

# 2016 State Report Card

## How are local governments and community members preparing for climate change?

Modelled projections of future climate change suggest that there will be more heatwaves and droughts; more intense bush fires, floods and storms; and a rise in sea levels.

These changes will affect infrastructure, industries and natural resources that are key to South Australia's economy, as well as the community's health and wellbeing.

Careful planning will minimise the negative impacts of climate change and identify emerging opportunities to improve the resilience of the environment and economy in South Australia.

The [Climate Change Adaptation Framework](#) was established by the Government of South Australia in 2012 to provide guidance on the development of adaptation plans by each region. The framework emphasises the importance of leadership and strategic direction, evidence-based policies, sustainable landscapes and healthy, prosperous communities.



Regional trends in the development of Climate Change Adaptation Plans



 **State target**  
Improve capacity to respond to climate change

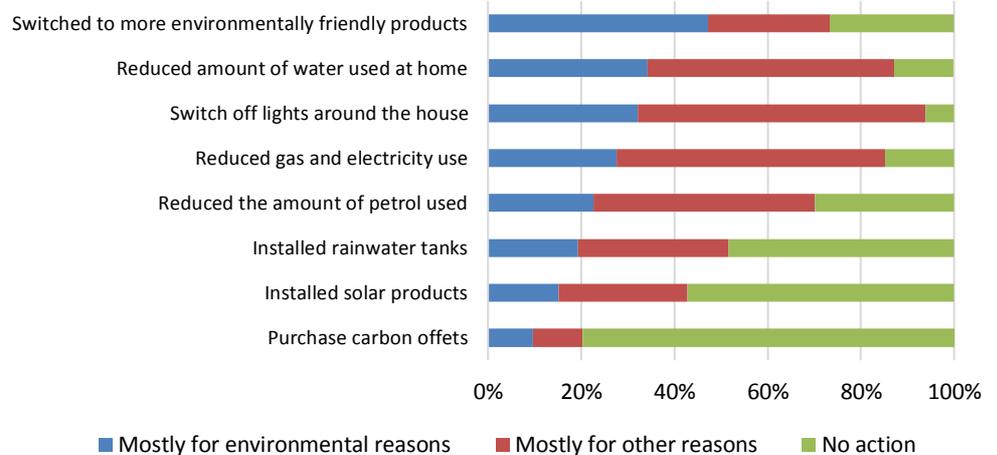
**Trend (2012–16)** Getting better Since 2012, all 11 climate change adaptation plans have been completed

Since 2012, all 11 [Climate Change Adaptation Plans](#) have been completed. Climate change adaptations plans were prepared by the Local Government Association in partnership with the State Government. An Adaptation Plan is available within each Natural Resource Management (NRM) region. Some NRM regions, like Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges, have a number of sub-regional adaptation plans. Common elements addressed in the adaptation plans include: community, infrastructure considerations, emergency services, local industry, conservation, water resources and coasts.

South Australian is a world leader in preparing for the challenges related to climate change and has set a number of goals to mitigate impacts such as: a renewable energy generation target of 50 per cent by 2025 (currently 41 per cent), a reduction in Adelaide's net carbon emissions to zero by 2025 and all of South Australia's net carbon emissions to zero by 2050, and to increase our capacity to recycle 35 gigitalitres and 50 gigitalitres of storm and wastewater respectively per year by 2025.

**Where we are at (2014)** Fair Many South Australians understand the need to adapt to a changing climate

Educating community members about how to prepare for a changing climate is a common theme between adaptation plans. A survey of South Australians conducted by the CSIRO revealed how South Australians are preparing for climate change and their motivations for the actions they have taken (graph on right). The impacts of climate along with increased education are expected to increase community uptake of environmentally-friendly actions and products.



**Reliability of information** ★★★★★ Excellent

**Further information:** [Technical information for this report card](#), [Adapting to climate change in South Australia](#)

