

environment plan



ROCKDALE
CITY COUNCIL
On Historic Botany Bay



2003-2006



Important

This document contains important information about Rockdale City Council. If you do not understand, please visit Council's Customer Service Centre at 2 Bryant Street Rockdale on Monday – Friday from 8.30am – 4.30pm. Council Staff will be happy to arrange interpreter services for you.

You may also contact Telephone Interpreter Services in 131 450 and ask them to ring Rockdale City Council on 9562 1666 on your behalf.

Arabic

هام:

تحتوي هذه الوثيقة على معلومات هامة عن بلدية روكدايل. إذا لم تكن قادراً على فهمها، يرجى زيارة مركز خدمة زبائن البلدية على العنوان التالي: 2 Bryant Street في روكدايل من الإثنين إلى الجمعة بين الساعة ٨.٣٠ صباحاً و ٤.٣٠ مساءً، حيث سيقوم موظفو البلدية بتأمين مترجم لك بكل سرور.

كما يمكنك الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الهاتفية على الرقم 131 450 والطلب منهم الاتصال ببلدية روكدايل على الرقم 9562 1666 نيابةً عنك.

Italian

Importante:

Questo documento contiene importanti informazioni sul Comune di Rockdale City. Se avete difficoltà a comprenderne il contenuto, recatevi presso il Customer Service Centre del Comune a 2 Bryant Street, Rockdale dal lunedì al venerdì dalle ore 8.30 alle 16.30. Il personale del Comune sarà ben lieto di procurarvi un servizio interpreti.

Potete anche chiamare il Servizio telefonico interpreti (TIS) al numero 131 450 chiedendo che telefoni per vostro conto al Comune di Rockdale City al numero 9562 1666.

Chinese

重要消息

本文件載有關於 Rockdale 市政府的重要資訊，如果您有不明之處，請於星期一至星期五，上午 8 時 30 分至下午 4 時 30 分，前來位於 2 Bryant Street, Rockdale，市政府的顧客服務中心。市政府的職員會很樂意為您安排傳譯員的服務。

您也可以聯絡電話傳譯服務處，電話 131 450，並請他們代您致電 9562 1666 給 Rockdale 市政府。

Macedonian

Важно:

Ова документ содржи важни информации за Rockdale City Council (Градската општина на Rockdale). Ако не го разбирате, ве молиме, посетете го општинскиот Customer Service Centre (Центар за услуги на клиенти), кој се наоѓа на 2 Bryant Street, Rockdale, од понеделник до петок, од 8.30 наутро до 4.30 попладне. Вработените во општината со задоволство ќе ви организираат да користите преведувач.

Исто така, можете да телефонирате во Telephone Interpreter Services (Служба за преведување по телефон) на 131 450, и да ги замолиме во ваше име да се јават во Градската општина на Rockdale на 9562 1666.

Greek

Σημαντικό:

Αυτό το έγγραφο περιέχει σημαντικές πληροφορίες για τη Δημαρχία Rockdale City Council. Αν δεν τις καταλαβαίνετε, παρακαλείσθε να επισκεφτείτε το Κέντρο Εξυπηρέτησης Πελατών [Customer Service Centre] του Δήμου στο 2 Bryant Street, Rockdale, Δευτέρα - Παρασκευή από 8.30πμ - 4.30μμ. Το Προσωπικό του Δήμου θα χαρεί να κανονίσει υπηρεσίες διερμηνέων για σας.

Μπορείτε επίσης να επικοινωνήσετε με τις Τηλεφωνικές Υπηρεσίες Διερμηνέων [Telephone Interpreter Services] στο 131 450 και να τους ζητήσετε να τηλεφωνήσουν στο Rockdale City Council στο 9562 1666 για λογαριασμό σας.

Spanish

Importante:

Este documento contiene información importante sobre el Rockdale City Council (Municipio de Rockdale). Si no la entiende, le rogamos concurrir al Centro de Servicio al Cliente del Municipio, ubicado en 2 Bryant Street, Rockdale, atención de lunes a Viernes, de 8:30 am a 4:30 pm. El personal del municipio se complacerá en obtener los servicios de un intérprete para usted.

Puede asimismo llamar al Servicio Telefónico de Intérpretes al 131 450 y pedirles que llamen de su parte al Rockdale City Council, teléfono 9562 1666.

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Message from the General Manager

Local Government plays an important role in managing the natural and built environment. In recognition of this, Council has developed the *Rockdale City Council Environment Plan*.

The Environment Plan details actions that Council will undertake in the timeframe 2003-2006 to improve the quality of our natural environment. These actions cover our management of water, air, biodiversity, waste, amenity and heritage.

The actions have been gathered from the recommendations made to Council in studies we have commissioned over the years, and recommendations from other documents such as the Southern Sydney Catchment Blueprint. Council hopes that by placing all these actions in one comprehensive plan, the actions will not be put aside and left to gather dust on a shelf.

Council staff are committed to ensuring that the actions are completed. Actions that are not completed in the timeframe will either roll on to the next version of the Plan or be removed. This will only occur if there is a strong argument and appropriate reason to do so, such as a change in legislation overriding the action.

The Environment Plan has strong links with Rockdale City Council's Management Plan, the tool which we use to plan and report on Council's progress to the community. The Environment Plan is also strongly linked with Council's State of the Environment reporting process.

I look forward to seeing the roll-out of actions from this Environment Plan and enjoying the improved natural environment in the City of Rockdale in years to come.



Chris Watson
General Manager

Introduction

Rockdale City Council aims to protect the natural environment, and integrate the principles of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) into all its activities.

Rockdale City Council's Environment Plan aims to provide direction for Council in its path towards becoming ecologically sustainable. The Plan has been developed to enable Council to meet the needs of current and future generations through simultaneous environmental, social and economic improvement. Council has existing plans guiding economic and social aspects of its operations, but has never had a single guiding document relating to the natural environment.

This Plan proposes actions to help us to achieve a more sustainable future. The transition to becoming a 'sustainable city' involves long term planning to rethink the way we live, use resources, and do business.

The actions contained in this Plan are to be implemented over the period 2003-06. The Plan will be reviewed annually, and progress reported on in Council's State of the Environment Report. The Plan will be updated as new studies, plans and knowledge becomes available.

Why does Rockdale City Council need an Environment Plan?

Local Government has considerable responsibilities with respect to environmental management. Council embraces our responsibility to manage and reduce environmental impacts in accordance with our charter set out in the Local Government Act (NSW) 1993 (Section 8):

'To properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible, in a manner which is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development.'

A stated purpose of the Act (Section 7e) is to require Councils, Councillors and Council employees to have regard to the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development in carrying out their responsibilities. To this end, ecologically sustainable management of the Rockdale environment is the responsibility of each and every Council employee and Councillor.

In the past, Council has had no overall policy or plan guiding environmental management. Environmental management has been reactive rather than proactive, taking steps forward in environmental management in response to changing legislative requirements. Following the adoption of an Environment Policy, a detailed plan was required to ensure that the objectives of the policy are achieved.

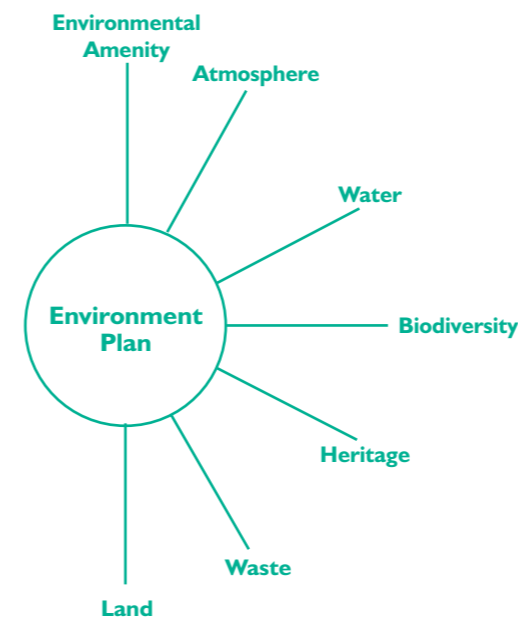
The Environment Plan is a continually evolving plan for managing the Rockdale environment. It is a strategic plan for protecting and enhancing Rockdale's environment, serving as a blueprint for Rockdale to move towards sustainable development.

To ensure continuity and consistency with current reporting, the Plan is divided into categories in line with Council's State of the Environment Report. Hence the Plan contains a series of actions categorised under the following areas:

- Land & the built environment
- Atmosphere
- Biodiversity
- Waste
- Water
- Environmental amenity
- Heritage

The Plan will guide management in each of these categories.

Issues addressed by the Plan



What is Ecologically Sustainable Development?

'Sustainable development' is a concept that has emerged over the last two decades. The concept describes a new framework for development aimed at maintaining the integrity of ecological systems whilst achieving social and economic development. The framework places new demands on professionals, affecting the decision-making process and outcomes (Harding, 1998 p17).

Different people and organisations define sustainable development in many different ways. In Australia's National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development 'sustainable development' is referred to as:

Development that improves the total quality of life, both now and in the future, in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends.

Source: Commonwealth of Australia, 1992 p8

The core objectives outlined in the National Strategy are:

to enhance individual and community well-being and welfare by following a path of economic development that safeguards the welfare of future generations

to provide for equity within and between generations

to protect biological diversity and maintain essential ecological processes and life support systems.

Source: Commonwealth of Australia, 1992 p8

Our Environment Policy

Our Environment Policy specifies that, as Council employees, we will:

Comply with all applicable laws, regulations and standards; and apply additional standards that minimise environmental impacts resulting from operations or services

Communicate openly with the community about environmental issues

Ensure that environmental and social costs are considered in addition to economic costs when evaluating services provided by and to Council

Ensure that employees, the local community and suppliers of goods and services are informed about Council's Environment Policy and are aware of their environmental responsibilities in relation to Council business

These national objectives have been adapted from the international report Our Common Future (WCED, 1987). This brought about a change in thinking about how we approach the future, bringing people, the environment, and the economy as equals in decision-making. Sustainable development was defined as:

Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

WCED, 1987

Sustainability needs to be the goal of all individuals and requires changes to people's behaviour and decision-making processes. The Rockdale City Environment Plan details actions that will be undertaken to ensure ecological sustainability in the City of Rockdale.

Precautionary measures need to be undertaken, particularly in decision-making by management. Therefore, Council needs an organisational policy and management approach that systematically considers the long-term environmental impacts before proceeding with activities (Deville and Harding, 1997 pp39-40). In short, Council needs to undergo organisational change to develop a culture among staff that thinks about their impacts on a global basis while responding to local issues.

Ensure that Council has management systems to identify, control and monitor environmental risks arising from our activities

Establish programs to protect the environment; specifically to protect biodiversity, water quality, air quality, and Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage; and to minimise noise pollution and resource use

Provide our employees and external parties with the necessary leadership, training and understanding in order to comply with the requirements of Council's Environment Policy.

Actions for Ecological Sustainability

This Plan identifies a number of actions which have been designed for implementation through Council's Management Plan. Broad goals have been developed for each category, with a series of specific programs outlined to achieve the goals. Some actions will be achieved with minimal resources, while others will require extensive resources from Council and external grant funding.

Actions have been adapted from a number of key documents, including existing action plans, recommendations from research studies, and government policies. These documents and the actions and recommendations contained within them have, for the most part, been endorsed and adopted by Council over the last few years.

This section contains a series of tables containing actions for Council to take to achieve ecological sustainability. The actions have been placed in categories reflecting those used in Council's annual State of the Environment Report.

Key documents

Actions have been adapted from the following documents:

Rockdale City Council, 2003, Corporate Greenhouse Action Plan

Rockdale City Council, 2003, Community Greenhouse Action Plan

Rockdale City Council, Kogarah Municipal Council, Hurstville City Council, Regional Air Quality management Plan

Biosphere Environmental Consultants, 2000, Rockdale Flora and Fauna Study

Rockdale City Council, 1999, Water Quality Monitoring Report

Maunsell Australia, 2002, Study of Scarborough Parks Ponds Options Study

Maunsell Australia, 2002, Study of Scarborough Park Ponds Water Quality

Urban Bushland Management Consultants, 2000, Rockdale Generic Weed Management Strategy

Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils, 2003, Regional Greenhouse Plan

NSW Government, 2002, Learning for Sustainability NSW Government Environmental Education Plan 2002-05

ERM Mitchell McCotter, 1999, Rockdale City Council Aboriginal Heritage Study

Rockdale City Council, 1999, Local Waste Management Plan

Clouston, 2000, Rockdale Wetlands and Recreation Corridor Management Strategy

Rockdale City Council, 2002, Strategic Transport and Traffic Plan

Transport Network Associates, 2001, The St George Councils Regional Transport Strategy

Cooks River Stormwater Management Plan

Lower Georges River Stormwater Management Plan

Southern Sydney Catchment Management Board, 2002, Southern Sydney Catchment Blueprint (and Rockdale Local Implementation Plan, 2003)

Environment Protection Authority, Industrial Noise Policy

Environment Protection Authority, Draft Noise Guidelines for Local Government.

Responsibility

Responsibility for implementation of the actions lies with Service Unit Managers. In some cases more than one Service Unit Manager is identified. In this case, the first Service Unit Manager mentioned takes the lead role in implementing the action. Below is a list of abbreviations for Service Unit Manager titles used in this Plan.

MBS Manager – Business Services

MCEP Manager – Community & Environmental Planning

MCS Manager – Community Services

MDAHR Manager – Development Assessment, Health and Regulations

MHR Manager – Human Resources

MLS Manager – Leisure Services

MO Manager – Operations

MTS Manager – Technical Services

MTIS Manager – Transport and Infrastructure Services

MUP Manager – Urban Planning

Land & the Built Environment

To support our increasing population we need to plan for an adequate supply of housing, urban infrastructure such as energy, water and transport, and services such as hospitals. The livability of our City depends on provision of adequate and affordable housing, education facilities, employment opportunities, recreational facilities, and transport systems (NSW Environment Protection Authority, 2000b).

All built environments have an impact on the natural environment, from consumption of resources to output of waste. In managing land and the built environment we aim to maintain and enhance the prosperity and liveability of communities, including the natural environment.

An important element of the built environment is transport infrastructure. The provision of transport services enables our community to access employment, education facilities, leisure activities and health services. Council is also charged with the responsibility for managing open space, from bushland areas to sport fields. Bushland management is addressed in the Biodiversity chapter.

Why do we value land?

Land is a valuable environmental resource required for many human activities. Management of land is crucial to sustaining a healthy natural, social and cultural environment. Communities need a balance between land uses that includes areas of open space, a mix of low, medium and high density housing, and access to quality services such as transport, health care, education and shopping centres.



Existing plans and studies

- St George Councils Regional Transport Strategy 2001
- Rockdale Strategic Transport and Traffic Plan
- Rockdale Local Environment Plan 2000
- Rockdale City Council Development Control Plans
- Architectural Styles Inventory

Issues

- Population growth and change in household composition
- Change in landuse composition
- Provision of adequate public and alternative transport options such as cycleways
- Increase in traffic volumes
- Remediation of contaminated land
- Management of open space.

Goal

To effectively manage competing landuses and changes in population structure, ensuring equitable access to services for our community whilst avoiding adverse pressure on our natural environment.

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
L1	Management of the coastal zone	Sustainably manage the coastal zone through appropriate planning policies	MUP	Planning policies include coastal management considerations	Ongoing
L2		Participate in the State Government's Botany Bay Strategy development	MUP, MCEP, MTIS	Input submitted	Ongoing
L3		Prepare DCP for Acid Sulfate Soils	MUP	DCP adopted by Council	Dec 2005
L4		Upgrade the coastal dune system	MTS, MO	Dune improvement measures complete	Ongoing
L5	Management of the riparian zone	Work with State agencies to implement a riverine corridor policy that is supported by planning instruments & development control plans	MUP, MCEP	Policy implemented	As required by State government
L6		Assist landholders to access resources to implement improved management of riparian zones	MCEP	Information distributed	Ongoing
L7	Management of agricultural land	Ensure pockets of agricultural land are retained	MUP	Area of land used for agricultural purposes	Ongoing
L8	Encouraging sustainable practices	Promote livable communities by supporting the Sustainability Advisory Council's education program for industry & the community	MUP, MCEP	Program promoted	Dec 2004
L9		Train Council staff about sustainable building practices	MDAHR	Development assessment staff trained	Ongoing
L10		Develop the mechanisms required to achieve the 'No Net Loss Principle' to development	MUP, MCEP	Mechanisms developed & adopted	June 2006
L11		Work with agencies to develop cumulative impact assessment guidelines	MUP, MDAHR, MCEP	Guidelines developed & adopted	June 2006
L12	Ensuring quality urban design	Complete the Princes Highway Design Study	MUP	Study complete	March 2004
L13		Insert energy efficiency criteria into existing DCPs	MUP	DCPs adopted by Council	June 2004
L14		Identify urban character areas & produce controls for at least one precinct	MUP	Controls developed	June 2005
L15		Consider recommendations from Frank Sartor's Design Summit	MUP	Recommendations considered / adopted	Dec 2003
L16		Consider recommendations from the Brighton Urban Design Panel	MUP	Recommendations considered / adopted	Dec 2003

NO	ISSUE	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	TIMEFRAME
L17	Management of surrounding landuses	Advocate on the future of Port Botany & Sydney Airport	MTIS	Submissions prepared	Ongoing
L18	Management of open space	Develop Plans of Management for Parks & Reserves	MLS	Plans adopted by Council	Ongoing
L19		Implement Plans of Management for Parks & Reserves	MO	Actions from plans complete	Ongoing
L20		Develop landscape masterplans for open areas including parks, the beachfront, foreshore areas & wetlands in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 & the Crown Lands Act 1989	MLS	Plans complete	Ongoing
L21		Develop a streetscape & landscape management plan	MLS	Plan developed	June 2005
L22		Ensure that all park users (carnivals, special events etc) maintain best practice in environmental protection	MLS, MCS	Audits undertaken following events	Ongoing
L23		Continue to adopt strategies to green the city by undertaking street tree planting programs	MTS, MO	Street trees planted	Ongoing
L24	Transport options & accessibility	Implement strategies from the Strategic Transport & Traffic Plan	MTIS	Strategies implemented	Ongoing
L25		Implement actions from The St George Councils Regional Transport Strategy	MTIS	Actions implemented	Ongoing
L26		Lobby State Government regarding the use of the F6 transport corridor	MTIS	Letters & submissions prepared	June 2005
L27		Lobby the State Government to achieve improved public transport	MTIS	Letters & submissions prepared	Ongoing
L28		Develop landuse & transport DCP	MUP, MTIS DCP	adopted by Council	June 2004
L29		Implement Bicycle Plan	MTS, MO	Bike paths constructed	Ongoing
L30		Contaminated land Implement Council's Contaminated Land Policy in accordance with the requirements of the Managing Land Contamination: Planning Guidelines & SEPP 55, sites remediated in accordance with the Contaminated Lands Management Act	MDAHR	Policy implemented	Ongoing

Water

All life depends on water. The total amount of water in the environment almost always remains constant, moving continuously from the earth's surface into the atmosphere and back again. The pattern of human demands on water resources does not always match the natural flow of water in the environment. The alteration of natural flow patterns to satisfy human demand for water places pressure on the physical and biological components of aquatic systems. The same activities that place demands on water quantity may also put pressure on water quality (NSW Environment Protection Authority, 2000).

Humans extract water from the environment to fulfill a variety of needs, but it is rarely returned to the environment in its original state. This places pressure on the ecosystem that receives the water, as ecosystems rely on good quality water to maintain their health.

The City of Rockdale is home to a variety of waterbodies - wetlands, rivers, and the Bay. These waterbodies provide habitat for many plant and animal species that rely on water for gas exchange, food, dispersal of larvae or seed, and removal of metabolic waste. Certain aquatic ecosystems are reliant on particular conditions, for example salinity level, nutrient level, temperature and flow. Changes to any one parameter can have extreme impacts on the health of aquatic ecosystems (NSW Environment Protection Authority, 2000).

Why do we value our waterways?

All life depends on water. The adequate flow of good quality water is needed to support ecosystem health, and in reverse, healthy ecosystems generate and maintain adequate flows of good-quality water. We value our waterways in Rockdale as homes and breeding grounds for plant and animal species, for recreation, and for aesthetic enjoyment.

Existing plans and studies

Rockdale Water Quality Monitoring Report, 1999

Southern Sydney Catchment Blueprint

Lower Georges River Stormwater Management Plan and Cooks River Stormwater Management Plan.

Issues

Pollution from urban stormwater runoff – litter, organic materials, sediment, nutrients, oil and grease

Pollution from wastewater discharge and sewage overflows and excess heavy metals from industrial runoff

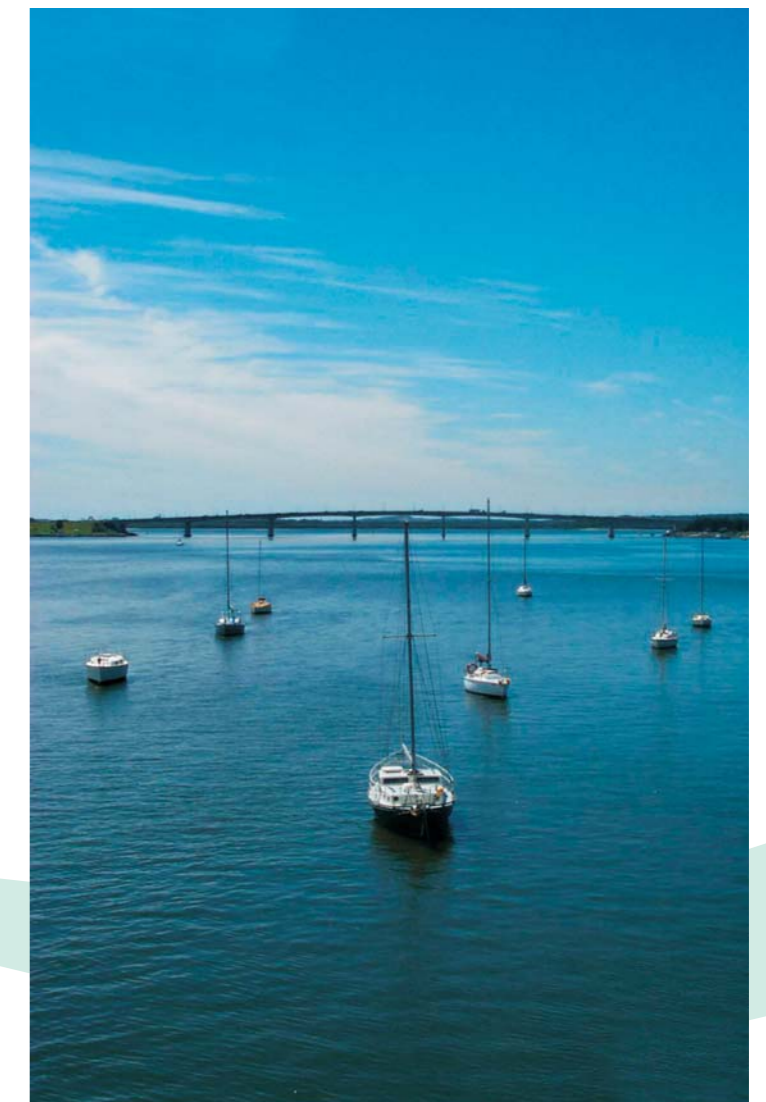
Holistic management of the Botany Bay catchment

Flood management

Water conservation in residential, industrial and commercial properties, including Council.

Goal

To improve the quality of our waterways by reducing pollutants entering the system, and to reduce our use of and reliance on potable water resources.



No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
W1	Water quality monitoring	Continue water quality monitoring program commenced in Dec 98 to establish benchmark water quality in Rockdale	MDAHR	Program implemented	Ongoing
W2		Integrate Council's knowledge & information through catchment wide water quality monitoring & reporting. Evaluate data to determine strategic responses to problems identified by the monitoring program	MDAHR	Program implemented	Ongoing
W3	Locating pollutant sources	Conduct source isolation investigations to locate pollutant sources in Bardwell Creek, Spring Street Drain & Sans Souci Drain No.3 to determine sources of nutrients & pollution	MDAHR	Pollutant sources identified	June 2006
W4		Continue to notify Sydney Water of illegal stormwater & sewer connections, including connections from industrial areas to stormwater	MDAHR	Notification undertaken	Ongoing
W5	Community awareness of polluting practices	Implement stormwater community education program to improve awareness of water quality issues	MCEP	Education program implemented	Ongoing
W6		Continue Council's Schools Stormwater Education Program	MCEP	Education program implemented	Ongoing
W7		Continue drain stencilling program to educate people on the link between their backyard & the waterway & raise awareness in residential development areas, construction sites & industrial zones	MO	Number of drains stencilled	Ongoing
W8		Increase enforcement & awareness of legislation related to stormwater in accordance with POEO Act	MDAHR	Number of incidents & fines issued	Ongoing
W9		Continue to educate the community not to sweep or blow leaves into the gutter & provide alternative disposal options (mulch & compost)	MTIS, MCEP	Reduction in organics entering waterways	Ongoing
W10		Include signage with all new 'visible' GPTs to inform community of stormwater objectives, problems & solutions, & statistics of what is captured by the device	MTS, MO, MCEP	Signs installed	Ongoing
W11		Continue community education programs about stormwater discharges untreated to creeks, waterways & the ocean, not into the sewer	MCEP	Education program implemented	Ongoing
W12		Encourage cleanup days at schools & combine with education program	MCEP	Integrated into education program	Ongoing
W13	Community ownership of waterways	Install catchment signage to raise awareness in park areas, commercial shopping centres, waterway crossings/bridges, major new development areas etc	MTS, MO, MCEP	Signs installed	Dec 2004
W14		Name all unnamed creeks & drains	MECP	Names adopted by Council & Geographical Names Board	June 2005
W15	End of pipe / engineering solutions	Investigate installation of CDS units at locations throughout the City	MTS	Investigation complete	June 2006
W16		Continue existing street sweeping program & investigate ways of improving	MO	Tonnes of waste collected, number of sweeping visits required	Ongoing

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
W17		Investigate improved methods for animal faeces disposal in parks	MO	Reduction in animal faeces	Dec 2004
W18		Continually monitor & review maintenance schedules & cleaning techniques for GPTs & implement improvement program. Test sediments for contamination randomly at three monthly intervals	MO	Sediment testing complete & program reviewed	Ongoing
W19		Investigate opportunities to install GPT's where pipes discharge to waterways.	MTS	Opportunities identified	June 2006
W20		Provide minor GPTs on pipe outlets to Bardwell Creek near Bardwell Rd	MTS, MO	GPTs installed	June 2006
W21		Provide litter capturing devices at selected locations within Bardwell Creek catchment	MTS, MO	Devices installed	June 2006
W22		Provide litter fences along drainage line to Bardwell Creek through Jubilee Park & Bardwell Park	MTS, MO	Fences installed	June 2006
W23		Liaise with RTA to identify stormwater management options specific to main roads & facilities for construction, operation & maintenance activities	MTS	Options identified	Ongoing
W24		Install gross pollutant traps on drains feeding into Scarborough Ponds	MTS	Traps installed	June 2006
W25		Investigate methods of intercepting oil & grease from major roads	MTS	Methods investigated	June 2006
W26		Investigate & implement methods to aerate & increase circulation of wetlands ie Scarborough Ponds	MTS	Decrease in eutrophication incidents	June 2005
W27		Investigate & implement appropriate methods for cleaning existing litter captured by vegetation along Wollie Creek & Bardwell Creek	MTS	Methods identified	June 2006
W28	Staff awareness of polluting practices	Continue Council's Internal Audit Program & continue to train staff regarding their environmental responsibilities	MO, MCEP	Audits undertaken	Ongoing
W29		Establish an Environmental Management System for Council's Operations Unit	MO	ISO14001 accreditation gained	June 2004
W30		Monitor stormwater management practices of Council staff	MO, MCEP	Audits undertaken	Ongoing
W31		Implement, monitor & review the Environmental Management Plan for Council's depot	MO, MCEP	Review complete	Ongoing
W32		Continually review procedures of council maintenance crews & park managers in regard to disposal of grass clippings & plant material maintenance strips & parks. Make any required changes to procedure & educate & enforce implementation	MO, MCEP	Reduction in organic litter entering waterways	Ongoing
W33		Ensure Operations staff are aware of emergency procedures for major spill control on roads (including toxic spill containment & response to disaster plans)	MO	Procedures distributed to operational staff	Ongoing

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
W34		Develop procedures for cleaning waterways taking into account government policies & legislation. Ensure waterways cleaning staff are trained in implementation of procedures	MTS, MO	Procedures & staff awareness program complete	Dec 2003
W35	Potable water use	Incorporate water sensitive urban design criteria into existing DCPs	MUP	DCPs adopted by Council	June 2004
W36		Review the Rockdale Creeks & Gullies Management Strategy	MLS	Strategy updated & adopted	June 2005
W37		Educate occupiers of commercial premises & residences about not hosing down footpath areas	MDAHR, MCEP	Education undertaken	Ongoing
W38		Work with agencies to identify opportunities for wastewater & biosolids reuse	MCEP	Liaison with agencies underway	Ongoing
W39	Quality of the Georges River	Support the Georges River Combined Councils Committee River Keeper Program	MCEP	Financial & operational support provided	Ongoing
W40	Stormwater management & reuse	Encourage the installation of on site detention facilities where feasible within industrial & business properties for water reuse	MDAHR	Facilities installed	Ongoing
W41		Maintain Council's onsite detention policies & update as required	MTS	Policy maintained	Ongoing
W42		Investigate water management practices on all golf courses & identify opportunities to improve stormwater treatment prior to renegotiating leases	MLS, MCEP	Water management practices improved	Ongoing
W43		Investigate the viability of storing & treating stormwater onsite using buffer strips & modified underground drainage / storage cells for existing & proposed car parks, private & public	MTS, MUP	Investigation complete & outcomes implemented	June 2007
W44		Investigate stormwater harvesting using underground aquifers	MTS	Investigation complete	Dec 2004
W45	Sedimentation of waterways	Audit implementation & effectiveness of sediment controls on construction sites. Compliance with development approval conditions to be enforced by Council officers	MDAHR	Compliance with conditions monitored & enforced	Ongoing
W46		Continue erosion & sedimentation education – authorised officers to target industries, Council workers, contractors & the community	MDAHR	Education program complete	Ongoing
W47		Investigate opportunities to install sediment controls immediately before stormwater pipe & canal discharges to waterways	MTS	Opportunities investigated	Dec 2005
W48		Educate construction contractors on appropriate sediment controls based on best practice guidelines	MDAHR	Education materials distributed	Ongoing
W49	Restoration of waterways	Investigate opportunities for replacement of concrete stormwater channels with more natural drainage lines both through government grants & conditions on development consent	MTS	Opportunities identified	Ongoing
W50		Prepare a Mangrove Management Plan. Comply with NSW State Rivers & Estuaries Policy	MCEP, MLS	Plan complete	June 2005

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
W51		Investigate construction of wetland along Bardwell Creek downstream of Ellierslie Road & rehabilitate riparian zone where possible through Shepard Reserve & Favell Picnic Area	MTS, MO	Investigation complete	As grant funding becomes available
W52		Investigate construction of offline wetlands or pond system adjacent to Muddy Creek in White Oak Reserve	MTS, MO	Investigation complete	As grant funding becomes available
W53		Investigate appropriate bank remediation works long Bardwell Creek in conjunction with revegetation upstream of Bardwell Rd, Bardwell Park	MTS	Investigation complete	Dec 2005
W54		Install Constructed Wetlands on Sans Souci Drain No.2 to treat elevated bacteria & oxygen demanding organic matter in stormwater	MTS	Wetland complete	Dec 2003
W55		Develop stream management plans & implement development controls to minimise scouring of channels & maintain & enhance aquatic & riparian habitat	MTS, MDAHR	Plans complete, development controls complied with	June 2006
W56		Work with State agencies to undertake the progressive rehabilitation & dechannelisation of artificially modified watercourses	MTS	Liaison with agencies underway	Ongoing
W57	Chemical pollution of waterways	Develop guidelines for residential & commercial fertiliser, pesticide & herbicide use, & increase awareness of the impact of these applications	MCEP	Guidelines complete	June 2005
W58		Investigate alternative fertilisers/herbicides/pesticides & application methods in parks & leased golf courses	MCEP	Investigation complete	June 2005
W59		Continue audits of industrial & commercial premises. Work with management to improve stormwater management practices to reduce stormwater pollution. Encourage the installation of filters in industrial sites where oil & grease is identified as a problem	MDAHR	Premises audited	Ongoing
W60		Lobby EPA as a region to audit all licensed premises in the catchment	MCEP	Letters written	Dec 2004
W61	Public access to waterways	Develop a network of access routes with a map showing points of interest for community & providing educational & interpretational signage	MLS, MCEP	Regional initiatives supported	Dec 2004

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
W62		Extend footpaths & cycle paths along waterways to increase community ownership & appreciation of waterways	MLS	Cycle paths constructed	Ongoing
W63		Enable secondary contact recreation access in Scarborough Ponds by ensuring safe points which are clearly identifiable & accessible.	MLS	Access points constructed	Dec 2005
W64		Improve maintenance access along open drains to enhance safety	MO	Access improved	Ongoing
W65	Leachate from landfill	Monitor landfill sites, assess water treatment requirements to mitigate potential impacts	MDAHR	Leachate monitoring program developed	Grant funding required
W66	Floodplain management	Implement floodplain management plans	MTS	Actions implemented	Ongoing
W67		Work with State agencies to develop & implement guidelines for watercourse crossings, stormwater treatment devices & flood management works to ensure fish passage	MTS	Liaison with agencies underway	Ongoing
W68	Quality of the Cooks River	Work with Cooks River catchment Councils to develop a mass media education campaign	MCEP	Campaign developed	Dec 2004
W69		Work with Cooks River catchment Councils to organise a catchment wide environment expo to showcase council initiatives & projects	MCEP	Expo held	June 2005
W70		Work with Cooks River catchment Councils to develop a uniform branding for the catchment	MCEP	Branding developed	Dec 2004
W71	Communication with State agencies	Improve communications between Council, NSW Fisheries & the EPA regarding open waterways maintenance	MCEP, MTS, MO	Meeting held	June 2004
W72		Lobby Sydney Water to reduce the occurrence of sewage overflows	MDAHR	Letters written	Ongoing
W73		Investigate the development of estuary management plans, & the integration of plans along the Georges River	MCEP, MTS	Investigation complete	June 2004
W74	Catchment management	Work with agencies to develop a process that identifies through key indicators the cumulative environmental impacts of human activities on river health & catchment capability	MCEP	Process & indicators developed	June 2005

Atmosphere

The atmosphere consists of a shell of air encircling the Earth and supporting animal and plant life. The atmosphere extends for about 100 kilometers above the Earth's surface and can be divided into three main sections: the troposphere which extends from the Earth's surface for 20 km; the stratosphere which extends from 20km to 50km; and the mesosphere which extends from 50km beyond. The air we breathe is composed mainly of nitrogen and oxygen, but it contains pollutants for a variety of sources (NSW EPA, 2000c). Air quality issues are considered at three scales - global, regional and local. At the global scale the main issues are depletion of the ozone layer and climate change caused by greenhouse gas emissions. At the regional level the major issues are photochemical smog and fine particle pollution. Locally, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, lead and other toxins are the primary issues. Air pollution can occur both naturally and as a result of human activities such as running of motor vehicles and burning solid fuel for household heating.

Why do we value the atmosphere and, in particular, good air quality?

The atmosphere is essential to all plant and animal life on Earth and plays a critical role in regulating weather and climate. Good air quality is crucial to human health. Poor quality air results in respiratory disease and can facilitate heart disease.

Existing plans and studies

St George Local Air Quality Management Plan
 Rockdale Community Greenhouse Action Plan
 Rockdale Corporate Greenhouse Action Plan
 Southern Sydney Greenhouse Plan.

Issues

depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer – destruction of ozone by chlorine and bromide allows more UV radiation to reach the Earth

the enhanced greenhouse effect – longwave radiation is absorbed by greenhouse gases and becomes trapped in the atmosphere, heating the Earth

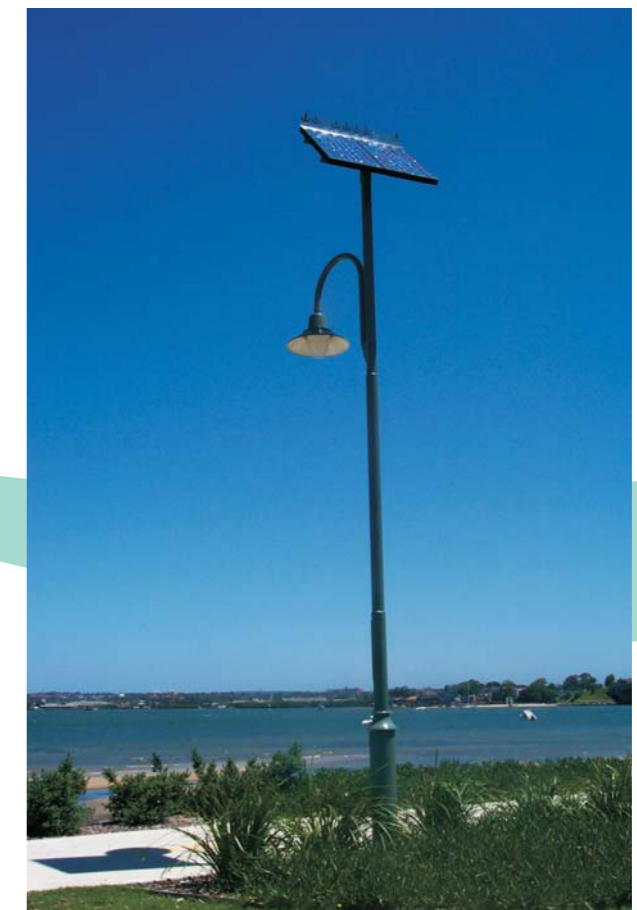
regional and local air pollution – in the presence of sunlight reactions between volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides can lead to smog formation

indoor air pollution – release of air toxins can be harmful to human health

air quality issues associated with the M5 East stack.

Goal

To reduce our emission of atmospheric pollutants, so as to achieve a short term reduction in health impacts and ensure the long term viability of our planet.



No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
A1	Greenhouse gas emissions from office equipment	Reduce energy emissions from computers through Council's IT retrofit program	MBS	Terminal services used to deliver to desktop	Dec 2004
A2		Add greenhouse gas reduction criteria to Council purchasing policy. Purchasing policy to include energy efficiency & life cycle considerations	MBS	Policy updated	Dec 2004
A3		Purchase energy smart photocopiers, printers etc. Policy to require energy star rating of at least 2.5 stars	MBS	Number of energy efficient goods	Ongoing
A4		Install timers on water boilers in Council buildings	MO	Number of timers installed	Dec 2004
A5		Progressively install AAA-rated shower heads & dual flush toilets in Council facilities as toilets & shower heads need replacing	MO	Number of replacements	Ongoing
A6	Energy efficiency of Council buildings	Introduce standards requiring energy efficiency from contractors, include when advertising for tenders	MBS	Contract procedures	September 2004
A7		Ensure best practice energy efficiency standards incorporated into new or renovations of existing Council buildings	MO, MLS, MCEP	Energy standards applied	Ongoing
A8		Investigate energy efficiency improvement options for air conditioning system	MO	Options investigated	June 2005
A9		Paint Administration & Town Hall roofs with heat-rejecting ceramic roof paint to reduce the heat load on the air conditioner	MO	Roof painted	When roof is replaced
A10		Investigate installation of occupancy sensors in Council buildings	MO	Investigation complete	June 2005
A11		Investigate retrofitting lighting in Administration Building, Rockdale Library & Town Hall	MO, MCEP	Investigation complete	June 2004
A12		Replace incandescent lamps with compact fluorescent lamps	MO	Number of lamps changed	Ongoing
A13	Use of non-renewable power sources	Investigate installation of photovoltaic systems on Council buildings	MCEP	Investigation complete	Dec 2004
A14		Purchase 25% Green Power for major Council buildings to demonstrate to the community Council's commitment to renewable energy resources	MBS	Amount of green power purchased	July 2005
A15	Quantification of energy use	Undertake energy audits of all Council facilities to identify where high efficiency improvements can be made at a low cost	MCEP	Energy audits complete	Dec 2004
A16		Coordinate Energy Advisory Team to implement greenhouse gas reduction actions, monitor & review progress of the CGAP	MCEP	EAT meetings held	Ongoing
A17	GHG emissions from street lights	Participate in SSROC initiative to review street lighting contract	MTS, MBS	Initiative supported	Ongoing
A18		Install additional outdoor solar powered lighting. Investigate possibility of solar lighting where new public lighting is required	MLS, MTS, MO	Number of solar lights installed	Ongoing
A19		Investigate energy efficient lighting in open space areas. If solar not appropriate, investigate new lamp technology to reduce energy bills, emissions, & maintenance costs	MLS, MTS, MO	Changes made to lighting	Ongoing

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
A20	GHG emissions from Council fleet & staff transport	Develop a system to track fuel usage & vehicle kilometers travelled by Council vehicles	MBS	System developed	Dec 2003
A21		Investigate replacement of Council fleet with fuel efficient or alternative fuel vehicles.	MBS	Feasibility study complete	Dec 2004
A22		Trial alternative fuel vehicles as they become available	MBS	Vehicles trialed	Ongoing
A23		Investigate replacement of Council diesel trucks with dual fuel or CNG as technology becomes available on the market	MBS	Number of vehicles replaced	Ongoing
A24		Negotiate with waste contractors to use CNG trucks when preparing new contract	MTIS	Negotiation complete	As contracts renewed
A25		Service vehicles regularly to ensure efficiency	MBS, MO	Vehicles serviced to Fleet Policy	Ongoing
A26		Prepare a Council Fleet Policy including economic, social & environmental considerations in decision making regarding fleet	MBS	Policy prepared & adopted by Council	June 2004
A27		Survey staff to estimate vehicle kilometres travelled & interest in purchasing travel passes	MTIS, MCEP	Survey complete	June 2004
A28		Lobby to change FBT on travel passes so Council can offer yearly passes to staff through pay deds	MHR	Letters prepared	Dec 2004
A29		Develop travel / public transport guide for staff promoting alternative transport	MTIS, MCEP	Guide developed	June 2004
A30		Offer staff choice of travel pass & extra salary instead of vehicle	MHR	Number of staff to accept offer	Dec 2004
A31		Facilitate cycling as a mode of travel to work & during work by installing lockable bike racks	MTIS, MO	Bike racks installed	Dec 2005
A32		Educate staff on fuel efficient driving techniques, alternative transport modes, alternative fueled vehicles	MCEP	Material distributed	Ongoing
A33		Join fleet to the 'Greenfleet' Program. A national non profit organisation which facilitates greenhouse gas abatement by planting trees to sequester carbon emissions from vehicles	MBS	Number of cars joined	July 2004 – ongoing
A34	Sequestration of Council	GHG emissions Initiate a 'sister city' relationship with a rural Council & undertake a native tree planting program to sequester carbon emissions from Council operations by planting trees in rural areas, where native trees are needed to reduce other environmental problems such as salinity & erosion	MCEP	Relationship established, number of trees planted	June 2005
A35	Staff awareness of greenhouse gas emissions & abatement methods	Develop energy education program & tools for staff	MCEP	Program developed	June 2004
A36		Provide staff with regular greenhouse abatement updates using the electronic corporate bulletin board	MCEP	Updates provided	Ongoing

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
A37		Incorporate information about Council's greenhouse gas reduction program into staff induction program & include information in staff induction handbook	MCEP, MHR	Environment induction developed	June 2004
A38		Establish recognition & reward program for staff emission reduction initiatives	MCEP	Program developed	June 2004
A39		Report emissions reduction progress to Council regularly – build into State of the Environment Reporting process	MCEP	Reports prepared	Ongoing
A40	Community awareness of greenhouse gas emissions & abatement methods	Use local media & Council's community newsletter to report energy efficiency achievements to the community	MCEP	Articles prepared	Ongoing
A41	Resourcing greenhouse gas reduction programs	Establish a revolving energy fund to reinvest financial savings made through greenhouse actions into further greenhouse gas reduction initiatives	MCEP, CFO	REF established	July 2003
A42		Investigate a financial reporting system whereby energy consumption, electricity costs & greenhouse emissions are entered into a database to assess greenhouse measures & facilitate reporting to Council	MCEP, CFO	Investigation complete	July 2004
A43	Reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions (actions to be undertaken in conjunction with other SSROC Councils & programs)	Develop regional media & communications strategies	MCEP	Strategies developed	Ongoing
A44		Support an energy efficient DCP for the non residential sector	MUP	Support provided to SSROC	Ongoing
A45		Support regional trip generators to develop transport access guides	MTIS	Information provided	Ongoing
A46		Support integrated regional transport programs	MTIS	Support provided	Ongoing
A47		Develop a regional CCP / Greenhouse website	MCEP	Website developed	July 2003
A48		Develop a discount coupon program or retrofit kit across the region	MCEP	Kit developed	June 2005
A49		Identify & promote existing energy efficient buildings in the region	MCEP, MUP	Buildings identified	Ongoing
A50		Create virtual tours of existing energy efficient buildings	MCEP, MUP	Tours created	Ongoing
A51		Develop a regional awards program for energy efficient business & industry	MCEP, MLS	Program developed	June 2004
A52		Develop a regional light rail position paper	MTIS	Paper developed	Dec 2004
A53		Support State Transit Authority initiatives to run on CNG in the region	MTIS	Support communicated	Ongoing

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
A54	Energy efficient design of buildings	Develop a DCP on Energy Efficiency applicable to new developments & alterations / additions or incorporate energy efficiency principals into Council existing DCP's	MUP	DCP adopted	Dec 2003
A55		Implement the DCP through the development approval process	MDAHR	DCP implemented	Ongoing
A56		Educate the community & developers through the development of promotional literature & other fact sheets on energy efficiency	MUP	Promotional literature & fact sheets developed	Ongoing
A57		Train Council staff on implementing the Energy Efficiency DCP	MDAHR	Number of approvals staff trained on DCP requirements	Ongoing
A58	Community awareness of greenhouse gas emission reduction	Provide information about reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using newsletters, displays & Council's website	MCEP	Information distributed	Ongoing
A59		Encourage community to replace light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs)	MCEP	Information distributed	Ongoing
A60		Educate residents about energy efficient water heating	MCEP	Information distributed	Ongoing
A61		Prepare home energy audit guide, including simple steps to reduce energy use, so residents can self-audit their home	MCEP	Guide prepared & distributed	June 2004
A62		Encourage residents to purchase energy efficient appliances	MCEP	Information distributed	Ongoing
A63		Increase Council's carbon sink by continuing to plant 15,000+ trees & shrubs per year. Supply trees to local community groups & schools holding planting days etc	MO	Trees provided to groups	Ongoing
A64		Educate residents & businesses about renewable Greenpower such as wind & solar power	MCEP	Information distributed	Ongoing
A65	Awareness of industry & business of greenhouse gas emissions & abatement methods	Consider requiring commercial & industrial development applications to include an energy conservation plan	MUP	Investigation complete	June 2006
A66		Encourage industry to join the Carbon Neutral Program for Industry, which is run by Greenfleet & Energex	MCEP	Information distributed	Dec 2004
A67		Promote participation in the Greenhouse Challenge & Greenhouse Allies. These Commonwealth Government programs aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through voluntary cooperative agreements	MCEP	Information distributed	Dec 2004
A68		Investigate workshops & information sessions for commercial & industrial businesses, organising energy efficiency information packs, energy audit guidelines for local businesses & encourage local businesses to use Greenpower & remove inefficient neon signage from buildings	MCEP	Investigation complete	June 2004

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
A69		Develop a program to recognise businesses that have undertaken energy efficiency initiatives. Following on from this, subject to funding, investigate auditing small businesses for energy efficiency	MCEP	Program developed	Dec 2004
A70	GHG emissions from transport	Investigate installing more facilities for cyclists (eg bike racks) in parks & shopping centres	MLS	Facilities installed	Ongoing
A71		Require new major developments to include bicycle storage areas	MTIS, MUP	Planning documents altered	Dec 2004
A72		Promote housing development in town centres well serviced by public transport, linked to cycling networks & walking paths	MTIS, MUP	DCPs reflect action	Ongoing
A73		Promote methods of increasing fuel efficiency, such as fuel efficient driving techniques & fuel efficient vehicle options	MCEP	Information distributed	June 2004
A74		Minimise vehicle emissions by reducing frequency & length of trips. Plan for integrated land uses & provisions of public transport, walking & cycling networks	MTIS, MUP	Objectives & controls incorporated into LEP & DCP's	Ongoing
A75		Provide / improve bus shelters & adequate lighting at public transport nodes	MTIS, MTS	Adequate lighting integrated with every bus shelter	Ongoing
A76		Lobby State Govt to make public transport more attractive as an alternate mode of transport	MTIS	Lobbying & advocacy undertaken	Ongoing
A77		Plan for viable public transport networks in all areas including improved pedestrian & bicycle facilities	MTIS, MUP	Incorporated into LEP & DCP's to promote public transport	Ongoing
A78	Emissions from commercial & industrial premises	Conduct environmental auditing/reviews of commercial & industrial premises	MDAHR	Number of commercial & industrial premises reviewed	Ongoing
A79		Apply strict emission control conditions through Council's approval process	MDAHR	Controls applied through approval process	Ongoing
A80		Implement & enforce DA conditions aimed at reducing air & odour emissions	MDAHR	Conditions implemented & enforced	Ongoing
A81		Respond to & follow up community complaints regarding air & odour emissions from commercial & industrial premises	MDAHR	All complaints followed up & reported	Ongoing
A82	Emissions from residential premises	Educate the community in the efficient use of solid fuel heaters	MDAHR, MCEP	Material produced & distributed	July 2003
A83		Enforce backyard burning ban	MDAHR	Complaints responded to	Ongoing
A84	Community awareness about air quality issues	Develop information sheets on air quality issues for distribution to target groups & residents	MCEP	Information sheets produced & distributed	Ongoing
A85		Provide educational information regarding air pollution to industry	MDAHR	Information provided	Ongoing
A86		Encourage local schools to participate in the Air Watch program developed by the EPA	MCEP	Schools made aware of Air Watch program	July 2003
A87	Staff awareness of air quality issues	Raise awareness & involvement in air quality initiatives through Staff Environmental Auditing program	MCEP	Auditing program complete	Ongoing

Biodiversity

Biodiversity is defined as:

The variety of life forms, the different plants, animals and micro-organisms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystem they form. It is usually considered at three levels: genetic diversity, species diversity and ecosystem diversity

Source: Commonwealth of Australia 1996

Genetic diversity refers to the variety of genetic information contained in all individual plants, animals and micro-organisms. Species diversity refers to the variety of species, considering both the number of different species and their abundance. Ecosystem diversity refers to the variety of habitats, biotic communities and ecological processes. Ecosystem diversity has two interrelated components: the diversity of communities of species, and the diversity of interactions between community members (NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service, 1999). An ecosystem consists of plant, animal, fungal and micro-organism communities and the associated non-living environment interacting as an ecological unit (NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service, 1999).

In summary, biodiversity can be defined as the variety and number of living things in the environment.

Why do we value biodiversity?

Biodiversity has many values. Biodiversity is the basis for healthy ecosystems, providing critical processes that make life possible, such as soil formation, nutrient cycling, plant pollination, and pollution breakdown. Biodiversity also provides all food products and the raw materials for essentials such as clothing and medicines. We also value biodiversity for aesthetic, recreational, cultural and scientific purposes (NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service, 1999).

Existing strategies, plans and studies

Rockdale Flora and Fauna Study, Biosphere Consulting 2000

Rockdale Wetlands and Recreation Corridor Management Strategy 2000

Threatened Species Recovery plans

Southern Sydney Catchment Blueprint.

Issues

Protection and maintenance of remnant bushland, including the Rockdale Wetlands Corridor

Protection of threatened and endangered species, populations, and ecological communities

Habitat loss and fragmentation as a result of urban development

Invasion of exotic plant and animal species

Illegal dumping and uncontrolled access.

Goal

To protect native biodiversity and maintain ecological systems and processes.



No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
B1	Effective management of protected flora & fauna	Support NPWS implementing Recovery Plans for threatened species & communities	MLS, MCEP	Recovery plans implemented	Ongoing – as released
B2		Prepare a Management Plan for Acacia terminalis terminalis at Frys Reserve, in line with Recovery Plan by National Parks	MLS, MCEP	Plan complete	Upon release of Recovery Plan
B3		Ensure all rare, threatened & protected species & ecological communities are fully considered when assessing developments	MDAHR	DAs assessed	Ongoing
B4	Modification of natural ecosystems, habitat loss & fragmentation	Enforce Tree Preservation Order. All tree removal applications & inquiries are referred to TPO	MO	Number of Tree Preservation Orders	Ongoing
B5		Implement bush regeneration program for Frys Reserve combining weed control & bush stabilisation practices	MO	Program implemented	Ongoing
B6		Plant street trees to enhance native corridor links between Stotts Reserve & bushland areas in Bardwell Valley & Wolli Creek	MO	Number of trees planted	Ongoing
B7		Establish a plant buffer around the bushland area at Frys Reserve next to the railway easement & public footpath area	MO	Buffer established	June 2005
B8		Investigate methods to restore lost drainage & hydrological regimes at Frys Reserve to prevent the further loss of mesomorphic native plants	MTS, MO	Methods established	Dec 2004
B9		Remove seedlings of Monterey Pines & Bunya Pines from Hawthorne Street Natural Area to allow smaller native species to grow. Thin Monterey Pines to permit understorey growth	MO	Enhanced growth of smaller native species	Ongoing
B10		Examine the feasibility of expanding the lower sections of Tonbridge Creek to utilise the floodplain area & maximise the area for small fish nurseries	MTS	Feasibility study complete	Grant funding required
B11		Remove Coral Trees & plant thickets of Swamp Mahogany & Swamp Sheoaks at Bona Park	MO	Trees removed & replaced	June 2005
B12		Develop a long-term vegetation management plan for the Wetlands Corridor based on: conservation of high value communities, extension of those communities & development of links between communities	MCEP	Plan complete	June 2006
B13		Adapt & adopt the Sydney Coastal Councils Group Model Wetlands DCP	MUP	DCP adopted by Council	June 2007
B14		Prepare & implement Landscape DCP	MTS, MUP	DCP adopted by Council	Dec 2003
B15	Modification of frog habitat	Attend Advisory Committee meetings for the management of the Green & Golden Bell Frog Ponds at Arncliffe	MCEP	Meetings attended	Ongoing
B16		Investigate the creation of additional habitat for the Green & Golden Bell Frog	MCEP, MTS	Investigation complete	Dec 2004

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
B17	Modification of migratory wading bird habitat	Investigate methods to increase water exchange between Spring street wetland & Spring Street Canal	MTS, MO	Increased tidal exchange	June 2004
B18		Remove mangrove seedlings from the entrance to Spring Street Wetland. Investigate methods to prevent seedlings from establishing	MO	Increase in birds using the wetland	Dec 2005
B19	Community involvement & ownership of bushland areas	Provide opportunities for the community to conserve biodiversity through programs such as Bushcare	MO	Number of community bushcare groups	Ongoing
B20		Continue to undertake regular community tree planting days.	MO	At least one community tree planting day held per year.	Ongoing
B21		Include biodiversity information in Council's Schools Environmental Education program	MCEP	Program delivered to schools	Ongoing
B22		Educate residents who neighbour native vegetation that supports threatened species / communities, informing them of the value of the area & how to protect it	MCEP	Information distributed	As funding is available
B23		Promote the conservation of biodiversity by delivering educational components of the NSW Biodiversity Strategy	MCEP	Education program delivered	Ongoing
B24	Landscaping decisions by Council, residents & business	Provide native vegetation maps & lists to nurseries, landscapers & residents to promote greater use of native vegetation in landscaping works	MTS	Information provided	July 2003
B25		Continue propagation of indigenous vegetation species in Council's nursery	MO	Number of plants provided	Ongoing
B26		Adopt a policy on selection of trees. Encourage use of indigenous species & species that do not damage pipes	MLS, MTS	Policy adopted	June 2004
B27	Monitoring changes to biodiversity	Establish mechanisms for long term biodiversity monitoring	MCEP, MO	Mechanism established	Dec 2004
B28		Undertake study to determine original aquatic & riparian habitat & compile inventory of riparian & aquatic habitats & their state, significance & connectivity	MCEP	Study complete	June 2006
B29		Continue to update Council's tree database	MO, MTS	Database updated	Ongoing
B30	Protection of remnant bushland	Develop a biodiversity management plan including protection of remnant bushland, rehabilitation of disturbed areas & weed control	MCEP	Plan developed	As grant funding is available
B31		Replant larger eucalypt to restore woodland structure in Wolli Creek Valley	MO	Number of eucalypts planted	Ongoing
B32		Establish buffer zones around remnant bushland areas	MUP, MO	Buffer zones mapped in LEP	June 2006
B33		Enhance the movement of priority species within & between areas of remnant bushland	MO	Corridors improved	Ongoing
B34		Ensure that recreational leaseholders do not encroach on bushland areas & that areas of bushland in leases are protected	MLS	Provision in lease	Ongoing

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
B35		Increase awareness regarding encroachment onto bushland areas & invasion of exotics	MCEP	Information distributed	Ongoing
B36		Enhance Stotts Reserve to minimise degradation associated with recreational use in other parts of the Reserve	MO	Buffer in place	Ongoing
B37		Manage remnant bushland to maintain floristic & structural diversity	MO	Increased Diversity of species & structure	Ongoing
B38		Re-establish endemic mesic plants along the central watercourse of Stotts Reserve	MO	Number of plants established	Dec 2005
B39		Develop plan to managing natural areas of Scarborough Park as conservation areas	MLS	Plan developed	June 2006
B40		Rezone significant conservation areas as Open Space Conservation Zone in LEP Including Hawthorne Street Natural Area, Frys Reserve, Landing Lights Wetland, Marsh Street Wetland, Eve Street Wetlands, Middle Bardwell Valley Parklands, Stotts Reserve, Upper Bardwell Valley, Russell Avenue	MUP	LEP updated	June 2006
B41		Enhance Wolli Creek Mangroves & Saltmarsh through bush regeneration programs. Approach railway to investigate minimisation of sediment & disturbance	MO, MTS	Bush regeneration undertaken & railways approached	June 2006
B42	Fire management	Develop site specific fire management plans for parks & reserves allowing for low intensity fires to stimulate germination of native plant species	MLS	Plan developed	June 2006
B43		Support DIPNR develop & implement integrated bushland management code of practice including fire management	MCEP	Support provided	As required
B44		Assess & map bushfire risk	MLS	Maps complete	Dec 2004
B45	Public access	Investigate methods to prevent public access to bird nesting sites in the Landing lights Wetland	MLS	Increase in number of birds visiting wetlands	June 2006
B46		Investigate viewing hides / screens at Landing Lights Wetland to reduce the impact of public access	MLS	Increase in number of birds visiting wetlands	June 2006
B47		Restrict public access to the area of Acacia terminalis terminalis at Frys Reserve by planting barrier plants or placing physical barriers	MO	Improved habitat for plant species	June 2006
B48		Establish appropriate locations & facilities for bird watching in the Wetlands corridor with minimal disturbance to bird life	MLS	Facilities installed	June 2006
B49		Maintain bushwalking tracks	MO	Tracks in good condition	Ongoing
B50	Community awareness of significant natural areas	Install signs on the significance of natural areas of bushland such as Hawthorne Street & Frys Reserve	MO	Signs installed	Ongoing
B51		Provide signage at bush regeneration sites	MO	Signs installed	Ongoing
B52	Management of weeds, pest animals & introduced species	Undertake review of weed management Policy & Strategy	MLS	Policy reviewed & updated	June 2005

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
B53		Implement maintenance programs for control of noxious & environmental weed species or management of specific sites	MO	Programs implemented	Ongoing
B54		Implement a weed removal & control program in Stotts Reserve	MO	Weeds removed	Ongoing
B55		Eradicate fox dens from the City	MDAHR, MO	Fewer fox sightings	Ongoing
B56		Mulch contact zones where mowed areas abut bushland. Ensure fertilisers or herbicides are not be used near bushland	MO	Reduction in weeds	Ongoing
B57		Investigate methods to reduce exotic species from Scarborough Park, inc introduced ducks, to improve the habitat of native water fowl	MDAHR	Methods determined for implementation	Ongoing
B58		Compost the edges of tracks through bushland areas to reduce the encroachment of weeds	MO	Reduction in weed invasion	Ongoing
B59		Encourage residents to keep domestic pets indoors at night	MDAHR, MCEP	Information distributed	Ongoing
B60		Train Council bush regeneration staff in Bushland Weed Control	MO	Staff trained	Ongoing
B61		Encourage the formation of community bushcare groups to assist Council in the control of weeds on community land	MO	Number of bushcare groups operating	Ongoing
B62		Prepare information brochures & education programs to ensure that residents are aware of the impacts of weeds on the environment & encouraged to control weeds on their property	MTS, MCEP	Information distributed	Ongoing
B63		Ensure staff & contractors are aware of Council's Weed Management Policy & weed control techniques	MO	Policy distributed	Ongoing
B64		Commence program of removing horse grazing & training areas adjacent to waterways for leased areas controlled by Council & development applications assessed against Council's Environment Policy	MLS	Horse numbers reduced	Ongoing
B65		Develop procedures to eradicate aquatic weeds	MCEP, MTS, MO	Procedures developed & implemented	Dec 2004
B66		Develop & implement a program to eliminate the risk of weed species being sold through plant wholesalers & retailers	MTS, MCEP	Program implemented	Dec 2004

Waste Management and Minimisation

Management and minimisation of waste is an important community issue and is one of Council's key activities. Council collects household waste and community waste from public places such as street sweeping. Other waste generated in Rockdale includes building and demolition waste, commercial waste, industrial waste and green waste. To maximise the conservation of resources and, therefore, minimise environmental impacts, the following 'waste management hierarchy' is encouraged (in order of priority):

- Avoid waste
- Reuse waste
- Recycle and reprocess waste
- Dispose waste.

Why is waste management important?

A significant amount of natural resources are lost through waste - for every tonne of non-putrescible waste disposed, one tonne of natural resources is consumed. Environmental impacts arise from waste generation and disposal, such as pollution of waterways, generation of greenhouse gases, and contamination of land. Waste can also impact on local amenity creating issues such as odour (NSW Environment Protection Authority, 2000b).

Existing plans and studies

Rockdale Waste Management Strategy.

Issues

- Encouraging waste avoidance in the first instance
- encouraging waste reduction
- litter
- illegal dumping
- reuse of greenwaste
- contamination of recycling bins.

Goal

To reduce waste generation overall by promoting waste avoidance, and to divert waste from landfill by encouraging reuse.

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
M1	Residential, industrial & commercial waste production	Implement waste education programs aimed at promoting the waste hierarchy, & in particular, encouraging reuse & recycling behaviour in residences, schools & workplaces	MTIS	Program delivered	Ongoing
M2	Council waste management	Review & update the Local Waste Management Plan in accordance with State Government policy changes	MTIS	Plan reviewed & updated	June 2005
M3		Investigate strategies to reduce organics entering the waste stream	MTIS	Strategies developed	Ongoing
M4		Investigate opportunities to collect & dispose of waste & recyclables on a regional basis	MTIS	Contracts in place	June 2005
M5		Investigate more efficient methods of disposing street sweeping waste & creek cleaning waste	MO, MTIS	Methods identified & adopted	Dec 2004
M6		Investigate disposal methods for internally generated greenwaste	MO	Methods investigated	Ongoing
M7		Investigate a resource recovery waste disposal strategy	MTIS	Contracts developed	Dec 2005
M8	Industrial waste production	Lobby Resource NSW to provide education targeted at industry & business promoting cleaner production	MTIS	Letters submitted	Ongoing
M9		Educate industry & business about waste minimisation & recycling opportunities	MTIS	Services offered	Ongoing
M10	Residential waste production	Implement & evaluate mulch back green waste service	MTIS, MO	System implemented	June 2004
M11		Implement a communication strategy to inform the community about waste	MTIS	Strategy implemented	Ongoing
M12		Provide direct feedback to residents on recycling bin contamination	MTIS	Number of contacts	Ongoing



No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
M13	Illegal dumping	Investigate methods of reducing illegal dumping	MTIS, MO	Reduced incidence of illegal dumping	Ongoing
M14		Litter Investigate management options for litter in parks & develop litter management plans following analysis of trials.	MO	Reduced litter in parks	Ongoing
M15		Continue litter reduction education, targeting shopping centres, commercial zones & fast food outlets, pamphlet & paper deliverers, & residents	MTIS	Education undertaken	Ongoing
M16	Council waste production	Investigate using paper with recycled content in office	MBS (Supply Management)	Feasibility determined	July 2004
M17		Conduct waste audit of all business unit activities over one week per year to establish waste generation trends for Council	MO	Audit complete	Ongoing
M18		Develop performance targets for Business Unit waste reduction	MTIS	Targets developed	Dec 2004
M19		Implement Get it Green Waste Reduction & Procurement Policy (WRAPP) to assist Council in evaluating environmental impacts of products when making purchasing decisions	MBS (Supply Management)	Policy implemented	Ongoing
M20		Continue to improve workplace waste reduction, recycling & reuse systems	MTIS, MCEP	Reduction in internal waste	Ongoing
M21		Promote waste management initiatives through internal newsletter	MCEP	Newsletter distributed	Ongoing
M22		Develop staff waste education program including signage & other tools to educate & remind staff about waste avoidance	MCEP, MTIS	Program developed	Ongoing
M23		Continue Council greenwaste mulching program & use of mulch to fertilise Council parks & gardens	MO	Mulch distributed to parks	Ongoing

Environmental Amenity

Environmental amenity refers to those environmental aspects that make life pleasant and comfortable. Access to clean water, clean air, adequate shelter and food are fundamental to good human health. This includes visual amenity.

Noise pollution can be defined as unwanted or offensive sounds that intrude unreasonably into people's lives. Noise pollution has many sources, including road, rail, industry, recreational and residential. Noise can affect many aspects of human health, contributing to stress and anxiety, sleep disturbance, communication and social behaviour. Noise can cause annoyance and frustration as a result of interference, interruption and distraction (NSW Environment Protection Authority, 1999b).

Why do we value environmental amenity?

If we live in a City with a high level of environmental amenity, we may feel more relaxed and healthy. Environmental factors can have a direct impact on human health, by having a causal relationship with health issues such as respiratory disease, asthma, cancer, immune suppression and insect-borne diseases.

Existing plans and studies

Telecommunications DCP
 Noise Management Guidelines
 Industrial Noise Management Guidelines
 Contaminated Land Management Policy and SEPP 55.

Issues

Traffic noise
 Domestic noise such as air conditioners and barking dogs
 Industrial noise
 Aircraft noise
 Visual amenity such as clutter and visual pollution such as telecommunications infrastructure.

Goal

To ensure the Rockdale community and visitors to the community live, work and relax in a healthy ambient environment.



No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
E1	Visual pollution	Act quickly to clear new graffiti & vandal damage	MO	Reduction in graffiti & vandalism	Ongoing
E2		Review the Advertising DCP to control outdoor advertising	MUP	DCP adopted by Council	June 2006
E3		Develop Telecommunications DCP to control the location of & reduce the visual impacts & possible health impacts of telecommunications infrastructure	MUP	DCP adopted by Council	July 2003
E4	Noise pollution	Implement Council's responsibilities under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act with regard to preventing noise nuisance	MDAHR	Number of CRMS actioned	Ongoing
E5		Undertake noise management in accordance with the Draft Noise Guide for Local Government & NSW Industrial Noise Policy	MDAHR	Guide complied with	Ongoing
E6		Prevent noise pollution through the development assessment process	MDAHR	Noise pollution assessed	Ongoing
E7		Consider noise pollution impacts when undertaking land use planning	MUP	Noise pollution impacts assessed	Ongoing
E8		Monitor airport noise complaints & lobby Airports Corporation to manage noise impacts of its operations	MDAHR	Number of noise complaints	Ongoing
E9		Review the Draft Sydney Airport Masterplan	MTIS, MUP	Submission made	As required
E10	Environmental health	Ensure regulated premises comply with relevant public health & environmental standards	MDAHR	Premises inspected	Ongoing

Heritage

Heritage involves places and landscapes of historic, cultural, social, spiritual sacrifice, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic significance. New South Wales has been the home of Aboriginal people for 50,000 years and the evidence of their known presence is everywhere in the landscape. Aboriginal places and landscapes of significance include ceremonial sites, camping places, sacred landscapes, quarries, burial sites, massacre sites, historic reserves and mission statements, paintings and engravings. It should be recognised that many places of historic heritage significance are also valued by Aboriginal people, due to their association with those places, either since or prior to European settlement. The built environment includes buildings, works, shipwrecks, relics and places where important events occurred, or which have important historic associations. The natural environment includes elements of the natural world such as plants, animals, ecosystems on which they depend and geographic features formed by geological and climatic processes such as a woodland or a fossil site. The modified environment, or cultural landscape, includes areas of the natural environment modified by human occupation such as a rural landscape, a designed garden or an avenue of trees.

Local government has played a pivotal role in heritage management in New South Wales since 1985 when it was given responsibility for protecting local heritage through the local environmental planning process, under the EP&A Act. Today, local government fulfils its role largely through environmental planning instruments such as regional and local environmental plans.

The above information was taken from the Local Government Heritage Guidelines (2002) developed by the NSW Heritage Office.

Why is heritage important?

Heritage provides communities with an emotional and physical link to the past. Items of heritage significance have particular values that make it special to past, present and future generations. These may be its historical origins and subsequent development, its association with particular people or events, its visual or townscape qualities, its construction or other technical qualities, a religious or symbolic role and archaeological research potential. The values may not only be evident in the fabric or physical material of the place, building, work, relic, movable object or precinct, but also in the relationship with its surroundings, and in associated documents that can be researched to gain knowledge of the item and its significance. The values do not have to be mutually exclusive and usually a place will have multiple values. The values of an item will depend on its integrity, comparative standing, and community perceptions (NSW Heritage Office, 2002).

Existing plans and studies

Rockdale City Council Aboriginal Heritage Study 1999

Rockdale Heritage Study 1991.

Issues

Protecting heritage buildings

protecting sites of significant Aboriginal heritage

education and promotion of heritage conservation.

Goal

To ensure the Aboriginal and European heritage values of our community are recognised and protected for the benefit of current and future generations.



No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
H1	Community awareness & appreciation	Enhance understanding of Aboriginal cultural heritage by supporting State Government education programs	MCEP	Programs supported	Ongoing
H2		Increase awareness of Aboriginal cultural heritage in Rockdale by installing interpretive signage to signify the historical context of particular areas	MCEP, MO	Signage installed	June 2006
H3		Consult with Land Council representatives regarding initiatives in relation to heritage management & community awareness & education	MUP, MCEP	Consultation undertaken	Ongoing
H4	Protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage	Ensure that items of Aboriginal heritage are adequately protected under Council's planning instruments	MUP	Planning instruments amended accordingly	Ongoing
H5		Encourage & support consultation with the local Aboriginal community regarding management of their heritage	MUP	Consultation undertaken	Ongoing
H6		Involve the Aboriginal community in heritage interpretation projects	MCEP	Community involvement programs development	Ongoing
H7		Identify pressures on items of Aboriginal heritage & develop appropriate responses to mitigate these pressures	MUP, MCEP	Pressures identified	Ongoing
H8		Update Council's sensitive sites map as additional Aboriginal heritage sites or places become known	MUP	Maps updated	Ongoing
H9		Maintain awareness of known sites listed on the NPWS Aboriginal sites register & legislative requirements regarding Section 90 consents for Aboriginal sites & places	MUP	Staff knowledge updated	Ongoing
H10		Undertake archaeological assessments where appropriate to identify & assess Aboriginal heritage sites & identify appropriate management options	MUP	Assessments undertaken where necessary	Ongoing
H11		Advise developers of their responsibilities regarding Aboriginal heritage	MUP, MDAHR	Information distributed	Ongoing

No	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Performance Indicator	Timeframe
H12		Identify on Section 149 certificates where a NPWS registered Aboriginal relic or place affects such land, while maintaining confidentiality in terms of the exact location of sites or places	MUP, MDAHR	S149 certificates updated	Ongoing
H13		Educate Council staff about the Aboriginal heritage values in the City & the requirements under the NPW Act regarding identification, notification, protection & management of Aboriginal relics & places, including the confidentiality of site locations	MUP, MCEP	Information distributed	Ongoing
H14		Develop educational materials to be placed at information points such as customer service centre & libraries describing the Aboriginal heritage of the area & importance of conserving it	MCEP, MUP	Materials developed	Ongoing
H15		Ensure staff are aware of procedures to take if cultural material is found at any time	MCEP, MO	Staff aware	Ongoing
H16		Recognise & interpret Aboriginal association with places in concert with the Metropolitan Land Council & other stakeholders	MUP	Interpretation complete	Ongoing
H17	Management of other cultural heritage	Develop interpretive trails highlighting the heritage of areas	MUP, MO	Trails developed	Ongoing
H18		Complete Stage 4 Heritage Review & undertake Stage 5 Heritage Review	MUP	Review complete, LEP updated	June 2004
H19		Develop Heritage Conservation Policy & Guidelines	MUP	Policy & guidelines complete	Dec 2003
H20		Participate in National Trust Heritage Festival	MUP	Festival attended	Ongoing
H21		Process heritage grant applications	MUP	Grants awarded	Ongoing
H22		Service Heritage Advisory Committee	MUP	Support provided	Ongoing
H23		Implement the recommendations of heritage studies prepared for individual sites	MUP	Implementation complete	Ongoing

Environmental Education

Actions in this Plan need to be accompanied by quality environmental education. Council needs to integrate education within all major environmental and natural resource management programs. The following key actions regarding environmental education can be applied across all the environmental issue categories outlined in this Plan.

Use Council's website as an environmental education tool, identifying and promoting good practice examples of environmental education initiatives and encouraging sustainable living

Deliver specific environmental education programs that address priority sustainability issues in a coordinated fashion

Coordinate environmental education programs with school education programs and other State government education programs

Work in partnership with other education providers to deliver effective, well targeted education

Utilise partnerships with other education providers (including ROCs and other local councils) to achieve cost efficiencies and identify additional resource options for the delivery of quality education

Provide education that meets the specific needs of different community sectors, such as the NESB community and people with disabilities

Enhance the capacity of community groups and volunteers (eg through Bushcare, Earthworks etc) to deliver environmental education

Undertake evaluation of all environmental education programs

Design education programs that engage people in critically examining their decision-making processes, encourage and achieve behavioural change, and promote lifelong learning.



Implementation, Monitoring and Review

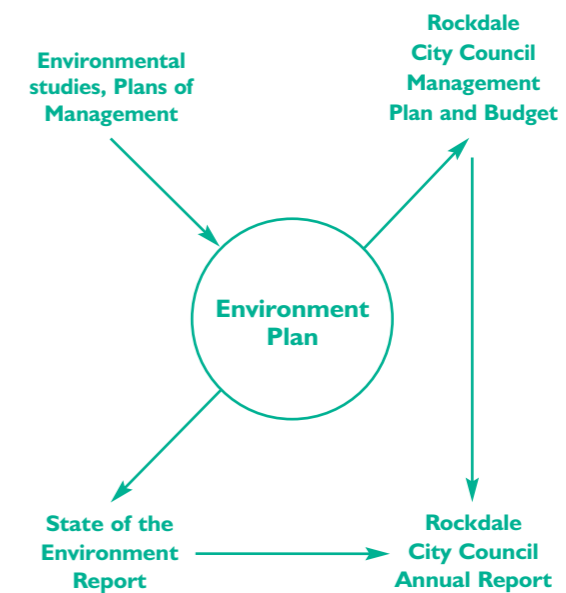
Implementation of the Environment Plan is the responsibility of all sections of Council. Responsible Units have been identified for each action.

Council will establish a multidisciplinary advisory committee to ensure that the Environment Policy is adhered to and actions from the Plan implemented throughout Council's Service Units. The advisory committee will also be given responsibility for ensuring Council abides by the principles of ecologically sustainable development, aiding Council in its journey towards making Rockdale a sustainable city. It is proposed that the Committee be known as the 'Sustainability Advisory Committee' and would consist of a range of staff from Environmental Planning, Urban Planning, Transport Planning, Community Planning, Finance, Environmental Health, Operations, and Technical Services. This would be a similar group to the team responsible for State of the Environment Reporting.

Relationships to other management and reporting tools

The Environment Plan relates directly to a number of existing management tools used by Council, including the State of the Environment Report, Council's Management Plan, Social Plan, Heritage Plan and various existing policies.

The Plan differs from the annual State of the Environment Report, which is used as a tool for reporting on past environmental performance, rather than planning for the future. The link with the State of the Environment Report will enable regular reporting on the actions contained in the Plan. The findings from each annual State of the Environment Report will be used as a guide for review of the Plan. The Plan will be used to inform Council's Management Plan, particularly the strategic direction 'protecting the natural environment', and will be reviewed in the same time frame.



Council's Management Plan is the key forward planning document. The Management Plan outlines the activities planned by Council in the coming three financial years. Actions in the Management Plan form the basis of the workplans for individual Service Units within Council.

The actions in the Environment Plan will be incorporated into the Management Plan by priority.

Resourcing proposed actions

Some of the recommended actions will be funded from existing staff and budget allocations while many others will require additional resources. Should Council adopt an Environment Levy, this could be used to fund projects in the plan. Some actions requiring significant resourcing will require grant funding, and as such will be undertaken only as appropriate grant programs become available. It should be noted that the Plan itself will aid Council in its application for grant funding. Where Council can show that specific projects are part of a long term plan, Council will be more likely to have success in applying for funding.

Some actions may require the allocation of additional funds from the budget. The allocation of such funds will be part of the normal budget development process undertaken each year.

Actions that have not been able to attract funding will be reviewed in light of this issue at the end of the three year period.

Monitoring

Monitoring and reporting on the progress of the Environment Plan is an important step. The implementation and monitoring of the Plan will be overseen by the Environmental Planning Unit. Actual monitoring will be undertaken via Council's Management Plan reporting process. The proposed Sustainability Advisory Committee will play an important role in monitoring the Plan. The Committee will meet annually to identify completed actions and develop additional actions. Each year, actions from this Plan will be included in Council's Management Plan. These actions will be reported on via Council's Management Plan reporting process. The actions in this Plan will also be reported each financial year in Council's State of the Environment Report. Periodically, specific achievements will be reported to Council and to the community.

Review

It is intended that the Environment Plan will be a living document. The Plan will be reviewed annually, following reporting on the year's achievements in the State of the Environment report due in November. The State of the Environment Report will identify new actions for inclusion in the Plan. The Plan will be updated in December each year, in time for inclusion of actions in the following year's Management Plan.

A complete review of the Environment Plan will be undertaken in late 2005. The review will allow forward planning for the period July 2006 to June 2009.

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