# What is ‘A Sustainable Future’?

‘A Sustainable Future’, Council’s Sustainable Environment Strategy outlines the cultural change and collaborative actions required over the next 10 years across a range of council services including: city planning and urban design, waste and water management, community outreach and behaviour change programs. It also embeds sustainability into Council operations and projects to ensure the City of Port Phillip has a sustainable future. It has a 10 year, rather than a four year horizon as we believe a long-term view is required to effect changes to our environment.

## Why is it important?

The City of Port Phillip has always been an attractive destination for residents, businesses and visitors. We have 11 kilometres of bay foreshore, beautiful tree lined streets and many attractive parks and open spaces. As Victoria’s most densely populated municipality, and with resident growth projected to increase by a further 23% by 2027 (taking our resident population to 136,300) sustainably managing growth is a key challenge for the City of Port Phillip. Residential growth, is compounded by worker growth, which is set to increase by over 30,000 additional jobs just in the Fishermans Bend precinct alone by 2050.

We welcome this growth, but managing this sustainably to keep the City of Port Phillip beautiful, liveable, caring, inviting, bold and real has never been more important.

Our sustainable growth challenge is compounded by the effects of a changing climate. Lower than average rainfall means a reduction in our water supply (estimated to be reduced by up to 11% in 2020); more of the City of Port Phillip is only one to three metres above sea level, which makes us more vulnerable to rising sea levels; there is increased erosion of the foreshore due to a greater number and intensity of storm surges.

Rising temperatures are also having an impact on heat-related health stress of our environment and is also acutely felt by those who are the most vulnerable in our community.

The challenge of environmental sustainability is not just limited to the City of Port Phillip, it is a worldwide issue. This strategy not only outlines our leadership and the contribution we can make at the local level, it also underpins our commitment to the International Compact of Mayors who are creating a more sustainable future for cities world-wide.

## What will we achieve through the strategy?

We are seeking to ensure a sustainable future for the City of Port Phillip by creating a city that is greener, cooler and more liveable; a city with lower carbon emissions, a city that is adapting and resilient to climate change; a city that is water sensitive with a sustained reduction in waste.