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Community has say on environmental plan

The Waratah-Wynyard Council has welcomed the community feedback received on its proposed Integrated Council Environmental Plan, iCEP.

The consultation generated 140 online survey responses, 88 postcard responses and 20 written submissions. Postcards were received from children as young as Grade 2.

The level of passion comes as no surprise to Waratah-Wynyard Mayor Robby Walsh. "The people in the Waratah-Wynyard municipality have always celebrated the area's natural environment," he said. "The links between environmental planning and issues like quality of life and economic sustainability are on many people's minds."

Council is creating its first iCEP and when complete in mid-2020, it will be Council's roadmap for caring for the natural environment while meeting the challenges of a changing climate. Consultation for the plan was undertaken between October 1 and November 15, 2019.

"We've been thrilled by the level of response," said Mayor Walsh. "We're seeing that our community values our beaches and coastal areas, our native bushland and our clean and green image."

The consultation asked respondents to describe an ideal future as well as their preferred role for Council.

"The community has a strong and positive vision for the future of Waratah-Wynyard," said Mayor Walsh. "While most say climate action should be led by the Federal Government, they're also telling us that council can and should demonstrate leadership for a sustainable future."

The full consultation report is available to the public on Council's website. However, there are still opportunities to have a say.

The draft iCEP will be based on community views and the best available evidence from research. The community will be invited to view and comment on the draft iCEP before the final version is produced.

To download a copy of the iCEP Community & Stakeholder consultation report, head to the Council website at www.warwyn.tas.gov.au.

Authorised for general media distribution by Shane Crawford, General Manager, Waratah-Wynyard Council on Monday, December 16, 2019.