

ATTACHMENT B

SUBMISSION AND RESPONSES TABLE

Attachment B – Submissions and Responses on the draft Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan

Supportive Comments

Item	Submission from Community	Response
1	Heartily welcomes the Urban Ecology Strategic Acton Plan. We particularly appreciate its responsiveness to community consultation.	Noted
2	We would like to congratulate the City of Sydney on this comprehensive, well-researched, detailed, integrated and practical plan with its clear objectives, targets and monitoring requirements for the future.	Noted
3	The Plan is welcomed as a guiding document to address the absolute decline in biodiversity in the LGA. I would like to commend the Plan for identifying the terrestrial biodiversity values of the LGA and recognising and valuing these with an exciting vision and logical objectives, measurable targets and appropriate actions.	Noted
4	This is a comprehensive Strategy that I think will play an important role in protecting and enhancing the biodiversity of our City over the coming decades and I am very happy with the majority of its content.	Noted
6	With the current and future works planned for the Glebe-Johnstons Creek Parklands, the actions stated to incorporate habitat enhancement principles into the landscaping are commended. These works are a significant opportunity to ensure best practice habitat creation underpins all landscaping and water sensitive urban design (WSUD) elements.	Noted
7	Very positive and a great step. We foster a variety of frogs, possums etc. Exciting biodiversity project. Please let us know how we can be involved.	Noted
8	The implementation of this Plan will go a long way to establish biodiversity as a key consideration in urban planning and the use and sustainable management of green spaces.	Noted

Weed and Pest Management Comments

Item	Submission from Community	Response
9	Weed control and habitat plantings will be strengthened if partnerships between different land managers can be developed.	<p>The draft Plan acknowledges that public land not managed by the City includes valuable sites near potential habitat linkages. The draft Plan identifies that collaboration with these other land managers is required to maximise effectiveness of the draft Plan, especially in the areas of weed control and establishing habitat plantings.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
10	Council should clear Fountain Grass from land inaccessible to Pymont Ultimo Landcare volunteers.	<p>Fountain Grass has been classified as a noxious weed throughout NSW by the Department of Primary Industries under the <i>Noxious Weed Act 1993</i>. The City will support volunteer groups to assess any difficult removal and control of noxious weeds. This will be carried out on a case by case basis and in consultation with the Urban Ecology Coordinator and the Community Gardens and Volunteer Coordinator.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
11	Council to list common weeds which should be removed, including methods for their removal in a new Appendix 9. This must include Fountain grass and <i>Celtis sinensis</i> . Include an Appendix 9 which lists common weed species	<p>The preparation of a Bush Restoration Management Plan is one of the actions outlined in the draft Plan to ensure that best practice bush regeneration and biodiversity management techniques are incorporated into the management of parks and streetscapes. The Bush Restoration Management Plan will include a list of common weed species, including methods for their removal.</p> <p>The draft Plan will reference the Bush Restoration Management Plan as the document for further information regarding common weed species. A list of common weed species has been prepared for this purpose and includes Fountain grass and <i>Celtis sinensis</i>.</p> <p>Changes to page 169 include point: <i>“The Bush Restoration Management Plan will: Include a list of common weed species which should be removed, including methods for their removal.</i></p>

Item	Submission from Community	Response
12	We have concerns for the ever-expanding <i>Celtis sinensis</i> . Develop strategies for the removal of mature <i>Celtis sinensis</i> trees and their replacement with native trees.	As outlined in the draft Plan, the tree management provisions of the Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 and the City's Urban Forest Strategy will be used to encourage environmental weed trees such as <i>Celtis sinensis</i> to be removed from private property and replaced with suitable alternatives where possible. Part of this program will include community education, to help explain the importance of managing the <i>Celtis sinensis</i> when they are young/small and easier to remove. No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.
13	As the draft proposal from the Department of Primary Industries has now been published with proposals to amend and replace weed declarations under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 including listing <i>Celtis sinensis</i> , we hope the City will, as stated in the Plan, support this proposal.	<i>Celtis sinensis</i> is currently listed as a Class 3 noxious weed under the Noxious Weeds Act 1995. As stated in the Plan, the City will support the NSW Department of Primary Industries declaration of Chinese Hackberry (<i>Celtis sinensis</i>) as a Class 4 noxious weed. No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.

Native Flora Comments

Item	Submission from Community	Response
14	The City should establish a locally indigenous plant production facility as part of the proposed City Farm both as an educational resource and to supply appropriate local natives to public and private land owners.	One of the actions listed (4.2.4 page 94) states that <i>The potential for locally indigenous plant production at Sydney Park will be investigated as part of the proposed City Farm.</i> No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.

Item	Submission from Community	Response
15	<p>The remnant <i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i> in St Johns Churchyard, Glebe has been identified as probably the oldest tree in Glebe. A special community project e.g. for collection and propagation of seed, and/or a project involving the local Aboriginal community should be considered.</p>	<p>The activity of collecting and propagating seed from local trees/shrubs such as the remnant trees in the LGA will be investigated for its feasibility. As stated in the draft Plan and as part of the draft Bush Restoration Management Plan, a specific program for collection and propagation of seed from possible remnants and other naturally occurring vegetation within the LGA for subsequent use in the annual bush restoration and habitat enhancement program will be developed. The local Aboriginal community will be consulted regarding participation.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
16	<p>The council should adopt a policy of only indigenous planting especially of street trees, in parks, and in new buildings.</p>	<p>The Street Tree Master Plan (STMP) focuses on the specific tree species for each street within the City. Comments regarding the choice of street trees have already been considered as part of that community consultation. A number of indigenous street trees have been identified.</p> <p>The draft Plan identifies undertaking trials of additional indigenous street tree species and including in the next review of the City's Street Tree Master Plan.</p> <p>The future works of local indigenous planting in parks and guidelines for new developments such as the Landscape Code and Habitat Creation Principles is identified. Development assessment guidelines will also be prepared to provide guidance on how landscape designs could enhance and support habitat creation (pg 93). It is also important to note that non-native plants also provide habitat for native fauna.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Item	Submission from Community	Response
17	The few remnants of bush must be maintained and cared for. These areas should be expanded. Only native trees, shrubs, and plants should be planted in the surrounds to expand these areas.	The draft Plan outlines how the City will maintain bush restoration sites. A Bush Restoration Management Plan will be prepared to outline best practice bush regeneration and biodiversity management techniques that will be implemented in the maintenance of bush restoration sites and habitat enhancement works. The draft Plan details the requirements of the Bush Restoration Management Plan, which has a strong focus on the maintenance and improvement of naturally occurring vegetation, including possible remnants, and existing and future bush restoration sites. No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.
18	An important issue for Glebe and Forest Lodge bush restoration volunteers is to have the community facility, which was once provided by Rozelle Bay Community Nursery, restored in some capacity.	The Rozelle Bay Community Nursery relocated its activities to Leichhardt Council and is located at White's Creek, Annandale. The City is happy to explore a partnership with the nursery or support them as a supplier of provenance stock for use in the City's bush regeneration activities. The existing site has been identified as an area for community and recreational facilities. No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.

Native Fauna Comments

Item	Submission from Community	Response
19	The approach to common species needs to be adjusted. Including Possums, Rainbow Lorikeets, Australian White Ibis, Pied Currawongs, and Sulphur-crested Cockatoos.	The common species are comparatively of low priority status to the listed priority species/groups identified in the draft Plan. Many of these common species recorded in the baseline surveys have adapted well to urbanisation and are relatively abundant and widespread in the LGA. In contrast, the identified priority species were recorded in small numbers at only a small number of sites, and appear to be scarce in the LGA. Actions focus on creating habitat for priority fauna species such as small birds that were once much more common than present numbers. No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.

Item	Submission from Community	Response
20	Better understorey planting to encourage wildlife.	<p>One of the three main categories that the draft Plan focuses on is fauna, with the objective of protecting and enhancing sites that provide habitat for priority fauna species. The draft Plan acknowledges that areas of structurally complex and diverse understorey habitat will be maximised, particularly at priority sites, supporting sites and along and near potential habitat linkages, using species from the likely original vegetation communities.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
21	Provide better water sources for animals and birds.	<p>There are over 40 existing ponds and water features within the City. Some of these features are treated and not-suitable sources of water for local fauna. Freshwater wetlands, ponds, rain gardens and other frog-friendly water-sensitive urban design features vegetated with appropriate species (as outlined in Appendix 8) will be constructed wherever possible in City-managed parks and streetscapes. The draft Plan also identifies potential areas that will be investigated for constructing ponds e.g. Rosebery, Sydney Park and Orphan School Creek.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
22	Your current focus on bat boxes will only help a few species, and only addresses one part of what bats require, in the form of roosting habitat. A focus on increasing insect densities in the city (as a food source), and maintaining dark corridors (actively creating dark corridors through the city for bat commuting routes) is recommended.	<p>The draft Plan acknowledges that the extent of foraging habitat for microbats needs to be improved and diversified; such as increased understorey planting. It does not state that the reason to do so is to increase the likelihood of greater invertebrate numbers. However, it is acknowledged that more information regarding the status of invertebrates such as insects in the City is required. The draft Plan identifies that an invertebrate baseline survey will be carried out across the LGA.</p> <p>It is recommended that an additional action under microbats on page 111 be included that states: <i>Dark corridors will be investigated in sites that are feasible e.g. Sydney Park and Federal Park, that are also connected with the potential habitat linkages.</i></p>

Item	Submission from Community	Response
23	<p>Would like to see more action re bees to increase flora biodiversity. Information on stingless bee-hives to have in small suburban gardens.</p>	<p>The draft Plan identifies the successful program of delivering native bee hives to community gardens. The City will continue to consider the assistance required for community gardens that request to install a native bee hive. As outlined in the draft Plan, the City will continue to promote biodiversity through the Green Villages program. For example, this may be through either ongoing workshops to increase community awareness of biodiversity, and by including biodiversity-related stories in the Green Villages News monthly e-newsletter.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
24	<p>Depending on plant species selected for the Barangaroo headland park it could serve as an important feeding site for species such as the grey-headed flying fox, and City staff should do all they can to ensure such matters are a high priority in this project.</p>	<p>The City has consulted with the Barangaroo Delivery Authority (BDA) and support the species list of the proposed Barangaroo headland park. The species list identifies a number of trees that would provide foraging resources for the Grey-headed Flying Fox. The City will continue to liaise with the BDA to complement existing works and future plans of the area.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Habitat Corridor/Linkages Comments

Item	Submission from Community	Response
25	Animal corridors of indigenous vegetation should be built, maintained, encouraged movements of animals.	<p>The draft Plan identifies indicative locations of potential habitat linkages in the LGA. It is unlikely that continuous habitat 'corridors' can be created along their full length. However there is considerable potential on public land and through large redevelopments to create 'stepping stones' of habitat along, or in the vicinity of these potential linkages.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
26	<p>The whole site at 2 – 32 Junction Street is worthy of consideration for acquisition by Council. An immediate opportunity exists to extend the Glebe Foreshore corridor linkages to include 2 – 32 Junction Street, Forest Lodge – Orphan School Creek.</p>	<p>The City has no future plans to acquire the privately owned site of 2 – 32 Junction Street.</p> <p>Developing stepping stones of habitat is a priority of the draft Plan. It outlines that a continuous habitat corridor will be established from the Glebe Foreshore Walk East to Orphan School Creek.</p> <p>The development of the Landscape Code with the inclusion of the Habitat Creation Code will also assist in supporting the development of the habitat corridor by recommending landscape features that will assist in conserving the priority species/groups in the draft Plan.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
27	The demonstration habitat garden mentioned is to be created in John Street Reserve, Glebe, we suggest this park could also be listed as a 'supporting site' (as described in Supporting Sites 3.4.7).	<p>Noted. <i>Changes to Appendix 5 pg. 165</i> to include John Street Reserve, Glebe.</p>

Item	Submission from Community	Response
28	<p>Add Larkin Park and the small pocket park in Arundel Street to the draft Plan as supporting sites. The importance of this extension could be that it helps to reduce the gap between the Glebe-Orphan School Creek corridor and the large habitat space found in the University of Sydney.</p>	<p>Noted. <i>Changes to Appendix 5 pg. 165</i> to include Larkin Park, Glebe and the pocket park in Arundel Street, Glebe.</p> <p>Efforts to create stepping stones between City managed parks to allow for easier movement of fauna will be pursued if continuous corridors are not feasible as outlined in the draft Plan. The Landscape Code and Habitat Creation Guides will also provide opportunities for new developments to enhance and support potential habitat linkages.</p>
29	<p>Identifying and mapping the stepping stone and other linkages on-ground (based on the potential linkages identified in the map Figure 15 on pg77) is essential to showing progress towards achieving this Habitat Connectivity objective.</p>	<p>Once the draft Plan is adopted, tools such as the one referred to in this comment will be developed to use as a way to indicate how actions are tracking to develop habitat connectivity/linkages.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Dog Management Comments

Item	Submission from Community	Response
30	<p>Wetlands in Sydney Park could be zoned as no dogs or as leashed areas in order to protect nesting swans and other such birdlife, given that there are other large area of park available for unleashed dogs and their owners.</p>	<p>Plans to fence off the wetlands in Sydney Park are to be completed by November 2014 (except for Wetland 5), to ensure that there are barriers created to reduce dogs entering the wetlands with the aim of protecting and increasing fauna diversity of the area - such as wetland birds.</p> <p>Permanent interpretive signage about responsible dog management will also be installed upon completion of the current works at the wetlands in November 2014.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Item	Submission from Community	Response
31	Implement measures such as prominent signs indicating that dogs should be on leash in restoration sites.	<p>The draft Plan identifies that interpretive strategies will be investigated for City-managed areas to provide information about responsible dog management. Restoration sites will be assessed on a case by case basis. The City will review providing support (i.e. signage) to non-City owned property.</p> <p>Changes to page 94 new point 8: <i>Interpretive strategies will be investigated for both City and non-City-managed areas, including restoration areas, to provide information about responsible dog management.</i></p>
32	Review on and off dog leash rules for some parks.	<p>On and off dog leash rules are outlined in the Companion Animals Policy. The Companion Animals Policy identifies that rules will be periodically reviewed in response to changing demographics. The draft Plan notes permanent signage will be installed at City-managed priority sites as part of the existing parks signage program. This will assist in disseminating information about the potential impacts of companion animals on wildlife.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Community Engagement Comments

Item	Submission from Community	Response
33	<p>Recommendation that an additional objective in a new category of “Community Education/Engagement” be added to the Strategic Action Plan. The objective would be to increase awareness and knowledge of biodiversity and biodiversity values and increase participation in activities that enhance biodiversity in the LGA.</p>	<p>The draft Plan identifies that Community Engagement is an integral component required to achieve the six main objectives outlined in the Plan. The actions documented in section 4.2.4 provide guidance on how to implement the draft Plan under the category of Community Engagement, specifically to increase awareness and knowledge of biodiversity and biodiversity values. Actions also identify strategies to increase participation in activities that enhance biodiversity in the LGA.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
34	<p>Communication tools such as a regular newsletter, an annual community biodiversity event or environment committee with community members could be considered as part of the formal reporting mentioned on page 5.</p>	<p>The draft Plan acknowledges the integral role that community engagement has in assisting with the implementation of the draft Plan and achieving its objectives. Various actions have been identified such as including biodiversity-related stories in the City’s Green Village News monthly e-newsletter; an annual bird survey; and annual community competitions around the theme of incorporating locally indigenous vegetation will be investigated. Actions will be incorporated into the formal reporting requirements outlined on page 5.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
35	<p>The many actions listed under “Community Engagement” (Section 4.2.4 and page 116) are all important but need prioritising with firmer targets and timelines. A request for more detail in terms of staffing that would be required to deliver actions on community education and engagement.</p>	<p>Annual implementation plans will be prepared. Actions will be reviewed annually based on monitoring results and modified where necessary. A more detailed annual implementation plan will also accurately identify what resource allocation is required. The City currently records the number of community members participating in activities and also numbers receiving training in its Corporate Plan.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Item	Submission from Community	Response
36	<p>The City needs to identify the ways in which it can move forward the community's role in improving habitat and biodiversity with the upcoming implementation of the Master Plan for Johnstons Creek and adjoining parklands.</p>	<p>The implementation of the Master Plan for Johnstons Creek and the draft Plan will be integrated to ensure objectives for both plans are supported and achieved. The draft Plan identifies that ongoing support will be provided for existing volunteer bush restoration groups and other local community groups. Moreover, with the annual implementation plans that will be developed, more detailed actions on what activities the City will implement around community education and engagement will be determined.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
37	<p>The City should consider developing a partnership with Habitat Stepping Stones or a similar organisation to assist residents to create wildlife habitat and improve biodiversity in their backyards.</p>	<p>In regards to supporting residents to create wildlife habitats in their backyard, the draft Plan has outlined a number of actions on pg 94 - 95:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparing a user-friendly Habitat Creation Guide that will be available to residents that are interested in creating habitat in their backyards; - Promoting biodiversity through the Green Villages program that will include providing information about existing biodiversity monitoring programs; and - A demonstration habitat garden will be created in City managed, publicly accessible land. <p>Ongoing support and advice will be provided to residents that are interested in improving biodiversity in their backyards and any programs that may support their efforts will be investigated and shared with residents.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
38	<p>Page 106 of the Strategy notes that there are legislative requirements imposed on individuals who provide habitat for threatened species. I feel that the inclusion of this statement without further detail has the potential to discourage residents who may be interested in providing habitat on their properties.</p>	<p>Any community education and engagement material developed by the City, especially in relation to creating ponds to encourage Green and Golden Bell Frog populations, will highlight in further detail the legislative requirements outlined in the mentioned Acts.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Parks and Streetscape Management Comments

Item	Submission from Community	Response
39	<p>The Plan should include a target for the general increase of the tree cover across the city to at least 30%, following the example set by the City of Melbourne and their Urban Forest Strategy. There was an obvious lack of focus on private land, and even streetscapes in the current Plan, where increases in tree cover would probably have a major effect on many of your target fauna.</p>	<p>The draft Plan does not focus on specific actions to increase urban canopy cover. The City's Urban Forest Strategy focuses largely on urban trees and the canopy cover they provide. Canopy targets and improved tree protection measures will be incorporated into the City's development planning framework. The Urban Forest Strategy identifies that targets for urban canopy cover will be to increase the average total canopy cover from the current 15.5% to 23.25% by 2030, and then to 27.13% by 2050, through targeted programs for trees located in streets, parks and private property.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
40	<p>Develop guidelines regarding planting along public pathways</p>	<p>The draft Plan will continue to increase community awareness of biodiversity and how to incorporate locally indigenous vegetation into common property including rooftops, in community gardens, at schools, and onto footpaths (in accordance with the City's Footpath Gardening Policy). Guidelines regarding planting along public pathways will be addressed in the Bush Restoration Management Plan.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Item	Submission from Community	Response
41	Creation of a pedestrian-only pathway in Jones St Pocket Park (given that there is a designated cycleway parallel to this path).	<p>The City's Cycle Strategy and Action Plan 2007 – 2017 highlights the proposed Regional Bike Route Network Map that covers this area. It indicates that there are longer term plans to put a separate cycleway on Miller St to provide a safe and alternative route for cyclists. Moreover, improvements on Saunders St and links with the Anzac Bridge are also proposed. These routes are expected to reduce patterns of cyclists using the Jones St Pocket Park pathway.</p> <p>The City is supportive of working closely with individuals/groups that have identified issues around safety along shared pathways.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
42	Council to adopt all recommendations relating to park and streetscape management to increase biodiversity across the City.	<p>With the adoption of the draft Plan by Council, recommendations outlined under the 'Park and Streetscape Management Actions' will form part of the implementation plan over the next ten years.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Planning and Development Comments

Item	Submission from Community	Response
43	The need for the Plan to inform future planning policy and guide the development assessment process is particularly critical in the light of the proposed changes to the planning laws in NSW, and we hope recommendations to increase linkages and corridors are taken.	<p>A specific target of the draft Plan is to see a progressive increase in the number of habitat features for priority fauna species established along potential habitat linkages by 2023. The draft Plan identifies that development assessment guidelines will be prepared to provide guidance for development proponents on how landscape designs could enhance and support potential habitat linkages.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Item	Submission from Community	Response
44	<p>Council to prepare development assessment guidelines which include a category of Urban Bushland to help expand biodiversity and habitat.</p>	<p>The draft Plan outlines a number of actions to inform future planning policy and guide the development assessment process. These actions will focus on ensuring that there is a level of ecological assessment incorporated into the development assessment process.</p> <p>The main objectives of the draft Plan have been developed to specifically protect, expand and improve urban biodiversity and habitat. Development assessment guidelines will be prepared to address, and not be limited to, landscaping designs in new developments and also existing habitat features within development sites.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
45	<p>Landscaping and incorporation for habitat features like rocks, logs, and water features need to be planned for, and not be a last minute 'beautification' of a development</p>	<p>Guidelines for new developments such as the Landscape Code and Habitat Creation Principles are being prepared. Development assessment guidelines will also be prepared to provide guidance on how landscape designs could enhance and support habitat creation (as outlined on pg 93).</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
46	<p>Development consents should include landscaping requirements based on biodiversity principles and measures to ensure that the approved landscaping requirements based on biodiversity principles and measures to ensure that the approved landscaping is not contravened by the actions of subsequent owners.</p>	<p>See response to comment 45.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Other Comments

Item	Submission from Community	Response
47	Biodiversity should be the key driver of all policies relating to the greening of Sydney	<p>Biodiversity is recognised in the broader policy document, <i>Greening Sydney Plan</i>. The <i>Greening Sydney Plan</i> recognises that improved urban ecosystems can have both environmental and social benefits, and identifies urban ecology as a strategic focus area.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
48	Although the <i>Plan</i> is focused on vertebrate terrestrial fauna, we believe it is important that residents including those involved in community gardens, be encouraged to reduce the use of herbicides and pesticides.	<p>As outlined in the Community Gardens Policy, community garden groups are strongly encouraged to practise natural pest management. Organic gardening practices, such as companion planting, are promoted to reduce the use of herbicides and pesticides.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
49	Aquatic biodiversity be more acknowledged and recognised, and the threats and opportunities to enhance it examined.	<p>Various authorities are involved and responsible for managing the Sydney Harbour foreshore. The draft Plan strongly supports collaboration with other managers e.g. Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, to maximise the effectiveness of this draft Plan. A partnership is already in development with the University of Sydney, to create seawall pods along Glebe foreshore to increase aquatic biodiversity. If feasible, similar partnerships will be pursued to implement initiatives that support local aquatic biodiversity.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
50	Measures developed to discourage vandalism of trees on public land perceived to block views.	<p>The City's Tree Management Controls provide the legislative tool to protect trees located on private property, streets and parks. As outlined in the City's Tree Management Policy, the City will notify the community of illegal works and undertake site specific responses following tree poisoning or illegal tree removal.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Item	Submission from Community	Response
51	<p>The Plan proposes that statistics relating to the operation of the UESAP be reported monthly. This is onerous for volunteers and should be amended to quarterly.</p>	<p>Monthly reporting is required from the City contractors as a condition of their contract. City staff also currently provide monthly reports, and will continue to do so, including statistics relating to the implementation of the draft Plan.</p> <p>Volunteers will work closely with the Community Gardens and Volunteers Coordinator to develop an appropriate program of quarterly or monthly reporting. The City recognises the valuable contribution that volunteers have made toward protecting, expanding and improving biodiversity and habitat in the city.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
52	<p>The City of Sydney should develop biodiversity strategies to improve climate stability.</p>	<p>An increasing body of evidence and research identifies that providing and managing urban forests and green space are strategies that can support and provide a means to adapting to climate change. The Urban Forest Strategy outlines the City's targets to increase canopy cover and to improve urban forest diversity. Strategies developed to address challenges and issues associated with projected climate change scenarios are identified.</p> <p>The draft Plan will work closely with the Urban Forest Strategy in its implementation.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
53	<p>The concept of developing a wetland maintenance manual for Sydney Park is a welcome idea. My only suggestion in relation to this is that it be expanded to also cover Victoria Park lake as well.</p>	<p>A wetland maintenance manual for Victoria Park is in development.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>

Item	Submission from Community	Response
54	<p>I would urge Council staff to get in contact with relevant sections of the Sydney Coastal Councils Group to help develop more marine environmental management programs prior to finalising the Strategy.</p>	<p>Noted. Partnerships with other agencies are acknowledged to contribute to the successful implementation of the draft Plan.</p> <p>The City is a member of the Sydney Coastal Councils Group and will continue to liaise with the group in order to seek recommendations in regards to marine environmental programs such as the seawall pot project currently underway.</p> <p>No changes to the draft Plan are recommended.</p>
55	<p>The Strategy places little emphasis on the value of green roofs and walls.</p> <p>As currently written the Strategy gives the impression that the Lincoln Crescent development is the only green roof in the City and it needs to be made clear that there are in fact many of these and that their number is growing.</p>	<p>Noted. The City acknowledges the importance of green roofs and walls as areas that can be used to provide habitat for biodiversity. The Lincoln Crescent green roof was identified as a case study of one of many green roofs that occur in the LGA.</p> <p><i>Amendments to draft Plan on page 127 first paragraph to include:</i> Green roofs and walls are a growing occurrence in the City. The Draft Green Roofs Policy 2013 recorded 79 green roofs and walls across the LGA.</p>
56	<p>The Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Action Plan (CAP) that you mention on page 12 and with some detail on page 137 has now been superseded by the Hawkesbury-Nepean CAP which was approved by the Minister in August 2013. Most of the targets are similar and the intent still the same. It would be more appropriate to cite it in your Plan, rather than the former Sydney Metropolitan CAP.</p>	<p>Noted. To align with these changes to the CAP, the draft Plan will be amended on page 12 and 137 to replace the Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Action Plan with the <i>Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Action Plan</i>.</p>