



CITY OF VINCENT

# SUSTAINABLE VINCENT FRAMEWORK

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2025 – 2028









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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Vincent kaadatj Whadjuk Noongar moort Whadjuk Noongar boodja-k. Ngalak koordookayin Noongar Birdiya koora koora, yeyi wer boordakan.

Ngalak koodjir kaadatj bandang Aboriginal wer Torres Strait Islander Birdiya ali ngalang nakolak-kadak wer malayin-kadak.

Whadjuk Noongar moort kalyakoorl baalabang malayin wer nakolak yanginy. Ngalak kalyakoorl Birdiya-kadak waangkaniny.

Noongar boodja baal kaalykoorl Noongar moort boodja.

.....

Vincent acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation and pay our respects to the Elders past and present.

We recognise the unique and incomparable contribution the Whadjuk people have made, and continue to make, to our culture and in our community.

We would also like to acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australia. We will continue to seek the input of the Traditional Owners.

The land on which we live, meet and thrive as a community always was and always will be Noongar land.



# INTRODUCTION

We are in the middle of a climate emergency where the impacts of climate change are intensifying both globally and locally.

The evidence is clear: global temperatures are rising, weather patterns are shifting, and natural systems are being disrupted.

The scientific consensus confirms that human activities, particularly the burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial agriculture, have driven these changes.

If everyone on earth was to live like the average Australian, we would need 4.5 earths to sustain ourselves<sup>1</sup>.

In Australia, every decade since 1950 has been progressively warmer, with rising temperatures observed year-round. This trend is contributing to more extreme weather events, including heatwaves, bushfires, droughts, and flooding. This trend is a stark reminder that the window for meaningful action is rapidly closing; climate change is no longer a distant threat.

The need for immediate sustainable action is more critical than ever. To secure a safe operating

space for humanity, we must take immediate and substantial steps towards reducing emissions, improving resilience, and adapting to unavoidable climate impacts. Climate action needs to be embedded at the heart of all societal systems, from governance and policy to business practices and individual behaviour.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the world's leading authority on climate science, has issued a critical warning: we must limit global warming to well below 2°C, and ideally closer to 1.5°C, in alignment with the Paris Agreement, to avoid the worst impacts of climate change for future generations.

The most recent IPCC Sixth Assessment Report<sup>2</sup> reinforces this clearly with the message:

- *'Human activities, principally through emissions of greenhouse gases, have unequivocally caused global warming'*
- *'Climate change is a threat to human well-being and planetary health. There is a rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a liveable and sustainable future for all.'*

<sup>1</sup> Global Footprint Network

<sup>2</sup> IPCC\_AR6\_SYR\_SPM.pdf





## SUSTAINABLE VINCENT FRAMEWORK

The Sustainable Vincent Framework (Framework) builds on the success of the Sustainable Environment Strategy 2016-2024. This framework embeds sustainability as a core function of Vincent's operations and directly assigns responsibility to the relevant business units.

This is a bold approach which means sustainability would be put at the forefront of all decisions made by Vincent and that all employees are accountable for sustainable practices.

Recognising the necessity for immediate action and the interconnected nature of sustainability, this framework has six priority areas:

- **Climate action (adaptation and mitigation)**
- **Resilient and low carbon infrastructure**
- **Healthy and thriving city**
- **Good governance and responsible investment**
- **Resource conservation**
- **Regenerative, green and biodiverse**

This framework will ensure sustainability is a function of everything we do as a local government.

## VINCENT'S ROLE

Local governments play a crucial role in advancing sustainability and climate action by implementing adaptation and mitigation strategies to build resilient communities.

Vincent is a progressive leader in sustainability but cannot solve the climate emergency alone. Addressing this challenge requires coordinated action across all levels of government, the private sector, and not-for-profit organisations.

However, this is not business as usual. Vincent is committed to setting bold, aspirational targets and driving meaningful change, ensuring that our actions go beyond the minimum requirements to create a truly sustainable future.

## OUR LEGISLATED DRIVER

Local governments are at the forefront of the climate crisis and deal firsthand with the effects of climate change on our communities.

Local governments have a crucial role in building resilient communities, reducing carbon emissions, and advocating for more climate action from the state and federal governments.

Acting sustainably has become a core commitment for all local governments and is required by the Local Government Act 1995.

## HERE IS WHAT WE CAN DO

LEAD	Showing courage by making strategic decisions and prioritising sustainable outcomes.
DO	Directly implementing initiatives to promote sustainability and climate action within the organisation and our community.
ADVOCATE/ INFLUENCE	Representing and advancing the interests of Vincent's community to other levels of government and external organisations.
SUPPORT	Building capacity and empowering individuals, community groups and organisations to act sustainably.
EDUCATING	Providing information and resources to help people better understand and engage with sustainable outcomes.
COLLABORATE	Working together with other stakeholders, including government agencies, businesses and community groups to achieve sustainability goals.

### 3.1 General Function

- (1) The general function of a local government is to provide for the good government of persons in its district.
- (1A) Without limiting subsection (1), the general function of a local government must be performed having regard to the following
  - (a) the need –
    - (i) to promote the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the district; and
    - (ii) to plan for, and to plan for **mitigating, risks associated with climate change; and**
    - (iii) in **making decisions, to consider potential long-term consequences and impacts on future generations**





## STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The framework sets our direction for the fulfillment of the key priorities of the Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032 (SCP). This is our overarching strategy which guides all other strategic work undertaken, as per Figure 1. The framework will be supported by the development of further strategies and plans including:

- The Enhanced Environment Strategy (EES) which focuses on water, greening and waste outcomes.
- A Climate Transition Action Plan (CTAP) which will be developed in 2026 to outline steps towards achieving operational net zero and detail how we can help our community address and build resilience in the face of climate change.





Figure 1: Vincent's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a globally recognised framework for driving collective action towards a more sustainable and equitable world.

Established in 2015 as part of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, they were adopted by 193 countries, including Australia, marking a significant international commitment to tackling critical global challenges. These goals address a broad range of issues, from poverty, inequality, and education to climate action, sustainable cities, and responsible consumption.

The SDGs acknowledge that sustainability is interconnected – requiring social, economic, and environmental inputs.

At Vincent, we have a key role in contributing to the local delivery of the SDGs. Our SCP outlines a vision for 2032 where Vincent is a vibrant, sustainable, and diverse place to live.

The six priority areas of the SCP align closely with the SDGs, ensuring our policies and initiatives contribute to broader sustainability goals (as per Figure 2).

These priority areas are interlinked, meaning that strengthening one part of the plan can have a positive reinforcing effect on the others.

By using the SDGs as a reference point, we can ensure our strategies reflect state, national and global priorities while addressing the unique needs within Vincent.





Figure 2: The SDGs as they relate to Vincent's Strategic Community Plan. THE 17 GOALS – Sustainable Development ([un.org](https://un.org))

# VINCENT'S EMISSIONS

Vincent has been tracking major sources of operational Greenhouse Gas Emissions since 2017. An emissions inventory was completed in 2024 using the internationally recognised Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard. This has meant we can now quantify our Scope 1, 2 and 3 emission sources as per Figure 3.

- **SCOPE 1** are emissions which are directly a result of the City of Vincent operations.
- **SCOPE 2** emissions are from grid- supplied electricity purchased.
- **SCOPE 3** emissions occur outside the direct control of the City of Vincent but occur because of our operations.

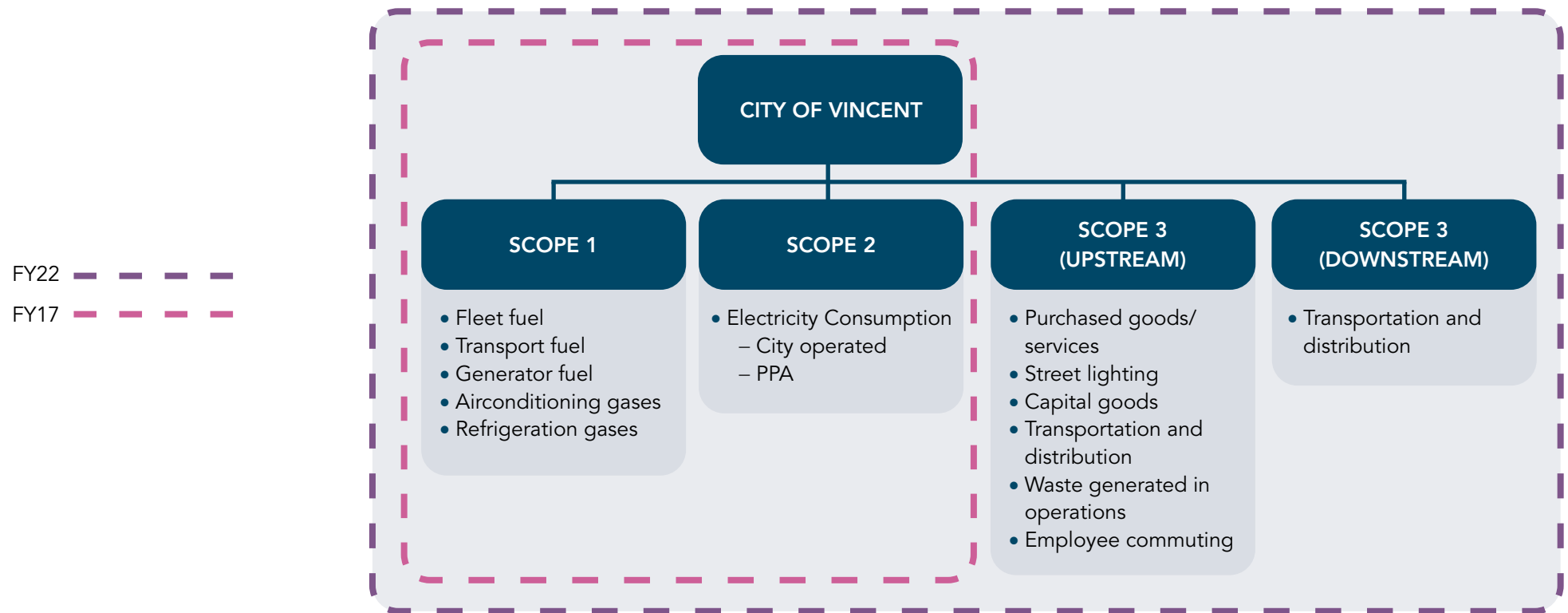


Figure 3: Vincent Emissions Sources



# VINCENT'S NET ZERO PLEDGE

Globally, the movement to net-zero emissions by 2050 is both underway and rapidly accelerating – with the Australian Government pledging a 43% reduction of 2005 levels by 2030, and net-zero by 2050<sup>3</sup>.

For simplicity Vincent will refer to net zero in the following ways<sup>4</sup>:

**Operational net zero** as achieving net zero emissions within an organisation's direct operations (Scopes 1 and 2).

**Net zero** is defined by the Science Based Targets as:

- including the collection of Scope 3 emissions
- an emission reduction pathway in alignment with a 1.5° C trajectory
- maximum number of offsets limited to 10 per cent
- requiring the sequestering of emissions past net-zero

In this way, through minimal reliance on offsets, net zero ensures that organisations maximise emissions reductions first.

<sup>3</sup>Climate Change Bill 2022

<sup>4</sup>SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard

<sup>5</sup>Net Zero Government Operations Strategy

## VINCENT'S NET ZERO PLEDGE

As per the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy<sup>5</sup>, Vincent has committed to reaching operational net zero (scope 1 and 2) by 2030. This commitment means quantifying our emissions scoped by our operational boundaries and reducing our energy and pollution footprint where we have control.

Within our CTAP, which is to be developed in 2025/26, Vincent will be reviewing our emissions accounting and will make a net zero pledge, for scope 1, 2 and 3, with an implementation plan. This is important as Vincent recognises the need to rapidly decarbonise as quickly as possible.

Vincent will explore a net zero community target within the CTAP. This ensures that there is a continued focus on supporting our community to reduce emissions and embed climate action into the fabric of Vincent.

# DECADES OF PROGRESS

Our recent journey towards embedding sustainability into our organisation began in 2011 with our first formal Sustainable Environment Strategy.

DATE	ACTION
2011	Vincent adopts first Sustainable Environment Strategy.
	Vincent starts eco-zoning in underutilised turf areas.
2012	Vincent completes first Climate Risk assessment with City of Perth and the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority.
2013	First fully Electric Vehicle (EV) purchased.
2014	Vincent adopts first Greening Plan 2014.
2015	10-year anniversary of Native Plant Sale for Vincent residents.
2016	Vincent adopts second Sustainable Environment Strategy, setting an ambitious Net Zero 2030 target (one of only two Local Governments in WA at the time to do so).
2017	Beatty Park is endorsed as a Waterwise Aquatic Centre.
	Vincent achieves Platinum Waterwise Council Status for 2016/17.
2018	Vincent adopts second Greening Plan 2018-2023.
	Vincent trials low Global Warming Potential (hydrocarbon) refrigerants at Beatty Park.
2019	Over 115 kW of solar is installed at Beatty Park, with renewable energy credits retired annually.
	Beatty Park is upgraded to geothermal energy for indoor space heating.
	Vincent joined the Cities Power Partnership, joining Australia's largest network of local councils acting on climate change.
	Vincent adopts third Sustainable Environment Strategy.



DATE	ACTION
2020	Vincent's first hybrid electric truck becomes operational.
2021	Vincent adopts FOGO, diverting food organics waste from landfill.
2022	Purchased 100 per cent renewable energy for contestable sites through the WALGA PPA.
	Vincent's passenger car fleet became 100 per cent hybrid or electric.
2024	<p>SES Strategy finishes, significant achievements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural gas consumption reduced by 80 per cent.</li> <li>• Over 400kW of Solar installed on City Buildings.</li> <li>• 82,227sqm of eco-zoning completed.</li> <li>• Number of street trees increased to 15,445.</li> </ul>
	Vincent supports the provision of a fast electric vehicle charger to be installed in the Chelmsford Road Car Park.
	Vincent launches GreenTrack priority assessment service for residential development applications.
	Vincent wins National Planning Institute of Australia award in the Climate Change and Resilience category for GreenTrack.
2025	Vincent expands GreenTrack to extend the priority assessment service to development applications which propose the retention of significant trees on private land.
	Vincent celebrates 11 years as a Gold Waterwise Council.

# PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

The following outlines the six priority areas of the Sustainable Vincent Framework.

PRIORITY OBJECTIVES	GOAL
Climate action (mitigation and adaptation)	<p>All-encompassing goal, to educate and facilitate our community and organisation to build resilience in the face of climate change.</p> <p>This objective prioritises the identification of local climate hazards, the risk profile, and implementing necessary adaptation and mitigation measures. Our actions towards net zero form our mitigation strategy, while adaptation strategies that are risk specific are required to help us prepare for and respond to local climate impacts.</p>
Resilient and low carbon infrastructure	<p>Develop and enhance Vincent's infrastructure to be adaptable, resilient and robust against climate impacts.</p> <p>This objective prioritises energy and water efficiency measures and electrification in our operational buildings and promotes environmentally sustainable design. It will address renewable energy and build resilience in our infrastructure to withstand increase climate shocks and stressors.</p>
Healthy and thriving city	<p>Support and influence our wider City to maintain sustainability leadership and create thriving places.</p> <p>This objective prioritises positive health outcomes for our communities, empowers local businesses to be more sustainable, promoting liveable urban areas that balance priorities.</p>
Good governance and responsible investment	<p>Lead and demonstrate accountability, transparency and ethical decision making, considering strategic sustainability approaches.</p> <p>This objective prioritises compliance with legislation, emissions monitoring and sustainable, fossil fuel free investments. This aims to create long-term value add for our organisation while positively impacting our community.</p>
Resource conservation	<p>Educate, facilitate and lead our community and organisation to conserve resources, working towards a circular economy.</p> <p>This objective prioritises circular economy principles, addressing our consumption habits of valuable resources. This objective also promotes the reduction in fuel consumption of Vincent's fleet, encouraging mode shift in our community.</p>
Regenerative, green and biodiverse	<p>Lead, advocate and collaborate to restore and enhance our local ecosystems and environment.</p> <p>This objective prioritises the regeneration and resilience in our local ecosystems through improving urban greening and promoting local biodiversity. It will address water conservation, promoting water reuse and recycling measures.</p>





# JOINT RESPONSIBILITIES

Sustainability is an integral part of everything that we do as an organisation in carrying out our day-to-day operations. The framework ensures climate action and resilience remains at the forefront by formalising the relationship between our operations and the SDGs.

THEME	RESPONSIBLE MANAGERS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL
Operational net zero	Chief Executive Officer	SDG 13 - Climate action
Advocacy on key issues	Chief Executive Officer	SDG 17 - Partnerships for the goals
Climate risk and adaptation	Chief Executive Officer	SDG 13 - Climate action
<b>Resilient and low-carbon infrastructure</b>		
Energy efficiency and sustainability in City buildings	Manager City Buildings and Asset Management Manager Community Facilities Manager Strategic Planning and Sustainability	SDG 7 – Affordable and clean energy SDG 13 - Climate action
Renewable energy and storage	Manager City Buildings and Asset Management Manager Community Facilities Manager Strategic Planning and Sustainability Deputy Director Major Projects	SDG 7 – Affordable and clean energy SDG 13 - Climate action
Climate resilience and infrastructure adaptation	Manager City Buildings and Asset Management Manager Engineering Manager Community Facilities Deputy Director Major Projects	SDG 13 - Climate action
Sustainable built form	Manager Development and Design Manager Strategic Planning and Sustainability Deputy Director Major Projects	SDG 11 - Sustainable cities and communities SDG 13 - Climate action



Healthy and thriving city		
Equitable access and inclusion	Executive Manager Communications and Engagement Deputy Director Major Projects	SDG 5 – Gender equality SDG 10 – Reduced inequalities
Air pollution and public health	Manager Public Health and Built Environment	SDG 3 – Good health and well-being SDG 13 - Climate action
Supporting local businesses to act sustainably	Executive Manager Corporate Strategy and Governance Manager Waste and Recycling Manager Strategic Planning and Sustainability	SDG 8 – Decent work and economic growth SDG 9 – Industry innovation and infrastructure SDG 13 - Climate action
Good governance and responsible investment		
Legislative compliance	Executive Manager Corporate Strategy and Governance	SDG 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions SDG 13 - Climate action
Communications and community engagement in sustainability	Executive Manager Communications and Engagement	SDG 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions
Corporate emissions inventories and offset purchasing	Manager Financial Services	SDG 12 – Responsible consumption and production SDG 13 - Climate action SDG 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions
Sustainable procurement, finance and divestment	Manager Financial Services	SDG 12 – Responsible consumption and production SDG 13 - Climate action SDG 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions
Internal capacity building and staff training	Executive Manager Human Resources	SDG 4 – Quality education

Resource conservation		
Decarbonisation of the City's fleet to reach net zero target	Manager Waste and Recycling	SDG 11 - Sustainable cities and communities SDG 13 - Climate action
Sustainable transport/mode shift/electric vehicle provisions	Manager Engineering	SDG 3 – Good health and well-being SDG 11 - Sustainable cities and communities SDG 13 - Climate action
Resource recovery and responsible waste management	Manager Waste and Recycling	SDG 12 – Responsible consumption and production SDG 13 - Climate action
Regenerative, green and biodiverse		
Water conservation	Manager Parks Manager City Buildings and Asset Management Manager Community Facilities Manager Engineering Manager Strategic Planning and Sustainability	SDG 6 – Clean water and sanitation SDG 13 - Climate action SDG 14 – Life below water
Urban greening and biodiversity	Manager Parks Manager Strategic Planning and Sustainability Manager Development and Design Manager Engineering	SDG 13 - Climate action SDG 15 – Life on land
Liveable, walkable and cool town centres	Manager Parks Manager City Buildings and Asset Management Manager Community Facilities Manager Engineering Manager Strategic Planning and Sustainability Manager Development and Design Manager Ranger Services Manager Waste and Recycling	SDG 11 - Sustainable cities and communities SDG 13 - Climate action



# KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS

Sustainable government requires continual collaboration and engagement with external parties and stakeholders.

Vincent has fostered many important relationships with its community and government organisational bodies who are all key stake and interest holders.

## NOTABLE STAKEHOLDERS INCLUDE:

- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
- Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
- Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety
- Water Corporation
- Western Australian Waste Authority
- Environmental Protection Authority
- Western Australian Local Government Association
- Conservation Council of Western Australia
- Mindarie Regional Council
- Whadjuk Aboriginal Corporation
- Sustainability and Transport Advisory Group
- Local community and interest groups

## Clever

We always choose the simplest, quickest and most cost-effective way to deliver our service

## Creative

We find new and different approaches to get better outcomes for the City and our community

## Courageous

We understand and manage the risks in being clever and creative but we still take action

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