



A new Climate Change Strategy for the ACT

The ACT is developing a new Climate Change Strategy to guide climate efforts in the ACT from 2026 to 2035. Development of a new Climate Change Strategy is an opportunity to underpin a bold and positive future for the ACT to protect our community, maintain existing climate actions and accelerate emissions reduction efforts. The ACT Government has a legislated target to be net zero by 2045 and we need a strategy to achieve this goal. The ACT's climate will also be noticeably warmer by 2050, which is only 25 years from now and many of us living in Canberra today are already experiencing these impacts. We want the new strategy to ensure that the actions we take to make real progress is fair and equitable.

We want to hear from the Canberra community on next steps.

We would love to hear your feedback on our visions for the next decade of climate action, as well as the proposed next steps across each theme to inform where the ACT Government should be targeting its efforts. Your feedback will help inform development of the final strategy and future climate efforts.

The **discussion paper** provides detailed explanation of what the ACT is already delivering and what we'd like to see occur in the next decade across 7 different themes to help us achieve our emission reduction and adaptation goals. It provides an overview of government policy and proposed next steps.

Climate change is one of the most significant challenges we face.

Transitioning to a climate-ready, net zero city also offers benefits to our community such as improved health outcomes, new enterprises and jobs, and more liveable neighbourhoods.

We have taken significant steps to reduce emissions and help our community adapt to the impacts of a changing climate. The next phase of climate action will demand considerably more time, effort, and complexity, particularly in the context of a growing ACT population and Canberra's climate becoming increasingly hotter and more variable.

The following summarises our vision for each theme and outlines our pathways for success.

How to provide feedback

For more information on the discussion paper and the consultation sessions, visit

www.yoursayconversations.act.gov.au.

For a quick means of providing your input, please complete the [YourSay survey](#).

Alternatively, if you'd like to provide detailed written feedback, please refer to the [discussion paper](#) which contains questions to guide your response.



Embedding equity, wellbeing and resilience

2035 vision: The ACT's climate action efforts will empower everyone in our community including individuals, households, schools, businesses, and community groups to become more resilient, transition to net-zero, and build stronger community connections.

What success looks like for communities: Canberrans are empowered to reduce emissions, prepare and respond to the impacts of climate change, and recover from climate-related events. The health and wellbeing of Canberrans is supported by strong community connections, enabling government services, effective community education and inclusive planning.

What success looks like for businesses: Canberra businesses and organisations are world leaders in renewable energy, circularity and climate innovation, driving economic opportunities for our city. Businesses and organisations, particularly those with limited resources, are equipped to build resilience, prepare for climate risks and reduce their emissions. There are clear pathways for industries that are impacted by the transition to clean energy and affected workers are actively adapting.



Transport

2035 vision: Canberrans have multiple low-carbon transport options for moving around our city, including safe, accessible and convenient public and active transport, as well as zero-emissions vehicles.

What success looks like: Transport emissions are greatly reduced. Canberrans have access to a safe, convenient and decarbonised transport options. Zero-emission vehicles make up 100% of new passenger vehicle sales in 2035.



Natural environment

2035 vision: Looking after nature is at the heart of our climate change action.

What success looks like: Caring for our natural environment in a changing climate underpins how we manage water, biodiversity and nature conservation. Landscapes continue to support emissions reduction, community wellbeing and our local economy, providing Canberrans with clean water, cool urban spaces, recreation, connection to nature and productive agricultural land.



Built Environment

2035 vision: Our built environment is driving emissions reductions and improving liveability in a changing climate.

What success looks like: Canberra's built environment is mitigating urban heat and providing a safe and liveable city with reduced carbon emissions.



Energy

2035 vision: The ACT continues to be at the forefront of electrification and phasing out fossil fuel gas with a focus on a just transition supporting those who need it most.

What success looks like: The ACT has a reliable, resilient, affordable and 100% renewable energy network. The community is empowered to access the full benefits of the electrification of homes, businesses and transport.



Government

2035 vision: The ACT Government demonstrates ambitious climate leadership.

What success looks like: The Government is successfully managing climate risks to its own services, operations and assets, and is supporting the resilience of those in the community most impacted by climate change. The ACT Government is decreasing operational emissions by 2040 and government scope 3 emissions are on a declining trajectory.



Other emissions

2035 vision: Territory wide scope 3 emissions are reducing. Harder to abate emissions, such as waste emissions, are being minimised and managed responsibly.

What success looks like: Responsible consumption and low carbon economic activity is reducing emissions. Food and garden organics recycling along with landfill gas capture reduces waste emissions. Residual emissions are managed through new programs such as large-scale environmental plantings.