



REPORT TO THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL SYNOD – PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT CANON 2007 COMPLIANCE

1.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to detail the steps undertaken by the Anglican Church Southern Queensland (ACSQ) to ensure compliance with the Protection of the Environment Canon 2007.
- 1.2 In line with this Canon, ACSQ has undertaken to reduce its environmental footprint by
- a. increasing the water and energy efficiency of its current facilities and operations.
 - b. ensuring that environmental sustainability is an essential consideration in the development of any new facilities and operations.
- with a view to ensuring that the Diocese minimises its contribution to the mean global surface temperature rise.

2.0 WORK CURRENTLY UNDERWAY

- 2.1 Since the implementation of the Protection of the Environment Canon 2007, Synod passed motion (at the 2021 meeting) which in part stated:
- a. Affirming that along with other marks of mission, our faith demands we safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth; transform unjust structures of society, challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation.
 - b. Recognising and giving thanks for individual members, Parishes, schools, commissions, and agencies of the Diocese who are active and ambitious in reducing their environmental footprint.
- 2.2 The Angligrreen Committee, which was established in 2006, has also progressively moved from an informal group with its own constitution to a formal committee of the Diocese with its own Charter established in 2020. The Committee has the following objectives:
- a. In fulfilling the fourth mark of mission of the Diocese, “to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth”.
 - b. In responding to and complying with the Protection of the Environment Canon 2007; and
 - c. In its interaction and partnerships with other Diocesan, Anglican, Ecumenical, Interfaith, and secular bodies working for their protection of the environment.
- 2.3 Further to the Angligrreen Committee, which works primarily with parishes and clergy, ACSQ has established a cross Diocesan Sustainability Committee, which has the objective of establishing environmental synergies across the Diocese, including Anglicare Southern Queensland, Diocesan schools, parishes, and other related entities.

- 2.4 Despite COVID-19 restrictions, Angligrreen, often in conjunction with Social Responsibilities Committee (SRC), Diocesan Justice Unit, the Cathedral and Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC), endorsed, promoted, and encouraged participation in a range of activities drawing attention to the impact we all have on the environment and how we can reduce that impact.
- 2.5 Whilst COVID-19 caused the suspension of the Angligrreen Newsletter for much of 2020 and start of 2021, the Angligrreen Facebook page and email lists continued to function as the media for sharing and promoting actions, and for sharing informative articles and news.
- 2.6 The Angligrreen Newsletter recommenced in Q2 2021, and other promotional, campaigning, and online events were facilitated over the period including:
- a. Facebook online Australian Christian Environmental Group.
 - b. Submission on 19 April 2020 to Commonwealth 2019-2020 Independent Review of the EPBC Act.
 - c. Stop Adani campaigning to stop new steaming coal mines.
 - d. Promoting Living the Change to encourage people to adopt changes in their own lives to reduce their impact on the planet.
 - e. Promoting Student Strike participation in Climate Election Kickstart and other events.
 - f. Climate Election Campaign which aimed to identify the policy and views of state election candidates on climate change and publish the results.
 - g. Co-hosting with the SRC and the Justice Unit 'Christian Conversations on Climate'.
 - h. Co-hosting with the SRC 'Climate Justice & Christian Non-violent Direct-Action' workshop.
 - i. the Rev'd Peter Moore met the Rt Rev'd Dr Keith Joseph, Bishop of NQ (July 2020), Queensland Churches Environmental Network (QCEN) and Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC) re: Angligrreen, working to support environmental actions together.
 - j. Earth Overshoot Day Zoom workshop, 'Faith, Science and Climate Change – A Christian View' on 22 August 2020 sponsored by Goodna Parish, QCN, Climate Reality Project and Angligrreen.
 - k. the Rev'd Peter Moore preached at St John's Cathedral on 1 September 2020 for the launch of Season of Creation 2020.
 - l. On the 11th March 2021 the Diocese participated in the biggest-ever multi-faith Day of Action on the climate crisis called Sacred People, Sacred Earth. This action called on national and international leaders for a compassionate, just response to COVID-19 and the climate emergency. It also called for faith groups and individuals to lead by example.
 - m. The Chair of Angligrreen was also invited through the Climate Reality Project to participate in 1st National Conference 2020 'Environmental Crisis and Our Obligations to Act: Teachings from Islam and Abrahamic Faith Traditions' on 14 March 2020, at the Centre for Interfaith and Cultural Dialogue, Griffith University; and presented a session 'A Christian view of Creation and the Human Responsibilities'.
- 2.7 Work is currently underway to return the Angligrreen Newsletter back to monthly editions.

2.8 As anticipated by the Angligreen Committee, environmental issues are playing an important part in the recovery from COVID-19 and the next federal election. The Diocese is continuing to develop its response to the obligations under the Environment Canon and opportunities are strengthening to work with other faith groups to coordinate programs, share resources and speak on environmental issues from a faith perspective.

2.9 In addition to establishing of the above Committees, 3.0 to 7.0 below detail other steps that have been taken to comply with the Canon at ACSQ.

3 DIOCESAN OPERATIONS

3.1 The car fleet of the Diocese and Anglicare are being gradually transferred over, at the point of new purchase/lease, to hybrid vehicles. With the current fleet turnover of circa 120 cars per year it is forecast that the fleet will be fully transitioned by 2026.

3.2 Angligreen continues to promote information, events, and resources about environmental protection in the 'Wednesday Weekly' newsletter distributed to all Parishes and Diocesan staff. Messages in 2021 included:

- a. An invitation to mark the event, 'Sacred People, Sacred Earth' on 11 March 2021 – a multi-faith day of action for the climate.
- b. A call to support a letter-writing campaign, organised by the Australian Religious Response to Climate Change, calling upon the Prime Minister to take bolder climate action.

3.3 *anglican focus* has continued to support environmental protection activities. In 2021, the news site published 10 items about climate, 12 items on sustainability, four items on broader environment themes (such as pollinating insects), and many items on key international, national, and local events and initiatives (e.g., UNCOP26, Earth Overshoot Day and On Earth Fest). *anglican focus* Event page listings, banner ads, videos and features also promoted Diocesan events related to environmental protection.

3.4 Sustainability featured heavily at On Earth Fest, a mini festival held at St Francis College on 16 October 2021, and attended by over 400 people throughout the day. By collaborating with like-minded individuals and organisations both in and outside the Church, the Justice Unit, in conjunction with St Francis College, co-hosted the following sustainability-related activities:

- a. Baroona Farm workshops on sustainable gardening and composting, with vegetable seedling give-aways.
- b. Tesla Test Ride with Angligreen member and St Andrew's, South Brisbane parishioner Robert Farago (a fun and informative way to encourage people to consider zero-emission vehicles).
- c. Blackstar Coffee Roasters' sustainably sourced and locally roasted coffee beans with the profit from each kilogram sold enabling three new trees to be planted.
- d. Engaging attendees around the need for a more sustainable lifestyle under the climate festival bunting, which visually depicted rising global average temperatures over the past 100 years, alongside Common Grace (inspired by their nationally embraced climate scarf), TEAR

Australia, the Queensland Conservation Council, and Australian Parents for Climate Action.

- e. Queensland Christian Environmental Network workshop on Christianity and climate change
- f. Spirituality and Sustainability forum featuring First Nation Artist and Anglicare SQ Cultural Support Worker, Lalanía Tusa, and Dom Fay from St John's Cathedral's *On The Way* podcast.

On Earth Fest encouraged the use of public and active transport and reusable water bottles. Proceeds from ticket sales were donated to the Anglican Board of Mission whose partner organisations fund environmental sustainability projects in the Pacific.

3.5 In 2021, Resource Church St John's Cathedral, the Justice Unit and a PMC Resource Church specialist co-facilitated four online workshops based on the ground-breaking '[Climate and creation care communications](#)' messaging principles resource they developed over a six-month period. Workshops were facilitated to resource Christian clergy, advocates, and communications professionals in Australasia. Approximately 100 people attended the workshops, including a National Council of Churches in Australia invite-only workshop; an ACSQ workshop; an Australasian Religious Press Association workshop; and a whole-of-Anglican-Church workshop (co-hosted by Christ Church Cathedral in Grafton). Workshop feedback has been very positive across the theological spectrum, with other denominations expressing interest in the workshops.

3.6 Each year, every parish is requested to provide the Diocese with details of its carbon footprint/water usage and to detail any measures being undertaken to reduce such usage through the Diocesan annual return. 2020's annual return details that 59 of the Diocese's Parishes either have solar panels or are investigating the installation of solar panels, while 35 Parishes reported the installation of water tanks.

3.7 The Diocese has an ethical investment policy which endeavours to ensure environmentally sustainable investments. This includes not investing in companies whose major business activity is the extraction of fossil fuels.

3.8 The Property Asset Design Policy (the Design Policy) has also been updated to incorporate best practice in ecologically sustainable development (ESD). The Design Policy is issued to the principal design consultant as part of the brief for a capital project to ensure all design disciplines aim for optimal sustainable outcomes for Diocesan building projects.

4 SCHOOLS AND EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE SERVICES

4.1 Examples of environmental sustainability activities in ACSQ schools are set out below, noting that all Diocesan schools have a focus on environmental sustainability.

4.2 St Paul's School, Bald Hills has performed the following:

- a. In conjunction with local environmental groups and with funding from Brisbane City Council, the School has implemented a koala corridor. The School has also established a Community Garden, open for residents in the local area. Plots can be leased, education programs accessed, and sustainable practices learned.
- b. The School uses bore water for watering and has installed 20 water tanks for supplying toilets, etc. A bottle recycling scheme and composting of waste scheme has been implemented.

- c. The School has installed a 627.64 kW solar system and a building maintenance system which ensures that no power gets used after hours and during holidays. All air-conditioning is on a three-hour timing control, with LED lighting installed in many areas across school grounds.

4.3 St Andrew's Anglican College, Peregian Springs has performed the following:

- a. Implemented a policy of 'Keep Cups' for all staff and parents. Removed plastic water bottles from the campus and ensured all available food is sold in either cardboard or recyclable packaging and implemented the composting of food scraps on-site, with produce from the St Andrew's Garden used in the school canteen.
- b. All large open space turf and garden areas, including two College ovals, are sustained with water obtained from two on-site bores. Most College amenities are supplied with water collected in rainwater tanks fed from the roofs of College buildings.
- c. Each of the last two major facility developments has included:
 - i. modest solar power generating facilities and capacity for significant future expansion.
 - ii. energy efficient LED lighting with occupant movement sensor activation.
 - iii. smart air conditioning with 'relaxed operation mode' that reduces power consumption by sensing and adjusting operation in accordance with room occupancy; and
 - iv. carbon neutral carpet floor coverings.
- d. Commenced a program to convert existing internal streetlights to LED and converted lighting in the College multipurpose hall to LED.
- e. Recycle coffee pods, printer cartridges and batteries in use and implemented a containers-for-change initiative where students, staff, parents can deposit containers at the College. In addition to established paper and cardboard recycling practices, further reduced College waste by initiating 'war-on-waste' Wednesdays and initiated soft plastic waste collections across the College.
- f. Established a sustainability/environmental committee to initiate and review sustainability initiatives. Introduced smaller rubbish bins across the campus, saving 3 cubic metres of landfill weekly.

4.4 Fraser Coast Anglican College has performed the following:

- a. The College has partnered with Planet Ark and invested in both a 1 x 98.01 kW and a 1 x 91.74 kW solar generation system. These are currently supplying 46% of the College's average energy demand and offsetting 172.6 tonnes of carbon emissions per year. The school is hoping to expand these systems in coming years. The College is in the process of transitioning to energy efficient lights as well as installing systems in rooms to conserve power when not in use. Refrigerated water fountains have also been installed with electronic timer systems to limit power use to school hours on school days.
- b. The College's water drainage system is designed to flow into a dam at the back of the College's property. The water is then used to service the College's main oval and some of the gardens. During the extended dry period, the College took the opportunity to deepen and desilt the dam to increase its capacity while minimising water loss from evaporation.
- c. Junior School students at the College have championed an initiative to expand the College's waste recycling capacity. This initiative is being supported by the College's P&F who have donated funds for the College to buy the appropriate bins. The student body is collecting bottles and cans as a fundraising initiative.

- d. Microbat nesting boxes have been installed on site to help Microbats Hervey Bay conduct research into the local species. Two native bee boxes have been installed in the Junior School. Students have also created a 'Bee Hotel' for solitary species of native bees. Additionally, the College campus is a safe haven for a local mob of kangaroos, travelling koalas and many other native species of birds, reptiles, mammals, and marsupials.

4.5 St Hilda's School, Gold Coast has performed the following:

- a. Approximately 90% of the school ground watering is being achieved through a combination of onsite water storage and bore water. With the implementation of a new pool filtration and water treatment plant, the School is saving approximately one million litres of water per annum.
- b. Implementation of solar panels on existing roof structures produces 286 kw of power, equivalent to approximately 23% of the school's power consumption.
- c. Implemented a Senior Prefect Portfolio of Sustainability which is mentored each year, with specific actions discussed, designed, and delivered by the prefects. Since 2019, the prefects have implemented regular meetings with Middle and Junior School Environmental Committee representatives to create a vertically integrated view of sustainability across the school.
- d. As a boarding School, St Hilda's has used plastic cutlery, plates, and bowls. The plastic is currently being replaced by sustainable products such as biodegradable or compostable materials.
- e. Refill stations have been placed around the School to encourage water usage by reusable bottles.
- f. Generally building design and establishment considers environmental factors such as orientation and use of recyclable or reusable material where possible. Air conditioning timing controls have been implemented to mitigate air conditioners being left on for extended periods when not needed.
- g. In relation to flora and fauna:
 - i. The school has a significant green space footprint through the extensive plantings and natural growth on site. New plantings are considered not only for aesthetics but also for their environmental factors such as water use and attractiveness to native animals, habitat trees are also protected. The school enjoys, for example, nesting kookaburras, cockatoos, plovers, and lorikeets each season.
 - ii. The school has commenced the establishment of an educational garden where various native plants have been planted and native bees introduced. The school intends to include bush tucker and signage with an integrated walking path for access and information.

4.6 Anglican Church Grammar School has performed the following:

- a. Integrated sustainability into teaching, learning and professional development through:
 - i. Integrating sustainability themes into the School; and
 - ii. Developing sustainability into curricula, co-curricular and professional development activities.
- b. Reduced its environmental footprint and contributed to improving the environment through:
 - i. Monitoring and reducing energy use.
 - ii. Investing in energy efficient technology.
 - iii. Minimising waste through recycling and efficient use of resources; and
 - iv. Monitoring and reducing water use.

- c. Planned and developed sustainable buildings and infrastructure through:
 - i. Including sustainable requirements in School Built Master Plan.
 - ii. Designing infrastructure that is flexible to accommodate change; and
 - iii. Undertaking sustainable refurbishments and fit outs of existing buildings.
- d. Integrated financial sustainability into developing and implementing responsible sustainable behaviour through:
 - i. Developing long-term goals and identifying resources required to achieve them.
 - ii. Controlling costs without threatening the teaching environment for students and staff.
 - iii. Prioritising funds to shift away from poor practices and aging infrastructure towards best practice performance.
- e. Paper and cardboard recycling, soft plastics recycling, a can and bottle collection scheme, a habitat rejuvenation scheme for the Bridgewater Creek, offcuts from the design technology area used to make toys for children in developing countries, the gardens at St Benedict's and St Paul's Churches East Brisbane maintained by students and Norman Creek is cleaned of rubbish at least twice a term by different houses of the school.

4.7 Coomera Anglican College has performed the following:

- a. Installation of 362kW of solar panels and a Tesla Power Wall, moving all classrooms to having energy efficient LED lighting. External lighting is gradually being upgraded as required with the aim of having all lighting at the most efficient level. Moving core IT infrastructure to the cloud, reducing the need for expensive air-conditioned server rooms. Introduction of a student recycling program.
- b. Installation of 7 in-ground water storage tanks with a full capacity of 30KL, making a full capacity of 210KL and working with cleaners to use only environmentally friendly products.
- c. Committing the College to:
 - i. Increasing solar capacity as new buildings come online and increasing battery capacity as they become more affordable.
 - ii. Introducing a water recycling irrigation system with the in-ground tank capacity and provisioning for rainwater harvesting with current planned projects, especially in relation to the sports precinct.
 - iii. Introducing a building management system, especially around the control of air-conditioning; and
 - iv. Including sustainable design principles in new building works to reduce negative impacts on the environment and improve the health and comfort of building occupants, thereby improving building performance and reducing consumption of non-renewable resources, while minimising waste.

4.8 The Southport School has invested in energy efficient technology such as movement sensor lights in all new buildings, minimising waste through recycling and efficient use of resources (including linking with the Scout Centre for bottle recycling) and monitoring and reducing water use via the use of grey water tanks and irrigation systems.

4.9 Hillbrook School has performed the following:

- a. Installed a 4-rubbish bin system set up in hubs. Rubbish is separated into soft plastics, compostable, recycling and landfill. Estimations are that this has led to a reduction in landfill by 40,000 L in 2019. Using only compostable packaging at the Tuckshop and with all catering events and with disposal in compostable bins.

- b. Ensure by the end of 2021, Hillbrook is carbon neutral, with over 400KW solar panels in use. Installed a building management system to lower energy use and manage peak demand, monitor lighting, air conditioning and natural ventilation by the automation of opening commercial louvres to large open areas. LED lights have been installed in the recreation centre, undercover courts and in building security lighting.
- c. Hillbrook is in discussions with Planet Ark to become a 'circular economy' school. The 'circular economy' has three principals, to design out waste and pollution, keep products and materials in use for as long as possible and regenerate natural systems. Planet Ark have provided a Solar battery trial at the School to reduce peak demand electricity usage.
- d. Instituted a teacher led creek regeneration group which has produced "land for wildlife". Instituted a sustainability committee of teachers and students leading initiatives. Initiated an environment club for students. Installed native beehives in various locations around the school.
- e. The sustainable design of School buildings through the installation of 50KL water tanks, the design of roof structures to fit solar panels, the use of energy efficient fittings, the use of water efficient fixtures, use of low maintenance landscape solutions, installation of an electric car charging bay and use of low VOC materials in projects.

4.10 St John's Anglican College has performed the following:

- a. Converted lights to LED bulbs and individual air conditioning controls locked to avoid temperatures being changed. Reduced paper usage and colour copying through not printing or double-sided printing where necessary. Established the collection and recycling of paper and cardboard and of plastic bottles from the Tuckshop. Installed worm farms for food scraps and vegetable gardens.
- b. Installed a water logger and a water meter to monitor water usage and review of oval irrigation.
- c. Included in the curriculum a transdisciplinary theme in the Primary Years Program of "Sharing the Planet" and there is a focus every year in all year levels. Instituted a Primary Campus Environmental Club.

4.11 West Moreton Anglican College has performed the following:

- a. On-site College dam used to maintain the gardens, ovals, and grounds throughout the entire College. Two buildings are fitted with underground water storage units, which are used in toilet cisterns. Toilets have also been changed to the water saver system that uses less water when flushing. Water and energy efficient washing machines installed in Home Economics rooms & Health Centre.
- b. LED Lighting systems are installed in all new buildings and renovations. All existing lights that require replacement throughout the college are updated with LED lighting. Power efficient air conditioning systems installed throughout college when replacement is required and during new builds and refurbishments and set to 24 degrees Celsius.
- c. Staff Handbook converted to an electronic copy, which has reduced the need to print a one-hundred-page document for each new staff. Administration paper forms being reviewed to convert to an electronic version. All old ICT equipment is sold to equipment recyclers for reuse or responsible disposal.
- d. Painting Contractor uses low VOC paint, which reduces contaminants released into the environment. Cleaning Contractor now uses a natural cleaning solution product

that is 99.99% sanitiser and neutral PH cleaner all in one. This product will be used to help reduce allergy reactions.

- e. The student environmental committee organised to plant 200 Koala friendly trees in the designated Koala habitat to help offset the environmental impact of photocopy paper usage throughout the college.

4.12 Cannon Hill Anglican College has performed the following:

- a. Purchasing of branded merchandise made from recycled materials, reducing landfill (i.e., notepads and coffee keep cups). Printing College Event signage onto re-usable posters (using micro dot technology). Reduction of printed material quantities (i.e., Annual Report, Student Diary and Yearly Magazine). Use of online and electronic publications over printed publications. Ensuring event hosts use recycled materials. Instituted a container recycling scheme. Biodegradable food packaging used in the Canteen and Café. Removal of plastic straws. Recycling of paper and other consumables including print cartridges and coffee pods. Communication of the containers for change message to the CHAC community.
- b. Requiring contractors to outline their recycling policies as part of College tenders including for campus signage.
- c. Sustainability considered in all new building design and Master Plan to minimise energy consumption through minimising the need for heating and cooling and maximising natural ventilation.
- d. Habitat rejuvenation and weed mitigation throughout the Wetlands and Perrin Creek.
- e. No longer use photographic screen printing in visual art curriculum as it requires hosing screens, reducing water usage.
- f. Solar – installation of 65Kwh of solar panels bringing the current capacity to 95Kwh. Plans underway for a further 100Kwh to be installed which will significantly reduce the College's reliance upon grid supplied electricity.
- g. Air conditioning control system – Energy monitoring software installed that controls A/C settings to reduce peak load on the system. The software restricts setpoints and governs on and off times so systems cannot be left on overnight. Occupancy sensors also ensure the systems cannot run in empty rooms.
- h. Cannon Hill Anglican College has numerous environment sustainability infrastructures connected to the operations of the Older Science Building. These include electricity generation by solar panels, a wind turbine and rainwater collection into an underground water bladder that is used to maintain gardens.
- i. The environmentally sustainable activities currently conducted by students in the Science Building include paper recycling. This year the College is implementing three water efficient, self-watering wicking garden beds to grow crops for the school canteen, raising seedlings in the greenhouse for community sales to encourage home gardening and creating composting stations for student's lunch wastes that can be recycled into the garden beds.

4.13 As a function of being an approved provider of childcare services, ACSQ's 19 early learning and childcare services are required to have Quality Improvement Plans. In 2019, these plans have a focus around sustainability, broken into four overarching components:

- a. Staff training, which consists of training around sustainability practices.

- b. Eco efficiency audits of water usage, electricity usage, waste and toxic substances being performed at the Sunnybank Early Learning Centre and Rainbow Town Early Learning Centre.
- c. Data collection around environmental impacts/factors, including electricity and water usage.
- d. Online community interactions through regular group reflections across the participating Centres.

5 ANGLICARE SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND

- 5.1 Anglicare facilities in general have implemented the following to reduce overall environmental impacts:
- a. Both the separation of recycling waste and the sharing of desk bins where possible and appropriate, with the use of bio-degradable bin liners.
 - b. LED lighting is being installed in fit-outs and replacement of existing bulbs with LED bulbs where possible. Low emission paint is also being used in fit outs to reduce both environmental impacts and client respiratory effects.
 - c. Water and energy efficient washing machines being installed at residential aged care facilities, boilers being fitted with on/off timing systems and power efficient air conditioning systems being installed across all sites.
- 5.2 Anglicare is also introducing at Symes Grove Residential Aged Care Centre (Taigum) a scheme where food waste is to be pulped and turned into fertilizer at a JJ Richard and Sons facility.
- 5.3 During 2021 a sustainability consultancy firm was engaged to develop a long-term sustainability plan for Anglicare, the progress of which has been impacted by COVID-19 business disruption with target completion anticipated by mid-2022.

6 ST FRANCIS THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

- 6.1 Over the last 2 years the St Francis Theological College (the College) has gradually replaced the majority of old light bulbs across the College and Pointro with LED bulbs or fittings. The College also participates a container recycling scheme with community composting bins onsite. Regular emails and newsletters are issued to residents, educating them about what can be recycled to ensure they are making good use of the waste management systems. QR codes directing residents to a maintenance request have also been established to ensure simplicity for staff, residents, and guests of the College and Pointro to register any issues encountered. This has been instrumental in the reporting of water leaks and minimising water wastage. When purchasing new electrical equipment focus is placed more on energy efficiency and less on price point with work underway to procure and install solar panels at both the College and Pointro with the College's Academic Dean a lecturer on Ecological Theology. As the current 2-stroke and 4 -stroke gardening equipment becomes unserviceable it is being replaced with commercial cordless equipment
- 6.2 Baroona Farm is a community-based garden at St Francis Theological College. The Farm grows organic food for the nutritionally vulnerable. It also seeks to build local community and has established close links with asylum seekers from the local Romero Centre. 'Wicking bed' technology, designed by Queensland engineer Colin Austin, is used. This type of garden bed is built inside recycled IBC tanks which hold a reservoir of water at the bottom that is then 'wicked' upwards through the soil profile to the plant. This greatly reduces evaporation and water loss

through surface watering and is therefore a highly sustainable way of growing crops. Currently Baroona Farm has 20 large, raised beds in place on an old unused tennis court.

7 FUTURE OVERALL ACSQ ACTIVITIES

7.1 The following activities are underway or in planning to reduce ACSQ's environmental impacts into the future:

7.1.1 At the Request of Synod:

- a. Diocesan Council has been tasked to explore options to:
 - i. consider how a comprehensive and credible baseline assessment of greenhouse gas emissions associated with all ACSQ entities inclusive of Parishes, schools and other associated agencies might be undertaken.
 - ii. devise a Sustainability Charter that embodies a realistic yet courageous 2030 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target (Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions).
 - iii. establish an emissions reduction roadmap to achieve the initial 2030 target and a pathway beyond this to achieving net-zero.
 - iv. develop guidance, support, and financing frameworks to assist Parishes, schools, and other agencies toward the achievement of emissions reduction targets.
 - v. report on progress to each ordinary session of this Synod, and where appropriate, the General Synod.

Tim Reid
General Manager
25 February 2022