

PART E

Merri Creek and Environs Strategy Action Tables

Action Program Note: If MCMC is listed as a support role, it is assumed that MCMC is working in partnership with the listed agencies unless otherwise noted.

Overall Notional Cost = combined notional cost of action for accountable parties.

Priority = the agreed priority attached to the action by the Merri Creek and Environs Strategy Implementation Subcommittee.

Lead Role = Agency having accountability for the action - the body may delegate delivery of the action to a contract provider.

Key partners = Organisation to provide support and encouragement, and to be actively involved.

For more detail see table at back of report.

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 1.1 (LA) - Aboriginal Heritage				
LA1	Implement processes to ensure determination of planning applications meets the requirements of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC AAVHSB WTLCCHC MW	N/A Very High
LA2	Convene a working group to prepare a protocol for use by member Councils to guide Aboriginal heritage consideration in planning process. The protocol should include: - processes consistent with the Aboriginal Heritage Act and Regulations - avoiding divulging exact site locations except where consistent with the Act (see also Ellender 1997b Rec 2) - reference to mapping by Ellender of areas of sensitivity.	MCMC	Member Councils	\$ Very High
LA3	Again provide copies of the Ellender 1997b report together with mapping of areas of archaeological sensitivity (as denoted on the 1:5000 maps from Johnston and Ellender 1993, and/or Ellender 1997b), in an accessible (preferably digital eg. GIS) form to Councils' strategic and statutory planning departments to assist with guiding planning decisions under Planning Schemes. (Ellender 1997b Rec 10)	MCMC		\$ High
LA4	Ensure areas of archaeological sensitivity (as denoted on the 1:5000 maps from Johnston and Ellender 1993, and Ellender 1997b), are mapped in an accessible (preferably digital eg. GIS) form and are readily available within Councils to assist with guiding planning decisions under Planning Schemes.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea	MCMC AAVHSB WTLCCHC	\$\$ High
LA5	Develop a brochure to share, or identify a suitable existing brochure, and use it to notify landowners of responsibilities for protection of archaeological sites and areas of sensitivity. (See Ellender 1997b site gazetteer and recommendation 21)	Darebin Hume MCMC Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea	MCMC AAVHSB WTLCCHC	\$ High
LA6	Implement protection works along the lines of recommendations contained in Johnston and Ellender (1993b) for archaeological sites at: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Central Creek 1;● Mahoneys Road 1;Cooper Street 3;Craigieburn Road 3-4● Central Creek 2;Edgars Creek 1 (near confluence of Merri);● Craigieburn Road 1, 2, 5;O'Herns Road 1;	Darebin Hume Moreland PV	MCMC AAVHSB WTLCCHC	\$ High

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
LA7	Where possible use fencing to prevent access by horses, stock and unauthorised off-road vehicles to known sites and areas of high archaeological sensitivity where protection is afforded by Council Planning Schemes or where Council owns the land. (Ellender Rec 11)	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea	MCMC KNOCHO AAVHSB WTLCCCHC	\$\$ High
LA8	Extend the coverage of the Merri Creek ESO to incorporate areas of Aboriginal Archaeological Sensitivity as mapped by Ellender 1997b (as per Ellender 1997b Recommendation 2) and others.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC	\$\$ High
LA9	Before determining a planning permit application consider that - no pruning or cutting down of remnant indigenous trees (especially scar trees) should be permitted prior to inspection by a person qualified to identify an Aboriginal scar (Ellender 1997b Rec 4); - scarred indigenous trees should retain a buffer zone around perimeter twice the canopy diameter within which no works and services should take place other than vegetation maintenance (Ellender 1997b Rec 2).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Moreland Whittlesea		High
LA10	Following the obtaining of approval from the Registered Aboriginal Party, and after consulting AAV, undertake further archaeological surveys of those parts of Central and Edgars Creeks within the existing urban area which have not been already surveyed. Surveys should include mapping areas of sensitivity, and provide this mapping to MCMC and relevant Councils.	Darebin Moreland Whittlesea	MCMC AAVHSB WTLCCCHC	\$\$ Medium
LA11	Following the obtaining of approval from the Registered Aboriginal Party, and after consulting AAV, and provided these areas aren't part of another survey, undertake further archaeological surveys in the rural part of the catchment: - Merri Creek from Hernes Swamp north to the top of the catchment, - other tributaries of the Merri Creek including Malcolm, Aitken, Kalkallo, Wallan, and Taylors Creeks and - other sites likely to possess archaeological finds (eg. alluvial terraces as in Rosengren, 1993). Surveys should include mapping areas of sensitivity, and provide this mapping to MCMC and relevant Councils. (Ellender 1997b Rec 21)	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC AAVHSB WTLCCCHC	\$\$ Medium
LA12	Notify landowners with scar trees of their responsibilities for protection of the scarred trees, including: • the protection of trees in legislation; • the importance of preservation of dead scarred trees; • techniques to stabilise and make safe trees which are dangerous; and • procedures to be followed if lopping or removal is necessary. There may be an AAV poster/brochure on this. (Ellender 1997b recommendation 4)	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC KNOCHO AAVHSB WTLCCCHC	\$\$ Medium
LA13	Implement training in Aboriginal and historic places for field staff to: recognise Aboriginal artefacts; identify threatening processes; and understand legal requirements, especially for areas of high archaeological sensitivity. (Ellender 1997b Rec 15)	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	WTLCCCHC MCMC KNOCHO PV MW	\$\$ Medium
LA14	Encourage preventative measures and programs on private rural and urban fringe land deemed to have archaeological sensitivity, to prevent erosion, stock pugging and rabbit warren ripping of known and unidentified sites. Focus on sites nominated by Ellender at: Bald Hill 2; Briggs 1; Summerhill 2-5; Bullock Crossing; Jackhammer; Cooper Street 1-3 and Burgess 1. (Ellender 1997b Rec 5)	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC DSE AAVHSB WTLCCCHC MW PV	\$ Medium
LA15	Encourage Melbourne Water to investigate stream works to address erosion of the Briggs 4 site near Summerhill Road. (Ellender 1997b Rec 6)	MCMC	AAVHSB WTLCCCHC	\$\$ Medium

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
LA16	Conduct oral history and Aboriginal cultural research programs in the catchment to further document and gather information. (Ellender 1997b rec 21)	MCMC	WTLCCHC AAL	\$\$ Medium
LA17	Use less ground disturbing techniques (e.g. fire), to manage areas of archaeo-logical sensitivity on publicly owned land if grazing or mowing is currently used (e.g. Patullos sites at Craigieburn Grasslands), and encourage similar measures on State Government or Privately owned land. (Ellender 1997b recs 7&12)	Hume Mitchell PV Whittlesea	MCMC DSE	\$ Medium
LA18	Monitor archaeological sites to check for threats and the success of protection measures.	MCMC	WTLCCHC AAVHSB	\$ Medium
LA19	Develop and implement Management Plans for scar trees where they occur on Council land.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	AAVHSB	\$ Medium
LA20	Continue to raise general community awareness and appreciation of Wurundjeri heritage through printed information, 'walks and talks', information boards on linear trails, and seminars. (Ellender 1997b Rec 16)	MCMC	Hume Darebin Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	\$\$ Medium
LA21	Include Ellender 1997b as a reference document in the ESO. (Ellender 1997b Rec 1)	Darebin Hume Moreland Whittlesea	MCMC MW AAVHSB WTLCCHC	\$ Medium
LA22	Work with councils and PV and other agencies to encourage the adoption of Wurundjeri place names.	FOMC MCMC		\$ Medium
LA23	For archaeologically sensitive areas on publicly owned land, limit use of maintenance tracks by: • provision of fencing and gates; • avoidance of paving; and • prohibiting use in wet conditions; and encourage similar measures on privately owned land. (Ellender 1997b Rec 14)	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea	MCMC	\$\$ Low

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 1.2 (LH) - Historical Heritage			
LH1 Include sites not yet protected by the planning scheme, but identified in Johnston and Ellender (1993), together with new sites as identified, in the Schedules to each Council's Heritage Overlay, possibly via a joint planning scheme amendment. (See also Action LH3)			
● CB08 - Merri Creek Reserves (east & west sides) CB12 - Coburg Cemetery PR01 - Edwardes Lake Park NC07 - Northcote Park & Oldis Gardens NC10 - Yan Yean pipe crossing FR02 - Fitzroy-Epping rail bridge NC15 - Charles Street Urban Conservation Area	Darebin		
● WS01a - Barry Road Gorge Drystone wall complex WS01b - Barry Road Gorge Drystone wall complex WS04a - Ford BM07 - Ford John Batman Pastoral Run outstation site (south of Craigieburn Road) John Batman Pastoral Run outstation site (north of Summerhill Road)	Hume		
● WS31 - Rail Bridge WS30 - Rail Bridge	Mitchell		
● BM02 - Quarry CB02 - Fence foundation CB01 - Quarry CB15 - Bakers Road Tram Terminus CB09 - De Chene Reserve & Connolly Ave reserve CB05 - Lake Reserve BM01 - Industrial Site? CB11 - Edgars Creek CB08 - Merri Creek Reserves (east & west sides)	Moreland		
● BM07 - Ford WS03 - Sheep pens WS27 - House WS09 - Site of former Kinlochewe settlement WS04 - Farming complex WS29 - Rail bridge WS11 - Bluestone outbuilding WS01e - Barry Road Gorge Drystone wall complex WS01c - Barry Road Gorge Drystone wall complex WS01d - Barry Road Gorge Drystone wall complex WS01f - Barry Road Gorge Drystone wall complex BM06a - Ford WS12 - Donnybrook Mineral Spring Reserve WS01g - Barry Road Gorge Drystone wall complex WS04a - Ford BM05a - Pipe Crossing	Whittlesea		
● NC02 - Fmr quarry CW05 - Fmr Quarries & tip CW10 - Clifton Hill-Alphington rail bridge NC07 - Northcote Park & Oldis Gardens CW06 - Hall Reserve CW03 - Drystone retaining walls CW02 - Terraced garden FR02 - Fitzroy-Epping rail bridge NC08 - High Street bridge NC01 - Yarra Bend Park NC05 - Heidelberg Road Bridge	Yarra		

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
LH2	<p>Lodge nominations to the Victorian Heritage Register through Heritage Victoria for sites recommended by Johnston and Ellender (1993, p. 54) but not yet listed, and other sites of at least State significance ie:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CB12 - Coburg Cemetery NC05 - Heidelberg Road Bridge WS16 - Camoola Homestead in Merriang CB06 - Newlands Estate WS04 - Farming complex & Ford WS07 - Westgarthtown Heritage Conservation Area Maltzahn's Farmhouse 		MCMC Darebin Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea	\$ High
LH3	Prepare maps and documentation specifically for each Council identifying sites which should be covered by heritage overlays, and requesting input to heritage studies as they arise, and prepare submissions to such studies.	MCMC	Heritage Victoria	\$ High
LH4	Ensure continuing effective coverage of heritage issues through inclusion of heritage management issues when monitoring, reviewing and revising the Development Guidelines for Merri Creek.	MCMC	Heritage Victoria Hume Darebin Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	\$ Medium
LH5	Provide information and advice to landowners and managers of heritage places so that they might manage those assets effectively.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC Heritage Victoria	\$ Medium
LH6	Investigate the provision of planning concessions and the permitting of otherwise prohibited uses, as an incentive for the conservation of regional and State significant places (see further Johnston & Ellender 1993, p. 18 and other relevant local heritage studies).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC Heritage Victoria	\$ Medium
LH7	<p>Lodge nominations to the National Heritage List for nationally significant sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Westgarthtown Heritage Conservation Area (Johnston & Ellender 1993) 	Whittlesea	MCMC	\$ Medium
LH8	Develop interpretation programs for cultural and heritage sites where: they have been adequately surveyed and assessed; site stability is not questionable; and where protection can be provided through site supervision and signage.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC Heritage Victoria	\$\$ Medium
LH9	Commission a revision of Johnston & Ellender (1993) incorporating further knowledge, extending coverage to major tributaries and the upper Merri Creek, reviewing the status of sites already identified, and cross-referencing to other studies, e.g. Moreland Local Heritage Places Review.	MCMC	Hume Darebin Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	\$\$ Medium
LH10	Investigate the relevance of National Trust Landscape Subcommittee's policies for the Merri Catchment.	MCMC		\$ Medium

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 1.3 (LV) - Visual Character			
LV1 Conduct a new landscape study covering all the main waterway corridors of the catchment to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - refine and document what the underlying natural landscape character of Merri Creek and its tributaries is, - identify what extant features contribute to the underlying natural landscape character, - identify sites and features of high landscape value and how these values can best be protected and enhanced. - identify major detriments to the landscape quality and how these might be dealt with. - identify threats to the landscape quality of the waterways when viewed from existing or likely future trail locations and viewpoints, and how these might be dealt with. - to underpin the Development Guidelines and Environmental Significance Overlay. Incorporate recent similar studies where relevant.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ Very High
LV2 Advocate for the protection of the Creek Corridor and its values, both ecological and landscape during investigations for expansion of the Urban Growth Boundary.	Hume MCMC Mitchell Whittlesea	FOMC FOWC	\$ Very High
LV3 Investigate all available options to reduce the impacts from adverse visual intrusion into the creek valley of existing developments. Include: consideration of seeking a change of activity or land use; improved site design and built form; requirements for screen planting as a condition on permits; enforcement of conditions on existing permits; or the undertaking of revegetation on publicly owned land. Investigate the following specific areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mahoneys Road to B. T. Connor Reserve, Reservoir; ● Craigieburn south industrial area; ● Merri Creek and tributaries around Wallan ● St. Basil's Homes, Fawkner; McBryde Street (downstream of Hood Crescent) Fawkner; Coburg Drive-In vicinity/Trade Place, Coburg North ● Depot in Clifton Hill 	Whittlesea	MW MCMC	\$\$ High
LV4 Maintain and extend existing buffer plantings to screen existing visual intrusions at sites including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hardie-Iplex site downstream of Lakeside Secondary College, Reservoir; Broadhurst Avenue to below Brex Court, Reservoir; Newlands industrial estates (downstream of Zinnia Street), Reservoir; Ugly back fences of houses on west side of Willow Street, West Preston. ● Barry Road/Sarah St., Campbellfield; Craigieburn south. ● Downstream of Bell Street, East Coburg (i.e. back fences of houses in Merribell Ave); ● Holden Street, Fitzroy. 	Darebin Hume Moreland Yarra	MCMC	High
LV5 Investigate and improve the visual appearance of existing outfall drains owned by Councils and implement the recommendations. Ensure that all new Council and Council-approved drains are consistent with the ESO, go through a planning permit process, and demonstrate sensitive design emphasising use of natural rock or other visually pleasing elements, as well as incorporating necessary drainage and water-sensitive urban design treatments.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC MW	\$\$ High
LV6 Construct and maintain fencing and control of vehicular access such that abandonment of car bodies, rubbish dumping and access for rock removal can be curtailed.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea	MCMC	\$\$ High

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LV7	Promptly remove car bodies, and dumped fill and rubbish in parklands adjacent to waterways [Reserve Manager's responsibility] and where dumping is observed in the waterways make a request to Melbourne Water for removal.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC MW	\$ High
LV8	Seek to limit the number of creek road crossings and ensure designs are visually sympathetic and have adequate off-setting revegetation works and remove redundant creek crossing road reservations.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea	MCMC MW	\$ High
LV9	Protect and expose escarpments, other rocky outcrops and key waterway and landscape forms through weed control and vegetation management.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ High
LV10	Encourage responsible agencies to: - Use basaltic rocks in landscaping basalt reaches of the catchment waterways; - Always use indigenous species of local provenance when revegetating along catchment waterways; and - Promptly remove dumped fill and rubbish in the waterways.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC FOMC MW FOWC	\$ High
LV11	Resist the installation of artworks along the Creek corridors unless they feature or reflect the natural landscape of the corridor.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
LV12	Detect, prosecute and deter illegal dumping of fill and rubbish.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
LV13	Remove obscene or unsafe graffiti within 2 weeks of its reporting and on signage within 3 months.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland VicRoads Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ High
LV14	Encourage Melbourne Water to ensure that all new drains are consistent with the ESO, go through a planning permit process, demonstrate sensitive design emphasising use of natural rock or other visually pleasing elements, as well as incorporating necessary drainage and water-sensitive urban design treatments.	MCMC	Member Councils	\$ High
LV15	Enforce a no-encroachments policy to prevent unsightly encroachments into waterway parkland.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High

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LV16	Seek discussions with the Powerlines Relocation Committee (Department of Treasury and Finance) to develop proposals and seek funding assistance to relocate, remove or underground powerlines, focussing initially on lower voltage lines in the urban catchment initially downstream of Mahoneys Road.	Darebin Moreland	MCMC	\$ Medium
LV17	Establish new buffer and screen plantings to screen other visually intrusive structures and sites, with the aim of enhancing the visual amenity values of the Creek environment.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra		\$\$ Medium
LV18	When opportunities arise encourage Melbourne Water to investigate and improve the visual appearance of their existing outfall drains. Include investigation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Outfall of Edwardes Lake; Sumner Avenue Main Drain; ● Ainslie Road Drain; Campbellfield Creek diversion Drain; ● Fawkner East Main Drain; Elizabeth Street Main Drain; Harding Street Main Drain; The Avenue Main Drain; Glenlyon Road Main Drain; ● Lygon Street/Park Street Diversion Main Drain; Green Street Main Drain; Alexandra Parade Main Drain. 	Darebin Hume Moreland Yarra	MCMC MW	\$ Medium

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 2.1 (LB) - Biodiversity and Habitat Networks				
LB1	Prepare a biodiversity plan for the whole Merri catchment by 2010 to inform individual Councils' own biodiversity and revegetation plans. Incorporate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - collection of data for baseline targets for the catchment, including remnant vegetation on Council land, and vegetation quality assessment. - a revegetation strategy for the catchment which achieves regional and catchment targets, and investigating use of the planning scheme to protect/enhance corridors, - a review of the habitat corridor network considering focal species using the network and producing guidelines for design and management. 	MCMC	Member Councils	\$\$ Very High
LB2	Assess additional planning scheme protection needed to protect threatened native vegetation and to achieve net gain, and establish the new controls by 2010. (see Native Vegetation Plan Management Action Target MAT4).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DSE	\$\$ Very High
LB3	Advocate for the reservation of high priority EVC's, especially those of State or National significance.	Hume MCMC Mitchell Whittlesea	DSE	\$ Very High
LB4	Fully and consistently apply the native vegetation clearance controls as outlined in the planning scheme, guidance notes and Native Vegetation Plan by 2009 (see Native Vegetation Plan Management Action Target MAT2).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DSE	\$ High
LB5	Establish or continue education programs for local communities including local contractors about the native vegetation clearing controls (see Native Vegetation Plan Management Action Target MAT3).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DSE	\$\$ High
LB6	Set up monitoring and enforcement programs for the native vegetation clearing controls (see Native Vegetation Plan Management Action Target MAT3).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DSE	\$\$ High
LB7	Check for and if necessary resolve conflicting planning scheme overlays including those between wildfire management overlays and environmental/vegetation overlays by 2007 (see Native Vegetation Plan Management Action Target MAT6).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DSE	\$ High
LB8	Establish policy or strategy which identifies a preference for the use of appropriate local native species in landscape plantings on private and public land (to achieve Native Vegetation Plan Management Action Target MAT20).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DSE	\$ High
LB9	Provide information to households and businesses regarding the protection and planting of local native species and the control of environmental weeds. (adapted from Native Vegetation Plan Management Action Target MAT21).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DSE	\$\$ High

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
LB10	Ensure revegetation programs contribute to regional, catchment and municipal targets.	Darebin Hume MCMC Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	DSE PPWCMA	\$ High
LB11	Revise "Plants of the Merri Merri", republish it and also make it available on MCMC's website.	MCMC		\$\$ High
LB12	Encourage DSE to prepare Merri catchment-wide management plans for important endangered species in the catchment, including Growling Grass Frog and Golden Sun Moth. These plans should be based on national and State recovery plans and action plans but provide more detail about what needs to be done locally.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC DSE	\$\$ High
LB13	Liaise with Trust for Nature to investigate ways to increase the use of covenants to protect remnant vegetation in the catchment.	MCMC	DSE	\$ High
LB14	Continue to monitor rare species populations in the catchment as part of region-wide surveys and existing programs within resources.	DSE	MCMC	\$\$ High
LB15	Develop a strategic approach to net gain offsets in the Merri Catchment.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC	\$ High
LB16	Conduct coordinated education, awareness and compliance campaign to stop soil dumping.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC	High
LB17	Prepare municipal biodiversity strategies incorporating revegetation plans and outlining how municipal programs will contribute to regional and catchment biodiversity goals by 2012. (see Native Veg Plan Management Action Target MAT19). These strategies should draw on the Catchment wide plan to be prepared by MCMC. Revegetation plans must focus on the EVCs that are depleted below five percent of their original extent and on the establishment of corridors and buffers to increase the extent of all Endangered EVCs. They should also link with any Biodiversity Action Plans developed by DSE.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DSE	\$\$ Medium
LB18	Provide demonstrations and on-site information in urban areas regarding the values of native vegetation (see Native Vegetation Plan Management Action Target MAT23).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DSE	\$\$ Medium
LB19	Monitor effectiveness of native vegetation management by undertaking 5-yearly habitat hectare assessments, and feed these into catchment-wide and regional statistics.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ Medium

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 2.2 (LG) - Geodiversity				
LG1	Investigate appropriate planning controls for protection of sites of geological significance.	MCMC	Councils	\$ High
LG2	Ensure Council planning departments have relevant geological site information.	MCMC		\$ High
LG3	Commission survey for sites of geological or geomorphological significance on Merri Creek tributaries and in the headwaters of Merri Creek. Report should also review the already known sites' significance and conservation.	MCMC		\$\$ Medium
LG4	After investigation (see action LG1) include geological sites in planning scheme controls.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ Medium
LG5	Include educational material about the catchment's geology and geological sites on the MCMC website.	MCMC		\$ Medium
LG6	Design and install on-site interpretation of geological sites where they are easily accessible to the public.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ Medium
LG7	Investigate the relevance of the UNESCO geopark idea to the Merri Catchment.	MCMC	Councils	\$ Low

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 2.3 (LL) - Land Management			
LL1 Undertake best practice management of weeds and pest animals on own land and managed land as required by the CaLP Act.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC Friends Groups Landcare Groups DPI	\$\$ High
LL2 Reduce the spread of weeds by machinery and equipment (from Port Phillip and Westernport Weed Action Plan).	Darebin Hume MCMC Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	DPI	\$ High
LL3 Inspect land and promptly notify relevant contacts when a new and emerging weed species is detected, and assist government departments to control and monitor infestations of new and emerging weeds. (from Port Phillip and Westernport Weed Action Plan)	Darebin Hume MCMC MDLG Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	Friends Groups DPI	\$ High
LL4 Implement initiatives to increase the community's awareness of new and emerging weeds species and their management, ways to reduce the spread of weeds (from Port Phillip and Westernport Weed Action Plan).	Darebin Hume MCMC MDLG Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	Friends Groups DSE DPI PPWCMA	\$ High
LL5 Investigate/enhance incentive mechanisms e.g. rate rebate schemes to encourage good land management including pest control. (From Port Phillip and Westernport Weed Action Plan)	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	DSE DPI MCMC PPWCMA	\$\$ High
LL6 Where appropriate develop local laws to complement weed control programs. (From Port Phillip and Westernport Weed Action Plan)	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
LL7 Undertake appropriate training in noxious and environmental weed identification and management including management responsibilities through accredited training providers e.g. Greening Australia, TAFE, ACE. (From Port Phillip and Westernport Weed Action Plan)	Darebin Hume MCMC Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra		\$ High

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
LL8	Land managers to plan and implement rabbit, fox and cat control works, preferably as part of a coordinated local program in partnership with other land managers and organisations. (In part from Port Phillip and Westernport Rabbit Action Plan)	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ High
LL9	Major land management organisations to participate in annual regional and catchment planning processes so that works programs are coordinated and synergistic. (From Port Phillip and Westernport Rabbit Action Plan)	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC PPWCMA	\$ High
LL10	Encourage Melbourne Water to address gully erosion in the upper Kalkallo Creek, including increased adoption of Stream Frontage Management Program by private landholders.	Mitchell	MCMC MW	\$ High
LL11	Ensure pest management is a component of all public land plans (from DNRE 2002d, p9).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	LandownersL andcare MCMC Friends Groups DSE	\$ Medium
LL12	Provide integrated priority pest control projects delivering long term outcomes (from Port Phillip and Westernport Weed Action Plan).	MCMC MDLG PV	Councils	\$\$ Medium
LL13	Where appropriate assist with the conduct of high priority pest research projects. (From Port Phillip and Westernport Weed Action Plan)	Darebin Hume MCMC MDLG Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	DPI DSE	\$ Medium
LL14	Land managers to participate in training in rabbit control, monitoring and assessment techniques. (From Port Phillip and Westernport Rabbit Action Plan)	Darebin Hume MCMC Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	DPI DSE	\$ Medium
LL15	Commission research to better understand the role of salinity in the catchment, and the threat to catchment values. ● Prepare report for PPWP catchment	DPI		\$ Medium

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 2.4 (RU) - Headwaters to Craigieburn Road East				
RU1	Establish a working group of local government strategic planning and conservation officers to work with DSE and Melbourne Water to determine planning measures and other mechanisms for identification and protection of significant sites and habitat links for the reach.	Hume Mitchell MW Whittlesea	MCMC PPWCMA DSE	\$ Very High
RU2	Encourage Melbourne Water to undertake a short feasibility study of the Hernes Swamp area (as defined by Schulz and Webster), to determine measures able to be implemented to return the site to a more natural marshy herbfield condition, protect significant flora and fauna, and to improve the water quality of Merri Creek.	MCMC Mitchell	DSE	\$ Very High
RU3	Examine open space and conservation needs north of Craigieburn Rd East and develop strategies for its consolidation and development.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC DSE PV	\$\$ Very High
RU4	Negotiate with governments and landowners to secure protection for Hernes, Inverlochy, Gas & Fuel and Camoola swamps.	MCMC	Mitchell Hume Whittlesea DSE	\$ Very High
RU5	Encourage Melbourne Water to implement a Stream Frontage Management Program for the reach focussing on priority sites (Hernes Swamp, Bald Hill, Kalkallo to Craigieburn) to assist land owners to protect creek frontages.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	DSE MCMC PPWCMA	\$\$ High
RU6	Actively participate in negotiations to develop a site management plan for future quarrying at Bald Hill so that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • important grassland areas might be conserved; • populations of Carex tasmanica are maintained; • fencing is undertaken; • habitat of Grassland Earless Dragon is preserved; and • creek water quality and River Blackfish populations protected. 	Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC MW Boral DSE	\$ High
RU7	Ensure protection of the significant biological and habitat values at Kalkallo Common through statutory planning and site management planning measures.	Hume	MCMC DSE	\$\$ High
RU8	Ensure in the preparation of Local Structure Plans for developable land between Hume Highway and Merri Creek that impacts of development on significant sites and the stream environment are addressed.	Hume Mitchell	MCMC MW DSE	\$\$ High
RU9	Investigate appropriate planning controls to prevent rock removal from sites of regional faunal significance and above as mapped by Schulz and Webster (1991) and Beardsell (1997) and refer the matter to the forum established under RU1.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC DSE	\$ High
RU10	Investigate a wider application of rate incentive schemes for sympathetic land management to help preserve flora and fauna values.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC	\$\$ High
RU11	Promote Landcare, Land for Wildlife and Bush Tender programs, as well as Conservation Covenants to rural landholders within the reach to provide improved protection of stream and other habitats and significant flora and fauna species.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	Hume Whittlesea MCMC DSE PPWCMA	\$ High
RU12	Enforcement of the planning scheme provisions for protection of Redgums and grassland sites in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mt Ridley area, and Craigieburn • Wollert 	Hume Whittlesea	DSE MCMC	\$ High
RU13	Develop a habitat corridor along Malcolm Creek between Hume Highway and Merri Creek.	Hume	MCMC MW DSE	\$\$\$ High
RU14	Identify areas suitable for revegetation/restoration to achieve 1000 additional hectares of native vegetation in the catchment by 2030, of types which would contribute to regional, catchment and municipal targets. See also Action LB1.	MCMC	Mitchell Hume Whittlesea	\$ High

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
RU15	Encourage DSE to continue to implement the actions in the Merriang Local Biodiversity Plan.	Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC DSE	\$ High
RU16	Investigate other ways to support private landowners who manage remnant vegetation on their properties sympathetically.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea		\$\$ High

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 2.5 (RM) - Craigieburn Road East to Mahoneys Road				
RM1	Ensure implementation of the Merri Creek Park proposal to provide an open space access link through the Merri Creek corridor south of Craigieburn Rd East.	Hume PV Whittlesea	MCMC	\$\$\$ Very High
RM2	Where possible prior to development, but also as development proceeds, seek opportunities to reserve open space along the creek within this reach of the Merri Creek corridor and its tributaries.	Hume Whittlesea	MCMC	\$ Very High
RM3	Develop an action program for protection of the sites identified in Beardsell (1997), DSE (2005) and other reports, and habitat links between them.	Hume PV Whittlesea	MCMC DSE	\$\$ High
RM4	Finalise the Concept Plan for the proposed Merri Creek Park.	PV	Whittlesea Hume MCMC FOMC MW	\$ High
RM5	Develop a Merri Creek Park Management Plan and detailed site management plans for grassland sites within the Merri Creek Park.	PV	MCMC Hume	\$\$ High
RM6	Continue to establish and maintain screen plantings below Sarah Street frontage to escarpment of Merri Gorge and work with Melbourne Water to encourage them to do so on their land.	Hume	MCMC MW FOMC	\$\$ High
RM7	In line with recommendations of the Galada Tamboore Future Directions Plan, seek means to prevent unauthorised vehicle access to the Galada Tamboore site from external roads and other entry points as a key initial step in the site's management.	Hume PV Whittlesea	MCMC MW	\$\$ High
RM8	Encourage Melbourne Water to implement other recommended actions arising from the Galada Tamboore Future Directions Plan.	Hume Whittlesea	MCMC PV MW	\$\$\$ High
RM9	Implement actions from agreed site plans to restore flora and fauna values, and continue to maintain remnant and restored areas.		MCMC PV MW	\$\$ High
	● Hatty Court Reserve Concept Plan	Hume		
RM10	Implement actions to prevent rubbish dumping at known problem spots within the reach:		MCMC	\$ High
	● - Barry Road area, Campbellfield; - Horne Street Campbellfield; and - Jessica Street Campbellfield.	Hume		
	● - O'herns Road	PV		
	● - off Trawalla Ave Thomastown	Whittlesea		
RM11	Work with MW to investigate opportunities for sediment control and water quality improvement in the vicinity of the Campbellfield Landfill Disposal Site.	Hume	MCMC MW	\$ High
RM12	Prepare and publish a Merri Creek and Tributaries Open Space manual comprising: - recommended standard designs and landscape development treatments; - guidelines for revegetation and remnant vegetation management; - guidelines for location and design of facilities. (see also Action RL5)	Hume Whittlesea	MCMC	\$\$ High
RM13	Ensure planning and delivery staff are trained in natural area and cultural site management.	Hume Whittlesea	MCMC	\$\$ High
RM14	In the Aurora development area seek to have a habitat corridor through the site along Edgars Creek and linking to Curly Sedge Creek.	Whittlesea	MCMC	\$ High
RM15	Investigate long-term strategies (including a review of setbacks, title and easement infringements and potential for some acquisitions) for key blocks along the Sarah Street frontage to the escarpment of the Merri Gorge area downstream of Barry Road.	Hume	MW MCMC	\$\$ Medium

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
RM16 Improve habitat values along Edgars Creek.	Whittlesea	MCMC MW	\$\$ Medium

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 2.6 (RL) - Mahoneys Road to Yarra River				
RL1	<p>Prepare Development or Management Plans as required for development or consolidation of open space at the following primary nodal points where land use is not at issue, or following the resolution of such issues and those of land ownership (if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Merri Creek, St. Georges Road to Rushall Station - all lands on both sides of the stream (with Moreland and Yarra); - Merri Creek, Lorne St/St. Basils and Newlands Road escarpment areas opposite - Zinnia Street to Carawa Drive (with Moreland); - Merri Creek, Phillips Reserve, Kirkdale Street Park, Sumner Park and whole of Merri Park (including its Crown Land) (with Moreland) - Merri Creek, Tate/Capp-Robinson/Egan/Strettle Reserves (with Moreland). - Merri Creek, Northcote Golf Course (with Moreland) - Merri Creek, Tate/Capp-Robinson/Egan/Strettle Reserves (with Darebin); - Merri Creek, Coburg Lake Reserve to Bell Street; - Merri Creek, Phillips Reserve, Kirkdale Street Park, Sumner Park and whole of Merri Park (including its Crown Land) (with Darebin); - Merri Creek, Lorne St/St. Basils and Newlands Road escarpment areas opposite - Zinnia Street to Carawa Drive (with Darebin) - Edgars Creek, north of the Merri confluence to the ex-Kodak bridge - Merri Creek, St. Georges Road to Rushall Station - all lands on both sides of the stream (with Darebin and Moreland) 	Darebin Moreland Yarra	MCMC MW	\$\$ High
RL2	<p>Continue to implement existing Development/Management Plans as they apply to Council's management of open space at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Central Creek vicinity and native grassland remnant; - Broadhurst Avenue to Edwardes Lake Park including Edgars Creek wetlands; - Jukes Road Grassland (with PV input); - Moomba Park and associated lands; - CERES site approaches etc; - Allard Park/Jones Park/Roberts Reserve - Hall Reserve/Quarries Reserve 	Darebin Moreland Yarra	MCMC CERES	\$\$ High
RL3	Conduct a triennial review of land ownership and zoning along Merri Creek and major tributaries below Mahoneys Road to monitor opportunities to consolidate the open space corridors.	MCMC	Yarra Moreland Darebin MW	\$ High

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost		
RL4	<p>Develop agreements to provide access through the following sites, or secure their whole or partial tenure for an open space, conservation or urban floodway function by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> clarification of ownership and planning anomalies at the time of review of Planning Schemes; development of appropriate zoning; negotiation with owners at the time of rezoning; or through land purchase. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The urban floodway zone adjacent to Central Creek Reservoir; - Cunningham Street Northcote (Monumental Masons site - potential rezoning at change of land use - aim to secure increased creek frontage); - Elizabeth Street Northcote rear shed which abuts corridor (potential rezoning at change of land use - aim to secure increased creek frontage); - Beavers Road to Arthurton Road, including especially Goldsmith Grove, Northcote (potential rezoning at change of land use of printing factory -with aim of securing increased creek frontage) <p>Also parcels of agreed urban floodway zone lacking a formal exchange of titles including.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Florence Court to B. T. Connor Reserve, Reservoir; - Broadhurst Avenue to Lakeside Secondary College, Reservoir; - Edwardes Street to opposite Queens Parade. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CERES creek frontage Brunswick (currently PPOS, General Industrial); - Parts of former F2 freeway reservation between Mahoneys Road and Bell Street which have not been rezoned (eg. Moomba Park Fawkner; Jukes Road, Fawkner; Derby Street, Fawkner; Bell Street, West Preston at bridge); - Land at end of Queens Parade, Fawkner; - land between Trade and Acheson Places, North Coburg; - Golf Road, Coburg; - West bank Edgars Creek - Murray Road upstream to the ex-Kodak land, Coburg (currently PPOS); - Booth Street to Bell Street (east side) <p>Also parcels of agreed urban floodway zone lacking a formal exchange of titles (eg.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> land between Trade and Acheson Places, North Coburg. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - North and south of Barkly Street, North Fitzroy. 	Darebin	Moreland	Yarra	MCMC PV MW	High
RL5	Prepare and publish a Merri Creek Open Space manual comprising:	Darebin Moreland Yarra	MCMC MW	\$\$	High	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recommended standard designs and landscape development treatments; - guidelines for revegetation and remnant vegetation management; - guidelines for location and design of facilities and public art. 					
RL6	Ensure planning (environment management officers, statutory planners) and delivery staff (bush crews, park management staff and contractors) are trained in natural area and cultural site management.	Darebin MCMC Moreland Yarra		\$\$	High	

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
RL7	<p>Develop Plans for the following list of secondary nodal sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lands on the Brunswick and North Fitzroy side of the creek downstream of Sumner Park to St. Georges Road, and the (mostly privately owned) Northcote side of the creek downstream of Merri Park to St. Georges Road (with Moreland and Yarra); - B. T. Connor Reserve to Brex Court; - Lakeside Secondary College and lands opposite and downstream (with Moreland); - Lands on both side of the creek from Rushall Station to Heidelberg Road including all Crown land and the steep slopes and escarpment areas below Coulson Reserve and the Knott Athletic field in Clifton Hill (with Yarra). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parker Reserve and lands opposite (Coburg Drive-In); - Lands on the Brunswick and North Fitzroy side of the creek downstream of Sumner Park to St. Georges Road, and the (mostly privately owned) Northcote side of the creek downstream of Merri Park to St. Georges Road (with Darebin and Yarra), extending the Melbourne Water Improvement Project plans to include adjacent open space; - Lakeside Secondary College and lands opposite and downstream (with Darebin) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lands on both side of the creek from Rushall Station to Heidelberg Road including all Crown land and the steep slopes and escarpment areas below Coulson Reserve and the Knott Athletic field in Clifton Hill (with Darebin); - Lands on the Brunswick and North Fitzroy side of the creek downstream of Sumner Park to St. Georges Road, and the (mostly privately owned) Northcote side of the creek downstream of Merri Park to St. Georges Road (with Darebin and Moreland) 	Darebin		Medium
RL8	Review status and relevance of node plans where they are 10 years old or older.	Darebin Moreland Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ Medium

CODE ACTION		Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 3.1 (WH) - Stream Morphology, Drainage and Flood Management				
WH1	Ongoing control of development of land within the 1% flood zone through observance of the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay, the Special Building Overlay and the Urban Floodway Zone in Council planning decisions.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
WH2	Ensure reporting of the implementation of Stormwater Management Plans and investigate the potential for additional measures to manage run-off from existing urban infrastructure.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
WH3	Assess the incidence of Desert Ash in the catchment, its impacts on the riparian fringe of the stream and investigate appropriate action to reduce the seed source, including replacement of Desert Ash trees in streetscapes and as amenity plantings.	Darebin Hume Moreland Yarra	MW MCMC	\$\$ High

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 3.2 (WQ) - Water Quality and Stream Health			
WQ1 Working with Melbourne Water, investigate the feasibility of restoration of Hernes and Camoola Swamps and their management as wetlands serving a water quality improvement function.	Mitchell	DSE MCMC	\$ Very High
WQ2 Ensure implementation of measures recommended in Chapter 5 - Water Sensitive Urban Design - from the Best Practice Environmental Management Guidelines for Urban Stormwater (Stormwater Committee in prep).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DI EPA	\$\$\$ High
WQ3 Encourage EPA to conduct a regular review of discharge licences within the context of an EPA 'pollution hot spots' program and monitor old tip sites along the stream for discharges.	MCMC		\$\$ High
WQ4 Host Waterwatch Coordinator for Merri Creek and involve schools and community groups in Waterwatch activities.	MCMC	Mitchell Whittlesea Hume Moreland Darebin Yarra MW	\$\$ High
WQ5 Encourage Melbourne Water to follow through with the construction of visually sensitive litter traps on Merlynston Creek, the Sumner Avenue Main Drain and Coburg Lake.	Darebin Moreland	MCMC	\$ High
WQ6 Encourage Melbourne Water to install toxicant treatment traps on other drains implicated in the Pettigrove & Hoffman 2003 study, i.e. Ainslie Road Drain, Merrilands Drain and the Thomastown Drain.	Hume Whittlesea	MCMC	\$ High
WQ7 Encourage Melbourne Water and EPA to investigate the feasibility of removal of heavy metals from sediments in Merri Creek.	MCMC	Mitchell Hume Moreland Whittlesea Darebin Yarra	\$ High
WQ8 Identify roads generating most polluted runoff and prioritise treatment of runoff from these roads as part of Stormwater Management Plan reviews.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ High
WQ9 Develop a litter strategy for the waterways of the Merri Catchment including identification of litter hotspots and priority treatment of identified problem areas.	MCMC	Mitchell	\$\$ High
WQ10 Encourage Yarra Valley Water to assess any impacts on the water quality of Merri Creek caused by runoff or groundwater infiltration from future expansion of the Wallan Sewerage Treatment Plant.	MCMC Mitchell		\$\$ Medium
WQ11 Label every significant drain entering waterways of the catchment with a sign including a unique identification number for the sign and the EPA pollution watch phone number.	MCMC	EPA MW Councils	\$\$ Medium
WQ12 Encourage VicRoads to monitor the effectiveness of the wetlands along the Craigieburn Bypass for the next few decades and to publish the results.	MCMC		\$ Medium

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 3.3 (WF) - Aquatic Flora, Fauna and Wetlands				
WF1	Encourage Mebourne Water to research environmental flow requirements consistent with the requirements of the SEPP for the Waters of the Yarra catchment (Schedule F7), and investigate instream barriers, quarries and impoundments in the northern catchment for effects on environmental flows.	MCMC	DSE	\$\$ High
WF2	Examine options for wetland creation and restoration for habitat with a view to increasing the number of wetlands in the catchment.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MW MCMC	\$\$ High
WF3	Encourage Dept of Human Services to investigate extent and impacts of heavy metal buildup on streamlife and risk to humans from consumption of fish.	MCMC	MW	\$ Medium
WF4	Further investigate options for the construction of a fish ladder at Edwardes Lake.	Darebin	MCMC	\$ Medium
WF5	Assist DPI & DSE to investigate and record the diversity of native freshwater fish species in the region and the extent and health of the populations, and establish links between this data and planning approvals processes. (From PPWRCS BA14)	Darebin Hume MCMC Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	DSE DPI	\$ Medium
WF6	Investigate potential to modify lakes to achieve improved habitat and fringing riparian vegetation: ● Maintain and consolidate work at Coburg Lake	MCMC MW Moreland		\$ Low
WF7	Encourage Melbourne Water to investigate the potential for reintroduction of platypus into areas of suitable habitat.	MCMC	DSE MCMC	\$ Low
WF8	Encourage DSE to investigate the potential for reintroduction of appropriate native fish species (eg. Southern Pygmy Perch) into areas of suitable habitat.	MCMC	MW MCMC	\$ Low

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 4.1 (CE) - Community Engagement				
CE1	Develop a Merri Creek Catchment Community Engagement Strategy to identify the most effective ways to engage the Merri Creek communities in catchment issues and to discover and understand target communities existing wants.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ Very High
CE2	Develop community liaison and participation in major events such Arbor Week, Planting Festivals, Clean up Australia Day, Kingfisher Festival.	Darebin Hume MCMC Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	PV FOMC MCMC FOWC	\$\$\$ High
CE3	Support the operation and promotion of Friends of Merri Creek, as part of support for MCMC, in order to provide additional community involvement activities (eg. planting days, litter collection, walks and talks etc.)	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC FOMC PV	\$\$ High
CE4	Continue to support the establishment of smaller site or purpose specific community groups to achieve local Creek improvement and development purposes e.g. Friends of Aitken Creek, Friends of Sacred Kingfisher, MECARG, FOEdC.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC PV FOMC	\$ High
CE5	Develop recreation and education programs using the creek environment - history and land-use; - flora and fauna; - geological sites; - water quality; and - environmental monitoring.	MCMC	CERES FOMC Member Councils	\$\$ High
CE6	Develop and implement education programs for culturally and linguistically diverse and other target user groups.	Darebin Hume MCMC Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC PV CERES FOMC	\$\$ High
CE7	Develop and implement school liaison and environmental education programs (eg: Waterwatch).	Darebin Hume MCMC Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC PV CERES	\$ High
CE8	Work with Port Phillip and Westernport CMA to support the ongoing operation of Landcare groups in the rural part of the catchment. ● Support existing groups and encourage them to expand to cover the small area in the north of Hume not now covered by a Landcare Group ● Support existing groups ● Support existing groups		MCMC Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	\$ High

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
CE9	Seek Aboriginal and ethnic community representation on advisory and management groups.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC FOMC	\$ High
CE10	Continue to involve community in planning and design processes of local open space near the creeks, where appropriate (e.g. Merri Park Wetlands)	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC FOMC FOWC	\$ High
CE11	Provide as part of site works, and in accordance with the signage plan, informative interpretation at appropriate locations along the creek and within appropriate open space management areas. (E.g. Hall Reserve Wetland signage)	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DSE MW WTLCCCHC	\$\$ High
CE12	Continue to promote opportunities for further community involvement in restoration within the Creek corridors (e.g. festivals, planting, weeding, harvesting, surveying days).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC FOMC FOWC	\$ High
CE13	Brief MCMC staff and officers, and relevant Council and agency officers about the findings of the Community Engagement Strategy	MCMC		\$ High
CE14	Continue to promote facilities (e.g. Merri Path, picnic areas) and open space areas (e.g. Hall Reserve Clifton Hill, Galada Tamboore) along waterways by improved community information such as talks, brochures, advertising, signage, websites etc.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC FOMC FOWC	\$\$ Medium
CE15	Investigate potential for an interpretation centre and interpretation programs between Craigieburn and Campbellfield in the new Merri Creek Park.	Hume PV Whittlesea	MCMC DSE	\$\$\$ Medium
CE16	Undertake an oral history recording program focussing on stories and natural and cultural history of the Merri Creek and tributaries.	FOMC MCMC	WTLCCCHC AAV Darebin Hume Moreland Mitchell Whittlesea Yarra State Library Museum Maya AAL	\$ Medium
CE17	Undertake a survey of creek users to establish usage patterns and determine demand for further facilities.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ Medium

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
CE18 Undertake collaborative programs with CERES, Moreland Energy Foundation and other sustainability organisations to promote environmental sustainability and reduce the ecological footprint of people in the catchment.	MCMC		\$\$ Medium

CODE ACTION		Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 4.2 (CR) - Recreation				
CR1	In accordance with the revised Merri Creek Plan (see Action MP2) and the Development Guidelines for the Merri Creek (see Action MP5 and 11), continue to develop creek open space on Council owned land for passive recreation (eg. walking and observing and enjoying nature).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC FOWC	\$\$\$ High
CR2	Conduct programs for users not normally catered for, eg. elderly, non english speaking background, people with disabilities.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC FOMC	\$\$ High
CR3	In accordance with Council policy, enforce, monitor and review pet control by-laws requiring pets to be on leads within public lands along the Merri Creek corridor, except at otherwise designated sites.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
CR4	Continue to build linear parkland north along the Merri Creek and along major tributaries by acquiring Creek frontage lands as opportunities arise, including properties which interrupt an otherwise continuous parkland corridor on both sides of the waterways.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$\$ High
CR5	Promote the passive recreation potential and use of the Creek corridor parklands through:community events; festivals; interpretation of natural and cultural features.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC CERES FOMC FOWC	\$ Medium
CR6	Develop programs which utilise the waterway's passive open space, eg: school holiday programs; group excursions; activity days.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC CERES FOMC FOWC	\$\$ Medium
CR7	Investigate provision of environmental and interpretive programs for: special interest groups; environment monitoring; planting days.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC FOMC CERES FOWC	\$ Medium
CR8	Develop sportsground perimeters on Council land as passive open space with a natural theme to complement the creek corridors and their open space.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC Sporting Clubs	\$\$ Medium
CR9	Develop strategies for managing 'wild & informal' bush play without ruining the wild and creative aspects of what kids do already, but to keep the damage to habitat and facilities, and the risks, to acceptable levels.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ Medium
CR10	Develop facilities and provide access to the creek open space for residents of Roxburgh Park and Craigieburn through Aitken and Malcolm Creeks and investigate use of Patullos Lane.	Hume	MCMC	\$\$ Low

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
CR11 Where water quality is sufficient, provide water-based (secondary contact - i.e. fishing and boating) passive recreation opportunities at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jack Roper Reserve ● Coburg Lake Reserve 		MCMC Hume Moreland	\$ Low

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 4.3 (CT) - Trails and Access			
CT1 Jointly publish a map of the Merri Creek and its open space showing: - entry points/public facilities; - transport routes. ● Mahoneys Road north ● Mahoneys Road north		MCMC BUG PV MW Hume Whittlesea	\$ High
CT2 Prepare an integrated signage strategy for the Merri Creek to facilitate consistency of approach to signage. (see also CS9). The plan should be consistent with Trail Review recommendations B5.3.1 to B5.3.5, but also encompass northern municipalities. Types of signage considered should include: - warning, regulatory and directional signage; - interpretive signage; - access/exit points and links to other trails along waterways and rail lines; - directions to facilities near the creek; - distances to next pedestrian/bike crossing of the Creek; - directions to and from major roads. The strategy should consider that signage can have a major impact on the landscape character we are trying to create. Signage should be used sparingly, designed sensitively and placed carefully.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	FOMC MCMC BUG Hume Whittlesea Yarra	\$ High
CT3 Following publication of the final Merri Creek Park Concept Plan by PV (see Action RM4), work with PV to carry out feasibility study and design for a trail between Craigieburn along Merri Creek to join the existing Merri Creek Trail at Mahoneys Road, and including a circuit walk around Galada Tamboore linked to residential areas to the east and west.	Hume PV Whittlesea	VicRoads MCMC	\$ High
CT4 Review the actions listed here in the light of the final Merri Creek Trail Review, and begin implementing actions.	Darebin Moreland Yarra	MCMC PV MW	\$\$\$ High
CT5 In accordance with the Merri Creek Signage Strategy (see action CT2), and in line with the Trail Review, put in place clear signage along Creeks including: - access/exit points and links to other trails along waterways and rail lines; - shared trail designation; - directions to facilities near the creek; - distances to next pedestrian/bike crossing of the Creek; - directions to and from major roads.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC BUG Hume Whittlesea Yarra	\$\$ Medium
CT6 Investigate areas for potential access improvements in consultation with interest groups, following assessment of areas requiring improvement, especially steep grades.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ Medium
CT7 After completion of the feasibility study (see Action CT3) extend the Merri Path from Mahoneys Road to Craigieburn, starting at the southern end.	Hume PV Whittlesea	MCMC WTLCCHC	\$ Medium
CT8 Develop detailed plans for public access along Edgars Creek, including trail link from Merri Creek to Edwardes Lake.	Darebin Moreland	MW MCMC	\$ Medium
CT9 Provide access from Coburg Senior High School to Merri Path.	Moreland	MCMC Moreland City College	\$\$ Medium
CT10 Provide a link from Merri Path to Moonee Ponds Creek Trail along Rennie Street Coburg, possibly in conjunction with a bridge to link with Fyffe Street or Miller Street Thornbury.	Moreland	MCMC	\$\$ Medium

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
CT11	When Amalgamated Stone is re-developed, negotiate access route for off-road trail between Cunningham Street and McLaughlan Street and construct trail standard off-road trail, linking Rushall Station and St Georges Road, consistent with Merri Creek Trail Review recommendations.	Darebin PV Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ Medium
CT12	Consistent with Council Disability Action Plans, as opportunities arise on Council owned land implement disabled access to trails and open space, providing this is feasible and consistent with park objectives .	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ Low
CT13	Investigate opportunities for bush walking/trekking trails and links and overnight camping areas between Beveridge and Wallan and Craigieburn.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MCMC PV FOWC	\$ Low
CT14	Establish links from the Merri Path to other trails or potential trails: ● Malcolm Creek; Aitken Creek; Roxburgh Park ● Merlynston Creek	Hume Moreland	MCMC VicRoads	\$\$\$ Low
CT15	Following detailed plan development, construct trail link from Merri Creek along Edgars Creek to Edwardes Lake.	Darebin Moreland	MW MCMC	\$\$\$ Low
CT16	Investigate assigning a speed limit to the Merri Creek Trail	Darebin Moreland Yarra	MCMC	\$ High

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 4.4 (CS) - Public Safety			
CS1 Develop and implement a Fire Management Plan for the outer urban part of the Merri Creek Valley in consultation with MFB.	Darebin Hume Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC MFB PowerNet	\$ Very High
CS2 Implement a 'Merri Watch' program on Merri Creek and its tributaries for: - rubbish dumping; - unrestrained dogs (especially those unregistered); - trail bike surveillance and reporting; - public safety; and - possible planning infringements	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC MW VicPolice	\$ High
CS3 Promote a positive interface (see Merri Creek Design Guidelines standard MC5 and MC14) in design of new urban and industrial developments near creeks so surveillance is possible from adjacent housing (see further section 5.1).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MW MCMC	\$ High
CS4 Construct and maintain Council facilities (eg. paths, crossings) to required standards (eg. paths above 5 year floodline, crossings above 10 year floodline where velocity and depth criteria can be met), in order to reduce exposure to risks, especially those associated with flood events (see also CT4).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MW MCMC	\$ High
CS5 Design major open space nodes (see section 2.6 - Mahoneys Road to the Yarra River), to encourage a focus of use at those locations and improve security.	Darebin Moreland Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
CS6 Research available data on safety in public open space, including former quarries and fill areas – also research studies of 'over-protection' for safety, and the longer term consequences to human / personal development.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
CS7 Undertake periodic discussions with Police through existing By-Laws officer forums or others, to ascertain current patrols of Creek open space, communicate matters requiring attention and seek increase in patrols as required.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC VicPolice	\$ High
CS8 Involve the community where possible, in open space design and development to achieve outcomes supported by the community and improve community desire to care for waterway open space.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland PV Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
CS9 As part of the Signage Strategy (see Action CT2) plan for and provide information to the community, including by signage, to indicate where possible nearest safe area, telephone, water and toilets as well as numbers to call in an emergency.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ High
CS10 Council By-Law Officers increase surveillance of and education and enforcement activity in creek corridors to address problems of unrestrained and unregistered dogs.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
CS11	Improve signage indicating that all the Merri Path is on-lead.	Darebin Moreland Yarra	MCMC MW	\$\$ High
CS12	Ensure that lighting does not affect Conservation Parkland and Conservation Bushland so that impacts on habitat values are minimised.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$ Medium
CS13	Investigate appointment of ranger for creek corridors to improve public safety, provide interpretation and possibly enforce bylaws.	Darebin Hume Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$\$ Low

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
<h2>Chapter 5.1 (MP) - Planning</h2>			
MP1 Include waterway, drainage, regional flood management, open space and other waterway corridor issues in strategic growth corridor planning exercises.	Hume Mitchell Whittlesea	MW MCMC	\$ Very High
MP2 Prepare a new Merri Waterways Plan consistent with the various open space strategies of Councils, Linking People and Places and the Merri Creek Park proposal, to guide strategic planning for waterway open space in the catchment.	MCMC	Member Councils PV	\$\$ Very High
MP3 Consider FOMC's Merri Creek Habitat Network proposal, adopt a formal position and make input to the Melbourne@5 million investigation to ensure waterway open space, environmental protection and catchment management are taken fully into account.	Hume MCMC Mitchell Whittlesea	FOMC FOWC	\$ Very High
MP4 Align future plans developed in the catchment with this strategy.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	High
MP5 Update and make available copies of the "Development Guidelines for the Merri Creek." to development proponents and consultants.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DI	\$ High
MP6 Prepare Developer Guidelines for industrial areas along waterways in the upper catchment.	Hume Mitchell	MCMC MW	\$\$ High
MP7 Pursue opportunities to Identify, prioritise and introduce Public Acquisition Overlays on land that should be acquired as part of the Merri Creek waterways parklands, then pursue funding for public open space acquisition to realise the vision for waterways and creation of linked parklands.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$\$\$ High
MP8 Conduct triennial reviews of land ownership and zoning along Merri Creek and major tributaries to monitor opportunities to consolidate the open space corridors.	MCMC	Member Councils MW PV VicRoads	\$ High
MP9 Prepare strategic justification and introduce planning scheme amendments to extend ESO coverage to include all of the main stem of Merri Creek as well as the major tributaries, including adjacent areas of significance, and a buffer. Also reduce ESO coverage where recent development of large blocks adjacent to Merri Creek makes existing ESO coverage excessive.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ Very High
MP10 Strengthen the Development Guidelines by incorporating them into the ESO or otherwise into planning schemes.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC DPCD	\$ Very High
MP11 Apply and enforce the Development Guidelines for the Merri Creek to continue protecting the visual character of the corridor from new developments.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MW MCMC	\$ High

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
MP12	Align the directions and actions of the Regional Catchment Strategy with Municipal Strategic Statements, planning schemes and other local government processes related to catchment Management. (From Port Phillip and Western Port Regional Catchment Strategy action PA7)	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	PPWCMA MCMC	\$ High
MP13	Address zoning anomalies and inconsistencies as outlined in the Context 1993 Planning report (5.5, p. 43-4), the discussion in chapter 5.1 and the triennial review of zoning and ownership (see Action MP9).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea	MCMC	\$ Medium
MP14	Prepare a discussion paper on contributions from developers and how they can be used for land acquisition and/or upgrading of nearby Creek environs.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	Medium
MP15	Update references to the Merri Creek and Environs Strategy in planning schemes when the revision is approved by Councils.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ Medium
MP16	Advocate for planning scheme changes to make stormwater drains and wetlands works subject to a planning permit at least within the Environmental Significance Overlay.	MCMC		\$ Medium

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 5.2 (MC) - Management Coordination				
MC1	Prepare and supply annual report to Councils on MCMC works, achievement of MCMC objectives, and Merri Creek and Environs Strategy actions by MCMC.	MCMC		\$ High
MC2	Establish frequency of external review of management coordination structures to supply information to members about: - the achievement of agreed objectives; - the continuing relevance of objectives; and - any necessary re-setting of priorities and objectives.	Darebin FOMC Hume MCMC Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
MC3	Continue to identify and implement opportunities for resource sharing, cooperative management and avoidance of duplication between Councils and relevant agencies and utilities.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
MC4	Continue community involvement in management coordination structures covering Merri Creek.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
MC5	Review MCMC to identify the most efficient ways to: - Plan and conduct community involvement in integrated catchment management; - Facilitate coordination and share information; - Identify local issues and develop priority programs (Adapted from Port Phillip and Western Port Regional Catchment Strategy action PA1).	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	PPWCMA MCMC	\$ Medium
MC6	Explore opportunities for coordination between the four catchments covered by the Northern Waterways Review.	MCMC	MCMC	\$ Medium

CODE	ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 6.1 (MI) - Implementation				
MI1	After a MCMC coordinated public consultation process formally endorse and recognise the Merri Creek and Environs Strategy as a key document to guide catchment management. Ensure the relevant objectives, targets and actions are implemented in accordance with the intentions of the strategy. Commit to providing an officer to coordinate and report on Councils own implementation of the document and attend meetings of the Merri Creek and Environs Strategy Implementation Subcommitte of MCMC.	Darebin Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
MI2	Develop yearly priority activity plans to assist implementation of Strategy actions by major stakeholders and develop budget bids accordingly.	MCMC	Member Councils MW PV	\$ High
MI3	Convene MCESIS meetings to identify ways to facilitate implementation of actions.	MCMC	Councils	\$ High
MI4	Convene working parties of specialist council officers, other agency staff, and interested community members to forward implementation of groups of actions	MCMC	Councils Agencies	\$ High

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
Chapter 6.2 (MR) - Monitoring and Review Procedures			
MR1 MCMC Merri Creek and Environs Strategy Subcommittee to act as a forum for clarifying objectives, targets and actions, consolidating reports on progress, coordinating actions and reporting to MCMC and Councils on progress.	Member Councils FOWC FOMC	MCMC	\$ High
● Convene the subcommittee.			
MR2 Send a representative to and prepare reports for regular monitoring and review meetings of MCMC's Merri Creek and Environs Strategy Implementation Subcommittee convened to:	Darebin DSE EPA Hume Mitchell Moreland Whittlesea Yarra	MCMC	\$ High
- receive reports on progress with implementation of actions;			
- review and amend the contents and actions of the Strategy to continue to make it relevant to the needs of stakeholders; and			
- make any new recommendations for action as agreed between stakeholders and the accountable organisation.			
MR3 Publish this document as an interactive website, including the action tables and progress on the actions.	MCMC	Member Councils	\$ Medium
MR4 Prepare reviewed versions of the strategy every 5 years based on input from the Merri Creek and Environs Strategy Implementation Subcommittee, other agencies and the community and submit them to member Councils for modification or approval.	MCMC	Member Councils FoMC	\$\$ Low

CODE ACTION	Lead Role	Key partners	Notional Priority Cost
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