

Community Facilities Energy Audit Buloke Shire Council

This project is designed to build resilience within the community and ensure the ongoing survival of our clubs and committees. Through identifying the community facilities to audit and make more sustainable, this will lead to improved community awareness of better environmental design and practice.

The Council Plan has prioritizes drought-proofing our recreation facilities; 'Identify and implement environmentally sustainable projects' is a key strategy.

Conduct energy sustainability audits in community buildings across Buloke's townships. To look at short and long term actions to improve the performance of selected buildings.

Key Activities

Describe the major tasks you completed to successfully deliver the project.

- 1. On-site audits with club/committee members, Council staff and consultant*
- 2. Assessment of hard and soft infrastructure*
- 3. Interviews with club members on watering and existing environmental performance*
- 4. Development of website which will monitoring the project status*
- 5. Ongoing reporting on implementation of recommendations and the associated savings and facility improvements.*
- 6. Direct education session with Council's buildings staff.*
- 7. Presentation of report to Council*

Project Outcomes

The outcome delivered through this project has provided:

- 1. Manuals for clubs and council staff to improve environmental performance of council owned buildings*
- 2. A set of capital and non-capital energy and water saving recommendations for each facilities*
- 3. An evaluation section on Council's web-page to promote outcomes and monitor ongoing energy and water savings from the project.*
- 4. A business case for inclusion of recommendations in government grants and council's capital works budgets.*
- 5. A report that can be provided to other council's and non-Buloke clubs to employ recommendations*

Project partners

Community members from the three recreational complexes;

Sea Lake,

Birchip and

Nullawil

Council staff and managers

What did we learn?

The project has allowed council to build stronger relationships with community groups and internal staff. It gives internal staff a starting point on how to make onsite assessments on council building to prioritise practical action to save water and electricity.

What is the project legacy?

Describe how the project has provided benefits which will live beyond the project to council and partners or stakeholders:

- It has enabled development of a manual with guidelines on how to operate council buildings at optimum efficiency. It is a simple tool to use and adapt. The manual will help reduce council's greenhouse emissions and taking action on climate change.*
- It has provided engagement with staff in all areas of council operations*
- It has produced sustainability assessments on the three recreational reserves at; Sea Lake, Birchip and Nullawil, that will guide the committees of management on where they can make savings on their power and water usage at their facilities. These actions will also help other recreation reserves in the shire to make changes in their operations.*

Budget: Total = \$10,000 (Grant funding) = Council In-Kind = \$3,175)

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