

# Urban Forest Strategy Refresh

Results of Shaping Banyule Consultation for Draft Urban Forest  
Strategy Draft July 2023



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# 1. Background

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The Urban Forest Strategy (UFS) will establish guidelines, principles, plans and actions to preserve and enhance our urban forest. It will also detail goals and actions for the next ten years. Council has prepared the draft UFS in consultation with a broad range of stakeholders.

In late 2021 Banyule Councillors, together with the appointed UFS Community Reference Group (CRG), Banyule Environment and Climate Action Advisory Committee (BECAC) and the internal Project Working Group (PWG) participated in a series of workshops. The outcome of the workshops was a set of value and vision statements, which describe what a successful, healthy, resilient and equitable urban forest looks like for Banyule.

With Mosaic Insights (the consultant), a definition of Urban Forest, a Vision statement and a draft set of Principles were developed, bringing together feedback from the workshops, Banyule's Community Vision 2041 and the current Urban Forest Strategic Plan.

**Urban Forest Definition:** *Banyule's urban forest is the trees, and greening assets, that exist in an urban area, that are strategically planned, designed, and managed and the ecosystems, soils and water that support them.*

**Vision:** *Banyule's urban forest is resilient. It is thriving and people are aware and value the role of the urban forest for health and wellbeing and in making Banyule a great place to live. The urban forest is managed as an essential asset for Banyule and decisions about the urban forest are fit for place and purpose and space is provided to support greening and larger tree canopy. People work with Council and are active in the protection, management, and maintenance of the urban forest.*

## Stage 1 Engagement

The framework and draft principles for the update of the Urban Forest Strategy were made available on Shaping Banyule for public feedback between December 2021 and February 2022. Two methods of engagement were used

1. A survey asking people what urban forest means to them and their views on the principles and potential actions
2. A social map where people could drop a pin to tell us what actions Council should undertake to manage Banyule's urban forest and what people like about Banyule's urban forest.

The responses resulted in a revised set of principles that were presented and endorsed by Council at their meeting in February 2022.

### Principles:

1. We believe the urban forest is an essential asset for Banyule, shared by all and crucial for the health and wellbeing of the community and natural environment.
2. We believe a healthy urban forest is the result of strong partnerships between Council and community.
3. We act today to respond to the changing climate and to leave a positive legacy for the future community, and we act responsibly, using evidence-based practice in our leadership and management of the urban forest.
4. We plan, design and deliver for the people, places and natural environments of Banyule including:

- Climate change and reduction of urban heat island
  - Liveability, amenity and neighbourhood character
  - Banyule’s ecosystems and biodiversity
5. We protect and enhance the Banyule’s natural environment to care for flora and fauna.

Guided by the framework of vision and principles, six **Strategic Areas** emerged:

1. Prioritise urban forest improvements in the most vulnerable suburbs and places across Banyule
2. Improve planting to complement trees
3. Manage the urban forest across public and private land for resilience to climate change
4. Take a long-term approach to Urban Forest management
5. Build community partnership with council to protect and enhance the urban forest
6. Integrate the urban forest principles into all parts of Council services

The report with full results for the draft principles can be found [on Shaping Banyule](#).

## Stage 2 Engagement

Actions were developed as a result of the consultation with community and key stakeholders. The Strategic Areas and actions were shared and tested with community through a Shaping Banyule survey from 9 to 20 May 2022.

Participants were provided with a [background briefing document](#) that summarised data used to assess the current state of the Banyule Urban Forest, outline the Vision and Principles and provide the Strategic Areas and actions that were developed as a result of Stage 1 community engagement. 92% of participants agreed or strongly agreed with the Strategic Areas. Comments were also sought on the Strategic Areas, allowing questions or requests for alternative action. The full report for the draft Strategic Areas and actions can be viewed [on Shaping Banyule](#).

## Stage 3 Engagement

At their meeting in August 2022, Council resolved for further community engagement on the UFS to be undertaken. This included public exhibition of the revised UFS on Shaping Banyule between 16 December 2022 and 31 March 2023, and three community forums.

A summary of the community forums is included in Error! Reference source not found. below.

**Table 1** Forum participation and no. questions/comments received

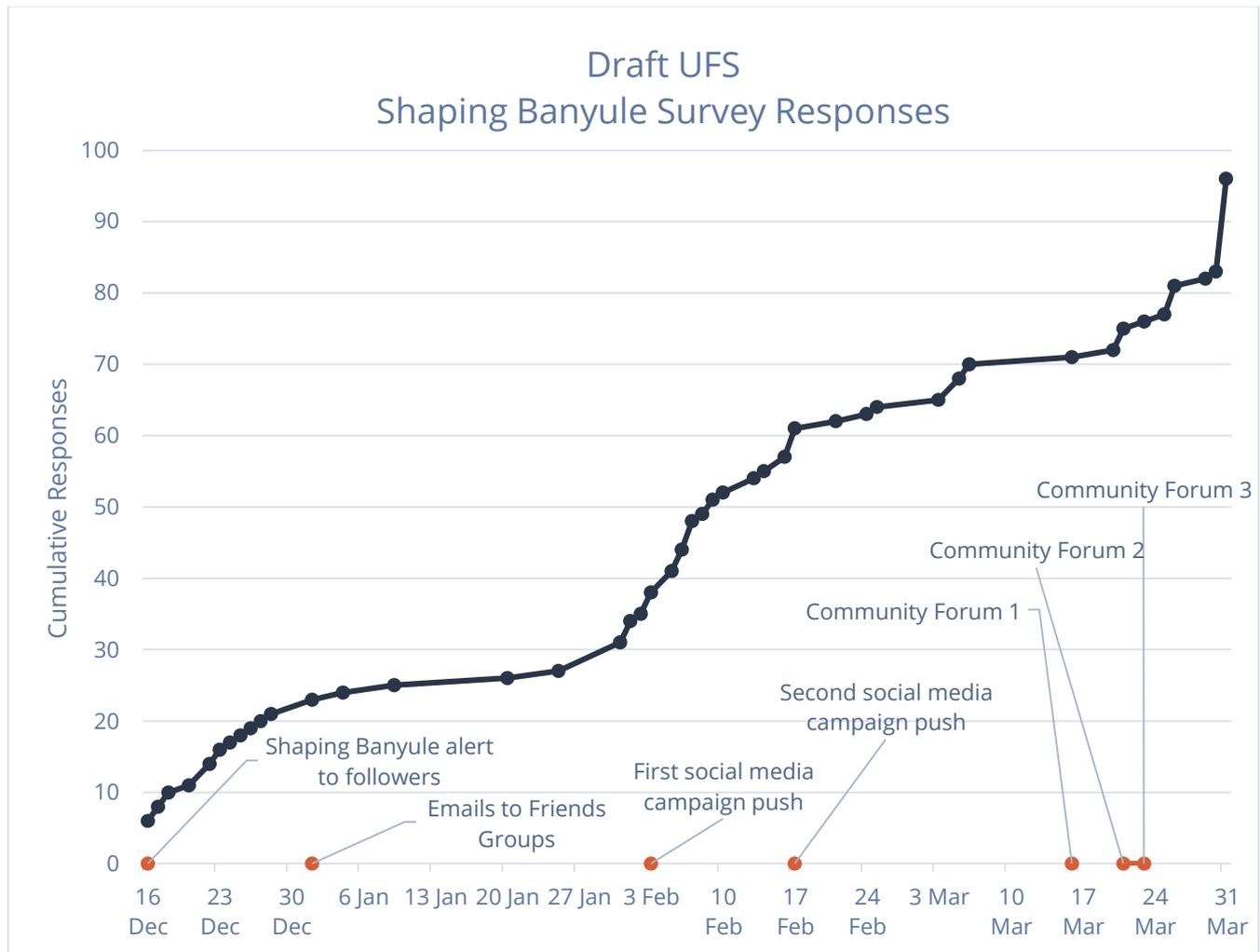
	No. participants	No. questions/comments
<b>Workshop 1:</b> 16 March 2023	17	22
<b>Workshop 2:</b> 21 March 2023	17	38
<b>Workshop 3:</b> 23 March 2023	20	51
<b>Total</b>	54 (46 unique)	111

This report includes the results of the three forums and Shaping Banyule survey during stage 3 consultation.

## 2. Stage 3 responses

Stage 3 community engagement used social media to direct people to Shaping Banyule.

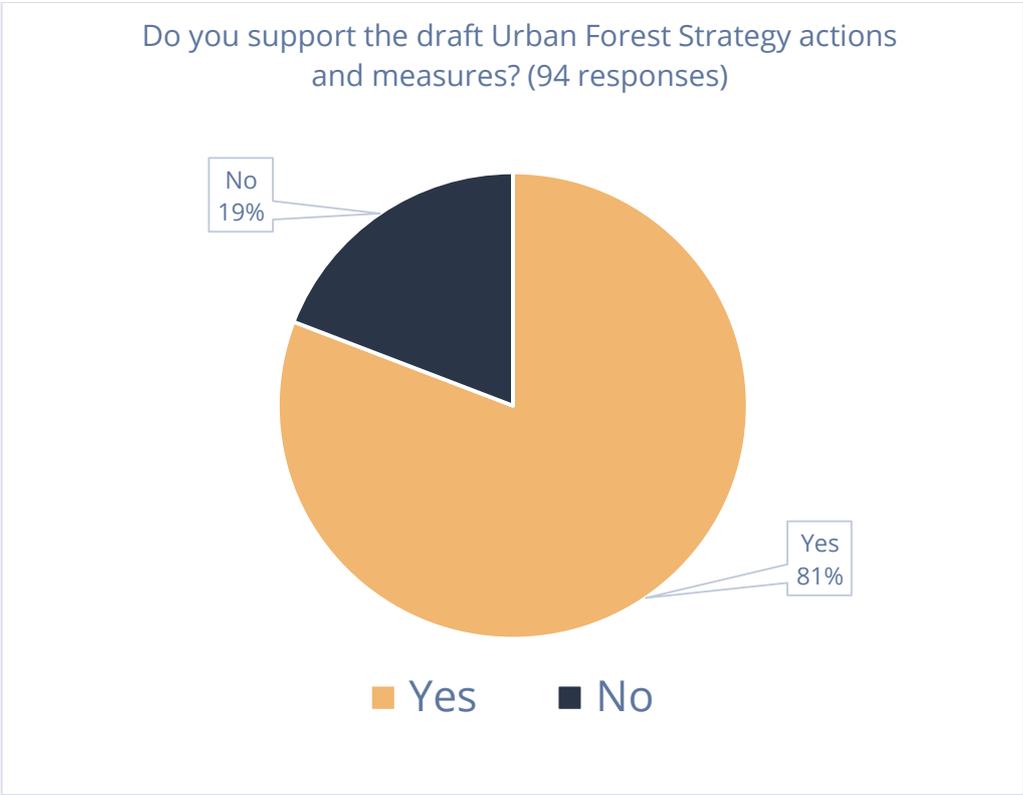
The campaign reached 50,514 people and there were 2,474 views of the UFS Shaping Banyule page. The cumulative responses can be seen in **Figure 1**.



**Figure 1** Survey responses during Stage 3 engagement on the draft Urban Forest Strategy

We received 94 responses through an online survey on Shaping Banyule and 21 long form submissions via email and post.

The survey results at **Figure 2** below show that 81% of the community support the draft UFS and associated actions and measures. This is strong confirmation that the draft Strategy is well-supported.

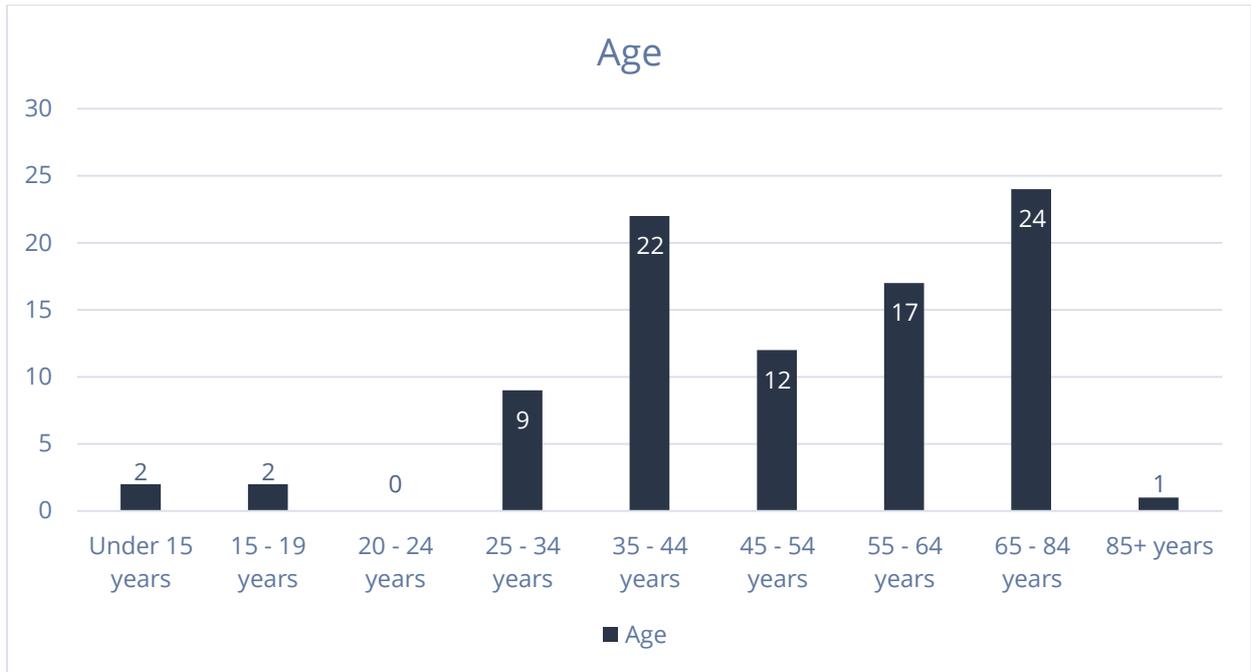


**Figure 2** Shaping Banyule feedback on support for the draft Urban Forest Strategy

### 3. Shaping Banyule respondent demographics

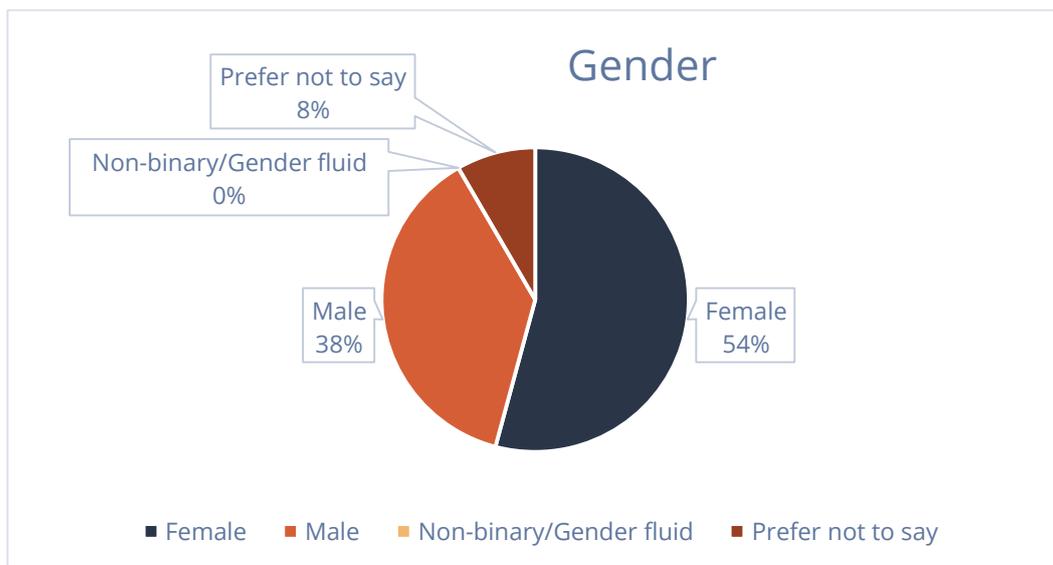
The age and gender demographics of Shaping Banyule survey respondents are in **Figure 3 and Figure 4** below.

The age spread of respondents is broad, with nearly all ages having some representation. The numbers are significantly higher in the 35-84 brackets with lower numbers between 15-34.



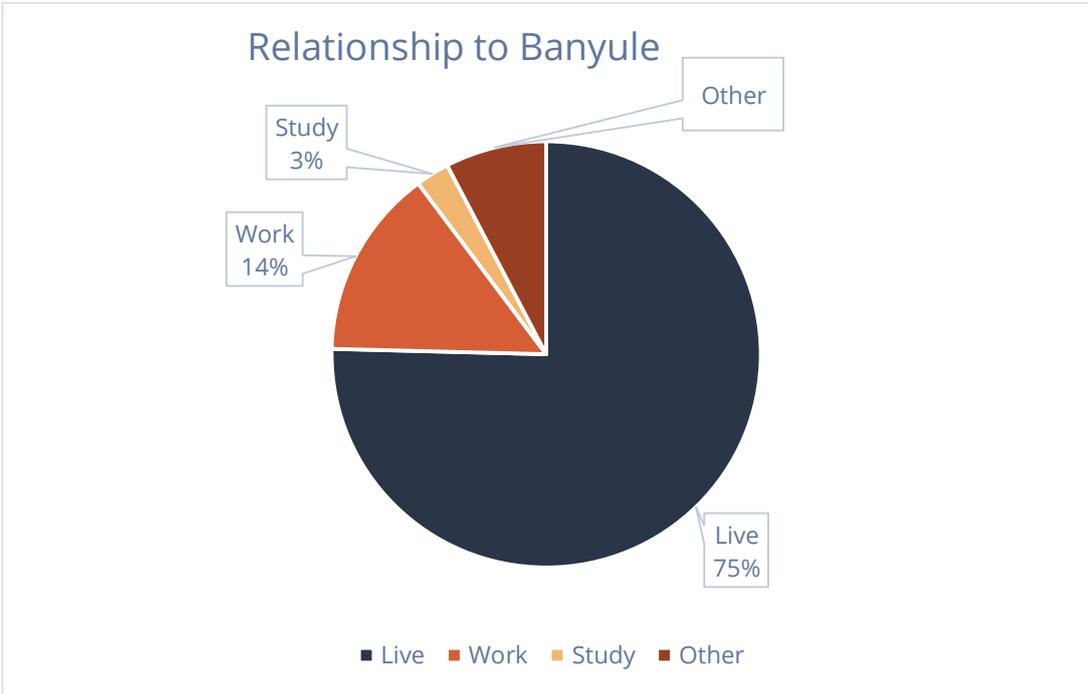
**Figure 3** Age of people who responded to the draft Urban Forest Strategy survey

We can also see that 54% of respondents identified as female, 38% as male and 8% preferred not to say.



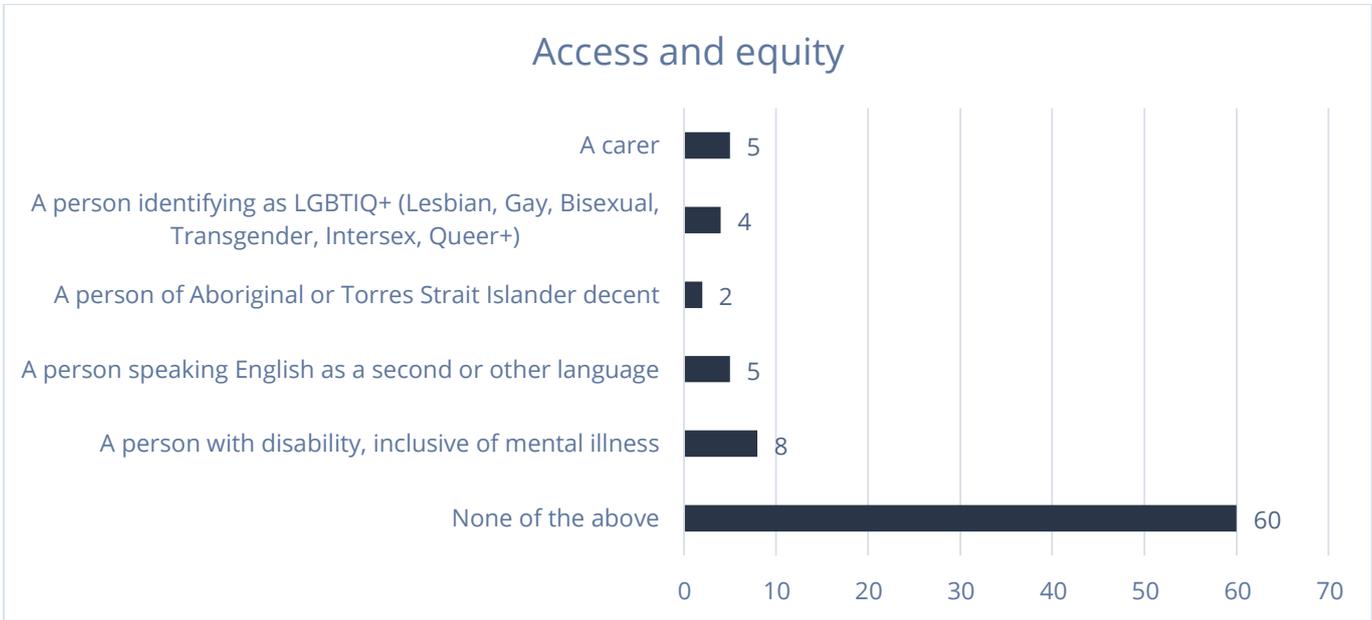
**Figure 4** Gender of respondents to draft Urban Forest Strategy survey

The next two graphs show respondents' relationship to Banyule (**Figure 5**) and identification with access and equity questions (**Figure 6**). In terms of people's relationship to Banyule, 75% of respondents live in Banyule, 14% work in Banyule, 3% study and the remaining 8% recorded 'other'.



**Figure 5** UFS survey respondents' relationship to Banyule

At least two respondents identified with each of the Access and Equity groups, with eight people identifying as living with disability, as can be seen in the graph below.



**Figure 6** Access and equity responses from people who completed the draft UFS survey

## 4. Community forum themes

All community feedback from the workshops have been analysed and grouped within key emerging themes. Figure 7 demonstrates the key themes and how many responses correlated.

The most common key theme was measurement (which includes targets, KPIs and reporting **Table 2**) with 12.6% of questions or comments received relating to this topic (N=14), followed by 11.7% on the engagement process (N=13) and 10.8% relating to the document structure and inclusions (N=12).

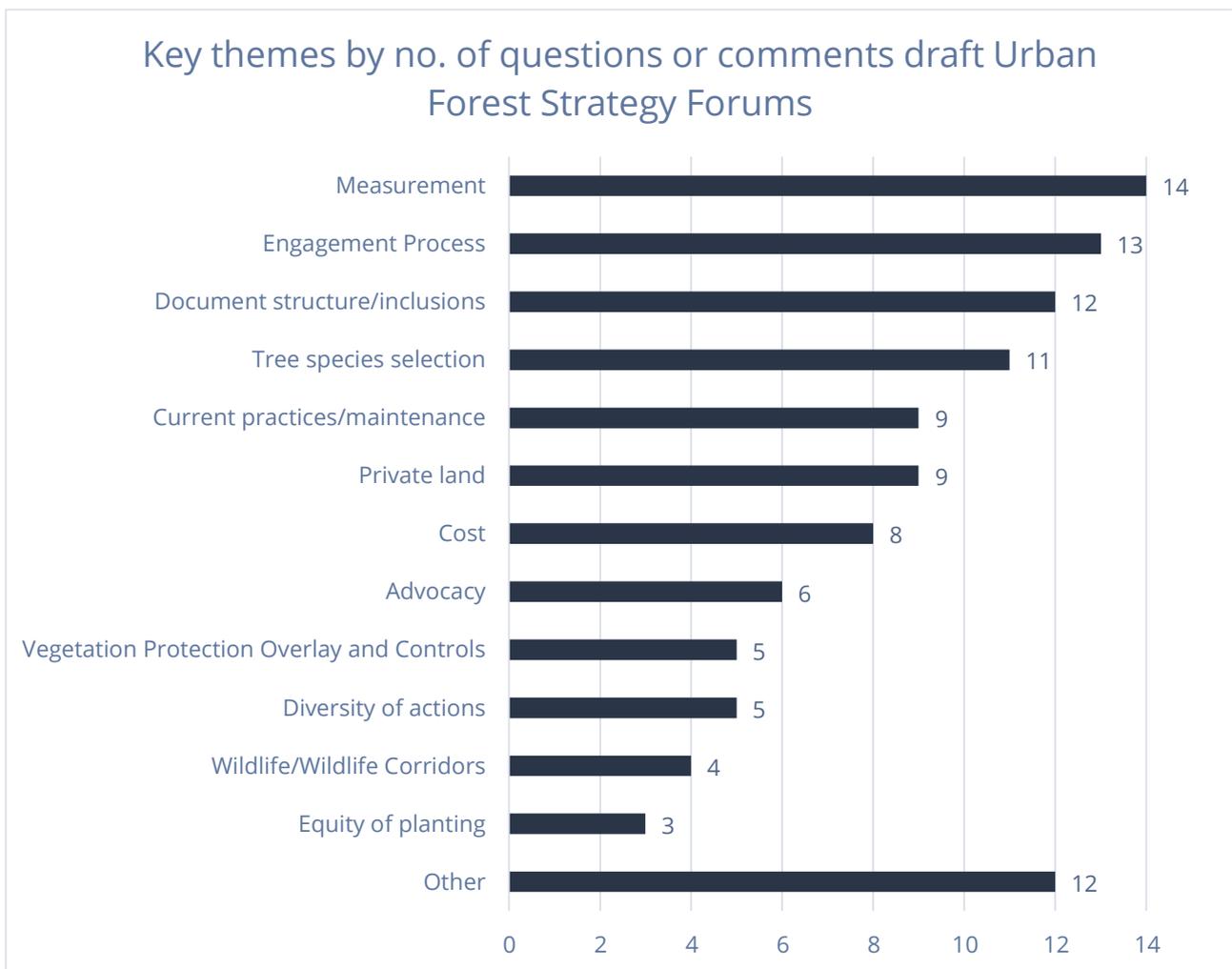


Figure 7 Key themes by no. of questions or comments draft Urban Forest Strategy Forums

Each theme has been further analysed into sub-themes. **Table 2** demonstrates the sub-themes and the number of correlating questions or comments.

**Table 2** Themes of community comments and questions during UFS forums

Response Sub-theme	Example
<b>Measurement (14)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Clarify tools, targets and measurements (4)</li> <li>● Introduce targets/KPIs for accountability (3)</li> <li>● Ensure targets are achievable/appropriate (3)</li> <li>● Report back to the community (2)</li> <li>● Introduce neighbourhood character measurement (1)</li> <li>● Record actions that remove/plant trees, purchase land (1)</li> </ul>	<p><i>The previous targets of 2015 were not achieved, why do you think that you can achieve it now?</i></p> <p><i>Biodiversity - how is success measured?</i></p> <p><i>A 6 monthly property report could incorporate the UFS monitoring in.</i></p>
<b>Engagement Process (13)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Extend consultation-support and clarity (4)</li> <li>● Clarify why chat was disabled/request to enable (online session) (3)</li> <li>● Report difficultness of writing submissions</li> <li>● Clarify if draft is shaped by submissions</li> <li>● Request to share responses to questions on Shaping Banyule</li> <li>● Clarify role of speakers (online session)</li> <li>● Request to hear from residents (online session)</li> <li>● Prefer not to use Q&amp;A feature (online session)</li> </ul>	<p><i>Do you think the 27th of March is an appropriate date to close the consultation. Can it be pushed out another month? I'm waiting on a response from council to make my feedback.</i></p> <p><i>Thanks for answer re Q&amp;A but incredibly off putting and not necessary in a small respectful group.</i></p>
<b>Document structure/inclusions (12)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Draft UFS is missing information on achievements of previous UFS (3)</li> <li>● Draft UFS too long/difficult (2)</li> <li>● Draft UFS should address land prioritisation (2)</li> <li>● Draft UFS has some contradictory sections</li> <li>● Draft UFS should include information on who is responsible for actions</li> <li>● Draft UFS should include policy</li> <li>● Draft UFS should include clear timeline</li> <li>● Draft UFS should include Gardens for Wildlife and Friends of Group Groups</li> </ul>	<p><i>Reference to 2015 strategy to assess efficacy. Wanting an assessment of what worked well and what did not.</i></p> <p><i>Well done for the initiative, when i read the doc it's not clear who is responsible for the 64 actions or what department.</i></p> <p><i>Long strategy is difficult to read, understand and less accessible.</i></p>
<b>Tree Species selection (11)</b>	

Response Sub-theme	Example
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Clarify process for tree specific selection (2)</li> <li>● Ensure appropriate size of trees being planted (2)- consider shading roads, impact on homes</li> <li>● Support native planting (2)</li> <li>● Clarify percentage of native/Indigenous plants</li> <li>● Clarify why exotic trees are planted alongside rivers</li> <li>● Not supportive of pine trees being planted</li> <li>● Promote native plantings through education</li> <li>● Link biodiversity and street tree planting</li> </ul>	<p><i>Something I noted is new research in linking biodiversity and street tree planting- there is so much info that we can use in selecting plants- I would like to see this data used in tree selection- to create suitable environments for native species- the UFS lacks biodiversity targets.</i></p> <p><i>What % of understory forestry will be indigenous/native plants?</i></p>
<b>Private land (9)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Autonomy over private land (2)</li> <li>● Importance of impacting private land to meet targets (2)</li> <li>● Introduce quota for planting in new developments</li> <li>● Address clearing land for new development at planning stage</li> <li>● Recognise difficulties over private land</li> <li>● Encourage private landholders to do more to keep trees</li> <li>● Protect trees on private land post-resident passing away</li> </ul>	<p><i>We should have a mechanism for private land holders to do more to keep trees.</i></p> <p><i>Clear felling residential blocks of land for development or densification needs to be knocked back at the development stage</i></p> <p><i>I don't want my neighbours to be able to be involved in tree removal at my property.</i></p>
<b>Current Council practices (9)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review current planting/maintenance practices (4)</li> <li>● Hold contractors accountable (2)</li> <li>● Concern of ease of gaining tree removal permits</li> <li>● Assess resourcing- to plant more trees</li> <li>● Clarify how Council decides to cut down a tree</li> </ul>	<p><i>Review the current planting/ maintenance practices and ensure consistent with UFS</i></p> <p><i>The most important thing is to get trees in the ground. How are you maintaining these trees? Who's watering, are you using contractors?</i></p>
<b>Cost (8)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Clarify what the UFS has cost (2)</li> <li>● Clarify cost of various parts of the UFS/actions (2)</li> <li>● Clarify if Council is receiving money from NELP or Big Build (2)</li> <li>● Clarify Year 1 budget allocation</li> <li>● Ensure UFS has appropriate</li> </ul>	<p><i>How much has this strategy cost? Why cant we know now?</i></p> <p><i>Are we getting funding from NELP and Big Build Like Knox council has.</i></p>

Response Sub-theme	Example
	<i>Who is leading this huge undertaking? This needs resourcing.</i>
<b>Advocacy (6)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate to State Government re: planning scheme/ RESCODE (6)</li> </ul>	<i>Under RESCODE private properties can build concrete gardens, homes are able to be built very tall and gardens can be built made of concrete- non permeable spaces. We need to advocate to State Gov to change these RESCODE rules.</i>
<b>Diversity of actions (5)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus on shade for roads/car parks not just paths (2)</li> <li>Clarify initiatives not relating to trees</li> <li>Less focus on street trees</li> <li>Define Urban Forest- more than trees</li> </ul>	<i>Forest is more than the trees, needs to be biodiverse, seems everything is about trees. Can you explain more about what you're doing that doesn't involve trees?</i>
<b>Vegetation Protection Overlay and Controls (5)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concern over effectiveness of VPO (3)</li> <li>Controls not strong enough (2)</li> </ul>	<i>The VPOs are unenforceable - they don't mean anything, the lived experience is that trees are disappearing.</i>
<b>Wildlife/ Wildlife corridor (4)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarify support for wildlife corridors</li> <li>Address organic pollution/aquatic food (caused by exotic species near water)</li> <li>Introduce buffer zones around wildlife corridors</li> <li>Prioritise wildlife corridors</li> </ul>	<i>What are you going to do for existing wildlife corridors?</i>  <i>Could I suggest that you focus on ESO areas, wildlife corridors first?</i>
<b>Equity of planting (3)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarify why areas are selected for tree planting (3)</li> </ul>	<i>I got the Council letter saying that my street was going to get trees. I found out that it was only 1 tree. How is council going to manage equity across Bundoora, it's horrible!</i>
<b>Other (12)</b>	

Response Sub-theme	Example
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Council objectives should not include Parks Victoria Land (2)</li> <li>● Various agreement/disagreement with other statements (2)</li> <li>● Education for people who live in the house where nature strip is being planted</li> <li>● Clarify how to ensure the perpetuity/ contribution to canopy cover and UF over time</li> <li>● Clarify outcome for forest at Simpsons Road</li> <li>● Clarify plan to reduce weeds</li> <li>● Clarify why Biodiversity Strategy is not being renewed before UFS</li> <li>● Lack of confidence in UFS to reduce tree loss</li> <li>● Clarify how Banyule will support local nurseries to meet demands</li> <li>● Clarify nature strip plantings</li> </ul>	<p><i>Given this Strategy, can you explain why the forest at Simpson Barracks was allowed to be decimated in favour of roads and tunnels?</i></p> <p><i>About the tree offer, what is Council going to do to ensure the perpetuity and staying in place/ contribution to canopy cover and UF over time?</i></p> <p><i>Why don't you educate the people who live in the house where you plant on their nature strip?</i></p>

## 5. Survey and submission themes

53 of the 94 people who participated in Stage 3 Engagement via shaping Banyule responded to the question:

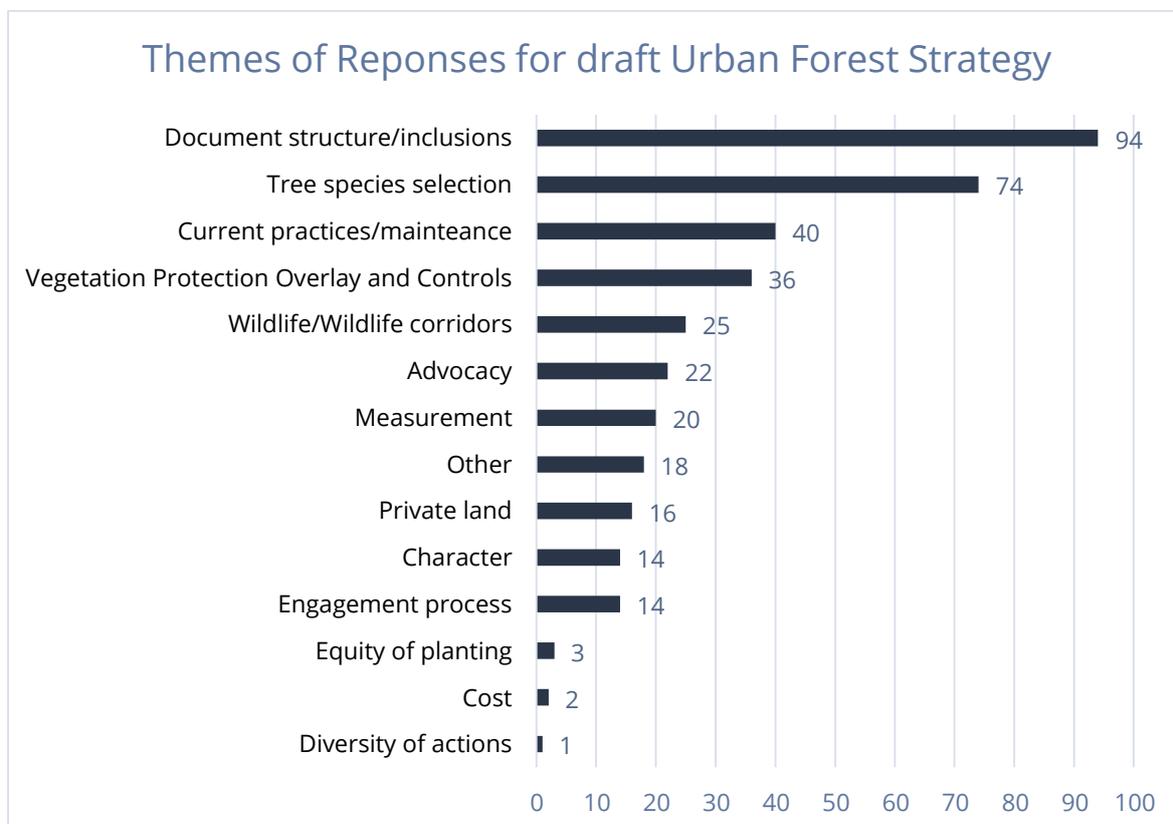
*"Is there anything missing or that you want Council to consider?"*

These text responses, as well as some longer submissions sent to council officers, have been collated and placed into themes. Many of the responses had a wealth of information including historical information about Banyule and our Urban Forest. The text collated for the purpose of analysis was restricted to the comments, suggestions and statements that Council could respond to.

In some cases, actions in the Strategy respond directly to comments made by respondents, while in other cases there are existing Council documents and projects that respond. Some responses also noted errors in the draft UFS and Council will make changes to fix them. Many of the responses are noted to be investigated for potential change.

379 unique pieces of feedback have been taken from survey responses and submissions are themed and presented in **Figure 8**. The themes match the themes for the forums with the addition of 'Character'. The themes that came up in people's feedback most frequently were 25% for 'Document structure/inclusions' (N=94) and 'Tree species selection' at 19% (N=74).

Council officer responses to the comments received can be found in Section 3 of this report.



**Figure 8** Themes of responses to the draft Urban Forest Strategy

## 6. Tables of Results for Submissions

### Participant survey responses with initial Officer responses

The below participant responses have been extracted from survey responses and submissions. Responsible Council officers from across Council teams have provided responses. Please note that although 379 responses have been identified not all parts of submissions have been reproduced here.

*Table 3 Responses to "Is there anything missing or that you want Council to consider?"*

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
20214	Consider more work crews to maintain our parks and streets. Our streets are filthy due to poor maintenance of the debris from trees. Para and Sherburne Rd are under maintained, no street sweeping, no median and nature strip maintenance. Traffic installations are filthy due to natural and emissions residue build-up, in addition to them falling down.	The street sweeping program is currently under review by operations team which is expected to be completed in 2023.
20214	You should do something about the utilities poles before you guys worry about trees.	Overhead electrical infrastructure, including the poles and wires, is owned by the power distribution businesses and is outside the responsibility of council.
20218	Council should allow and support residents to remove overhanging branches that are near housing as they are a risk to the integrity of the property and a risk to safety, height limits should be in place for trees close to houses.	For proposed actions about public trees please see "S4.8 - Develop tree asset and risk management guidelines for the urban forest work on public lands.". Noted, to be investigated for private trees

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
20219	Residents should be able to remove trees that have grown too big and close to private property on private land.	For proposed actions about public trees please see "S4.8 - Develop tree asset and risk management guidelines for the urban forest work on public lands.". Noted, to be investigated for private trees
20222	Developers landscaping the surrounds of their new buildings not nearby park development.	Current Planning Policy through the Neighbourhood Character Strategy has a strong focus on landscaping and canopy tree planting for residential developments. There is no ability for developments that are only subject to a building permit to be required to provide landscaping.
20223	When creating more green spaces in Banyule please consider a preference for native plantings not exotic species which have little to no benefit to local birds and animals.	Strategic area 2 has a number of proposed actions that prioritise indigenous trees.
20229	I would like existing exotic trees to be removed slowly to create wildlife corridors and more vegetation that is local indigenous to honour the indigenous heritage.	The proposed canopy targets and actions provide for a broad increase across the municipality in biodiversity and indigenous planting. Over time exotic weed trees may be removed under Banyule's weed management strategy.
20236	I do want to know that people north are not shaded blocking the winter warmth and solar access to panels. I'm hoping suitable deciduous trees are used in those instances even though they would probably not be native.	This is an important design consideration which can depend on the orientation of the street. The right tree, right place, right time, right management approach takes this into account.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
20237	Consider planting trees that support birds other than noisy miners.	The actions in Strategic Area 2 "- Increase the Diversity of the Urban Forest for Biodiversity and Habitat with Ground Cover and Shrub Layer Plantings" aims to support the habitat of a broad range of native insects, animals and plants.
20237	Education of community re the value of urban forests, for habitat, helping to reduce temperature, especially where there is concrete, beauty etc	Strategic area 5 and in particular S5.2 "- Engage with community through a range of educational activities, such as Spring Outdoors, to build understanding & value of the urban forest."
20245	A significant tree finding app like the one the National Trust used to have, identifying species and characteristics of nearby significant trees.	Thank you, to be investigated.
20249	Yes- refer to urban bushland remnant status around Greenhills in Greensborough, this is well supported and long established, I lived there prior to Rosanna.	This is broadly addressed in section 3 and will be further considered in the draft Biodiversity strategy.
20254	Based on your present performance, I believe the strategy may not be completed by 2050; I anticipated more from council.	On the 7th of August, council will consider adoption of the Urban Forest Strategy. Follow on Shaping Banyule for updates.
20256	I'd like to see some space made available for food trees such as fruit and nut tree's.	The Urban Food Strategy has had initial consultation and will be ready for further engagement during mid July 2023. Follow on Shaping Banyule.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
20256	I was disappointed when my street tree outside my place was recently denuded in watsonia. the branches were not near the ground but it was stripped to well over 3 1/2 mt from the ground leaving a very weird shaped tree.	Council currently performs biennial routine pruning works on street trees including 'crown lift' to meet its obligations safety under the Road Management Act.
20257	There should be recognition of different character of different parts of Banyule in the strategy, as the distinctive character of various areas should be retained.	The Strategy recognises different character in principle 4. Also most of section 3 and in actions S5.6 and S6.11.
20268	I am a bit disappointed that Heidelberg Heights, with its low canopy cover and biodiversity rating didn't get included as a target area.	The draft prioritisation method recognises suburbs such as Heidelberg Heights with low canopy as priority areas for new tree planting. Please see strategic area 5.
20268	Section 3 has good ideas for protection of existing tree's, however doesn't include much discussion around incentives or barriers to residents planting new tree's on private land. residents have the power to dramatically improve the outcomes of the scheme.	See strategic area 6 which outlines an community education and advocacy actions, including a tree giveaway.
20268	The urban forest strategy could include a discussion around how to increase housing density whilst preserving an effective amount of green space. Otherwise the heat-island effect and habitat loss will be worsening at a faster rate than the new street tree's will grow.	Urban forest opportunities will be investigated when considering planning zone and overlay controls under Action S6.13.
20269	council may wish to engage professional data scientists to assist with developing data analysis methodologies that detect useful 'clues' to highly suitable -- and less wanted-- patterns (at Forest level) amongst proposed indicators and measures.	Please see section 8 'Monitoring and Evaluation of this Strategy' for continual review of the canopy analysis and prioritisation method. Council may use a data analysis to achieve Action S6.16.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
20274	Large, tall trees should not be planted near houses or on street nature strips because they are 'not fit for the space, place or purpose' as they are a hazard to the roads, houses, street scape, powerlines and most importantly, people, especially with the high winds and stormy weather that we will be getting more of with the current and future climate change. Large trees planted on nature strips also cause uplift of footpaths and walkways causing trip hazards for pedestrians.	Management concerns will be considered in action S4.8 - "Develop tree asset and risk management guidelines for the urban forest work on public lands."
20274	Large tall trees existing in suburban gardens that are deemed 'not fit for the space, place or purpose' should be allowed to be removed if they are a threat to household lives and houses and replaced with shorter or dwarf native trees.	Tree management is considered in action S4.8 - "Develop tree asset and risk management guidelines for the urban forest work on public lands."
20274	Non-native large, tall trees such as Oak trees in our area, should be identified by council, removed by council or homeowner and replaced by dwarf or short native trees.	Tree management is considered in action S4.8 - "Develop tree asset and risk management guidelines for the urban forest work on public lands."
20300	I would like the council to consider, how they are going to connect the public to the tree's being incorporated into our public spaces. Everything always progressed faster and works better when having external support and connections. In my view, progressing with the urban forest strategy will work more efficiently if it shares connections with people in Banyule. Running hands on workshops with the public about the importance of trees in our public spaces.	Please see actions S4.8.1 and S4.6 that will be developed further with implementation.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
20335	stop allowing development that kills/removes trees. 2050 is to far away we need targets for today, 6 months, 12 months, 5 years and 10 years.	The strategy sets out actions for delivery in the short, medium and long term, with a view of progressively achieving maximum canopy cover targets by 2050.
20354	more trees along our streets.	The strategy aims to plant all currently available street tree vacancies - currently in excess of 10,000 sites. Please see action S1.6.
20378	another good measure in promoting biodiversity in our area would be to have a listing of native flora that occurs naturally in the area and maybe a guide to incorporating them into your own garden with planting guides and example garden structures.	Please see action S3.5.
20379	public toilets need replacing and more small, medium and large tree's in sporting areas.	Please see Strategic area 2.
20380	Only indigenous plants.	Please see Strategic area 2.
20382	Doesn't go into enough detail about tree species selection. Council have been planting exotic weed trees throughout our local area and this needs to end. Inappropriate exotic trees (jacarandas) have been planted as street trees by council in the area marked 'bush garden' in Rosanna. Can these please be replaced with appropriate native trees that will enhance the habitat value and retain street character of the heritage listed Ellis Stones native landscaping. Trees are still small, replacement should be done before they grow too large. Cremin court Rosanna.	Character is a strong consideration in the strategy. Please see Strategic area 2.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
20383	Please don't plant anymore trees that drop large branches. please consider the fact that many large trees are currently planted under electrical infrastructure with no tree on the side that has no infrastructure.	The draft species selection matrix will consider the practical constraints of electrical infrastructure and the choice of appropriate tree forms and sizes. This is discussed Figure 31, pg. 51 of draft strategy.
20397	I believe we need to raise the profile of planning enforcement (illegal tree removal) & embed the Urban Forest Strategy aims into all council plans and strategies. advocacy in big state projects is also needed.	Please see Strategic Area 5.
20397	I live near Macleod station and am worried the beautiful, mature trees are destined for removal with minimal opportunity for future canopy. Also wondering where the 27% coverage target came from and if this can be increased?	The draft canopy targets based on the Northern Metropolitan Framework Plan and the Greening The North Plan, with assessment for suitability to Banyule's current constraints on future opportunities
20405	I think there needs to be education on placement of these trees within private property. many residents want to increase their canopy and contribute to the urban forest but don't know where to plant and are worried about things like solar shading, neighbours and roots. building the capability of residents to feel more empowered or have a way to come together with neighbours in local streets to take action on private property and also care/ be aware of public trees to build a sense of ownership of the strategy. I feel like I don't have a place to contribute even though I feel the strategy is very important.	Please see actions SS3.1,S3.3, S3.5, S4.5.4, S4.8.1, S5.2, S5.3,S5.5 and S5.8.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
20416	Stop people completely clearing blocks of land. save trees.	Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme is included in Action S6.5.
20427	Educational resources around the flora and fauna would be fantastic. Given Australia's wide range of biodiversity, it can be confusing what we should plant and where. Knowing my house is in a certain area, I can be recommended on the type of plants suitable for me where they're available (nurseries, etc.).	Please see action S3.5.
20438	Planting under powerlines often is a poor solution especially with NBN coax hanging lower than Mains Power lines. I live in Greensborough (Frances Ave) and not just street trees but trees in my own property are limited by overhead NBN coax cables. some recognition of the challenges they face to a true urban forest should be made. I know its not financially viable but keen to make the point that underground utilities would greatly increase the potential for a tree canopy. no easy solution but NBN co does play a part.	Current methods for the undergrounding of utilities are cost prohibitive. Council regularly engages the electrical distribution businesses to aerial bundle power lines when high value mature trees are in breach of the clearance space regulated by Energy Safety Victoria.
20440	How about addressing the constant and current felling of old trees right across the area in public and private land before you plan for the future. how can we trust you? look at the mess from Greensborough to Monty along the rail lines and the modern black monoliths that don't match the character of these suburbs or the loss of hundreds of mature trees along the lines which is a known wildlife corridor.	Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme is included in Action S6.5. There are planning scheme exemptions for State transport projects,

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		including the works along the Hurstbridge rail line.
20441	I would allow home owners to cut trees on their property for a fee that covers the cost of 10 trees being planted around Banyule. I am thinking Diamond Creek park. along the highway, Banyule flats, any public area where the soil is barren. For example I cant install solar panels because of the trees around my property cover the roof and have to clean my gutters 3 times a year. I would rather donate that money to an environmentalist organisation.	Tree management concerns will be considered in action S4.8 - "Develop tree asset and risk management guidelines for the urban forest work on public lands."
20441	I wouldn't allow for gumtrees to be planted near a fence. the height of the tree shouldn't be more than double the height of the fence otherwise it would take light away from the neighbour. gumtrees release allelopathic compounds, so if someone wishes to grow food at home and neighbours have gumtrees, that becomes really challenging. I think other types of native/local trees should be encouraged.	Please see action S2.6 for methodology for recommending species.

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20445	Large to medium trees need to be 5 to 20 meters away from a dwelling to reduce hazards of tree branches over houses. Who will take responsibility for the additional risk that living in a forest will create, no insurance when were council voted in to force people or plant trees in private property?	The strategy proposes tree management based on the right tree in the right place. Please see action S3.5.
20447	More trees on taboo drive St. Helena.	Thank you, a tree planting request has been generated.
20450	importance of hollow.- need to keep some dead trees and logs. reduction of large grassy areas - encourages the increase of noisy miner populations. more mixed plantings over larger areas can increase bird diversity.	Strategic area 2 largely covers the diversity of strata. Keeping tree hollows is current practice and will be further explored in the biodiversity strategy.
20454	40% canopy cover on footpaths creates 60% messy leave coverage on footpaths. slippery when wet.	The council street sweeping program is currently under review by operations team which is expected to be completed in 2023.
20456	Banyule Council is decades behind on its urban forest and street tree planting and maintenance policies. The policy should be modelled on our neighbouring Boroondara, where street trees create significantly cooler, more attractive and higher value streets.	Thank you, to be investigated. Please see action s3.5 for the proposed tree management framework, developed using current best practice
20456	It is easily observed that a discrepancy between Banyule's "green" marketing and the reality, with many inappropriate street trees being planted, such as Crepe Myrtles (small, with little to no shade or cooling benefits) or Golden Ash ( significant litter, poor responders to pruning with little ornamental value as they age). planting techniques is often poor leading to tree failure within one to two years, costing the council more in the long term.	The UFS draft proposes a species selection matrix, trials and review which will aid in selecting the right tree for the right place. See S3.6.

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20456	Extra attention should be given to species selection which offer the great benefits for the longest period (reducing council expenditure over time). trees like Oaks, Elms and Planes.	The UFS draft proposes a species selection matrix, trials and review which will aid in selecting the right tree for the right place. See 3.6.
20456	As part of the "green" agenda, the council should also re-consider its green waste programs to be aligned with neighbouring municipalities (in fact, most of Melbourne) to provide free size upgrade options to its residents.	With the roll out of FOGO, all green waste bins are now collected weekly which effectively doubles the green waste collection.
20458	Many opportunities for significant shade in the public space are lost to undersized, poorly selected trees which provide little in the way of cooling or greening the streetscape. often times you are left roasting on the footpath while passing some tiny Crepe Myrtle or immature gum tree (which is destined to be dead within 15 years).	The UFS draft proposes a species selection matrix, trials and review which will aid in selecting the right tree for the right place. See 3.6.
20458	lots of leaf litter on the streets, Banyule needs to invest in the maintenance and cleanliness of its streets through street sweepers and incentivising home owners to clean up the debris from council trees.	Council street sweeping program is currently under review by operations team which is expected to be completed in 2023.
20459	As a resident I would like a choice or to be consulted of where the trees and plants go in case of possibility of adding crossovers to keep cars off the street and in driveways.	Currently all residents that are to receive a tree adjacent to the property also receive a letter of notification. Additional crossovers are assessed under Banyule's Residential Vehicle Crossing Policy.

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20459	I would like to see money spent on a cycling super highway, where cyclists can safely get into the city on dedicated and separated lanes. The north east link removed a section of bike path next to Greensborough road, and lower Heidelberg Rd in Eaglemont, is narrow and unsafe- cars do not leave enough room.	Please see The Banyule Integrated Transport Plan 2015-2035 This has been noted and passed onto the transport team.
20464	Less multi site development.	Thank you, referred to the planning team.
20467	regarding tree bonds for developers, bond to mirror sites developed price as a percentage. Concentration of implementation in the lowest percentage of tree coverage areas, such as Bundoora.	This will be considered with action S4.2 - Implement a tree valuation policy including amenity value and ecological value.
20571	The council should consider the use of nature strips, many other councils allow residents to plant out nature strips, which not only look fantastic but improve the biodiversity of our environment. Banyule should amend the nature strip regulations to allow native plants on nature strips.	Please see S2.4 Develop the nature strip planting program, provide guidelines, and promotion of the benefits to residents.
20598	Large trees must be stopped from being removed. this needs to be closely tied to planning permits e.g. clearing blocks to build fence to fence townhouses, and planting a small bush as a replacement. layers of the bush are just as important as greenery in general.	Please see actions in Strategic Areas 1 & 2.
20599	Put power lines underground so large trees can continue to grow and not be cut when they reach the powerlines. Alternatively, plant trees under powerlines that are reasonable heights.	Overhead electrical infrastructure is owned by the power distribution businesses and is outside the responsibility of council. For tree selection see S3.6.

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20605	How is the new planting to be maintained to adulthood? I've noticed abandoned plants along the river strangled with vines & weeds. the vines and wandering dew are out of control.	<p>The draft UFS sets greater priority on early maintenance (called juvenile pruning).</p> <p>The Weed Strategy sets out actions to control weed species.</p>
20608	I would like council to more thoroughly consider the indigenous flora and fauna of this area of Melbourne and how we can aid the natural biodiversity assets.	The draft UFS aims to enhance and improve biodiversity outcomes across the municipality, and does so by preferencing the use of indigenous vegetation, but not exclusively. Draft UFS does prescribe greater use of local seed provenance, grown by local nurseries or by council.
20619	The Urban Forest Strategy should include the planting of native plants or mow grasses on nature strips.	See S2.4.
20625	Council should make it easier for citizens to plant-up their nature strips. the document mentions a permit process which could cause unnecessary or even costly barrier.	Permits do not need to have a cost, just useful means to provide information to assist.
20625	The development of an Our Trees App is a good ide. you may want to have look at the website <a href="http://www.giessdenkiez.de/">http://www.giessdenkiez.de/</a> that maps out every tree in the City of Berlin. Citizens can get information about species and age of every tree, but the actual idea is to display watering requirements of each individual tree and encourage citizens to water them in periods of draught.	Thank you, the German app is a good example, there are also some local councils (Bendigo, City of Unley in SA, Wyndham et al).

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20625	There's a few double-ups in the document which make it unnecessary long. if you'd like to encourage people reading the whole document, you should try to make it not longer than necessary.	Noted, to be investigated.
20625	I've found a few typos. I tried to upload the PDF with my notes but it exceeds the file size limit. are you able to access this file? <a href="http://www.dropbox.com/s/bol2g2s9xo1vi4o/Draft_BanyuleUrbanForestStrategy2022_MediumRes.pdf?dl=0">http://www.dropbox.com/s/bol2g2s9xo1vi4o/Draft_BanyuleUrbanForestStrategy2022_MediumRes.pdf?dl=0</a>	File noted, to be investigated.
20743	Plant more trees in parks and encouraging more wildlife to live there.	The strategy proposes increasing canopy over footpaths, paths and local roads and responds to this: - Trees over walking paths target - Biodiversity understory plantings
20747	Maximum tree cover should be the aim. Over development is stripping the area of substantial tree cover, of established plants/trees. These are not readily replaced, even by planting new plants as replacements- it takes years for plants that give tree cover to grow to the required height.	Agree - our increase in canopy cover will be realised through a combination of planting and tree retention.
20779	Including developers in the partners that are reached out to, in Strategic Area 5. They need to be convinced of the benefits to them, as well as the community, if they made more space available to nature in their designs. you could run info sessions for them in partnership with the approvals team perhaps, that is part of getting their proposals approved.	Developers are vital in creating greening outcomes. Noted, to be investigated.

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	The overall wording is good but still very human-centric. Perhaps some more language in the plan about our responsibilities to steward the natural environment for our fellow beings that we share Banyule with, so that it shows we understand that we are part of our natural environment.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>20785</b>	Public carparks, and commercial and industrial zoned land must also be included. Public parks must carefully be considered, including current watering systems.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>20785</b>	Canopy cover must also include roads not just footpaths.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>20785</b>	Maintenance policy for existing and new trees must be improved.	Please see S6.3.4 and S6.4
<b>20785</b>	Street tree policy/strategy must be improved so as to include consultation with residents.	Residents are notified via letter prior to tree planting.
<b>20785</b>	Policy for tree giveaways must be diversified and improved to consider individuals, businesses and clubs.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>20787</b>	The greatest danger to our local trees is Banyule's own staff. This small area above the East Ivanhoe Golf Course has lost 5 or 6 trees in recent times by staff who have either ring barked them with a wipper snipper or run them over with the mower. a picture of the latest vandalism from last week is included.	Noted, to be investigated.

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20796	<p>The selection for street tree planting and planting of tree and undergrowth overall should be primarily focused on indigenous (and possibly native) species to assist in building wildlife habitat corridors, rather than taking neighbourhood character into account and plant exotic species. I recently wrote to Banyule Council to have a privet on my council strip replaced by an indigenous tree and was told that it would not be removed because it is healthy. The privet is classified as an environmental weed by Banyule Council, therefore I would have thought it being healthy would be a reason to remove it.</p>	<p>Please see Strategic area 2 and Banyule's weed management Strategy.</p>
20832	<p>Council should remove and not ask for any rights regarding any tree, shrub or plant on private land. The council should have no right to dictate what is planted, removed or pruned on residents land.</p>	<p>Council has a planning scheme approved by the State government in part to protect character and the environment.</p>
20861	<p>The action items (p46) seem to only refer to identifying areas lacking in street trees for infill planting. I think re-vegetation of existing street trees that are not shade canopy trees (such as callistemon shrubs) should be included. I wonder why these species were even selected for street plantings in the first place they provide very little shade. I am concerned that streets with the wrong type of street trees will not be considered for improvement as part of this strategy, simply because they are already vegetated.</p>	<p>S4.1 mentions renewal, which is the program of removing low benefit trees particularly when upgrading a street.</p>

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20861	<p>the strategy seems to lack consideration to develop a neighbourhood character by planting the same type of canopy tree in streets/pockets of streets to create a sense of place. action item s6.11 on pg. 76 refers to improving data and knowledge about the species that contribute to neighbourhood character. what kind of data and knowledge are you referring to? How is it obtained? will you consult with trained professionals in neighbourhood character such as architects, landscape architects, and urban designers? other councils such as Boroondara have created a sense of place through use of the same types of trees throughout their shire pockets. Banyule doesn't seem to have an identity the way some of these other shires do as the street trees vary greatly in type and relevance. even long one single street there can be huge variation.</p>	<p>Single species streets is one way of developing character. S5.6 - "Celebrate the neighbourhood character trees for each area. " is another way of developing character. We will also S6.14 - "Masterplan avenues and gateways for urban forest."</p>
20861	<p>I did not see in the strategy a setting out of what species of trees are proposed for the street trees.</p>	<p>The UFS sets out to create the framework such as a species selection matrix and principles for how trees are to be selected rather than creating a list for every street or area. See S2.6.</p>
20861	<p>Tree planting and landscape design in playgrounds should be included in the strategy. it would make sense to plant deciduous trees to shade the summer sun but allow winter sun to penetrate could this please be considered. e.g. Nepean street playground, Montmorency park playground and grace park playground too hot no shade.</p>	<p>S 6.4 refers to design guidelines for streetscapes. Noted, to be investigated.</p>

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20861	<p>Are government schools included under "non council managed land"? government schools are often severely lacking in landscaping because all the money gets absorbed by buildings and other need. Will funding packages be available for schools to improve their urban forest? Or will there be a requirement that any building works contain a landscape design component and percentage of the project budget be allocated for this?</p>	<p>State Schools are non-council managed land.</p>
20865	<p>Strategies to ensure compliance with replacement tree planting following permit applications to remove trees for residential developments. existing canopy should be prioritised during developments. density of developments tempered to retain old tree growth wherever possible.</p>	<p>Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme are included in Action S6.5.</p>
20865	<p>Consider levels of hard surface (concrete) that impact water flow and absorption impacting tree health. Encourage alternatives wherever possible in residential planning applications. Ensures a strong link between the urban forest strategy and urban planning policies align.</p>	<p>Development impacts on retained trees are considered through planning applications including hard surfacing.</p>

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+-	<p>The urban forest strategy is commendable but is a large unwieldy document lacking in specifics with too many references to outside Banyule. There should be a quantitative measure of targets and steps and date-lines toward achieving clear goals. Even though the document references previous UFS (2015,2018) the community has no quantitative idea of what exactly these previous strategies achieved. Have we learned anything from them that we can take forward into this present strategy? Tell us how much it cost, why is it not stated in council's budget?</p>	<p>See Appendix 1 &amp; 2 of the draft Strategy for detailed info regarding the previous 2015 Strategic Plan.</p>
20909	<p>surely you need a base figure for canopy cover now, to ensure 27% goal will be realistic, achievable and an actual gain. This could be done cheaply by counting the green% in Google Earth images of Banyule, or more accurately by hiring environmental consultants who measure forest cover using drones or aerial photography.</p>	<p>See 'Tree Canopy Cover' section for discussion on the data used that is supplied by the Victorian government for our benchmarking.</p>
20918	<p>Yes, see the attached file.</p>	<p>Received.</p>
20919	<p>Acknowledge the value of existing mature trees, both native and non-native, and take all effort to preserve them. Many non-native trees are of benefit to native wildlife, and their removal has been detrimental to bird populations, including the endangered gang gang cockatoo. An example of this is the removal of pine trees and Hawthorn bushes in Rosanna Parklands. Preserving dead native trees so that their hollows may be used by native birds is also of utmost importance. The cooling effect of mature pine trees are also more effective than most natives.</p>	<p>The removal of the pine trees at Rosanna Parklands was unfortunately due to Giant Pine Scale. Noted, to be investigated.</p>

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20920	I agree in principle but have a number of comments in the attached document. The privacy notice refers to a sporting issue, but this is my response to the Urban Forest Strategy.	Received.
20921	A priority to protect and enhance Banyule's natural environment to care for flora and fauna must be keeping established and mature trees, both native and non- native.	The removal of the pine trees at Rosanna Parklands was unfortunately due to Giant Pine Scale. Large mature high retention value pine trees are not targeted for removal however younger invasive weed tree species are.
20921	A priority to protect and enhance Banyule's natural environment to care for flora and fauna must be preservation of established pine trees which are an invaluable food source, and provide shelter for gang gang cockatoos and other native birds.	The removal of the pine trees at Rosanna Parklands was unfortunately due to Giant Pine Scale. Large mature high retention value pine trees are not targeted for removal however younger invasive weed tree species are.
20952	The document is too complicated to understand, why aren't the common names of tree's used?	Noted, to be investigated.
20952	There is no action to stop developers removing every tree on site or for stronger planning laws to protect trees on development sites. council is hypocritical as it allows removal of trees on their own land or sells land to private developers when they clearly expect all the trees to be removed.	Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme are included in Action S6.5.

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20954	<p>A greater emphasis on the use of Indigenous trees/plantings. BCC should not be wasting ratepayers' money on standard commercial horticultural commonplace trees/plants, native or exotic, that are commonly available from any commercial nursery. It should be investing in local genetic provenance regionally-indigenous trees/plants, and matching them to the site conditions/space earmarked for planting.</p> <p>Indigenous trees along all BCC wildlife corridors, plus 2 street "blocks" either side, to strengthen &amp; enhance wildlife/biodiversity services.</p> <p>In areas of Environmental Significance (Overlays), many of the recent plantings have been non-indigenous &amp; inconsistent with local remnant biodiversity &amp; character. These need to be replaced, and augmentation of local floristic biodiversity should be given immediate urgent priority in ESO areas. BCC Planning need to be insisting only on indigenous plantings associated with TP applications in ESO areas, and insisting on their implementation.</p>	<p>The strategy has a focus on indigenous plants and getting local genetic provenance while also recognising the use of other appropriate plants in the right settings. See S1.7 "Work with local indigenous plant nurseries or community nurseries to provide local provenance."</p>
20954	<p>Indigenous trees along all BCC wildlife corridors, plus 2 street "blocks" either side, to strengthen and enhance wildlife/biodiversity services.</p>	<p>See S2.5. "Map the ecological corridors (wildlife connection and known fauna movements) to integrate with the urban forest data to identify opportunities for planting sites."</p>
20954	<p>BCC should be aiming for ZERO indigenous tree removals in all ESO areas, and providing guidance, incentive and penalties aimed at enhancing indigenous tree health, retention and recruitment.</p>	<p>Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule</p>

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		Planning Scheme are included in Action S6.5.
20955	Education of the stakeholders i.e. ratepayers and their families on the value of Urban greening- from the very young right through to the elderly.	See strategic Area 5. Noted, to be investigated.
20955	Incentives to ratepayers to participate in the programme and ensure private property is part of the strategy and assistance to rate payers to maintain especially overstorey vegetation.	Action S3.1 provides support for the maintenance of significant trees and Action S5.8 provides a program to give a free tree to all residents.
20955	To have vegetation controls legislated into the planning scheme.	Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme are included in Action S6.5.
20955	to draw all relevant strategies, decision makers and departments together: planning, parks, biodiversity, transport, wildlife, corridors, schools etc.	See Strategic Area 6: "Integrate the urban forest principles into all parts of Council services".
20956	Why use data from 2018? there is more up to date data, I suspect you did not want to use it because of the deforestation that has been caused by Victoria's "Big Build". Banyule needs to advocate and hold the state government to account for the destruction they have caused to our suburbs through their "Big Build" projects LXP and NELP.	The strategy used available data and will gain new data and analyse where the canopy losses and gains are for both private and public land. See S6.6 "Share data and analysis of canopy / tree losses in the private domain and focus responses on priority causes."

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20956	27% canopy cover seems unlikely to be achievable without significant paradigm shift in management of existing trees on public and private land. Tree removal permit refusal rates need to increase, developers need to be designing to accommodate tree retention and be held to account for removing trees. I believe a price on trees should also be applied in the private realm as a tax on those who cut them down.	Noted, to be investigated
20956	Evaluation of diversity at family level needs to be included in the document	Species diversity is a measure in the draft strategy. Noted, to be investigated.
20956	Why does the 45% canopy cover over footpath by 2050 not include roadways? is 45% canopy cover over footpath even achievable? how is it going to be measured? have you done the modelling to determine how many trees you and the community would need to plant to achieve this target? how about telling us how much it would cost? do you know that information ? if so share it please.	Creating shade over footpaths will also assist in shading roads . Modelling was performed with the approximately 10,000 vacant street sites and found 45% canopy cover by 2040 is achievable. See section 8. Monitoring and Evaluation of this Strategy.
20956	10,000 trees is a drop in the ocean when it comes to canopy cover contribution, and in my experience is unlikely to show up on canopy cover measurements for at least 15 years! if the 5-10 year timeframe is adopted, this figure needs to be trebled and needs to be coupled with a funding commitment from council.	The strategy identifies that to achieve targets a lot of planting will be required on private land. See section 8. Monitoring and Evaluation of this Strategy and especially Figure 35. 'Suburb Canopy Gap to Target.

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20957	<p>The question "do you support the draft Urban Forestry Strategy and associated actions and measures?" should have a "partially" option rather than a yes or no. WCS supports elements of the plan but would like amendments, clarification and additions as detailed in the attached letter.</p>	<p>Received.</p>
20959	<p>No I do not agree with the strategy and corresponding actions. This isn't a realistic strategy. It is merely a selection of ideas and wish list over 89 wasted pages. The strategy purports to be an overall strategy of all land use, however the only solid actions are in relation to street trees. The strategy is vague, contradictory, misleading, unachievable and relies on grandiose principal statements instead of authentic, tangible actions on the ground.</p> <p>There is no clear objective, no metrics, no firm expectation to achieve any goal. The numbers are made up and there is no pathway to get to 27% canopy cover. The strategy implies that the actions suggested will achieve the required canopy cover, however it was shown to be false under questioning in the forums. The 10,000 street trees is a trifle compared to the ongoing loss of canopy, will not be achievable prior to 2040 and once completed council have no strategy to mitigate the losses which continue without serious suggestions on how to reduce. Banyule has 20.8% canopy in 2018 and further loss was expected. Rosanna has lost the highest in Banyule of 7% between 2014 and 2018. The street tree strategy provides less than 2% additional trees overall and / or canopy cover (the difference is not discussed or estimated)</p> <p>There is no budget allocation for this project since the budget review has come and gone. It was admitted that this lack of budget allocation means that year 1 will be delayed so the strategy is already admittedly behind.</p> <p>ONLY the metrics and software requirements should form the adopted strategy. The overall strategy should be in DRAFT until these metrics are established and show the realistic kpi's and possible achievement.</p>	<p>See Section 7 for a high level implementation and costing.</p> <p>See section 8 for detail on how targets were derived.</p> <p>Tangible actions are described in Section 6. For major KPIs see section 8.</p> <p>See Section 8 under Suburb Canopy Cover Target pgs. 78-80 for an analysis of the gap to reach targets.</p> <p>Measuring progress indicators are seen on pg. 82.</p> <p>See pg. 78 for how we will meet the Canopy Targets..</p>

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20959	<p>What is needed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An experienced project manager to establish the basics of project requirements and create integrity in the strategy for scope, timing and budget.</li> <li>2. A budget which is detailed in it's timing, expectation and application.</li> <li>3. Include metrics and strategies which silo and apply to the respective types of land i.e. council land (complete control), public land (lobbying and ?) and private land (advocacy and promotion). Development lobbying to state gov. to maintain set backs, private open space and minimum tree / canopy cover.</li> <li>4. Software and Metrics to be initiated immediately, and for the results become part of the strategy.</li> <li>5. An ongoing UFS community liaison group</li> <li>6. An ANNUAL review of metrics at a council meetings to include specific report on council land and transactions.</li> <li>7. RISK assessment - The strategy needs to include (not an exhaustive list): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) VicRoads restrictions and analysis</li> <li>b) Vic track requirements and strategy</li> <li>c) Infrastructure (above and below ground) risk and avoidance</li> <li>d) Discussion around "Safer Design Guidelines" and how street lighting is impacted by the UFS and or how street lighting could be amended to</li> <li>e) Conflicts with other strategies and application of the planning scheme</li> <li>f) how various property types are impacted by the strategy e.g. Owner Occupies, Rental, Development, vacant land.</li> </ol> </li> <li>8. A dedicated analysis of what is required (perhaps lobbied) to be amended in the planning scheme</li> <li>9. An online portal for continued public access, participation and collaboration to UFS metrics.</li> <li>10. Set backs from the street should be lobbied and decided to maintain in EVERY circumstance. This is the best protection for the private realm. What other ideas are being suggested to a</li> <li>11. A list of council roles / titles of people within the who are responsible for achieving goals and how and when they will engage with the strategy.</li> <li>12. How the various departments in council interact with the strategy and how they will be accountable to achieving stated goals (which are not yet established)</li> <li>13. The community requires council to show their commitment to the UFS by being totally transparent and accountable for council owned land, in development, sale, acquisition and all within it's own reporting silo.</li> <li>14. Use tools available to council such as local laws to ensure that development sites have clear signs on site which detail what trees on the property are to be protected and their locations and how the public can advise council if these are viewed to be breached.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This has been costed as part of the project</li> <li>2. See section 7. A more detailed implementation plan including a communication plan will be developed as part of strategy.</li> <li>3. See Strategic areas 5 &amp; 6.</li> <li>4. This is part of S4.4.</li> <li>5. Will be considered in the communication plan.</li> <li>6. Reporting of results will be through the State of the Environment report.</li> <li>7a+b) Working with agencies to achieve the goals and actions set in UFS Strategic Area 6. The regulations for road clearance, for example are directed to in the road management act and council road management plan and are considered an essential deliverable.</li> <li>7c) These are operational concerns and are managed in adherence to regulations such as the Energy Safe Victoria Act and the Electrical Safety Regulations governed by Energy Safe Victoria.</li> <li>7d) Street lighting is cleared within our operational proactive tree pruning contracts and reactive requests.</li> <li>7e) Details of integrating the urban forest principles into all parts of Council services including planning are within Strategic Area 6.</li> </ol>

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		<p>7f) Property types will be impacted in different ways and each action will consider impact on delivery. For example, S5.8 will have to navigate property ownership and permissions.</p> <p>8. S6.13 considers urban forest opportunities in strategic work such as planning scheme revision.</p> <p>9. S4.5 details a comprehensive urban forest interactive mapping portal and S4.5.4 a web based tool for residents to engage with the urban forest.</p> <p>10. S6.13 considers urban forest opportunities in strategic work.</p> <p>11. The teams are included in section 7 with further detail being reported as in section 8.</p> <p>12. This is going to be built into councils reporting framework with each action being reported on. See section 8.</p> <p>13. Council's Community Engagement Policy and obligations under the Local Government Act 2020 guide its communications with respect to all public land transactions.</p> <p>14. Approved or endorsed plans can be reviewed if concerns are raised about protection of trees on development sites. No requirement in current planning scheme.</p>

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20960	A breakdown of indigenous, native and exotic species should be shown. Diversity should only be considered good when composed primarily of indigenous and non-weedy native species.	Diversity in indigenous, native and exotic treatments is seen as creating resilience to pests and disease. The strategy also focuses on diversity of strata including shrubs and groundcovers to improve biodiversity outcomes.
20960	Current policy has resulted in excessive pruning and unwarranted removal of native trees by the BCC at Banyule flats and Victoria Cross Estate Reserve and the loss of wildlife habitat. The current pruning policy needs to be reconsidered.	S4.8 - Develop tree asset and risk management guidelines for the urban forest work on public lands.
20960	the concept pf "useful life expectancy" should be explained in more detail as "reaching the end of useful life expectancy is used as a justification to remove trees, particularly indigenous and native species, that may be reaching the peak of their value as wildlife habitat.	Useful Life Expectancy (ULE) is explained in the Glossary of terms. Noted, to be investigated.
20960	Under "climate vulnerability" on pg. 34 there is no breakdown of the species that will be most vulnerable. the vulnerability of some indigenous species should not be a justification to shift away from indigenous plantings. Discussion of climate change resistant indigenous species would be useful here.	Noted, to be investigated.
20961	Indigenous ( not just native) selections for street trees.	See Strategic Area 2.
20961	Macleod Victoria Cross Estate is an area of Environmental significance-	Noted, to be investigated.

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20961	a.can there be heightened tree protection- i.e. not permitted to clear a block of its indigenous trees before a permit for a house is sought.	Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme are included in Action S6.5.
20961	b. New single dwellings should have a limit e.g. to 40% of the block to be covered by the house.	The Housing and Neighbourhood Character review will consider site coverage requirements across the municipality.
20961	c. Encourage houses with ivy growing up native trees, e.g. river red gums, to clear the ivy off the trees	See S5.32. The Banyule Weed strategy has existing actions for educating residents around weed control on private land.
D23/49 698	A canopy cover KPI for roads is needed in addition to footpaths. Good road canopy example is Green Street Ivanhoe, poor example is Ford Street.	Canopy over road will expand when canopy is enhanced over footpaths, the footpath target was set as a functional target for walkability, accessibility etc.
D23/49 698	Further Council strategies need to be listed that relate to the UFS	Noted, to be investigated.
D23/49 698	A permeable surface needs to be considered for the footpaths to enlarge the area for passive irrigation thus reducing the rain water run-off. natural watering.	Council has explored the use of permeable treatments when repairing footpaths close to trees. Noted, to be investigated.
D23/49 698	Implement smart technologies to measure the success and value of the passive irrigation - IoT moisture sensors etc. to prevent young and freshly planted trees of dying.	Council will investigate the use of these smart technologies to be included in a S6.9
D23/65 381	Strategy is based on old and inadequate canopy data, 2015 and 2018. canopy loss since then has been enormous. why not aim for 30%?	The strategy sets out actions in the short, medium and long term with a view of achieving canopy cover targets by 2050.

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D23/65 381	Strategy should better emphasize the physical and mental health benefits of having green spaces and tree's.	This is in principle 1. Noted to be investigated.
D23/65 381	Targets should include: development on canopy and minimising tree loss on private land through working with state government on better planning provisions. Education on tree canopy importance for the planet, for biodiversity, for health, for wellbeing etc. To stop or minimise the occasions of council seeming to override existing planning controls and vegetation overlays. Aim of reducing inappropriate exotics and planting native trees. Measuring of temperatures to show reduction in temperature at strategic locations to show benefits of improved canopy.	See S6.16 and S6.2.
D23/65 381	We should be measuring improved liveability indicators, sense of wellbeing and improvements in biodiversity.	Noted, to be investigated.
D23/65 381	A priority needs to be enhancing the tree cover and habitat protection of Banyule's listed wildlife corridors, especially those damaged by Big Build and infill development . Gaps in wildlife corridors need to be repaired or planted as a matter of priority.	See S1.1. and S2.5. which directly relate to habitat corridors.
D23/65 381	Council needs to minimise tree loss on its property and question application to remove tree's.	Noted, to be investigated.
D23/65 381	Actions from the 2015 plan should be reconsidered "tree planting increased in parks to achieve 50% canopy cover at maturity (an increase of 15%)" needs to be revisited. this was a worthwhile target. real SMART goals and appropriate Environmental Performance Indicators are required.	See Appendix 1. "Not being pursued, leave to Open Space Plan to ensure best mix of park space. Target 50% canopy over walking/bike paths and play spaces. "

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<b>D23/65 381</b>	Water sensitive urban design is supported for the public realm. It has happened in Banyule in the past but seems to have taken a back seat in recent projects.	See S3.4. For plans to standardise WSUD.
<b>D23/65 381</b>	How can local communities input place-based plans to manage the urban forest and how are they consulted?	See Strategic Area 5.
<b>D23/49 720</b>	An education campaign may be needed in relation to improving suitable sites in reserves, roadsides and underutilised land where mown turf can be improved to include shrubs, trees, native grasses or ground cover to convince residents of the benefits and overcome barriers to acceptance of natural ground story including nature strips because unfortunately residents will perceive natural ground storey as evidence of neglect by council and complain or they will be concerned about increased fire risk and snakes.	See Strategic area 2 especially S2.4.
<b>D23/49 720</b>	Establish and maintain new planting locations of shrubs, native grasses and groundcovers are actions suited to participation of local community volunteers. council should engage with DCMC and Friends of Darebin Creek in establishing and co-managing sites.	Strategic area 2 deals with community input in a broad sense. Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/49 720</b>	As well as the proposal to engage an urban ecologist there would be value in engaging volunteers in a citizen science project to monitor fauna movements throughout the year. DCMC could coordinate this in suburbs bordering Darebin Creek.	See S4.5.4.

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<b>D23/49 720</b>	It is unclear how the main factors listed in the species selection matrix have resulted in the species presented. Why isn't being climate ready one of the main factors listed? we believe that being climate ready should be relevant regardless of place. What is the process you will use to select the most appropriate species? planting of more ironbarks and large flowered yellow gums should be avoided in favour of species with smaller flowers and shorter flowering pods to reduce noisy aggressive minor bird and rainbow lorikeet problem in Banyule.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/49 720</b>	Assessment by council planners of development applications by private landholders should also aim to maximise retention of existing canopy tree's.	Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme are included in Action S6.5.
<b>D23/49 720</b>	DCMC is interested in working with council in a program of improving urban forest using site-based biodiversity audits and re-vegetation plans. this approach has been used in our schools program.	Strategic area 2 deals with community input in a broad sense. Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/49 720</b>	Would the tree valuation policy including amenity value and ecological value only apply to individual tree's, or could it be extended to valuation of areas of bushland communities? how might such plant communities be valued?	S4.2 deals with tree amenity value. Bushland communities are included in state controlled native veg offsets.

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<b>D23/49 720</b>	DCMC is interested in working with council in multiple areas, DCMC has run several citizen science monitoring projects engaging community volunteers and would be interested in working with council to contribute citizen science data into Banyule's annual monitoring programs. DCMC are also interested in working with council in any urban forest projects involving the Darebin Creek and associated bushlands.	Strategic area 2 deals with community input in a broad sense. Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/49 720</b>	Banyule should advocate for changes to the local government planning schemes strengthening protection for all trees.	See S6.13 - Investigate urban forest opportunities while considering current zones and overlays e.g., Environmental planning overlay.
<b>D23/49 720</b>	The Urban Forest principles and outcomes should be incorporated into the current revision of Banyule's biodiversity strategy.	The two strategies are strongly aligned with a number of key officers collaborating together.
<b>D23/49 706</b>	The strategy should include more information on the previous 2015 strategy. what was done about those action intentions, what was achieved, what was learned from the project, what remains to be done this time, and what revisions to the program have come out of the experience of the earlier effort?	See Appendix 1 and 2 which discuss the 2015 strategic plan.
<b>D23/49 706</b>	Include more information in areas: liveability, ecosystems and biodiversity.	Noted, to be investigated.

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<b>D23/49 706</b>	There should be some more real information about what difference dealing with the inequitable distribution that the urban heat island effect makes to exposed areas in terms of maximum temperatures on hot days and normal days. Not enough info. How is the urban heat island map changing? which areas are becoming worse or better or experiencing no change? what is proposed to deal with it ?	This will be developed with S1.1 - Develop an agreed urban forest prioritisation method that is based on the Urban Forest Principles to identify areas in most need of planning and intervention.
<b>D23/49 706</b>	The problem to be faced is the negative impacts in areas with few trees, and that must be honestly described, and real programs developed for dealing with these harms in the strategy and real targets for dealing with deficiency. If Bundoora has only 13% canopy cover now, what are the plans to take it to 15%, 20%, 27% in the time frame and areas to be planted?	This will be developed with S1.1 - Develop an agreed urban forest prioritisation method that is based on the Urban Forest Principles to identify areas in most need of planning and intervention.
<b>D23/49 706</b>	A real strategy would propose replacing moribund or fallen trees with a suite of tree species native to southern Victoria that are known to tolerate somewhat warmer conditions than we have historically experienced in Melbourne. Would include most current species growing in Victoria.	Strategic Area 3 covers species selection for climate change.
<b>D23/49 706</b>	A good plan would be to always infill tree replacements and empty spots with trees indigenous to southern Victoria.	See Strategic Area 1. The draft Urban Forest Strategy proposes that indigenous, native and exotic are appropriate in the correct settings.

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<b>D23/49 706</b>	There is no explanation for the loss of canopy on private land and there is no plan at all to counter the forces underlying that loss. what is the extent of the problem? what is Banyule doing to counter this trend to reduce canopy? how successful is their action?	Noted, to be investigated
<b>D23/49 706</b>	More information about vandalised trees, number of trees killed per year, what has been done about it or any plan to combat this destructive behaviour.	Will require some systems upgrade to report accurately on vandalised trees. It is a considerable issue and one we work with local laws and also place signage when we can.
<b>D23/49 706</b>	The text explaining the colours on the 6 little maps is not readable and not enough information what is being measured ? and what are the categories being used ?	We will use a better format and quality imagery.
<b>D23/49 706</b>	Is there a plan for dealing with larger problems e.g. leaf litter one canopy is increased?	Yes, the street sweeping program is under review. We recognise that although trees bring great value they also require maintenance.
<b>D23/49 706</b>	The target market for the community involvement is unspecified, just a vague "community partnership".	S 5.5 mentions community groups broadly. Noted to be investigated.
<b>D23/49 706</b>	The strategy should devote some attention to projects that could involve residents- in raingarden pilot projects, for example in recording bird species found in their street, in joining the many friends groups to help maintain conservations reserves, monitoring fauna other than birds.	See S5.3 - Incorporate citizen science data into Banyule's annual monitoring programs.

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D23/49 706	There is a big issue of developers and what they do when a house is to be demolished and how Banyule deals with that, more indication about what the revision might be when referring to revising protection for trees on private land?	Noted, to be investigated
D23/49 706	There is a strong tendency in all bureaucracies to put much emphasis on new projects and very little on maintaining old ones. this is one of the culture changes that will need to be worked through if Banyule is serious about fixing the urban forest canopy inequities and introducing the idea of legal gardens on nature strips and there should be a lot more reporting to residents via public meetings of the achievements and problems encountered along the way.	Reporting currently is through the state of environment report. Noted, to be investigated.
D23/49 706	Has myrtle rust appeared in Banyule? where and what has been done about it? is it spreading?	Myrtle rust has been found in Victoria since 2011 and is now established. It has not been found in Banyule however it is a disease to watch out for and ensure it doesn't spread to the natural environment.
D23/49 706	What is the relation of neighbourhood character to weed tree species? what can be done about that?	Weed management is discussed in the Banyule Weed Strategy. An assessment would be required If a character tree becomes actively weedy.
D23/49 706	The inequitable distribution of tree canopy- its current state is fairly well known. how has it changed in the past year? what plans are there to reduce the gap in the coming year?	Council will continue to plant predominantly for requests and replacements. This strategy drives the additional planting required to fill all vacant locations in streets.

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<b>D23/49 708</b>	That species selection be scientific, based on environmental requirements, ecology, Australian Character (in the main) including better defined information on how the projected efforts of climate change will affect species selection.	The UFS sets out to define species selection criteria. See S2.6. Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/49 708</b>	The degree to which the council's stated commitment to the natural environments will influence the UFS, and the rationale for planting exotics where it is decided to do so.	This is explored in the neighbourhood character in Figure 31.
<b>D23/49 708</b>	Ecological value of plantings, and the data which informs ecological assessment.	See strategic area 2. - Increase the Diversity of the Urban Forest for Biodiversity and Habitat with Ground Cover and Shrub Layer Plantings
<b>D23/49 708</b>	Selection criteria for the suppliers of trees and plants.	The selection criteria is managed through the procurement process and always focuses on quality and adhering to Australian Standard AS2303 – Tree Stock for Landscape Use.
<b>D23/49 708</b>	A role of orientation in relation to strategic shading of infrastructure on selecting species and planting sites.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/49 708</b>	An acknowledgement, for the purpose of not repeating the same mistakes, of inappropriate current and historic plantings, e.g. excessive planting of nursery trees with little canopy or ecological value such as jacarandas, ornamental pears and other exotics, and the inappropriate planting of exotic trees in areas of native vegetation.	The strategy proposes to plant a mixture of indigenous, native and exotic trees depending on the location. See S2.6.

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<b>D23/49 708</b>	Excessive removal of trees and plantings inconsistent with the UFS within Banyule by institutionally controlled sites e.g. schools such as Heidelberg Primary School and church properties.	See S3.3 which includes working with for example the Victorian Department of education and local schools.
<b>D23/49 708</b>	Actions the BCC will take to address the apparent ease of tree removal by developers and the weak regulations for illegal removal and careless damage (canopy loss is greatest in new developments and is a universal problem, and the most difficult to address) this may involve council lobbying to amend planning regulations.	Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme are included in Action S6.5. Action 6.2 includes advocacy work to the Victoria Government to seek support for the Urban Forest Strategy.
<b>D23/49 708</b>	Acknowledgement of the effect of 'leaf load' on local streams, the Yarra and the bay when deciduous trees shed their leaves, in the decisions to plant exotics.	Both deciduous and non deciduous trees shed leaves. Deciduous trees tend to shed them in a more concentrated time when the weather turns cooler. Street maintenance is also required in areas with natives however is concentrated close to warmer weather.
<b>D23/49 708</b>	Diseases. Myrtle rust and bell minors are mentioned in the context of climate change without any explanation of the scale of those two problems or where they fit into the general spectrum of local plant diseases.	Noted, to be investigated.

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<b>D23/49 708</b>	Australian character. a more detailed explanation of how and where this will be achieved. The draft UFS lists Japanese, Chinese and North American trees to be planted without acknowledging why these species were selected or the ecological deficiencies of exotics. Existing plantings of exotics such as Elms, plane trees and oaks may have a place in the strategy, but there are also areas where the neighbourhood character is defined by environmental weeds such as sweet pittosporum, cotoneaster, desert ash, English ivy and many other the plan should include strategy to replace weeds with native vegetation.	Weeds are discussed in Banyule's weed management strategy. Species selection is discussed in Strategic Area 2.
<b>D23/49 708</b>	Implement a campaign in the community to change the culture of removal of trees as the default action with one of removal as a last resort, including in new developments. In response to applications to remove tree's, council engage to encourage more conservative remedies such as selective subsidisation of gutter guards, safety cabling of heavy branches, etc.	See action S4.8.1.
<b>D23/49 708</b>	Creation of nature strip planting sites, e.g. kerb incursions, curving footpaths around tree sites or moving footpaths to allow more space.	See S6.10.
<b>D23/49 708</b>	A regularly updated heat island map with accompanying information on progress.	See strategic areas 4 and S4.4.

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D23/54 474	How many trees and what varieties were planted in what streets- in the last 3 years in Ivanhoe East, Ivanhoe, Eaglemont (south of Bell St.) ? (IE NOT parks and gardens - just streets)	Noted, to be investigated.
D23/54 474	How many trees were planted and variety and survival rate (but NOT BY STREET) in other parts of Banyule (by ward or by suburb) (for comparison) and how many are still alive- and have nor been replaced for each area.	Contractor performance with the new planting contract has seen some of the best quality plantings and maintenance. Contractor management is always ongoing and reviewed with new contract tenders.
D23/54 474	Does council plant its own trees or contract this out? - if contracted out- what is the evidence this is effective (in terms of survival after 2 years) ( each tree costs \$450 for the first 2 years according to Michael Tanner and this includes watering) BUT MANY DIE!!!! and or snap in half ( e.g. the ones planted along Lower Heidelberg Road with just bamboo stakes- you can see how floppy and branchy they are because of this- look at the opposite vacant land at 9 Lower H RD- this area also has many trees on one nature strip- so the effect of the lack of staking was obvious to see) .	Noted, to be investigated.
D23/54 474	How many times were the GINKO trees in Burke Road North watered over their lifetime? (many (about half or most) died ) I think most if not all were planted last year?	Contractor performance with the new planting contract has seen some of the best quality plantings and maintenance. Contractor management is always ongoing and reviewed with new contract tenders.

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D23/54 474	How was the survey of vacant tree sites done? I understand it was done by contractors- Can we have their report? ( to see methodology and read results- as a matter of transparency in Govt) I feel the plantings sites in many cases are inappropriate- for some reason.	Vacant sites were collected as part of an audit of street trees which also included a visual tree assessment for existing trees. Before the vacant site is planted it is first verified depending on the tree selected and for underground infrastructure.
D23/54 474	Could I have the variety of trees planted beside ( if not in ) all the wildlife corridors south of Bell St? i.e. what variety and in what street (NOT PARKS AND GARDENS) could I have the map parks and gardens use in identifying wild life corridors?	The Strategy aims to share the data with the community via an app. S4.5.4. At the moment this data is not easily extracted from our systems.
D23/54 474	What species have been planted along the western most section of The Boulevard, Fairy Hills ( and huge other areas of streets close to the riverine environment) in southern Banyule- ( they have brown lantern shaped papery pods)- can you confirm they are 'Koelreuteria paniculate Chinese lantern tree'? or is it Chinese rain tree (koelreuteria elegans ssp. formosana) or one of the other varieties of koelreuteria?- I notice the summer flowering season (small yellow panicles) seem very short- but lots of seed pods produced anyway.	The Strategy aims to share the data with the community via an app. S4.5.4. At the moment this data is not easily extracted from our systems.

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D23/54 474	Please look at the ginkgo's planted just under the railway bridge going away from the Ivanhoe shops along water dale road. (this species can grow for 1000 years and get very large as well as tall ) notice how close together they are/ how sick they look/ how low the powerlines are/ how narrow the nature strip is.... is this an effective use of these potentially beautiful and long lasting trees? or of councils resources? please explain why in your answer.	Ginkgo trees tolerate a wide range of soil conditions, are suitable for future climate and also tolerate pruning for sight lines and around overhead infrastructure. These plantings will be assessed. Noted, to be investigated.
D23/54 474	What is happening to the dwarf gum plantings at the roundabout Lower Heidelberg Road near "the cutting" - why did the first planting of this species last a decade and subsequent renewal ( to add more paved area?) result in repeated deaths? is it time to try a different option? why cant this be done immediately to get something growing and stop Banyule looking like a wasteland at this key entrance point ( even before the bricks are re-laid or another option chosen- that is easier to maintain than bricks?	The round about is under the responsibility of VicRoads and the tree have constantly been pruned in relation to road safety audits. Noted, to be investigated.
D23/54 474	Why cant we have tall gums planted in our carparks?	The strategy does not prohibit the use of tall gum trees in carparks. See S2.6.
D23/54 474	Why cant we have Gardens Staff understand the Planning Rules around neighbourhood Character and relate this better to their planting work? - should the design of street tree plantings be done within the planning department where staff have this expertise factored into their employment? ( we have "planning Arborists and landscape designers assess plantings already)	See Strategic Area 2.

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<b>D23/54 474</b>	<p>Why were several mature Atlantic blue cedars (cedrus atlantica 'glauca') recently removed from the western end of Ivanhoe park? ( beside the Boulevard where it meets Lower Heidelberg road) these are the species from the original plantings that give this park its "heritage" park and I have advocated with parks ad gardens for their retention and the removal of many invasive and life sucking weeds such as ash and agapanthus from around their roots system with Cathy Hynes and with Ben De Klepper ( and now with Michael Tanner- only to find on my tour of trees with Alida last week they had been removed along the edge of this park where they are MOST VISABLE and give us the heritage feeling in our suburb. the park is about to get a Heritage Plan so why remove the heritage?</p>	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/54 474</b>	<p>Why has fastigate Oaks been planted in a row at the north side of Ivanhoe Park? they are not a landscape species for large parks and being narrowly upright and exotic contribute little shade and food for wildlife or other public benefit. they block the public views of the beautiful mature landscape. where they just left over plants from a large order that had to be put somewhere ?</p>	Noted, to b investigated.

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<b>D23/54 474</b>	Town hall plantings- successive plantings have died in front of the town hall offices; and the mature tulip trees there have been compromised by having daffodils planted in the roots and new concrete infrastructure also encroach their roots they were very deteriorated last spring- why do we not have the talent at Banyule to design garden beds appropriately and look after mature trees? are experience landscape horticulturalists too expensive to hire? could we make contact with people at the RBG to find some retiring older staff who would like to work part time? ( I have worked at royal botanic gardens for 12 years)	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/56 505</b>	Is it possible to provide a buffer around wildlife corridors to establish that they (for the most part) already have a 'bush woodland' Character and all creek/river corridors and buffer areas should be treated as such with future planting ?	See S2.5 for mapping of the ecological corridors.
<b>D23/56 505</b>	The abundance of Eucalyptus melliodora and other eucalypts should be a positive not presented as a negative. EVC's represented in these areas would support the abundance of these trees in the streetscape and parks. these species are evolved to thrive in these habitats and are perfectly in tune with the fauna including insects and flora that also inhabit these areas.	For a discussion on a species selection matrix see Fig 31, pg. 51 of the draft strategy.

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D23/56 505	If a designated Wildlife Corridor (though this document is yet to establish what that means) is running through a neighbourhood that is not designated as semi bush or bush woodland then is the wildlife corridor given precedence or is the Neighbourhood Character given precedence?	The biodiversity plan which will be having consultation in 2023-2024 addresses habitat corridors. Planting sensitive to the wildlife corridors is consistent with the objectives of the UFS. See S2.5.
D23/56 505	There doesn't seem to be any specific measures of how many/ what percentage of trees/plants put in the ground are indigenous species.	These measures will be easily provided with a new tree management system and the strategy proposes to share through an app. See S4.5.4.
D23/56 505	One of the indicators listed under 'resilient and thriving' is 'abundant urban ecology'. I am unaware what you mean by Flora and Fauna analysis? there is no specific measure or detail.	For a and Fauna analysis includes surveys of what target fauna is present. See S2.5. this will be explored more in the Biodiversity Plan. See shaping Banyule for your chance to contribute in 2023-2024.
D23/56 505	Wurundjeri council or local indigenous leaders don't appear to have been consulted in the process of formulating this Strategy. I am happy to be wrong but if they have yet to be brought in I think it would be wise to do that formally and in the near term.	See S5.4 for a connection with the Wurundjeri NARRAP team.
D23/56 505	At the very least, the Urban Forest Strategy should not be in space of recommending species that are not indigenous to the community as this will contradict the message that the environment team has been supporting for many years. I think there will be mixed messages internally and going out to the community.	See Strategic Area 2.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/56 505</b>	As is noted on document page 12 there are more than 10 current strategies that are already at work in the Urban Forest space and at a glance I would be surprised if the proposed Urban Forest Strategy will effectively talk to several of these.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/56 505</b>	It feels very much like the Urban Forest Strategy contradicts the spirit of the Reconciliation Action Plan in the reliance on exotic flora species that are detrimental to the survival of local insects, birds and other fauna.	See Strategic area 2 and S5.4. Biodiversity is a one of the major goals for he UFS.
<b>D23/56 505</b>	The opportunity to shape neighbourhood area in favour of local species and therefore local wildlife seems to have been overlooked because of neighbourhood Character that will change over time.	See Strategic Area 2.
<b>D23/56 505</b>	The strategy has avoided designating Wildlife corridors without a qualified ecologist identifying those areas, but at the same time ascribing Neighbourhood Character on a 'feel' seems contradictory.	Wildlife corridors will be discussed further in the biodiversity plan. See S2.5.
<b>D23/56 505</b>	There is no recognition that Bushland Reserves should have a buffer zone around them to avoid exotic species being planted directly adjacent to these natural spaces. This is obviously something that should be part of the plan.	See S1.1.
<b>D23/56 505</b>	Recommending species other than indigenous species to the public will directly contradict the work undertaken by the environment department. Mixed messages.	See S1.1.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/56 505	What is a facility tree?	A facility tree type is a tree located in a council property such as a library or located in a leased property such as a sporting facility or kindergarten.
D23/56 505	It is to my understanding that the name of the team is Narrap not NARRAP.	Noted. Narrap appears to be correct.
D23/56 505	Perhaps Bushland Management should be a partner in this action due to our management of the sensitive biodiversity reserves mentioned.	See S5.4 - Bushland is the lead department.
D23/58 772	note: poor phrasing in parts like message from the mayor and the five principles re- the use of 'we believe' when describing a principle needs reworking. also 64 or 65 actions? this number varies throughout the document.	Noted, to be investigated.
D23/58 772	Banyule is currently developing the Urban Food Strategy which would appear to overlap significantly with this Urban Forest Strategy on a number of levels, but there is no acknowledgement of this in this document. It would be so much more productive for these 2 Strategies to be produced in tandem so they support each other. Also true with other strategies listed on page 12. Spaces unsuitable for tree planting could be used for other options like verge gardens/ community gardens/ urban food gardens thus demonstrating the integration of the Urban Forest Strategy with other council strategies.	The Urban Food Strategy will have integration with the UFS however it is on a different time line for finalising.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/58 772</b>	P22 how much of a problem is vandalism in Banyule? how many trees are replaced each year because of this? how much does this increase the contract to Council? What other things could be done to reduce or prevent this?	Numbers are difficult to derive with the current systems as vandalism cant be easily filtered. Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/58 772</b>	P24 the urban forest strategy should be strong enough to stop things like developments puncturing the continuity of the canopy away from the core for example Caydon development on Bell St./ Upper Heidelberg Rd.	Urban forest opportunities will be investigated when considering planning zone and overlay controls under Action S6.13.
<b>D23/58 772</b>	P25 references Bush Woodland as 'two areas in the southwest of Banyule' this should read 'southeast of Banyule'.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/58 772</b>	P30 it is difficult to comment as Figure 20 in missing. 97% canopy loss on private residential land but how significant as this (97% of what) and where was it?	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/58 772</b>	P32 well shaded footpaths : figure 23 is a very poor example this is the eastern end of York Avenue East Ivanhoe which is not shaded much in summer in contrast to the western end. The western end is well shaded as shown in figure 24 and that should be used for the aerial shot too.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/58 772</b>	P33-4 diversity and age of public trees- there is a discrepancy between the two diagrams as figure 25 is for 95000 trees while figure 26 totals less than 91000. so what happened to the balance? nothing is said about succession planting of mature trees.	Noted, to be investigated.

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D23/58 772	The definition should read "Banyule's Urban Forest is the trees and greening assets that exist in the urban area of Banyule, including the ecosystems, soils and water that support them; the future management of which is strategically designed and planned." the existing definition is clumsy and inaccurate as there has not been a significant amount of strategic planning in the establishment of the existing situation.	This definition has been consulted through Shaping Banyule. Noted, to be investigated.
D23/58 772	P42 where is the urban forest most vulnerable: this section is missing how the existing Urban Forest is vulnerable to further depletion. Also it infers that the only reason for an Urban Forest is for mitigating Climate Change, and while that is important it is not the only reason.	Biodiversity is listed as a key reason for the urban Forest alongside mitigating the affects of climate change.
D23/58 772	a number of the figures in this document would benefit from being larger.	Noted, to be investigated.
D23/58 772	Action S6.16 why on P76 is East Ivanhoe/Eaglemont/Ivanhoe given a medium timeframe and \$\$ investment? Deferring it to a Medium term outs it off until many more trees are lost from the private realm.	Noted, to be investigated.

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<b>D23/58 772</b>	please explain in figure 37 on P 80-81 infill planting program the drop in the green line.	In 2022 Banyule planted above the budgeted amount of trees. This was partly due to a delay in previous seasons and also to ensure that advantage was gained from the wet weather cycle. In 2023 we will plant approximately 1500 trees because we will already be maintaining trees from the previous summer as well. The strategy will require additional budget to increase the numbers up to 5000 in 2026 and 2027.
<b>D23/58 849</b>	I think the Urban Forest Strategy should be shorter with some content discarded or placed in appendices. the state government's strategy Protecting Victoria's Environment- Biodiversity 2037 which deals with a much bigger area and subject is 52 pages long.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/58 849</b>	I feel Banyule's Urban Forest definition could be clearer. I don't find the explanatory paragraph helpful. it seems to add little to the definition. Does the UF include public and private land? Does the UF include Council- owned bushland, parks, sports fields, landscaped areas, street trees and nature strips and the non-living parts of the natural environment that support them?	Noted, to be investigated.

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<b>D23/58 849</b>	I think there should be a brief explanation with a graphic, of what tree canopy cover means. this could include the time of day that is measured and whether it ignores gaps due to missing branches and leaves.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/58 849</b>	The six strategic focus areas and long list of actions feels overwhelming. I wonder if this makes it difficult for us to focus on the key ones that will produce the best outcomes time and cost effectively. I think we should reduce the number of actions.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/58 849</b>	I feel that public education on the values of the UF and what we can do to support it does not come across strongly as a key implementation strategy or action.	See strategic area 5 - Build and Maintain Partnerships with Others in the Protection and Management of the Urban Forest.
<b>D23/58 849</b>	Tree cover reduced between 2014 and 2018 and the loss was on private land. Can council make up the shortfall on public land or does more need to be done to ensure that green assets are retained or increased on private land?	Green assets will need to be increased on private land. See figure 35. Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/58 849</b>	Given that public spaces are likely to have to counter losses on private land, I believe that we should also replace under-performing existing plants which do not contribute to the benefits that the UF should deliver.	This is a focus, see S1.6. for further explanation under accelerated Infill Planting Program.
<b>D23/58 849</b>	It is good that departments/teams are identified for implementing various aspects of the UFS. But who has overall responsibility for the strategy and the works of various agencies? if there is a lead department, does it have the influence and resources to ensure that implementation is successful?	The Urban Forestry Unit in Parks & Natural Environment has the administration responsibilities and the support of the organisation.

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<b>D23/58 849</b>	Why should it take so long (4-8 years) to develop new guidelines for using nature strips? other councils have guidelines and it should be possible to adapt guidelines for Banyule City in less than a year.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/58 849</b>	I feel that neighbourhood character has little relevance other than in a few more formal situations e.g. around public facilities. I see little evidence of it being used properly anyway in councils recent plantings. If we really are trying to enhance ecosystem services and biodiversity these considerations should take precedence.	Streets can be a formal setting where neighbourhood character is of prime importance to the community. See S5.7.
<b>D23/58 849</b>	We need to know as much as possible about what each species offers in terms of benefits, climate, biodiversity, aesthetics, etc.	Information is being gathered at an alarming rate especially for vegetation that will thrive in the future climate. The strategy seeks to review our species selection and have criteria for selection.
<b>D23/60 319</b>	Banyule's Town Planning should be able to compel much wider nature-strips in new estates. on block that are paved in the front yard and built up all over the rest of the block, no backyard the only hope of increased tree cover is nature strip plantings but few nature strips are really wide enough for good-sized trees.	There are limited greenfield sites in Banyule suitable for estate subdivisions. The planning scheme provides guidance for the width of nature strips.
<b>D23/60 319</b>	Median strips and street plantings that could be considered Wildlife Corridors like the west end of Banksia St, Oriel Rd and Malahang reserve's value would be greatly increased by inter-planting low indigenous bushes and ground cover.	See Strategic Area 2 - Increase the Diversity of the Urban Forest for Biodiversity and Habitat with Ground Cover and Shrub Layer Plantings

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/60 319</b>	The planting around Macleod shopping centre and station could be increased in value as a wildlife corridor by continuing it along the railway line towards Watsonia.	This would be a partnership with Vic Track. See strategic area 5 - Build and Maintain Partnerships with Others in the Protection and Management of the Urban Forest.
<b>D23/60 319</b>	Bell Minors are accused of spreading lerp, to the detriment of indigenous Eucalypts. it should be noted that they have been largely driven from their former haunts by the Noisy Miner and the only strong colony I know is that at Wilson Reserve. Here the dense understorey keeps Noisy Miners at bay.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/60 319</b>	Banyule's creeks and rivers are outstanding Wildlife Corridors, but they would be far more effective if they were not so often tidied up. Over grown scrub as opposed to the 'golf course landscape' - (mown grass with scattered trees), provided wildlife, many kinds of birds with shelter from predators and aggressors and must have been full of insects.	This is broadly addressed in Strategic Area 2 and will be further explored in the biodiversity strategy which is currently being reviewed.
<b>D23/60 319</b>	I would suggest a serious attempt to 'indigenize' the plantings along the railway line. The Friends of Eaglemont have made a good start here. so far, this is a missed opportunity, if shade align in the consideration, the unpruned London Plane Trees in the Ivanhoe station car park show what a fine tree this is, when not subjected to the usual savage pruning suffered by street trees.	This would be a partnership with Vic Track. See strategic area 5 - Build and Maintain Partnerships with Others in the Protection and Management of the Urban Forest.

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D23/60 319	<p>I am very disappointed in the selection of street trees in the vicinity of our Wildlife Corridors. If the Corridors are to make any serious contribution, they should be strongly enhanced with indigenous vegetation. In the Boulevard, just off Heidelberg Rd, there would be ample room to plant some Yellow Box on the stretch overlooking Sparks Reserve. A very fine specimen stands in a front garden close to Clark Rd. (For that matter, Sparkes Reserve could carry suitable indigenous plants, including ground covers and low bushes, on the scarp below the Boulevard). Instead, on the housing side of the Boulevard, there is a new row of exotics (a species unknown to me). These will do nothing for local fauna. Many more of the same kind are planted in Redesdale and Waterdale Roads.</p>	<p>See Strategic Area 2 for the ground cover and shrub layer.</p>

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/60 319	<p>The Yarra frontages have suffered greatly from the proliferation of ground-covering weeds such as Wandering Tradescantia. This smothers all native ground plants and prevents native ground-feeding birds from living there. It is only in areas like Wilson Reserve, whose enthusiastic Friends Group keep Trad at bay, that there is much hope of seeing Red-browed Finches, Eastern Yellow Robin, White-browed Scrub-wren and Brown Thornbill. Removal of 'Trad' and instantly re-planting with indigenous shrubs and grasses does wonders. Unfortunately the Yarra Flats section of the Yarra Valley Park seems to receive no upkeep at all, and the Friends of Yarra Valley Park complain of over-bureaucratic management, and a shortage of funds. (I except the Billabongs Section of Yarra Water from this criticism)..This is of course outside BCC's responsibility but distressing just the same. But the 'rough' section of The Boulevard adjacent could be tackled by Council. Local residents have planted a mish-mash of ornamentals such as Oleander and flowering plums. The Elm coppice growth near the horse agistment area should however remain; it is very ornamental and excellent shade. In its homelands in Europe, the Elm is now an endangered species, and have disappeared as a forest and street tree.</p>	<p>See Banyule Weed Strategy and biodiversity strategy and action S5.5.</p>

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D23/60 319	<p>Those bush parks which are under BCC control are much better managed, thanks to the combined enthusiasm of the Bushland Management Crew and the respective Friends Groups. Perhaps Friends Groups could be encouraged for roads and streets adjacent to Wildlife Corridors? A vast amount of public education is needed.. How about a BCC leaflet and publicity on recognizing serious weeds <i>at the seedling stage</i>? Private gardens need constant vigilance to clear Desert Ash and Privet seedlings, and the young plants of Ivy, Japanese Honeysuckle, Morning Glory and the dreaded Kapok Vine. (These creepers are a continuing problem on my part of Darebin Creek and would take very serious professional action to clear permanently). The heavy growth of Broad-leafed Privet and other weeds such as Ivy, along the scarp above Wilson Reserve is truly shocking, and birds spread them to private gardens. Admittedly the terrain is difficult, but local residents would be very grateful for the removal of hay fever-inducing Privet flower in spring and summer.</p>	See Banyule Weed Strategy and biodiversity strategy and S5..
D23/61 513	<p>I do not see how the aim of increasing the amount of tree canopy can be achieved in Banyule as 97% of the tree canopy loss was on private property. Please note that this was supposed to be shown on figure 20 which doesn't appear in the draft although it is referred to and there is a note about the data sources.</p>	Figure 35 of the draft strategy illustrates that Private land is crucial to achieve the targets. Noted, to b investigated.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/61 513</b>	Banyule Planning Department needs to be involved more and educated on the benefits of the Urban Forest Strategy(UFS). There is very little reference to the Planning Department in the UFS. The UFS should be considered when planning officers are determining an application for a planning permit.	See S6.12 and S6.1.
<b>D23/61 513</b>	If diversity of species is applied across Banyule unique characteristics of particular areas may be threatened. To strengthen existing vegetation against expected increased heat, drought and flooding rains due to climate change it may be possible to bring in specimens of the same species that are found in the areas of Australia that currently have the climate expected in the future due to climate change. For example, source River Red gums from further north in our state or even country.	Much research is being undertaken in relation to future climates. The UFS sets forth criteria rather than a list for tree selection so that we can utilise future knowledge. Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/61 513</b>	Figure 27. I found the third pie chart to be quite confusing as the colours are not in the same order as the other two pie charts to which it is being compared. The written description of the amber and amber max species is also confusing and Many abbreviations used in the draft UFS are not explained in the draft before use, for example Small/Under HV.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/61 513</b>	The case studies were interesting. I like the Marrickville Sustainable streets plans and the tree bond idea from Stonnington which Banyule should adopt.	Noted, to be investigated.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/61 513</b>	Hopefully indigenous plants are selected over native alternatives if possible. Otherwise, Banyule will begin to look like any other suburb that is not prioritising its indigenous flora.	The UFS proposes a species selection based on S2.6.
<b>D23/61 513</b>	Residents should be encouraged and educated to plant out nature strips with shrubs, native grasses and groundcovers especially those in the Victoria Cross Estate and similar areas where there are nature strips on both sides of the footpath. However Banyule Council should make it clear that weeds such as agapanthus are not to be planted on nature strips and should be discourage from being planted within gardens.	See S2.4. Any advise regarding plants will align with Banyule Weed Management Strategy.
<b>D23/61 513</b>	More education should be provided to residents of Banyule in regards to maintaining the health of trees on their property. Environmental weeds such as agapanthus and ivy are common in Banyule; there are 4 properties with ivy growing on or near trees in a neighbouring street. Residents should be made aware of the detrimental effects ivy can have on the health of trees and encouraged to kill the ivy. Banyule Council should not allow a tree to be removed simply because it has ivy growing on it unless attempts have been made to kill the ivy and improve the health of the tree first.	Any advise regarding plants will align with Banyule Weed Management Strategy.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 391</b>	We live 200m, from the bushy Darebin parkland. There is no environmental protection overlay for our street or most of the surrounding ridgeline pocket of Ivanhoe, being under VPO3 and DDO12. SADLY. I don't think the council is aware of the ecology of this area, nor cares.	Urban forest opportunities will be investigated when considering planning zone and overlay controls under Action S6.13.
<b>D23/65 391</b>	I would like to see A commitment to planting at least 80% indigenous or native plants at all levels, trees (wide Australian species choice for climate variability), shrubs and grasses and wildflowers. in all areas of our Urban Forest and council recommendations to the public which would benefit ALL residents and visitors to Banyule This would make the Banyule City Council an environmental leader amongst council.	Species selection does have a great emphasis on indigenous and native trees especially near bushland areas however the strategy also mentions that exotic trees have suitable locations as well. See S2.6.
<b>D23/65 391</b>	I would like to see Buffer Zones with Environmental Protection Overlays in the planning scheme created around bushland reserves and parklands with waterways of at least 200m, for connectivity conservation. Residents encouraged to plant indigenous and native species in these zones, all council street tree plantings to be indigenous or native, and lower storey plants to be indigenous or native, nature strip planting to be predominately indigenous species to increase wildlife corridors. THESE ZONES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PLANNING SCHEME OVERLAYS. Council to prioritize indigenous plants in these zones, with plant lists and information packs for residents. Mapping of and BUFFER ZONES AROUND LARGE OLD NATIVE TREES.	Corridors will be included in the biodiversity plan. S3.2 includes 'significant' trees which will include 'veteran' trees if nominated.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 391</b>	I would like to see A commitment to conserving what Urban Forest we currently have, change of practices and culture within council departments that have a detrimental impact on our Urban Forest. Currently some council activities are increasing and enhancing caring for the UF, while other actions of council are degrading biological diversity and increasing urban heat.	See Strategic Area 6 - Integrate the Urban Forest Principles into All Parts of Council Services.
<b>D23/65 391</b>	<p>The definition of the Urban Forest is important and needs expanding, it is missing key elements and it should be presented at the top of the document opening the document not just in a small picture amongst the pages of the document. See City of Brimbank's definition from 2016!:</p> <p>What is an Urban forest?</p> <p>'The Brimbank Urban forest comprises all vegetation within Brimbank .This includes all trees, plants and grasses and the environment in which they are able to grow. All living systems are considered part of the Urban forest, such as street trees, parks, grasslands, waterways, vegetation in schools and privately managed land, green roofs, green walls and balconies. This strategy primarily focuses on planting and protecting trees to improve canopy cover. It also provides strategic justification and methods to reduce the impacts of heatwaves through increased vegetation, contributing to improved liveability.'</p> <p>And I would add the Urban Forest is a valuable ecological network, that supports people, plants, animals, insects and micro organisms, and it needs careful stewardship.</p>	The definition has had previous consultation. Noted, to be investigated.

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<b>D23/65 391</b>	Planters incorporating seats with small plants, currently located in shopping strips around Banyule are mostly neglected, the plants die and the soil is used for butting out cigarettes, from my observation	Noted , to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 391</b>	Because of pollution caused by vehicle emissions (scientifically recognised in Australia), brakes and tyres too, all shopping strips in Banyule LGA need to be lined with trees; All heavily trafficked roads need to be lined with trees; that are not deciduous, because when trees have no leaves they are not producing oxygen and are not absorbing air pollution. All new developments on heavily trafficked roads, such as Bell Street need adequate setbacks for planting trees and lower storey vegetation to reduce the public health risks from particulates; increased risk of respiratory and cardio-vascular illness, increased risk of developing dementia, and childhood asthma.	The UFS strategy focuses on canopy cover which will increase the pollutant mitigation from trees.
<b>D23/65 391</b>	Planning policy must change, a cultural shift throughout the council is required from the top down; because one of the main threats to our Urban Forest is the attitudes of people within the council as well as in the public realm, lack of awareness and lack of nature consciousness.	See Strategic Area 6 - Integrate the Urban Forest Principles into All Parts of Council Services.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 391</b>	An updated table instead of the one from Sydney UFS 2013 in 'Table 1 traditional vs modern UF approach' would be useful in the Banyule UFS in which trees are recognised for their exceptional contribution to the health and wellbeing of our community and need to take priority over grey infrastructure.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 391</b>	Biological diversity, habitat and healthy ecosystems are critical for people and our unique Australian fauna and plants to survive, this UFS draft does too little to protect and increase animal habitat, including bird, reptile and insect habitat. Native species have evolved with and are adapted to our indigenous and native; trees, shrubs, ground covers, flowers and grasses. Bats, owls, possums, native birds, pollinators etc, all use our street trees, exotic species such as Jacarandas, Crepe Myrtle, Irish Strawberry, Pyrus and many other exotic plants, do not support any fauna or native insects. There is a lack of knowledge in the council about the detrimental effect of planting too many deciduous exotic species.	Selection of species is discussed in Strategic Area 2.

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<b>D23/65 391</b>	<p>A program of education as to why these are preferable, could just be a leaflet to the public.</p> <p>But first the responsible council officers need to aware of why we need to be planting Australian plants in Australia.</p> <p>As BCC has been recommending and planting a vast array of exotic species that native fauna and insects cannot use. New plantings need to be both climate suitable and ecologically suitable.</p> <p>E.g., Indigenous and native plants provide for Australian animals and insects, they do not pollute our waterways with leaf biomass, they use less water and are more suited to local soils and climate.</p>	<p>See Strategic Area 5 - Build and Maintain Partnerships with Others in the Protection and Management of the Urban Forest.</p>
<b>D23/65 391</b>	<p>I wonder why a new BCC Biodiversity Strategy was not produced prior to this UFS draft, surely the UFS needs to be informed by the new Biodiversity Strategy.</p>	<p>The UFS and the Biodiversity Plan are being developed with the same internal stakeholders and many contributors form the community.</p>
<b>D23/65 391</b>	<p>Why are the majority of trees on development sites always assessed as 'not valuable for retention' by the planning department arborists?</p>	<p>Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme is included in Action S6.5.</p>
<b>D23/65 391</b>	<p>'What measures are going to be taken by BCC to stop the majority of trees and other vegetation on development sites from being destroyed.</p>	<p>Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme is included in Action S6.5.</p>

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<b>D23/65 391</b>	What measures or actions are going to be installed into planning to stop public street trees being cut down by the BCC for the convenience of private developers? (as observed by me in Abbotsford Grove 3x Substantial size Queensland Box, shade trees and Waverley Avenue, Ivanhoe (4x Yellow Gum-indigenous habitat trees)?	At the locations mentioned. Significant replacements have been planned and with the undergrounding of the power we will achieve a better future canopy.
<b>D23/65 391</b>	What measures or actions are going to be taken in this strategy to prevent moon scaping of development sites. A common practice in Banyule LGA.	Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme is included in Action S6.5.
<b>D23/65 391</b>	Numerous plant pathogens exist apart from Myrtle Rust, pests that attack Plane trees and Elm trees and other exotic species, these also need mentioning. #LERPES are a major food source for many species of native birds and other animals, which only exist on native plants, and are not a major threat to the UF, please remove from UFS as pest or threat. 'Pets, dogs and cats (dogs off lead in wildlife sensitive areas, dog manure in parks and cats out after dark) are unaddressed issues.	Example of lerps, Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 391</b>	Eradicating weed species and educating people about these species should be a priority of this strategy.	Weed management is discussed in the Banyule Weed Strategy.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 391	<p>The UFS could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'Incentivise green roof gardens.(<a href="http://www.growinggreenguide.org/">http://www.growinggreenguide.org/</a>)</li> <li>'Commit BCC to reducing impervious/hard surfaces.</li> <li>'Commit to using permeable asphalt, or other permeable design solutions.</li> <li>'Discourage the use of metal cladding and dark surfaces on new developments, especially on upper levels of buildings.</li> <li>'Ban the use of Plastic /Artificial turf on nature strips and elsewhere In Banyule LGA, which is toxic and heat inducing, suffocating soil organisms, preventing birds from access to worms and other insects, bad for fauna and bad for humans. (search recent articles on this subject in the Guardian).</li> <li>'Mandate setbacks from side boundaries on all new developments with a minimum of 2.5m from boundary on all levels, thereby allowing for deep soil, protecting soil organisms, and increasing water absorption for the survival of habitat and shade friendly species. Advocating for this.</li> <li>'The draft mentions Promoting the use of Australian Plants, the BCC could be setting an example to our community and other councils by being Climate Conscious in plant species selection, by using indigenous and native plant lists, recommending at least 80% local plants on new development sites and nature strips as they consume less water and support our Australian fauna, insects and reptiles.</li> <li>' Reduce the planting of exotic Deciduous Species, exotic species are taking the place of trees that can better support Australian fauna. Exotic deciduous trees leaf litter washed or blown into the storm water system damages the ecology of our waterways.</li> <li>'The impact of toxic sprays, pesticides and herbicides is not mentioned in the draft.</li> </ul>	<p>The use of artificial turf can be considered in the nature strip guidelines S2.4. Buildings adhering to environmental sustainable development can be found on the planning and building section of our website <a href="https://www.banyule.vic.gov.au/Planning-building/Environmentally-sustainable-development">https://www.banyule.vic.gov.au/Planning-building/Environmentally-sustainable-development</a>.</p>
D23/65 391	<p>Caused by impervious hard surfaces, motorised transport and in hot weather the use of air conditioners, generating more waste heat. Council and Developers need to take responsibility.</p> <p>There is nothing in the draft about taking action to ameliorate the situation through design and planning changes. heat minimisation strategies, better design.</p>	<p>For a number of these items see the Climate Action Plan.</p>

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 391</b>	Essential pruning for health and safety of large old trees on the register is very expensive for residents. A fund is a very good idea. After nominating a tree for the register online, there is no response given from the Banyule Council. This does not seem very transparent to me, no receipt, no nomination number, no evidence of nomination for the nominee.	The significant tree register process will be reviewed with S3.1. Please check your junk mail as this may be where the receipt reply went.
<b>D23/65 516</b>	Yesterdays forum didn't provide sufficient time/opportunity for genuine community engagement on the issue, the videos were just unnecessary time-padding.	The online submission form was left open for people to have an additional chance to provide feedback.
<b>D2365 516</b>	Many in the audience were Banyule residents highly experienced with distinguishing track records in local environmental matters, deep knowledge and love of Banyule's natural heritage. the sort of folk who are well equipped to raise valid questions and commentary that would only serve to improve the draft UFS document.	All consultation feedback has been received, read and considered.
<b>D23/65 516</b>	The draft UFS doc does not detail a definitive framework of goals vs timelines.	A high level timeframe is included in Section 7 and progress will be reported through the State of Environment Report.
<b>D23/65 516</b>	While UFSs 2015 and 2018 are widely referenced in the present draft UFS doc, the key achievements (if any) of those 2 earlier UFSs are unclear to the reader. were UFS 2015 and 2018 successful, if so, how?	See appendix 1 and 2.
<b>D23/65 516</b>	At times, yesterdays occasion had more of a corporate box ticking vibe- rather than a genuine community consultation.	Noted.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 516	Climate change, ageing trees, falling branches etc were disingenuously invoked by Council Officers, when in fact these are highly complex issues.	Noted.
D23/65 516	No one fully understands Climate Change impacts to such a granular level as to predict categorically that tree X should be replaced with tree Y. I say that as a plant biologist myself. Our old River Redgums (many 100+ years old ) are nowhere in decline due to climate change- highly resilient and adaptable, they've withstood many cycles of extreme weather. how does one tell if it's climate change if the tree looks unhealthy?? I cannot, and doubt if anyone in council can. It's disheartening that folk with little knowledge may exploit community concerns and (lack of community questioning) to fell trees that are coping just fine.	Noted, further investigation required.
D23/66 270	while accepting the constraints of the draft, I should like to see every effort made to enhance wildlife corridors.	The strategy goes a way to improving habitat movement. More will be discussed during the development of the biodiversity strategy.
D23/66 270	Lerps are an important food source for Australian wildlife, e.g. possums, gliders and many bird species. A flock of up to 40 endangered Swift Parrots were observed between May and July 2015 in the trees surrounding Macleod Station (bird). Their food source was lerps in Yellow Gum trees. while Bell miner associated Dieback may be occurring in North Eastern NSW, I do not think it as reason not to plant native trees Banyule. More a reason to encourage monitoring of Bell Miner occurrence.	Noted, to be investigated.

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<b>D23/66 270</b>	on Page 26, figure 14 is not referred to/explained in the text.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/66 270</b>	A pie chart of current street tree diversity is shown in fig.25. the identical chart is shown twice. Five native tree species occupy 21% of the pie chart and the remaining 79% is deemed "other". I conclude that "other" must imply predominantly exotic species. I suggest the conclusion, that pie chart shows that "the overall diversity of the Urban Forest tree population is good" is incorrect. my view is that Banyule can improve tree diversity while contributing to wildlife corridors by planting more indigenous trees, e.g. Waterdale Road between Southern Road and Dougherty Road.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	Banyule's 2013 City Plan, Environmental Sustainability Policy and Strategy, and Neighbourhood Character Strategy all identified the need to protect, retain and manage Banyule's trees. Emerging from the City Plan came the first standalone Urban Forest Strategic plan (2015) and supporting urban forest policies. But what Urban forest specific actions and initiatives have council implemented? how these activities relate to the urban forest is not clear in this paragraph.	See appendix 1 and 2 for discussion on the 2015 Strategic Plan.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	on page 17 figure 5 ' Buffers of vegetation can significantly improve air quality' is not a good example of a vegetated buffer- it actually contains no vegetated buffer.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	page 18 climate change up to image figure 6 on page 19- it would be great to see some Banyule specific analysis here.	Noted, to be investigated.

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<b>D23/65 210</b>	page 20- the physical features of trees, like size, root structure and branching structure all affect how a tree will respond to forces from wind, and species can vary greatly. comment: this feels tacked onto the previous sentence about the tolerance of different species to wind effects. instead, make what you are trying to communicate, clearer.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	"the continuous green, dominant treed canopy and natural vegetated appearance of the ridgelines should be maintained and improved" this has been eliminated by the state government's North East Link program which has decimated trees along the ridgeline in Macleod, Watsonia and soon, Greensborough too. How is Banyule Council compensating the community for the significant loss of green space along this corridor?	Council is in ongoing negotiation with North East Link regarding tree replacement under their obligations for the project.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	VPO failure- Given the extensive VPO over Banyule is not facilitating tree retention, what is Banyule going to do to reverse this trend?	Banyule has established tree controls and an enforcement framework. State and Local led opportunities for a review of tree protection controls in the Banyule Planning Scheme is included in Action S6.5.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	Footpath canopy cover- what is this a percentage of? is it 24.9% of the total area of footpath within the road reserve in that stretch of road in Bundoora? is it the canopy coverage over all footpath parcels (polygons) in Bundoora? How is this percentage derived?	Noted, to be investigated.

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<b>D23/65 210</b>	problems with representation of diversity data- I am seeing two of the same graph and the document is missing evaluation of diversity analysis at family level, Banyule has a problem if 21% of its population diversity is dominated by eucalyptus sp. not as 'healthy' as suggested.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	the previous UFS (2015) was ambitious and included many goals. How many of the previous goals were achieved? can we get a progress report please? how many were just not actioned?	See Appendix 1 and 2.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	2015 UFSP goal 'improve health of the Urban Forest' goal not resolved- this has not been resolved, detail on the current condition of the Urban Forest is missing in this document.	The draft UFS goes away from expensive resource intensive i-tree modelling and instead looks at remote imaging as this will be able to determine the health of the urban forest and more importantly the canopy change accurately.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	2015 UFSP goal 'improve establishment rate of new tree plantings' goal not resolved- what is the current establishment rate of new tree plantings? why is this not reported?	Establishment rate is difficult to report on in current systems in part due to vandalism being difficult to record.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	2 of the priority places are being moonscape by the north east link !	Council is actively advocating with NEL to complete their Tree Canopy Replacement Plan.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	page 46 major actions table- S1.6 comment: the commitment is not good enough- the guidelines for tree planting need to be reviewed to enable more trees to be planted into streetscapes. Council needs to do more to offset the thousands of streetscapes devoid of trees and deliver urban forest equity.	Noted, to be investigated.

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<b>D23/65 210</b>	case study: 3-30-300 rule : it's important to provide the source of this theory and the quote so the community can investigate the tangible benefits further.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	species selection matrix: this is not a species selection matrix its more like a list of considerations made when selecting trees for spaces.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	strategic area 4 figure 32,33,34 these examples all include aerial bundling of overhead powerlines which is prohibitively costly. Has Banyule Council completed a cost benefit analysis that demonstrates why our rates should pay for the costs of bundling assets that belong to profit-driven multi-national corporates?	Aerial bundling is cost prohibitive on a wide scale. To date we have only used for very high value retention trees when tree is in clearance space for powerlines as per Energy Safety Victoria (ESV) regulation.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	major actions table page 63- S5.1 what advisory committees are being referred to?	The main advisory committee is BECAAC with the Community Reference Group (CRG)
<b>D23/65 210</b>	major actions table page 63-64 S5.7 celebrate trees and the urban forest through becoming a recognised Tree Cities of the world- apply for recognition in July 2023. comment: is this really achievable in Banyule given the criteria? or is this more of a we know we wont get in but we'll apply anyway?	Noted, to be investigated.

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D23/65 210	Major actions table page 63-64 S5.8 implement a program to give a free tree to all residents in Banyule. comment: this appears to be an off-the-cuff idea. What is the benefit of giving trees away without monitoring them? they could simply become free Christmas or birthday gifts. Its critical that any trees that are 'given away' by council achieve long-term establishment success and contribute to the growth of the urban forest.	Noted, to be investigated.
D23/65 210	Checklists must be developed to ensure project managers both internal and external to council are considering the impact of their projects on existing trees and are designing their projects to maximise future canopy coverage. You can't keep replacing roads with the same old road surfaces and drainage infrastructure AND maximise tree canopy- something needs to change.	Work in Strategic Area 5 is required to implement the UFS.
D23/65 210	How has the Banyule tree planting zone guidelines not been updated since 2011 when the old UFS was endorsed in 2015?	This is an action of the draft UFS.
D23/65 210	actions table page 75 S5.8 implement a program to give a free tree to all residents in Banyule. comment: what are the details of this proposed program? how will it be monitored?	More detail will be provided when project progresses further. Early thoughts involve engaging citizen science through the use of mapping apps, measurements and photographs.

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<b>D23/65 210</b>	Perhaps a suburb canopy municipal target of 27% is more appropriate with a more conservative target for each suburb adopted - say 17%? this would ensure that resources as not inadvertently diverted to the suburbs with higher existing canopy cover.	Suitable sites for planting exist in each suburb. The focus will be on the areas of most need. See Strategic Area 1.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	can you define what an Urban forest program and an urban forest outcome is ?	Urban Forest programs may be the citizen science that contributes to data after the free tree is provided. Outcomes would be the principles, strategic areas and actions being realised.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	what does L+D mean? ( internal L+D program results)	L+D is for learning and development. Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 210</b>	Larger trees can be planted and should be planted otherwise you are implementing urban forest inequity by design. It's just a matter of maintenance \$ required for powerline clearance which is constantly increasing anyway so why not maximise canopy in these areas ?	See S2.6.
<b>D23/65 338</b>	The document is long and obscure I had higher expectations for the \$50,000 that went into its development, there is reference made to the previous 2015 Urban Forest Plan as a 'foundation' for this new strategy but there is no mention of its successes, failures or lessons learned. what has been achieved ?	See appendix 1 and 2.

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<b>D23/65 338</b>	Looking at how other organisations/councils had rolled out their Urban Forest Strategies, I wondered why Banyule has chosen ours to be developed and implemented by the Council's Parks and Natural Environment Department? Wouldn't it be more the role for the Strategic Planning area who could work across all council areas?	Many teams and some consultants have been involved with the UFS. The delivery officer sits in the urban Forestry Unit of Parks & Natural Environment.
<b>D23/65 338</b>	Another area of concern for me is the Banyule Planning Department which appears to facilitate tree removal for the benefit of developers rather than recognise the value if retaining existing trees and vegetation. they could be offering a range of options to residents and developers to conserve what urban forest we have left.	Noted, to be investigated
<b>D23/65 338</b>	I do not consider it prudent to have such an important and far reaching strategy at the mercy of one or two staff positions that have free and unfettered rein to enact their own opinions, for example apparent disregard for Australian character and habitat values. We must have the long-term commitment and consistency provided by a lead group or committee.	Project governance reached across multiple directorates and genuine extensive consultation has been undertaken.
<b>D23/65 338</b>	The gardens for wildlife (G4W) program is mentioned as being important for supporting a healthy urban forest, it is, but G4W and the other programs mentioned in that list (page 12) need support in the form of widespread education to make a difference - it needs a wider scale than 'a free plant for each resident'.	Noted, to be investigated.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 338</b>	Nowhere in this document is there mention of the different plant community 'precincts' throughout Banyule or inclusion of any plant species lists. It is of utmost importance that species selection be scientific, based on environmental requirements, ecology, of Australian character and include better defined information on how the projected effects of climate change will affect species selection.	The UFS sets out principles for tree selection however emerging knowledge will impact our species selection.
<b>D23/65 338</b>	The prioritisation of indigenous species and the conservation of local biodiversity needs to be enshrined in the final Urban Forest principles. Both the Banyule Invasive Weeds strategy 2022 and the upcoming Biodiversity Plan can inform the replacement of weeds with native vegetation. It is also important that the selection criteria for the suppliers of trees and plants is open and transparent.	The UFS recognises that the native character is important and also some areas with exotic character are also important.
<b>D23/65 338</b>	There is too much content in the draft dedicated to the benefits of trees in the urban landscape but inadequate detail on the key factors. Much of the information is incomplete or poorly defines on how it relates to the outcome. Example about heat island effect temperature differences between canopied and exposed areas across temperature variations;	Noted, to be investigated.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 366</b>	The underlying reasons for the apparently modest success of the previous plan should be identified and used to inform the development of actions in the current draft plan. It would also be beneficial to break long term ongoing actions into smaller steps that can they be measured to ensure progress is being made.	Please see appendix 1 and 2. Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 366</b>	There is a brief definition in the Figures 1 and 28, but the draft Strategy holds no obvious explanation of what Banyule Council considers an urban forest to be. A clear description of the urban forest is essential to provide context for the plans and principles laid out in the draft plan. Consider the example provided in the Brimbank Urban Forest Strategy (page 11)...We note the that the desired general attributes of the future urban forest are discussed on page 38 (resilient, thriving, valued, fit for place). These descriptors may not have the same meaning to everyone and more complete description of the forest that we are aiming to achieve would be beneficial	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 366</b>	It is indicated that indicators of achievement are outlined in section 9, but there is no section 9 in the draft plan. Should this read section 8?	Noted, to be investigated.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 366	<p>Implementing an urban forest strategy is a great responsibility and a long-term project. We do not consider it prudent to have such a far-reaching strategy in the hands of one or two staff who may leave the Council's employ. WCS prefers the long-term commitment and consistency provided by a lead group or committee composed of informed members with appropriate experience/expertise. This committee should have the expertise to adjust the strategy to accommodate climate change.</p>	<p>The strategy will be the responsibility of the mentioned teams in Section 7. 'Implementation of Major Actions - 2022-2032.'</p>
D23/65 366	<p>pie chart of current street tree diversity is shown twice on page 33. Five native tree species occupy 21% of the pie chart with the remaining 79% classified as "Other". Since no single species contributes more than 7%, overall diversity is deemed "good". This analysis does not consider the indigenous, native or exotic status trees in the "other" category; something that is essential for assessing the quality of diversity. Public feedback provided to date has expressed a strong preference for indigenous species which will be superior contributors to habitat and wildlife corridors. Thus, we suggest that measures of the quality of urban forest diversity should consider species present on a spectrum spanning high habitat value indigenous species to low habitat value weedy exotic species.</p>	<p>Noted, to be investigated.</p>

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 366</b>	WCS is not against the strategic retention and replacement of some exotics in our urban forest, however we feel that it would be counterproductive not to maximise the habitat value of our urban forest by prioritising indigenous and appropriate native species.	The UFS recognises the importance of native and indigenous species as well as areas for exotic species. See S2.6.
<b>D23/65 366</b>	The urban forest strategy should protect and strengthen existing bio links/habitat corridors across the Banyule and wider regions, identify the gaps in these corridors and opportunities to connect fragmented bio links or habitat corridors. WCS asks that species selection be scientific, based on environmental requirements, ecology, of Australian character (in the main) and include better defined information on how the projected effects of climate change will affect species selection. We believe that the prioritisation of indigenous species and the conservation of local biodiversity needs to be enshrined in the final urban forest principles. WCS is concerned that neither the identification of the different plant community ‘precincts’ throughout Banyule or the inclusion of plant species lists are included in this strategy. It is also important that the selection criteria for the suppliers of trees and plants is open and transparent.	please see S2.5 Map the ecological corridors (wildlife connection and known fauna movements) to integrate with the urban forest data to identify opportunities for planting sites.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 366	<p>More detail on how and where 'Australian character' will be achieved is necessary (page 51). The draft Strategy lists Japanese, Chinese and North American trees to be planted without explaining why these species were selected or discussing the possible ecological deficiencies of exotics. Existing plantings of exotics such as Elms, Plane trees and Oaks may have a place in the strategy, but there are also areas where the neighbourhood character is defined by environmental weeds such as Sweet Pittosporum, Cotoneaster, Desert Ash, English Ivy and many others. Both the Banyule Invasive Weeds Strategy 2022 and the upcoming Biodiversity Plan should provide guidance of the replacement of weeds with indigenous and appropriate native vegetation.</p>	<p>please see species selection and Strategic areas 1 and 2.</p>

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D23/65 366	<p>Here must be acknowledgment, for the purpose of not repeating the same mistakes, of inappropriate current and historic plantings; for example, the excessive planting of trees with little canopy (offering no benefit in heat island issues) or ecological value, such as Jacarandas, ornamental pears and other exotics, and the inappropriate planting of exotic trees in areas of native vegetation. Continuing to plant deciduous weed species such as Oaks and London Plane trees exacerbates stormwater, stream and river pollution with excessive seasonal leaf-falls. Healthy living streams require natural sources of vegetation material, entering the system in synchrony with the long-established seasonal life-cycles of all the stream macroinvertebrates and their dependent consumers like Platypus, Rakali, fish, etc.</p>	please see action S2.6

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 366	<p>We ask what process/actions the Council will put in place to address the apparent ease of tree removal by developers and the weak regulations for illegal removal and careless damage. Canopy loss is greatest in new developments and the most difficult to address.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WCS believes there is a role for Council to urge the State Government to change Planning laws: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to better support the planting and retention of Tree Canopy</li> <li>• to better protection and stronger enforcement rules</li> <li>• for better technical rules to protect existing vegetation during development</li> <li>• to improve Transport Infrastructure Rules that regulate removal of canopy of residential streets and highways</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The council and community culture of tree removal as the default action must be changed to one of removal as a last resort, including in new developments. In response to tree removal applications, we encourage Council to promote more conservative remedies such as selective subsidisation of gutter guards, safety cabling of heavy branches, etc.</p>	<p>Action 6.2 includes advocacy work to the state government to seek support for the Urban Forest Strategy. Actions S4.8.1 and S5.2 include education opportunities for the public.</p>
D23/65 366	<p>The Fourth Principle (page 39) lists Climate adaptation as one of three important elements of the strategy. Clearly defined targets for dealing with the deficiency should be included in the Urban Forest Strategy. For example, if Bundoora has only 13% canopy cover now, what are the plans to take it to 15%, 20%, 27%? What is time frame, and which areas planted?</p>	<p>The strategy sets out actions in the short, medium and long term with a view of achieving canopy cover targets by 2050. See S1.1.</p>

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 366</b>	<p>In the strategy, lerps and Myrtle Rust are mentioned as two of the main threats to the Banyule Urban Forest without any explanation of the scale of those two problems or where they fit into the general spectrum of local plant diseases. Myrtle Rust is established in Victoria (Agriculture Victoria) and may significantly change our landscape. WCS would appreciate knowing where it is in Banyule, how fast it is spreading and what is being done to contain or manage it. We are puzzled by the reference to the Bell Miner and its interaction with lerps, a tree sap-eating insect. Lerps may be ‘farmed’ by the Bell Minor, but they are also a highly valued resource in the Australian environment, eaten by flying foxes, possums, gliders and a wide variety of birds such as pardalotes, honeyeaters, silvereyes and thornbills. Some birds such as pardalotes, weebills and small honeyeaters virtually live off lerps in some seasons (Land for Wildlife). In Banyule there is habitat favoured by the endangered Swift Parrot; between May and July 2015 a flock of about 40 Swift Parrots were observed in the trees surrounding Macleod Station (eBird). Their food source was lerps in Yellow Gum trees. WCS appreciates that Bell Miner associated dieback is occurring in north-eastern NSW but does not believe it is a major concern in Victoria nor a reason not to plant native trees. More a reason to encourage monitoring of Bell Miner occurrence.</p>	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 366</b>	<p>This strategy proposes a minimum average cover of 27% by 2050 for all Banyule suburbs, and no net loss in suburbs already exceeding that level. Research by the School of Ecosystem and Forest Sciences (Burnley) shows that a forest is defined as tree canopy cover equal to or greater than 30%. To maximise the environmental benefits of canopy cover, that canopy cover must be 30% or more. So why not aim for 30% to start with?</p>	The strategy sets out actions in the short, medium and long term with a view of achieving canopy cover targets by 2050. See S1.1.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 366</b>	Tree canopy is being lost in parts of Banyule, mainly on private land. There is only one line in the strategy (S6.5) about revising protection for trees on private land, with no indication of what this 'revision' might be. As with many suburbs, developers demolishing existing homes and removing ALL vegetation is a serious attack on the tree canopy. WCS believes that the Draft Strategy needs a strong statement about penalties for removing trees in overlay zones.	Noted, to be investigated
<b>D23/65 398</b>	I certainly am in favour of increased canopy cover (including to 40%), and increased vegetation health (- including 90%, - but by 2030. )	The proposed canopy targets have been assessed for feasibility and achievability, allowing for tree species growth and canopy development.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	The remaining 10% without increased health would be our heritage trees, and high conservation value trees, which we have to protect, for as long as we can hold onto them. (I.e., until they become impossible to manage for safety - in the public realm ) That is, all of the other trees in Banyule (100%) would be in good health, or improving health - by 2030, but some of our heritage species might just be hanging on and that's fine – We would hope to improve their health and take measures to do that – BUT if we are unsuccessful – there is NO NEED TO CULL THEM unless they are actually dangerous ( i.e. not because they reach a certain age ).	Trees are not removed unless they meet our removal criteria which is based on useful life expectancy, retention value and risk.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 398</b>	I am overwhelmingly concerned to improve our soil moisture and water quality to allow for the healthy growth of vegetation, and the subsequent reduction of our reliance on potable water for tree health. But the most important objective needing immediate change - must be to change planning rules to increase the porous area across the city in all Planning Zones i.e., not just in our home gardens, parks and gardens and in public spaces such as shopping centres and community facilities, but everywhere – including industrial areas, and commercial and office zoned spaces.	Noted, to be investigated
<b>D23/65 398</b>	1. We need to do everything we can to protect existing natural habitat in all types of wildlife corridors and in particular, our streamside parks and reserves. This will include much greater efforts at weeding out competitive non-locally indigenous plant species and weeds tree species	Please see Strategic Area 2 and Banyule's Weed Management Strategy.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	2. In the actual urban setting ( which is usually nearby, in the case of Banyule), we need to increase the planting of viable trees ( both exotic and native) that suit our climate and soil conditions ( and which will also be adaptable to climate change) and increase the planting of native species indigenous to the local area where we can, in particular, in areas close to wildlife corridors or within wildlife corridors where the physical conditions ( especially soil and slope ) are suitable.	See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'. This will include species that are climate ready, suitable for the site and consider the benefit for urban ecology.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 398	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The addition of locally indigenous species to parks and gardens and nature strips has been highly neglected.</li> <li>• This is partly because our current staff seem unaware of the Location of Wildlife Corridors and Wildlife Corridor Links – EG Exotic species have been planted in almost monocultures within the residential areas between the Darebin Creek and Yarra River Wildlife Corridors and beside Railway Line Corridors.</li> </ul>	Please see S2.4 Develop the nature strip planting program, provide guidelines, and promotion of the benefits to residents.
D23/65 398	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locally indigenous Yellow Gums ( The smaller growing Local Melbourne Species ) that favour our steep slopes around southern Banyule - should be grown by our staff (or community volunteers) from locally collected seed and planted everywhere. They make fabulously beautiful landscape trees and avenues (See Warncliffe Road Ivanhoe East) and survive very dry conditions as that is their niche in the local ecology.</li> </ul>	See Accelerated Infill Planting Program pg. 80 of draft.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 398	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If we have to have Lollipop shaped trees – as the staff seem to be planning UNDER POWERLINES – We will never have an URBAN FOREST – We will have an urban UNDERSTOREY and it will look twee and unattractive as well as being useless for shading roads and building – which is a huge part of the job we have to do because of climate change .</li> <li>• In addition, lollipop trees ( small bushy trees under power lines ,) are NOT the Neighbourhood Character of Banyule. Banyule is remarkable for its tall canopy trees and within that class – a mixture of Exotic and Native Species. We must continue to plant the character of each area of Banyule – We must refer to the PLANNING DOCUMENTATION ON THIS ( Individual NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER AREAS (i.e. not just Garden Suburban – but Garden Suburban 1- through to GS 8 ( as they are different in some cases ) ) E.g. in GS 8 there is an emphasis on Locally Native Vegetation and special extra Controls apply. GS 8 is the area along the Yarra River, and so here, planting locally Indigenous trees such as YELLOW GUMS ( that live on the higher escarpment where we have houses ) is very important – and should have priority in our parks and on our nature strips – NOT just on the edge of the river – but throughout the GS8 area. Some streets in GS8 with historic plantings of another kind of tree maybe excepted if they at least 30 years old or relate to a certain period of architectural style – but in general NO exotics should be planted in that area. Other similar areas in northern Banyule – may also fall into this category – depending on the controls explained in the planning strategy - for that area.</li> </ul>	<p>To gain canopy the UFS recognises the importance of tall trees in particular in Section 3. Noted, to be investigated. See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'.</p>

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 398</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MORE Lemon Scented Gums can easily be planted in our Car Parks and in tight Public Spaces and Commercial Areas –</li> <li>• These trees are very stable in tight places and have a high canopy - that impacts skylines - and our sense of nature throughout our suburbs</li> <li>• Lemon Scented gums also reflect our heritage ( see comments below on Architect Burley Griffin )</li> <li>• And they would make great Car Park Trees – with their high canopy allowing for larger vehicles and for dappled shade over head in summer and plenty of sun through the lowered sun angles around the trunk in winter.</li> </ul>	See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	NOTE that the gums in front of the Ivanhoe library – close to the main road are also closely planted in a group of three – which is very fitting ! for the heritage of our area	See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	• So , more heritage species should also be considered for these areas. Atlantic Cedars have survived well, Bhutan Cypress are very emblematic in Ivanhoe and Eaglemont and need to have refreshed plantings. Gardens staff need to look and see what is on the Significant Tree List for these areas and repeat the plantings.	Please see S5.6. Noted, to be investigated.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 398	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We also have more “Modern Species” that have survived well in southern Banyule. In my area ( Fairy Hills ) Brachiation species have done well in the area and are many decades old, and Golden Ash are being planted by residents as street trees - as they are so beautiful and survive well. Traditional Elms planted by Council in western Merton Street in are doing well and are now with age – about to do a great job shading western facing slopes of that street and reducing the Heat Island Effect . They grow slowly but well ... and have a great structure for going around power lines.</li> </ul>	See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'.
D23/65 398	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It may be surprising to Council Parks and Gardens Staff, but the maligned “ Prunus “ genus actually has some star survivors in my area ( and in the Ivanhoe Shopping Centre ) Prunus serrulate continue to thrive in some streets despite decades of lawn mower abuse</li> </ul>	See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'.
D23/65 398	Prunus Elvin's had a place to play – as a Heritage Planting perhaps ( I would not say that Prunus serrulate evokes the Heidelberg School – but other prunus might )	See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'.
D23/65 398	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Another Key Heritage Species to plant in areas developed in the 1930s ( such as Fairy Hills – is the Eucalyptus ficifolia – now Corymbia ficifolia.</li> </ul>	See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 398	To improve urban ecology and biodiversity, and have plants adaptable to climate change should NOT be the only objective for the choice of species in the urban forest. Heritage settings, and existing heritage plantings, and local neighbourhood character should all be respected as well.	See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'.
D23/65 398	<p>The biodiversity that is most at risk, and needs our help most, - is that of our locally indigenous plant communities. We must foremost strive to protect these everywhere.</p> <p>The biodiversity referred to the City of Melbourne Urban Forest Strategy, is mainly related to increasing our diversity of Street Tree Plantings. This is where the community in Melbourne became upset.</p>	The draft UFS has a large focus on indigenous and native plantings in the correct settings.
D23/65 398	The Plane Trees, in my opinion create more common good than problems.	See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'.
D23/65 398	Elms here in Banyule, and in Melbourne, are the finest examples of Elms – which are threatened by disease worldwide and they deserve our protections for this reason alone.	See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 398</b>	One of the things that our Council is NOT DOING WELL NOW...- is creating differing interest in particular streets and zones – Many areas near me are being planted with nondescript Koelreuteria, which flowers only briefly – with small insignificant flowers, hidden in the foliage and then produces large brown overscale seed pods which look alien and harsh in in our softer lush streetscapes. Their form is wiry and densely bushy (when flourishing) and weedy and scarified when unhappy. In other areas we have crepe myrtles in dozens of streets now and in many other Jacarandas – have been planted so frequently – one would think this area is mid NSW!!	See action S2.6 - will develop recommended species lists for a fit for purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	More EFFORT NEEDS to be made by Banyule Parks and Gardens to have a Street Tree Strategy that is more in tune with the character and heritage of the area and to avoid large swathes of the same tree being planted ( which is the opposite of what is being suggested in the draft - Re Biodiversity !)	Please see S6.11, S4.1 and S5.6 for proposed species selection matrix, biodiversity and tree management.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	Maybe more attention would be paid to which trees need more water and which are not suitable for planting – I would like a copy of the “SUITABLE TREE SITES” Document – that was done by CONSULTANTS	Noted

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 398	Newer, replacement plantings (replacing the damaged and dying elms) should be specially bred, disease resistant varieties, and nature strips should be widened where possible, to give extra possibilities for water run off absorption in storms – It might even be possible to create water absorption swales made of loose (uncemented) bluestones, - in some locations on the road pavement next to the road edge.	Noted, to be investigated. See S3.4 for WSUD implementation.
D23/65 398	Of course, poorly performing trees such as the ubiquitous red leafed prunus, that rot, and die a slow agonising death, (while council refuses to remove them), should be removed. We know they are hopeless street trees.	Underperforming trees will be reviewed with the renewal program. See S4.1.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 398	<p>vi) Planning Changes - to create diversified planting places. The Planning Department in Banyule should work towards creating new spaces for planting in Banyule.</p> <p>Instead of the 10% of land or development value that Council receives from developers, going into general revenue for improving parks facilities or other tagged expenditure, or to general revenue, - Developer contributions for: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Apartments –Contributions could go into extra setbacks for public use e.g., for a public seating area in a garden available to the public</li> <li>2. Commercial buildings (More important as we have less Urban Forest in these locations) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funds could be diverted to creating public spaces for planting on site by inserting a public garden space perhaps with seating and or amusement / drinking fountain or toilets etc (on title) - into the building setback or another readily and visibly publicly accessible location.</li> <li>• Also, in Shopping Centres - accumulated funding over time - could be allocated to buying new parking spaces or pocket parks or laneway access strips between car parks and shops or along existing laneways or roads – to provide for extra space within those for Urban Forest Plantings. (e.g., in Camberwell Shopping Centre - a row of shady Jacarandas lines a walk through to the shops)</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Industrial sites and privately-owned Sports Facilities - Extra Urban Forest land in Industrial areas could also be funded by the 10% development contribution when any site is redeveloped. Council should plan where this Urban Forest land would be most useful and establish Planting Plan. Council could again either allow the changing of some private industrial land to public use (on title) or accumulate funds from developers over time - to acquire the land required. A public acquisition overlay (PAO) might also be useful?</li> </ol>	<p>The Development and Open Space Contribution provisions within the planning scheme offer little flexibility for variation.</p>
D23/65 398	<p>vii) The plant should suit the location. So, no more rows of fastigate oaks in open parkland please?</p>	<p>Noted, to be investigated.</p>

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
D23/65 398	<p>What is KEY to such a project is using Key Host Species of Locally Indigenous Natives and other exotics, that either mimic or actually provide exactly what these Key Host species provide - in habitat and food supply.</p> <p>While the City of Melbourne plants Bunya Pines (from Qld) to increase street tree and park biodiversity, we should be aiming for planting more local native trees - and those trees that mimic our natives, - in habitat or food supply (or both); We should plant these close to the Yarra River, in streets and parks and gardens, - and within other potential connecting wildlife corridors.</p> <p>The Locally Indigenous Species for our area - with the home-grown genetic code - suited to the soils and hydrology of this area, and to this topography and climate, should be chosen for planting instead; - especially in those locations - where there is the maximum possibility of increasing the biodiversity of other life forms that may be attracted to those species for habitat and food from the nearby natural ecosystem.</p>	Thank you, please see S1.1. and the further detail pg. 46.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 398</b>	<p>1. Locally sourced indigenous plants should be used as a priority - especially Eucalypts - for their inevitable adaptability.</p> <p>2. And especially where the area of planting is an extension of or close to - a wildlife corridor</p> <p>3. New Non-Indigenous Plants should not be prioritised - Just for adaptability: -</p> <p>4. But New Non-Indigenous Plants, considered to be adaptable - could be used where they have other desirable qualities - such as more intense shade – or more interesting forms (for diversity of Interest, or more suited to the heritage appearance desired by residents of a particular area, and where they will not dominate an area close to, or an extension of, - a wildlife corridor.</p>	Thank you, please see S1.7.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	The Land manager or landowner ( e.g., The Resident or Parks Victoria ) could have the weed species removed by Council - " Free of Charge" - if they are willing to undertake replanting of appropriate species - in place of that weed.	Noted, to be investigated.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	Identify Local Weeds of greater concern ( especially Privet ) for each Ward and each Wildlife Corridor and run a Publicity Campaign to help people identify these weeds, enabling them assist in eradication - through the Banyule Banner and colourful advertising at local Kindergartens and Schools and other community hubs. If Privets are not prevalent in northern wards - chose a different Weed that seeds into gardens in those wards for a concentrated eradication effort.	Part of the Weed Management Strategy.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 398</b>	The task of advising residents about replanting should be undertaken by a senior staff officer with lots of experience in gardening and plant selections for residential sites. They should also be available at the customer service desk several ( scheduled ) times a week - for general advice to residents on tree selection. Their expertise should include a detailed understanding of the heritage landscape motifs and opportunities to retain and replant them - for each part of Banyule .	Noted for investigation.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	<p>3. Find the new baby Native Plants springing up in Private Gardens and on Public Land and isolate and protect them from weeds / herbivores/and incidental damage (walkers, mowers etc). a. This can only be done with the education of Residents and Land Managers -so they can recognise the baby versions of the Local Indigenous Native Plants</p> <p>b. So, Education Campaigns about these species are an important way to do this. In the Banner, at Libraries, with school groups: -</p> <p>i. Demonstrate how to recognise these species coming up in your garden and explain how they might be useful</p> <p>ii. Encourage residents to create biodiverse gardens (where possible) that include these plants</p> <p>iii. Explain why layering of vegetation is important to attract a diversity of bird species to the garden (Including Locally Indigenous Species) and explain examples that contribute to those layers do not have to be fully indigenous – but can include some indigenous and many exotics which can create diverse habitats and food sources</p> <p>iv. Run Local Indigenous Plant Identification / or Garden Idea - Photographic Competitions Prizes could be awarded for: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Best Use of a self-sown Indigenous Shrub</li> <li>2. The Best Use of a self-sown Indigenous climber</li> <li>3. The Most interesting layered garden composed of totally exotic Plants</li> <li>4. The Most Interesting layered garden composed of totally locally indigenous plants</li> <li>5. The Most Interesting layered garden composed of BOTH the above</li> </ol> <p>v. Run Bird Identification Competitions within libraries and community centres – to encourage filmmakers (anyone with a Phone) to film the diversity of Bird Species in their Banyule’ garden. An exhibition evening could include: - films of</p>	Thank you, this addressed in the Weed Management Strategy.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
	<p>1. The best New Garden - Bird Diversity Garden (Under 5 years old)</p> <p>2. The best fully Locally Indigenous Native Garden Bird Diversity (any age) Garden</p> <p>3. The Best (most Bird Species) Garden</p> <p>4. The best single Tree or Plant for Birds Species Diversity</p> <p>5. The Rarest Bird Species Garden – i.e., a garden with the rarest bird species in Banyule</p> <p>With both winners and runners up, each year, all available on Councils Website - with a notation to describe both the plants and birds in the film and perhaps how long the birds took to arrive</p> <p>6. If the Bird Diversity Competition is successful - extend it the next year by t adding an INSECT and SPIDER and other INVERTEBRATES competition – using close up Photos that each identify each Insect or Bug and the particular garden plants it lives within a 1metre radius.</p> <p>7. Local Camera Clubs, Garden Clubs and School Art Studies classes could be contacted to provide input – but all sorts of other groups and individuals could be interested in such a competition</p> <p>8. Winning Entries could be out on display on Libraries each year and The Banyule Calendar could be another outlet for publication.</p>	
<b>D23/65 398</b>	1. Identify all Parks Reserves and Gardens - in our works programs	This is current practice in operational work plans and at a strategic level is handled by the Public Open Space Plan.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	2. Recognise heritage plantings that have high value canopies or rare species	Please see S5.6 and S3.1.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	3. Eventually do this by giving them - future design plans - that give priority to the style that particular style heritage planting –	Please see S5.6 and S3.1.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 398</b>	4. Research those styles properly by engaging heritage landscape experts - to research the existing plan and build on it., include public exhibitions of that design to gain community feedback in case anything has been missed and also to excite public interest	Please see S5.6 and S3.1.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	5. Weed, Irrigate and Mulch - those high value heritage plantings. And do not plant new plants over their root system	Please see S5.6 and S3.1.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	6. ESPECIALLY remove all woody weeds and Agapanthus from the drip area of all our Landscape trees in all our Banyule Gardens – to give them the best chance at survival	Please see Banyule weed management strategy.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	7. Were “ecosystem” style plantings are contemplated i.e., naturalistic plantings with all parts of the ecosystem on show – ensure al the plants chosen can either a. Flourish - without irrigations b. Be irrigated regularly when needed – even in a drought - with little expense c. Ways plants might be irrigated at low cost include where natural drainage systems can be arranged for natural watering - that can be augmented in drought if that is considered important.	Please see S3.4.

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<b>D23/65 398</b>	<p>8. No more hodgepodge plantings of “handy “or low-cost plants in our parks and gardens and reserves – all of them deserve expert attention</p> <p>– e.g., no more: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Agapanthus in Native Landscapes</li> <li>b. Native grass clumps under Oak Trees or other Exotic Heritage plantings</li> <li>c. Small bushes of (e.g.) scared bamboo scattered sparsely over a landscape to give colour – well knowing they will always be just dotted bushes on a barren landscape with no context - and that they will never fit the style of the original heritage or bush planting.</li> </ul>	Please see Section S2.6.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	<p>9. Employ highly experienced expert landscape designers on staff at Banyule - or if we cannot afford them – seek input from them by contract.</p>	Several roles for landscape architects exist at Banyule and all have relevant experience within the key selection criteria of the position description.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	<p>10. Highly regarded experienced landscape designers can make the image of a municipality.</p>	Several roles for landscape architects exist at Banyule and all have relevant experience within the key selection criteria of the position description.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	<p>11. Coherent and attractive design that considers all factors relevant to the municipality can make Banyule a stand out in Metropolitan Melbourne - as a desirable place to live. That coherent design would not just mark us out as having beauty but as being admirers of beauty.</p>	Please see actions within Strategic Area 2 and 4.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 398</b>	12. What might need to be considered by Landscape designers would include: - a. Identifying and supporting Heritage Landscapes – This would include heritage streetscapes, heritage parks and heritage places of original settlement – including not just early settlement – but also other eras.	See S5.6 and S3.1.
<b>D23/65 398</b>	A Landscape Expert could help us create new Planning Policies to do this: - For example, they could help formulate a TREED RIDGELINE POLICY for Banyule - as part of the URBAN FOREST STRATEGY	A ridgelines strategy was conducted in 2012 and forms as information for planning. Action 4.1 noted, to be investigated.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/65 398</b>	<p>We need a stronger \$ and Manpower focus on our City's' proposed Urban Forest – and the measures to expand, protect and maintain it , - for the health of our citizens and for the sustainability of our way of life. Net mass immigration will eventually ( if not sooner ) come to an end and we will need to find a truly sustainable way of Living.</p> <p>BUT THIS MUST BE FULLY CONTROLLED by accountable Council Staff who Know what they are planting and why and are accountable for TREE DEATHS and are accountable to the PUBLIC to retain Neighbourhood Character and Heritage; and to plant suitable Trees for enhancing Wild life Corridors in the residential zones close to these and where links are identified- THE HURSTBRIDGE RAILWAY is one such link and original designated a wildlife corridor itself – It along with the Darebin and Yarra valleys deserve to be enhanced by locally indigenous plantings inn the surrounding streets and reserves. NO MORE EXOTICS beside wildlife CORRIDORS and LINKS</p>	<p>The draft UFS has a high level costing and time frame for each of the actions (Section 7). This is to be developed in further detail when the implementation plan is developed.</p>
<b>D23/65 398</b>	<p>A PROPER STREET TREE STRATEGY WITH EACH STREET MAPPED FOR INTENDEED SPECIES - that can be publicly commented upon is absolutely essential - and NOT IN THIS PLAN – Everyone must be able to comment on where native plantings go and what species are chosen – THIS DRAFT DOES NOT INVITE THAT COMMENT and so should be REDONE as a STREET TREE STRATEGY - and sent out for public comment</p>	<p>The draft UFS proposes the foundations to good tree selection using principles and system to take in new knowledge and respond to a changing climate. Tree species will be developed further in S1.7, S2.6, S3.5, S5.5, S5.6, S5.8, S6.14.</p>

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	Council needs to better care for its existing vegetation, especially its recent street plantings, with more regular watering and mulching, as much is now dead or dying.	The contract for tree planting will be revised in line with objectives from the draft UFS.
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	Retain and maintain its well established existing street character, especially regarding single species. Plantings should include exotic and native species, as well as indigenous. Plantings should include some deciduous trees that can provide both summer shade and winter sun. Measures to reduce the theft of newly planted street trees, e.g. The Eyrie, Eaglemont.	Please see strategic Area 2.
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	I suggested years ago that private property owners of registered significant trees, be provided with free advice and assistance, as to how best maintain their health for long term retention. This could have included Elm Leaf Beetle control and treatment, as well as regular checks for disease or necessary pruning.	Please see S3.1. regarding significant tree support.
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	Diversity of vegetation is very important for the survival of our native fauna, some of which have been forced to relocate south from their original habitat, due to climate change and habitat loss, in order to access sufficient food sources. They can benefit from many exotic and native species, as well as indigenous, e.g. Silky Oaks in Eaglemont, native to Northern NSW and Southern Queensland.	Please see Strategic Area 2. Species selection will include indigenous, native and exotic in the right locations.

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	<p>Insects such as bees and butterflies, as well as bats and birds, are attracted to many vegetation species, as long as they provide both habitat and food. They often feed on Lavender, Salvia and fruit trees. Eastern Spinebills and Wattle Birds like large Salvias as well as Callistemons and Grevil leas. Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoos like all pine cone seeds (indigenous, native and exotic). Fruit bats like young Elm seeds and Moreton Bay Fig fruit. Tawny Frogmouths have successfully nested for many years in a large Eaglemont Elm street tree and a Wattle Bird in a dense Camelia, both exotic species. These examples surely prove that not all planting has to be indigenous or native to suit much of our native fauna.</p>	<p>Please see Strategic Area 2. Species selection will include indigenous, native and exotic in the right locations.</p>
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	<p>Exotic species can often provide cooler, denser shade than native species and more winter sunlight. Southern Banyule residents have attempted to retain the many existing large canopy Oaks, Elms and Plane trees that make up much of our neighbourhood character and also shade our streets, but it's a hard fought battle. All the tree species drop leaves, including natives like the Yellow Box Eucalypt, on The Panorama, Eaglemont.</p>	<p>Please see Strategic Area 2. Species selection will include indigenous, native and exotic in the right locations.</p>

ID	Survey Contribution	shaping Banyule Officer Response
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	I am happy for Council to plant indigenous and native species, but not all are suitable for street situations, A successful example has been the Yellow Gum, Leucoslyn roses, planted on Warnecliff Road, East Ivanhoe, a red flowering cultivar of a local species. It is a most attractively shaped, broad canopy Eucalypt that is favoured by Rainbow Lorikeets, A good example of the right tree in the right place.	Please see Strategic Area 2. Species selection will include indigenous, native and exotic in the right locations.
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	The register needs to be urgently reassessed, as not all the listed species are always problematic. An example are the well established Sugar Gums along the Eaglemont Cutting above Lower Heidelberg Road.	That example has been removed from the new weed management strategy.
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	A 150 year old, Variegated Elm was removed from a garden in Fairy Hills, under the same weed criteria rule. We are losing high value, well established trees at an alarming rate, due to high density development and oversized houses that are now some of the largest in the world (according to a recent report presented in The Age).	That example does not occur in the revised weed management strategy.
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	Developers must enter into an enforceable bond that equates to the true value of any tree on Council's asset register.	Noted, to be investigated with tree amenity valuation.
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	Bundling of power lines must be carried out where possible, if underground is not a viable option. Underground power and bundling would negate the need for heavy pruning of street trees	Noted, to be investigated.

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<b>D23/10 8733</b>	I consider however, it will be a waste of time and unattainable unless the Council is able to gain more support and assistance from the State Government and also improve much of its own practices.	Please see Strategic Area 5. Noted to be investigated.
<b>D23/10 8733</b>	Council's previous environment work is not well publicised. Publications that include the weed and native flora and fauna posters, as well as the significant tree and heritage register documents, are now not put on show, as they once were in the old foyer of the Ivanhoe Service Centre.	Noted, to be investigated.