

## 6.2 NEIGHBOURHOOD ISSUE: CLIMATE COSTS AND RISKS TO COUNCILS

Submitting Councillor: Dr Josh Fergeus

### **MOTION**

*That Council:*

- 1. Notes the Cities Power Partnership and Climate Council joint report, Neighbourhood Issue: Climate Costs and Risks to Councils;*
- 2. Requests that Officers consider the recommendations of the report and provide advice to Council on progress towards, or potential for, their implementation.*

### **BACKGROUND**

The Cities Power Partnership, of which Monash is a member, is Australia's largest network of local councils leading the way to a thriving, zero emissions future. The Partnership gives local government the tools, the connections and the momentum to capitalise on the global shift to a clean economy.

Their latest report 'Neighbourhood Issue: Climate Costs and Risks to Councils', co-authored by the Climate Council, contains information about local governments and climate change, including information on a number of legal issues relating to local governments and climate change.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

The report makes a range of recommendations, including:

- Increase operational net zero targets and efforts to mitigate climate change through emissions reduction activities.
- Work with local communities and businesses to support broader efforts to cut emissions beyond council operations and infrastructure.
- Undertake a climate change risk assessment and implement plans for adapting to those risks.
- Seek out opportunities for collaboration across multiple councils to reduce emissions and adapt to climate impacts.
- Encourage economic development units to explore how climate action can boost the local economy.
- Upskill all council staff to ensure they are confident about the impact of climate change on their day-to-day work, including opportunities for adaptation and mitigation.
- Ensure that all planning and development activity at a local level considers climate risks and opportunities to cut emissions.
- Advocate for other tiers of government to embrace stronger climate policies, emissions reductions targets and frameworks for mitigation and adaptation.

***ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL PLANS AND STRATEGIES***

Council is a member of the Cities Power Partnership, the co-author of this report.

This notice of motion aligns with the Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016-2026 and our Zero Net Carbon Action Plan.