



Campbelltown City Council  
2006 - 2007  
State of the Environment Report



# CONTENTS

Introduction .....	2
Our Land.....	3
Our Water.....	6
Our Community .....	8
Our Heritage.....	10

# INTRODUCTION

The State of the Environment Report (SoE), developed each financial year in accordance with the Local Government Act (1993), aims to ensure that Council manages its regulatory and service functions in an ecologically sustainable manner. Accordingly, the report is utilised by Council to assess its progress towards sustainability and assist it in further following the principles of Ecological Sustainable Development (ESD), which place equal value on our society, the economy, the environment and our heritage.

This SoE report has been prepared by Council to report on the condition of the key areas of Land, Water, Community and Heritage within the Campbelltown Local Government Area (LGA). The report provides a snapshot of the current state of these key areas, and the issues Council and the community face in making Campbelltown a better place to live, now and into the future. The report also identifies the main threats to these key areas, which will enable Council to develop actions to address them. These actions can then be incorporated into Council’s Management Plan, ensuring the principles of ESD are effectively integrated into Council’s policy and operational documents.

The SoE report is divided into four key environmental areas including Our Land, Our Water, Our Community and Our Heritage and examines their current condition. Within these sections, the threats to these key areas have been identified, and Council’s response to them briefly outlined, including Council’s commitments and major achievements.



## OUR LAND

### TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY

#### MAJOR ISSUES

The Campbelltown Local Government Area (LGA) is fortunate to contain significant preserved areas of bushland, which boast high levels of biodiversity. The largest areas of bushland are located on the steeper terrain in the east of the LGA, adjacent to the Georges River, however there are also significant remnants in the west and central sections of the LGA, where a higher level of urban development has occurred. These areas contain Endangered Ecological Communities listed in the Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995).

Major threats to biodiversity in the Campbelltown LGA include impacts associated with weed invasion, inappropriate fire regimes, predation by feral animals, stormwater runoff, illegal dumping, unauthorised vehicle access (such as trail bike riding), habitat loss/fragmentation associated with development, and a lack of comprehensive baseline data relating to the state of biodiversity.

Council has continued to play a pivotal role in the development and implementation of strategies and on-ground works, in association with the community and other key stakeholders. The broad aims of these strategies are to minimise the impacts of identified threats on biodiversity within the Campbelltown LGA, as outlined below.

#### ACHIEVEMENTS

*Plan of Management for Bunbury Curran Park:*

- Council has prepared a Plan of Management for Bunbury Curran Park, located at Macquarie Fields. Key features of the Plan include the protection of habitat of 5 threatened species recorded in the Park, improvement of the condition of Bunbury Curran Creek, the provision of a cycleway in the western section of the Park, and strategies to encourage responsible community use and enjoyment of the Park.

*Education Programmes:*

- Council continued to offer environmentally focussed community workshops as part of the Sustainability Blitz Programme, which aims to increase the awareness of key sustainability issues for local households on a range of topics including worm farming, composting, water management and

energy efficiency. During 2006/07, four workshops were conducted, which were attended by 80 participants. Council was also a major sponsor and organiser of the Macarthur Sustainable Schools Expo, held in September 2006, which was attended by 190 students from 27 schools. The aim of the Expo was to educate local students on a range of topics relating to environmental sustainability.

- Council became a key partner in the Schools Climate Change Initiative funded by the NSW Greenhouse Office and the Department of Education and Training. The aim of this programme is to provide students with an understanding of sustainable living and an appreciation of the practical measures available to minimise and reduce climate change.

*Control of Noxious Weeds:*

- Council currently coordinates a number of programmes to control the distribution and extent of noxious weeds in the Campbelltown LGA. Weed control works were completed at Milton Park (Macquarie Fields), Redfern Creek (Ingleburn), Smiths Creek (Ruse), Noorumba Reserve (Gilead), Botany Place (Ruse) and Georges River Road (Kentlyn). Details of weed control works have also been developed for Spring Creek (St Helens Park) and Ingleburn Reserve, which are scheduled to commence during the 2007/08 reporting period. Council has utilised the Georges Riverkeeper Programme's Periodic Detention Centre (PDC) working group to assist in the removal of rubbish and weed material at three of these sites. Council has also commenced mapping the extent and distribution of Lantana infestations throughout the Campbelltown LGA.
- Council also placed several pictorial/educational advertisements in local newspapers that provided information to the community on noxious weeds found within the Campbelltown LGA and appropriate control and containment measures.

*Bushland Rehabilitation work:*

- Work commenced on the Rehabilitation of Redfern Creek Project, which is jointly funded by Council and the Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Authority (CMA). Activities conducted as part of the project include the removal and control of a variety of noxious and environmental weeds, removal of rubbish, and the initial establishment of a community volunteer streamcare group. Council also received funding from the Sydney Metropolitan





## OUR LAND Continued

CMA during the reporting period for the Koala Habitat Restoration Project at selected sites in Kentlyn and St Helens Park. Onground works as part of this project will commence during the 2007/08 reporting period.

### Preparation of a Local Planning Strategy (LPS):

- Council commenced preparation of a Local Planning Strategy (LPS) for the Campbelltown LGA, which aims to provide background information for the preparation of a new comprehensive Local Environmental Plan (LEP). The LPS will investigate the regional, physical and environmental setting of the Campbelltown LGA and its unique characteristics. It will discuss environmental, economic and social issues related to future growth, including requirements for transport and social infrastructure, as well as identify potential areas where growth should be targeted, and areas that should be maintained and protected. The LPS will provide recommendations for future planning controls and land use zones that will be incorporated into the new LEP.

## WASTE AND RECYCLING

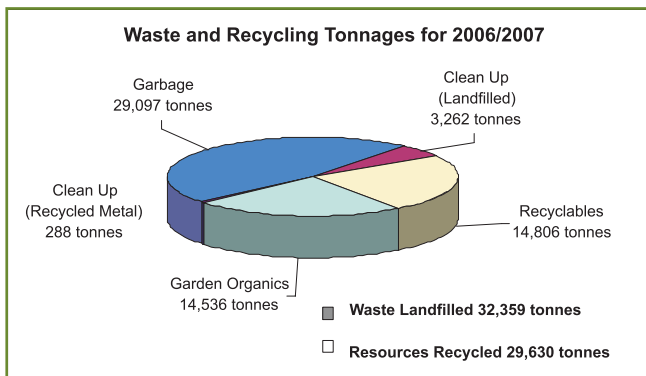
### MAJOR ISSUES

Council's key performance indicators in waste management are to minimise the total volume of domestic waste generated and maximise the recovery of recyclable materials, as well as to reduce the impacts associated with littering and illegal dumping.

To assist in meeting these objectives, Council continues to offer a waste and recycling collection system, consisting of:

- a 140 litre garbage bin collected weekly;
- a 240 litre recycling bin collected fortnightly;
- a 240 litre garden organics bin collected fortnightly; and
- four kerbside clean ups per year.

The figure below shows the tonnages of material collected through each of the services during the 2006/2007 reporting period.



## ACHIEVEMENTS

### Education Programmes:

- Council provided twelve free Waste-Wise Workshops to local schools on topics including waste reduction/recycling, worm farming, composting, and no dig vegetable gardening.
- Council partnered with 'Mobile Muster' throughout March to June 2007 in a national mobile phone recycling initiative. Council collected mobile phones, mobile phone handsets, batteries and accessories from the public at selected Council facilities. During the programme residents dropped off 120 mobile phone handsets, 120 batteries, 30 cases, 60 phone chargers and 40 other mobile phone accessories for recycling.
- The programme was extended to schools in the form of a mobile phone recycling competition. Hurlstone Agricultural High School and Mary Brooksbank School won the competition by collecting the most mobile phones and mobile phone accessories. Each school was awarded \$1,000 in funding to assist in the development of environmental initiatives.

### Clean up Australia Day

- A total of 38 sites were registered throughout the Campbelltown LGA for Clean Up Australia Day, which was held in March 2007. Approximately 10 tonnes of waste and half a tonne of recyclables were removed from local schools, parks, roadsides, creeks and bushland areas by volunteers.

### Leadership Awards

- In May 2007, Council received two Compost Leadership awards from the Waste Management Association of Australia for improvements in contamination levels for kerbside collected garden organics and innovation in organics recovery. The awards gave recognition to Council's efforts in recent years to improve resource recovery.

## OUR LAND Continued

### *Chemical Clutter Cleanout:*

- A Chemical Clutter Cleanout event was held for two days in August 2006 and attracted a total of 601 participants. The event resulted in over 21,600 kg of household chemicals being collected, with the most popular items being: 8,500 kg of paints; 4,000 kg of car batteries; 4,700 kg of oil; and 1,400 kg of gas bottles.

### *Construction of a new Waste Management Facility:*

- Construction commenced on the \$50 million facility that will process Campbelltown's domestic waste, recyclables and garden organics. The facility (which is scheduled to be completed during 2008) promises to be an international showcase for advanced waste treatment technology that will divert over 70% of waste from landfill.

## ILLEGAL LAND USE ACTIVITIES AND NON-COMPLIANT DEVELOPMENT

### MAJOR ISSUES

Impacts associated with unauthorised activities (e.g. trail bike riding, illegal dumping and arson), as well as development activity place considerable pressure on biodiversity and the quality of the natural environment, as well as neighbourhood amenity. Council has continued to develop and implement programmes in association with the community, local business and other stakeholders to restrict these impacts. A summary of the major activities conducted during the reporting period is outlined below:



## ACHIEVEMENTS

### *Illegal Trail Bike riding:*

- A total of 9 Joint Police and Council patrols targeting areas of high illegal trail bike riding activity (including Smiths Creek and Noorumba Reserve) were conducted during the reporting period. These patrols were successful in restricting environmental impacts associated with trail bike activities and resulted in the issuing of 53 Infringement notices, 31 Juvenile Cautions, seizure of 31 bikes and laying of 25 charges for illegal trail bike riding offences.

### *Environmental Audits:*

- A total of 43 Environmental Audits of industrial premises, (which monitor illegal building work, illegal land use activities and environmental management issues), were conducted during the reporting period. The audits were successful in identifying poor environmental management practices, fire safety concerns or inappropriate or illegal land use activities. This resulted in a number of Notices or Orders being issued and associated action to enforce compliance with relevant legislation and adopted standards.

### *Bush Fire Trails and Walking Track registers:*

- A comprehensive register of Bush Fire trails and major bush walking tracks throughout the Campbelltown LGA was developed principally for the purpose of enhancing capacity to enforce offences relating to illegal trail bike activity. This initiative has broader potential in terms of the identification of tracks and fire trails suitable for a wide range of recreational users and as a model approach to be utilised by other Council's to protect sensitive areas from the impacts of trail bike activity.



## OUR WATER

### MAJOR ISSUES

The Campbelltown LGA is fortunate to have a number of waterways, which support a diverse variety of plant and animal communities, as well as provide a number of recreational opportunities for the public.

The majority of Campbelltown's waterways drain into the Upper Georges River, either directly into the Georges River itself or via the Bow Bowling/Bunbury Curran Creek System. A small number of waterways located in the southwest section of the LGA drain into the Nepean River, which forms part of the Hawkesbury/Nepean Catchment.

Water quality in the Georges and Nepean Rivers is generally good, however, water quality within the Campbelltown LGA has deteriorated over time, due primarily to impacts associated with increased urbanisation. This has resulted in increased levels of stormwater runoff, containing a range of contaminants including nutrients, sediment, chemicals, litter and grease. Other factors that have contributed to poorer water quality within the LGA include pollution incidents, degraded riparian zones, stream flow modification, aquatic noxious weeds, illegal dumping, and the accumulation of litter.

Council's commitment to the sustainable management of water resources and improved water quality within the Campbelltown LGA is demonstrated through the number of initiatives that Council has established and implemented over the reporting period. The following summarises some of Council's major achievements.



### ACHIEVEMENTS

#### *On-site Septic systems:*

- Initiated in 2004, the On-site Sewage Management Programme has resulted in the inspection of a total

of 742 on-site septic systems, consisting of 216 aerated wastewater treatment systems and 526 Septic tank and absorption trench systems. This has ensured that 85% of Campbelltown's on-site septic systems are structurally sound and comply with public health and environmental standards. Common issues identified during the inspections included failed trenches, systems requiring sludge clean outs and hydraulic overloading.

- Council officers have continued to implement community/resident education programme which have proven to be the most effective for resolving future potential problems. In addition, Council has updated its internet site with information on grey water reuse and rainwater tanks.

#### *Identification of Noxious Weeds:*

- Council completed Stage 3 of the Campbelltown City Council Alligator Weed and Ludwigia Mapping Project, which involved the mapping of significant sections of selected waterways within the LGA. The purpose of the mapping was to identify priority areas for future weed control. Salvina survey and mapping was also undertaken, through which a new Water Hyacinth infestation was also identified.

#### *Upgrade of Noxious Weeds legislation:*

- Amendments to the Noxious Weeds Act (1993) came into effect on 1 March 2006. The amendments have resulted in a number of significant changes to the legislation, with the most relevant to Council being the introduction of new Weed Control Classes. The new weed Control Classes have a specific objective relating to the control of individual weeds compared to the previous weed control classes, which were quite inflexible and generally had broad generic objectives such as the suppression and destruction of weeds. Another key component of the amendment was the preparation of a Management Plan for enforcement of locally controlled noxious weeds. This plan was completed by Council in May 2007.

#### *Bring back the Fish Project:*

- Council became a participant in the recently initiated, 'Bring Back the Fish' (BBTF) project being coordinated by the Department of Primary Industries. The purpose of the project is to identify barriers to fish passage and establish and implement remediation works to enhance fish passage at the identified priority sites. Ingleburn Weir, (located on the Georges River near Ingleburn Reserve), has been identified by the BBTF project team as a high priority site given its location on a major waterway and the partial barrier it provides to fish passage. Due to the heritage significance of the weir, a Heritage Impact Statement will be prepared during 2007 prior to the commencement of remediation works.



## OUR WATER Continued

### *Registered Business Inspection Programme:*

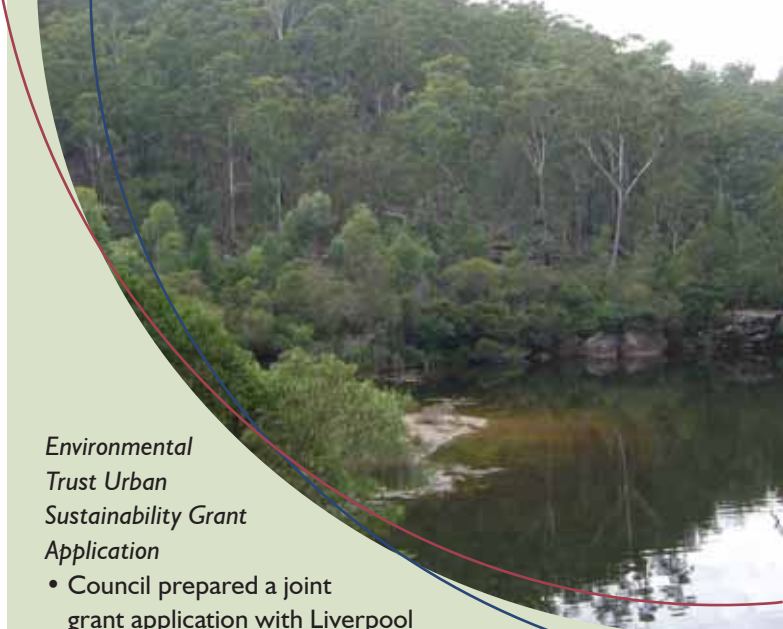
- Council has continued to implement its Registered Business Inspection Programme, which monitors the compliance of registered premises with a range of environmental criteria. The programme also examines practical measures businesses can implement to improve efficiency and environmental performance. During the reporting period, 12 of the 13 premises inspected complied with the requirements of Council. Council officers are working with the remaining premise to improve environmental performance and awareness. It has been encouraging to see a number of the businesses adopt and participate in further environmentally friendly initiatives as a result of the inspection programme.

### *Water Quality testing:*

- Council continued to implement its water quality monitoring programme which monitors the compliance of six selected sites with the Recreational Water Quality Guidelines and Protection of Aquatic Ecosystem Guidelines produced by the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC). The six sites are monitored monthly and include; Wedderburn Gorge, The Woolwash at Airds, Frere's Crossing at Kentlyn, Harold Street Bridge at Macquarie Fields, Simmos Beach and Menangle Bridge. In addition to the monthly tests, both Simmos Beach and Menangle Bridge are tested weekly in the summer.

### *Expansion of Streamcare/Bushcare group:*

- Council's community Streamcare/BushCare group continued to work in Noorumba Reserve, Rosemeadow. The group, which meets on a fortnightly basis, participated in activities including; water testing, bush regeneration, litter collection and planting of native vegetation. The group was also involved in a successful on-site survey for the Cumberland Land Snail, which is classified as a threatened species under the Threatened Species Conversation Act (1995). The survey was a licence requirement of the Department of Environment and Climate Change for the construction of a fence adjacent to Appin Road to restrict the impacts of unauthorised vehicle access within the Reserve.
- Council appointed a Volunteer Coordinator for the group during the reporting period, whose duties include providing specialist support for community volunteers and developing and implementing basic volunteer training programmes.
- Council endorsed the commencement of a number of new Streamcare/Bushcare Volunteer Projects at Kentlyn, St Helen's Park and Ingleburn to operate over a 2-year period. The commencement of the projects will result in the formation of three (3) new Streamcare groups.



### *Environmental Trust Urban Sustainability Grant Application*

- Council prepared a joint grant application with Liverpool City Council under the Environmental Trust's Urban Sustainability Program. The application follows on from a "Think Tank Meeting" held at Liverpool Council to consider strategies for improving the health of the Upper Georges River. The total project will be undertaken over a 3-year period and will consist of three phases designed to improve the sustainability of the Upper Georges River. Should the application be successful, as the lead Council, Campbelltown Council will be responsible for the administration and implementation of the grant.

### *Water Savings Action Plan:*

- In July 2006, Council prepared a Water Savings Action Plan (WSAP) in accordance with a directive from the State government. The plan details baseline water consumption details for all Council's facilities and presents a workable programme of "cost effective" measures and changed practices, which will deliver water savings measures. "Cost effective" measures include:
  - The installation of lock boxes on all watering systems at playing fields to prevent tampering and ensure that watering only occurs as programmed by Council.
  - A proposal for a water harvesting system at Kooringa Reserve, which will enable the creek water to be used for playing field irrigation, rural fire fighting water supply and water tanker filling for Council construction activities.
  - The installation of a subsurface irrigation system at Milton Park, which is anticipated to achieve significant water savings, as playing fields are one of the highest water users.

## OUR COMMUNITY

### MAJOR ISSUES

The major issues and trends affecting the quality of life in Campbelltown have been identified and addressed through Campbelltown City Council's Social Plan (2004-2009). In this regard, the plan aims to answer three important questions:

- What are the key quality of life issues impacting on the community now?
- What are the key strategic challenges that will impact on the community in the future?
- What should Council and its partners do to address these issues and challenges to ensure that quality of life conditions for its residents are maximised?

The key quality of life issues were identified through the analysis of statistical data and responses to community consultations. The key strategic challenges were expressed as 21 dynamics (e.g. the development of Campbelltown as a regional centre, and the ageing of the population), which were identified through the research for the Social Plan.

The strategies in the Social Plan were then developed in response to the key issues and strategic challenges that have been identified. The actions resulting from the Social Plan represent Council's focus and commitment to addressing the quality of life needs of the City's residents. This includes the development of cultural services and facilities. By having access to cultural facilities and associated services, communities can actively engage with, and develop culture. It is through engaging with culture that communities can contribute to defining a local identity and sense of place.

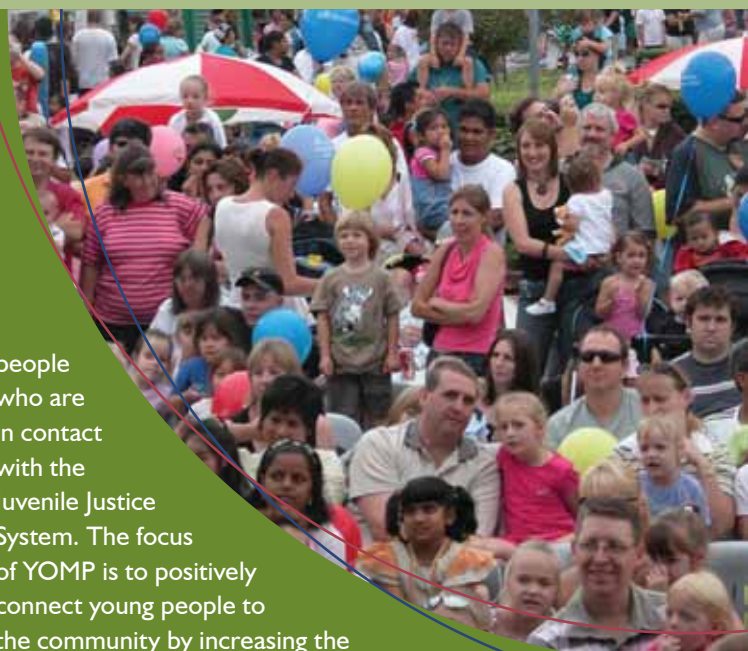
### ACHIEVEMENTS COMMUNITY SERVICES

#### *Transport:*

- Council, in association with Camden Council, developed an Integrated Transport Strategy to improve transport conditions for both communities. The purpose of the strategy, which integrates all forms of transport including walking, cycling, rail and road, focuses on providing improved transport options for the residents of Camden and Campbelltown; and encouraging residents of the region to make more sustainable transport choices.

#### *Crime Prevention:*

- Council has continued to implement the Crime Prevention Plan, through projects including The Young Offenders Mentoring Programme (YOMP). The programme, which partners young offenders with trained mentors, involves a range of government agencies and community organisations working collaboratively to develop a coordinated approach to support young



people who are in contact with the Juvenile Justice System. The focus of YOMP is to positively connect young people to the community by increasing the linkages between young people and local sporting clubs and recreation associations.

#### *Compacts:*

- The Compacts programme commenced in late 2006, and provides assistance to 400 people with complex conditions returning home from hospital. By enabling people to return home earlier through services such as nursing care in the home, health care costs are reduced and patient outcomes are improved.

#### *Tourism:*

- Campbelltown's Visitor Information Centre, 'Quondong', continued to promote Campbelltown as a tourist destination by targeting more specific markets including school excursions, group training, business tourism and visiting friends and relatives.

#### *Development:*

- Council adopted Stage 2 of the Sustainable City Development Control Plan in May 2007. This key plan sets out the requirements for Commercial Development and Industrial Development and provides a revised Engineering Design Guide for Development.

#### *Youth Mentoring:*

- The Macarthur Youth Mentoring Network has been formed to bring together those programs that aim to provide education, employment, leadership and social outcomes to young people through mentoring and coaching. These programmes partner young people with experienced mentors and coaches from relevant fields to assist them with life and/or professional skills.

#### *Suburb level plans:*

- Council is assisting Community Organisations and Government Departments to develop suburb level plans to improve the quality of life in selected locations. Each plan focuses on issues identified by residents as being a priority. The resulting programmes are implemented as a partnership between the residents and agencies involved.



# OUR COMMUNITY Continued

## COMMUNITY HEALTH

*Inquiry into the Health Impacts of Air Pollution in the Sydney Basin:*

- The State Government conducted an Inquiry into the Health Impacts of Air Pollution in the Sydney Basin during the reporting period. Given the significance of air quality as a regional issue, Council played a lead role in the submission of a response to the final report of the Inquiry and its recommendations by the Macarthur Region of Organisation of Councils (MACROC), on behalf of its member Councils (Campbelltown City Council, Camden City Council and Wollondilly Shire Council). The response by MACROC provided an overview of air quality issues within the Macarthur Region, comments on recommendations of specific relevance to the Macarthur region and the involvement and engagement of local government during the implementation of recommendations of the Inquiry.

*Air emission levels from Council and Department of Environment and Climate Change regulated premises*

- The following table provides a ranking of air emission levels based on the latest available data for the 2005/06 financial year, as reported on the National Pollution Inventory website. This site ranks the reported emission levels from individual premises, compared to the maximum reported national emission levels for similar types of premises.

Facilities	Regulatory Authority	Ranking
Alsco Pty Ltd, Ingleburn NSW	Council	Low
CSR Bradford Insulation, Ingleburn NSW	Council	Low
Unilever Australia Limited (Streets Ice Cream) Minto NSW	Council	Low
Australian Petro Chemical Storage Pty Ltd, Ingleburn NSW	DECC	Low
Foamco Industries Pty Ltd, Minto NSW	DECC	Low
Pilkington (Australia) Ltd, Ingleburn NSW	DECC	Low

- Future SoE reports will include data obtained from a detailed new Air Emission Inventory currently being developed by the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC).

*Cities for Climate Protection:*

- Council has applied to become a participant of the Cities for Climate Protection (CPP) Programme. The CCP Programme originated from a declaration made at the United Nations Summit (New York) in 1993, which called for the establishment of a worldwide movement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and enhance urban sustainability. Acceptance into the programme will require Council to analyse greenhouse gas emissions throughout the entire LGA, and implement practical measures within the organisation and the general community (including residential, business and industrial sectors).

*Energy Savings Action Plan:*

- In October 2005, the New South Wales Government introduced the preparation of an Energy Savings Action Plan (ESAP) as a legal requirement for designated high-energy users which includes NSW Government Agencies and Local Council's. As a result, Council established the Campbelltown City Council Energy Saving Action Plan, which identified Council's top 13 energy-using assets and developed a list of "cost effective" and "potentially cost effective" energy saving measures. "Cost effective" measures include the installation of power factor correction units, energy reduction circuits, motion sensors and energy efficient light fittings, across a range of Council facilities.

*Tree Planting:*

- During the reporting period, Council continued to implement programmes aimed at enhancing and restoring the local environment. These programmes included the planting of approximately 10,000 native plants (both seedlings and established plants) of assorted species throughout the LGA. These plants will not only contribute to the aesthetics of the local area, but also help to offset Council's greenhouse gas emissions.



## OUR HERITAGE

### INDIGENOUS HERITAGE

#### MAJOR ISSUES

The indigenous heritage of Campbelltown not only encompasses archaeological sites and artefacts, but also includes culture and places of cultural significance, history, language and spirituality. The Campbelltown LGA is home to the Dharawal people, with the Georges River and associated landscapes providing not only food and shelter, but also a rich resource for the expression of their cultural and social heritage. There are more than 350 known indigenous sites, places and relics within the Campbelltown LGA, including rock art, rock artefacts, scarred trees, open camp sites and axe grinding grooves.

Campbelltown City Council, like many other councils, faces the challenge of documenting and preserving indigenous heritage features. The main factors influencing their preservation include urbanisation, recreational activities in bushland areas, vandalism and the effects of natural weathering.



#### ACHIEVEMENTS

##### *Preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan*

- An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan for the Keith Longhurst Reserve, Kentlyn, was prepared for Council by Archaeological consultants. The aims of the Plan, which forms part of the implementation of Council's adopted Plan of Management (POM) for the Reserve, include identifying and describing Aboriginal sites and their significance, as well as identifying measures to protect these sites from potential threats, such as arson and trail bike activities. The recommendations of the Plan will be utilised in the implementation of strategies contained in the POM (for example, the scheduled walking track upgrading).



##### *Aboriginal community events*

- In October 2006, an Aboriginal Carers Week event was held at the Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation in partnership with several agencies across Macarthur. The event provided Carers with the opportunity to discuss common issues as well as enabled a range of service providers to promote their services.
- During April 2007, as part of Seniors Week, the Elders Walkabout Games were held at the Campbelltown Sports Stadium. The games enabled participants from Campbelltown and neighbouring LGAs (as well as La Perouse and Canberra) to participate in activities including discus, javelin, boccia, wheelchair races, walking races and traditional indigenous games. Of note, the games were a finalist in the Kellogg/Heart Foundation Local Government Awards.
- In April 2007 the annual Appin Massacre Ceremony was held at Cataract Dam. The event was well attended by both community members and officials.
- In May 2007, a series of events were held across the LGA to coincide with 'Sorry Day' and Reconciliation Week. 'Sorry Day' events were held at the Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation and at the Benevolent Society in Campbelltown. The Art Centre hosted a film day where "Ten Canoes" and "Kanyini" were screened. In addition, some residents travelled into the city (Sydney) to commemorate the Stolen Generations, by participating in the Reconciliation Walk to First Fleet Park.

## OUR HERITAGE Continued

Campbelltown, being one of the first areas of European colonisation in Australia, boasts a rich European heritage. The area contains a number of heritage items, which are significant to the community. Some of these items are also recognised as being State Significant. There are 107 heritage items identified within the Campbelltown LGA that encompass not only stately mansions and demure cottages, but monuments, bridges, cemeteries, reservoirs, dams, water canals, churches, railway stations and forests. The Queen Street Heritage Conservation Area, located at the southern end of Queen Street (near Campbelltown Mall), includes several important buildings, which are also of significance.

The cost of maintaining heritage items, particularly those in private ownership, and finding appropriate new uses for heritage buildings, are issues of concern. Council has planning rules that set out objectives and controls to conserve heritage items, heritage conservation areas, archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal heritage significance.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

#### *Preparation of a Heritage Brochure*

- Council, in conjunction with its Heritage Protection Sub-Committee, commenced preparation of a heritage brochure to provide residents with information on heritage listing and related matters. Topics to be included in the brochure are the different levels of heritage significance, the importance of heritage in the Campbelltown LGA, Council's role in heritage protection, the process involved in heritage listing and the benefits and implications of heritage listing. It is anticipated that this brochure will be completed early in the 2007-2008 financial year.
- As part of the review of its heritage study and register, Council, in conjunction with its Heritage Protection Sub-Committee, commenced preliminary desktop research into the heritage significance of an additional ten items (for investigation for potential listing). It is anticipated that this work will be progressed during the 2007-2008 reporting period.

#### *Local Heritage Fund*

- Council's Local Heritage Fund 2006-2007 was used to provide funding to undertake repairs and restoration works to a historic grave in a local cemetery. Funds were also allocated for maintenance and repair works for a heritage listed home located within the Campbelltown LGA.

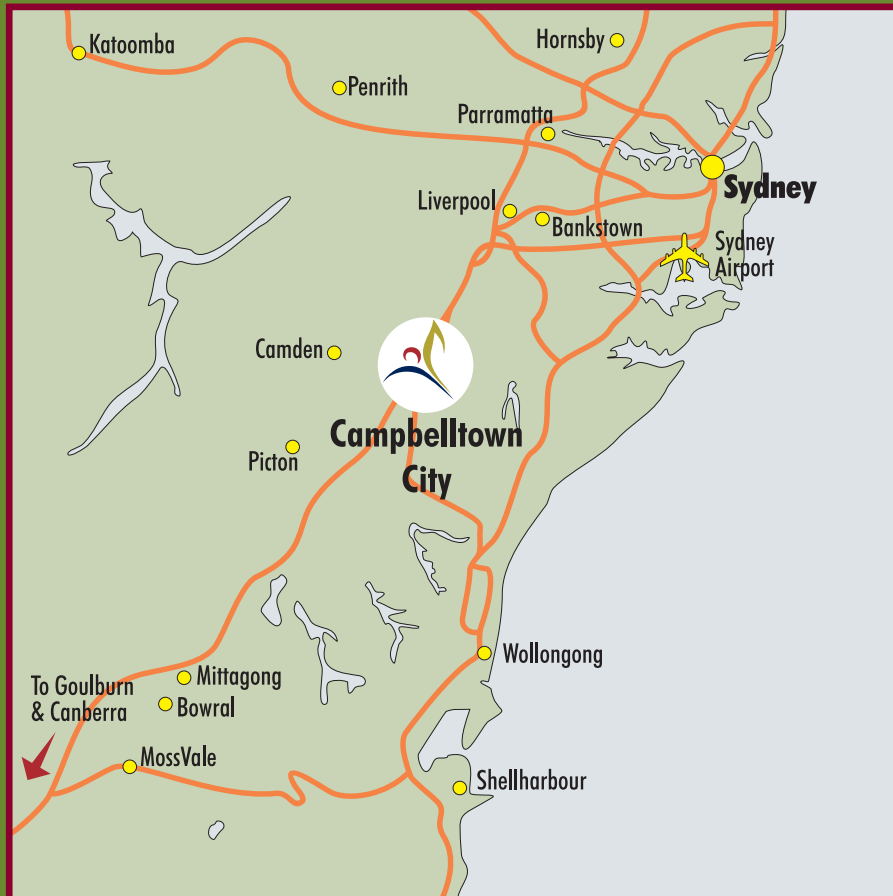


#### *Heritage Week Activities*

- Heritage Week was held in March 2007, to coincide with the National Trust Heritage Festival themed "Places in Context: Cultural and Natural Landscapes". The Campbelltown Arts Centre coordinated a Heritage Week Programme about "Green Spaces in the Cultural and Natural Landscapes of Campbelltown". The programme involved a range of activities, including the annual Heritage Forum, and the awarding of heritage medallions and certificates of recognition to members of the local community.







[www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au](http://www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au)



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