



# **BUSINESS PAPER**

## **GENERAL MEETING**

**Wednesday 11 October 2023  
at 6:30PM**



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**MATTERS OF URGENCY**

**9 ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING - DRAFT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN AMENDMENTS**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- In 2019, Council adopted a 2050 Net Zero target, with a target to reduce emissions from 2018 levels by 53 per cent by 2030. Council's Climate Wise Action Plan identifies that transport is the second largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in Hornsby Shire.
- The Climate Wise Action Plan includes an action to support the uptake of electric vehicles including installation of public charging stations and investigating planning controls to require electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure in new developments.
- EV sales are expected to increase to 52 per cent by 2030/31 as people embrace emerging technologies and cleaner energy options, increasing the need for access to electric vehicle charging units.
- To support and encourage the anticipated increase in electric vehicle uptake and assist Council meet its emission reduction targets, it would be appropriate that development controls be introduced to ensure EV readiness in new developments and avoid the need for expensive retrofitting in the future.
- Draft amendments to the Hornsby Development Control Plan (DCP) have been prepared to identify and require minimum EV charging connection points for new residential and commercial developments.
- It is recommended the draft DCP amendments attached to this report be endorsed for public exhibition.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT:**

1. The draft Electric Vehicle Charging Hornsby Development Control Plan amendments attached to Director's Report No. PC25/23 be placed on public exhibition for a period for 28 days in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Plan.
2. Following the exhibition, a report on submissions be presented to Council for consideration.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present draft Electric Vehicle Charging amendments to the Hornsby DCP to Council for endorsement for exhibition.

## BACKGROUND

Several strategies and plans have been prepared and progressed by Council that incorporate measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Hornsby Shire. In 2019, Council adopted a 2050 Net Zero target and the Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy which aims to enhance environmental sustainability outcomes and increase ecological, economic and social resilience within the Shire.

Through the implementation of the Climate Wise Hornsby Plan 2020, Council aims to reduce corporate greenhouse gas emissions from 2018 levels by 53% by 2030. The Plan identifies that transport is the second largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in the Shire.

These goals have been included in planning strategies such as focussing development opportunities around public transport and more direct initiatives such as encouraging electric vehicle uptake. Electric vehicle plans and policies include:

- The Climate Wise Action Plan action (C2.2) to support the uptake of electric vehicles through the installation of public charging stations and investigating planning controls to require charging infrastructure in new developments.
- The Electric Vehicle Charging Stations on Public Land Policy 2022. Council has approved two leases in Council car parks (Beecroft and Dural Street) for the installation of public electric vehicle charging units. In addition, five EVC units are available on private land in commercial areas across the Shire.
- The Hornsby Sustainable Transport Fact Sheet - Electric Vehicle Charging which provides technical information about installing EVC units in private homes, apartments and on public land.

Demand for electric vehicles is increasing as people embrace emerging technologies and cleaner energy options. The NSW Electric Vehicle Strategy (2021) identifies that electric vehicle sales are expected to increase to 52 per cent by 2030/31, increasing the need for access to electric vehicle charging units.

## DISCUSSION

This report discusses draft amendments to the Hornsby DCP to ensure EV readiness in new developments, by requiring appropriate infrastructure to be incorporated and avoiding the need for expensive retrofitting in the future.

Electively installing electric vehicle charging units in existing or proposed development can be undertaken as exempt development via the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP. However, the SEPP does not mandate the installation of EVC units in new development. To support and encourage the anticipated increase in electric vehicle uptake and assist Council meet its emission reduction targets, it would be appropriate that DCP controls be introduced to identify and require minimum EV charging connection points for new residential and commercial developments.

Draft amendments to Hornsby DCP Part 1 – General Controls (Car Parking) for EV charging have been prepared and are attached as discussed below.

## Draft DCP Amendments

Hornsby DCP Part 1 – General provides planning controls that apply to all development in the Shire. Part 1C.2.1 - Transport and Parking sets out design and technical requirements for vehicle access and parking and minimum parking rates according to development type and distance from transport nodes. Specific sections address access and parking controls for service vehicles and parking rates for motorcycles.

Draft amendments to the Hornsby DCP have been prepared which would insert a new Electric Vehicle section in Part 1C.2.1, following the section on Motorcycle Parking.

The draft amendments include a desired outcome to encourage and support the use of electric vehicles.

Draft prescriptive controls include:

- A minimum of one EV ready connection for each dwelling allocated a car space in medium and high density residential, seniors independent living and boarding house developments.
- EV connection requirements for car share spaces and spaces allocated to visitors.
- One shared EV connection for every 10 car spaces in commercial developments.
- A dedicated space and charging point to be used for electric bikes and mobility scooters in all mixed use, commercial, medium, and high-density residential developments.
- A private EV connection in garages in low density residential developments.
- A requirement to comply with the National Construction Code minimum safety standards for EV connections. The standards will be mandatory from October 2023.

It is recommended that Council endorse the draft Electric Vehicle Charging amendments to the Hornsby DCP for public exhibition.

## **CONSULTATION**

It is recommended that the draft EV charging DCP amendments be placed on public exhibition for 28 days in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Plan.

The consultation should include advertisement on Council's website under 'Your Say Hornsby'.

Following exhibition, a report would be presented to Council summarising the feedback received.

## **BUDGET**

There are no budgetary implications related to the exhibition of the EV charging DCP amendments.

## **POLICY**

The proposed EV charging amendments to the HDCP aim to implement action C2.2 of Council's Climate Wise Action Plan. Following the exhibition of the draft amendments, a report would be presented to Council for consideration of submissions. Subject to Council's endorsement, the draft amendments would be incorporated into the HDCP and come into force when published on Council's website.

## **CONCLUSION**

Council's Climate Wise Action Plan includes an action to support the uptake of electric vehicles including planning controls to require Electric vehicle charging infrastructure in new developments. Electric vehicle sales are expected to continue to significantly increase in the future, increasing the need for access to electric vehicle charging units.

To support and encourage the anticipated increase in electric vehicle uptake and assist Council to meet its emission reduction targets, it is recommended that DCP controls be introduced to identify and require minimum EV charging connection points for new residential and commercial developments.

It is recommended that the draft DCP amendments be exhibited to seek community feedback.

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER**

The officer responsible for the preparation of this Report is the Manager, Strategic Land Use Planning – Katherine Vickery - who can be contacted on 9847 6744.

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**Attachments:**

1.  Attachment Electric Vehicle Charging DCP amendments

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