

Climate Emergency Australia

Prospectus 2025-2026

Join a network of Australian councils that are responding to the climate emergency

What is Climate Emergency Australia?

Climate Emergency Australia is a network of Australian councils that have declared, recognised or acknowledged the climate emergency.

Over sixty councils came together in February 2020 and resolved to form this nationwide network.

We are overseen by an Executive made up of senior representatives from five member councils.

More than one hundred councils around Australia have now declared or recognised the climate emergency.

Together, these councils represent more than 11.4 million Australians calling for a rapid shift to a more resilient, zero-carbon society.

Climate Emergency Australia advocates on behalf of our members to other levels of government to respond to the Climate Emergency.

We are building the capacity of Australian councils to respond to the climate emergency.

Find out more about **Climate Emergency Australia**.

What are the benefits of becoming a member of Climate Emergency Australia (CEA)?

Build your council's capacity to respond to the Climate Emergency

Our webinars, training sessions and discussion forums are focussed specifically on the challenges and opportunities facing councils that are responding to the climate emergency. No council needs to start from scratch. Tap into the wealth of knowledge and resources of councils around Australia who are learning together.

- Access members' rates for all **Climate Emergency Australia training** programs and learn from other councils' training initiatives (see more over page).
- Get early access to limited-capacity events such as Climate Cafés.
- Access a range of resources and templates collected by CEA and our member councils to enable all Australian councils to better respond to the climate emergency.

Collaborate with councils around Australia

- Join CEA's Basecamp, an interactive online forum where over 500 council officers from around Australia share their ideas, experiences and skills with each other. It's a supportive and collaborative space and connects councils all around the country.
- Attend or access recordings of webinars and live discussion forums targeted to the needs of councils around the country who are responding to the climate emergency. These feature relevant and insightful expert speakers, and provide a real-time opportunity to connect with other councils and talk peer-to-peer about the burning topics of creating a real climate emergency response. **Popular webinars so far** have included topics like climate and community wellbeing, community mobilisation, getting off gas, best practice in climate emergency planning and preparing for and dealing with climate impacts.
- Join a working group on a particular topic of interest.

Governing in the Climate Emergency: training for senior local government leaders

"An inspiring course which will act as a catalyst to action."
Cr Prapti Mehta, Shire of Mundaring, Western Australia (2024 participant)



Climate Emergency Australia has developed an exciting new micro-credential for senior leaders in local government.

This training is for councillors, CEOs and Executive team members who want to:

- Expand their climate leadership
- Deepen their understanding of what it means to govern well during the climate emergency
- Understand climate risk and the role of local government in managing it
- Strengthen their council's climate emergency response
- Connect with and learn from peers around Australia.

- The program is made up of four fortnightly sessions in a live, interactive videoconferencing format
- It includes expert speakers, discussion with peers and guided interactive activities
- We strongly recommend you consider joining the program with at least one colleague from your council.

"Working with [my colleague] was invaluable - being able to discuss and have her input and know I have her support."



Cr Nola Firth, Tweed Shire Council,
New South Wales
(2024 participant)

Training price list

Governing in the Climate Emergency Training (all prices GST exclusive)

- Early bird (for member councils registering in 2024) - **\$150**
- Member councils (individual) - **\$250**
- Member councils (group) **\$300** (total for up to 3 participants)
- Non-member councils - **\$500**

I did learn a lot... I liked that you reflected and assessed what your Council does and connect and work with staff.



It was a small group and I found that was really fantastic... Because we were all over Australia, you bring different perspectives.

Cr Janet Pearce, Macedon Ranges
Shire Council, Victoria

To find out more and register your interest in joining the next round of interest go to www.climateemergency.org.au/training

Join the voice of local government in the Climate Emergency

- Your council can nominate to be represented on the CEA Executive to influence the direction of Climate Emergency Australia.
- Your council will be represented in any advocacy initiatives to other levels of government. CEA brings a particular Climate Emergency focus to advocacy.
- CEA also works with broader alliances. We were, for example, part of the alliance that successfully advocated for changes to the National Construction Code to include stronger energy performance standards for new homes in 2022.

Support CEA

- Your council can proudly call themselves a member of Climate Emergency Australia.
- The more members we have, the stronger we are and the louder our collective voice is.
- Climate Emergency Australia is an independent body that does not currently receive funding from states or the federal government. We are entirely reliant on contributions from our members to keep operating.
- The more member contributions we receive, the more services we can provide.

Who can join CEA?

- Any council in Australia that has declared and paid a membership fee is automatically a member.
- Any council in Australia that is responding to the climate emergency but hasn't yet formally declared is welcome to apply for membership (to be granted at the discretion of the Executive).
- If your council isn't ready to join as a member, you can join as an individual member (as a council employee or councillor), for your own professional development and networking – contact us to find out more.

What does it cost to become a member of CEA?

Membership tier	Population/ considerations	2024-2025 membership fee
Small councils	<100,000 people	Minimum \$1,248 (+ GST)
Large councils	>100,000 people	Minimum \$3,641 (+ GST)
Other councils	Councils with very small rates bases*	<\$1,248 on application
	Councils with large rates bases**	>\$3,641 (optional)

* Very small councils can request a reduction in fees, to be considered by the CEA Executive Committee.

** Some councils opt to contribute more than the minimum fees to support CEA's establishment and ongoing operation. We encourage councils with large rates bases to consider this as a way to support CEA, and to increase the services we can provide to all councils, big and small.

Hosting of Climate Emergency Australia

Climate Emergency Australia is hosted by Hume City Council in the northern suburbs of Melbourne, on Wurundjeri Country in Victoria.

To provide funding continuity for staff employment (currently one part-time staff member), and for implementation of the CEA work plan, we ask Councils to commit to funding by the end of April each year if possible.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets out the roles and expectations of the host council and member councils. The term of the current MOU is from July 2023 to June 2026. Signing of the MOU is not required of member councils and does not commit members to ongoing fees. Fees are invoiced annually upon provision of a purchase order.

Contact and more information

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