



## Overview

The Natural Resource Management (NRM) Strategy will be the framework to guide the management of land, water, and biodiversity within the Sorell local government area (LGA). The NRM Strategy (the Strategy) aligns to Sorell Council’s Strategic Plan 2019-2029 that envisions ‘a proud, thriving, and inclusive South East Community’ built on the values of integrity, unity, respect, and innovation.

Its purpose is to inform future actions and policies of Sorell Council with an emphasis on achieving:

- Increased understanding of our natural resources and the challenges and opportunities for their effective management.
- Increased scope and breadth of NRM related activities.
- Increased levels and effectiveness of stakeholder participation in NRM activities
- Efficient allocation and management of the available resources to support organisational priorities and long term sustainability NRM areas.
- Improved sustainability of other Council operations, including ongoing compliance with environmental and cultural legislation and regulation.
- Improved sharing of information and communication of the Strategy’s strategic direction.
- Support to secure external funding for NRM activities aligned with priority areas.

The Strategy sets out to be collaborative, inclusive and based on the best available science and knowledge. While it will identify priority areas, it must also be adaptable, dynamic and align with the priorities of the Federal and State Governments, as well as the Local Government sector and our local communities.

## Themes and aims

Sorell Council is committed to protect and enhance the natural values of our assets and resources. The Strategy and Action Plan will address five key themes which may often interrelate, in order to achieve its strategic aims:

- **Landscape and land use** (considers how we may address issues such as habitat protection or land management)
- **Biodiversity and invasive species** (covering issues such as weed management, invasive species and cat management, threatened species protection and climate change impacts to species)
- **Climate change** (including potential impacts to coastal and agricultural areas, infrastructure and how we manage waste which is the municipality’s largest source of emissions)
- **Waterways and water bodies** (considers how we may address issues such as habitat protection or restoration and management or runoff)
- **Stakeholders and resourcing** (exploring opportunities for increased collaboration, cooperation, partnerships and participation through formal advisory groups, events and/or community engagement)



## Natural Assets – A Snapshot of Sorell Local Government Area

Sorell municipality has an incredibly diverse range of ecosystems, from coastal wetlands to towering eucalyptus forests and flora and fauna.

This biodiversity provides invaluable resources and ecosystem services, enriching the lives of residents and supporting local industries. However, this precious natural heritage faces mounting pressures. Climate change, with its shifting weather patterns and rising temperatures, disrupts delicate ecological balances. Furthermore, human activities such as development and land-use change can lead to habitat fragmentation and degradation.

While recognising these threats, the Strategy seeks to maximise opportunities to proactively respond and minimise risk.

The Strategy will be a framework that not only guides Council's role and responsibilities, but builds valued, collaborative partnerships to help create understanding and awareness throughout the community of what we can achieve together to ensure the resilience of ecosystems and preserve the unique natural character of our municipality for generations to come.



## What's next?

We are inviting community feedback on the NRM Strategy – Summary of Vision to help identify any other specific areas of interest or concerns that will help inform development of the Draft NRM Strategy and associated Action Plan. Feedback will be open from **22 February to 8 March 2024 inclusive**.

Have your say by completing the [NRM Strategy Summary of Vision Feedback Form](#) or send us an email us at [sorell.council@sorell.tas.gov.au](mailto:sorell.council@sorell.tas.gov.au)

Details on the release date for public consultation on the Draft NRM Strategy will be advised in the coming months.