The Hectorville Sports and Community Club (HSCC) is located on Daly Oval in Magill and is home to over 1,000 active members. Utilised year-round, the HSCC offers a range of sports including Australian Rules Football, Cricket, Tennis and Netball at both junior and senior levels. For the past seven years, the Hectorville Sports and Community Club has committed itself to a journey of transformation and improvement, which saw the club awarded 2013 National Club of the Year at the Good Sports Awards.

The operations of the HSCC are overseen by a management committee, the members of which - in addition to being passionate ‘Heccies’ members - possess expertise in a variety of key areas such as finance, administration and stakeholder management. The club also counts an elected member of the local council as one of its committee members.

The skills and determination of the club’s management has facilitated a strong improvement in the culture and operations of the club. In particular, the committee has placed emphasis on sustainability by taking steps to improve energy efficiency within the club and developing a broader revenue base to support its operations.

In January 2014, as part of a commitment to increasing the sustainability of the club, the HSCC undertook an energy audit to review its electricity usage. The audit identified that the club’s electricity usage was dominated by refrigeration; heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC); and lighting on the oval and tennis/netball courts.

![Figure 1: Electricity end use breakdown](chart.png)
Like many sporting and social clubs, the HSCC has dealt with significant increases in water costs over the past five or so years. While this is so, the club has not dedicated as much of its focus or resources on water saving strategies or developing its own water management plan.

While many clubs may work in conjunction with their local council to manage their turf, more and more clubs are being asked to assume at least some responsibility for the irrigation or maintenance of their turf.

ENSURE YOU ARE INFORMED OF YOUR CLUB’S TURF MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND START THE CONVERSATION WITH YOUR COUNCIL OR SPORT AND RECREATION REPRESENTATIVE TODAY.

WHAT CAN YOUR CLUB DO?

To assist in helping your club become more sustainable, you can…

BRAINSTORM IDEAS TO BROADEN YOUR FUNDING BASE
Think about opportunities for sponsorship from local business, increased marketing to raise your club’s profile, or can you provide additional services (e.g. meals).

UNDEARTAKE A DIY ENERGY AUDIT
There are many resources already available that can help you do this.

TURN OFF ADDITIONAL HOT WATER SYSTEMS IN SUMMER
Surplus hot water can cost your club money, particularly if it’s not being used in the warmer months of the year.

ENSURE YOU’RE INFORMED OF EFFICIENT WATER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
Your council may have already implemented water management initiatives with clubs in your area – make sure you know about them and are involved.

TURN OFF LIGHTS WHEN NOT IN THE ROOM
Consider investigating technology that can help you section off lights in your clubrooms.

Since the audit the club has implemented a number of the recommendations from the review including:

• Replacement of standard light globes with LED lights;
• Light switches sectioned off to enable greater control over lighting in different areas of the clubrooms and reduce unnecessary lighting;
• Installation of reflective window tint to reject heat and keep indoor temperatures more stable;
• During the football off-season, three of six hot water units are turned off.

BY IMPLEMENTING THESE MEASURES, THE CLUB HAS REDUCED ITS ANNUAL ELECTRICITY BILL BY OVER 15%!

Going forward, the club is giving consideration to an upgrade of all lighting around the oval and tennis/netball courts in their continued progress following the energy review.