

6.2 NOM NO.6-2023 - INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE – 2023 SYNTHESIS REPORT

Submitting Councillor: Dr Josh Fergeus

MOTION

That Council:

- 1. Notes the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's recent Synthesis Report of the Sixth Assessment Report¹;*
- 2. Acknowledges the levels of urgency declared by the IPCC and other scientific bodies with regard to the need to drastically reduce emissions and limit global warming;*
- 3. Accepts that all levels of government, including Council, must do more; and*
- 4. Commits to strengthening its response to climate change both within Council and within the Monash community.*

BACKGROUND

This Synthesis Report of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report summarises the state of knowledge of climate change, its widespread impacts and risks, and climate change mitigation and adaptation. It integrates the main findings of the Sixth Assessment Report.

The Report recognizes the interdependence of climate, ecosystems and biodiversity, and human societies; the value of diverse forms of knowledge; and the close linkages between climate change adaptation, mitigation, ecosystem health, human well-being and sustainable development, and reflects the increasing diversity of actors involved in climate action.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL PLANS AND STRATEGIES

This notice of motion aligns with the Environmental Sustainability Strategy, our Zero Net Carbon Action Plan, the Healthy and Wellbeing Plan, and the Council Plan.

¹ https://report.ipcc.ch/ar6syr/pdf/IPCC_AR6_SYR_SPM.pdf

**NOM NO.6-2023 - INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE – 2023
SYNTHESIS REPORT – OFFICER RESPONSE**

Submitting Councillor: Dr Josh Fergeus

Responsible Officer: Jarrod Doake, Director City Services

MOTION

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BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Noting the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's recent report "Synthesis Report of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report" does not directly create budget implications but does acknowledge the importance of minimising impacts to a changing climate on our community, widespread impacts and risks, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

IMPACT ON INTERNAL RESOURCES

There is no direct impact on internal resources resulting from this NOM.

COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES

The Council Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016-26 (ESS) highlights a strong commitment for Council to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce our impact on the environment. Actions proposed which most closely align in the ESS include:

Action 3.1.1. To develop and implement a Climate Change Action Plan which recognises a whole of council approach to mitigation, adaptation, risk management, innovation and alternative energy sources

Action 3.3 Increase communities' preparedness for the likely impacts of climate change. b) Continue to support community and business education programs to increase understanding of the local impacts of climate change and how to be climate ready.

Climate change risk and taking action to address this is acknowledged in the first objective – (Sustainability City) of the new Council Plan, in response to the strong community feedback which highlighted that this was important to our community.

¹ https://report.ipcc.ch/ar6syr/pdf/IPCC_AR6_SYR_SPM.pdf

Our Healthy and Resilient Monash Integrated Plan 2021-2025 acknowledges that human health is closely linked to the natural and built environments in the communities where we live and has key actions to build resilience to a changing climate. A key action under this plan is the development of a Climate Adaptation Plan.

It also aligns with our Street Tree Strategy and the Monash Urban Landscape and Vegetation Canopy Strategy.

The IPCC report recognizes the interdependence of climate, ecosystems and biodiversity, and human societies; the value of diverse forms of knowledge; and the close linkages between climate change adaptation, mitigation, ecosystem health, human wellbeing and sustainable development, and reflects the increasing diversity of actors involved in climate action.

RELEVANCE TO WORK ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY OFFICERS OR COMMITTEES

The Zero Net Carbon Action Plan (ZNCAP) which was endorsed by Council in August 2020, provides a clear direction and approach to reducing corporate GHG emissions, supporting the community in a low carbon future as well as actions to help mitigate the impact of climate change. Integral to meeting our commitments is our partnerships with other councils through organisations such as the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (EAGA) and the Victorian greenhouse Alliances.

Under the ZNCAP, there is a commitment to develop a Climate Adaptation Plan for council and our community. The recommendations contained in the *Intergovernmental Panel Synthesis Report* of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, will provide key guidance in the development of the Adaptation plan.