



## SUSTAINABILITY TASKFORCE MINUTES

**Date:** Tuesday 25 February 2025

**Scheduled Time:** 6.30pm – 8pm

1	<p><b>Present:</b> Councillor Kate Hamley (Chair), Councillor Steve Gagen, Melissa Doherty (Presenter: Biodiversity Officer), Cassandra Borg (Guest: Coordinator Sustainability Engagement), Kaye Roberts-Palmer (Guest: Sustainability Engagement Officer), Frances Rebecca Evans, Harsimran Kaur, David Chandler, Bruce Barbour, Joanne Russell, Cassy Ye, Sarah Flegg,</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Amy Sledziona, Nadia Montalto, Brooke Watson, Jo Hannan, Edgar Caballero Aspe, Analisa Malone; Ranjeet Verma, Eva Mazzei</p>	<b>Meeting opened</b> 7.00pm
2	<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b>	<b>Jo Russell</b>
3	<p><b>Conflict of Interest Statement</b></p> <p>Members' attention was drawn to declare any conflicts of interest arising from agenda items.</p> <p>No conflict of interest was declared.</p>	<b>Councillor Hamley</b>
4	<p><b>Confirmation of previous minutes 13 August 2024</b></p> <p>Motion moved by [Sarah Flegg] seconded by [David Chandler].</p>	<b>Councillor Hamley</b>
5	<p><b>Confirmation of 2025 proposed meeting dates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>(meeting two) Tuesday 15 April</b> (online) 6.30pm - 8.30pm</li><li>• <b>(meeting three) Tuesday 17 June</b> (online)</li></ul>	<b>Floor and discussion</b>

	<p>6.30pm - 8.30pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>(meeting four) Tuesday 12 August</b> (online) 6.30pm - 8.30pm</li> <li>• <b>(meeting five) Tuesday 14 October</b> (online) 6.30pm - 8.30pm</li> <li>• <b>(meeting six) Tuesday 18 November</b> (in-person) and venue location TBC 6.30pm - 8.30pm</li> </ul> <p>Dates were accepted unanimously</p>	
6	<p><b>Review:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the Terms of Reference and purpose of the Taskforce</li> </ul> <p>No changes were suggested</p>	<b>Floor and discussion</b>
7	<p><b>Presentation: Gardens for Wildlife evaluation</b> Presenter: Melissa Doherty - Urban Biodiversity Officer</p> <p>Kaye to send out Gardens for Wildlife presentation to all Taskforce members.</p> <p>Kaye to send the complete garden evaluation to Councillor Steve Gagen</p> <p>Melissa mentioned that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hume Council provides the funding and administration for Gardens for Wildlife</li> <li>• Sunbury is a hot spot for Gardens for Wildlife</li> <li>• 20 to 50 visits per year have been made</li> <li>• All garden owners receive a detail report about their garden</li> <li>• It doesn't matter how small your garden is, wildflowers in pots can help biodiversity</li> <li>• Promote <a href="#">iNaturalist</a> as this helps improve our knowledge about biodiversity through citizen science</li> <li>• Supported a Gardens for Wildlife planting on a nature strip in Craigieburn</li> </ul>	<b>Melissa Doherty</b> Guest speaker

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gardens for Wildlife has also included garden visits to schools</li> <li>Insurance for Gardens for Wildlife is only within Hume</li> </ul> <p><b>General comments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional garden guides could come from Kangan Tafe</li> <li>Looking at digital story telling about Gardens for Wildlife</li> <li>Parks/open space could be used to improve biodiversity while acknowledging that what is planted out now is providing habitat</li> </ul>	
8	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <p><b>Ideas for future agendas and presentations included</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural areas, landscaping and fuel load controls</li> <li>Open Space Strategy update and habitat protection</li> <li>Waste management – update on dumping and waste coordination including the domestic bin system and container deposit scheme update</li> <li><a href="#">Participate Hume platform</a> – how this works in terms of community input</li> <li>Waste to energy plant update</li> <li>Don't feed the birds campaign</li> </ul>	<b>Floor and discussion</b>
9	<p><b>Other business:</b></p> <p><i>Business to be tabled and considered in upcoming Sustainability Taskforce meetings.</i></p> <p><i>No issues raised</i></p>	<b>Floor</b>
10	<b>Meeting finished</b>	<b>8.00pm</b>
11	<b>Next Meeting: Tuesday 15 April (online) 6.30pm to 8.30pm</b>	