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- Climate change leadership support for renewable energy generation and ensure renewable power for new government buildings
- Damaged and deteriorating seawalls grant opportunities
- Flying planning team for natural disasters
- Movement to a risk-based planning system
- Renewable energy zone support for councils
- Benchmarks and reporting for environmental outcomes across NSW councils

These advocacy themes reflect recent natural disasters and the significant impact on councils that are looking to planning reforms to provide solutions.

LGNSW has joined councils in responding to inquiries following flood and fire disaster events in recent years. The scale of these natural disasters has made clear the need for a paradigm shift where the future focus embodies a far greater emphasis on resilience and adaptation to ensure communities are better prepared for future disasters, along with urgent action to avert a climate crisis.

These rolling disasters of drought, bushfire, pandemic and flood have meant that NSW Government agencies have been focused on response and recovery, rather than shifting attention to policies and actions for resilience, which NSW and our communities so sorely need.

LGNSW recommendations in this submission highlight the need for an evolution from the traditional approach which is based on response and recovery from impacts of climate change events toward a more proactive approach, which sees a planning system that recognises and responds to land use impacts with strategic action plans and a clear direction for communities to respond to the inevitable future climate change events.

All levels of government must be able to plan jointly for a changing climate and deliver well designed, sustainable communities. Ensuring the right policy settings, tools, funding and resources to do this are in place and given the right priority is essential. For this reason, one of LGNSW's nine advocacy priorities for 2023 calls for improved resilience to natural disasters<sup>2</sup>.

## State Policy: Net Zero 2050

Central to the management of the planning system in relation to climate change is the NSW government's adopted commitment to halve our state's emissions by 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

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<sup>2</sup> [2023 Advocacy Priorities LGNSW](#)





















