Environment and Sustainability Report - 2026

Context

This report is prepared in accordance with section 516A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and the Commonwealth Climate Disclosure (CCD) Policy. Section 516A of the EPBC Act requires Australian Government agencies to report on their contribution to ecologically sustainable development, including the principles of integration, precaution, intergenerational equity, biodiversity conservation and valuation, as well as their environmental performance and actions to minimise environmental impacts.

Our commitment to building and managing the national collection is matched by a commitment to ensure that preservation and accessibility is sustainable. The Library complies with section 516A of the EPBC Act and supports the Australian Government's APS Net Zero 2030 target. Our Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) https://www.library.gov.au/visit/about-us/corporate-information/library-building-policies-and-plans/sustainability was developed with technical expert input and aligns with the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy. The ERP sets measures and targets to reduce scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, and is a living document reviewed annually and published on the Library's website.

Australia's environment is central to our national identity, First Nations heritage and economy. In 2025–26, the Library:

- continued to replace ageing compactus with flexible storage compactus shelving made from 'green steel' reducing embodied carbon emissions
- replaced fluorescent lighting with efficient LED lighting on all refit projects
- replaced old chillers with high efficiency chillers
- continued the restoration of our heritage windows and spandrel panels, installing new double-glazing units using high performance glass, insulating the spandrel panel cavities and reusing as much existing material as possible including the bronze window frames
- continued upgrades of the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system to help improve the energy efficiency of the Parkes building
- included mandatory quantification of waste streams generated from capital works projects
- completed the extension of the storage facility at Hume, which was designed to be solar passive.

Climate Disclosure Statement

Commonwealth Climate Disclosure (CCD) is the government's policy for Commonwealth entities to publicly report their exposure to climate-related risks and opportunities, as well as their actions to manage them. Under the policy, entities are required to conduct a risk and opportunity assessment and publicly disclose the results either in their annual report, or on their website with reference to this in their annual report. This is the first year of reporting for the Library, and this report has been prepared in accordance with Year 1 reporting requirements.

Overview of Climate Risk Management

The Library is contributing to the transition towards a net zero economy in accordance with the Australian Government's Climate Action in Government Operations (CAIGO). As a corporate Commonwealth entity, we are committed to reducing our carbon emissions to support the

Australian Government's 2030 target under the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy as a matter of best practice. Over this reporting period the Library has continued to uphold its climate commitment by:

- developing an appropriate governance framework for identifying, managing and mitigating climate risk. This includes developing a formal risk register to monitor and manage climate risks, and an established process for identifying, monitoring and managing climate risks to the Library
- continuing to implement the Library's ERP to enable the Library to contribute to the Government's APS Net Zero by 2030 target
- reporting on key emissions under the Australia government's greenhouse gas reporting requirements
- developing the Library's Environmental Sustainability Policy designed as an overarching framework for all sustainability initiatives, to embed sustainability including emissions reductions into organisational wide decision making and operations
- updating the investment of Funds Policy including to consider sustainability issues including climate change.

Over the next reporting period in 2026-27, we will focus on embedding climate action into operations by:

- continuing to mature our delivery of climate risk management and disclosure, including monitoring and reporting on progress and improving our systems and delivery
- updating the procurement policy to include sustainability considerations, including emissions reductions, particularly associated with capital works projects
- investigating the carbon footprint of our digital usage to establish a baseline and identify management options
- replacing existing collection housing with lower carbon options where appropriate.

Climate Governance Processes

The Library identifies and manages climate risks through an established Enterprise Risk Management Framework embedded across all levels of the organisation, in line with the Commonwealth Risk Management Policy 2023. Climate risks and opportunities are considered by the Accountable Authority and delegates in relation to strategic priorities and major procurements.

As defined under Section 12 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), the Council, as the Accountable Authority, oversees the Library's risk management including climate-related risks and opportunities, the emissions reduction targets set out in the ERP, and monitors progress towards those targets. This year the Library developed a specific climate risk register and governance framework identifying roles and responsibilities to manage climate related risks.

The Library's enterprise risks are reported to Council quarterly. The Chief Operating Officer approves the Library's climate risk register, which is reported to the Library's Audit and Enterprise Risk Committee (AERC) and then Council annually for endorsement.

The Library employed a specialist Sustainability Manager who is the Library's Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO), after identifying a gap in skills and capability with regard to climate risk management. The CSO oversees the Library's function related to climate commitments and their delivery, and provides assurance to Council that the Library is meeting its CAIGO obligations. The CSO coordinates the development, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of

the Library's CAIGO obligations and commitments, including coordinating annual emissions reporting with support of emissions data holders. The CSO also coordinates organisation-wide climate risk assessment, provides in-house expertise and capability uplift on net zero and climate risk, and leads and coordinates the planning and mitigation of identified climate risks to execute the Library's obligations under the CCD. The Library engages specialist consultants for particular initiatives which require technical expertise beyond those of the CSO.

The CSO has completed the Australian government's Climate Risk and Opportunity Management Program (CROMP) training modules and regularly participates in the Climate Action in Government Operations GovTEAMS community meetings and webinars. A focus for the CSO over the next reporting period will be to build staff capacity to further in identifying and managing climate related risks.

By embedding the consideration of climate risks and opportunities into business as-usual Library processes, all staff across the Library contribute to identifying and managing climate risks, and embed climate action in their work.

Climate Governance Structure

The roles and responsibilities for identifying, managing, monitoring and mitigating climate-related risks and opportunities are set out in the governance structure diagram.

COUNCIL

Council, as the Accountable Authority, oversees the Library's risk management including climate-related risks and opportunities, the emissions reduction targets set out in the ERP, and monitors progress towards those targets.

AUDIT AND ENTERPRISE RISK COMMITTEE (AERC)

Oversees and evaluates the Library's risk management, internal controls, and compliance, while providing independent advice. This includes on matters relating to climate risk.

LIBRARY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Review and endorse the climate related targets and mitigation strategies set out in the ERP.

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Reviews the risks and emerging climate challenges for Library Executive and AERC review.

CHIEF SUSTAINABILITY OFFICER

Overses climate related responsibilities. This includes coordiante climate risk workshops to identify and monitor climate risks, monitoring and maintaining the climate risk register, coordinating implementation of citiatives and coordinating climate related reporting including the CCD.

INDIVIDUAL DIRECTORS

Own climate risks and opportunities specific to their function, and incorporate those that are current or emerging into the Branch and Enterprise Risk Register as appropriate. Also responsible for implementing climate mitigation strategies relevant to their function as set out in the ERP.

Climate Risk Identification Methodology

In line with the Australian Government's Approach to Climate Risk and Opportunity Management in the Public Sector 2024–2026 (CROMP), the Library undertook a climate scenario analysis to identify key risks and opportunities. This began with a workshop to generate a broad list of potential issues.

Climate scenarios used for this analysis were:

- low warming - 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels
- medium warming - 2.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

As recommended in CROMP, timeframes were defined as:

- short term (to 2030)
- medium term (2030–2050).

The analysis drew on several inputs, including:

- Australian Capital Territory Climate Change Snapshot (2025) – NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
- Bureau of Meteorology State of the Climate report
- IPCC Sixth Assessment Report - Synthesis Report (2023)
- Network for Greening the Financial System - Scenarios Portal
- Uninsurable Nation - Climate Council (2022) Global Tipping Points 2023.

The projected climate conditions for the ACT under both the low and medium warming scenarios for both timeframes are an increase in duration and intensity of extreme heat, fire weather, severe weather events (e.g. hail and storms), rise in annual temperature and a decrease in annual rainfall.

Risks and opportunities were prioritised following a materiality assessment. Each was assessed, considering its nature, likelihood, and impact, informed by current operations, projected climate conditions, and comparable events (e.g. COVID supply chain disruptions, natural disasters affecting infrastructure and continuity).

Opportunities were analysed similarly, using the two climate scenarios to identify potential outcomes, supported by insights from comparable sectors and strategic assessment of how the Library could respond. Mitigation actions, timing, and impact levels were also examined.

Operational Effects

The most significant climate-related risks and associated impacts for the Library are concentrated in the areas of assets and collection, staff safety and well-being, and operating costs. This is further explained in the table below.

Key Climate Related Risks and Opportunities

Material organisational risks and opportunities are identified in the below table. In future years, our disclosure will expand in line with the progressive implementation schedule in the Commonwealth Climate Disclosure Requirements.

Risk/Opportunity	Time Horizon	Impact Area	Type of Risk	Scenarios & Likely Impacts	Risk Mitigation & Resilience Planning
Risk 1. Impact of extreme weather events on the NLA's collection, buildings and infrastructure Increased frequency and intensity of severe weather events such as bushfires, hail storms, and heatwaves will put pressure on or damage the Library's buildings and infrastructure, creating a risk of also damaging the collection and impacting the heritage values of the Library's Parkes building. An increase in severe weather such as intense storms and heatwaves may also cause power outages impacting access to the Library building and externally facing digital services.	2030	• collection and assets safety and integrity • capital costs • increased insurance premiums • staff and visitor safety • service delivery and business continuity	• physical – acute • physical – chronic	1.5°C increase in temperature: • minor impact on business continuity • major financial impact to repair damage • moderate transition costs to ensure the most valuable items in the collection are stored at the most fire-proof site 2.5°C increase in temperature: • major impact on business continuity • moderate transition costs to ensure the most valuable items in the collection are stored at the most fire proof site • major financial impact to repair damage • major impact to collection	To mitigate this risk we are: • increasing the resilience of Library facilities against fire and extreme weather • investigating the highest value elements of the collection and planning to locate these in the safest location • investigating the risk of increasing power outages to the Library's business to determine the impacts, consequences and potential mitigation actions.
Risk 2. Impact to staff health and productivity Extreme heat and extreme weather events cause decreased staff physical and mental health (illness, distress, injury, death) and wellbeing while working from home or outdoors in some cases, or during	2050	• decreased staff health and wellbeing • decreased workforce productivity • Increased	• physical – acute • physical – chronic	1.5°C increase in temperature: • moderate impact to staff resources • moderate financial impact 2.5°C increase in temperature: • major impact to staff resources	To mitigate this risk: • we are currently increasing the resilience of the building to extreme heat and weather events by upgrading the heating and ventilation system, and insulating the building as much as possible within heritage constraints (e.g.

Risk/Opportunity	Time Horizon	Impact Area	Type of Risk	Scenarios & Likely Impacts	Risk Mitigation & Resilience Planning
commuting. This creates the risk of a decrease in workforce productivity and safety, and increased absenteeism.		compensation claims • Increased insurance premiums		• major financial impact	installation of triple glazed windows, insulation to the roof) • staff safety and wellbeing will be considered by the business continuity committee during extreme weather events • we will ensure adequate training for staff working outdoors • we ensure we have adequate insurance coverage.
Risk 3. Increased operating costs from worsening extreme weather and markets moving to reduce carbon footprints As climate change continues to worsen extreme weather, and the market shifts to rapidly mitigate carbon, the Library's operating and maintenance costs including energy, supplies, and insurance premiums (covering property, people and travel) will rise. This will lead to a reduction in financial stability for the Library.	2050	• increased costs and reduced financial stability	• physical – acute • physical – chronic • transition	1.5°C increase in temperature: • moderate impact to operating costs 2.5°C increase in temperature: • major impact to operating costs	To mitigate this risk we are: • investigating the installation of photovoltaic panels to Library buildings to reduce energy costs. • participating in bulk bargaining with other Government agencies to secure the most competitive cost energy contract.
Risk 4. Conflict between the Library's commitment to mitigate carbon emissions and strategic objectives The Library has committed to the Government's Net Zero 2030 agenda and has invested in reducing operational emissions. At the same time, the Library is increasingly relying on digital technology to operate, including to digitise the collection for access and preservation, using AI models, and utilising datacentres for storage. The	2030 - 2050	• reputational damage • compliance breach	• physical – acute • physical – chronic	1.5°C increase in temperature: • moderate reputational damage • moderate financial impact 2.5°C increase in temperature: • moderate reputational damage • moderate financial impact	To mitigate this risk we: • plan to investigate the emissions load related to our digital and AI usage to better understand the magnitude of the risk and enable us to make informed decisions on how to manage the risk • seek to better understand carbon emissions generated through organisational collection

Risk/Opportunity	Time Horizon	Impact Area	Type of Risk	Scenarios & Likely Impacts	Risk Mitigation & Resilience Planning
increased use of digital technology will increase the carbon footprint of the Library, conflicting with the commitment to mitigate emissions. This may lead to reputational or compliance risk.					digitisation processes, as stated in our current Digitisation Strategy 2024-28.
Risk 5. Major investment in capital upgrades required to meet more stringent emissions requirements Increasingly damaging impacts of climate change will lead to more stringent requirements for low operating emissions, which will pressure the Library to upgrade infrastructure to meet requirements, requiring a significant upfront cost.	2030-2050	• financial cost • legal impact • reputational impact	• transition	1.5°C increase in temperature • moderate financial impact • moderate reputational impact • moderate legal impact 2.5°C increase in temperature: • moderate financial impact • major reputational impact • major legal impact	The Library has undertaken significant capital upgrades to the building over the last 10 years which has improved the efficiency of operations. This includes upgrading the heating and ventilation system and insulating the building where possible. The Library has an asset management program and will replace infrastructure at the end of life with the most efficient technology available.
Opportunity 1: Lower operating costs due to utilisation of more energy efficient infrastructure and business practices The Library has endorsed a strategy for reducing its operating emissions substantially. By implementing these energy efficient initiatives across the organisation, the Library will also reduce operating costs and buffer the Library against future rising costs of energy that are likely to occur in response to climate change. The cost of more efficient technology will also decrease with rising demand as climate change intensifies, making replacing end of life assets with efficient technology more affordable.	2030-2050	• reduced operating costs • improved reputation and public trust.	• transition	1.5°C increase in temperature: • moderate financial gain 2.5°C increase in temperature: • major financial gain	The Library has developed a strategy (the ERP) for reducing carbon emissions to support the Government's Net Zero target. The strategy includes reduction measures across the entire organisation, and includes investigating installing efficient technologies such as photovoltaic panels, heat pumps and efficient lighting, in addition to revising processes to achieve more sustainable outcomes such as our procurement framework.

Climate Related Metrics and Targets

APS Net Zero 2030

APS Net Zero 2030 is the government's policy for the APS to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2030 and be transparent when reporting on its emissions. Under the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy, corporate Commonwealth entities are required to report on their operational greenhouse gas emissions.

The National Library is committed to supporting the Government to achieve the APS Net Zero 2030 target. The National Library is following the APS Net Zero 2030 methodology, as per the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy. See the APS Net Zero Factsheet for details including scope, emissions sources and timeframes. We have not deviated from the approach in this factsheet. The Library's ERP maps the pathway to support our transition to a low emissions operation by 2030. It incorporates an underlying action plan outlining organisational wide actions to reduce emissions, with targets, timeframes and assigned responsibilities. The ERP is endorsed by the Director-General and reviewed and reported on annually on the Library's website at Sustainability | National Library of Australia (NLA).

The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory presents greenhouse gas emissions over the 2025-26 period, in Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO2e) emissions. Greenhouse gas emissions have been calculated in line with the APS Net Zero Emissions Reporting Framework, consistent with the whole-of-Australian-Government approach as part of the APS Net Zero 2030 policy.

2025-2026 Greenhouse gas emissions inventory – location-based method

Emission Source	Scope 1 t CO_2-e	Scope 2 t CO_2-e	Scope 3 t CO_2-e	Total t CO_2-e
Electricity (Location Based Approach)	n/a	2,982.91	139.83	3,122.74
Natural Gas	250.91	n/a	63.79	314.70
Solid Waste	0.00	n/a	205.30	205.30
Refrigerants	63.65	n/a	n/a	63.65
Fleet and Other Vehicles	5,969.43	n/a	1,466.73	7,436.16
Domestic Commercial Flights	n/a	n/a	30.13	30.13
Domestic Hire Car	n/a	n/a	0.00	0.00
Domestic Travel Accommodation	n/a	n/a	6.91	6.91
Other Energy	0.00	n/a	0.00	0.00
Total t CO_2-e	**6,283.99**	**2,982.91**	**1,912.69**	**11,179.59**

1. Scope 1, Scope 2, Scope 3 and Total emissions are presented as tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO_2-e).
2. Electricity emissions are calculated using the location-based method.
3. Refrigerants are being phased and are an optional source in 2025-26 emissions reporting. See the Emissions Reporting Framework for more details.

2025-2026 Electricity greenhouse gas

Emission Source	Scope 2 t CO_2-e	Scope 3 t CO_2-e	Total t CO_2-e	Electricity kWh
Electricity (Location Based Approach)	2,982.91	139.83	3,122.74	4,660,794
Market-based electricity emissions	90.23	12.26	102.49	111,393
Total renewable electricity consumed	n/a	n/a	n/a	4,549,401
Renewable Power Percentage[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	805,851.2
Jurisdictional Renewable Power Percentage[2, 3]	n/a	n/a	n/a	3,743,550
GreenPower[2]	n/a	n/a	n/a	0
Large-scale generation certificates [2]	n/a	n/a	n/a	0
Total renewable electricity produced				

1. The table above presents emissions related to electricity usage using both the location-based and the market-based accounting methods.
2. Scope 2, Scope 3 and Total emissions are presented as tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO_2-e). Electricity data is reported in kilowatt hours (kWh).
3. Total renewable electricity excludes behind-the-meter solar other than generation used to create large-scale generation certificates (LGCs).
4. The renewable power percentage (RPP) accounts for the portion of electricity used, from the grid, that falls within the Renewable Energy Target (RET).
5. Jurisdictional Renewable Power refers to the Jurisdictional Renewable Power Percentage (JRPP). Currently, the Australian Capital Territory is the only jurisdiction with a JRPP.

Climate Statement Index

Core Requirement	Overview	Location (by section heading)
G0	Governance objective	Achieved through G1
G1(a)	Accountable Authority is the Library's Council	Climate governance processes
G1(a)i	Responsibilities of Accountable Authority	Climate governance processes
G1(a)ii	Skills and Competencies	Climate governance processes
G1(b)iii	Informing accountable authority	Climate governance processes
G1(a)iv	Strategy and Risk Management	Climate governance processes
G1(a)v	Setting Targets	Climate governance structure
G1(a)vi	Risk Oversight	Climate governance processes
G1(b)	Controls and procedures	Climate governance processes
G2(a)	Regard to CROMP Approach	Climate governance processes, Climate risk identification methodology
G2(b)	Alignment with other policies	Context
S0	Strategy objective	Achieved through S1
S1(a)	Material information on climate risks & opportunities	Operational effects
S1(b)	Operational model effects	Key climate related risks and opportunities
S2(a)	Progressive implementation schedule	Key climate related risks and opportunities
S2(b)	Physical and transition risks	Key climate related risks and opportunities
S2(c)	Time horizon specification	Key climate related risks and opportunities
S2(c)	Time horizon definition	Climate risk identification methodology
S3(a)	Climate Risk and Opportunity Management Program or alternative methodology	Climate risk identification methodology
S4(a)	Current & anticipated effects on operational model	Operational effects
S4(b)	Concentration of effects	Operational effects
R0	Risk Management objective	Achieved through R1
R1(a)i	Risk assessment inputs and parameters	Climate risk methodology
R1(a)ii	Nature, likelihood and magnitude of effects	Climate governance processes, Climate risk methodology
R1(a)iii	Prioritising climate-related risks	Climate risk methodology
R1(a)iv	Managing climate-related risks	Climate governance processes
R1(a)v	Monitoring climate-related risks	Climate governance processes
R1(a)vi	Changes to risk management processes	Climate governance processes
R1(b)	Risk management processes	Climate governance processes
R1(c)	Integration of processes	Climate governance processes
R2	CROMP	Climate risk methodology
M0	Metrics and targets objective	Achieved through M1
M1	Information on greenhouse gases	b) Achieved through M3 c) Achieved through M5-9
M3	Climate related metrics	Climate related metrics/targets, APS Net Zero 2030
M5	Climate related targets	Climate related metrics/targets, APS Net Zero 2030
M6	Approach to reviewing and monitoring targets	Climate related metrics/targets, APS Net Zero 2030
M8	Target scope	Climate related metrics/targets, APS Net Zero 2030
M9	Voluntary and obligatory targets	Climate related metrics/targets, APS Net Zero 2030