

KALAMUNDA CLEAN AND GREEN: Local Environment Strategy 2018 - 2028

City of Kalamunda

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VERSION	AUTHOR	QA REVIEWER	APPROVED	DATE
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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

To be finalised prior to issue of Draft Strategy

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KALAMUNDA TODAY

Our City is renowned for its unique and diverse natural and cultural environment. Local residents, visitors from more urbanised parts of Perth and even international guests head to Kalamunda to enjoy our unique places, meandering parklands, hilly ranges or elevated city view streets and the bushland on our doorstep.

Our Council plays a critical role in ensuring that urban development and natural assets complement each other and that as our City grows we retain our green credentials.

Our Responsibility lies in enacting policies to care for our reserves, ensuring protection of water resources, habitat, wildlife and landscapes, reducing waste, providing quality parkland, minimising bushfire risk and protecting vegetation.

Our Strategies for conserving the best in our Kalamunda environment are largely shaped by you, our community. **KALAMUNDA CLEAN AND GREEN: Local Environmental Strategy** is our blueprint for the next ten years, shaped and informed by the community.

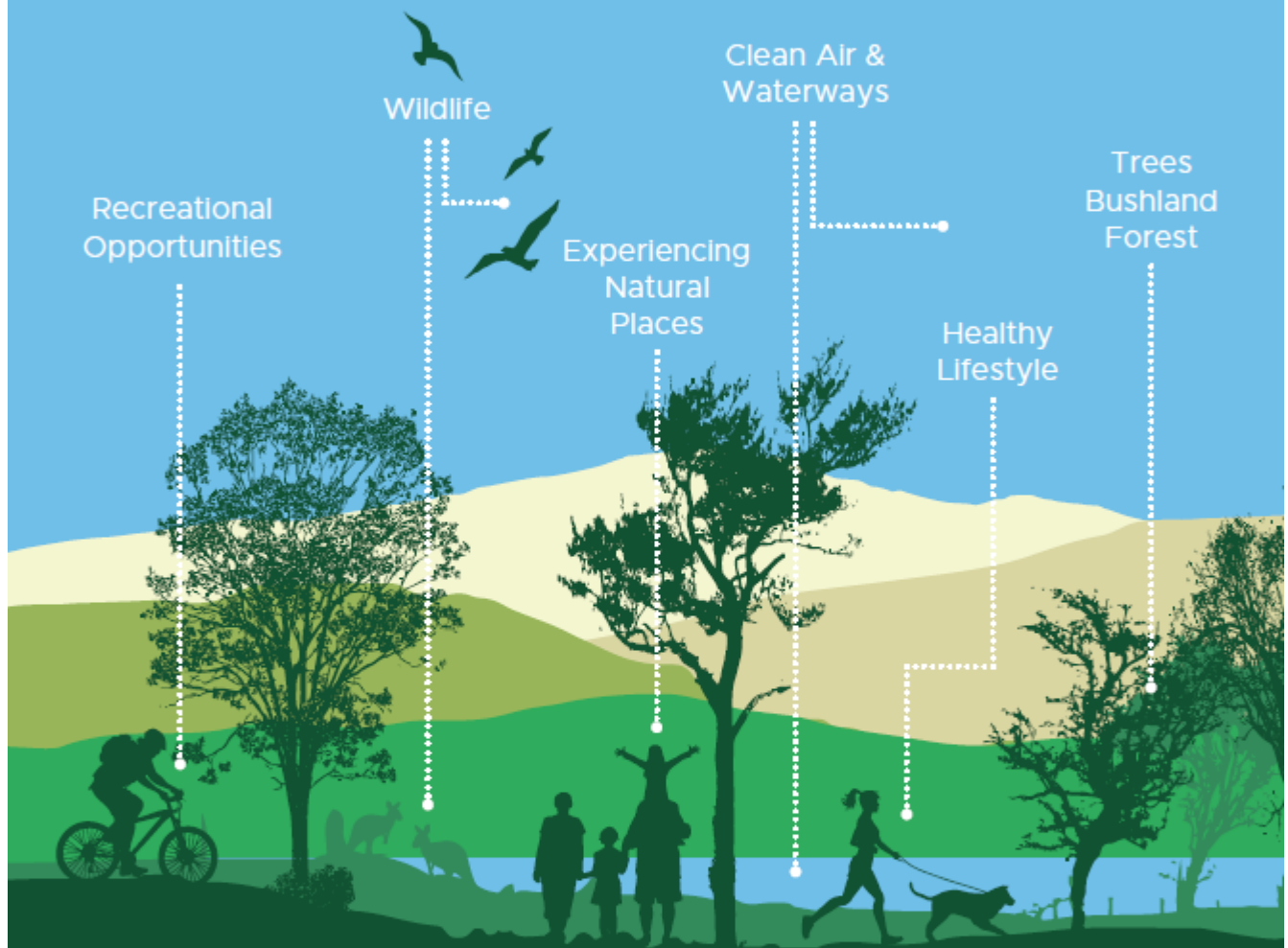
The Local Environmental Strategy sharpens the City of Kalamunda's focus in four key themes for the next ten years, to protect the most important environmental values, mitigate threats to the most valued areas, manage the best way to meet community need and share the journey. This plan is shaped and informed by extensive consultation specifically for this project and other informing processes including those for *Advancing Kalamunda 2027 Strategic Community Plan*.

The Strategy will guide us to making the right choices for our future for a healthy and sustainable environment that contributes to a thriving community and to why people make Kalamunda their home. It will do this by focussing our efforts to understand, protect and improve our local environment. Our progress on these actions will be tracked and reported along the way.

People of the City of Kalamunda:

- Put a high value on our natural and built landscapes; our green spaces, trees and streetscapes
- Want the City to protect and responsibly manage our natural resources
- Want to help the City minimise waste, recycle and re-use as much as possible
- Expect imaginative thinking and shared responsibilities for managing the impacts of change to our physical environment.

WHAT DO YOU VALUE ABOUT LIVING IN KALAMUNDA?



The Kalamunda community has given voice to what it values in our built and natural environment. From the thousands of comments from surveys and workshops, we learned that any blueprint for a green city should focus on four areas:

-  The value of green space and natural areas
-  Conserving natural resources
-  Reducing waste
-  Managing the impacts

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A SENSE OF PLACE

The Wadjuk Noongar peoples are the traditional custodians of the land of the coastal plain and the Perth Hills. The Beeloo Clan were the family group known to be living in the area in and around Kalamunda. At the time of settlement, Munda was the Elder of the Beeloo clan and there is one thought that the name Kala (fire, hearth) Munda may derive from his name.

Local Elders have commented on the traditional use of the Kalamunda area by coastal people coming to the Hills at certain times of the year to hunt, where kangaroos were sought for skins to make cloaks as well as for food.

The City of Kalamunda is a diverse community that feels a strong sense of place. Generations of local people have woven powerful memories into Kalamunda's unique and rich landscape of agriculture and rural retreat, verdant parklands and wildflowers, flowing streams and hidden valleys. A legacy of orchards, forestry, and native plants, animals and birds still abound. From bandicoots to black cockatoos, from abundant eucalypts to rare flowering plants, the City of Kalamunda has much to share and protect.

A sense of entering the country starts on the Swan Coastal Plain, along the seasonal waterways, and leads on to the village-sized tranquillity of our urban hubs, the craggy reaches of the Darling Scarp and into the heart of the jarrah-marri forest. Collectively these elements conjure up a sense of belonging and abundance.

A PLAN FOR CARING

The City is blessed with many assets, both natural and human. Kalamunda covers an area of 324 square kilometres; within it lies 400 reserves, covering 751 hectares with 453 hectares containing 236 Local Natural Areas of good to high biodiversity conservation value; 271 hectares of wholly or partially developed for sport and recreation activities. The City acknowledges its responsibility to manage and protect our natural resources, to reduce waste, and to decide on land use development and maintenance practices sensitively. The City works in partnership with many agencies, clubs and volunteer groups and individuals to manage the reserves. Actively caring for our bushland are 40 Friends of Reserves groups, many schools and the City, working alongside hundreds of volunteers each year to increase our environmental knowledge and effort.

Kalamunda has a strong sense of local community. From time to time the challenges of population growth and urban densification erode the very values that brought us to this place. We recognise the need to meet the social, health and wellbeing needs of our changing community and to manage adverse impacts on our natural resources and landscapes.

KALAMUNDA CLEAN AND GREEN: Local Environment Strategy sets our sights on the next 10 years and beyond and guides joint actions by the City and community. This strategy is carefully drawn from your views about what you value most and where the City should place its efforts for better results. It focusses the City's policy, planning and work on protecting our highly valued green spaces, reducing waste and enhancing and celebrating our local environment. It also identifies how our community wish to share the journey, by being better informed, having a say and taking ownership for the environment. What you told the City, was formulated into measurable goals and actions to track and report. As our knowledge and skill grow, we will progress towards a sustainable future together, where the local environment is integral to our lives.

OUR BLUEPRINT FOR A GREEN CITY

In 2008 the City developed a *Local Biodiversity Strategy* and other plans to protect and responsibly manage our local natural areas and attributes. In 2013 the City published a *Waste Strategy* that set out how household, business, agricultural and industry waste will be collected, recycled and disposed of, and what community education will be provided by the City. In 2016 Council adopted the *Street Tree and Streetscape Management Policy* and procedures for protecting streetscapes. These documents are policy statements of the City's position and they guide the City on principles for the long term.

In 2017 the City embarked on developing a suite of informing documents for revision of the 2010 *Local Planning Strategy*, the framework and strategic vision for development of the City's land use policy and development Planning Scheme 4. In 2018 Council adopted the *POS Strategy*, a stocktake of the City's reserves to guide adequate type and quantity of public open space to meet the needs of the community of Kalamunda. Later in 2018, the City drafted the *Environmental Land Use Planning Strategy* reviewing the current physical environmental characteristics and considerations for further development in the City. Along with another five sections of the *Local Planning Strategy*, these strategies inform policy and provisions for proper planning decision making.

KALAMUNDA CLEAN AND GREEN: Local Environment Strategy is a reset of environmental management in the City and under this overarching direction, policy and plans will be reviewed and updated or replaced. While it may draw on past policies such as the *Local Biodiversity Strategy* and contemporary waste and natural area practice, this document brings together the most important environmental management areas our community demand we improve on.

Green spaces

*In my local environment I overwhelmingly value the natural areas and greenspaces
It provides habitat for wildlife
It is a place to destress, recreate on walk trails, bike trails and in parkland*

Natural resources

*Conserving natural resources is important to me and I believe I use them efficiently. I value clean air and water and landscape diversity
Nature provides me with a sense of place*

Reducing waste

Reducing waste, recycling and reducing waste is important to me. I value a litter-free, clean local environment

Managing the impacts

We can balance new development and retain the natural environment

The extensive engagement undertaken in 2017 and 2018 identified four key themes and priorities which represent the drive, passion and commitment of the Kalamunda community to protect their natural environment into the future.



THE VALUE OF
GREEN SPACE
AND NATURAL
AREAS

Caring for our parks, streetscapes, public places, culturally significant and natural features and wetlands is vital to maintaining a healthy community



CONSERVING
NATURAL
RESOURCES

By protecting and conserving our natural resources we contribute to a thriving community and a healthy future for our children.



REDUCING
WASTE

By reducing waste we can maintain a healthy community with clean air, drinkable water, intact natural features and rich biodiversity



MANAGING
THE IMPACTS

While embracing the benefits of new development we will strive to adopt renewable alternatives and to avoid and minimise detrimental impacts, so that our community continues to enjoy the Kalamunda way of life.

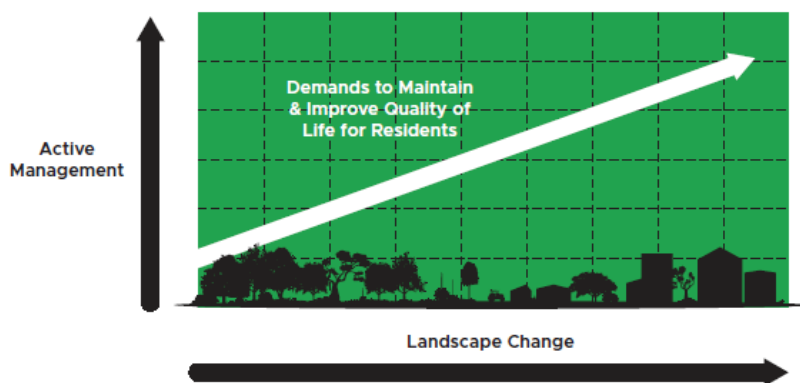
WHAT WE CARE ABOUT MOST

What we all love about living in the City of Kalamunda was shared in many workshops, surveys and conversations. You told the City what it was about your local environment that was most important to you. You told the City to ensure it leads the way in reducing our footprint on the natural environment. You suggested how to protect our most prized local environment values - ample parklands and reserves, fresh air and roads lined with shady trees. Inevitably more people will want to make Kalamunda their home, attracted by those same qualities that we have all identified as precious.

From time to time we are surprised or alarmed at sudden changes in the landscape, concerned about negative impacts on the surrounding environment, or what the future holds. Sometimes these changes are gradual and we hark back to a better way of life, or a more beautiful memory than what the modern world presents today. This sentiment was raised many times when we asked what you valued in the local environment. This included the youngest people who participated in the surveys and workshops.

You challenged the City to show environmental leadership and this can be most keenly observed through how we manage changes in the landscape. As we grow and develop into a modern City we need to be on the front foot with meeting the community needs for a quality urban environment with all of the modern facilities for a healthy active life. We need to ensure that clashing expectations and awareness of future changes are harmonised to make sure we have common understandings about where we are going. It is crucial that we share the journey together. **KALAMUNDA CLEAN AND GREEN: Local Environment Strategy** will help us to achieve this and for considering such things as economic benefits, additional resources for open spaces and retaining tree cover to manage urban heat.

CHALLENGES OF A CHANGING LANDSCAPE



WHAT YOU TOLD THE CITY

We value green space and natural areas

These are places for wildlife, nature play and learning for children and areas for people to destress and revive. They include bushland, waterways, parks, streetscapes and culturally significant places.

When asked by our community survey nearly all want the integrity of our natural environment to be protected and enhanced; agree that the bush, trees and natural vegetation are important; and that green spaces, parks and streets are safe, cool summer places for outdoor activity, connecting with people and attractive to birdlife.

We want to conserve natural resources

Clean air, vegetation, water and our natural and cultural landscapes help us to live healthier lifestyles and give the City of Kalamunda its unique character. You said conserving energy and water is important to you and that precious natural areas should be kept in healthy condition for residents and visitors to enjoy. The City needs to make sure that our unique landscapes in rural areas, along the escarpment and foothills and plains streams, are protected for locals, visitors and tourists.

We want to reduce waste

Clean, litter-free bushland, streams and parks are good for wildlife and people. . By reducing waste, we lower our energy use, our need for landfill sites and the risk of contaminating natural areas. You said that we need to do more with reducing, recycling and reusing waste.

We want to manage human impact

You told us that it is very important that we carefully manage urban development, to protect the natural environment and enhance landscape character. Building and roads works should result in beautifying and our City and not cause damage or pollution. There was a common view we should reduce our environmental footprint and as a community collaboratively make changes to protect and enhance our City.

- 97% of all survey respondents agree that the City of Kalamunda's bushland, trees and natural vegetation are important
- 98% of all survey respondents agree that the City of Kalamunda's parks, streetscapes and landscapes are important
- 78% of all comment received by participants in workshops and surveys related to natural areas and greenspaces
- 98% of all survey respondents indicated that conserving energy and water is important
- 86% of all survey respondents indicated that they use their natural resources efficiently
- 58% of all survey respondents were unsure if the City of Kalamunda uses natural resources efficiently.
- 98% of all survey respondents agree that reducing, recycling and reusing waste is important
- 96% of all survey respondents of the community survey agree that the integrity of our natural environment must be protected and enhanced.
- 77% of all survey respondents agree that we can balance new development and retain the local environment.

WHAT YOU CARE ABOUT THE MOST

48% of all comments received regarding values the community have of their local environment, were associated with landscape amenity. You love our beautiful escarpment, foothills, streams, bushland, our valleys' patchwork of orchards, trails and tracks for cycling, walking or simply taking kids to play in nature and in playgrounds.

The values of biodiversity conservation matter to 30% of all people commenting on their local environment. The many species of animals, birds and plants that live here are part of Western Australia's story of world class biodiversity.

WHERE WE NEED TO FOCUS OUR EFFORTS

To meet community expectations the City should invest resources and build working relationships in four focus areas.

Green Spaces

41% of all comments regarding the priorities, respondents suggested the City of Kalamunda should focus on were associated with the City directly protecting and better managing natural areas and green spaces.

Clear environmental leadership in the organisation and the community
Protecting ecological communities and priority plant species

Environmental corridors to connect natural spaces and encourage passage of wildlife
 Environmental spokespersons for community, business and the City, articulating our vision and progress
 Maintain more trees for wildlife corridors, parks and cooler streetscapes
 Preserve and enhance existing mature vegetation and trees, particularly the native vegetation

Natural resources

10% of all comments regarding the priorities, respondents for the City to attend was for conserving natural resources.

- Bush fire risks to homes and natural area management
- Living streams and creek lines that need not to be more than drains and restored with natural vegetation
- Weed control on street verges
- Light pollution and effects on fauna and our neighbours
- Stormwater management, capture and re-use on recreation areas
- Renewable energy within new development

Reducing Waste

12% of comments regarding priorities for the City to attend to waste management

- Increased recycling and re-use
- Education on the importance of recycling
- Innovations and alternatives to landfill
- Enforcing controls of illegal dumping

Managing impacts

38% of all comments regarding the priorities respondents suggested the City of Kalamunda should focus on were associated with managing environmental impacts and implementing mechanisms to ensure better outcomes.

- Energy efficiency through building codes
- With urban development and subdivision, landscape planning will allow for tree planting
- Local laws and restrictions on clearing according to lot size
- Policy and strategy that will help drive our environmental goals

My priority is that the city directly manage the values I have for natural areas and green spaces. Natural areas, streetscapes, open spaces and trees must be managed for our future

The City must continue to lead the way in community recycling and upcycling programs. Opportunities to assist us and educate us is important

We understand that to protect the things we value most a wholistic approach is required. We must maximise the quality of our corridors, waterways, reserves, greenspaces and streetscapes. We must be innovative to conserve our valuable resources

GOOD NEWS FOR THE CITY

Did you know Perth is the only capital city in the world surrounded by Banksia woodland? The City of Kalamunda contains some of the best remaining woodland so conservation starts with careful planning to maintain these assets in our landscape. Who will thank us? The endangered Black Cockatoos that feed in Banksia woodland, of course!

We have 343 kilometres of natural waterways in the City of Kalamunda, filled with fish, waterbirds and many frogs like the 'Quacking frog' *Crinia georgiana*. Have you heard it?

We have more than 260 natural areas across the City and 40 Friends of Groups who volunteer to restore the bushland control weeds.

In dollar terms, our 183 bush care volunteers are invaluable. Last year, these members of our community performed around 2,000 hours of free bushland maintenance, a gift equivalent to \$205,000 dollars' worth of work.

Did you know our City is a world-class, award-winning innovator in recycling water? A novel plan to capture stormwater and recharge the underground aquifer, then use that water for summer watering at Hartfield Park, has won several awards. The City of Kalamunda concluded the 3 year trial of the Hartfield Park MAR in 2017 with great success, consequently being awarded with the Australia Water Associations (AWA) Western Australian Innovating for Sustainability award (2017) and IPEWA Awards of Excellence (2018) for Excellence in a Water Project. The City's project manager was also a finalist for the AWA Water Professional of the Year (2017)

Our Native Arc, a window to the past. The eastern side of the Swan Coastal Plain was extensively cleared (~97%) for agriculture. The land between the escarpment and the coastal plain is renowned for the significant diversity of vegetation and plants. It is also home to many threatened vegetation types and rare plants. Our own Hartfield Park Reserve and Maida Vale Reserve are of the very few places left where you can find these unique features.

On our doorstep is the Kalamunda National Park and the northern terminus of the Bibbulmun Track, a 963 km recreational walking trail. From a quick shop for last minute hikers' essentials, you can be on the Bibbulmun in minutes!

Wee-lah! Wee-lah! The call of Carnaby Cockatoos as they fly over our City looking for night roosts or marri trees on which to feast. The City lies within the Mundaring-Kalamunda Important Bird Area, so identified by BirdLife International because the area is a roost site and foraging base for Black Cockatoos

The City has identified 21 streams of waste to recycle. Currently we proudly recycle approximately 5,000 tonnes of waste from 22, 000 households per year.



Since the City's Local Planning Scheme No. 3 was adopted in 2007, the Council have worked hard to improve land use and development outcomes through more than 53 gazetted amendments. This adaptive planning framework allows the City to guide decision makers through provisions to control conflicting land use activities and protect our City's unique features.



KALAMUNDA CLEAN AND GREEN: Local Environment Strategy provides the framework to manage environmental pressures and achieve even better sustainable practices over the next decade. It will assist in protecting the cherished landscape character of Kalamunda and guide improvements in the City's own operations, its work with stakeholders and community groups.

The Focus Area box

Across the four focus themes you told us that you are looking for leadership in each and every activity of the City. The City of Kalamunda needs to do it's best, seek support, stick to its commitments, measure and show how these commitments are being met. You also said that we need to educate and train the community, our partners and the people who work in the City to ensure they have the tools and resources to meet expectations. Sharing the knowledge, journey and successes is essential.

WHAT ARE OUR AIMS FOR THE NEXT DECADE?

	In the short term	Within the next 10 years
 <p>THE VALUE OF GREEN SPACE AND NATURAL AREAS</p> <p>Our aim Our needs for green spaces and natural areas are met</p> <p>Partner with our community to maintain and improve our knowledge</p> <p>Trees and canopy to provide shade and sense of place are protected and improved</p>	<p>Control identified pests, plant diseases and weeds. Optimise and improve maintenance to parks, reserves and streetscapes. Develop and implement a streetscape master plan, including entries to the City. Implement actions of the POS Strategy. Review and implement the Local Biodiversity Strategy</p> <p>Deliver an annual program of at least 10 environmental education events. Deliver 3 per year of the 'Adopt a Spot' bushland school program.</p> <p>Protect bushland and trees to preserve and enhance biodiversity by setting targets and implementing policy.</p>	<p>Review the WAPC 10% POS allocation. Maintain canopy at a consistent level for 10 years. Manage and mitigate bush fire risks in our reserves. Adopt the Environmental Land Use Planning Strategy. Adopt provisions for protecting natural features within the private and public realm.</p> <p>Promote the benefits of our reserves and green spaces for mental and physical wellbeing.</p> <p>A network of linked reserves and places informed by the City' Community Facilities planning.</p>
 <p>CONSERVING NATURAL RESOURCES</p> <p>A catchment management focus to improve surface water quality and environs across the City</p> <p>Protect and enhance our region's unique landscapes</p>	<p>Protect waterways and manage stormwater infrastructure in an environmentally sensitive manner. Develop guidance for design and management of surface waterways and groundwater resources.</p> <p>Identify and plan for multi-purpose corridors for wildlife, biodiversity and passive transport routes.</p>	<p>Energy conservation and clean air targets are set and met.</p> <p>Minimum 10 living stream projects are completed within 10 years</p> <p>Develop an integrated transport plan to shift people from cars to passive and public transport.</p>

<p>Ensure viable parkland irrigation sources</p>	<p>Promote the City for its nature based, landscapes and physical attractions.</p>	<p>Adopt planning provisions to omit damage to significant landscapes: escarpment, horticultural landscapes, etc</p>
	<p>Develop a water resources strategy for public parkland</p>	<p>Utilise and develop fit for purpose water resources and apply efficiency initiatives for our future water needs.</p>
<p> REDUCING WASTE</p> <p>Protect the City's natural resources</p> <p>Increase recycling and up-cycling.</p> <p>Partner with the community to reduce waste to landfill</p>	<p>Reduce pollution emissions into the environment, through planning provisions and revised work practices.</p>	<p>Adopt the Environmental Land Use Planning Strategy. Works and contract controls to minimise pollution and waste.</p>
	<p>Set targets for diverting waste to landfill</p>	<p>A target for recycled waste is defined and met e.g. 50% of recyclable materials currently sent to landfill are recycled</p>
	<p>Increase community, business and City waste education and responsible behaviours. Provide more accessible and regular community recycling stations. Encourage up-cycling and reuse of items through composting, community garden workshops and possibly a tip recycle shop</p>	<p>Transparent and accountable waste reporting that meets aspirational targets. Develop creative community upcycling programs.</p>
<p> MANAGING THE IMPACTS</p> <p>We share our journey and celebrate success</p> <p>Community values about our local environment are built into the City of Kalamunda's business plans and actions</p>	<p>Encourage stewardship and creative solutions for planning and development in the City. Support and grow our 40 bushland Friends of Groups for annual action planning and program delivery. Celebrate our environmental volunteers and all environmental stewards.</p>	<p>Better park management and development that meets what the community needs. Comprehensive support and promotion program for environmental volunteers</p>
	<p>Investigate and implement appropriate measures that balance the need for development and environmental protection. Implement the Local Environment Strategy and review periodically against community aspirations</p>	<p>Better controls and education for safe and attractive streets.</p>
	<p>Engage in conversations to identify pinch points and find better environmental outcomes and celebrate the achievements.</p>	<p>Put robust policies for the long term into practice. Annual reports on reaching Local Environment Strategy</p>

		targets are posted on the City's website
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WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Keep close your copy of KALAMUNDA CLEAN AND GREEN: Local Environment Strategy and tell us how we are doing.

If you want to learn more about the City's broader journey towards a greener, cleaner City, you can go online for further reading.

Kalamunda Advancing 2027: Strategic Community Plan

Kalamunda Biodiversity Strategy 2008

Local Planning Strategy

Local Environment Strategy

Local Biodiversity Strategy 2008

Waste Strategy 2017

Maida Vale Reserve Masterplan

High Wycombe Recreation & Scott Reserve Masterplan

Ray Owen Masterplan

Stirk Park Masterplan

HALE ROAD /
WOOLWORTHS DRIVE
INTERSECTION AND
COMMERCIAL ACCESS
REVIEW