

27 April 2009

Community and Corporate Group

F00861

The Director  
Standing Committee on State Development  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

**SUBJECT                      Inquiry into the NSW Planning Framework**

As requested in your letter of 2 April 2009, a corrected manuscript is attached to this response with the recommended corrections show in red. Please note that the first paragraph on page 62 credited to Mr Adams contains corrections to reflect the fact that the 26 parking spaces referred to in the paragraph were in fact a shortfall of parking and not the actual number of car spaces approved.

The response of the Council to the Additional Questions from Members in your letter of 2 April 2009, are given below

Q1: *Your submission states that Council adopted LEP 2005 after a ten year development period. What was involved in this ten year process?*

As stated in our submission, LEP 2005 has evolved from a lengthy planning process for the Blue Mountains. It had its origins in Council's decision to prepare a new citywide planning scheme in the early 1980s through the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) project. The history of that planning process is complex, and can be summarised as follows:

- Blue Mountains LEP 4 was gazetted as a citywide planning scheme in 1982. LEP 4 was one of the earliest comprehensive LEPs in NSW under the new EP&A Act; however, it lacked clearly defined environmental management objectives and strategies, and gave no clear directions for the future.
- In 1983, Council resolved to prepare the Blue Mountains Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to assess the interaction between the natural and built environment, consider the suitability of land for development and provide guidelines for future growth.
- Work progressed on the EMP between 1985 and 1988, based initially on ten separate planning studies corresponding to individual study areas. However, the sensitive fringe areas of the city were coming under increasing development pressure at that time. Environmental strategies for the fringe areas were needed as soon as possible, and it was recognised that the EMP

process needed to be rationalised. Consequently, the EMP process was divided into two stages.

- EMP Stage 1 (EMP1) focused on the critical environmentally sensitive outlying areas of the city, including Megalong Valley, the Mounts and Berambing, plus all existing nonurban areas, urban fringe areas, land zoned Rural, and environmentally sensitive areas within the towns. As a result of the EMP1 investigations, LEP 1991 was gazetted in December 1991, covering the above areas.
- Between 1994 and 1995, work on EMP Stage 2 (EMP2) was undertaken; this covered the urban and residential investigation areas of the city. This work was based on five study areas and resulted in the development of a series of Planning Reports (local environmental studies for the purposes of the EP&A Act), management issues studies (covering heritage, recreation, community services and facilities, population and tourism), and a Planning Strategy, which provided a strategic framework for the future of the city.
- Between 1995 and 1997, Draft LEP 1997 was prepared. This was based on the planning studies and planning strategy developed during the EMP2 process. Draft LEP 1997 was supported by a series of Development Control Plans (DCPs) dealing with residential development, subdivision, the tourist zone and development in the main villages.
- In late 1997 and early 1998, Draft LEP 1997 and the supporting DCPs were placed on public exhibition. The exhibition attracted significant public interest, with 937 submissions received. Consequently, Council conducted an extensive public hearing into Draft LEP 1997 in June and July 1998, chaired by Dr Mark Carleton of the Commissioners of Inquiry for Environment and Planning. Some 311 submissions were made to the public hearing.
- Commissioner Carleton delivered his report on the public hearing in January 1999, which made a large number of recommendations relating to Draft LEP 1997. The nature and extent of Commissioner Carleton's recommendations required a program of review spanning a number of years, and significant resources needed to be allocated to the task. As with the split of the earlier EMP process, it was recognised that the review would need to be staged.
- Stage 1 of the review focused on the development of important environmental management tools for the entire LEP area. Stage 2 focused on the core commercial and immediate surrounding areas of the ten main towns and villages (core village areas). This allowed intensive, collaborative planning work to be undertaken with local communities to develop distinct 'place-based' outcomes for each core village area.
- However, efficiencies in process and the allocation of additional resources made it possible to merge the two stages and present one comprehensive plan to replace LEP 4. This resulted in the development of Draft LEP 2002.
- Draft LEP 2002 was placed on public exhibition in late 2002 with over 1,400 submissions received on 6,500 matters. Council reviewed all the submissions and matters raised during 2003 and submitted the final version of the LEP to the Department of Planning in early 2004.

- After Departmental and Legislative Council review, LEP2005 was gazetted in October 2005.

The next stages of the EMP process were to involve a detailed review of LEP 1991 to produce more accurate mapping, analysis and application of environmental constraint information for the LEP 1991 areas, to a level consistent with that of LEP 2005. The environmental planning tools and provisions developed for LEP 2005 would also be applied to the LEP 1991 areas, together with a review of items of environmental and cultural heritage in those areas. The revised LEP 1991, together with the LEP 2005, will be consolidated into a single plan for the city.

The overall evolution of the EMP process is illustrated in Attachment A.

*Q2: You state that Council has had ongoing discussion with the Department of Planning regarding the need for inclusion of more local provisions in the Standard Instrument LEP. You also state that a likely outcome of conforming the current LEP 2005 to the Standard Instrument will result in significant and serious loss of protection for the environment.*

*Can you provide some detail on this concern?*

While there is an appreciation that local controls can be included within the SI LEP, there is understandable concern that such local controls will be minimised as the intent of the SI LEP is to standardise planning across the State. This is supported by Department of Planning Circulars where it is stated that no new zones will be permitted within the SI LEP, other than those already included. Although Blue Mountains City Council has correspondence from the Director-General of the Department of Planning indicating that this directive may be varied in the Blue Mountains LGA to permit additional zones reflective of the special circumstances in the area, there is no guarantee that this will occur or to the extent required for equivalence to existing zones.

The concern of Council in this regard is further supported by the lack of any environmental or sustainable development clauses in the current SI LEP. This is considered highly relevant as the basis for most of the zoning and protected area mapping in LEP 2005, were environmental constraints and opportunities, based on the clearly stated aim within the LEP to ensure Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD). It could be envisaged that arguments for new zones in the SI LEP would be undermined by the lack of ESD aims or principles within the actual SI LEP.

It is also of concern that, following the extensive public exhibition and consultation undertaken in the preparation of LEP 2005 (detailed in the response to Q1) that any consequent conversion into the SI LEP will trigger the need for a new period of public exhibition. While Blue Mountains City Council supports the right of the community to be fully engaged in the planning process, the public exhibition stage for LEP 2005 involved significant costs in terms of Council resources and a repeat of this so soon after the LEP 2005 outcomes were achieved is of concern to Council. As an example, during the public exhibition stage of LEP 2005 the Council heard many hundreds of hours of verbal submissions in addition to written submissions at great cost in terms of staff and councillor resources. While Council has correspondence from the Director-General of the Department of Planning indicating that re-exhibition may not be required for the conversion of LEP

2005 into the SI LEP format, this is not considered a certainty and remains an area of great concern for Council.

Finally, the matter of greatest concern to the Council is that the most recent feedback from the Department of Planning is that the majority of the strong environmental controls contained within LEP 2005 would be removed from a SI compliant LEP for the Blue Mountains and placed within a DCP instead. This would mean that these environmental controls would be contained within a document that is of reduced legal standing in the planning process, clearly diminishing the level of protection from these controls within Land and Environment Court situations. Essentially, there will be increased vulnerability to legal challenge on environmental grounds if such controls are placed within a DCP, as opposed to the legal standing that comes from being within a LEP. This is particularly pertinent given the lack of ESD aims or principles within the SI LEP.

This is of great concern as not only were these environmental planning controls developed, and endorsed, in collaboration with the Blue Mountains community through a long and detailed planning process (detailed in the response to Q1), but the strength of the protection from these controls was fundamental to the listing of the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. It is considered a real possibility that, in any review of the World Heritage listing, the listing could be removed based on a weakening of these protections.

Q3: *Planning for the City of Blue Mountains is guided by "Towards a More sustainable Blue Mountains – A 25 Year vision for the City".*

*Can you briefly explain the consultation process through which this Vision was developed?*

The 25 Year City Vision was developed through extensive and detailed community consultation and is fully explained within a document called "Blue Mountains – Our Future – How We Did It" and obtainable from Council Sustainable Blue Mountains website. The process took over two and a half years and included residents, Councillors, Council staff and representatives from local organisations, Government and non-Government agencies.

A Summary Table of the Project Time line and Key Milestones and a Consultation Summary Table from the "Blue Mountains – Our Future – How We Did It" document is shown in Attachment B.

*How does your Vision relate to the North West sub regional strategy?*

There is little connectivity between the City Vision and the North West Sub Regional Strategy as the major focus of the Strategy is on the provision and adequate servicing of new residential areas to accommodate the expected increases in the population of Sydney to 2031. The Blue Mountains is a low growth area and is not envisaged to provide any significant component to this expected growth.

While there are broad similarities in the vision objectives of the North West Sub Regional Strategy and the 25 Year City Vision; the City Vision of the Blue Mountains community is focused on sustainable and environmental outcomes which do not have any direct correlation in the North West Subregional Strategy.

The vision statements of the Blue Mountains 25 Year City Vision and the North West Sub Regional Strategy are shown in Attachment C.

*Will the Vision be incorporated into or stand alongside your Community Strategic Plan?*

The City Vision and the accompanying Map for Action are in close alignment with many of the key requirements of the Community Strategic Plan. An already scheduled review of the City Vision and Map for Action will specifically address Community Strategic Plan requirements.

*Is the SI LEP able to accommodate the Vision which you have put so much work into?*

The SI LEP is unlikely to accommodate the aims of the City Vision for the simple reason that the main drivers for both LEP 2005 and the City Vision are strong environmental and community considerations which are currently not present within the SI LEP framework.

*Q4: Your submission states that with the development of appropriate state, regional and local level policy guidance the current planning framework should be able to consider not only the potential effects of climate change, but also plan for climate change by strategically planning urban and rural areas of NSW for the reality of a low carbon future.*

*Your submission (on pp6-7) includes a number of examples of what could be done along these lines.*

*Some of your recommendations would see an upfront cost for developments (eg climate appropriate designs, requirement to generate energy onsite) - there will obviously be arguments against increasing development costs how should such arguments be countered?*

It is worth noting at the start that the United Nations Sustainable Buildings and Construction Initiative argues that buildings are responsible for 40% of the total global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, based on a lifecycle understanding of building supply going from construction, operation, maintenance, fitouts to eventual demolition. It can therefore be seen that benefits from even small scale adaptation to the building life cycle can result in large savings in GHG emissions. In fact, recent work has shown that not only would significant abatement potential arise, but that the global built environment industry can provide more cost-effective GHG mitigation opportunities than any other sector (Lend Lease, Lincolne Scott and Advanced Environmental, December 2007).

This is clearly evidenced in the Cost Curve for Greenhouse Gas Reduction for Australia produced by McKinsey and Company (2007). This modelling shows that changes to the built industry environment (insulation, air conditioning, water heating) have a negative abatement cost, that is when these changes are implemented there are cuts in emissions and costs. Such changes are seen as the most effective way of reducing emissions at least cost.

As an example, the Australian Greenhouse Office in August 2007 identified that the cost per house for energy adaptation in Sydney would be of the order

of \$6,260 (AGO, August 2007). The pay back period of these adaptive measures is affected by a number of factors including available rebates and the retail price of electricity. At present the externalities associated with greenhouse gas emissions are not included in the retail price of electricity, however, with the commencement of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) it is anticipated that the retail price of electricity will increase, thereby reducing the pay back period for energy adaptation measures.

A key factor in the area of development costs is the clear and recognised disconnect in the building industry between those who pay upfront costs and those who pay ongoing operational costs. So, while there are benefits that offset costs in terms of reduced electricity and water bills, these benefits are not realised by those who install the devices, or make changes, at the construction stage, and therefore the incentive to make these changes and include these systems are removed. This is known as 'split incentives' and is well documented as a barrier to emissions reductions in the real estate and construction section (Lend Lease et al, December 2007 and Australian Sustainable Built Environment Council, October 2008). Strategies to overcome this split incentive are currently being reviewed in relation to the establishment of the CPRS and must be realised in order to maximise uptake of adaptive approaches to building design and construction.

It should also be noted that, in the future, insurance costs for individual home owners may become a factor as well, where increased premiums may be associated with homes that do not contain appropriate climate change adaptive measures. Insurance premium differences of a few hundred dollars per annum, or more, would greatly affect pay back periods.

All of the above issues also relate to the matter of the cost effectiveness of water reuse and water mining systems in that likely increased water costs in the future will improve the viability of such schemes, provided that benefits can be given in some way to those responsible for the installation of such schemes.

Finally, in terms of commercial viability of alternative systems it is worthwhile reviewing the use of small scale local energy generators such as GridX. The break even point for the establishment of a GridX system is around 250 dwellings, however due to contestability requirements for electricity supply it can be difficult to guarantee this number of residential properties in a local area for the time periods required to be cost-effective. However, it is likely this will also be affected by increased electricity prices arising from the CPRS, and the cost-effectiveness of GridX in off-peak periods will increase, especially if taken in light of an overall electricity strategy where supply from these types of systems can be generated quickly to supplement the wider grid in peak periods.

A list of the references in this section are shown in Attachment D. Please note this is a partial list on the subject and a more detailed search of the literature would yield even more arguments for climate change measures in the building environment against increased costs to some of these measures.

Q5: *Pages 9-10 of your submission discuss the relationship between planning and building controls. It states that the option of providing initial concept advice for a development application on the basis of a more limited range of information may have merit.*

*Could you briefly describe the proposal?*

This would be the first part of a two part approval system and provide certainty to developers and land owners on any further detailed studies and policy areas that would need to be addressed at the second stage, along with feedback on the form of development, such as constraints on windows and overlooking etc. This would enable applicants to proceed to preparing and submitting the second stage of the DA with reliance on their Planning Consultant and with the benefit of preliminary Council advice.

Information submitted for this first stage would be plans and advice including:

- A footprint plan to enable assessment of relationship to boundaries and protected areas, and overlapping requirements for resolution by referral agencies;
- Contours, and ability to drain the development;
- Blocking diagrams to assess scale, height and impact on neighbours and views etc;
- A scope of works for detailed studies to be completed to meet the information requirements of Schedule 1 of Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000;
- Servicing capability for the site, including drainage, sewer, and water.

*Do you think this proposal would result in overall increased costs for applicants?*

It is likely that in the majority of cases the feedback at the first stage will allow more focused reports or investigations to be carried out, with potential savings as a result.

*You state that this type of process would be useful for small developers can you expand on what you mean by small developers?*

Small developers are generally those who are looking at smaller scale subdivisions, multi unit developments and commercial and retail buildings. As an example, bearing in mind that individual circumstances do vary, it is often the case that the requirements under a planning scheme for a subdivision are the same whether the lots proposed are twenty or two hundred, however it is likely that the range of issues that might be canvassed for a twenty lot subdivision would be fewer and a more focused approach to studies required could then be given at an Initial concept Advice Stage.

Q6: *You argue that the Standard Instrument LEP, because of its narrow focus, does not facilitate policy initiatives for housing affordability. How should the SI LEP be amended to overcome this?*

This is an area that would require more detailed investigation to arrive at the best way to accommodate the aims of housing affordability within the SI LEP. One possible mechanism could be the inclusion of an optional clause that permits multiple unit development of a particular size, or in a particular location, to have increased Floor Space Ratio if appropriate provisions are met in terms of SEPP 10. In addition, the aims of the SI LEP could explicitly refer to housing affordability. It is worth noting such approaches would not be

appropriate to all council areas and the applicability of such measures would be determined by individual councils.

Q7: *Your submission suggests that working arrangements between State and Local Government could be improved by an administrative arrangement for regional coordination through the ROCs.*

*Could you expand on this proposal?*

There are benefits to be gained through the membership of ROCs and this includes the ability to utilise the expertise and experience of local councils to review and consider implications of policy direction from State Agencies and Departments for a particular area.

One example is in the development of statewide planning policies, which are prepared at a high level and where the implication of these policies in operation at a local level is often outside the experience of officers assigned this responsibility at head office. A formal avenue for liaising with ROCs in the development of state level policy could provide valuable local operational review without needing to consult with multiple individual local governments.

*There has been some criticism that some ROCs operate more as political blocs rather than as strategic groups. Do you think this is the case? Would this be an impediment to an elevated coordination role for the ROCs?*

There are many models for the incorporation and functioning of ROCs and it is likely that the diversity of these models is responsible for some of this criticism. If a formal recognition of ROCs was to be pursued it would be appropriate to consider a review of organisational models in order to arrive at the most effective and efficient choice for the purposes to be undertaken and thereby increase the strategic role resulting from these bodies.

In response to the highlighted questions from the transcript, the response is as follows:

*Question from Chair on Page 58 of the transcript*

*You indicated in your submission that you found the process of Commonwealth approval satisfactory when working under the assessments bilateral agreement. Do you see any scope for that to be extended to further minimise any duplication of planning process?*

While it is likely there are areas within the planning process where duplication with other approvals exist, there are no obvious areas of duplication that we able to bring to your attention at this time.

*Question from The Hon. Melinda Pavey on Page 58 of the transcript*

*Could you also provide more detail in relation to your concerns about loss of protection for the environment from the 2005 LEP until now – just some examples.*

A detailed response to the concerns about loss of protection for the environment with the need to convert existing LEP 2005 into a SI LEP has been addressed in Q2 above.



In summary, Council is concerned at the lessening of protection which is likely to result from removing existing environmental controls contained within LEP2005 into a DCP, which would mean these environmental controls would be contained within a document of reduced legal standing in the planning process. The potential implication of this on the status of the World Heritage Listing of the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area is also of concern.

Of particular concern is the potential loss of clauses 44(1) through to 44(7) pertaining to the protection of the natural environment in Division 2 of Part Three of LEP 2005. The intent of these clauses is to ensure that all development in the LGA has taken into explicit consideration the likely impacts on the natural environment, which is a head of consideration not contained within the SI LEP.

Blue Mountains City Council has greatly appreciated the opportunity to participate in the Inquiry into the NSW Planning Framework by the Standing Committee on State Development. If any further information is required please feel free to contact Andy Turner on (02) 4780 5513.

Yours faithfully

PETER ADAMS  
Group Manager, Community and Corporate

Attachment A

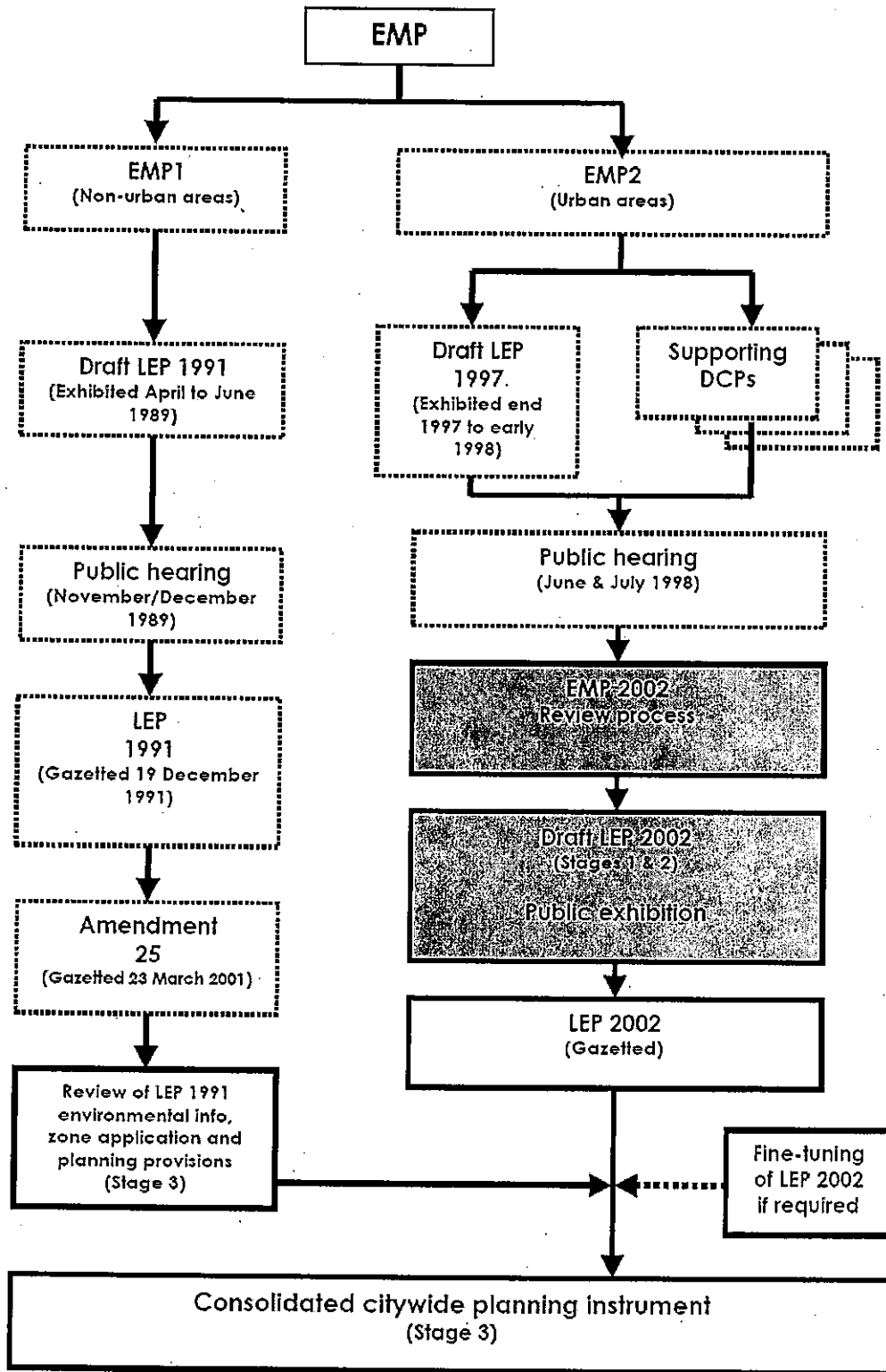


Figure 1: Evolution of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) process

## Attachment B

# Project Time Line and Key Milestones – Summary Table

Timeline	Stage/Milestone
	Stage 1: Where Have We Come From – Where Are We Now – And Where Are We Going
December 2000	Community survey to assess values/priorities of Blue Mountains residents
April 2001	Follow up area based focused groups to clarify survey data
May 2001	Workshops with Council staff – Issues and trends
June 2001	Workshops with resident/organisation representatives – issues and trends Workshop with Councillors and Executive Management Team – issues and trends
	Stage 2: What Kind Of Blue Mountains Will The People Of 2025 Appreciate We Have Left Them As A Legacy?
July 2001	Workshop with Councillors/Executive Management Team
October 2001	City Visioning/future scenarios workshops with Council staff Children's story writing competition launched on what it will be like living in the Blue Mountains in 2025
November 2001	City Visioning focus groups conducted with random cross section of residents taking into account life stage, location and gender City Visioning workshops conducted with representatives of local organisations/external agencies Written submissions sought from public/external agencies on Blue Mountains future directions
February 2002	Blue Mountains 2025 Lantern Making Project initiated with local schools
March 2002	Local newspaper front page wrap publicising Our Future project and seeking input Celebrating Our Future – community festive event held
April 2002	Towards a More Sustainable Future – Discussion Paper launched
June 2002	Towards a More Sustainable Future Stakeholder Forum conducted with representative cross section of community – shaping the vision and key directions of the strategy
August 2002	Strategic workshops with Councillors/Council staff to consider forum results
September 2002	Local newspaper front page wrap promoting public exhibition of draft 25 Year City Vision Public exhibition of Draft City Vision (25 September – 25 October 2002) Vision package and survey form sent to Blue Mountains households Community survey implemented to assess response to Draft City Vision
November 2002	Councillor Briefing on results of exhibition
	Stage 3: What Action Will We Take? How Will We Know We Are On Track?
November 2002	Strategic Workshop with Councillors on course of action to achieve City Vision
December 2002	Council adopts proposed City Vision, Key Directions and Outcomes to guide Stage 3 of the Blue Mountains Our Future project
March 2003	Stakeholder Forum conducted on Taking Action for a More Sustainable Blue Mountains
April 2003	Strategic Workshop with Councillors and Executive Management Team on Taking Action for a More Sustainable Blue Mountains
May 2003	Council endorses 25 year strategy for City as presented in document Towards a More Sustainable Blue Mountains – A Map for Action 2000-2025 for placement on Public Exhibition

# Shaping the Vision – Consultation Summary Table

Stage 1:

Where Have we Come From? Where Are We Now? Where and Are We Going?

Activity	Date	Participant Selection Criteria	People or Organisations Approached	Number of Participants	Results Published
Values and issues Community Survey	Dec 2000	Random selection of residents taking into account life stage, gender and area of residence	1824 residents	1032 residents Telephone survey	Blue Mountains City Council Community Survey – Final Report (IRIS, 2001)
Values and issues Community Survey Follow-Up Workshop Program	April 2001	Random selection of residents taking into account life stage, gender and area of residence	711 households	182 residents recruited 91 residents participated 5 Focus Groups conducted – one at Blaxland, Springwood, Lawson, Katoomba and Blackheath	A Report on the Findings of the Community Workshop Program (IRIS, 2001)
Issues and trends Council Staff Workshop Program on Key Focus Areas	May 2001	Cross-section of Council staff from range of disciplines	30 Council staff	25 Council staff	Cunningham, C. 2002, Where Are We Now? Issues and Trends for the Blue Mountains; A Report on Workshops Conducted with Council Staff, Local Stakeholders and Councillors May June 2001, Blue Mountains City Council, Katoomba NSW.
Issues and trends Local Organisations Workshop Program on Key Focus Areas	June 2001	Local business, land use, infrastructure, community, transport, environmental organisational representatives	300 local organisations	120 representatives participated in 6 workshops	Cunningham, C. 2002, Where Are We Now? Issues and Trends for the Blue Mountains: A Report on Workshops Conducted with Council Staff, Local Stakeholders and Councillors May June 2001, Blue Mountains City Council, Katoomba NSW

Consultation Processes – Summary Table (continued)

Activity	Date	Participant Selection Criteria	People or Organisations Approached	Number of Participants	Results Published
Issues and trends Councillor/ Executive Management Team Workshop	June 2001	Councillors and Group Managers	Councillors and Group Managers	Councillors and Group Managers	Cunningham, C. 2002, Where Are We Now? Issues and Trends for the Blue Mountains: A Report on Workshops Conducted with Council Staff, Local Stakeholders and Councillors May June 2001, Blue Mountains City Council, Katoomba NSW

Stage 2:  
What Kind of Blue Mountains Do We Want?

Activity	Date	Participant Selection Criteria	People or Organisations Approached	Number of Participants	Results Published
Visioning Children's Story Writing Competition	Oct 2001	School children aged 8 to 12 years	All primary schools (private and state) in the Blue Mountains	273 entries received	Blue Mountains City Strategy Children's Story Writing Competition Analysis of Submissions by Children under 13 (Cunningham, 2001)
Visioning Focus Group Workshops – residents of different life stages	Nov 2001	Random selection of residents undertaken by IRIS Research – taking into account life stage, gender and area of residence  Focus group workshop participants organised by life stage and area (ie one youth/one adult group/one older persons group in each of 5 areas)	985 households	202 residents recruited  140 residents participated in 16 Workshops – including six for youth/five for adults aged 24-55/ and five for older people aged 55 plus	A Report on the Findings of the Blue Mountains – Our Future Resident Focus Groups December 2001 (IRIS, 2001)
Visioning Vision for the Future Workshops – local organisation	Nov 2001	Local organisation representative/key stakeholder	300 local organisations	160 representatives	A Report on the Findings of the Blue Mountains – Our Future Stakeholder Workshops December 2001 (IRIS, 2001)

Consultation Processes – Summary Table (continued)

Activity	Date	Participant Selection Criteria	People or Organisations Approached	Number of Participants	Results Published
Visioning Submissions from Local Organisations	Dec 2001 to March 2002	Local organisations contacted through previous consultation	Over 400 organisations invited to make a submission	75 submissions received	Blue Mountains City Council. May 2002. Blue Mountains Our Future – Where Do We Want to Be? An Analysis of Public Submissions From Blue Mountains Organisations. Visioning
Children Lighting Up the Future – Lantern Making Project	Feb/March 2002	School children aged 8 to 14 years	All primary and secondary schools (private and state) in the Blue Mountains	19 workshops were conducted with approx. 150 school children from 8 local schools	Lantern Making project documented in: Blue Mountains City Council. 2002, Blue Mountains Celebrating Our Future A Story Book, Documentation of a community festival event held as part of the 25 Year City Strategy process, Blue Mountains City Council, Katoomba
Visioning Gazette Wrap – informing community of the Our Future project, presenting results of consultation to date and seeking community input and involvement	20 March 2002	Whole community	Whole community	Whole community	
Visioning Celebrating Our Future – Community Festive Event	23 Mar 2002			An estimated 2000 people participated in the event	Blue Mountains City Council. 2002, Blue Mountains Celebrating Our Future a Story Book (compiled by Newton, N and Martini, N, June 2002) Key Direction and Future Scenario Boards
Visioning Exhibition of proposed Key Directions and scenarios for the future	23 Mar 2002 – Wentworth Falls 13 Apr 2002 – Springwood			66 written responses (Wentworth Falls) 41 written responses (Springwood)	

Consultation Processes – Summary Table (continued)

Activity	Date	Participant Selection Criteria	People or Organisations Approached	Number of Participants	Results Published
Shaping vision and key directions  Towards a More Sustainable Future – Stakeholder Forum	29 June 2002	BMCC Councillors Councillors and cross-section of Council staff Representative cross-section of Blue Mountains community and local organisations	Randomly selected residents (by life stage/gender/area) Local organisation representatives Councillors Council staff	Approx. 145 participants	
Draft Vision Gazette Wrap  Promoting exhibition of Blue Mountains Our Future The Next 25 Years – Draft Vision	25 Sept 2002	Whole community	Whole community		
Draft Vision Formal Public Exhibition of proposed Blue Mountains Our Future The Next 25 Years – Draft Vision	25 Sept – 25 October 2002	Whole community	Whole community		Council Report
Draft Vision Draft Vision Package Distribution	Sept 2002	All Blue Mountains households	Blue Mountains households	1,350 responses	Report on results of household package survey
Draft Vision Community Survey on responses to Draft Vision, Key Directions and Outcomes	Oct 2002	Statistically significant sample of Blue Mountains population – taking into account gender, age and location	822 residents	501 residents	BMCC Community Survey Response to the Draft Vision, Key Directions and Outcomes (IRIS, 2002)
Draft Vision Council adoption of Draft Vision, Key Directions and Outcomes	Dec 3 2002	BMCC Council Meeting			Council Report

## **Attachment C**

---

### **Blue Mountains 25 Year Vision Statement**

In 2025 we live in vibrant, healthy communities.

Our towns and villages are distinctive and contained.

We have maintained the bush between our settlements and protected the World Heritage environment that surrounds us.

Our local economy is strong and diversified, providing employment and educational opportunities appropriate to our location in a World Heritage area.

We promote safe accessible and environmentally responsible ways for people to get where they need to go.

Caring for each other, we sustain our communities. We recognise all Blue Mountains people especially our children and young people in whom we inspire the values that create a more sustainable future.

We use our available resources wisely, ensuring their fair distribution.

We celebrate the rich creativity, culture and heritage of the Blue Mountains.

People of all cultures and backgrounds are respected and enjoy equal rights.

We acknowledge the Aboriginal presence in the Blue Mountains.

We have enhanced our Blue Mountains identity while forging strong regional partnerships. Our civic and community leadership and governance are inspirational – at one with community.

The Blue Mountains is recognised nationally and internationally as a centre of excellence for learning about sustainable living and sustainable communities.

### **North West Sub Regional Strategy**

By 2031 the North West Subregion will have:

- Well functioning newly developed areas.
- Strengthened existing areas with improved accessibility and services.
- A diverse range of job opportunities to support growing residential areas and promotion of subregional self containment.
- A range of vibrant and liveable centres where people can live, work and access services.
- Greater public transport use supported by major transport infrastructure investment
- Active agricultural production and resource industries



## **Attachment D**

---

Australian Greenhouse Office, *An Assessment of the Need to Adapt Buildings for the Unavoidable Consequences of Climate Change*, August 2007.

Australian Sustainable Built Environment Council, *The Second Plank – building a Low Carbon Economy with energy Efficient Buildings*, October 2008

Lend Lease, Lincolne Scott and Advanced Environmental *Emissions Trading and the Built Environment: A Position Paper*, December 2007.

McKinsey and company, *An Australian Cost Curve for Greenhouse Gas Reduction*, 2007