



Sustainability Advisory Committee

**Tuesday 7 May 2024
6.00pm
Council Chambers
209 Comur Street, Yass**

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the Sustainability Advisory Committee will be held in Council Chambers, 209 Comur Street, Yass, on Tuesday 7 May 2024, commencing at **6.00pm**

AGENDA

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Acknowledgement of Country

Yass Valley Council recognises the Ngunnawal people, the Traditional Custodians of the land, water, and sky. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and future emerging leaders. We extend our respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live in the Yass Valley Local Government Area.

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interests

3. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of Sustainability Advisory Committee held on 6 February 2024

4. Reports

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5. Next Meeting

Committee Members: Cr A Cameron, J Connelly, P Davidson, S Ecker, N Elliott, A Elvin, L McAlary, C Nelson, A Tewes, A Wardle



Minutes of the Sustainability Advisory Committee

Tuesday 6 February 2024

6.00pm

Council Chambers

209 Comur Street, Yass

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Present

Cr Adrian Cameron (Chair), Alex Tewes, Luke McAlary, Peter Davidson, Caitlin Nelson, Alison Elvin, John Connelly (via Teams) 6.13pm

Also Present

Chris Berry and Shirree Garland (YVC)

1. Apologies

Saan Ecker, Ania Wardle

2. Declarations of Interest

Nil

3. Confirmation of Minutes

COMMITTEE DECISION

That the Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes of the meeting held on 31 October 2023 and the Meeting Notes of 28 November 2023 be taken as read and confirmed.

(Tewes/Nelson)

4. Member Reports

4.1 DRAFT OPEN SPACE STRATEGY - POSSIBLE SUBMISSION

SUMMARY

The draft *Open Space Strategy* was placed on public exhibition on 29 January 2024. The draft Strategy sets out the rationale and recommendations for planning and provision of public open space to meet the needs of the Yass Valley community in its towns, villages and rural areas to 2036.

COMMITTEE DECISION

That the Committee review the contents of the draft Open Space Strategy and circulate comments out of session in order that a possible submission may be drafted for future consideration.

(Davidson/Elvin)

4.2 FOGO COLLECTION SERVICE - OUTSTANDING DATA REQUEST

SUMMARY

At its September 2023 meeting the Sustainability Advisory Committee recommended that Council conduct a bin audit, consistent with the guidelines issued by the EPA, in order to collect the necessary data to assist in the design of a future Food Organic/Garden Organic (FOGO) collection service.

It was also decided that the Committee should start engaging with the community on a future GOGO collection service, adapting materials from other local councils as appropriate.

It also further identified the need for Council staff to provide a definitive set of accurate and current data to the Committee, given the inconsistencies, contradictions and errors within the data publicly reported by Council to date. In the absence of such a dataset the Committee cannot provide appropriate advice.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That it is recommended that Council expedite the conduct of a bin audit and the compilation of an accurate and current dataset. This would enable the Committee to provide meaningful advice on the design of a future FOGO collection service consistent with its responsibilities under the Sustainability Policy.

(McAlary/Nelson)

Note: The Chief Executive Officer advised that the Canberra Region Joint Organisation was currently in the process of procurement for a regional bin audit to be undertaken.

4.3 CRAGO MILL - SUSTAINABILITY IN DESIGN ISSUES

SUMMARY

In June 2021, the Climate Change and Natural Disaster (CCND) Risk Assessment recommended several actions relating to the proposed new Administrative Building and Library, including that the design of the Crago Mill Precinct should incorporate a community heat refuge, operate with separate or stand-alone power supply, and follow best practice energy efficiency design principles.

As part of the negotiation of the contract with the preferred tenderer for the Crago Mill Precinct a series of changes to the design have been agreed, however, these have not been publicly communicated.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That Council communicate to the Yass Valley community:

- ***Whether the redesigned Crago Mill Precinct is fully responding to the recommendations made in the Climate Change and Natural Disaster Risk Assessment; and***
- ***How the adopted changes to the design – including amendments to lighting, ceilings, landscaping, roof and subfloor specifications – may or may not impact on the environmental standards of the buildings and the project's overall environmental sustainability.***

(McAlery /Tewes)

5. Reports

5.1 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN SURVEY

COMMITTEE DECISION

As part of the community engagement a survey for Yass Valley residents is being undertaken to ensure the *Towards 2042 Community Strategic Plan* is an accurate representation of our future.

COMMITTEE DECISION

That the members of the Sustainability Advisory Committee complete the survey and encourage their peers and fellow residents to do the same, prior to 15 March 2024.

(Davidson/Nelson)

5.1 GREEN WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RECENT ASBESTOS INCIDENT UPDATE

SUMMARY

To provide an update on green waste management and the recent asbestos incident at the Yass Transfer Station.

COMMITTEE DECISION

That the report on the green waste management and recent asbestos incident be noted.

(Elvin/Tewes)

5.2 ELECTRIC VEHICLES AND CHARGERS UPDATE

SUMMARY

To present an update on electric vehicles in the Council fleet and provision of new charging stations.

COMMITTEE DECISION

That the updated report on electric vehicles and chargers be noted.

(Tewes/Davidson)

6. Next Meeting

Monday 4 March 2024, at 6.00pm in the Council Chambers – Draft Open Space Strategy Submission
Tuesday 7 May 2024, at 6.00pm in the Council Chambers.

The meeting closed at 7.07p.m.

4.1 INTEGRATED PLANNING & REPORTING DOCUMENTS ON EXHIBITION

SUMMARY

It's important for residents to understand and play a part in Yass Valley Council's Draft Integrated Planning and Reporting Documents, which include the proposed budget, rates, fees and charges, and projects for the 2024/25 financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Included in the documents.

POLICY & LEGISLATION

- *Local Government Act 1993*

REPORT

The following documents are on public exhibition between 29 April 2024 and 4:30 pm 27 May 2024:

1. Draft 2024/25 Operational Plan and 2024-34 Long Term Financial Plan
2. 2022-26 Delivery Program
3. Draft 2024/25 Revenue Statement
4. 2022-26 Workforce Management Plan
5. 2022-32 Asset Management Strategy
6. Draft 2024-26 Disability Inclusion Action Plan

The community are invited to have their say by providing written feedback or attending one of our community information sessions. During these sessions, Council's Executive Management Team and Councillors will provide an overview of the draft suite of documents.

The Draft Integrated Planning and Reporting Documents are available to view on Council's website under "Have Your Say". Hard copies of these documents are also available at Yass Library and Council's Administration Office. Please call or email before visiting to ensure the documents are available:

- Yass Valley Library – 02 6226 1305 or library@yass.nsw.gov.au
- Yass Valley Council – 02 6226 1477 or council@yass.nsw.gov.au

To provide a written submission, you can:

- Complete our [online form](#);
- Post your submission to PO Box 6, Yass, NSW 2582; or
- Email council@yass.nsw.gov.au

Find out more about these documents from Council's Executive Management Team and Councillors at the following sessions:

- 3 May 2024: 7.45am – Yass Valley Business Chamber Breakfast Meeting – Trader & Co
- 6 May 2024: 6.00pm – Binalong Progress Association
- 16 May 2024: 6.00pm – Yass Valley Council Chamber
- 20 May 2024: 6.00pm – Gundaroo/Sutton Community Associations – Gundaroo Hall

More dates will be added to Council's website and social media as they become available.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

4.2 CRAGO MILL - SUSTAINABILITY IN DESIGN

SUMMARY

To present the outcomes from Council's consideration of the Committee's recommendation in February 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report on the Crago Mill – Sustainability in Design be noted.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A financial agreement for up to \$50M accepted for the project.

POLICY & LEGISLATION

- Delivery Program and Operational Plan

REPORT

At the 6 February 2024 Committee meeting the following recommendation was made to Council:

That Council communicate to the Yass Valley community:

- *Whether the redesigned Crago Mill Precinct is fully responding to the recommendations made in the Climate Change and Natural Disaster Risk Assessment; and*
- *How the adopted changes to the design – including amendments to lighting, ceilings, landscaping, roof and subfloor specifications – may or may not impact on the environmental standards of the buildings and the project's overall environmental sustainability.*

Council considered the recommendation at its meeting on 22 February 2024. Council also considered an officer report and Notice of Motion on the establishment of a Project Committee to oversee the construction of the project. Council resolved to establish a Project Committee in accordance with the Terms of Reference presented to the meeting.

In considering the Sustainability Committee's recommendation on the Crago Mill, Council simply noted the recommendation on the Crago Mill and in the discussion considered this to be a matter for the Project Committee if necessary.

The Crago Mill Precinct Project Committee has held its first meeting which focused on the works program and timelines. The sustainability issues can be considered at a future meeting of the Project Committee.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

4.3 WASTE MANAGEMENT ACROSS YASS VALLEY

SUMMARY

To provide background information to facilitate discussion of waste management in Yass Valley.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee discuss waste management across Yass Valley.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Resources for waste management are provided for in the Operational Plan.

POLICY & LEGISLATION

- Strategic Business Plan for Waste Management Services 2015
- Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
- Local Government (State) Award

REPORT

In 2015 Council developed a Strategic Business Plan for Waste Management Services (refer **Attachment A**).

Following the adoption of the Strategic Business Plan a Waste and Recycling Strategy 2015-2025 was prepared (refer **Attachment B**).

In April 2018 Council considered a review of waste operation to identify ways to reduce waste going to landfill and opportunities for efficiencies/financial savings. A copy of the Council report, minutes and review is included in **Attachment C**.

Actions emerging from the Council determination have been and are continuing to be progressively implemented.

A further review is planned to be undertaken in the 2024 financial year subject to resources being included in the upcoming Operational Plan.

- ATTACHMENTS:**
- A. Strategic Business Plan for Waste Management 2015
 - B. Waste & Recycling Strategy 2015-2025
 - C. Waste Operations Service Review 2018

4.4 VARIOUS MATTERS

SUMMARY

To present a further update on Electric Vehicles and Chargers, Waste Bin Audit and Development Control Plan consultation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the update report on electric vehicles and chargers, waste bin audit and Development Control Plan consultation be noted.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY & LEGISLATION

- *Local Government Act 1993*
- *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*

REPORT

The following updates are provided for information:

1. Electric Vehicle and Chargers

No change since the report presented to the Committee in February 2024

2. Waste Bin Audit

The Waste Bin Audit is being organised through the Canberra Region Joint Organisation as a single procurement process for all member Councils. Following procurement process audits will be scheduled for 2024/25 financial year. Further updates will be provided to the Committee following the completion of the audits.

3. Development Control Plan

Public exhibition of the Development Control Plan concluded on 28 February 2024. Prior to the closing date arrangements have been made with several interested persons to lodge a late submission. Once all submissions have been reviewed a report will be presented to Council.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil