

# Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti O Kirikiriroa

Monitoring Report - 2022/23



**Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa is our long-term strategy to respond to climate change. It sets our vision for Hamilton Kirikiriroa to be a thriving, low-carbon city that responds and adapts to climate change.**

**The strategy includes three outcomes that will help us achieve our vision.**



**It also sets emissions targets for both the city and Council emissions. The targets are:**



Our Climate Future is a key strategy for Hamilton Kirikiriroa and is supported by the Climate Change Policy. This strategy and policy apply across all Council business activities.

This document provides progress updates on delivery against the strategy outcomes. The following key is used:

#### Undetermined

Progress against this measure is not available for this report

#### Red

Progress against this measure is significantly off-track

#### Amber

Progress against this measure is off-track

#### Green

Progress is on-track

## Progress of delivering the strategy:

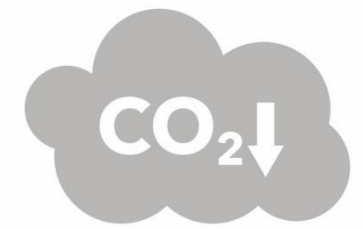
### Year one (2022/23)

Based on ratings of each outcome, staff have determined that the overall strategy progress is amber.



Key foundational actions have been delivered in the first year (2022/23) of strategy implementation, including understanding the level of ambition required to reduce emissions and acquiring additional funding and resourcing to deliver strategy outcomes. However, to ensure successful delivery of the 30+ year vision, further action and urgency is required. City-wide emissions have increased in line with growth, however in the next few years we need to see a shift towards emissions declining whilst the city grows.

Progress on some outcomes is undetermined as baselining is still being completed.



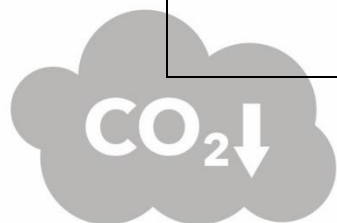
### Outcome one: By acting together, our emissions are reducing

- The progress for outcome one is amber.
- City-wide emissions have increased as the city continues to grow - this was not unexpected and does not breach the target for city-wide emission to peak in 2025 at the very latest. However, modelling has been completed and indicates that based on current national, regional and local commitments, our city-wide emissions are anticipated to decrease by only 16% by 2030. This means we are not on track to achieve our 30% reduction target by 2030 (from 2018/19).
- Additional action is required in the coming years if the 2025 and 2030 targets are to be achieved.
- We were successful in receiving Better Off Funding to deliver two new programmes. One is focused on Corporate Sustainability, including our Council emissions reduction targets, and the other on building relationships with community and businesses and delivering a climate action fund.

How we'll know we are successful	How we're tracking
We are progressing towards our emissions targets	City-wide emissions - Our net emissions for 2021/22 were 1,060,790 tCO <sub>2</sub> e. This is a 6% increase from our 2018/19 baseline. This increase is expected as we are a growing city and action by central government and council has increased since 2022. More action is required over coming years to reduce emissions and to support a fair and equitable transition.
	Council emissions - Council's operational non-biogenic emissions for 2022/23 were 9,523 tCO <sub>2</sub> e, which is an 18% decrease from the 2018/19 baseline. This decrease is largely due to our continued shift from natural gas to electricity, and the increased level of renewable electricity in the national grid. Further work is needed to address other emissions sources, including our corporate travel emissions as these are increasing as we return to pre-COVID-19 travel behaviours and ways of working.



How we'll know we are successful	How we're tracking
Emissions from transport are decreasing	Our 2021/22 city-wide emissions profile shows that transport emissions were 675,802 tCO <sub>2</sub> e. This is a 6% increase from 2018/19 and is expected in this year 1 report due to city growth. Transport emissions remain the largest source of city-wide emissions at 64% of the 2021/22 emissions profile.
There is an increase in the community's awareness of our climate change response	Quality of Life Pulse Survey data showed that in 2021 and 2022, on average 26% of respondents 'didn't know' how they felt about the amount of effort Council puts into actions or initiatives to address environmental issues or climate change. This suggests a lack of awareness among some residents around what Council does to address these issues. As we implement Our Climate Future, we aim to see this decrease over time.
The number of businesses acting on climate change is increasing	We are currently establishing a baseline for reporting against this measure.  Council's Employer Insights reports for Jan-June 2023 (see <a href="#">Economic Development Committee Agenda, June 2023</a> ) found that manufacturing and agriculture employers in Hamilton were making efforts towards increasing sustainability initiatives, such as in renewable energy, and packaging reduction and recycling.
The quantity of material entering the waste stream is decreasing	The amount of residential waste to landfill at Hamilton's resource recovery centre (Lincoln Street) in 2022/23 was 10,392 tonnes, equivalent to 57.7kgs per person. This is a reduction on 2021/22 (14,391 tonnes, equivalent to 80.62kgs per person).  The amount of waste to landfill through Hamilton's kerbside service (red rubbish bin) in 2022/23 was 15,992 tonnes, equivalent to 88.89kgs per person. This is a slight increase from previous years (88.47kgs in 2021/22 and 85.29kgs in 2020/21).  Waste to landfill from Council sites for 2022/23 was 1,025.43 tonnes. This is an increase on previous years where the impacts of COVID-19 lockdowns at Council sites and staff working from home saw a reduction in waste to landfill.





## **Outcome two: Our neighbourhoods enable low-carbon living**

- We are currently establishing baselines for half of the success measures under this outcome, making it difficult to assess progress so far. Status is therefore undetermined until we are better able to measure progress.
- Quality of Life and Pulse surveys show that while Hamiltonians are taking climate action (the majority of which is focussed on waste and purchasing behaviours), there has been a decrease in Hamiltonians who consider sustainability and the environment in their decision-making.
- We were successful in receiving Climate Emergency Response Funding for 28 transport projects that will help reduce transport emissions in Hamilton Kirikiriroa. These projects are small to medium transport improvements including bus stop upgrades and new walking and cycling connections, making it easier for our community to move around our city in low-carbon ways.

How we'll know we are successful	How we're tracking
More people are using active transport options (e.g. walking, biking, scooting) within their neighbourhoods	We are currently establishing a baseline for reporting against this measure in alignment with the monitoring of the Access Hamilton Action Plan.
There is an increase in the use of public transport	We are currently establishing a baseline for reporting against this measure in alignment with the monitoring of the Access Hamilton Action Plan.

How we'll know we are successful	How we're tracking
More of our homes and buildings are incorporating sustainable design principles	Quality of Life Pulse Survey data from June 2023 shows that respondents have limited access to the following sustainable resources: home composting (32% of respondents); ability to easily charge a hybrid or electric vehicle at home (12%); solar panels (4%); rainwater tanks (4%). The majority of respondents (58%) said that they do not have access to any of these resources.
Our communities are actively making low-carbon choices as they recognise the benefits of doing so	<p>Quality of Life survey data shows Hamiltonians are taking climate action. In October 2022, 68% of respondents took actions to manage waste; 54% took purchasing actions such as buying fewer products; 46% took food actions such as eating more plant-based foods; 36% talked about climate change issues or solutions with others; 34% took transport actions such as choosing to walk, bike or bus; and 20% took energy actions such as home upgrades to reduce electricity use.</p> <p>However, Quality of Life and Pulse survey data have also shown that the proportion of Hamiltonians who 'often' consider sustainability and the environment in their decision making in 2023 has declined since previous years. Over 2020-2022, approximately 46% of respondents 'often' considered this, but in 2023 this dropped to 36%.</p>





### **Outcome three: Our city is ready for Hamilton's climate**

- We are currently establishing or have only recently established baselines for most of the success measures under this outcome, meaning it is difficult to assess progress so far. Status is therefore undetermined until we are better able to measure progress.
- While the wet weather experienced across the north island in 2022/23 led to a reduction in water use in Hamilton Kirikiriroa, it also caused an increase in the number of flooding events we experienced. This highlights the importance of this strategy outcome, to ensure we are prepared for extreme weather impacts and able to manage water use as our climate changes.
- Flood mapping has been completed for 90% of the city. This models what would happen in different areas of the city if we had a very large, very rare, amount of rain and helps us to identify appropriate stormwater treatments and improve our preparedness for extreme events.
- We have completed a Climate Change Risk Assessment for Council's operations which helps us understand how climate change could impact what we do and the services we provide for our community.

How we'll know we are successful	What we are doing
Our roads and cycleways are meeting our community's needs despite the changes in climate and extreme weather events	We are currently establishing a baseline for reporting against this measure in alignment with the monitoring of the Access Hamilton Action Plan.
Native vegetation cover has increased to 10% by 2050	The native vegetation cover baseline for the city has been calculated at 1.7%. This measure will be monitored in line with Nature in the City strategy reporting. The Nature in the City programme continues to delivery priority projects and engage with partners and stakeholders to increase native vegetation cover.



How we'll know we are successful	What we are doing
Tree canopy cover is increasing across the city	Tree canopy cover baseline of 12.5% was established in 2019/20. This will be measured again in November/December 2023. This measure will be monitored in line with the reporting for Council's wellbeing measures. Progress is undetermined until the next measurement can be compared against the baseline.
Our stormwater system continues to minimise the impact on the awa despite changes in rainfall	We are currently establishing a baseline for reporting against this measure.
Water is being conserved by our community, businesses, and at Council facilities	Total city-wide water use in 2022/23 was 20,733.38 million litres. In 2022/23, the average daily water use per resident was 305 litres per day. This is a lower water use rate compared to previous years (338 litres in 2021/22, 331 litres in 2020/21, and 348 litres in 2019/20). We are currently establishing a baseline for reporting water use at Council facilities.
Our community is more aware of the impacts of climate change in Hamilton Kirikiriroa.	We are currently establishing a baseline for reporting against this measure.

