

Submission Guide from TRRA, EcoNetwork, and Climate Action PS

Port Stephens Council – Draft Climate Change Policy

<https://www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au/your-council/public-exhibition/exhibitions-2020/policy-development-climate-change-policy>

On Exhibition July 2020 – submissions by 5pm 24 July to council@portstephens.nsw.gov.au

Reference **PSC2012-01402**

- Welcome, if long overdue (Council has flagged need since at least 2009)
- Implications of climate change particularly severe for Port Stephens given its extensive coastline, low lying land and bushland areas
- Welcome commitment to wide consultation on climate change impacts and responses
- Welcome commitment to addressing climate change implications for Council's own activities and operations – some good specific initiatives
- Should expressly include a leadership role for Council in addressing implications for wider community, including mitigation as well as adaptation
- Should include some high level targets both for Council itself and for the whole PS Community (inc. at least zero carbon emissions by 2050, in-line with State Government commitment¹ - preferably earlier)
- In section 2 (Context and Background) - should remove 3 references to 'potential' risks – they are real, known and already evident
- In section 5 (Statement) – should expressly refer to mitigation (i.e. reducing causes) of climate change risks, as well as adaptation & management of impact

Points above for use in submissions – suggested by Climate Action Port Stephens, EcoNetwork Port Stephens, Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association and others

Contact planning@trra.com.au

¹ <https://climatechange.environment.nsw.gov.au/About-climate-change-in-NSW/NSW-Government-action-on-climate-change>