

**OFFICERS' ADVICE****SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RENEWABLES ROAD TRIP**

Submitting Councillor: Cr Fergeus

**MOTION**

*That Cr Fergeus be given approval to attend the South Australian (SA) Renewables Road Trip from the 1-3 May 2019 run by Cities Power Partnership.*

**COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES**

City of Monash is a member of the national program, Cities Power Partnership (CCP). The CCP program provides a platform for Council to promote and share its commitments and achievements in the delivery of the actions under the Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016-2026 (ESS).

Having a Councillor attend the fully funded South Australian Renewable Energy Road trip will help build council's knowledge in the new and best practices of renewable energy technology.

This activity particular aligns with the following actions in the ESS:

*Action 3.1.2 – Build staff understanding of climate change and the potential impacts and opportunities*

b. Ensure Council keeps abreast of and communicates to staff current climate change science, research, technology and monitoring and delivery of best practice.

*Action 6.2.1 – Establish successful sustainability partnerships.*

b) Strengthen partnerships that lead to –sustainability networking, capacity building, innovation, research and monitoring outcomes and opportunities.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

The costs for flights and incidentals only to attend the event appears to be in line with standard professional development costs. Other costs are covered by Cities Power Partnership membership.

**IMPACT ON INTERNAL RESOURCES**

Attendance at this event would have minimal impact on internal resources. Information gained from attending could be shared with Council, the Environmental Advisory Committee and benefit Sustainable Monash staff to implement programs to reduce Council's greenhouse gas emissions.

***RELEVANCE TO WORK ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY OFFICERS OR COMMITTEES***

Currently Council signed up to 20% renewable energy procurement project as part of the Local Government Power Partnership Agreement in partnership with 38 other Victorian councils as well as the South Eastern Renewable Energy Project (SEMREP) procurement process which will partner with businesses and have local benefits.

For the benefit of Council and as Cr Fergeus is co-Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee this event is relevant to our current and future programs under the Environmental Sustainability Strategy.