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**Government
of South Australia**

PREMIER'S CLIMATE CHANGE COUNCIL

2023-24 Annual Report

DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

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To:

The Hon Susan Close MP

Deputy Premier; Minister for Climate, Environment and Water; Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science; Minister for Workforce and Population Strategy

This annual report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of section 12 of the *Public Sector Act 2009*, regulation 7 of the *Public Sector Regulations 2010*, section 13 of the *Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007* and Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting Requirements*.

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the Premier's Climate Change Council by:

Martin Kinnear Haese

Chair, Premier's Climate Change Council



Date 16 July 2024

Signature _____

From the Chair

The Premier's Climate Change Council (the Council) has delivered another positive year of work providing strategic direction and advice geared to advancing South Australia's climate change agenda.

Our work is an important part of South Australia's leadership in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and minimising the worst effects of damaging climate change.

In April 2024, it was pleasing to see South Australia surpass its commitment to reduce net emissions by at least 50 per cent by 2030. The Council welcomes the acceleration of the state's renewable energy target and amendment of the *Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007* to further support efforts to decarbonise the South Australian environment and economy.

During 2023-24 Council members worked on topics across emissions reduction and adaptation planning, including the development of a statewide climate risk assessment and monitoring progress with the implementation of climate change actions. We advocated on relevant issues such as the Department of Energy and Mining's Green Paper on South Australia's Energy Transition, the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan discussion paper, the discussion paper 'Developing a Biodiversity Act for South Australia', the City of Adelaide's draft Integrated Climate Strategy 2030 and the drafting of a Kangaroo Island Regional Plan.

The Council was represented at the South Australian forum for the Australia and New Zealand Biochar Industry Group. Members also participated in many other meetings that collectively added to our understanding and influence regarding climate change action in South Australia. It was particularly pleasing for the Council to be represented at the Conference of Parties (COP) 28 Climate Change Conference in Dubai in November 2023. This resulted in new connections and avenues of understanding to further both South Australia and the Council's work.

Council members are particularly enthusiastic in recognising the efforts of individuals who are leading pathways towards net zero. Over the year we convened a working group so we can actively support the implementation of the SA Climate Leaders Awards and look forward to participating in the ceremony for these awards in August 2024.

I extend my gratitude to all members of the Premier's Climate Change Council for their knowledge, guidance and commitment during 2023-24.



Martin Haese

Chair

Premier's Climate Change Council

Contents

Overview: about the agency..... 5

- Our strategic focus 5
- Our organisational structure 6
 - Changes to the agency 6
- Our Minister..... 6
- Our Executive team 7
- Legislation administered by the agency 7
- Other related agencies (within the Minister’s area/s of responsibility) 7

The agency’s performance..... 8

- Performance at a glance 8
- Agency specific objectives and performance 9
- Corporate performance summary 12
- Employment opportunity programs 12
- Agency performance management and development systems 13
- Work health, safety and return to work programs 13
- Executive employment in the agency 14

Financial performance..... 15

- Financial performance at a glance 15
- Consultants disclosure 15
- Contractors disclosure..... 15

Risk management 16

- Risk and audit at a glance 16
- Fraud detected in the agency 16
- Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud..... 16
- Public interest disclosure 16

Reporting required under any other act or regulation 17

- Reporting required under the *Carers’ Recognition Act 2005* 17

Public complaints 18

- Number of public complaints reported 18
- Additional Metrics 19
- Service Improvements..... 20
- Compliance Statement..... 20

Overview: about the agency

Our strategic focus

<p>Our Purpose</p>	<p>The purpose of the Premier’s Climate Change Council is to provide independent and expert advice to the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water and the South Australian Government on climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p>
<p>Our functions, objectives and deliverables</p>	<p>The primary function of the Premier’s Climate Change Council is to provide independent advice to the Minister about matters associated with reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • achieving energy efficiencies • increasing the use of renewable energy • developing methods to remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere • establishing and achieving relevant targets. <p>In performing its functions, the Council should seek to provide advice to the Minister on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the impact of climate change on business and the wider community and the development or implementation of policies or programs relevant to addressing climate change • the impact of the operation of the <i>Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007</i> on business and the wider community and, as appropriate, any amendments to relevant legislation (including this Act) that should be considered by the Minister • assessing costs associated with reducing or limiting climate change or with failing to take action to address climate change • commercial or other opportunities associated with climate change, reducing or limiting greenhouse gas emissions, and with mitigating the effects of climate change • the effectiveness of targets under the <i>Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007</i>. <p>The Council also has a role in consulting with business, the environment and conservation movement, and the wider community about issues associated with climate change to assist with publicising information that encourages the implementation of practices to address or adapt to climate change.</p>

Our organisational structure

The Premier's Climate Change Council is established in accordance with section 9(2) of the Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007, Act and consists of up to 10 members appointed by the responsible Minister, for a term of up to 3 years.

As at 30 June 2024, Premier's Climate Change Council membership included:

Name	Position	Term Dates
Martin Haese	Chair	Ongoing. Term expiring 31 December 2024
Susan Jeanes	Member	Ongoing. Term expiring 31 December 2024
Daniel Conley	Member	Reappointed 1 July 2023. Term expiring 31 December 2024
Daniel Bennett	Member	Reappointed 1 July 2023. Term expiring 30 June 2026
Dr Penny Schulz	Member	Reappointed 1 July 2023. Term expiring 30 June 2026
Craig Wilkins	Member	Reappointed 1 July 2023. Term expiring 30 June 2026
Mayor Angela Evans	Member	Appointed 1 July 2023. Term expiring 30 June 2026
Daniel Spencer	Member	Appointed 1 July 2023. Term expiring 30 June 2026
Jodie van Deventer	Member	Appointed 1 July 2023. Term expiring 30 June 2026

Further information on Council membership and remuneration is reported in the *South Australian Government Board and Committee Information Annual Report 2023-24*.

Changes to the agency

During 2023-24 there were no changes to the agency's structure and objectives because of internal reviews or machinery of government changes.

Our Minister

The Premier's Climate Change Council reports to the Hon Dr Susan Close MP as the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water.

The Minister also oversees the following portfolios:

- Deputy Premier
- Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science
- Minister for Workforce and Population Strategy

Our Executive team

Mr Martin Haese is the Chair of the Premier's Climate Change Council.

The Council has no staff of its own and uses administrative services provided by the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) to support its functioning. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW 2023-24 Annual Report.

Legislation administered by the agency

The Council is responsible for complying with the *Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007*, which is administered by DEW.

Other related agencies (within the Minister's area/s of responsibility)

DEW provides policy advice as well as executive, administrative and project support to the Council.

The agency's performance

Performance at a glance

A key role of the Council is to provide advice to the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water and the South Australian Government on matters relating to climate change mitigation and building resilience. The Council actively identifies and takes advantage of opportunities to support implementation of priority actions to address and mitigate climate change in South Australia, and to ensure climate change is considered in key areas of government policy.

During the 2023-24 reporting period the Council has provided feedback and developed submissions through public consultation processes, and through meetings with Ministers, government agencies and other government boards and councils.

The Council takes a leadership role in consulting with stakeholders about issues associated with climate change, to disseminate information and encourage climate action. This includes holding joint meetings and presenting at stakeholder forums.

The Council recognises the importance of contributing towards reconciliation with First Nations people. The Council is actively working to align with the *DEW Reconciliation Action Plan 2021-24*.

The Council held five meetings during the 2023-24 reporting year:

- Martin Haese, Susan Jeanes, Mayor Angela Evans and Daniel Spencer attended all five meetings
- Daniel Conley and Craig Wilkins attended four meetings
- Daniel Bennett, Dr Penny Schulz and Jodie Van Deventer attended three meetings.

Agency specific objectives and performance

Agency objectives	Indicators	Performance
<p>1. Drive and embed priority actions to address and mitigate climate change in South Australia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform the development and implementation of emissions reduction planning for the state • Support implementation of the statewide climate risk assessments and associated adaptation planning • Provide input and support government climate change actions to achieve emissions reductions and renewable electricity targets • Provide input and support the state government to build resilience and adapt to climate change • Explore sustainability reporting opportunities 	<p>The Council received regular updates and provided feedback on emissions reduction planning, on the development of a statewide climate risk assessment, and on progress with climate change actions during 2023-24.</p>

<p>2. Influence climate change strategy, policy and planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide submissions on climate change issues to influence government strategy, policy and planning • Monitor implementation of government climate change actions • Provide input to the 2023-24 amendment of the <i>Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007</i> • Engagement and advice as opportunities arise on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Development of the state’s Biodiversity Act ○ Green economy and business and industry emissions reduction and climate risk management ○ Supporting community and local government actions in adaptation and mitigation ○ Agricultural sector transformation – adaptation and mitigation ○ Climate change and transport and land use planning 	<p>Council received updates on the implementation of Government climate change actions at meetings and received regular updates on progress of the amendment to the <i>Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007</i>.</p> <p>During 2023-24, Council submissions or feedback were provided on the Department of Energy and Mining’s Green Paper on SA’s Energy Transition; on the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan discussion paper; on the discussion paper “Developing a Biodiversity Act for South Australia”; on the City of Adelaide’s draft Integrated Climate Strategy 2030; Council provided input to an issues paper on the proposed State Development Coordination and Facilitation Bill and provided a letter of support to the Kangaroo Island Regional Plan.</p>
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<p>3. Engage with stakeholders about climate change risks and opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide input on engagement with business and community on climate related issues and opportunities• Engage and collaborate with government departments, industry associations, unions, non-government organisations, not-for-profits and community groups• Establish strategic networks with relevant government and non-government boards and councils to influence change• Establish a strategic relationship with the local government sector to increase collaboration across the state• Members to engage within their networks to raise awareness and seek input on climate change issues and solutions	<p>Council members held meetings with a range of stakeholders and presented at local forums on climate related issues and opportunities. The Council was represented at the COP28 Climate Change Conference held in Dubai UAE in November 2023, promoting the work of the South Australian government in heading towards a net zero emissions outcome for the State.</p> <p>The Chair also met with Di Dixon of Lot Fourteen about Green Tech development.</p>
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<p>4. Promote and inspire climate action and recognise climate leadership in South Australia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the SA Climate Leaders Awards (SACLA) in 2024 • Provide input, support and direction for the next SA Industry Climate Change Conference, to be held in 2025 • Promote and represent the Premier's Climate Change Council within professional networks, events and functions 	<p>A working group was convened by the Council to support the implementation and form a judging panel for the SA Climate Leaders Awards. An Awards ceremony was held on 1 August 2024.</p> <p>Council Chair, Martin Haese, represented the Council at multiple events including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speaking at the ANZPAA Police Conference • speaking at a panel at the India Horasis Conference in November 2023 • giving the opening address at the ANZBIG SA Forum in February 2023.
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Corporate performance summary

Please see above.

Employment opportunity programs

The Council has no staff of its own and uses the services of the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) to support administration. Executive, administrative and project support were provided to the Council from existing departmental resources. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW Annual Report 2023-24.

Agency performance management and development systems

Performance management and development system	Performance
Government employees supporting the Council's operations undertake a performance review and development program with their managers.	Performance development processes were undertaken in line with the requirements of the Department for Environment and Water.
Number of Council meetings held during the reporting period.	Five Council meetings were held during the reporting period.

Work health, safety and return to work programs

Program name	Performance
The Council abides by the relevant health and safety policies and procedures adopted by the Department for Environment and Water to meet whole of Government and legislative requirements.	Reporting on this matter is contained within the Department for Environment and Water Annual Report 2023-24.

Workplace injury claims	Current year 2023-24	Past year 2022-23	% Change (+ / -)
Total new workplace injury claims	0	0	0%
Fatalities	0	0	0%
Seriously injured workers*	0	0	0%
Significant injuries (where lost time exceeds a working week, expressed as frequency rate per 1000 FTE)	0	0	0%

*number of claimants assessed during the reporting period as having a whole person impairment of 30% or more under the Return to Work Act 2014 (Part 2 Division 5)

Work health and safety regulations	Current year 2023-24	Past year 2022-23	% Change (+ / -)
Number of notifiable incidents (<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Part 3</i>)	0	0	0%
Number of provisional improvement, improvement and prohibition notices (<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Sections 90, 191 and 195</i>)	0	0	0%

Return to work costs**	Current year 2023-24	Past year 2022-23	% Change (+ / -)
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	0	0	0%
Income support payments – gross (\$)	0	0	0%

**before third party recovery

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/premiers-climate-change-council-annual-report-data>

Executive employment in the agency

Executive classification	Number of executives
SAES all levels	0

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/premiers-climate-change-council-annual-report-data>

The [Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment](#) has a [workforce information](#) page that provides further information on the breakdown of executive gender, salary and tenure by agency.

Financial performance

Financial performance at a glance

The Council is a statutory body: it is not a corporate entity and has no funds of its own. Reporting on this matter is contained in the Department for Environment and Water Annual Report 2023-24.

The costs associated with the administration of the Council are met from within existing departmental resources.

Council members are remunerated in accordance with a recommendation by the Chief Executive, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, in line with the Cabinet approved Remuneration Framework.

Consultants disclosure

The Council did not engage any external consultants during the reporting period.

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/premiers-climate-change-council-annual-report-data>.

See also the [Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance](#) for total value of consultancy contracts across the South Australian Public Sector.

Contractors disclosure

The Council did not engage with any external contractors during this reporting period.

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/premiers-climate-change-council-annual-report-data>.

The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the agency list of contracts](#).

The website also provides details of [across government contracts](#).

Risk management

Risk and audit at a glance

Nil to report.

Fraud detected in the agency

There were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Council in this reporting period.

NB: Fraud reported includes actual and reasonably suspected incidents of fraud.

Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

Strategies to detect instances of fraud are reported in the Department for Environment and Water Annual Report 2023-24.

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/premiers-climate-change-council-annual-report-data>.

Public interest disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018*: 0

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/premiers-climate-change-council-annual-report-data>.

Note: Disclosure of public interest information was previously reported under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* and repealed by the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018* on 1/7/2019.

Reporting required under any other act or regulation

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><i>Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007</i></p>	<p>Section 13 of the <i>Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007</i> relates to annual reporting. The Council must, on or before 31 October in each year, provide to the Minister a report on its activities for the financial year ending on the preceding 30 June.</p> <p>The Minister must cause a copy of the report to be laid before both Houses of Parliament within 6 sitting days after the report is provided to the Minister.</p>

This report is developed to meet the requirements of Section 13 of the *Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007*.

Reporting required under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005*

Not applicable

Public complaints

Number of public complaints reported

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2023-24
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	0
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	0
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	0
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	0
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	0
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	0
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	0
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	0
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	0
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy unreasonable or disadvantages customer	0

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2023-24
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out-dated or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	0
Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	0
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	0
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	0
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	0
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	0
		Total	0

Additional Metrics	Total
Number of positive feedback comments	0
Number of negative feedback comments	0
Total number of feedback comments	0
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	N/A

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/premiers-climate-change-council-annual-report-data>

Service Improvements

No customer complaints or feedback were received in relation to the Council.

Compliance Statement

The Premier's Climate Change Council is compliant with Premier and Cabinet Circular 039 – complaint management in the South Australian public sector	Y
The Premier's Climate Change Council has communicated the content of PC 039 and the agency's related complaints policies and procedures to employees.	Y