



7 August 2022

Submission to the Lane Cove General Manager
the Draft Sustainability Action Plan 2022 – 2025

Dear Mr Wrightson, GM.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this Draft Plan. The Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society is disappointed with the diminution of the natural environment within the Council's Draft Sustainability Action Plan 2022 – 2025. We feel that a rather anthropocentric outlook is exemplified at the start, in the Guiding Principles: "To be aware of and responsive to the diverse needs and aspirations of the Lane Cove Community."

If we are aiming for quality of life, the natural environment is the absolute foundation for the necessities of all life, such as fresh air clean water, a liveable climate, and so we consider that the natural environment should be the framework and must be of greater importance in this document. Currently it is only one of four elements which must be "balanced". The Natural Environment should underpin Economic, Cultural and Sustainability decision-making.

LCB&CS Recommendations

(a) Guiding Principal principle (on page 5)

Our main concern and Recommendation is that the Natural Environment should be a discreet (stand-alone) guiding principal on page 5.

(b) Current Goal 3: Enhance and Value Our Open Space, Waterways and Bushland- p20

The Society recommends Goal 3 should be Goal 1:

(c) In Title of Goal 3, Change 'Enhance' to 'Value & Care'.

Goal 1: Value & Care for Our Open Space, Waterways and Bushland.

Goal 3 should remove the word 'Enhance' as Enhance in the title does not apply to Bushland. In Bushland, enhancing implies planting more species which is not recommended practise for bushland, but is recommended for parks and sports areas.`

(d) Separation of Bushland & Waterways from Parks and Sports Fields

The Society Recommends Separation of Bushland & Waterways from Parks and Sports Fields, and to have a more coherent approach to natural environment. Respect and care for the Natural Environment (including air, water, soils, geology, bushland and urban tree canopy), should be a principle on its own.

Parks and Sports Fields (as Sub-elements) as they have different needs and appropriate Actions. This section could then include more of the very many elements that are part of Council's concerns: air, water, soils, geology, bushland and urban vegetation/tree canopy.

(e) Goal 3 – We submit that Goal 3 (Goal 1) should include the bolded text : **ensuring development adjacent to open space, waterways & bushland is managed to reduce negative impacts and protects the natural environment**

3.5 Optimise usage of existing parks and sport fields through improved, sustainably designed

facilities

3.7 Undertake bush regeneration works to ***protect***, restore natural areas

Yours sincerely,

Shauna Forrest- President

on behalf of the Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society

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