

## **2/09 Environmental initiatives of the Diocese**

(A report from the Standing Committee.)

### **Background**

1. In recent years Synod has passed a number of resolutions relating to the impact of climate change and the environmental initiatives being undertaken in the Diocese.
2. In resolution 17/07 the Synod accepted the emerging scientific consensus that climate change is occurring and supported the need for Christian responses to the potential problems and opportunities across six distinct areas –
  - (a) Prayer for our world and opportunities to speak of Jesus' lordship,
  - (b) Christian ministry to the most vulnerable,
  - (c) Setting a godly example of good stewardship,
  - (d) Educating children in creation and our role as stewards,
  - (e) Implementing policies that express good stewardship, and
  - (f) Encourage governments to make wise policy.
3. In resolution 17/08 the Synod congratulated the Property Trust and SDS in their initiatives and achievements, and asked that SDS co-ordinate the development of a tool kit for parishes that incorporated –
  - (a) An environmental policy statement,
  - (b) Practical environmental initiatives, and
  - (c) Suitable worship and teaching resources.
4. In resolution 2/09 the Synod asked that a report be provided to its next session about the environmental initiatives being undertaken in the Diocese.
5. The full text of these three Synod resolutions can be found in Appendix 7.
6. At its meeting on 7 December 2009 the Standing Committee received a short report from the Diocesan Secretary that noted these three Synod resolutions, and the action already taken by parishes and Diocesan organisations in response, and appointed a committee comprising Dr Karin Sowada, Mr George Lyubers and Mr Bruce Cooke to prepare a report for Synod in 2010.

### **Introduction**

7. The committee met on 4 occasions and in addition to the Synod resolutions referred to above has had regard to –

- (a) The report from the Standing Committee to Synod in 2008 in response to 17/07,
  - (b) Replies received from parishes in response to a web-based survey of environmental stewardship initiatives, and
  - (c) Information provided by a number of the major Diocesan organisations in relation to their environmental policies and the initiatives being undertaken.
8. This report has been prepared in response to resolution 2/09 and summarises the committee's findings.
9. For the purposes of this report, 'parish' includes –
- (a) a parish or provisional parish constituted under or recognised as such for the purposes of the Parishes Ordinance 1979, and
  - (b) a recognised church or provisional recognised church recognised under the Recognised Churches Ordinance 2000.

### **Survey of parishes**

10. From the on-line survey of parishes a pleasing result of 120 responses were received from a potential total of 267.
11. A summary of the consolidated survey results is provided in Appendix 1.
12. Some of the more popular actions taken by parishes who responded to the survey were –
- 71% have changed to more energy efficient lighting,
  - 43% have installed insulation,
  - 29% have participated in community events such as Clean-Up Australia Day and Earth Hour,
  - 27% organise car pooling for church worship and activities,
  - 21% have organised and/or contributed to local community projects, and
  - 20% have encouraged church members in environmental stewardship improvements in their own homes.
13. The survey also revealed some interesting initiatives in stewardship actions –
- A number of parishes have recently begun considering environmental stewardship by establishing a project team or by the parish council adopting a particular stance that guides future initiatives,

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- Several parishes have focussed on gardens, either the establishment of community gardens or improvement of parish gardens,
- Some parishes have installed bike racks,
- Solar photovoltaic panels have been (or are being) installed in quite a few parishes,
- Where new buildings are being planned, parishes are incorporating environmentally sustainable design elements.

14. The stories of some particular parishes that have taken a comprehensive approach to environmental initiatives are included in Appendix 2. These stories may provide ideas for other parishes who want to improve their environmental stewardship.

### **Diocesan organisations**

15. The response to environmental stewardship across Diocesan organisations varies from highly embedded in strategic plans, to needs-based changes reflecting basic environmental cost management. Some organisations have developed highly detailed or original responses. Organisations are building up to 'best practice', with Anglicare having the most developed policy response. The extent to which policy has been matched by concrete action 'on the ground' has not been measured in this report, but a written plan represents a recognition of the problem and a commitment to change.

16. A summary of the initiatives undertaken by a number of the major Diocesan organisations is contained in Appendix 3.

17. Diocesan organisations currently without a written environment policy are encouraged to develop a policy as part of their infrastructure and resource management planning.

#### *The Sydney Diocesan Secretariat (SDS) and related bodies*

18. SDS and the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney (ACPT) undertook a number of initiatives which were reported to the Synod in 2008. The environmental policy statements adopted by SDS and the ACPT in 2008 are included as Appendix 4.

19. The Board of the ACPT has determined as a matter of policy that principles of Environmentally Sustainable Design are to be incorporated into building alterations and additions, and the construction of new buildings. The ACPT has communicated this policy to each of the five regional architectural panels.

20. Since its 2008 report to Synod, the St Andrew's House Corporation has been engaged in a range of activities to monitor and reduce the building's energy consumption and water usage.

*Anglican Retirement Villages (ARV)*

21. ARV has taken a number of measures, primarily in the areas of water and energy use, across most of its properties. In addition, ARV report that new buildings are designed with more passive energy use and energy/water efficiencies. ARV does not have an environmental policy statement.

*Moore Theological College (MTC)*

22. Although MTC does not have an environment policy, a number of measures have been taken to mitigate the carbon footprint of the College across all its properties and operations. Moreover, initiatives in the MTC Development Plan will involve high levels of environmental sustainability in their design, materials and in the use of energy and water.

*Anglicare*

23. Anglicare has embedded environmental stewardship into its Strategic Plan and operational policies. Its Strategic Plan says –

*Strategic Goal 7: RESOURCES – Anglicare will effectively steward resources to achieve its strategic goals and will operate on a basis that is viable and sustainable. This will include (7.5) Introducing ecologically sound ways to use resources which over the next three years will include waste minimisation.”*

24. This goal covers general purchasing, IT, energy, vehicles and vehicle use, office procedures, property development and maintenance, and direct recycling of recycled products through Anglicare Shops. Implementation of these measures is in its early stages and many are still in of development. However, they reflect a deliberate and considered approach to the management of resources which has the dual effect of minimising waste and cutting costs.

25. The breadth and scope of Anglicare’s initiatives to effectively steward resources is worthy of further study by parishes and organisations (see Appendix 5).

*Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation (SASC)*

26. SASC has developed a policy statement committing the organisation to minimising its carbon footprint at its existing properties and in future building works. Implemented in conjunction with each school Principal, the policy focuses on minimising waste and energy usage through the implementation of site-by-site energy management, waste management, transport/fleet management and water management plans and building codes. A key element of this is staff and student training to ‘embed’ good stewardship principles into the personal use of resources and waste minimisation.

27. With the assistance of Government grants, SASC is investing in photovoltaic arrays to generate power locally. One such array is located on the roof of the new performing arts centre at Danebank School (see Appendix 6) and a further array is located at Claremont College. This is a very interesting development as there is great potential for this to be rolled out to other schools. Rainwater harvesting is also underway at most schools.

*Youthworks*

28. Youthworks operate a number of properties in bushland settings. It does not have an environment policy but various initiatives have been undertaken to manage environmental impact at the sites, including lighting audits and replacement of fittings, materials and food scraps recycling and water saving initiatives.

**Theological and other resources**

29. Andrew Cameron, Chair of the Social Issues Executive, has developed resources to assist parishes and Anglicans generally to develop a Biblical framework through which to think critically about environment issues.

30. Several items can be found at <http://www.sie.sydney.anglican.asn.au/tag/environment>. The most important of these are 'Environment: A Christian Response' and 'Christian Ministry in a Changing Climate'. The Social Issues Executive has indicated that this material is in need of revision given recent developments and will undertake this task in late 2010-early 2011.

31. The ACPT makes a number of resources available to parishes through the 'Environment' page on the SDS website <http://www.sds.asn.au> under Wardens & Parish Councillors → Property → Environment, and new material will continue to be added as appropriate. These resources include a detailed environmental assessment of five very different parishes (which would be of benefit to any parish undertaking a review of their own environmental efficiency), and links to material on the Social Issues Executive website, plus State and Federal Government environment websites.

32. Worship resources, focussing on God's creation and Christian stewardship, are included on the Better Gatherings website <http://www.bettergatherings.com> – including suitable prayers and readings. These resources may be useful for celebrations within the liturgical calendar or those aligned to community observances such as World Environment Day and Earth Hour.

**Response of the Standing Committee**

33. Standing Committee requested that suitable “user-friendly” extracts of this report be published on the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat website to assist parishes and organisations in improving their environmental stewardship.

For and on behalf of the Standing Committee

Dr KARIN SOWADA  
*Chair of the committee*

29 July 2010

## Appendix 1

## Parish survey results

120 (out of 267) parishes responded to the web-based survey.

The following table summarises just the yes/no type questions. Many parishes also provided further descriptions of the projects/actions they had implemented.

|  | Yes | Percentage |
|--|-----|------------|
| <b>Church building and rectory – have you –</b>                        |     |            |
| Changed light fittings or globes to more efficient ones?               | 86  | 72%        |
| Installed ceiling or other insulation?                                 | 51  | 43%        |
| Installed a water tank for collection and reuse of rain water?         | 22  | 18%        |
| Installed solar hot water heaters or heat pumps?                       | 6   | 5%         |
| Purchased GreenPower electricity?                                      | 3   | 3%         |
| Installed photovoltaic solar panels or other renewable energy systems? | 3   | 3%         |
| Implemented recycling arrangements in addition to council collections? | 16  | 13%        |
| Built passively designed and energy efficient new buildings?           | 7   | 6%         |
| <b>Church worship and learning – have you –</b>                        |     |            |
| Included a special 'stewardship of creation' focus in worship?         | 12  | 10%        |
| Undertaken bible studies in 'stewardship of creation'?                 | 10  | 8%         |
| Established a specific group to improve environmental stewardship?     | 6   | 5%         |
| <b>Congregation – has the church –</b>                                 |     |            |
| Encouraged members' environmental stewardship improvements at home?    | 24  | 20%        |
| Organised car pooling for church worship and activities?               | 32  | 27%        |
| Encouraged walking, cycling or use of public transport to church?      | 18  | 15%        |
| <b>Community outreach – has the church –</b>                           |     |            |
| Participated in community events (Clean-up Australia Day, Earth Hour)? | 34  | 29%        |

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|  | <b>Yes</b> | <b>Percent-<br/>age</b> |
|--|------------|-------------------------|
| Organised / contributed to community projects?                             | 25         | 21%                     |
| Organised community forums?  | 9          | 8%                      |
| Organised delegations / letters / submissions to politicians / government? | 15         | 13%                     |

## **Appendix 2**

### **Parish stories**

#### **St Barnabas Broadway**

The design of the new St Barnabas Broadway church facilities has, since the beginning, sought to acknowledge the significance of Christ's resurrection for the ongoing value of God's creation. This is a gospel issue: God has not failed to redeem the work of his hands, and so it too will participate in the coming restoration of all things.

Accordingly, the original concept design took as many steps as possible within the constraints of budget to be 'green'. The need for air conditioning was reduced in the building as a whole and eliminated entirely in the main gathering space. Water will be recycled where suitable. Sandstone and sandstock bricks will be recovered from the old building. Polished concrete floors will be used rather than toxin-emitting carpets. Lighting will be chosen to minimise power consumption. Only one floor of parking will be included to promote use of public transport, and it will include 30 bicycle spaces.

The development seeks to maximise local amenity by not 'maxing out' the land footprint, contributing to the visual environment and providing generous outdoor courtyard space instead of outdoor parking.

Finally, the building seeks to use tough cheap and resilient materials to maximise longevity and minimise energy cost of production.

#### **St John's Campsie**

As God's people living in this world, St John's encourages social responsibilities, and caring for people and the environment.

St John's has installed solar panels to generate their own electricity. They are not content just to lament the fact of climate change. St John's wants to make a contribution to reducing harmful carbon-dioxide emissions, by generating at least some of their own electricity. With the help of a rebate from the Australian Government, they have installed a 2.03 kW photovoltaic grid connected system, comprising 14 x 145 Watt solar panels, inverter, DC isolator/enclosure, and bi-directional meter. This system generates approximately 8-10 kWh of electricity per day. As well as environmental benefits, there are financial benefits as well. St John's says "the amount we are paid for the electricity we generate will more than offset the cost of our electricity consumption this year."

Another way St John's helps the environment is through reusing and recycling. Twice a year they hold a mini-market at the church to raise money for their New Settler's ministry. The majority of the goods for sale are second hand items: books, clothes, appliances and other kitchen items. St John's also encourages environmental awareness

through our ESL classes, teaching lessons on water conservation, recycling and reducing household electricity use. Many students share their own tips on reducing our carbon footprint – there is no better way to get people talking than by asking for advice!

St John's challenges others: "why not start a conversation between your church and your community about how we can help the environment?"

### **St John's Dee Why**

The people of St John's Dee Why has committed themselves to raise awareness towards the protection of our environment. Amongst many initiatives taken by St John's Church has been the installation of 2 kilowatt of photovoltaic solar panels to generate electricity and thus reduce reliance on that generated from non-renewable energy sources.

The panels, installed on the Parish Centre roof, were dedicated in the presence of a member of Parliament and local Councilor. The cost of the installation was supported by a Federal Government rebate along with many generous donations from St John's members. St John's has also undertaken environment responsibility through controlling their use of electricity by the installation of power-saving lighting and controls, using gas for water heating and planned e-waste disposal facilities.

Many people have asked; "Why do you care?" As Christians living in God's creation St John's endeavours to make practical initiatives to protect what God has provided. There is awareness that climate is changing at the same time as human activities are releasing excessive amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere. If nothing is done, St John's is convinced that we risk tipping the balance into dangerous climate change. To support their conviction, several seminars have also been held on environmental responsibilities.

The solar power system has been operating since June 2010, targeting generation of up to 10% of the energy that St John's normally consume.

### **St Luke's Mosman**

St Luke's Eco Watch Committee first met early in 2009 as a result of an initiative of the Rector and support of the Parish Council. The group is led by a retired architect with experience in passive solar housing. Goals were set by Parish Council late in 2008, and included preparation of parish policies that would ensure "the restoration, preservation and improvement of God's universe". The Council noted that there were three parts to the main goal –

- Recognising / understanding what is happening in the world, including our immediate environment,

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- Planning and preparing for the changes needed to restore, preserve and improve our environment,
- The evangelism of God's Word to all, in relation to the environment.

In working towards these goals an action plan was developed by the Committee considering short and long term possibilities. The short term includes –

- Collection bins in a prominent position in the Church for some recyclables (batteries, ink jet cartridges, and mobile phones),
- Building a relationship with Mosman Council, including a visit from a Councillor, and the potential involvement in Council programs,
- Audit of parish water / energy use and issues leading to changes in property management.

Introduction of solar photovoltaic panels is being considered by the Property and Finance Committee. Environmental issues are interwoven into regular worship as appropriate. A special service focusing on stewardship responsibilities is planned for late in 2010.

### **St Stephen's Newtown**

A number of people from different congregations of St Stephen's are keen to go green. Following much prayer, they were inspired to take advantage of the current support by Governments, and install 9.8kW photovoltaic solar panels.

The aim is to reduce energy use and generate power back to the grid, to achieve self-funded energy supply. St Stephen's sourced quotes from several companies and engaged a sustainability consultant to review their electricity use. They have implemented many of the consultant's recommendations, such as not leaving printers and computers on standby, and turning off hot water systems and lighting when they are not required.

For those involved it has been a major learning curve, particularly coming to grips with the variety of new technologies. It has also had difficulties due to the production delays of some components. However, in terms of stewardship it is good both for the environment and return on investment.

One side benefit has been the working together of the social action group and the maintenance committee on a common project. There has also been a real interest within the local community. Watershed (joint Sydney / Marrickville Councils sustainability resource centre at Newtown) is finding out what the parish is doing so as to inspire others.

### **St Mark's South Hurstville**

EcoChurch is an environmental project expressing stewardship of God's creation. It provides opportunities for connection with the local community, educates parishioners and community about environmental issues, and facilitates action to reduce harmful environmental impact.

EcoChurch employs three strategies: improvements in church buildings and a new environmental focus in our parish life; education and improvements in parish households; and taking the experience to the broader church and local community.

EcoChurch was launched in 2007, the day after 'Earth Hour'. Initiatives over recent years include –

- Water harvesting through a 10,000 litre installed water tank for St Mark's Pre-School toilet flushing.
- Monthly education flyers during 2007/08.
- A small organic garden and second tank used for Pre-School gardens and education purposes.
- Recycling centre for: printing cartridges; spectacles for re-use in developing countries; magazines (for prisoners); postage stamps (for mission fundraising); candle wax (for church candles); computers (for recycling by Psychiatric Rehabilitation Australia); in addition to the long standing Anglicare clothing bin.
- EcoLiving Workshop on 'water tanks' for the local community in conjunction with Kogarah Council.
- Church incandescent lamps changed for energy efficient lamps.
- "Sisters on the Planet" Ecumenical service with Kogarah/Brighton-le-Sands Uniting Church on International Women's Day 2009 – inspiring women to take action on climate change.
- St Mark's 'signed-up' for all Earth Hours since inception.

St Mark's observes the Season of Creation each year in September: including Creation Sunday, Social Justice Sunday, and a Pet Service near St Francis Day.

### **Appendix 3**

## **Summary of Diocesan organisations' environmental initiatives**

### **The Sydney Diocesan Secretariat (SDS) and related bodies**

#### *SDS/GAB*

Since 2008 SDS/GAB has been engaged in the following activities –

- turning off computer and business equipment over weekends and public holidays,
- paper, cardboard, glass and plastic recycling throughout the office tenancies and retail arcade and the measurement of quantities for record and future target setting,
- setting targets and management plans for improvements to be addressed,
- personal paper recycling boxes provided for all staff,
- kitchens have bins allocated for the division of recyclable materials,
- including environmental requirements in procurement practices –
  - where appropriate, the requirement for 'Green Building' principles is included in building specifications and tenders and in landlord approvals when tenants make application for building approval, and
  - similar general inclusions have been discussed with ACPT and encouraged as part of parish tender processes.

SDS/GAB will continue to be actively engaged in the Diocesan response to the effective stewardship of our resources. SDS Legal Services will continue reviewing the impact of all new environmental legislation on the Sydney Diocese and the organisations within it.

#### *St Andrew's House Corporation*

St Andrew's House Corporation (SAHC – the owner of St Andrew's House office tower and shopping arcade) has been engaged in the following activities –

- installation of electricity and gas meters to measure consumption for NABERS purposes,
- installation of additional electricity and gas meters and a modern computer software monitoring and diagnostic system to measure real time usage and identify anomalies (identification of anomalies allows better system tuning and repairs and

maintenance to maintain and improve energy consumption targets),

- reduction of measured electricity consumption by between 5% and 6%,
- turning off computer and business equipment over weekends and public holidays,
- completion of a comprehensive Sydney Water investigation of all tenancy related water systems and all recommended repairs and maintenance undertaken,
- installation of on line monitoring and performance reporting software, to permit the setting of baseline consumption levels for St Andrew's House, from which improvements can be expected with increasing familiarity with the diagnostic software,
- monthly reporting from the waste / recycling contractor listing cardboard, paper, bottles and cans as distinct from general waste, and
- recording waste and recycling by weight and when sufficient comparison data is available trends, benchmarks and future targets can be set and monitored.

Auditing, monitoring and reporting SAHC performance against those targets –

- the NABERS and other metering will enable base building performance to be measured and operational benchmarks set,
- the associated diagnostic software enables anomalies in system operation and energy consumption to be monitored and appropriate rectifications made,
- similarly improved targets can now be set and capital, and / or repairs and maintenance works be planned and budgeted, and
- results can then be measured against the benchmarks and more future plans and budgets made.

SAHC will continue to refine its measurement processes throughout the next year and plans to commence providing regular measurement to its Board from 2010 onwards. The key reporting measures will be based around yearly energy consumption, yearly CO<sub>2</sub> emission, yearly water consumption, total paper use, total weight recycled and total office paper recycled.

### **Anglican Retirement Villages (ARV)**

The measures taken by ARV across most of its properties include –

- the installation of energy efficient lighting and timers,
- installation of ceiling insulation,

- installation of rainwater collection tanks and measures to harvest stormwater for landscape irrigation and laundry/flushing use,
- installation of solar hot water heaters and/or pumps,
- installation of Smart Metering for water management, and involvement in the *Greening Grey [Water] Program*,
- installation of flow restrictors and water efficient taps and shower heads at some properties,
- replacing old toilet cisterns with new water efficient models, and
- improved recycling to be included in next waste removal tender.

In addition, ARV report that new buildings are designed with more passive energy use and energy/water efficiencies.

#### **Moore Theological College (MTC)**

The measures listed below reflect the unique community spirit of MTC and its handy proximity to major services and the CBD –

- installation of a water bore on the Newtown site and installation of water saving devices (paid for by grant from Sydney Water),
- timers installed on air conditioners in all lecture rooms and lights turned off when not in use,
- energy saving globes installed in all Faculty housing,
- printing and photocopying minimized with information disseminated to students, Faculty, staff, Board and Committee members via the College's intranet,
- computer replacement policy extended a number of years,
- some of the College's servers have been moved to Cloud computing which will save energy,
- promotion of public transport and presence of bicycle facilities and 'Go Get' car on premises for hire by both members of College and Newtown community in lieu of private ownership,
- recycling of waste paper and recycling of printer cartridges,
- recycling of clothing and household items through the students' secondhand shop 'Grapevine', and
- vegetable garden established at the But-Har-Gra site at Croydon for use by families.

#### **Youthworks**

Examples of Youthworks site-specific measures to manage its environmental impact include –

- Port Hacking –
  - sewer plant and oval irrigation,

- water audit resulting in the use of water-saving shower roses,
- rainwater capture on two staff residences with recycling to the toilets and laundry on one,
- currently negotiating with new NPWS recycler to join in on their deal for future recycling growth, and
- rainwater captured off the administration building is used to fill the pool and waterslide at Deer Park.
- Blue Gum Lodge –
  - automated pool chemical balance system installed which has reduced chemical use,
  - rain tank captured from the sports hall is used to fill pool, and
  - removal of the open log fire place from the dining room.
- Shoalhaven –
  - sewer plant and irrigation,
  - rainwater capture and filtration for drinking water, and
  - power factor correction installed in the main electricity supply to reduce electricity usage and wastage.

## **Appendix 4**

### **Environmental policy statement adopted by GAB/SDS**

The Glebe Administration Board and the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat is committed to –

- Managing our environmental impact by using resources more efficiently,
- Setting realistic targets to continually improve our environmental performance,
- Auditing, monitoring and reporting our performance against those targets,
- Participating in re-use and recycling programs,
- Including environmental requirements in our procurement practices,
- Complying with all relevant Commonwealth, State and local government environmental legislation and regulations,
- Developing the environmental awareness of our employees,
- Periodically reviewing our environmental policy statement to reflect environmental better practice, and
- Proactively assisting other diocesan organisations including the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney to develop policies and practices that demonstrate principles of good environmental stewardship and care.

### **Environmental policy statement adopted by the ACPT**

The Board of the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney - noting Synod Climate Change Resolutions 17/07 and 17/08 - is committed to good environmental stewardship and care. This will be demonstrated in various ways, including but not limited to –

1. Complying with all relevant Commonwealth, State and Local environmental legislation and regulation,
2. Developing environmental awareness in parishes,
3. Assisting parishes with environmental grant, rebate, or environment-related applications,

4. Building a pool of internet-based environment resources and links for parishes to access on the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat website, and
5. Advising environmental requirements and / or making environmental recommendations to the Diocesan Synod and Diocesan organisations, committees and parishes.

## Appendix 5

### Anglicare's 'green' initiatives and actions

The following has been prepared to identify activities and opportunities that ANGLICARE is currently undertaking, or may undertake, in the attainment of our

*“Strategic Goal 7: RESOURCES – ANGLICARE will effectively steward resources to achieve its strategic goals and will operate on a basis that is viable and sustainable. This will include: 7.5 Introducing ecologically sound ways to use resources which over the next three years will include waste minimisation.”*

1. Purchasing (general)
2. IT
3. Energy
4. Vehicles and vehicle use
5. Office procedures
6. Property Development and Maintenance
7. Waste handling
8. Direct recycling of recycled products (ANGLICARE Shops)

#### 1. PURCHASING

##### • **Current actions and initiatives**

- Paper – currently using REFLEX Ultra White – government contract price effective, certified by the international Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), acid free and meets the ISO 9706 permanent papers Standard. Other brands have been trialled and REFLEX was the only brand across all machines to minimise technical issues (which resulted in additional costs incurred by ANGLICARE).
- Whitegoods – priority given for highest energy efficiency, within appropriate pricing constraints. All disposals of whitegoods are through organisations certified for environmental disposal (gas removal, fluid removal, metal/plastic separation, etc).
- Furniture – decision making is focussed on long term life delivery not cheaper price, often resulting in the use of more sustainable material rather than short life plastics.
- Decision making balances safety, price, environment, life cost and efficiency.

- **Planned / Potential initiatives**
  - Paper – Currently reviewing REFLEX 50% recycled copy paper and REFLEX Carbon Neutral copy paper for performance and price.
  - New purchasing policy is currently being developed establishing “green” parameters around purchasing decisions.
  - Review of organisational “convenience” stationery usage and opportunities for effective controls.
  - Developed user communications to increase decision making awareness.
  - Develop and encourage organisational and local program/service tools and practices to assist employees to reduce the number of printed pages per employee per month.

## 2. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- **Current actions and initiatives**
  - Virtualisation of hardware and storage
    - Less power used.
    - Less cooling required.
    - Optimised equipment life (cooling and power).
  - Consolidation of Backup Resources (less power, less tapes used).
  - Remote Access and Telecommuting (reduced vehicle usage/fuel consumption)
    - Potential extension of computer life-span (reduced land fill – from three years to four years).
  - Investment in Cloud computing in relation to Email Archiving saving on server equipment and related power and cooling.
  - Green Disposal – disposal of old computers, printers, monitors only via environmentally endorsed (e-waste) organisations.
  - Participation in industry endorsed Green IT benchmarking surveys that provide ANGLICARE with twice yearly industry reports.
- **Planned / Potential initiatives**
  - Windows 7 – a greener operating system – significant increase in software managed power efficiency of hardware.

- Hardware Purchasing – Greener IT equipment – establishing a Request for Tender (RFT) with specified green options.
- Greener production process for equipment – further virtualisation and specific vendor software support to provide virtualised software or virtualisation capable software.
- Green IT Audit – transparency and ability to benchmark ANGLICARE versus other organisations.
- Conduct an education campaign to encourage computer users to implement personal power saving measures (e.g. turn off screen savers and use monitor blanking; turn off monitors, etc overnight; turn-off appliances in constant stand-by mode, where appropriate).
- Investigation into Green IT training (and certification) from industry recognised training bodies (For example, Australian Computer Society).
- A green logout message from ANGLICARE, asking staff to switch off their computers if no longer in use.
- The wallpaper standardised on all PCs/notebooks to reflect core of ANGLICARE's Strategic Plan, include a resource awareness message.
- Communication to create and acknowledge commitment to green initiatives whilst balancing the cost of achieving the position.
- Green IT Policy, including organisation-wide e-waste policy.
- Further investigation of Cloud computing (outsourced IT server/service hosting).
- Investigation of Thin-client computing – reducing power usage (among other benefits).
- Green IT Audit Reporting – update to analyse and map ANGLICARE's progress.
- Set all printers capable of duplex to default double sided printing and black/white printing.
- Review authentic opportunities for VOIP phone and video conferencing (reducing carbon footprint and unnecessary travel issues).

### **3. ENERGY**

- ***Current actions and initiatives***
  - Purchase of energy efficient appliances.
  - Staff reminded and encouraged to turn off computer monitors, etc. when not in use.

- LED lighting has been tested in one part of the ANGLICARE Centre as a replacement for fluorescent tubes – this revealed significant fading in the LED lights and the trial discontinued.
- Newer sites, such as Parramatta Head Office and Chesalon Care Jannali, have Power Factor Controllers installed assisting in the efficient use of electricity – providing lighting control options, timed power-off lighting, etc.
- **Planned / Potential initiatives**
  - Pursue the implementation of power saving measures in office equipment.
  - Embed standards in the PC and laptop tenders.
  - Convert and embed power settings on legacy computers.
  - Embed power savings specifications in tender documentation.
  - Energy audits of high usage sites.
  - Modify air conditioning provision on level 4 in Parramatta Head office to a user select option, rather than permanently day timed operation.
  - Further staff education to turn appliances off (including stand-by).
- 4. **VEHICLES AND VEHICLE USAGE**
  - **Current actions and initiatives**
    - Increased emphasis on purchase of 4 cylinder vehicles resulting in a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
    - Reduction of pool vehicles to reduce unnecessary vehicle maintenance.
    - Specific selection criteria introduced re purchase of 6 cylinder vehicle with lower than average CO<sub>2</sub> emissions – standardised single vehicle selection option.
    - Policy limits implemented on vehicle availability.
    - ANGLICARE Shops transport vehicles moved to more fuel efficient Vans from Trucks – reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
    - Fuel Cards limiting fuel availability to unleaded or E10 fuel.
    - Promotion of E10 fuel to staff with company vehicles.
    - Hybrid vehicles tested but not yet financially viable for ANGLICARE – total cost benefit analysis undertaken.

- ***Planned / Potential initiatives***
  - Fuel option to be limited to E10, upon increased and consistent availability.
  - Continual monitoring of vehicle options and efficiencies.
- 5. OFFICE PROCEDURES**
- ***Current actions and initiatives***
  - Segmentation of paper/cardboard waste and non-paper waste for recycling.
  - Motion sensitive car park lighting.
  - Email footnotes re “please consider before printing” – not set organisationally.
- ***Planned / Potential initiatives***
  - Implementation of payroll self-service kiosk across ANGLICARE – eliminating unnecessary printing of fortnightly payslips, leave applications, etc.
  - Increased communication and education awareness, including standardised processes such as email reminders, etc.
- 6. PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE**
- ***Current actions and initiatives***
  - The reuse of existing office fit-outs. For example, Nepean Community Care Centre and Mt Druitt Community Care Centre (reduced land-fill and cost efficiencies).
  - Encourage open plan offices – better air conditioning and energy efficiencies.
  - Time switches to air conditioning plant at Parramatta Head Office – better air conditioning and energy efficiencies.
  - Chesalon Care developments have a range of existing and proposed equipment and energy saving structures built in to the design fabric of the buildings and surrounds – Chesalon Care Jannali, Chesalon Care Ingleburn and Chesalon Care Oran Park –
    - Environmentally conscious paint products and flooring finishes.
    - Use of “grey water” for toilets, etc.
    - Water harvesting in outside areas.
    - Solar panels and solar lighting initiatives.
    - Energy efficient ventilation systems incorporated into building design.

- Installation of ozone laundry systems to the Chesalon Homes resulting in significant energy and water reductions (Government initiative).
- Co-location of Community Care services results in efficiencies and savings – improved occupancy levels, common reception areas, telephone and IT infrastructure.
- **Planned / Potential initiatives**
  - The development of occupancy benchmarks will result in energy savings.
  - Increasing awareness and encouraging staff to use energy efficient practices.
  - Encourage passive efficiencies for energy savings. For example insulation, auto switching.

## 7. WASTE HANDLING

- **Current actions and initiatives**
  - Toner cartridges recycling pick-up from sites – currently in place in a number of locations.
  - Cardboard and paper waste collected separately by contractors and recycled – a majority of facilities.
  - Green bin garden waste for Chesalon residential aged care sites.
  - Medical waste collected and disposed of by environmentally conscious organisations from all Chesalon Care sites.
  - All end of life mobile phones disposed off through environmental recycling organisations.
  - ANGLICARE Shops clothing waste that cannot be sold (scrap or otherwise) is disposed off through a fabric recycling plant reducing land fill and cost to ANGLICARE.
- **Planned / Potential initiatives**
  - Organisational roll-out of toner recycling.
  - Organisational roll-out of cardboard/paper recycling.

## 8. RECYCLING OF RECYCLING (ANGLICARE SHOPS)

- **Current actions and initiatives**
  - ANGLICARE Shops – clothing, scrap rags, books, manchester, etc (reduced land fill).
  - Ongoing evaluation of van pick-up routes to avoid unnecessary road time and vehicle emissions.

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- Local Council / Community joint initiatives and activities to promote community recycling awareness and action – Hornsby, Wollongong.
- **Planned / Potential initiatives**
  - Developing further liaison with local Councils to encourage co-operative recycling ventures to reduce land fill and supply resources to ANGLICARE. For example, Parramatta City Council and City of Canada Bay Council.

**CONCLUSION**

From the above it is apparent that there are a considerable number of activities and initiatives that have been researched and implemented to date with successful outcomes. Equally, whilst not making a deliberate focus of the issue as a sole activity, a number of opportunities exist, that have already been identified but not actioned, that would further the objective of ANGLICARE's Strategic Goal 7.

*Wayne Newell*  
*Director Strategic Support*

*28 April 2010*

Appendix 6

**Photovoltaic array at Danebank School**



## **Appendix 7**

### **Synod resolutions**

#### **2/09 Environmental initiatives in the Diocese**

Synod requests that a report be provided to its next session about the environmental initiatives being undertaken in the Diocese.

(Dr Karin Sowada 19/10/09)

#### **17/08 Climate change response in parishes**

Synod congratulates the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney (ACPT) and the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat (SDS) on their initiatives and achievements, as outlined in the report from Standing Committee '17/07 Climate Change' in response to Resolution 17/07 of the 2007 Synod, and requests the SDS to coordinate the development of a tool kit that will assist parishes in responding to climate change at the local level, including information about –

- (a) an environmental policy statement template as a basis for discussion and adoption by parishes,
- (b) implementation of practical energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, recycling, and other environmental sustainability initiatives for parish facilities, arising from the ACPT's Parish Pilot Group Environmental Assessments, and other appropriate sources, and
- (c) suitable worship and teaching resources that express the sovereignty of God over his creation and our role in stewardship and care.

(Mr Bruce Cooke 20/10/08)

#### **17/07 Climate change**

Synod accepts the emerging scientific consensus that climate change is occurring and supports the need for Christian responses to the potential problems and opportunities that arise from climate change including –

- (a) praying for our world and using every opportunity to speak of the Lordship of Jesus Christ;
- (b) Christian ministry to those most vulnerable to the effects of climate change such as farmers, rural communities, the homeless and refugees;
- (c) the setting of a godly example of good stewardship in our personal and communal lives;

- (d) education of our children about a biblical understanding of creation and our role as its stewards and carers;
- (e) the development and implementation of an environmental policy within each Parish and Diocesan organisation which expresses principles of good environmental stewardship and care; and
- (f) encouraging governments at all levels to take climate change seriously and to make wise policy decisions to deal with its effects.

(Mr Darren Mitchell 19/09/07)