is also embedding water sensitive urban design (WSUD) approaches into Council capital works and stormwater upgrades to reduce runoff pollution and improve water quality outcomes. Ongoing work includes reviewing Council Asset Management Plans to identify opportunities for "like for better" stormwater infrastructure upgrades and enforcement of the Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act provisions related to discharge into waterways. Management responsibilities on coast and waterways are often shared with multiple landowners, which can complicate weed control and restoration. Council continues to work constructively with its partners to achieve shared goals.

4.0 Protect our coastline and waterways	KPI	Resourcing	Lead	Timing	Priority
1. Deliver VH Coastal Adaptation Study and Strategy (CASS) ⁵	90% actions on track	Existing operational	E&S	Annual	H
2. Deliver VH relevant actions within Southern Fleurieu Coastal Action Plan Actions ⁶ as a project partner	# actions completed	\$ - \$\$ and seek grants	E&S with LB	Annual	M
3. Apply WSUD principles and stormwater quality improvements in the renewal of Council assets [^]	WSUD in >90% Council capital works	Capital renewal \$\$ - \$\$\$\$ [^]	I&E	Annual	H
4. Develop Inman and Hindmarsh Rivers master plans to enhance environment, accessibility and trails [*]	Hindmarsh by 2027 Inman by 2030	\$\$\$	E&S	Year 1-2	M
5. Support PhD project on coastal research and monitoring Coastal dynamics of VH region	Research report(s)	Existing operating \$\$ annually	E&S	Year 1-3	H
6. Advocate to State Government for: - stronger requirements for developments to retain and control stormwater[*] - updated hazard mapping including coastal flooding and storm surge[*]	Participate in state reforms	Existing staff	I&E	Ad hoc	M
7. Work with SA Water to increase the recycled water supply and/or storage capacity for irrigation use	Increase in recycled water use	New capital \$\$\$ - \$\$\$\$ and grants	OS	Year 3-5	M

⁵ Victor Harbor Coastal Adaptation Study and Strategy 2021 available at www.victor.sa.gov.au/your-council/publications/other-management-plans-and-strategies

⁶ Southern Fleurieu Coastal Action Plan, Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board, available at www.landscape.sa.gov.au

^{*} Direct alignment to Victor Harbor Urban Growth Management Strategy

[^] Direct alignment to Victor Harbor Urban Stormwater Management Plan (USMP)



5. Create a sustainable, energy efficient city

Sustainable design and efficient resource use are increasingly central to urban planning and infrastructure policy, supporting communities to save money, be comfortable and healthy, and reduce emissions. Victor Harbor's growth presents both challenges and important opportunities to embed sustainability into how we plan, build and maintain urban environments.

In our townships, council manages the performance of buildings, infrastructure, council operations, street trees and greening. We plant and manage street trees in line with our Tree Management Strategy, upgrade open spaces to keep them cool in hot weather, install solar panels on Council facilities, and install electric vehicle charging points.

Council monitored its operational energy use from 2021 to 2024, to track emissions, solar generation and energy efficiency improvements. With almost 500 water and electricity meters it is timely to review this tracking system and ensure we make smart investments and are ready for increasing requirements to reduce and disclose our emissions. Looking ahead, opportunities exist to strengthen planning controls, trial innovative technologies, and start tracking our urban canopy cover as a tool for addressing urban heat and enhancing biodiversity.

5.0 Create a sustainable, energy efficient city ⁷	KPI	Resourcing	Lead	Timing	Priority
1. Develop corporate emissions reduction plan including review of corporate data tracking system	Emissions plan endorsed	New operating \$\$ Use LGA guide	E&S	Year 1-2	H
2. Deliver Civic Centre Solar System Replacement & expansion project	New system installed	Capital \$\$\$\$	I&S	Year 1	H
3. Capture baseline tree canopy data and set targets to prioritise tree planting in urban Victor Harbor*	Tree canopy data capture township area	\$ - \$\$	GIS	Year 1-2	H
4. Update Tree Management Strategy and expand tree planting program to achieve the targets of 5.3	Strategy revised & increase in trees planted	\$\$ Strategy \$\$\$ - \$\$\$\$ Expanded tree planting & maintenance	OS	Strategy Year 2-3 Planting Year 3-5	H
5. Support State Government policy reforms that support climate action, active and public transport*	Participation in state reforms	Existing staff	E&S	Ad hoc	M

⁷ Work towards achieving net zero emissions by 2050 in line with South Australia's Net Zero Strategy, available at <https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/environment/docs/SA-Net-Zero-Strategy-WEB.pdf>

* Direct alignment to Victor Harbor Urban Growth Management Strategy



6. Educate our community

Long-term sustainability relies not only on Council action, but on a well-informed, empowered and active community. Across the Victor Harbor region, dedicated volunteers, community groups and partner organisations play crucial roles in protecting the coast, restoring biodiversity, living lightly and sharing environmental knowledge. Council recognises and appreciates their contribution—and is committed to supporting, inspiring and working alongside the community to foster more sustainable practices.

Sharing information about environmental stewardship and encouraging positive behaviour change is an ongoing endeavour. This is particularly true in a place like Victor Harbor with many short-term visitors.

Council already delivers many community education initiatives, including signage on native species and responsible recreation, the Hooded Plover program, and promoting marine parks. Council also collaborated with the Landscape Board and others to deliver joint programs.

Council remains focused on using education, partnerships and support to help community members and visitors better understand, connect with and care for the region.

6.0 Educate our community	KPI	Resourcing	Lead	Timing	Priority
1. Seek opportunities to listen and partner with First Nations including regular cultural training for staff	Joint projects	Existing staff	SMT	Annual	H
2. Expand volunteer support and deliver more community education projects	Increase # council environment volunteers	Expand staff from 0.4 to 0.8 FTE \$\$\$	E&S	Year 1-2	H
3. Increase newsletter and social posts on the benefits of nature and sustainable living, and to showcase council projects	Newsletter and social posts views	Existing staff	E&S	Annual	M
4. Investigate opportunities to increase community & business uptake of renewables, batteries, and electric transport.	Council briefing	Existing staff	SMT	Year 1-2	M
5. Share revised plant species guides, (3.2) to encourage more biodiverse gardens on private land and verges	Uptake / click rates of guides	New operational \$	OS	Year 3-4 (after 3.2)	H

*Direct alignment to Victor Harbor Urban Growth Management Strategy



Glossary

Biodiversity / biodiverse The variety of all plants, animals and microorganisms, their genes, and the ecosystems they live in.

Canopy The upper level of a tree or trees. In cities this is typically measured for trees tall enough to provide functional shade for people (trees 3m+).

Circular Economy A closed-loop approach to designing products and systems that minimises waste and makes the most of resources by reusing, recycling, and repurposing materials.

Diversion rate The rate or percentage of a potentially recyclable material that is kept out of landfill by recycling or other means.

Ecosystem A community of living organisms interacting with each other in their habitat.

Emissions The release of gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane, into the atmosphere from activities like burning fossil fuels.

Nature positive An approach to halt and reverse nature loss by restoring ecosystems, protecting biodiversity and enhancing the health of natural systems, so that nature is better off than before.

Remnant Vegetation Native trees, shrubs and grasses that have not been cleared since European settlement.

Resilient Able to survive, adapt and thrive no matter what kind of chronic stresses and acute shocks are experienced.

Resource Recovery The process of obtaining materials or energy from discarded materials.

Sustainable Responsibly managing our current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. This includes social, financial and environmental resources.

Urban Heat Island The effect of built up areas being hotter than rural areas due to heat absorption and retention in hard surfaces (eg. buildings and pavement).

Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD)
Managing the water cycle sustainably, reusing rainwater, reducing runoff and incorporating green infrastructure.



Stay in Touch

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*This Plan was developed in
partnership with Climate Cavalry*