**Community Climate Mobiliser Program**

Council is currently seeking expressions of interest from people who are interested in becoming a Community Climate Mobiliser to initiate and lead climate action in the Surf Coast Shire. This document provides an overview of the program and application process.

**What is the Community Climate Mobiliser program?**

The Community Climate Mobiliser program seeks to identify a range of passionate individuals from all areas across the Surf Coast Shire and bring these people together to co-design community engagement and develop a Community Climate Emergency Response.

Mobilisers are people who enable community engagement and local action. They use their networks and people skills to engage broad groups of the community on the Climate Emergency challenge and encourage the community to participate and drive the project with agency and enthusiasm.

Council recognises that community members are best placed to initiate and lead community conversations, action and outcomes. We are proud of the many individuals, groups and businesses who are already paving the way on climate action in the Surf Coast Shire.

**Program Schedule**

*Workshop 1 - Tuesday 20 April 5.30-9.30pm*Facilitation Training – Learn how to create conversations in your community

*Workshop 2 - Tuesday 27 April 6-7.30pm*Understanding climate change on the Surf Coast

*Workshop 3 - Tuesday 4 May 6-7.30pm*Engagement planning - How to engage your community and develop an engagement plan

*Month of May*Deliver community engagement activities

*Workshop 4 - Tuesday 1 June 6-7.30pm*Share findings from community activities and prioritise areas for future action

*Workshop 5 - Tuesday 8 June 6-7.30pm*Final check-in and discussion of next steps

The program will be a three stage process:

**Stage One – Project launch & mobiliser workshops**

Workshops 1-3 are an initial introductory series of workshops focussing on connecting with other participants, understanding the local context and preparing for community engagement.

**Stage Two – Community engagement activities**

Building on planning undertaken in Stage One, this stage is about working with the wider community. The aim is to facilitate community engagement activities (e.g. workshops, drop in sessions or postcard series) to capture ideas and aspirations for climate action and initiatives to form part of the Community Climate Emergency Response. Participants are encouraged to identify important sectors or groups in the community (e.g. schools, businesses, specific towns or youth) and work in small groups to deliver engagement activities. Council officers will be available as a resource to assist during community engagement activities.

**Stage Three – Developing a Community Climate Response**

Workshops 5-6 will focus on regrouping, analysing and prioritising ideas and discussions generated through the various engagement activities implemented. Once prioritised it is expected that these ideas will, where possible be planned and implemented as part of the Community Climate Emergency Response. The ‘response’ has been kept broad as there are many forms this could take – it could be a Community Climate Action Plan or Pledge, the establishment of a Community Net Zero Emissions Target, the creation of a shire-wide Emissions Reduction Guide for Households, Businesses and Schools, or any other ideas that are generated throughout the process. Council officers will also be available to support Mobilisers during this stage.

**Program Commitment**

The Community Climate Mobiliser program is a voluntary program and as such, while there are commitment expectations for participating in the program, we will take a flexible approach when other work, family or other commitments may arise.

Mobilisers are expected to attend all five workshops. Stages two and three may require more sporadic time commitment, for example three hours one week and a minimal half hour check in the following week. As a general rule however, time commitment will be kept to a maximum three hours per week. The exact timeline will depend on the requirements of the group, however it is envisaged that stage two and three will continue through April to early June.

A number of resources will also be developed and circulated so that participants can deepen their understanding of climate change, particularly in a local context. These resources will complement the workshops and participants are strongly encouraged to read them.

**What do I get out of it?**

Good question! We recognise the substantial contribution Mobilisers will make to shape the future of the Surf Coast Shire and the time and effort required to do so. All Mobilisers will be offered the opportunity to participate in a half day facilitation training. There may be further opportunities to attend skill development workshops offered free of charge, with the focus determined by program participants.

You also have the exciting opportunity to work with fellow motivated and passionate individuals to create meaningful climate action in the Surf Coast Shire.

**Who can apply?**

Any person who has one or more of the following connections to the Surf Coast Shire may apply:

* Permanent or part-time resident in Surf Coast Shire
* Rate payer in the Surf Coast Shire
* Work or go to school in the Surf Coast Shire

Applicants must be 17 years and over, however if you are under the age of 17 and wish to be involved please contact the Environmental Sustainability team via info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au or 03 5261 0600 and we’ll see what’s possible.

Applicants may be required to hold a Working with Children Check, or apply for one. We can assist.

**How to apply?**

[Click here to apply now](https://au.openforms.com/Form/ad721aca-d259-4bad-a03d-eca8b67432bd)

You can apply online using the link above, or by visiting [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/climatereponse](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/climatereponse).

The online form requires you to fill out some initial details about yourself, then requires a short, written response to the following questions:

* Why do you want to be a Community Climate Mobiliser?
* What could you bring to the role? (any personal qualities, skills, networks, experience etc.)
* How would you describe your actions/commitment to date responding to climate change?

If you need assistance completing the application or have any further questions please contact the Environmental Sustainability team via info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au or 03 5261 0600.

Applications close at 8.30am on 31 March 2021. Successful applicants will be notified by 1 April 2021.