

# Media Release



Friday, 29 March 2019

## Adelaide Hills Council declares Climate Emergency

Adelaide Hills Council unanimously supported a motion to declare a Climate Emergency on Tuesday night this week, becoming the second South Australian Council to do so and the thirteenth in Australia.

Mayor Jan-Claire Wisdom congratulated Council members on their decision.

“We are the first Council in SA to pass this resolution unanimously.”

“The decision reflects that Council is united in its intention to provide leadership for our community by mitigating against and adapting to the impacts of climate change.”

“Tonight I am very proud to be the Mayor of Adelaide Hills Council,” said Mayor Wisdom at the meeting.

The motion to declare a Climate Emergency was moved by Councillor Nathan Daniell, a long-time advocate for environmental issues, who urged his fellow Council members to support the motion.

“Cr Daniell talked of Climate change as a global problem, but also a local problem, and questioned what we on Council are doing to ensure that our children enjoy at a minimum, the same quality of life that we experience today.”

“In asking Council members to endorse the motion, Cr Daniell felt it would send a message to our community that Council will not sit idly by. We should be leaders and play our role in addressing the impacts of climate change – a view wholehearted shared by his fellow Council members,” said Mayor Wisdom.

Following the unanimous decision to support the Climate Emergency declaration the gallery burst into applause and Mayor Wisdom acknowledged the commitment of Council to tackle the impacts of climate change.

“Our climate emergency declaration is not just a symbolic gesture with the motion also including a target of 100 per cent renewable energy to now be incorporated into the preparation of our Carbon Management Plan.”

Councillor Kirrilee Boyd seconded the motion and spoke passionately in support of the declaration and what it could mean for future generations.

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Three parties addressed Council in support of the Climate Emergency declaration including: Tim Kelly, Adelaide Hills Climate Action Group; Dr Keri Chiveralls and Dr David Lloyd, Transition Adelaide Hills, and Mr Simon Jones. Cr Boyd also read a statement from Peramangk/Kaurna man Ivan Copley OAM, in support of the declaration.

**Resolution made at the Adelaide Hills Council meeting on March 26, 2019:**

**Moved Cr Daniell**

**Seconded Cr Boyd**

**That Council:**

- 1. Notes the October 2018 report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;**
- 2. Notes the Federal government's latest greenhouse gas emissions data shows Australia's total greenhouse gas emissions have increased compared to 2012, not decreased;**
- 3. Recognises we are in a state of climate emergency that requires urgent action by all levels of government, including by local councils;**
- 4. Reaffirms its commitment to both mitigating against and adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change within the Adelaide Hills Council;**
- 5. Commits to finalising the Carbon Management Plan by December 2019 and that it includes a target of 100% renewable energy for the Adelaide Hills Council (as an Organisation) by a defined date;**
- 6. Requests the CEO write to State and Federal Members of Parliament which represent the Adelaide Hills Council region, advising them of Council's resolution and request they also act with urgency to address climate change.**

**Carried unanimously**

## **Media contact**

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