Environmental Sustainability Strategy Survey - Face2Face& Phone Individuals, Groups &Orgs

**Welcome and Overview**

Thank you for taking part in this survey. We have been engaged by Loddon Shire to assist in the development of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy. This survey will help plan and identify important priorities in the short, medium and long term for the Shire.

**Your Input and Why it is Important**

Our world is changing rapidly. The Loddon Shire is committed to gaining ongoing input from community for important matters. In alignment with the Council Plan and Climate Change Adaption Plan the Council is developing a strategy to guide it through its decision making process in regard to Environmental Sustainability for the next five years. This is important to be able to recognise and meet the challenges that arise from changing climate, diminishing natural resources and rising costs.

We want to hear what you consider to be important about environmental sustainability - the barriers and opportunities you see as an individual or as part of a group living in the Loddon Shire. Please tell us about your current and future needs, issues and expectations in regards to planning for Environmental Sustainability and the actions Council should be taking or advocating to address these issues. The Strategy is a Victorian Government Sustainability Accord funded project of which Loddon Shire is a member.

**What is Environmental Sustainability (ES)?**

According to the Brundtland Report, 1987 - Our Common Future, World Commission on Environment and Development, “Sustainable development is being able to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”

For Loddon Shire sustainability involves maintaining and enhancing our quality of life, for both current and future generations, through a balance of economic viability, environmental conservation and restoration, and community wellbeing. It is about working collaboratively and creatively to better integrate short and long-term economic, social and environmental considerations into all decision-making within Council operations and services. It involves demonstrating leadership and accountability to our diverse community.

Please read the list of questions and answer what you consider to be relevant to your location, group or organisation. If we have left something off, please feel free to add it. There are no right or wrong answers.You can put your name and contact details or not as you prefer. Our contact details are below if you would like to speak or write to us directly.

With thanks,

***Sustainability Change Team P.O. Box 98 Daylesford 3460***

***Alchemy Living and Learning loddonessssurvey2013@gmail.com***

**What are the current sustainability issues as you see them?**

The list below outlines some possible items to be addressed. It is not an exhaustive list. Feel free to add items that are not covered.

1. Please rate them in order of importance: High importance, Medium Importance or Low importance

2. Please rate whether you consider the priority as short, medium or long term

3. Please list any ideas or opportunities of interest that you can think of for action

4. Please identify any barriers to action you see.

5. Please note anything you know of that is already happening either through community or Council

6. Please make any other comments you care to make

| **ITEM** | 1.MPORTANCE:High, Med, Low | 2. PRIORITYShort, Med, Long | 3. Ideas and Opportunities for Action | 4. Barriers to Action | 5. Already happening | 6. Other Comments |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Energy:*** Reduce carbon emissions
* Reduce costs
* Efficiency (potential to reduce cost and emissions)
* Renewable energy alternatives (Long term security)
* Other
 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Waste*** Management
* Resource recovery
* Recycling
* Energy opportunities (e.g. biogas)
* Sewerage
* Other
 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Natural resources management:*** Preserve biodiversity
* Enhance ecological assets (e.g. Boort wetlands)
* Manage invasive species
* Other
 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Water:*** Availability
* Quality
* Storage
* Efficient Use
* Other
 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Land Management and Planning:*** Agricultural practices
* Horticulture practices
* Strategic Planning
* Housing
* Other
 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Climate change** /unexpected weather events |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Community resilience** (e.g.)* Food Security
* Housing
* Employment opportunities
* Community wellbeing
* Maintaining community facilities
* Other
 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Changing demographics**, e.g. youth, aging |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Economic and Business*** Maintaining and attracting business
* tourism and retail
* farming practices
* maintaining Shire assets and infrastructure (e.g. roads, bridges, paths)
 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Transport:*** Public (aged, youth)
* Freight
* Travelling distances
* Other
 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Your Category** |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Please provide additional answers as relevant:**

7. What information would you need to know?

8. What else do you need in regard to environmental sustainability?

9. What do you see as Council’s role in addressing the issuesyou identified and what do you expect from them?

10. What examples of Council leading by example would you like to see?

11. How could Council use its planning scheme and powers to encourage ES?

12. How could Council best support and empower communities to take action?

13. What advocacy roles and partnerships should Council prioritise to support an ES plan?

14. What do you see as the priorities for council?

15. What do you see as your role?

16. What do you see as a barrier to the Council implementing ES in your area?

17. How could these barriers be overcome?

**Information about you**

**Please provide the information you feel comfortable sharing to help us plan by circling correct answer**

* Individual Group Organisation
* Age group: 16-25 26-40 41-65 65+ not applicable (group)
* Occupation or area of interest/expertise:

Agriculture Retail Hospitality Education Health Community Retired Manufacturing Other

* Do you live in the Shire-location? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Property type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Individual or group