

# Ku-ring-gai – a Net Zero community



**We had an overwhelming response to our online survey and face to face events in June earlier this year with people of all ages and walks of life sharing their feedback.**

Ku-ring-gai Council has a plan to support our transition to zero emissions by 2040, but this can only happen with the support of our community.

We want to work with our residents, schools and businesses to help the whole community reach that goal.

## What did you say?

Nearly 600 people responded to the online survey via Council's OurSay page and we had 140 participants across all of the face-to-face and online community workshops.

You shared your views on how important acting on climate change is, actions to date, the areas where you want to see more action in the community and the barriers and enablers to taking more action.

These provide good clarity on what the community sees as the most important actions to take to reduce emissions. They highlight very strong support from respondents across the areas of waste, energy, and transport to reduce emissions in the Ku-ring-gai community.

## Top 10 actions

Action	Category	No. of responses
Rooftop solar and batteries	Rooftop solar and batteries	99
Cycling/walking	Sustainable transport	73
Energy efficiency	Energy efficiency	51
Recycling	Circular economy/waste	49
Electric vehicles	Sustainable transport	47
Sustainable living	Sustainable living	47
EV charging	Sustainable transport	38
Community solar and batteries	Community solar and batteries	32
Public transport	Sustainable transport	31
FOGO services	Circular economy/waste	28

The analysis of both barriers and enablers highlights much the same thing – that is, broad-based education, information and communication resources, as well as infrastructure improvements targeting improved active transport (cycleways and footpaths) and EV charging, represent the community's views on how some of the opportunities to reduce emissions can be unlocked.

The community also wants to see greater or enhanced incentives for solar & battery storage in the community and incentives available to help with the switch to electric vehicles.

### What are the barriers to taking action?

The number of responses to this question – directly and inferred from narrative responses – is fairly modest at just 218.

There is a fairly even split across several barriers to action, including:

- Planning/infrastructure
- Political inaction
- Knowledge/education
- Cost

The low level of responses to barriers such as “landlord/tenant” issues may simply reflect the fact that the overall level of participation in the survey and consultations by renters was low.

### What are the enablers for taking action?

Respondents were more forthcoming in their views on what actions or measures can enable action on climate; in many cases, this is simply the same as identifying a barrier but framing a comment as an opportunity or something that can be implemented to facilitate change.

For this reason, it is perhaps unsurprising that the top four enablers to climate action are essentially the same as the top four barriers, although ranked slightly differently. These are:

- Education/training/workshops/communication
- Infrastructure/services
- Financial/other incentives
- Planning controls/building codes

We can also drill into these enablers a little further to link them to specific emissions reduction actions.

Figure 1 – Split of responses per barrier

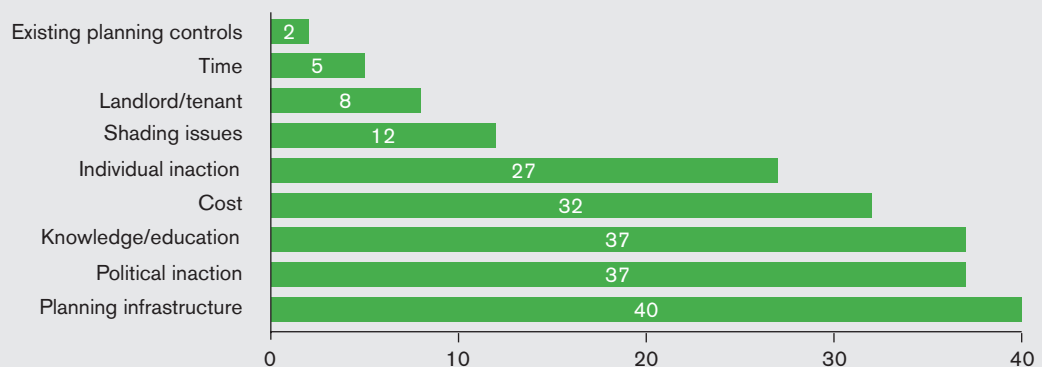
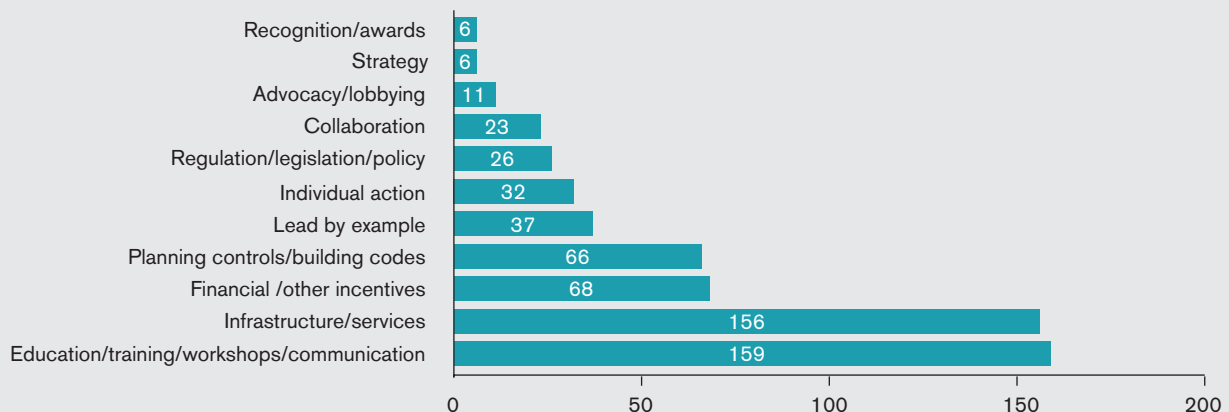


Figure 2 – Split of responses per enabler



## Enablers and links to climate action areas

Barrier	Number of re-sponses	Top linked action area/s	Top sub-enablers
Education/training/workshops/communication	159	Other (113) – responses call for broad-based education, information	Education/info via school programs, on rooftop solar and recycling
Infrastructure/ services	156	Sustainable transport (82)	More/better cycleways More/better footpaths More EV charging
Financial/ other incentives	68	Sustainable transport (16) Rooftop solar and batteries (14)	EV financial incentives Battery incentives Strata, bulk-buy solar
Planning controls/building codes	66		
Energy efficiency (18)	Household renewable energy options compatible with urban canopy and biodiversity management	Rooftop solar and batteries (19) Energy efficiency (18)	Household renewable energy options compatible with urban canopy and biodiversity management  Code changes for solar and efficient design

## Summary and way forward

Your valuable input will help Council identify initiatives that are focused on net-zero emissions outcomes e.g. rooftop solar and community batteries; as well as those contributing to Council's operational priorities and infrastructure/works programs.

These may include FOGO and recycling services, cycleways and footpath infrastructure, EV charging in public spaces and planning requirements for EV charging. They could also help identify household renewable energy options compatible with urban canopy and biodiversity management for example.

There are also priority action areas that the community has highlighted that may call for other responses, such as advocacy and lobbying to the State government in relation to building design standards and public transport services. Securing access to grant funding to support some of these initiatives, such as EV charging and community battery storage projects may also be called for if these community priorities are to be serviced.

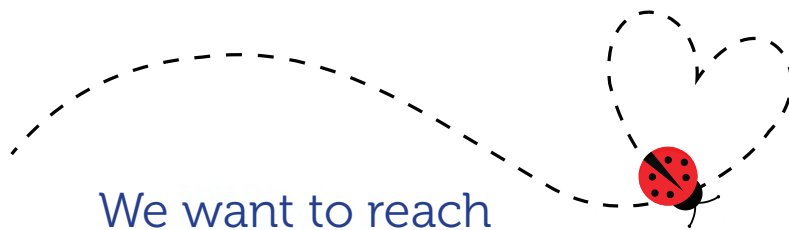
The database underpinning this analysis provides a rich resource that can help Council to further analyse and target its net-zero strategy programs and priorities.

The data may also highlight areas where further work is needed to fully understand the community's needs. Key examples of this, as noted above and that are indicated by the data, are the under-representation of people under 35 years of age, under-representation of youth (both in the survey responses and the cancellation of the youth focus group) and the under-representation of tenants and strata dwellers relative to their proportion of the community.

### Thank you

We thank everyone for their feedback and encourage you to continue to follow the Net Zero Communities journey as we move into the planning phase of deciding which projects we will move forward with.





We want to reach

# Net Zero emissions by 2040

## Your feedback

**1100**

Comments  
from the  
community



**75** of you  
want to be  
community  
champions



## What do you think is important?

**89%**

Individual action  
is crucial

**84%**

Council should be a  
leader in the transition  
to net zero

## Where do you want to see action?

Rooftop solar  
& batteries



Active  
transport



Energy  
efficiency



## What would help you?

Communication,  
education &  
workshops



Infrastructure  
services



Incentives

