

State of the Environment Report 2007

Banyule

Part 2

Detailed Assessment of Actions





Responsible Officers/ Organisations for Implementation of the Environment Strategy

BEAC	Banyule Environment Advisory Committee	HSC	Horticultural Services Coordinator
BMC	Bushland Management Coordinator	IAC	Infrastructure Assets Coordinator
BMSC	Building Maintenance & Service Coordinator	LCO	Land Care Officer (formally Wildlife Corridor Officer)
BO	Building Officers	MAL	Manager Administration and Laws
BS	Building Surveyor	MPI	Manager Major Projects & Infrastructure
C	Council	MCC	Manager, Contract Control
CC	Communications Coordinator	MDS	Manager Development Services
CCS	Civil Construction Supervisor	MLRC	Manager Leisure Recreation and Culture
Comm	“The Community”	MO	Manager Operations
CS	Construction Supervisor	MPG	Manager Parks & Gardens
CSC	Cultural Services Coordinator	MSE	Manager Strategic and Economic Development
CSP	Coordinator Social Planning	MW	Melbourne Water
CSS	Customer Service Staff	NS	Nursery Supervisor
DC	Drainage Coordinator	PO	Purchasing Officer
DCC	Darebin Creek Coordinator	PEO	Planning Enforcement Officer
DCD	Director City Development	PL	Planners
DCoS	Director Corporate Services	PMC	Parks Maintenance Coordinator
DCS	Director City Services	RCO	Resource Conservation Officer
DSE	Department of Sustainability and Environment	RCC	Rethink Centre Coordinator
EC	Environmental Coordinator	RMC	Risk Management Coordinator
EDP	Economic Development Planner	SRO	Senior Risk Officer
EHO	Environmental Health Officer	SPC	Strategic Planning Coordinator
EO	Environmental Officer	TCC	Tree Care Coordinator
EPA	Environment Protection Authority	VR	VicRoads
ESC	Engineering Services Coordinator	VR	VicRail
EX	Executive	WEC	Waste Education Coordinator
GO	Greenhouse Officer		
HC	Heritage Consultant		

The Natural Environment

Key to Symbols used in Table

Progress of actions

-  Action completed or included in registered procedure
-  Action progressing well and on time
-  Action commenced but behind time
-  Action not commenced and behind time

⇒ Action is not yet due for commencement

1 PROTECTING FLORA AND FAUNA

Policy aim

- to ensure the diversity of Banyule's indigenous flora and fauna is conserved

Indicators

The area of high quality habitat
The number of indigenous plant communities
The continued presence of rare and threatened plant species







Aim

No loss of indigenous species or communities and improvement in the quality of habitat




Measurement

Establish a monitoring program involving the community, naturalists, government authorities, educational bodies and Council employees to assess the continued presence of indigenous species and communities.






Key action 1 Maintain inventories of local flora and fauna and monitor the conservation status of indigenous species and habitats

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
1.1a 	Maintain and regularly update an inventory of local flora and fauna.	EO	Mod.	Data is regularly updated in Flora and Fauna database. See Highlights (Part 1)
1.1b 	Monitor, and update as appropriate, the conservation status of indigenous species and habitats	EO	Mod.	Monitoring is ongoing.
1.1c 	With assistance from the Department of Sustainability and Environment and research bodies, develop an inventory of invertebrate fauna, non-vascular plants and micro-organisms.	EO, EC	Mod.	Additional information is added when records are available.
1.1d 	Support and expand the monitoring program involving the community, naturalists, government authorities, educational bodies and Council employees that assesses the continued presence of indigenous species and communities.	EO, BMC, DCC, Comm	Mod.	Monitoring is occurring in key reserves i.e. Banyule Reserve, Yandell's Reserve and St Helena Reserve. Most emphasis is on Eltham Copper Butterfly and rare orchids. There have been increasing sightings of species over the last five years that had previously declined in the area, including the Powerful Owl and Sugar Glider.
1.1e 	Undertake a study of sites of botanical significance throughout the municipality	EC	High	Not funded again in 2006/07, but it has been advanced through vegetation quality assessments of key reserves which will be extended to other natural habitat reserves in the coming year.
1.1f 	Identify and map all areas of remaining indigenous vegetation in Banyule (including areas on roadsides), indicating the types of vegetation community present and an assessment of their biological significance.	EO, EC	High	Some additional mapping was conducted, especially weed mapping along the Yarra in Lower Plenty. Additional resources have now been allocated to increase the speed of this mapping and it should be substantially completed over the coming Spring.








Key Action 1.2 Prevent local extinctions through the development and implementation of management programs for rare or threatened flora and fauna and for key areas of natural habitat

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
1.2a 	Develop and implement management plans for rare or threatened species, vegetation communities and habitats, particularly for Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS), species listed under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act and species threatened locally. Undertake such work in co-operation with the Department of Sustainability and Environment.	EC, BMC, DSE	High	A consultant was engaged to develop a new ecological management plan for Banyule Flats.
1.2b 	Utilise information obtained in 1.1 to identify and target the areas of natural habitat of highest biological significance and those in greatest need of management, so as to optimise the use of limited resources.	BMC, DCC, EO	High	Bushland Management unit keeps records of rare and or threatened indigenous species in the various Bushland reserves and management practices and works programs are focussed on these issues.
1.2c 	Continually review the adequacy of current management of Council reserves and determine whether sufficient is being done to achieve the long-term protection, enhancement and expansion of natural habitat and species.	MPB, EC, BMC, DCC, HSC	High	Prioritisation is given to all the small reserves with rare and endangered species present. The review of management of Council reserves is ongoing.

Key Action 1.3 Develop and implement practices that ensure threats to indigenous flora and fauna are identified and the impacts of proposed developments are appropriately assessed

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
1.3a 	Recognise any newly identified sites of biological significance in the local planning scheme and zone accordingly for their protection	EC	Mod	No new sites have been identified.
1.3b 	Ensure that procedures for assessment of the environmental impact of proposed works and developments and changes of land use are properly implemented and that Council's own activities minimise any damage to native vegetation	MDS, DCS, MC, CCS, CS, PMC, EC, IAC	High	A new Building Site Code of Practice has been adopted.
1.3c 	Ensure that in areas where fire management practices are likely to impact on conservation values of indigenous flora and fauna, that the developed guidelines are followed such that key species and habitats are protected whilst minimising fire hazard.	BMC, DCC, FPO, EO	High	Bushland Management work with the CFA to develop fire regime management plans, including follow up maintenance. Fire management and fuel reduction reviews are continually assessed on Council reserves. Slashing guidelines have also been developed for the Parks department.
1.3d 	Ensure that the vegetation protection guidelines and other relevant information are provided to planning permit applicants wherever protected vegetation may be affected by a development.	MDS, EO	High	This is detailed in the Development Planning Procedure Manual, which must be followed by all planning staff. DSE has also produced a publication for planning permit applicants on Native Vegetation, which is available from Council.
1.3e 	Strictly enforce planning controls for the retention of native and other significant vegetation.	MDS, CP, PEO	High	This action is ongoing, with the issue of Planning Infringement Notices and prosecution of property owners where appropriate.

Key Action 1.4 Develop and implement programs to control the impact of introduced plants and animals on indigenous flora and fauna

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
1.4a 	Implement the Banyule Weed Management Strategy for the entire municipality in co-operation with landholders and relevant agencies	MPG, BMC, HSC, DCC, EO, EC, PMC, LCO, DCC	High	The Strategy was adopted by Council in 2005-06.
1.4b 	Liaise with relevant public authorities such as Melbourne Water, VicRoads and VicRail to encourage the removal of environmental weeds from land under their control	MPB, BMC, DCC, EO, MW, VR, VRI	Mod.	There is ongoing consultation with relevant authorities in regard to control of weeds spreading from private land to Council managed land.
1.4c 	Protect significant habitat by targeting potentially invasive weeds for removal from surrounding areas and encouraging the cooperation of adjoining landholders in their control.	BMC, DCC, LCO	Mod.	The Bushland management unit continues to work with Melbourne Water and VicTrack regarding weed removal near significant habitat.
1.4d 	Encourage the whole community to be involved in the eradication of environmental weeds through information and incentives	EC, EO, BMC, DCC, LCO	Mod.	Friends groups are encouraged under supervision to be involved in weeding days / sessions in their designated sites. Information and plant give-aways are provided at Council festivals and promoted via Council's website.
1.4e 	Encourage the formation of landcare and friends groups in suitable areas of the municipality	EO, BMC, DCC, LCO	High	The Bushland Management unit continues to support new friends groups.
1.4f 	Reassess "No-Go" areas for dogs in Banyule Flats to ensure appropriate protection of wildlife in this area of State faunal significance.	EC	Mod.	This action is ongoing but no significant progress has been made this year.
1.4g 	Pursue co-operative efforts with Parks Victoria and private landowners to protect native wildlife and flora from the negative impacts caused by introduced animals.	EO, LCO, BMC, DCC	Mod.	Cooperative rabbit control programs between Council, landowners and Parks Victoria are conducted in the Lower Plenty area.

Key Action 1.5 Ensure management of flora and fauna is up to date and informed by research

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
1.5a ☺	Undertake and encourage further research on the management of indigenous flora and fauna and threats to their survival.	EC	Mod.	Ongoing research on key species is occurring including Eltham Copper Butterfly and Powerful Owl. University projects are encouraged and supported by Council.
1.5b ☑	Constantly monitor improvements in bushland rehabilitation techniques, incorporate them into Council work practices, and pass on such information to the community.	BMC, DCC, LCO, EO	Mod.	Bushland Management unit undertake industry related training to keep up with new revegetation and land management techniques and such knowledge is passed on to friends groups. Banyule Friends groups also share information with the Bushland Management unit and general environment networks.

2 ENHANCING HABITAT

Policy aim

- **to enhance Banyule's natural environment as habitat for indigenous wildlife and provide for its ecological sustainability**

Indicator *The area of high quality habitat for indigenous wildlife*



Aim An increase in the area of high quality habitat for indigenous wildlife

Measurement Utilizing the Council's GIS system, map areas of indigenous vegetation, graded according to its intactness and constantly update the maps as works are undertaken.




Key action 2.1 Implement programs for the rehabilitation and enhancement of degraded natural habitats

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
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No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
2.1a ☺	Continue to develop revegetation and habitat restoration programs cooperatively involving agencies and the community	BMC, DCC, LCO, EC	High	<p>2007 projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reedy Billabong restoration project, Bailey Billabong restoration project (Friends of Wilson reserve, Melbourne Water) • Banyule Swamp habitat link Warringal embankment project (Warringal Conservation Society) • Rosanna Parklands landscaping project (Friends of Salt Creek) • Corridors of Green Plenty River stage 6 (Friends of the Plenty River, Melbourne Water) • Yandell reserve recovery project (Urban Bushcare, Greening Australia Funding) • Beverley Road wetland project • Streeton Primary revegetation program, Plenty River • Montmorency secondary Project Plenty river • Powernet site infill planting 2006 Plenty river Yallambie Park • Ivanhoe Boys Grammar planting project Wilson Reserve • Friends of the Darebin Creek revegetation project, Darebin Creek • Boulevard ephemeral wetland project, Wilson Reserve • Darebin Creek Maintenance infill plantings

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
2.1b 	Maintain detailed records of habitat rehabilitation and weed eradication works, so that the most effective methods can be identified and utilised in similar situations elsewhere.	BMC, DCC, LCO,	Mod.	This is ongoing. Detailed records are maintained for habitat rehabilitation works.
2.1c 	Utilizing the Council's GIS system, map areas of indigenous vegetation, graded according to its intactness, and constantly update the maps as works are undertaken.	EC, BMC, DCC	Mod.	Bushland Management has been working with Council's Land Information Coordinator to map weed management areas. Mapping of indigenous vegetation is expected to begin in the next financial year.

Key action 2.2 Implement programs for the restoration and enhancement of strategic wildlife corridors linking areas of natural habitat

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
2.2a 	Maintain funding of the Wildlife Corridor Program and seek continuing external funding from the NHT and other funding bodies	C, EX, LCO, EC	High	This is ongoing.
2.2b 	Encourage the involvement of local businesses and the community in the Wildlife Corridor Program	LCO, EC	High	No opportunities this year.
2.2c 	Continue to re-establish wildlife corridors on Council land	BMC, DCC, TCC	High	See Part 1 of the State of the Environment Report 2007 for a report on the Wildlife Corridor Program.




Key action 2.3 Pursue procedures and incentives for the retention and enhancement of remnant habitat on private and public land

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
2.3a 	Minimise alterations in drainage within areas supporting natural vegetation.	MDS, ESC, BO, DCS, MPI, CCC, BS, CS, PMC	High	This action is ongoing but progress no has been made this year.
2.3b	Develop guidelines and controls for the minimisation	MDS, EC, SPC	High	Guidelines and controls are outlined in Council's

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
☑	of soil disturbance, relocation of soil and the retention of topsoil in areas supporting indigenous vegetation			Building Site Code of Practice.
2.3c ☺	Wherever practical, promote the retention of habitat trees whether dead or alive, and prepare a brochure to support this.	MSE, MDS, LCO, EC	Mod.	Habitat trees are promoted in the soon to be released Sustainable Gardening Booklet.
2.3d ☑	Retain, where practicable, trees with hollows (both dead and living) and a reasonable cover of fallen logs and branches on Council managed bushland, as these provide essential habitat for many native plants and animals.	BMC, DCC,	Mod.	This action is ongoing. The Bushland Management unit leaves stag trees wherever possible.
2.3e ☑	Locate new bicycle and walking tracks away from areas of intact native vegetation, or where it proves necessary to establish tracks in such vegetation do this in a manner that minimises the immediate and ongoing impact.	CSP, BMC, DCC,	Mod.	This is pursued as part of each project's development phase, consistent with the Project Management Guidelines.

Key action 2.4 Identify priorities and implement practices for the re-establishment of depleted habitats

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
2.4a ☑	<p>Increase the number of indigenous species available for planting by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> collecting seed and cuttings and propagating a greater number of species advising local nurseries that Council will be seeking increasing numbers of given species, and promoting the use of these species through the Wildlife Corridor Program and other community-oriented programs, and through publications. 	<p>BMC, DCC, NS BMC, DCC</p> <p>BMC, DCC LCO</p> <p>LCO</p>	<p>Mod.</p> <p>Mod.</p> <p>Mod.</p>	The local nurseries around Banyule collect seeds on Council's behalf.

2.4b 	Investigate opportunities for expansion of the council nursery's production of indigenous plants and trees for Council use and for sale to the public.	MPG, TCC	Mod.	Indigenous trees are grown from provenance tube stock for park tree planting in parks by Tree Care, supply of trees to Bushland and Wildlife Corridor plantings.
2.4c 	Utilise the Banyule Vegetation Community Map to identify the vegetation community appropriate to a given location and utilise or encourage the use of an increasingly diverse range of the species appropriate to that community.	BMC, DCC LCO, CP	Mod	The vegetation community map and booklet is now an indispensable tool for the Bushland Management Unit. The map is given to residents at festivals and is available at all service centres.
2.4d 	Identify the most poorly represented vegetation communities within Banyule and re-establish them at appropriate locations whenever there is an opportunity.	BMC, DCC LCO, HSC, TCC	High	These were identified in "The Vegetation Communities of Banyule 2000".

3 WATERWAYS AND WETLANDS

Policy aim


- to recognise the value of waterways and wetlands as major assets of Banyule's environment and to protect and enhance their natural amenity

Indicator The area of high quality waterways and wetlands


Aim An increase in the area of high quality waterways and wetlands

Measurement Utilising the Council's GIS system, map areas of waterways and wetlands, graded according to their intactness, and constantly update the maps as works are undertaken.

Key action 3.1 Implement, and monitor the effectiveness of, planning procedures which protect and enhance the natural values and amenity of streamside environments and provide a buffer to the built environment






No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
3.1a 	Continue to implement and monitor the effectiveness of planning procedures which protect and enhance the natural values and amenity of streamside environments and provide a buffer to the built environment	MDS, CP, EC	High	Completed as required.

Key action 3.2 Develop trails and interpretive signage which improve accessibility and understanding of the values of waterways and wetlands

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
3.2a 	Extend interpretive signage to other significant reserves.	BMC, DCC, CSPU,	Mod.	This is dependent on funding from the NW&S budget.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007

Key action 3.3 Develop and implement programs for the control of erosion, removal of weeds and re-establishment of the indigenous vegetation of waterways and wetlands


No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
3.3a 	Continue programs for the re-establishment of indigenous vegetation along waterways.	BMC, DCC, LCO, MW	High	This is a continuous process. With the help of community groups works have been undertaken on the Plenty and Yarra Rivers, Darebin Creek and Salt Creek over the last year.
3.3b 	Continue programs for the removal of existing environmental weeds along waterways and controlling their spread.	BMC, DCC, LCO, MW	High	This is an ongoing program for the Bushland Management Unit at priority sites throughout Banyule. Advice is also provided to residents on environmental weed identification and removal by the Land Care Officer and bush crew.
3.3c 	Maintain past vegetation rehabilitation works.	BMC, DCC, LCO, HSC	High	This is an ongoing program for the Bushland Management Unit.
3.3d 	Seek the cooperation and involvement of private landowners, DSE, Parks Victoria and Melbourne Water in the development and implementation of a long-term strategy for the weeding and revegetation with indigenous species of degraded areas of the riparian strip of all waterways in Banyule. (See also 1.4a.)	BMC, DCC, EO, LCO MW	High	A continuous long term relationship has been established with Melbourne Water, DSE and Parks Victoria.
3.3e 	Continue support of the Waterwatch program	C, EX, EO, BMC, DCC, WC	High	See Part 1 of the State of the Environment Report 2006 for more information on the Waterwatch program.
3.3f	Implement the Darebin Creek and Lower Plenty	BMC, DCC,	High	Ongoing implementation of management

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	River Concept Plans, the Darebin Creek and Plenty River Waterway Management Plans, the Stormwater Quality Management Plan and the Yarra River Action Plan.	EC, IAC		Plans.
3.3g <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Monitor waterways for problems with erosion and contact Melbourne Water for remedial action	BMC, DCC, MW	High	Salt creek has been identified for rehabilitation by Melbourne water in the financial year 2006/07 due to the degradation and slumping occurring along the riparian zones.

Key action 3.4 Create and take opportunities to improve the environmental values and continuity of reserves and trails along waterways

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
3.4a <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Continue to liaise with neighbouring municipalities and Parks Victoria to encourage the establishment of complementary natural parklands along both banks of the waterway boundaries, and to ensure that there is consistency of management and Planning Scheme controls for those parklands.	BMC, CSP, MSE, SPC, EC	Mod.	This is an ongoing action.
3.4b <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Continue to provide pedestrian and cyclist links to the abutting suburbs and the Yarra River pathway system consistent with the Banyule Bicycle Statement.	CSP, BMC	Mod.	This year the focus was linking the Plenty River Trail through the Heidelberg Golf Course. We are currently constructing Stage 2 of Darebin Trail. The focus for 07/08 will be the Main Yarra Trail at Burke Road North.

Key action 3.5 Create and take opportunities for the establishment of wetlands for the improvement of water quality and as habitat for wildlife

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
3.5a 	Continue to pursue the development and maintenance of wetlands and retarding ponds for the control and treatment of stormwater. (See Drainage policy and Storm water Management Plan.)	BMC, DCC, EC, AMC	High	This is an ongoing process and funding will be sought at every opportunity.

4 PARKS AND RESERVES

Policy aim

- to manage Banyule's parks and reserves as major assets of our community and for the benefit of our natural environment

Indicator *The area of high quality habitat for indigenous wildlife*

Aim An increase in the area of high quality habitat for indigenous wildlife

Measurement Utilising the Council's GIS system, map areas of indigenous vegetation, graded according to its intactness, and constantly update the maps as works are undertaken.

Indicators *Community appreciation of parks and reserves*




% of residents happy with Council management of natural habitat

% of residents happy with the recreational qualities of Council Parks and reserves


Aim Improvement in the community appreciation of parks and reserves

Measurement Conduct community surveys to gauge community attitudes to the condition and management of key environmental reserves.


Key action 4.1 Develop and implement management plans for the protection and enhancement of natural values within parks and reserves and integration with recreational uses

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
4.1a 	Progressively develop management plans for the key reserves supporting indigenous flora, fauna or habitats, determining priorities for their development according to threats to environmental values (plans to include impacts from surrounding areas, impacts of recreational use and the re-establishment of habitat and habitat links for indigenous flora and fauna).	BMC, EC, CSP	High	St Helena Bushland Reserve Management Plan is done. Undergoing final edits.
4.1b 	Review existing management plans to ensure that they are still relevant.	BMC, DCC, EO, CSP	Mod.	This is an ongoing action.
4.1c 	Conduct community surveys to gauge community attitudes to the condition and management of environmental reserves.	EC	High	An additional question on environmental management has been added to the State Government Community Satisfaction Survey. The result for Sustainability and the Environment category was 68%.

Key action 4.2 Develop and implement management practices which ensure the ecological sustainability of indigenous vegetation and natural habitat within parks and reserves



No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
4.2a 	Continue to develop and implement management practices which ensure the ecological sustainability of indigenous vegetation and natural habitat within parks and reserves.	MPB, BMC, DCC, EO, CSPU	High	This is achieved through reserve ecological management plans.

Key action 4.3 Implement the policy against the planting of environmental weed species within parks and reserves, as an example to the community



No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
4.3a 	Ensure that the policy against the planting of environmental weed species within parks and	MPB, HSC, BMC, DCC,	High	The Weed Management strategy has included a review of the environmental weeds of Banyule. Updates on


No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
	reserves is implemented and that updates on environmental weeds provided by DSE or DPI included in the policy.	EO, CSPU		environmental weeds are monitored by Environmental Planning.

Key action 4.4 Ensure staff and contractors operating within parks and reserves are aware of environmental management issues and appropriately trained in management of the natural environment

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
4.4a 	Develop guidelines outlining requirements for environmental management and the appropriate level of skills and qualifications required for inclusion as specifications in tender documents	EO, BMC, BSOC	High	All contracts are currently being reviewed for consistency with Council's Environmental Management System.
4.4b 	Provide site specific information to contractors on requirements for the protection of indigenous flora and fauna	EC, BMC	High	This is achieved through the use of standard conditions, with particular attention paid to sites of identified significance.

Key action 4.5 Create and take opportunities for the establishment and designation of new reserves for the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and for the linking or extension of existing reserves

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
4.5a 	Include habitat links and other significant habitat in reserves wherever possible, through public open space allocations, acquisition, land swaps or other arrangements	EC, CSP, BMC	Mod.	No additional areas have been identified this year.
4.5b 	Develop and implement a system for the designation of areas of public land supporting significant indigenous flora and fauna or substantial remnants as Flora and Fauna Reserves (or equivalent) and ensure the priority for their management is for the protection and enhancement of their environmental values	EC	High	This has been completed.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
4.5c 	Pursue the protection of significant habitat on private land including possible acquisition by Council where a site is particularly important to conservation.	EC	Mod.	No such habitat was identified this year.

5 LANDSCAPE AMENITY

Policy aim


- **to recognise the contribution of vegetation cover to Banyule's environment and to protect and enhance the amenity of our diverse landscape values**




Indicator Percentage cover of vegetation.

Aim No net loss of vegetation across the City


Measurement The cover of vegetation will be determined by analysis of aerial photographs in combination with Council's recently initiated geographic information system (GIS).

Key action 5.1 Identify the landscape values of particular areas and adopt planting policies which reflect and enhance their character while being mindful of the preference for indigenous species on biodiversity and resource conservation grounds.


No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
5.1a 	Implement recommendations for the protection and enhancement of areas of landscape significance as identified in the Heritage Places Study, the Neighbourhood Character Strategy, Significant Tree and Vegetation Study, Street Tree Strategy and Wildlife Corridor Program Report.	MDS, MPB, SPC, BMC, DCC, TCC, HSC, EO	High	Planning protection has been applied as appropriate for all documents except the Street Tree Strategy which still needs further consideration.
5.1b	Adjust planting regimes to reflect the	MPB, BMC,	High	This is pursued.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
	recommendations in the above strategies or studies, while being mindful of the preference for indigenous species on biodiversity and resource conservation grounds.	DCC, TCC, HSC		
5.1c 	Develop management plans for any areas of landscape significance where it becomes apparent that there is a conflict between different Council policies.	BMC, DCC, EC, HC	Mod.	The known conflicts have been addressed.
5.1d 	Investigate and implement an effective monitoring program to assess the vegetation cover of the City.	EC	High	Initial bushland reserves have been selected for monitoring. Methodology for monitoring is being finalised.
5.1e ⇒	Investigate the implementation of planning controls that will prevent any further deterioration of the natural River Red Gum Woodland landscape quality of the Lower Plenty area by the extensive planting of rows of tall exotic trees.	MES, MDS, EC	High	No practical solution at this stage.




Key action 5.2 Develop and implement procedures for the assessment of proposed developments on vegetation and landscape amenity and ensure compensation for any loss of vegetation

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
5.2a 	Continue to assess the impact of proposed developments on vegetation and landscape amenity and ensure compensation for any loss of vegetation.	MDS, CP, EC, HC, PEO	High	This is ongoing. In keeping with State Government legislation, vegetation protection measures, including Net Gain Assessments are required for all planning permits.



Key action 5.3 Identify and provide appropriate protection for vegetation of environment, heritage or landscape significance on public and private land

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
5.3a 	Pursue amendments to the Planning Scheme to provide protection to any newly identified sites of significance.	SPC, EC	Mod.	No sites identified this year.

Key action 5.4 Develop and implement programs for the enhancement of streetscapes and parks with vegetation and for the appropriate replacement of vegetation lost or removed

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
5.4a 	Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy.	TCC, HSC	High	This is an ongoing core activity within the Tree Care Management unit.
5.4b 	Continue to revegetate parks.	MPG, BMC, DCC,	High	This is an ongoing core activity within the Bushland Management unit.
5.4c 	Take the opportunity to utilise indigenous species wherever appropriate and practicable.	MPG, TCC, HSC	High	This is normal procedure.
5.4d ⇒	Develop a combined strategy for street and park trees.	MPG, EC, TCC, BMC, HSC	High	Further work required to fully meet this objective.

Key action 5.5 Develop and implement programs for the undergrounding of overhead cables to minimise impacts on landscape amenity in accordance with Council's Undergrounding of Aerial Cable Policy




No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
5.5a 	Provide, where a planning permit is required, the set of standard conditions that require the supply of electricity to a development via underground means.	MDS	Mod.	Completed.
5.5b 	Encourage and support the undergrounding of existing power lines and other aerial cables wherever practicable.	DCD, MDS	Mod.	This action is ongoing but no progress has been made this year.

6 HERITAGE STRUCTURES AND SITES



Policy aim


- to recognise and encourage links between Banyule's heritage and the environment

Key action 6.1 Identify the values of heritage places and their association with our environment



No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
6.1a 	Complete the implementation of the adopted recommendations of the Heritage Places Study	SPC	High	Implementation complete.
6.1b 	Establish a procedure for the assessment of potential heritage places and pursue amendments to the Planning Scheme to provide protection to any newly identified heritage structures and sites.	SPC	Mod.	No action as yet.
6.1c 	Develop guidelines for the protection of heritage areas.	SPC, MDS	Mod.	Completed.

Key action 6.2 Develop and implement procedures for the assessment of proposed developments on the values of heritage places and to provide for their protection

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
6.2a 	Ensure appropriate conservation management of Council owned heritage places.	MPB, MDS	Mod,	Pursued as required.
6.2b 	Continue to assess the impact of proposed developments on the values of heritage places utilizing an experienced heritage consultant.	MDS, PL, HC	High	Implemented.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
6.2c 	Undertake a review of heritage places in Banyule every 5 years.	SPC	High	Scheduled for 2009

Key action 6.3 Encourage development in keeping with the values of heritage places and created and take opportunities for their enhancement as features of our environment

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
6.3a 	Develop incentive programs that will encourage the protection and enhancement of the values of identified heritage places.	SPC	High	Not funded.
6.3b 	Investigate further opportunities for the promotion of identified heritage places.	CSC, CC, SPC	Mod.	This is done through Spring Outdoors guided walks program.

7 BUILDING DESIGN AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Policy aim

- to encourage development within Banyule sympathetic with our environment and consistent with the needs of our community**

Key action 7.1 Identify areas appropriate for different types of development in accordance with the efficient use of infrastructure and community needs, while minimising impacts on environmental values


No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
7.1a	Continue to evaluate the effectiveness of the	SPC, MDS,	Mod.	This is done in as required.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
😊	Planning Scheme zones and overlays in achieving appropriate development.	MSE,		



Key action 7.2 Encourage the design of buildings and layout of development in a manner which will protect and enhance our environmental amenity, provide buffers to environmentally sensitive areas and promote the efficient use of resources

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
7.2a 😊	Develop Landscaping Guidelines and make them available to the community.	CP, EC	Mod.	This action is ongoing.
7.2b 😊	Develop additional guidelines, as the need becomes apparent, and regularly update existing guidelines, as new information becomes available.	MDS	Mod.	Guidelines are available and are regularly updated.
7.2c 😊	Stock and regularly update pamphlets on energy efficient building design and layout and on energy efficient appliances.	CSS, EO, BS	Mod.	Brochures supplied by Building and displayed as space permits.
7.2d 😊	Develop comprehensive guidelines and controls for subdivision design to minimise impacts on the environment and heritage to include: inclusion of areas of environment and heritage significance in reserves, provision of road interfaces to reserve boundaries, native vegetation retention requirements, requirements for minimal site works/soil relocation, provision of services, visual impacts and effluent disposal.	CP, EC, SPC	High	Implemented.

Key action 7.3 Encourage and implement programs for the development of infrastructure that will assist in protecting and enhancing our environment

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
7.3a 	Encourage and implement programs for the development of infrastructure that will assist in protecting and enhancing our environment, including bicycle and walking paths, public transport infrastructure, and the like.	EC	Mod	This is done via the Council Project Management Guidelines

Key action 7.4 Develop and implement programs to maintain and enhance the local character of strip shopping centres and improve the amenity of other commercial and industrial areas


No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
7.4a 	Continue to implement actions in shopping centre business plans to improve facilities and streetscapes.	MSE, EDP	High	This action is ongoing.
7.4b 	Undertake a study to identify how the amenity of industrial areas may be improved.	MSE, EDP	Mod.	Study not funded



8 PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Policy aim



- **to plan for the future sustainability of Banyule's environment**

Key action 8.1 Undertake and encourage research into the social and technological requirements for the future sustainability of our environment


No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
8.1a 	Continue to be involved with research into the social and technological requirements for the future	EC	High	The Environmental Coordinator is currently on the Victorian Local Sustainability Committee that is developing a Local

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
	sustainability of our environment			Sustainability Accord that will seek partnership between State and local governments and regional bodies to achieve greater efficiency in the delivery of sustainability on the ground.
8.1b 	Continue to integrate the principles of Local Agenda 21 and other outcomes of Earth Summits into Council's policies and operations.	EC, EX	High	This in an ongoing aspect of policy development.
8.1c 	Constantly monitor research and developments in environmentally and socially sound products and services and as appropriate incorporate them into Council policies, guidelines and practices.	EC, PO, RCC, WEC, MC, MO, MPB, EX	High	This was achieved through networking, incoming email and hard copy newsletters relevant to such products and services. This was also achieved by the attendance at green purchasing exhibitions by EnviroReps and other key purchasing staff.

Key action 8.2 Develop and implement planning policies and controls which provide for and promote the future sustainability of our environment

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
8.2a 	Continue to implement current planning policies and controls and modify them as new information on sustainable development comes to hand	MDS, CP, SPC, EC	High	Completed as required.
8.2b 	Develop a Sustainability Policy and incorporate it into the Banyule Planning Scheme.	SPC, EC, EX	High	Being developed in conjunction with the review of the Environment Strategy, the development of the Sustainability Framework and the Priority Statement for the Sustainability Accord.

Key action 8.3 Develop a Sustainability Framework

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
8.3a 	Develop a Sustainability Framework for the effective integration into Council practices of the	EC, EX	High	Being developed in conjunction with the Sustainability Accord Priority Statement and the review of the Environment

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
	environmental, social, cultural and economic aspects of sustainability			Strategy which is due in 2008.

9 CONSERVING RESOURCES

Policy aim

- to encourage the efficient and sustainable use of resources within Banyule

Indicator Annual energy utilisation by Council

Aim Reduction in energy utilisation by Council


Measurement Monitor council's energy and water consumption.

Indicator Annual water consumption by Council

Aim Reduction in water consumption by Council

Measurement (as above)


Key action 9.1 Develop and implement programs which promote a reduction in the amount of resources utilised, the efficient and sustainable use of the resources that are used and the use of alternatives to non-renewable resources

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
9.1a 	Implement the following Council documents, monitor their implementation and review them on a regular basis. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenhouse Action Strategy • Environmental Purchasing Guidelines • Waste Minimisation Strategy • Sustainable Building Checklist 	All of Council EX, GO, CRO, MPB, BMSC, PO, MO, EO	High	This action is ongoing. Greenhouse gas emissions from Council's own operations have been reduced by 8% since 1996.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
9.1b 😊	Continue to make available promotional literature on energy, water and resource conservation.	CSC, EO	Mod.	This literature is regularly updated. The Sustainable Gardening booklet is almost complete.
9.1c 😊	Continue to encourage the planting of gardens with indigenous plants for water conservation purposes.	HSC, BMC, DCC, LCO, EO, CP,	Mod.	Promotion of indigenous plants through the Wildlife Corridor Program, including subsidised supply to residents and free plants to schools.
9.1d 😊	Continue to promote and implement energy efficient design standards and guidelines for new subdivisions, new houses and renovations.	MDS, CP, BS	Mod.	This action is ongoing but progress has been made this year.
9.1e 😊	Develop and implement a Water Conservation Strategy in conjunction with membership of the Water Campaign.	EC	High	Water Conservation Strategy completed. Implementation is fully underway with retrofits of buildings greatly advanced.
9.1f 😊	Monitor Council's energy and water consumption.	DCorS, RCO	High	Ongoing. -See section on Resources, Waste and Pollution in Part 1.
9.1g 😊	Investigate the opportunity for developing alternative energy generation within the Banyule area.	RCO, EC	Mod	Investigating use of cogeneration in GPAC project.
9.1h 😊	Regularly review Council's office procedures to ensure widest possible application of environmentally sound products and practices, including recycled and reusable products	EX, EO, PC, MBI	Mod.	This is done via Council's Environmental Management System.
9.1i 😊	Pursue avenues in conjunction with the MAV to encourage power companies to utilise the most efficient lighting technology.	DCD, DCS, EO, RCO	High	There is ongoing preparation for a major changeover to the most efficient lighting technology through the Sustainable Public Lighting Action Program run in conjunction with the Northern Alliance on Greenhouse Action.

Key action 9.2 Encourage and support the development and use of energy and water efficient products and technologies

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
9.2a	Continue to encourage and support the development	GO, EO, WC	Mod	Program to encourage the use of sustainable products and

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
	and use of energy and water efficient products and technologies by the provision of a) information at service centres b) seminars for schools, community and business c) incentives d) targeted programs to deal with problem areas etc			technologies include the Sustainable Homes Program, the Waste Education Program and the Vic1000 business program.

10 MINIMISING WASTE

Policy aim



- **to prevent the unnecessary production of waste within Banyule**



Indicator Quantity of non-recyclable waste.

Aim Reduction in the production of non-recyclable waste


Measurement Continue to monitor and assess Council's waste production and recycling programs.

Key action 10.1 Provide waste collection services which encourage the separation of recyclable and re-usable waste and provide incentives for minimising the amount of waste produced

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
10.1a 	Implement the revised Waste Minimisation and Management Strategy.	WEC RCC	High	Strategy implemented. All actions in progress and on time.
10.1b 	Continue to encourage community participation in waste minimisation and recycling activities.	RCC, WEC	High	There is continued delivery of the Rethink program and continuous improvement of program content. The in-school waste education program continues.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
10.1c 	Continue to develop and promote programs for the collection and composting of green-waste.	DCS, MO, WEC	High	Done via Sustainable Gardens program.
10.1d 	Continue to monitor and assess Council's waste production and recycling programs.	MO, RCC, WEC,	High	Council is applied to become Waste Wise accredited.

Key action 10.2 Encourage and support the development of technologies and industries for the re-use and recycling of waste

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
10.2a 	Continue to encourage and support the development of technologies and industries for the re-use and recycling of waste.	DCS, MO, WEC	High	Detox centre at Waste Recovery Centre is now open to residents to dispose of car batteries, paint and fluorescent light tubes.

II CONTROLLING POLLUTION

Policy aim




- **to minimise the impacts of pollution on Banyule's environment**

Indicator *Number and intensity of pollution events*
Aim Reduction in number and intensity of pollution events
Measurement Maintain records of pollution events.



Indicator *Air pollution levels.*
Aim Reduction in air pollution levels



Measurement Continue involvement in the Environmental Indicators for Metropolitan Melbourne project and utilise data to monitor air pollution levels amongst other indicators.

Key action 11.1 Develop and implement policies and controls for preventing air, noise, water, light and visual pollution





No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
11.1a 	Investigate the need for further policies and controls to prevent air, land, noise, water and visual pollution.	EHO, EC, MO, MDS	Mod.	The Environmental Legislative Matrix has been developed to identify responsibilities and current status in terms of compliance with legislation for each service unit at Council.
11.1b 	Support the implementation of actions in Waterway Management Action Plans and the Stormwater Quality Management Plan that address problems with pollution.	EX, DCC, BMC, EC, IAC, EDP	High	Extensive implementation of plans.
11.1c 	Pursue a reduction in the amount of light pollution by appropriate baffling of public lighting and through the development and application of appropriate planning controls.	EC, GO, SPC, MC	High	Being pursued with the Leisure and Culture unit.

Key action 11.2 Develop and implement procedures to identify and assess the threats of pollution to our environment, for the reporting of pollution and for the rehabilitation of polluted sites

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
11.2a 	Co-operate with the EPA in the identification of pollution threats and events, and in the pursuit of measures to reduce the risk to people and the environment.	EHO, EPA	High	Work is undertaken with the EPA in response pollution events.
11.2b 	In co-operation with the EPA, target industrial areas with an education campaign on the handling and disposal of hazardous chemicals and on the heavy penalties for pollution of the environment.	EHO, EO, EPA	Mod.	No action as yet.
11.2c	Maintain records of pollution events.	EHO	High	Records of all pollution events are now maintained on

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
				Council's CMR9 customer request tracking system. This is however primarily done via the EPA.
11.2d 	Continue involvement in the Environmental Indicators for Metropolitan Melbourne project and utilise data to monitor air pollution levels amongst other indicators.	EO	High	This is ongoing. The review of the publication is still underway.

Key action 11.3 Encourage and promote alternatives to reliance on the use of private cars for transport by creating and taking opportunities for the enhancement of public transport, trail networks and infrastructure

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
11.3a 	In conjunction with VicRoads, prepare master plans for transport corridors that consider both the traffic flows and its effects on adjacent land use.	ESC, SPC, VR	Mod.	This is part of the process for Banyule's Integrated Transport Strategy.
11.3b 	Monitor and review the City's traffic management practices (to reduce vehicle greenhouse gas emissions) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> designated speed limitations signal coordination alteration to design and road surface to achieve improved energy conservation and reduced greenhouse impact. 	ESC	High	Council's traffic management practices are constantly under review to ensure smooth operation of the road system.
11.3c 	Consult with relevant organisations such as VicRoads and other Councils to develop long-term strategies to lessen the environmental impact of vehicle use.	MDS, ESC, EO, VR	High	TravelSmart project completed.
11.3d 	Continue to implement and to extend Local Area Traffic Management Programs, and in particular those incorporating traffic calming techniques.	MDS, ESC	Mod.	Funding is successfully pushed for each year on Council's NW&S Budget for LATM Projects with the aim of modifying driver behaviour in residential streets.
11.3e	Support and assist relevant authorities to provide a	MSE, DCD,	High	Council has led, through the Metropolitan Transport Forum,


No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
☺	transport network that adequately services all parts of the City.	MDS,		the establishment of a project to develop a public transport plan for Melbourne's north-east in response to the State Government's Meeting Our Transport Challenges statement.

Key action 11.4 Ensure the implementation of the Environmental Purchasing Guidelines achieves the use of environmentally friendly products and technologies which minimise pollution in preference to those which potentially create pollution.




No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
11.4a ☑	Ensure the implementation of the Environmental Purchasing Guidelines achieves the use of environmentally friendly products and technologies which minimise pollution in preference to those which potentially create pollution.	PO, EC	High	Training undertaken. Information on Ecobuy available to all staff on Banyule Central. More promotion still required as acquisition of green products is still inadequate.
11.4b ☑	Undertake an environmental audit of Council's use of products and technologies.	PO, EC	High	Advice on preferred products is provided to relevant areas and the sources of this information are promoted. This has lead to a steady expansion of the use of preferred products and the need for a full audit is therefore reduced.
11.4c ☑	Ensure that products and technologies used by contractors are environmentally friendly.	EX, BSOC, EC	Mod.	This is requested through Contractor JSEAs.

Key action 11.5 Develop and implement programs to prevent litter and sediment from entering our waterways and from degrading our environment in general


No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
11.5a ☹	Implement the Litter Strategy component of the Waste Minimisation Strategy and litter controlling aspects of the Stormwater Quality Management Plan.	MO, WEC, AMC	Mod.	Reviewing litter control measures in conjunction with Parks.
11.5b ☑	Develop formal controls requiring the installation of litter traps and minimisation of sediment input into waterways when creating major new subdivisions, both greenfields and infill.	MDS	High	The Building Site Code of Practice has been adopted and information brochures have been developed and distributed.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
11.5c 	Continue to support the Clean-up Australia Campaign by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting national clean-up days • pursuing local community involvement in the program • providing assistance with rubbish disposal. 	BMC, WEC, DCC, CC	Mod.	2007 clean up Australia day sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosanna parklands • Wilson reserve • Darebin Creek • Greensborough Park • Warringal Parklands

Key action 11.6 Encourage and support programs for the safe disposal and collection of hazardous materials

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
11.6a 	Support and promote the continued collection of household chemicals by EcoRecycle Victoria.	MO, CC	High	This action is ongoing. These services are often advertised via Council's environment newsletter, Greenwrap.
11.6b 	Cooperate with the EPA and Melbourne Water to provide information on the safe storage and disposal of hazardous household chemicals and waste.	EHO, CC, EPA, MW	Mod.	Information from the EPA on hazardous chemical collection days is provided at service centers and on Banyule's website through a link to EcoRecycle website.
11.6c 	Ensure that the disposal of waste is carried out in such a manner as to minimise any adverse impact on the environment and particularly on the quality of water.	DCS, EHO, MPB, MC, MO	High	Staff regularly attend relevant training sessions, such as asbestos management training. Waste disposal is identified in service unit risk analyses.

Key action 11.7 Ensure staff and contractors are appropriately trained in the safe handling and use of materials which are potentially hazardous to the environment

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
11.7a 	Continue to ensure staff and contractors are appropriately trained in the safe handling and use of materials which are potentially hazardous to the	SRO, EHO, DCS, MPB, MC, MO	High	Contractors who use hazardous materials identify this in their job safety analysis prior to conducting the job. Material safety data sheets of any hazardous material to be used in the job

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
	environment.			are sent to Risk Management for their approval.

12 PROMOTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

Policy aim

- to increase awareness of the values of Banyule's environment and of requirements for its protection and enhancement

Indicator Community awareness of the values of Banyule's environment and of requirements for its protection and enhancement

Aim Increase in community awareness



Measurement Undertake community surveys to monitor the level of awareness of the values of Banyule's environment and of requirements for its protection and enhancement.

Key action 12.1 Develop and make available up to date information, brochures and publications promoting our environment and how to look after it


No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
12.1a <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Continue to develop and make available at service centres (and on Council's web site) up to date information, brochures and publications promoting our environment and how to look after it.	LCO, CC, EO, BMC, DCC, CSS, WEC, RCC	High	A new Sustainable Gardening booklet is being developed. See the Environment page on www.banyule.vic.gov.au for more environmental information and brochures, or call into Council's customer service centres in Rosanna, Ivanhoe or Greensborough.
12.1b <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Undertake community surveys to monitor the level of awareness of the values of Banyule's environment and of requirements for its protection and enhancement.	CC, EO	High	An additional question on environmental management was added to State Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Banyule.
12.1c <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Continue to promote the values of our environment and relevant issues through the media, the web,	LCO, CC, WEC, EO, BMC, DCC,	High	Events with information sessions and displays included the Spring Outdoors program, Manna Gum Festival and the

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
	the Banner, displays and information sessions.	CSS		Banyule Festival. See Appendix 1 for participant numbers in school and community events.


Key action 12.2 Develop and make available environmental education programs and activities for schools and the community

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
12.2a 	Continue to develop and make available environmental education programs and activities for schools and the community.	LCO, BMC, DCC, EO, WEC, RCC, CC	High	Provided via Wildlife Corridor Program, Waterwatch program, WasteWise program and Rethink Centre. Bushland management unit provides environmental education to schools, friends groups, interested community members through walks / talks, planting days, and spring and summer in the parks program.
12.2b 	Develop an Environmental Education Strategy	EC, CC, LCO, BMC, DCC, WEC, RCC	High	This is progressing and due to be finalized in 2007-08.

Key action 12.3 Develop and install interpretive signage at key locations promoting our environment

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
12.3a 	Extend interpretive signage to additional reserves.	MPB, BMC, DCC	Mod.	No funding.

Key action 12.4 Develop and facilitate tourism opportunities for promoting our environment in a manner which is compatible with protecting and enhancing its amenity

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
12.4a 	Continue to develop and facilitate tourism opportunities for promoting our environment in a manner which is compatible with protecting and enhancing its amenity.	MLRC, CSC, CSPU	Mod.	Cultural Services (with support from other sections of Council) continues to develop programs across Banyule that creates tourism opportunities.

13 SUPPORTING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Policy aim

- to provide support and create opportunities for community involvement in protecting and enhancing Banyule’s environment


Indicator *The number of individuals, schools and groups involved in protecting and enhancing the environment.*

Aim Increase in the number of individuals, schools and groups involved in protecting and enhancing the environment

Measurement Monitor the number of individuals, schools and groups involved in protecting and enhancing the environment.

Key action 13.1 Support the involvement of community groups, schools and volunteers in protecting and enhancing our environment

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
13.1a <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Continue to support the involvement of community groups and volunteers in protecting and enhancing our environment by providing assistance with materials, organisation and promoting activities and by providing opportunities for community involvement in the development of environmental strategies and the resolution of environmental issues.	EO, BMC, DCC, LCO	High	See Part 1 of the SOE report for details of activities and event attendance. Support was provided through the Spring Outdoors program, BEAC and Friends groups.
13.1b <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Monitor the number of individuals, schools and groups involved in protecting and enhancing the environment	EO, BMC, DCC, LCO	High	The database for capturing this information is completed. Data is presented in Part 1.





No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
13.1c 	Continue to develop and provide grants programs and financial incentives encouraging the involvement of community groups, schools and individuals in protecting and enhancing our environment.	EO, LCO, EC	High	See Part 1 for details on grants provided in 2006-07. External grant information and letters of support were also provided to groups.

14 INTEGRATED APPROACH





Policy aim

- to develop and facilitate an integrated approach towards managing Banyule's environment


Key action 14.1 Facilitate and provide opportunities for involvement of the community and other organisations in decision making processes and feedback on the implementation of the environment strategy

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
14.1a 	Maintain the Banyule Environment Advisory Committee and promote its activities.	EX, EO, EC, CC, Comm	High	A new term of membership for the committee started in May 2007 consisting of new and existing members.
14.1b 	Involve community groups in the cooperative planning of environment projects	EO, BMC, DCC, WPCO, CSC	High	This action is implemented.
14.1c 	Provide appropriate opportunity for community debate and consultation in local environmental decision-making.	DCD, MDS, MSE, EO	High	Council host and support environmental forums as required.
14.1d 	Organise an annual Environmental Forum at which local environmental groups and interested individuals can meet, hear of latest developments and provide input to environmental issues.	EO, BMC, DCC, LCO, CSC, WEC, RCC	Mod.	An Environmental Forum was held by the EDO for local environmental groups on native vegetation law and policy.


Key action 14.2 Develop and implement programs for raising the environmental awareness of staff, encouraging their commitment to environmental best practice, and providing appropriate training in environmental management

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
14.2a 	Establish an environmental training program for the education of Council staff, which covers areas of the Environment Strategy relevant to the staff concerned.	EO, GO, EC BMC, DCC, LCO, WEC, RCC	High	Training is incorporated into the Environmental Reps program for Council staff.
14.2b 	Develop council staff education programs on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing the use of non-renewable resources • reducing energy consumption 	EO, GO, PC	High	See previous action.
14.2c 	Provide Construction staff with training on the environmentally sound management of construction sites	MC, EC	High	Construction staff attended an external Environmental Management course for construction sites.
14.2d 	Implement, across the whole organisation, the Integrated Business Management System that combines occupational health and safety, quality assurance and environmental management systems	MBI, EO,	High	Council achieved recertification to the 3 standards in October 2007.

Key action 14.3 Encourage and participate in regional initiatives consistent with the environment strategy as a means of developing an integrated approach to protecting and enhancing our environment and ensuring the efficient use of resources

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
14.3a 	Continue to coordinate with government authorities and adjacent municipalities in the management of natural areas and in general environmental management.	EX, EO, EC BMC, DCC, MO	High	This is ongoing.

Key action 14.4 Consult and liaise with governments and government agencies on the need for and effects of regional, state and national policies and programs relevant to our environment





No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
14.4a 	Continue to consult and liaise with governments on the need for and effects of regional, state and national policies and programs relevant to our environment.	EX, EO, BMC, DCC, MO	High	This is ongoing.

15 MONITORING PROGRESS

Policy aim


- **to monitor the progress of Banyule's environment strategy and be accountable for its implementation**

Key action 15.1 Further develop indicators and other performance measures and identify responsibilities for the implementation of the environment strategy

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
15.1a 	Further refine the indicators for measuring the achievement of Policy Aims.	Responsible Officers and EC	Mod.	Completed as required.
15.1b 	Ensure that actions are incorporated into the business plans, service specifications, IBMS local action plans and annual work programs, as appropriate, for the Council area concerned.	EX, EC, MBI	High	This is being done in a systematic way, as the Best Value Plus program is implemented across Council.
15.1c 	When the position of a responsible officer becomes vacant, review the position description to ensure that the responsibilities assigned to them are appropriately recognised.	EC	High	This is now covered off in all PDs.
15.1d 	Review and modify Council leases to ensure that environmental management of leased buildings	PO	High	Completed as required.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
	and areas is consistent with Council's Environment Strategy, especially as regards the management of vegetation, energy and resource conservation, and waste and litter management.			
15.1e <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that Council tender documents and contracts have conditions or specifications that require that works or services provided are consistent with Council's Environment Policy and Strategy.	EC,BSOC	High	Environmental clauses are included in the Special Clauses section of the tender.

Key action 15.2 Produce an annual State of the Environment Report identifying both achievements and failures in the implementation of the environment strategy, priorities for further action and future financial requirements

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
15.2a 	Produce an annual State of the Environment Report	Responsible Officers and EO, EC	Mod.	This is the said document.

16 REVIEWING THE STRATEGY

Policy aim

- **to review Banyule’s environment strategy in accordance with changes in priorities of our environment and the attitudes of our community**

Key action 16.1 Review the environment strategy on a five yearly basis

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority	Status June 2007
16.1a ⇒	Review the environment strategy on a five-yearly basis to accommodate changes in priorities for protecting and enhancing our environment.	EO, EC, BEAC	Mod.	This is due for review in 2008