



City of Holdfast Bay
Environment Strategy 2020-2025

Phase 2 Community Engagement
Report





City of Holdfast Bay Environment Strategy 2020-2025

Phase 2 Community Engagement Report – Consultation on Draft Strategy

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Prepared for – City of Holdfast Bay

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1. Introduction

The City of Holdfast Bay is developing an Environment Strategy to provide a roadmap for Council's environmental initiatives and projects over the next five years. The aims of the Environment Strategy are to:

- Ensure an integrated and holistic approach to our environmental work.
- Build an actionable and achievable strategy to deliver on the Environment pillar of Council's Strategic Plan as well as integrate with the other pillars of Placemaking, Culture, Community and Economy.
- Help to prioritise Council's investment in environmental programs and guide Council's role.
- Engage and motivate the community to be forward thinking and involved in environmental care.

The consultancy brief for the project required that the Strategy is informed through engagement with the community and available evidence. The City of Holdfast Bay engaged Healthy Environs Pty Ltd to project manage the Strategy development and community engagement process.

The approach for the communication and engagement on the Strategy comprised of two phases:

Phase 1 – Community and Internal Feedback

The purpose of this phase was to gain high-level responses from the community, Elected Members and staff about their ideas and visions for our environment to shape the different themes within the Environment Strategy. The objective was to gain insights about the values held by community members as well as the actions they believe are important to take now in order to benefit the environment in the longer term.

A suite of engagement opportunities and mixed methods were used for this phase to ensure an inclusive cross-section of the community were able to contribute. The engagement approaches sought to elicit ideas, from small and detailed to big and visionary.

The outcomes of the Phase 1 consultation were detailed in the Environment Strategy Phase 1 Engagement Report (March 2020).

Phase 2 – Formal Public Consultation

The aim of Phase 2 was to:

- Obtain community and stakeholder feedback on the Draft Environment Strategy.
- Verify that the Strategy considers and responds to community priorities for the environment (from the consultation undertaken during Phase 1).
- Identify any other priorities or gaps that need to be addressed in the Strategy

This report summarises the results from the Phase 2 consultation.

2. Scope of Phase 2 Consultation

The following options were provided to the community during the Phase 2 consultation:

- ONLINE - www.yourholdfast.com/ourenvironment
The online survey was made available through the Your Holdfast website. This survey contained 11 questions relating to community satisfaction of proposed Strategy themes. This survey also allowed for additional comments from respondents. The Your Holdfast site provided an overview of the project, updates and Frequently Asked Questions. Your Holdfast was updated as required, with stakeholders actively encouraged to access the site throughout the duration of the project.
- EMAIL mail@holdfast.sa.gov.au with Environment Strategy in the header.
- In writing to the City of Holdfast Bay and through written feedback opportunities available at Council venues (Brighton and Glenelg Libraries and the Brighton Civic Centre).

3. Engagement Outcomes

3.1 Online Engagement

The feedback form for the Draft Environment Strategy became live to the community via the Your Holdfast website from the 7th July to 28th July 2020. During this time, the site received 312 visits. Of these visits, the majority came direct to the website (46.15%) and via email link (33.01%). The remaining visits were through social media, search engine, a .GOV website and referrals (Table 1). There were 128 that were classified as “informed visitors”, meaning they engaged in some aspect of the website either by downloading a document (111 participants) viewing key dates page (2 participants), viewing the FAQ page (8 participants), visiting multiple project pages (75 participants) or engaged in an online tool (26 participants) (Table 2). 206 visitors accessed at least one page.

Table 1: Number and Percentage of Visitors for each visitor source.

	Visitor Source					
	Direct (website)	Social media	Email	Search engine	.GOV	Referrals
Number of visitors	144	51	103	4	6	4
Percentage of total visitors	46.15	16.35	33.01	1.28	1.92	1.28

Table 2: Number of participants visiting each action of website.

INFORMED PARTICIPANTS	128
Informed Actions Performed	Participants
Viewed a video	0
Viewed a photo	0
Downloaded a document	111
Visited the Key Dates page	2
Visited an FAQ list Page	8
Visited Instagram Page	0
Visited Multiple Project Pages	75
Contributed to a tool (engaged)	26

The feedback form consisted of 11 questions designed to explore how the community felt the Draft Environment Strategy addressed the environmental priorities of the region. The feedback form received 74 visits with 26 contributions. Of the 26 feedback form submissions, 15 answered they were Residents of Holdfast Bay (58%) and nine answered *Other* (34%), one was a worker within the City of Holdfast Bay (4%) and one was a business owner within Holdfast Bay (4%) (Figure 1). There were 10 respondents located in Seacliff, two each from Glenelg, Hove, Glengowrie and Marino and one each from Brooklyn Park, Dover Gardens, Hallett Cove, Glenelg North, Seacombe Gardens and Brighton (Figure 2).

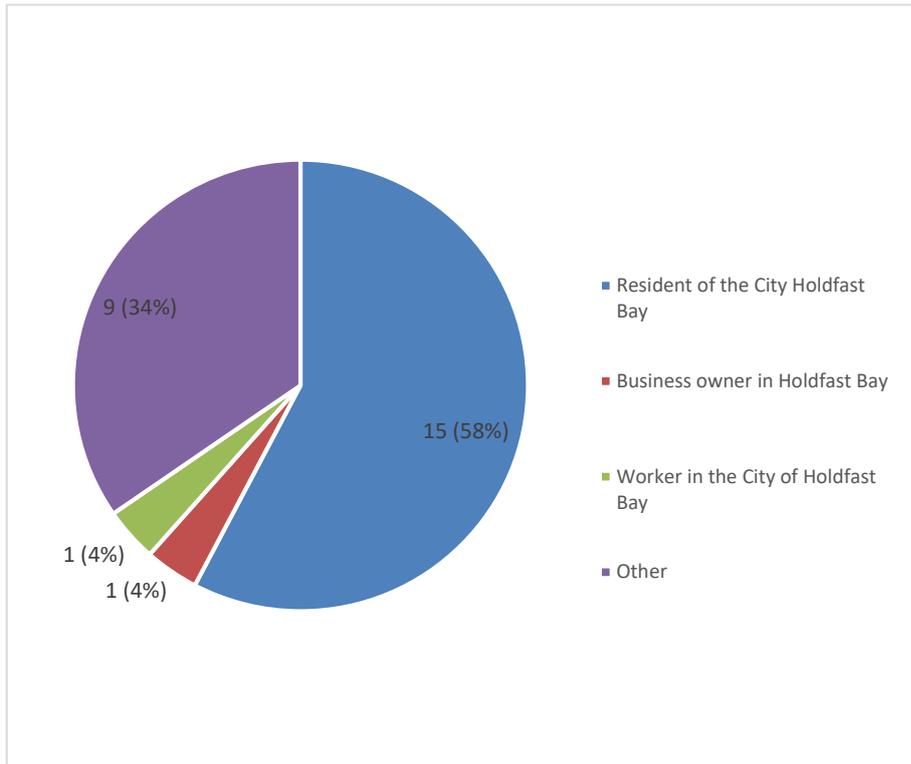


Figure 1: Resident status of respondents.

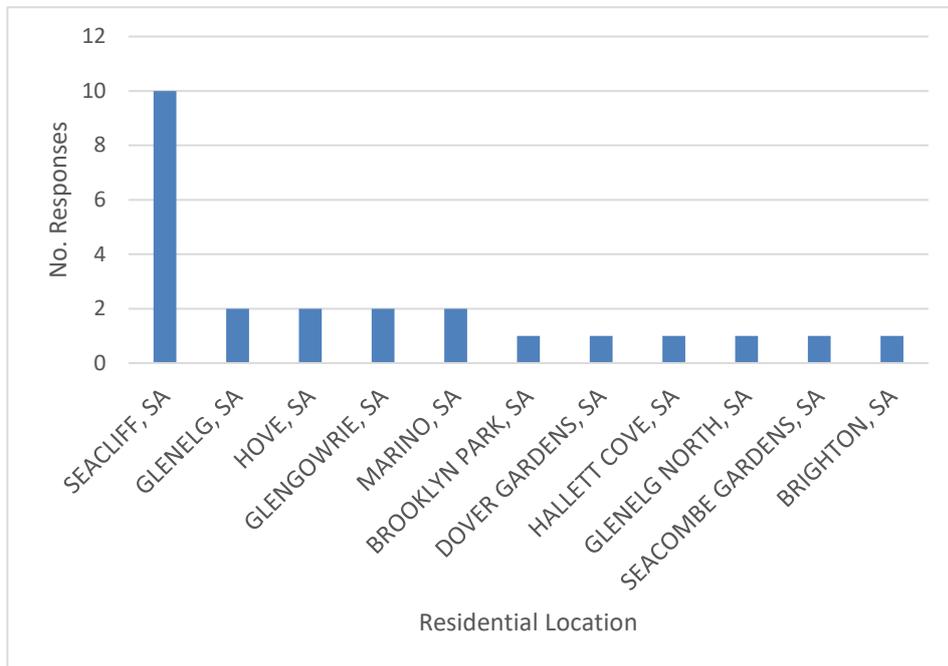


Figure 2: Residential location of respondents.

Participants were asked to what level do they believe the draft Strategy: *Reinforces a vision that strives to protect and enhance the region's environment for future generations; Sets the direction for council's environmental activities – primarily over the next five years; Is action-oriented and effectively targets what council and the local community can do to improve the environment; Sets opportunities for joint action across stakeholders on environmental projects and Reflects local environmental priorities.* The majority of respondents indicated that they definitely agree with these statements (Figure 3).

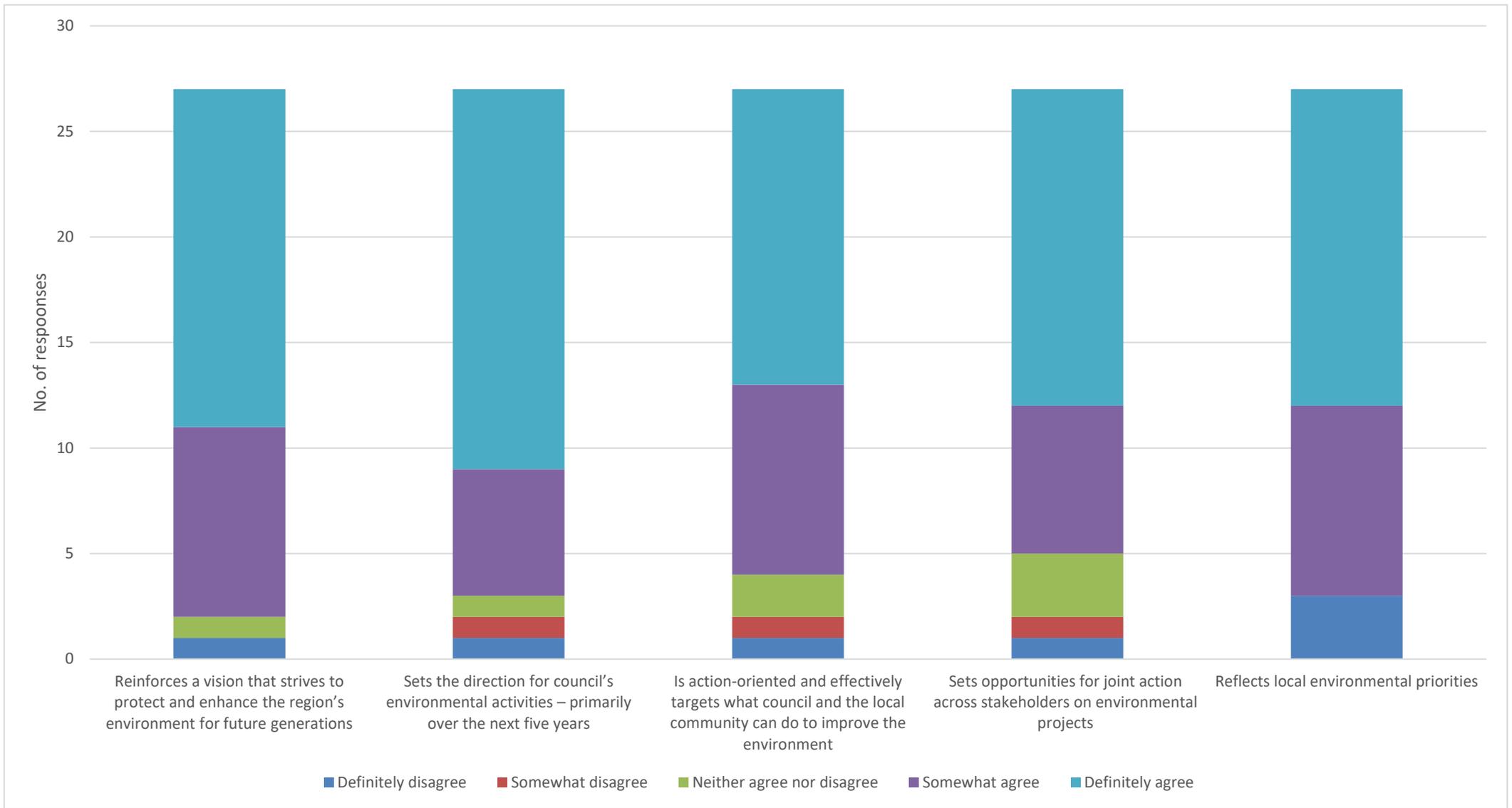


Figure 3: Results from feedback form (no. of responses) when asked what level respondents agree to various aspects of the Draft Environment Strategy.

The feedback form asked about the community’s satisfaction regarding the five themes chosen for the Strategy. The theme *Our Climate* received a majority of Very satisfied, followed by Somewhat satisfied. *Our Coast* received a majority for Very and Somewhat satisfied. *Sustainable Resources*, *Our Nature* and *Working Together* received a majority feedback of *Somewhat satisfied* followed by *Very satisfied*. (Figure 4).

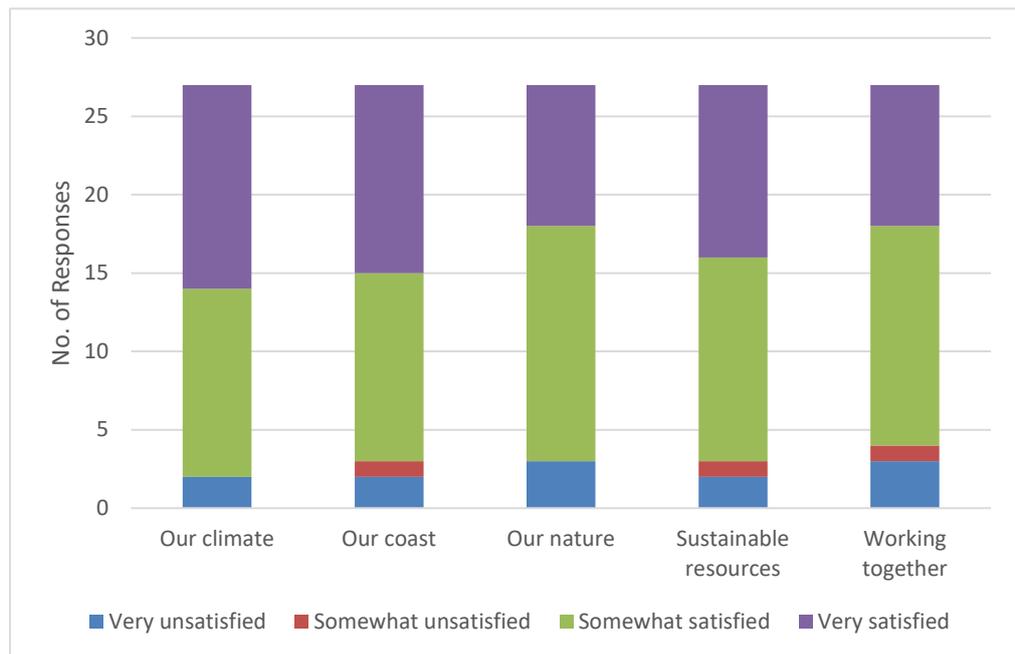


Figure 4: Results from feedback form (no. of responses) when asked how satisfied respondents are with the themes of the Draft Environment Strategy.

The community was asked whether they thought Council has addressed the environmental priorities for our region in the draft Strategy with 23 responding “Yes” (85.2%) and 2 responding to both “No” and “Unsure” (7.4%) (Figure 5). If respondents answered “No” or “Not Sure”, they were asked to answer a follow up question regarding what priorities should be addressed (Appendix B, Q4, Q5).

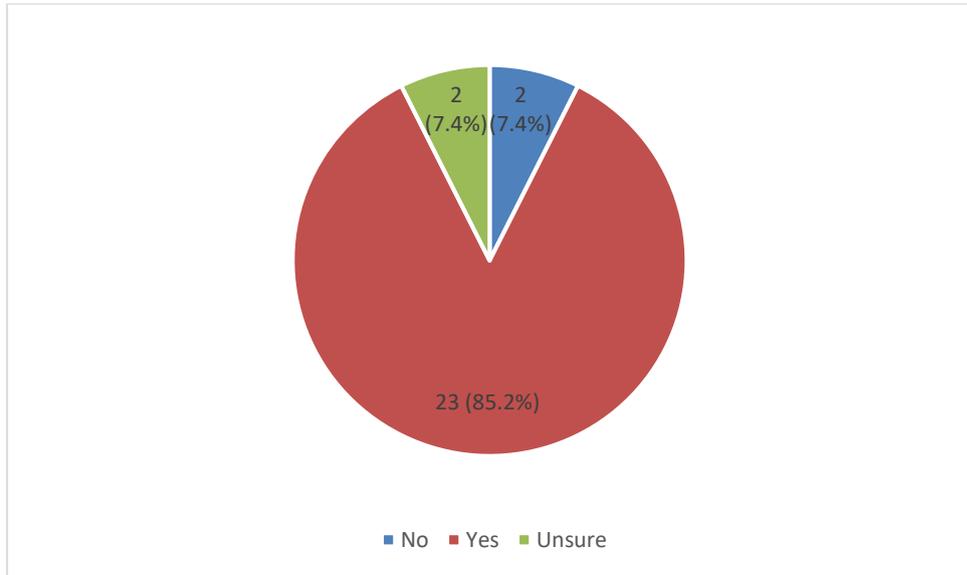


Figure 5: Results from the feedback form- no. of responses (%) when asked if the Draft Strategy addresses environmental priorities of the region.

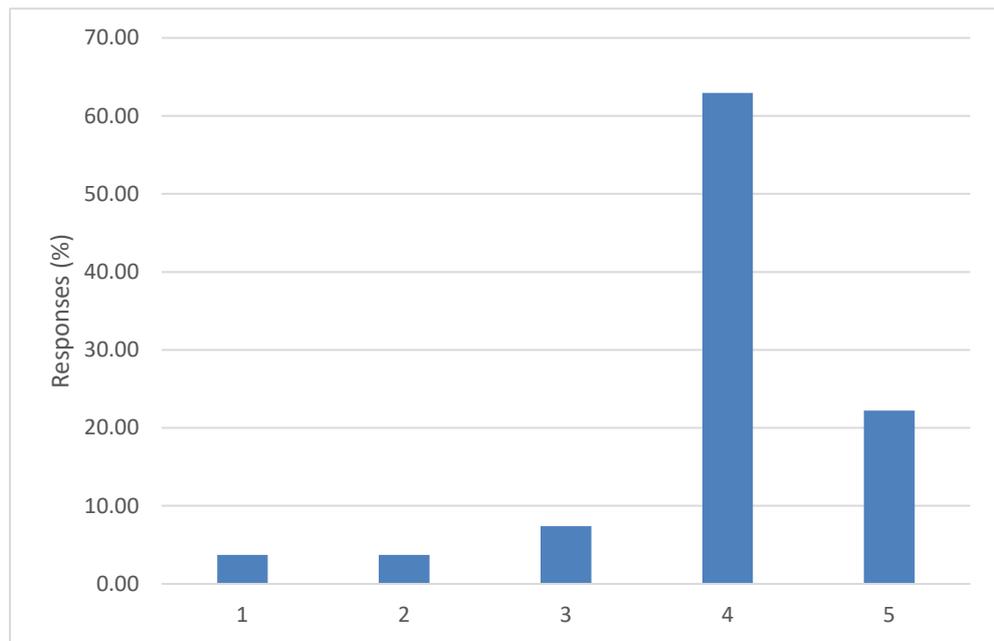


Figure 6: Results from the feedback form (no. of responses) when asked how satisfied respondents are with the actions and strategies of the Draft Environment Strategy (1 being Very unsatisfied, 5 being Very satisfied).

When asked on a scale of 1 to 5, overall how satisfied are you with the actions and strategies (1 being lowest, 5 being highest), the majority of respondents (62.96%) were Somewhat satisfied with the actions and strategies while 22.22% were Very satisfied, 7.41% Neutral and 3.71% for Unsatisfied and Very unsatisfied (Figure 6). Respondents were asked to provide comments about the actions and strategies (Appendix B, Q7).

The Feedback Form asked the community if they thought Council should be increasing its investment in environmental projects. Out of 27 responses, 26 answered “Yes” (96%) and one answered “No” (4%) (Figure 7). A follow up question of *If yes, as a ratepayer, what amount would you be prepared to pay as an additional fee per year* was asked (Appendix B, Q9).

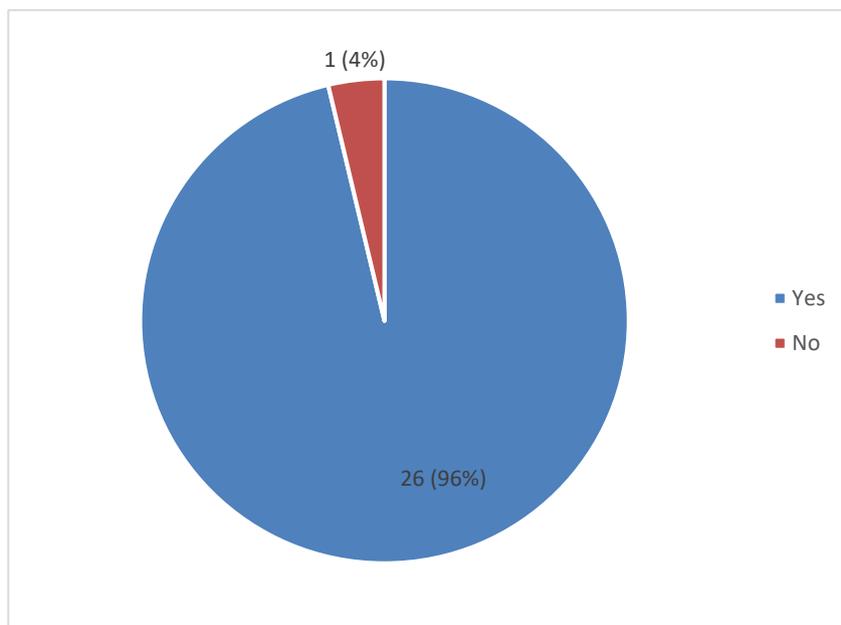


Figure 7: Results from feedback form- no. of responses (%) when asked if Council should increase its investment in environmental projects.

3.2 Written Feedback

In total, the draft strategy received 45 pieces of written feedback. This included 41 from the online survey (three from Question four, two for Question five, 19 for Question seven and 17 for Question nine). Questions four, five and seven of the survey relate to the priorities, actions, and strategies and whether the respondents felt these were adequately represented in the draft. There were two email comments, one feedback submission sent by mail and one formal submission. The emailed comments and mailed survey were from local residents and the formal submission was received from the Environmental Task Group of 5049 Coastal

Community Association. From the written feedback eight key themes of concern or priority were identified: Trees; Review, Measurement & Reporting; Planning and Development; Community; Climate; Council; Coastal; and Sustainability. Recommendations suggested against themes and comments can be found in Appendix A. For a full list of responses against these questions, refer to Appendix B.

Question nine asked if the residents thought Council should invest more in environmental projects and if yes would they be prepared to pay an additional fee on their rates per year and by how much. The responses included monetary figures such as paying an extra 5% of rates, \$25, \$30 or \$300. Other responses were aimed toward no increase should be needed e.g. *“Should be cost saving if implemented correctly”*, *“None as should be doing it anyway”* and *“Resources should be redirected and re- prioritised from existing budget”*. For the full list of comments refer to Appendix B, Q9.

The level of participation for Phase 2 of community engagement was low. This could be due to a higher level of input during the first phase of engagement, and possibly the current situation due to COVID-19. Despite this, the passive participation was quite high with many people visiting the page and downloading the Strategy yet not submitting feedback.

Appendix A: Recommended Responses to Written Feedback

Recommended Responses to Written Feedback

Theme	Comments	Recommendation
Trees	Removal of hazardous street tree (ie box gum which are slip hazards, damage street infrastructure, are a powerline fire risk etc), replace with street-friendly tree.	Powerline risk covered in Strategy under Our Nature, Strategy: Protect Our Trees pg. 25. Removal of trees covered in Tree Management Policy.
	COHB should ideally have a total TCC of 33.6% by 2045. ... followed up with approximately 1000 trees planted annually for several years.	Current objective on pg. 15 states an increase from baseline of 15.3% to 16.8% by 2030 - this is an increase of 10%.
	Would be helpful to see modelling of how many extra trees of various sizes and ages would be needed to produce for example a 10% increase by 2030.	No modelling has been done as yet, as this is difficult and expensive. There is also very little expertise available for this work.
	Plant smaller street trees but protect with metal cages like those Marion Council uses as they will better stop vandalism and are reusable. Smaller trees will catch up in growth to semi-mature plantings if not vandalised and are much cheaper plus they often survive better.	Metal tree guards have been considered but deemed too expensive. Some vandalism does occur but not enough to warrant metal guards. Would be ideal to plant smaller trees but advanced trees are usually used as there is greater visual appeal and residential demand. Smaller trees could be offered to residents requesting street trees but subject to negotiation with individual residents.
	Ask those residents on the waiting list for a street tree near their property if they will water the tree themselves and they can then jump to the front of the queue. Again, a smaller tree can be offered. If the tree dies within 2 years due to neglect (but not otherwise), put the resident at the very back of the queue with a black mark for next time.	Council is currently attempting to develop a program like this without extra FTE. Add action to 'Investigate an Adopt-a-Tree scheme'.

Theme	Comments	Recommendation
	Investigate the costs of joining with other southern Adelaide councils to create a new nursery for trees and other plants	CoHB is currently creating a new nursery at a Council-owned site in Seacliff (not with other councils).
	Extend Urban Forest Strategy to homes and public spaces. There has been a proposal floated on the internet to declare a national Park' based on connecting up commitments from urban spaces committed to biodiversity. Link to Glenthorne and other nearby reserves – synergise, collaborate	The Urban Forest Strategy will probably cover public spaces but not private. Currently in the process of creating landscape linkages e.g. Sturt River biodiversity corridor.
	All good, but needs initiatives that promote a transformative lift. Seek to create initiatives that best advance the objectives, connect and leverage each other etc. Consider permaculture design principles for integrated synergistic planning. A very clear, practical and intelligent process for urban design as well as permaculture farming etc. This concept has come a long way since its inception in Tasmania and now has a more complete vision for all human managed spaces, including the economics.	Council has endeavoured to incorporate a regenerative narrative throughout the strategy. Permaculture principles are great general living ideals and again, some are incorporated throughout the strategy but it would be difficult to develop strategies or actions around them specifically. In terms of Permaculture Farming, Council has strategies for supporting, identifying and developing Community Gardens, pg. 32.
	Loss of Green Space not adequately addressed- investigate urban cooling and increasing tree canopy, proactively promoting the use of environmentally friendly building techniques	Tree canopy increase is addressed under Our Climate, Strategy: Plan for an urban and natural environment that is resilient to climate change, pg. 17. Actions to investigate opportunities for urban cooling as part of all major Council place-making, urban development and infrastructure upgrade projects are in strategy. Promoting climate ready housing, pg. 17.

Theme	Comments	Recommendation
	Street Trees- information sheet placed in each letterbox, inform that the Council will endeavour to water the new trees with recycled water, residents could also help.	<p>When planting street trees, all residents who are going to get a tree in front of their property are provided with a letter to let them know about the planting. All newly planted trees go on a watering roster for at least two and up to four years.</p> <p>Residents are already encouraged to water street trees (Tree Management Policy).</p>
	Council to play a role in advocacy with government around legislation to protect old trees and increase overall tree cover.	<p>Council already does this. Propose to include as extra action in appropriate section, pg. 17. Increase tree cover is already an action.</p> <p>Current Tree Management Policy protects significant and regulated trees as much as possible but has to also align with state government policy and legislation regarding these trees.</p>
	Need to be able to see more specific details. For example, how can I get trees planted on my (treeless) street.	<p>Council website has information regarding street tree planting.</p> <p>Council is attempting to establish a program about how to deal with requests from residents.</p>
	More to be done regarding plantings of natives and trees on council verges due to density up lift and urban infill these green spaces have become super important.	<p>Increase tree canopy is already a major action in Strategy.</p> <p>Refer to Plan SA.</p>
Review, Measure and Reporting	Review and measure existing strategies e.g. performance and effectiveness of significant spend on sand pumping, before committing to more of the same strategy	<p>Evaluations and reporting of strategies will occur annually as per Strategy.</p> <p>Sand pumping is under the control of the Coast Protection Board, which is part of the Department of Environment and Water in the State Government.</p>
	There must be targets to measure, manage and report on than can have a bearing on any proposal – i.e. will it enhance performance against targets or impair it?	<p>This relates to development proposals, if so then somewhat covered with actions already in the strategy such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforce the energy efficiency provisions of the Building Code of Australia for all new developments and renovations. • Investigate opportunities for urban cooling as part of all major Council place-making, urban development and infrastructure upgrade projects.

Theme	Comments	Recommendation
		<p>Targets to measure, manage and report would also be developed as part of implementation plans and how individual actions contribute to them.</p> <p>Refer to Plan SA.</p>
	<p>More specifics about actions and KPIs would be useful</p>	<p>This is important- while some targets have been included, would be useful to add in specific targets or baseline figures e.g. increase volunteers by 50% between 2020 and 2025: increase to 63 from 42 volunteers etc. Others like potable water, require more time to establish baseline data. In addition, specific targets and KPIs will be established as part of the implementation plan.</p>
<p>Planning and Development</p>	<p>I strongly encourage the council to mandate housing orientation be north facing as this would be a simple energy saving action !</p>	<p>Not possible under SA planning legislation.</p>
	<p>All commercial and public development proposals and projects should be subject to a visionary 'Environment First' standard</p>	<p>Several actions are already mentioned in Strategy regarding an "Environment First" approach to development including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforce the energy efficiency provisions of the Building Code of Australia for all new developments and renovations. • Investigate opportunities for urban cooling as part of all major Council place-making, urban development and infrastructure upgrade projects. • Promote climate-ready housing design <p>Also refer to Priority action on pg. 35: Develop and implement a management system to embed the principles of environmental responsibility; mitigate environmental risks; and, create sustainability across Council's operations.</p>
	<p>More suitable sites should have WSUD implemented wherever possible</p>	<p>Covered under Sustainable Resources, Strategy: Improve water efficiency.</p>

Theme	Comments	Recommendation
	Problems arising from urban infill and increasing density of developments. The council must make ensure that in future developments any green space is retained or at least new green spaces need to be created where developments encroach on current open spaces (ie gardens)	Plan SA. Tree Management Policy already requires planting trees to replace those that are removed, as per State Government legislation.
	Where space is constrained on public land, making this a requirement (more trees) of development approval on private land would be helpful, although this is primarily a matter for the State Planning Commission / Department / Minister.	State Government responsibility but Council has an advocacy role.
	Is there an action for council to play a role in advocacy with government around legislation to manage new developments and transport infrastructure environmentally responsibly?	There are several actions relating to Councils advocacy role mentioned in strategy including renewable energy, climate adaptation, and coastal issues. Council is a significant advocate for many environmental issues and especially for those out of its immediate control.
Community	What beside paying rates, should the community be required to do to support these themes.	Residents are our most important stakeholders and will now be recognised throughout the plan against specific actions.
	The parcels of land along the rail corridor owned by COHB or leased from Adelaide Metro (the Pump Track, Commercial Ave, the treed areas at Cedar Ave, Yacca Rd and Kauri Pde) are not mentioned but provide opportunities, like the gullies, for volunteers.	Could mention briefly on pg. 30 for example, but really there are only one or two of these sites that provide volunteer opportunities.
	The Living Smart courses should also be mentioned in the strategy as one of COHB's existing activities (similarly to the Climate Ready Communities Project).	Already mentioned on pg. 16, 28 as a stakeholder and on pg. 30. Council pay for some of the cost, or provide grants to facilitators who deliver the courses.
	council to continue to look for further opportunities to raise awareness in the community and assist BirdLife	Increasing volunteers is already mentioned on pg. 33 as is Continue to support hooded plover success, this does not require a specific Birdlife volunteer strategy.

Theme	Comments	Recommendation
	with recruiting new volunteers as a high priority action/strategy.	
	Support with a community-expert-council partnership group that pursues an evolving process something like: 1. Community awareness raising 2. Community education 3. Community participation and investment 4. Citizen science (learning about local environmental systems etc, and measuring change) that loops back to 1	Already covered in an action on pg. 33, no new action required.
	Specifically engage with people and organizations who are regular users of the natural environment. E.g. surf rescue and sailing clubs	Council already engages with these groups e.g. providing grants, and engagement with planting events.
	Vital that community liaisons continue with the Kurna people. Plaques and prominent information needs to be visible to all local and visiting people to better educate everyone and therefore develop a greater understanding of the Indigenous citizens of this country	Already covered in strategy under Working Together: Connect our community with nature and cultural heritage. More signage and information have been installed e.g. Coast park path paving stickers with cultural information. Council currently meets regularly with Kurna through the Kurna Nation Cultural Heritage Association (KNCHA).
	more community gardens ... We would like to expand the facilities of our Glenelg North Community Garden & are currently preparing plans for this	Already covered in Strategy under Working Together: Support our community to implement environmental and sustainability initiatives pg. 32.
Climate	Our Climate One of the community actions should also be to – localise our way of life (food, shopping, entertainment, travel, work) as much as possible. This will have environmental and economic benefits. Our Climate Vision should be broadened to “A Council and community (addition) that takes environmental responsibility and climate change seriously and acts”	Add “community” to the current vision. “localise our way of life”- Already “embedded” in current Strategy: Supporting Sustainable Living on pg. 32.

Theme	Comments	Recommendation
	also include something about diverting food waste from landfill	Mentioned in Sustainable Resources and currently implementing a State-first trial to implement weekly green bin collections and fortnightly landfill bin collections, which will help to divert more green waste from landfill. See holdfastfogo.com for more details.
	reducing car journeys and increasing cycling and walking	<p>Actions covered in Strategy under Working Together: Supporting sustainable living.</p> <p>Council developing an Integrated Transport Strategy, which will help to address this.</p>
	Shop awnings/verandas - being climate ready and assisting residents with heat stress....have verandas that meet each other and provide continuous shade?	Not possible to enforce due to individual/private property.
Council	Figure 2 'inter-relationship between our environment strategy and council's strategic pillars', could include increased tourism as an economic benefit of environmental improvements and leadership.	Not necessary to include. Yet Council acknowledges the connections between this Strategy and our Economic Activation Plan.
	Environmental noise	Not really covered by strategy, never came up in consultation. However, addressed in Council's Noise Policy.
Coastal	Continue beach patrols for compliance with new dog by-law to protect hooded plovers" we believe the benefit should be reflected as the highest it could be	Increase to highest ranking.
	Continue to support hooded plover success" which should be breeding success, and we likewise think the benefit ranking should be the highest here	<p>Change to "Continue to support hooded plover breeding success".</p> <p>Increase to 4 leaf rank.</p>
	"Sustainable management of Tjilbruke Springs" and "Protection of seagrass meadows and rock reef off Kingston Park" are identified as key issues to be faced but there is no action plan related to either of these.	Relevant point regarding seagrass under the Coast Protection Board although stormwater quality and quantity is addressed on pg. 21 and 29, which contributes to seagrass and rocky reef health.

Theme	Comments	Recommendation
	Offshore is really the preserve of the Coast Protection Board and TS will depend on the Kaurua for timing on proposed revegetation so this may explain the lack of plans but more detail would show action is intended.	Tjilbruke Springs management would come under Kingston Park Reserve Master Plan currently in the process of development. This involves working closely with the Kaurua Nation.
	Ensure truly expert coastal engineering input....with a thorough knowledge of the physical and biological dimensions of sustainable seascapes and the management of human impacts, and scientific advances on protection from new harms, ongoing care and regeneration	While not specifically covered in the Strategy, this already takes place e.g. input from the Coast Protection Board who also use international experts.
	Does not mention better maintenance of stormwater assets	Strategy mentions Stormwater Management Plan, this mentions maintenance.
	Water capturing techniques need to be used so that there is no nett increase in the stormwater discharge into the ocean	Covered in Strategy under Our Coast: Monitor, improve and maintain marine water quality. Also covered through WSUD applications.
Sustainability	Replace council vehicles and tools with electric	Covered in strategy on pg. 16. Could include action to “investigate use of battery operated tools” under Our Climate, reduce carbon emissions council operations.
	aim to be self-renewing as far as possible in terms of both strengthened natural processes and spontaneous ongoing community investment and participation	Mostly covered in Strategy, e.g. improving biodiversity, aiming for circular economy, local and green procurement, volunteering etc. Council has endeavoured to incorporate a regenerative narrative throughout the Strategy.
	there should be something around working to minimise food waste to landfill with businesses (especially hospitality / food based businesses).	Covered in Strategy under Sustainable Resources: Reduce waste to landfill pg. 28.

Theme	Comments	Recommendation
	food waste, education and avoiding contamination with re-cycling	Covered in Strategy under Sustainable Resources: Reduce waste to landfill pg. 28.
	A primary school student is quoted as saying he wants more bins at the beach but there is no action on this.... However, bins in streets and on the foreshore are still mostly just general waste bins so it all goes to landfill. There should be recycling and composting bins wherever possible as well.	Investigate increase number of recycling bins/food waste bins through the review of community recycling station on page 28.

Appendix B: Qualitative Responses

Comments related to Question 4: If no, what other priorities should we address?

Comments received via Your View Holdfast (all comments are verbatim)

- Removal of hazardous street trees (i.e. box gum which are slip hazards, damage street infrastructure, are a powerline fire risk, etc.) and replace with street-friendly trees.
- Review and measure existing strategies, e.g. performance and effectiveness of significant spend on sand pumping, before committing to more of the same strategy
- Environmental noise. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environmental_noise

Comments related to Question 5: If not sure, what other priorities do you think may not have been addressed?

Comments received via Your View Holdfast (all comments are verbatim)

- Town planning and housing development . I strongly encourage the council to mandate housing orientation be north facing as this would be a simple energy saving action !
- community responsibility i.e. what beside paying rates, should the community be required to do to support these themes

Comments related to Question 7: Please provide any comments about the actions and strategies.

Comments received via Your View Holdfast (all comments are verbatim)

- No focus on removal of hazardous street trees (ie box gum which are slip hazards, damage street infrastructure, are a powerline fire risk, etc.) and replace with street-friendly trees. This is significant in that it impacts daily life, especially of elderly residents.
- Council policy to Only replace vehicles (including large street sweeper) with electric vehicles. All gardening contractors to use electric tools: trimmers, blowers, edging, lawn mowing, tractors Etc

- Excellent document and process.. Overall environmental enhancement: In addition to Healthy, clean, diverse, and comfortable should aim to be self-renewing as far as possible in terms of both strengthened natural processes and spontaneous ongoing community investment and participation Climate/Coastal: Please ensure truly expert coastal engineering input – not just consultants with experience based on supporting commercial coastal development, but with a thorough knowledge of the physical and biological dimensions of sustainable seascapes and the management of human impacts, and scientific advances on protection from new harms, ongoing care and regeneration. In fact all commercial and public development proposals and projects should be subject to a visionary ‘Environment First’ standard, especially with the near terminal weakening of environmental approval processes at the national and state level. There must be targets to measure, manage and report on than can have a bearing on any proposal – ie will it enhance performance against targets or impair it? Biodiversity: Extend to urban forest strategy to both homes and public spaces. There has been a proposal floated on the internet to declare a national Park’ based on connecting up commitments from urban spaces committed to biodiversity. Link to Glenthorne and other nearby reserves – synergise, collaborate General comments: All good, but needs initiatives that promote a transformative lift. Seek to create initiatives that best advance the objectives, connect and leverage each other etc. Consider permaculture design principles for integrated synergistic planning. A very clear, practical and intelligent process for urban design as well as permaculture farming etc. This concept has come a long way since its inception in Tasmania and now has a more complete vision for all human managed spaces, including the economics. Support with a community-expert-council partnership group that pursues an evolving process something like: 1. Community awareness raising 2. Community education 3. Community participation and investment 4. Citizen science (learning about local environmental systems etc, and measuring change) that loops back to 1
- The strategies are generally good but I am not sure the actions will actually lead to the aims being totally met
- This is a fantastic document - and presents a beautiful vision for a sustainable Holdfast Bay and a thriving local environment. You are tackling the environmental challenges we face seriously and showing leadership and strength in your response. I appreciate the community consultation that went into developing this strategy and feel that you have represented what people are asking for. I love the objective of working towards a carbon neutral community by 2030! A few small points. Under Our climate: community role to tackle impacts - recycling and composting shown as the first dot point. Composting is really important but recycling isn't one of the top actions to address our climate. Instead the point around reducing consumption is more urgent. Should the action plan for our climate also include something about diverting food waste from landfill? This needs to apply to residential and BUSINESSES. How do you address the effects of land changes (i.e. loss of tree cover) through development and transport infrastructure. Is there an action for council to play a role in advocacy with government around legislation to protect old trees and increase overall tree cover and manage new developments and transport infrastructure environmentally responsibly? Action plan for sustainable resources - there should be

something around working to minimise food waste to landfill with businesses (especially hospitality / food based businesses).

- Very impressed. Great to see progressive work on these issues
- More specifics about actions and KPIs would be useful
- More needs to be done about food waste, education and avoiding contamination with recycling and green plantings of natives and trees on council verges due to density up lift and urban infill these green spaces have become super important
- Need to be able to see more specific details. For example, how can I get trees planted on my (treeless) street?!
- Suggest you specifically engage with people and organizations who are regular users of the natural environment. E.g. surf rescue and sailing clubs
- It is vital that community liaisons continue with the Kaurua people. Plaques and prominent information needs to be visible to all local and visiting people to better educate everyone and therefore develop a greater understanding of the Indigenous citizens of this country.
- The Draft Document lists many Council sponsored activities ... including opportunity for Feedback from people with skills in the many areas listed. We hope this two street approach is maintained. On p.23, mention is made of having more community gardens ... We would like to expand the facilities of our Glenelg North Community Garden & are currently preparing plans for this.
- Stormwater points made in Coasts and Sustainable resources does not mention better maintenance of stormwater assets. Many are not performing as they should due to being clogged and are overflowing sediment and other pollutants. One of the consistently large contributors to sediment in stormwater is sediment runoff and drag out from building sites. The sediment is contains a mix of pollutants that then discharge to the coastal waters. Why is the building industry allowed to breach pollution laws in this council area?
- We have to look at reducing car journeys and increasing cycling and walking. The journeys include to schools, tertiary education to the supermarket and Marian. We need to consider reducing car traffic from the Esplanade maybe on a Sunday car free
- Good ideas, hopefully will be implemented
- We are very impressed with the tree planting in public spaces/streets

- I don't live in your council area, but a number of your residents have contacted me about this plan, so I thought I'd take a look. Overall, I am impressed with the comprehensive coverage of issues, however the main problem is that so many of the things we need to do fall outside the responsibility of local government. I was particularly impressed that the Council is serious about single-use plastics and also willing to trial weekly green waste collection, including food scraps. The main shortfall is probably in relation to "greening" your neighbourhoods with shade trees and other vegetation. Where space is constrained on public land, making this a requirement of development approval on private land would be helpful, although this is primarily a matter for the State Planning Commission / Department / Minister. I would also like to acknowledge your Council's leadership in recognising the climate emergency. Well done! Mark Parnell MLC, Greens SA, Parliament of South Australia
- Under the "Top 5 Environmental Challenges", the third largest challenge "Loss of green space" (18%) is not adequately addressed in the strategies sections. These should include, not only investigate the opportunities for urban cooling and increasing the tree canopy, but also proactively promoting the use of environmentally friendly building techniques such as walls covered in plants and roof gardens. Another issue that needs further involves the problems arising from urban infill and increasing density of developments. The council must help ensure that in future developments any green space is retained or at least new green spaces need to be created where developments encroach on current open spaces (ie gardens) Water capturing techniques need to be used so that there is no nett increase in the stormwater discharge into the ocean.
- Thank you for the opportunity to comment. These comments are from Emma Stephens, Sharing our Shores with Coastal Wildlife at BirdLife Australia. We highly commend City of Holdfast Bay for the support of the Hooded Plover program and actions and strategies mentioned in the Environmental Strategy. With regard to "Continue beach patrols for compliance with new dog by-law to protect hooded plovers" we believe the benefit should be reflected as the highest it could be. Beach patrols will help enormously to ensure breeding success continues by raising awareness within the community of the leashing laws. Likewise "Continue to support hooded plover success" which should be breeding success, and we likewise think the benefit ranking should be the highest here. Having the wonderful support from Council with fencing, signage, patrols, awareness raising has done wonderful things not only for the conservation of the Hooded Plover pair at Seacliff, but well beyond! We also encourage council to continue to look for further opportunities to raise awareness in the community and assist BirdLife with recruiting new volunteers as a high priority action/strategy.

Comments related to Question 9: If yes, as a ratepayer, what amount would you be prepared to pay as an additional fee per year?

Comments received via Your View Holdfast (all comments are verbatim)

- Should be cost saving if implemented correctly

- not a ratepayer - In a nearby council, but yes if they propose this
- Isn't it a matter of prioritising where money is spent rather than ratepayers paying more in areas they choose? That leads to a very different income stream model and could cause chaos
- \$300
- Not sure (on low wage)
- The original Emergency Services levy for SA was about \$64.000. This sounds like a good starting point!!!
- Possibly - if it was a true extra that could be spent on a specific area like eg tree planting
- None as should be doing it anyway
- \$25
- Resources should be redirected and re- prioritised from existing budget
- Unsure of amount but understand these actions would cost
- No not additional fee but money budgeted from other areas, ie infrastructure that is not necessary like putting pavers down when plain concrete would do
- 5% of our rates
- It depends on what actions would be taken. Any increase in rates would need to demonstrate effective actions and measurable outcomes
- My rates for a 1 person household are already significant
- \$30
- Depends on how much

Email Correspondence

Comments received via Email (all comments are verbatim)

- Hi, I haven't completed the survey yet, but did want to make two separate climate change-focused suggestions...

Street trees.....when the newly planted street trees were placed in Holdfast Bay suburbs, it would have been a great idea to have had an information sheet placed in each letterbox.

This could have shown the name of the species and an invitation for residents to water them. The sheet could inform that the Council will endeavour to water the new trees with recycled water as much as possible but that the residents could also help. Point out that a kilolitre of household water costs about \$2.39. Residents could put a bucket of water on each tree each week and would only cost them a tiny amount of money for the benefit of having a tree on their footpath. Some of our street trees already look dry.

Shop awnings/verandahs.....It has always intrigued me that each individual building in a row of shops has its own awning...one that usually doesn't match the immediate neighbour's.

If we are talking about being climate ready and assisting residents with heat stress, surely a standard could be set. Why not have verandahs that meet each other and provide continuous shade?

I think about the pedestrian crossing at the Foodland Shopping complex on Brighton Road. While pedestrians (often elderly and some with walkers and some on electric go-fers) wait for the pedestrian lights to change, they are completely exposed to the sun. There is no verandah shelter from sun or rain here. This occurs all over the Holdfast Bay area. Why not introduce a planning policy of continuous shade and shelter belts to replace the hotchpotch of the current situation. Look at Jetty Road, Brighton and Jetty Road, Glenelg for other examples.

- Thanks for your well intentioned Draft Environment Strategy. It contains all the right words and good graphics - but I do not complete online surveys with passwords.

A few general comments though: In 1985 we received a Greening of Adelaide Award at a time when the greater Adelaide had an estimated vegetation canopy of about 25%. Now it would seem we have only about 15% left as a result of State and local governments intentionally destroying our landscape – and its continuing unabated. The promotion of more population, increasing density and ever more buildings covering the land with concrete is clearly unhealthy for the land and for us. Even David Speirs admitted on the ABC 891 one morning during the week, that there is tension in cabinet between the protection of the environment and increasing growth of population and buildings. We are addicted to growth which overwhelms all of our erstwhile pro-environment work. Should we give up"? No: of course not. Our collective voices and actions – especially actions that kids observe - are critical. But at present we are a not so powerful minority.

So the challenge for all councils' Environmental Strategies is how, and in which way, do we ameliorate the destructive Growth Strategies of State and Federal governments?

Maybe developers should be required to place a specified proportion of their development funds to be placed in a 'war chest' to fight their destructive plans in the Media and the Courts.

Regards

Formal Submission

COHB Environmental Strategy 2020-25

Comments by Environmental Task Group of 5049 Coastal Community Association

Overall, the group were supportive of the strategy. It uses strong and powerful language regarding the need for urgent, community wide action in order to reduce climate emissions and create a truly environmentally sustainable future (both locally and globally). The phrase "towards and beyond environmental sustainability" was apt.

1. **Tree Planting:** Identified through the community engagement program as the number one priority, as has been the case for many years. Council planted 584 trees in 2019 but how many of these were in Seacliff and KP?

Despite tree planting being highlighted as important in key parts of the strategy due to its importance in climate cooling, stormwater undergrounding, biodiversity retention, mental wellbeing and provision of pleasant recreational open spaces, the stated objective is to increase tree canopy from 13.6% to 15% by 2030. This is a ridiculously low target and will not counteract the continuing reduction of tree canopy cover (TCC) on private land after subdivision and development nor the increase in stormwater from both tree loss and the larger proportion of hard surfaces.

The 2018 'Where are all the trees?' report by 2020 Vision states that the national average of tree canopy cover in urban areas was 39% and 20% in Adelaide, ahead of only Sydney and Melbourne. Holdfast Bay has one of the lowest TCCs by council area in Adelaide so, as lowest of the low, is near the bottom of urban TCC across Australia plus it has over 60% hard surfaces. The 2017 update to the SA Government 30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide wished to redress the low TCC and set a goal for councils with less than 30% tree canopy cover (HB had a TCC of 13.6% at that time) of increasing TCC by 20% by 2045 ie. COHB should ideally have a total TCC of 33.6% by 2045. Therefore, it is suggested that a TCC of 25% by 2030 would be more in line with the 2045 target.

TCC increases very slowly in the first years of a tree's life as demonstrated by the above graph (though it is not an Australian graph so treat only as a guide). Thus, the more trees planted sooner rather than later, the better.

Apparently, this year there are 300 extra street trees to plant in Holdfast Bay on top of the planned 500 - 600 so that is very welcome and this success should be followed up with approximately 1000 trees planted annually for several years.

It would be helpful to see modelling of how many extra trees of various sizes and ages would be needed to produce for example a 10% increase by 2030 so that a target number of trees planted per year could be aimed for, allowing for average tree lifespan, failure, vandalism and removal rates.

3 suggestions to decrease costs:

- a. Plant smaller street trees but protect with metal cages like those Marion Council uses as they will better stop vandalism and are reusable. Smaller trees will catch up in growth

to semi-mature plantings if not vandalised and are much cheaper plus they often survive better.

b. Ask those residents on the waiting list for a street tree near their property if they will water the tree themselves and they can then jump to the front of the queue. Again, a smaller tree can be offered. If the tree dies within 2 years due to neglect (but not otherwise), put the resident at the very back of the queue with a black mark for next time!

c. Investigate the costs of joining with other southern Adelaide councils to create a new nursery for trees and other plants, rather than continue to use private nurseries that may produce semi-mature trees with coiled roots due to late potting-on – these then fail after a few years.

2. Coastal Environment: “Sustainable management of Tjilbruke Springs” and “Protection of seagrass meadows and rock reef off Kingston Park” are identified as key issues to be faced but there is no action plan related to either of these. Offshore is really the preserve of the Coast Protection Board and TS will depend on the Kaurna for timing on proposed revegetation so this may explain the lack of plans but more detail would show action is intended.

3. Carbon Neutrality by 2030: A big target for Council/Community. There may be strong community support to achieve this but will funding be forthcoming? Page 3 is concerning: " Financial and resource implications of these commitments (ie.carbon neutrality) will be determined following consideration of the strategy by Council and after community consultation." and “Further consultation will enable Council to assess the community’s strength of commitment to improving our environment." Wasn’t the consultation already undertaken meant to gauge the level of action sought by the community and to inform the environmental strategy? It is clear that the community has already expressed concerns around climate change and have presented a vision for a carbon neutral city. The wording in the report implies that if there isn't much community feedback or it is negative then this major part of the strategy - council and community carbon neutrality - could be dropped, which would be disappointing. Community and council should travel along this path together. This is really important as, to create real and positive environmental change, both council and community action and responsibility are required.

4. Sustainable resources: A primary school student is quoted as saying he wants more bins at the beach but there is no action on this. Holdfast Bay welcomes 2 million tourists and encourages its residents to get outdoors and be active. Therefore, a lot of waste to landfill comes from public bins on reserves, streets and along the coast path. In most cases these bins are general landfill bins. Even dog waste, which now has compostable bags provided for it, just goes to landfill rather than to compostable (green) waste. At the many events held in Holdfast Bay, its waste footprint has reduced by using compostable alternatives to singleuse plastic and providing more recycling and

composting bins. Now that food truck providers are also required to avoid single-use plastic, they will hopefully compost most of their customers' waste.

However, bins in streets and on the foreshore are still mostly just general waste bins so it all goes to landfill. There should be recycling and composting bins wherever possible as well. The extra costs entailed in picking up more bins with different waste types may be offset by a reduction in the amount of expensive landfill waste. It would also encourage people to sort their rubbish wherever they are, thus reinforcing the habit of always recycling as much as possible. To assist compliance by non-residents, clear labelling on the bins is needed to inform people what waste should go in which bin.

An ideal system of waste control would be if all waste were put in one bin and only separated at the recycling centre, thus avoiding the existing problem of multiple bins and contamination of recyclable and compostable waste streams but that is not currently feasible.

5. A few minor suggestions / additions: Figure 2 'inter-relationship between our environment strategy and council's strategic pillars', could include increased tourism as an economic benefit of environmental improvements and leadership

2.1 Our Climate One of the community actions should also be to – localise our way of life (food, shopping, entertainment, travel, work) as much as possible. This will have environmental and economic benefits. Our Climate Vision should be broadened to “A Council and community (addition) that takes environmental responsibility and climate change seriously and acts”

6. The wording around the Seacliff Produce Swap isn't quite right (2.5 para 6): The City of Holdfast Bay has also introduced several initiatives and mechanisms for engaging the community in environmentally conscious practices. Council's Green Living program continues to provide a range of public workshops to help with sustainable behaviour change, and offers residents a range of relevant subsidies. This includes the Seacliff Community Produce Swap – a wholly community-led event is held monthly at a local park, allowing the sharing and swapping of local produce, gardening knowledge, and supporting social connectedness and inclusion.

This implies that the City of Holdfast Bay introduced the initiative of the produce swap. It should just be mentioned as a positive example of a community led initiative within the council area. Similarly, the community gardens should also be mentioned here (Glennelg North and North Brighton) as they offer a valuable community service eg. Holding and supporting Council and community-led environmental and sustainable activities (e.g. Sustainable Saturday Market, local produce swaps, community gardens). 5049 CCA strongly supports these.

7. The Living Smart courses should also be mentioned in the strategy as one of COHB's existing activities (similarly to the Climate Ready Communities Project). Over the last few

years, COHB, in partnership with City of Marion, has held 5 Living Smart 7-week courses to encourage sustainable behaviour change and to bring people together. This has also led to other local initiatives.

8. WSUD More suitable sites should have WSUD implemented wherever possible, especially Treenet inlets for all new tree plantings to grow healthy trees quickly and to protect footpaths and road surfaces from tree root damage.

9. The parcels of land along the rail corridor owned by COHB or leased from Adelaide Metro (the Pump Track, Commercial Ave, the treed areas at Cedar Ave, Yacca Rd and Kauri Pde) are not mentioned but provide opportunities, like the gullies, for volunteers to work with council so as to increase biodiversity and provide local recreational areas as well as habitat for native fauna and flora. Their maintenance is currently rather piecemeal and could profit from COHB planning and assistance/liaison with volunteers.