GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

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Biodiversity Plan 2024
Engagement Report

DECEMBER 2023

BENTLEIGH

BENTLEIGH EAST

BRIGHTON EAST

CARNEGIE

CAULFIELD

ELSTERNWICK

GARDENVALE

GLEN HUNTLY

MCKINNON

MURRUMBEENA

ORMOND

ST KILDA EAST

Executive Summary

Our Biodiversity Plan is a commitment in our *Climate Emergency Response Strategy 2021-2025 Dhumbali Wurrungi-Biik Parbin-ata.* The strategy includes an action for Council to *'Develop and implement a Biodiversity Plan to understand the impact the climate emergency will have on local flora and fauna and identify actions to help the local ecosystem flourish and connect people to nature.'*

Council regularly engages with the community to listen to their views on a range of issues. Through this process Council aims to improve our services, infrastructure and our City according to the needs of the community.

Council delivered a community engagement program to help inform the development of our draft Biodiversity Plan. The engagement occurred in a variety of ways, including in person activities and events as well as an online survey and vision activity. Engagement commenced in September 2023 and closed in December 2023.

This report focuses on the online community engagement incorporating a survey open from 28 September to 12 November 2023 and a vision activity open from 23 November to 31 December 2023.

The online engagement informed the community about Councils intention to develop a draft plan to promote and protect biodiversity and asked the community to identify:

- Their knowledge and level of priority on biodiversity.
- Which plant/animal species should be protected.
- Locations that are important to protect or promote biodiversity.
- The main challenges for protecting biodiversity.
- Actions the community and Council can take to protect and promote biodiversity.
- What biodiversity activities or events they would be interested taking part in.

This report provides the outcomes of community responses to our online activities. Our Biodiversity Plan received 111 community survey responses and six vision activity responses. The online engagement was promoted through a variety of communication channels including our Have Your Say portal, social media, newsletters, written correspondence, and through events and workshops.

The online survey provided the following key results:

- 100 of 111 survey respondents (90 per cent) strongly agreed that biodiversity is very important to them.
- 82 of 111 survey respondents (74 per cent) strongly agreed that they want more information on local biodiversity and how to protect it.
- 74 of 111 survey respondents (67 per cent) strongly agreed and 22 of 111 (20 per cent) somewhat agreed that their actions can make an important contribution to protecting local biodiversity.
- 57 of 111 survey respondents (51 per cent) strongly agreed and 39 of 111 (35 per cent) somewhat agreed with the statement of being interested in taking part in local biodiversity activities or events organised by Council.

Top three plant and animal species that should be protected are:

Bird species particularly small birds (40 survey responses)	Trees particularly native trees (22 survey responses)	Native plants and shrubs (19 survey responses)

Top three biodiversity hotspots in Glen Eira that should be prioritised:

1	Stands of River Red Gums at the Carnegie and Murrumbeena train stations (87 survey responses)
2	Caulfield Racecourse Reserve (82 survey responses)
3	Caulfield Park (81 survey responses)

Top three other locations in Glen Eira for protecting and promoting biodiversity:

1	All parks (20 survey responses)
2	Other named parks – e.g Harleston, Koornang, Packer, Boyd, Elsternwick, Wattle Road, Joyce, Murrumbeena and Green Meadows (20 survey responses)
3	Mallanbool Reserve (11 survey responses)

Top three challenges for protecting biodiversity in Glen Eira:

1	Property development, increased urbanisation, planning schemes. (50 survey responses)
2	Pests (domestic and wild) - including cats (at night), foxes, dogs (off lead), domination of noisy miner and myna birds. (23 survey responses)

3	Lack of awareness and need for community education. (11 survey responses)

Most important actions the community can take to protect and promote biodiversity:

1	Plant natives – trees, shrubs, grasses, greenery (in my garden /property) (48 survey responses)
2	Raise awareness, learn more, engage in community education and citizen science. (28 survey responses)
3	Create habitats for animals, connected pathways for animal movement and water sources for birds. (11 survey responses)

Most important actions Council can take to protect and promote biodiversity:

1	Protect native plants and trees - restore habitats and understory, create, biodiversity corridors. (31 survey responses)
2	Improve awareness and education on biodiversity. (26 survey responses)
3	Plant native and indigenous vegetation. trees, shrubs and ground covers. (24 survey responses)

In addition to the online survey, community members participated in the Great Southern BioBlitz walk and talks sessions during November 2023. During these sessions participants were provided with the opportunity to share a vision statement via an additional online survey. Six people contributed their vision suggestions, and these are outlined in the **Vision Statement Activity** section of this report.

The engagement findings from this report will be used to inform and develop a draft Biodiversity Plan for Glen Eira. The community will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the draft plan during another community consultation period currently planned for later in 2024.

Engagement Report

Background

In 2012 Glen Eira City Council held its first community biodiversity forum. This was then followed by the development of the *Biodiversity Implementation Plan 2018* https://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/media/3008/biodiversity-in-glen-eira-2018.pdf

The *Biodiversity Implementation Plan 2018* centred on protecting and enhancing Glen Eira's biodiversity and natural environment. It provided a clear, contemporary understanding of what constitutes Glen Eira's biodiversity, where biodiversity is concentrated, what threatens it and what sustains it.

The study uncovered numerous wild, indigenous plant species that were not previously known to exist in the municipality. It also provided the first documented records of indigenous frogs, fish and lizards in Glen Eira for over a century.

Since European colonisation, none of Glen Eira's habitat has survived without major modification. Nevertheless, some small patches remain with remnants of the pre-colonisation flora and a few artificial lakes have become occupied by some of Glen Eira's original wetland flora and fauna. Some birds, possums and insects have also adapted to the urban environment.

The *Biodiversity Implementation Plan 2018* identified important 'biodiversity hotspots' in Glen Eira. Locations include:

- The **Moorabbin Reservoir property** (675 Warrigal Rd, Bentleigh East), which has a substantially greater diversity of wild, indigenous flora, and in a more resilient state, than anywhere else in Glen Eira, including twelve plant species not found elsewhere in this study.
- **Yarra Yarra Golf Course**, where substantially more bird species have been observed in recent years than anywhere else in Glen Eira.
- The **Elsternwick railway cutting** and adjacent road verges in Elsternwick, where there is remnant vegetation, many locally rare plant species, healthy revegetation, lizards and an apparently functional wildlife corridor.
- **Rippon Lea Estate**, whose lake and its surroundings support seven locally rare plant species, a number of locally rare birds and the amazing migratory species, Shortfin Eel.
- **Caulfield Racecourse Reserve**, and particularly its two lakes, which support many locally rare birds and plants.
- **Boyd Park in Murrumbeena**, and particularly the fenced and gated sanctuary at its southern end, for the presence of some large, old River Red Gums, some locally rare plants (including what may be Glen Eira's last remaining wild orchids) and some bushy understorey that suits small insect-eating birds.
- **Caulfield Park**, principally for the waterbirds attracted to the lake.

- Stands of River Red Gums at the **Carnegie and Murrumbeena train station sites**.

In May 2020 Council declared a climate emergency and in June 2021 adopted the *Climate Emergency Response Strategy 2021-2025 Dhumbali Wurrungi-Biik Parbin-ata*,

As part of this strategy Council has committed an action to: *'Develop and implement a Biodiversity Plan to understand the impact the climate emergency will have on local flora and fauna and identify actions to help the local ecosystem flourish and connect people to nature.'*

Communications and Engagement Summary

The community's feedback to promote and protect biodiversity is essential to both the successful development and future implementation of Councils Biodiversity Plan (*Plan.)*. The opportunity for the community to be part of the biodiversity conversation has been delivered in a variety of ways both in person and online.

The delivery of a range of workshops, biodiversity walk and talk sessions, Bio blitz sessions and school workshops have been important to bring community members together to explore issues around biodiversity. These were held from September to December 2023 and provided the community with opportunities to learn more about biodiversity, and to provide input into the *Plan.* These sessions have been led by the Climate Change and Environment Team and Biodiversity experts. Along with these sessions, collaborative engagement interviews are planned with First Nations Traditional Owner groups as well as Biodiversity experts who will provide important guidance in the development of the *Plan.*

This report provides a summary of the communication activities delivered to date and details the results of the online engagement activities.

The engagement findings will be used to inform and develop a *draft Biodiversity Plan*. The draft plan will then be tested with the community during another community consultation period, that will take place later in 2024.

Communication activities

There were several communication activities delivered to raise awareness and engage the community. These are outlined in the table below including the reach for each activity.

Communication Activities	Reach
Glen Eira News **Article and Have Your Say page** article directing people to the survey October and November edition	All households in Glen Eira
Have Your Say project engagement page live Community Survey open 28 September to 12 November 2023 Vision Statement activity open November to December 2023.	111 surveys completed. 497 visits 122 document downloads 6 vision statements

Communication Activities	Reach
Social media post on Facebook and Instagram promoting the engagement opportunity for community members to have their say. 6 posts during October and November 2023	Reach: 2314 Reactions: 31 Comments: 2 Shares: 4 Clicks: 8
Sustainability News e-newsletter October and November edition	4000 subscribers
Community Engagement e-newsletter October and November edition	4422 subscribers
Email promotion to Sustainability Champions	25
Email promotion to Sustainability groups and stakeholders	48
Email promotion to local MPS	Shared by Greens MP to local constituents

The table below outlines the engagement activities and number who participated.

Engagement activities	Number who participated
Online community survey	111
Emails	42
Two Biodiversity Walks and Talks at Rippon Lea Estate – September 2023	55
One Biodiversity in Back Yard session at Caulfield South Community Garden – October 2023	40
Four Great Southern Bioblitz walk and talks (Elsternwick Plaza and surrounding area, Boyd Park, Marlborough Street Reserve and Packer Park and Mallanbool Reserve) – November 2023	44

Online Community Survey

A community survey was developed and made available on Council's Have Your Say online platform for a six-week period from 28 September to 12 November 2023. A total of 111 surveys were completed. The community survey requested a range of information and feedback from the community. The survey sought to:

- explore participant knowledge of biodiversity including their knowledge of biodiversity 'hot spot' locations;
- understand the level of importance of promoting and protecting biodiversity;
- understand the challenges for protecting biodiversity; and
- receive feedback on opportunities to improve biodiversity by both council and the community.

The survey provided a combination of both open and closed questions as well as a range of demographic questions. Results of each question are provided below. All open questions have been analysed and recorded according to themes with the most frequent response categories summarised in the tables below.

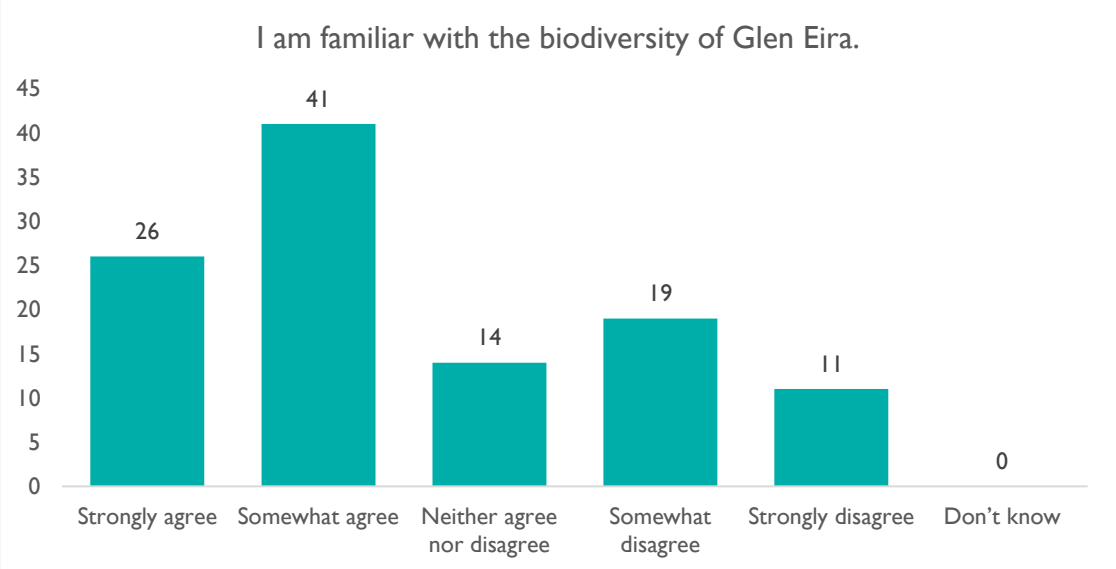
Question 1: asked respondents to rate their agreement on a series of five statements with six response options: Strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree nor disagree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree, don't know.

How much do you agree with the following statements?				
I am familiar with the biodiversity of Glen Eira.	Protecting and promoting our local biodiversity in Glen Eira is important to me.	I would like more information on our local biodiversity and how to protect it.	I believe that my actions can make an important contribution to protecting our local biodiversity.	I am interested in taking part in local biodiversity activities or events organised by Council.

Results:
All 111 respondents answered this matrix question and the responses to the five question is outlined below.

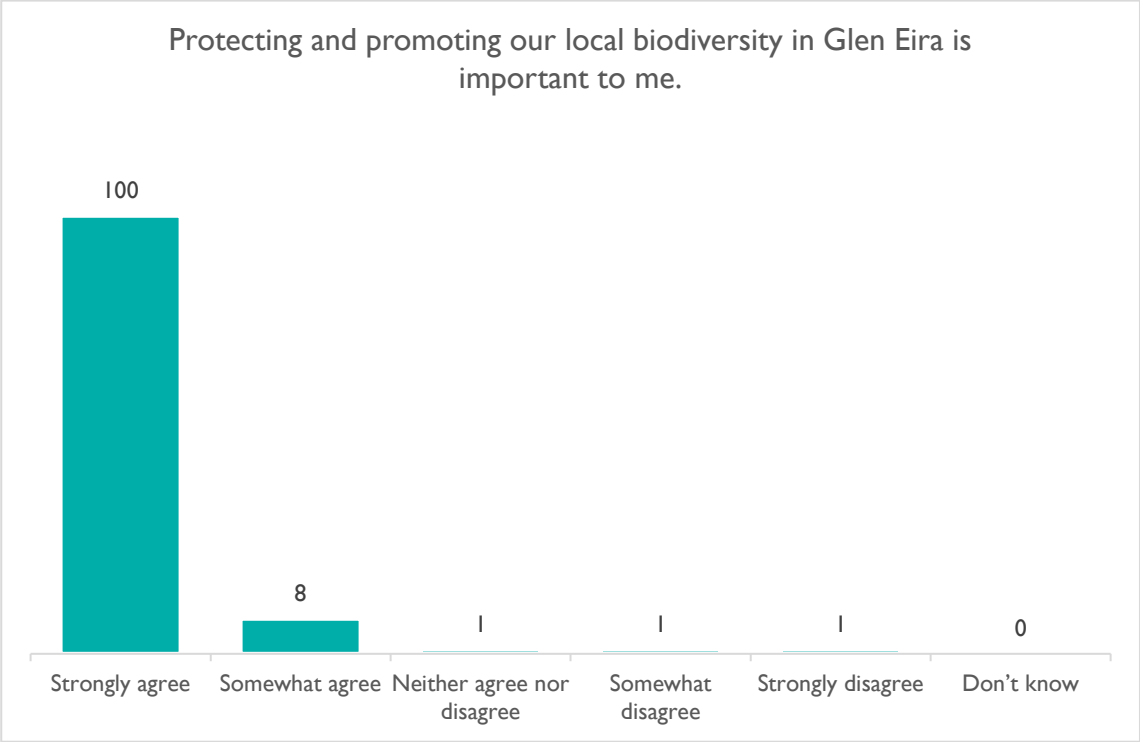
I am familiar with the biodiversity of Glen Eira.

This statement received a mix of responses with 60 per cent of respondents having some familiarity with the biodiversity of Glen Eira. The top two responses were 41 survey respondents (37 per cent) 'somewhat agreed and 26 survey respondents (23 per cent) 'strongly agreed with the statement that they are familiar with the biodiversity of Glen Eira'. At the other end 19 survey respondents (17 per cent) 'somewhat disagreed and 11 survey respondents (10 per cent), strongly disagreed with this statement.



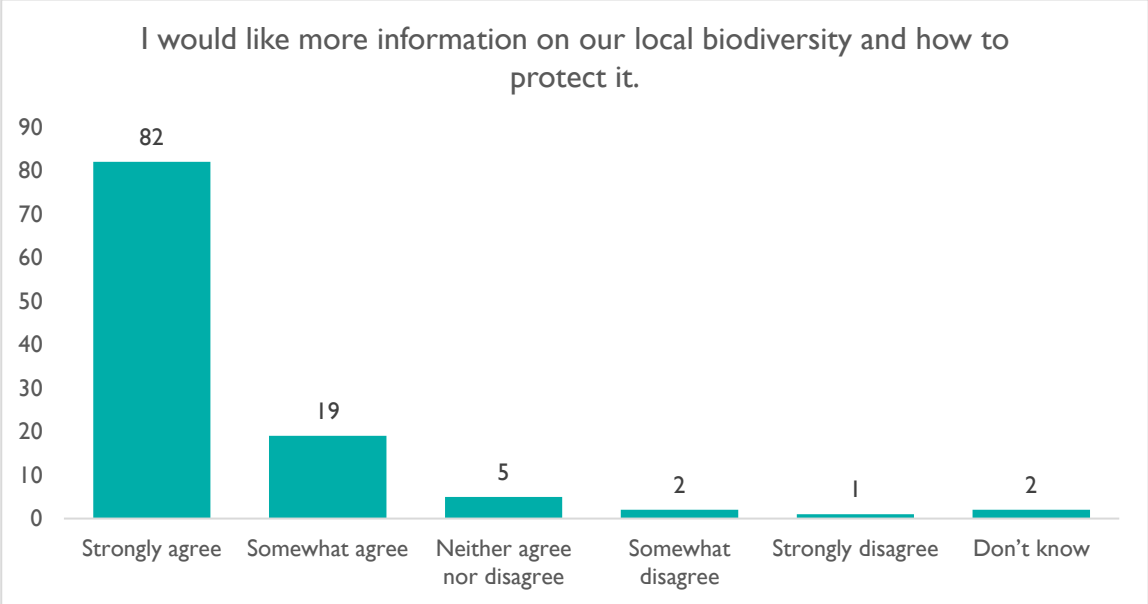
Protecting and promoting our local biodiversity in Glen Eira is important to me.

The vast majority of survey respondents, 100 (90 per cent) strongly agree with the statement that protecting and promoting our local biodiversity in Glen Eira is important to them.



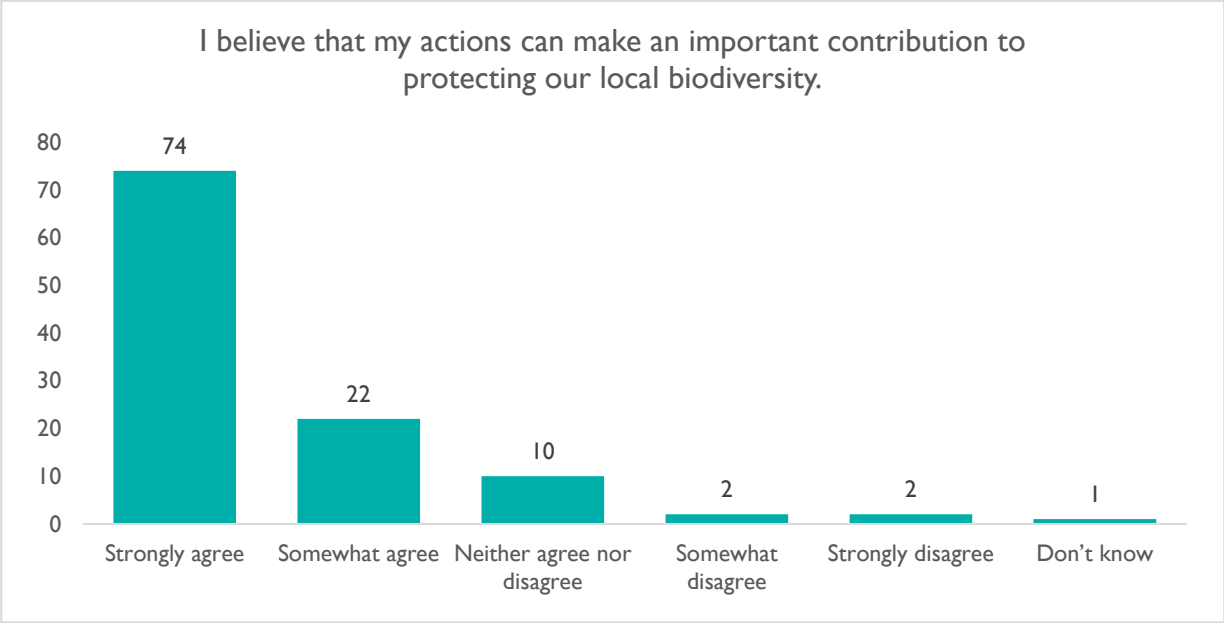
Protecting and promoting our local biodiversity in Glen Eira is important to me.

82 survey respondents (74 per cent) strongly agreed and 19 (17 per cent) somewhat agreed with the statement that they want more information on local biodiversity and how to protect it.



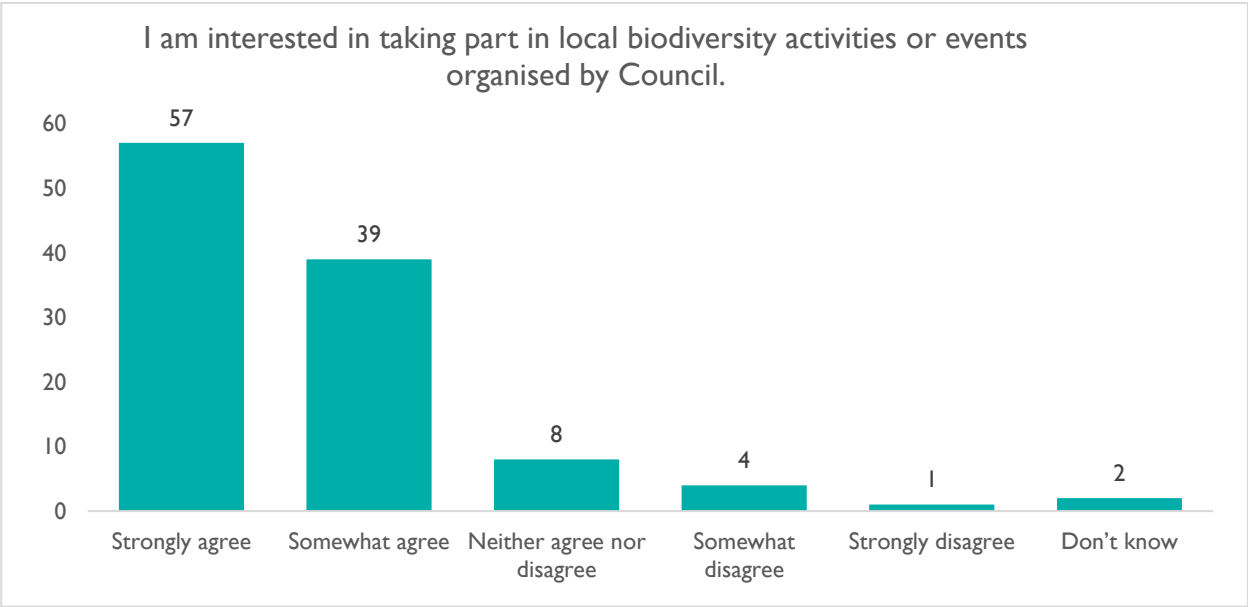
I believe that my actions can make an important contribution to protecting our local biodiversity.

Most survey respondents, 74 (67 per cent) strongly agreed and 22 (20 per cent) somewhat agreed with the statement that their actions can make an important contribution to protecting local biodiversity.



I am interested in taking part in local biodiversity activities or events organised by Council.

Just over half survey respondents 57 (51 per cent) strongly agreed and 39 (35 per cent) somewhat agreed with the statement of being interested in taking part in local biodiversity activities or events organised by Council.



Question 2: Asked survey respondents if there were any particular plant or animal species that they felt we should be protecting in Glen Eira and to explain why?

All 111 survey respondents answered this question. The comments of the top responses are categorised in the table below.

Many survey respondents were concerned about the protection of birds, particularly small bird species that have had their numbers significantly decline in the municipality in recent years (40 mentions). The protection of trees and native plants was also highly commented on given their importance for creating canopy to reduce the urban island heat effect, and for plant layering that supports the habitats of all other species.

Some respondents commented about being unsure of which species where important to protect. Others had a focus of restrictions being made to control the negative impact of some species like cats, foxes, noisy miner birds and myna birds.

The lower mentioned comments focused on insects, reptiles, small mammals and lake and wetland protection.

Plant or animal species requiring protection	# of mentions
Bird species particularly small birds - including rosellas, willie wagtails, magpies, tawny frogmouths, waterbirds, ducks, swift parrots	40
Trees / native trees -Including Red Gums, River Gums, Coast Manna Gums, Black Wattle	22
Native species, native shrubs and plants -including mistletoe, native orchards and native ground covers	19
Not sure	14
All plants and wildlife	12
Restrict cats, foxes, noisy miner and myna birds	11
Insects, invertebrates, wild bees	10
Lizards, reptiles, turtles	6
Small mammals, microbats / bats, possums	6
Frogs -including amphibians, eastern banjo frog, pobble bonk frog	5
Lakes and wetland, fish, yabbies and aquatic plants	5

Illustrative Quotes

'Any native plants, esp trees. The upper story creates the canopy for every other layer of plants, and therefore habitat on every level.'

Small birds - there are dominant larger species and limited shrub habitat to protect them in our urban environment.'

The small bird community needs a lot of help - the local extinction over the last 10-20 years of most of the small birds that were previously common is very concerning. The lack of frogs in Glen Eira is also concerning.

'Trees - because we have a small amount of open space and the tree canopy is insufficient. Protecting trees helps to protect against the urban heat island effect and provides habitat for other species.'

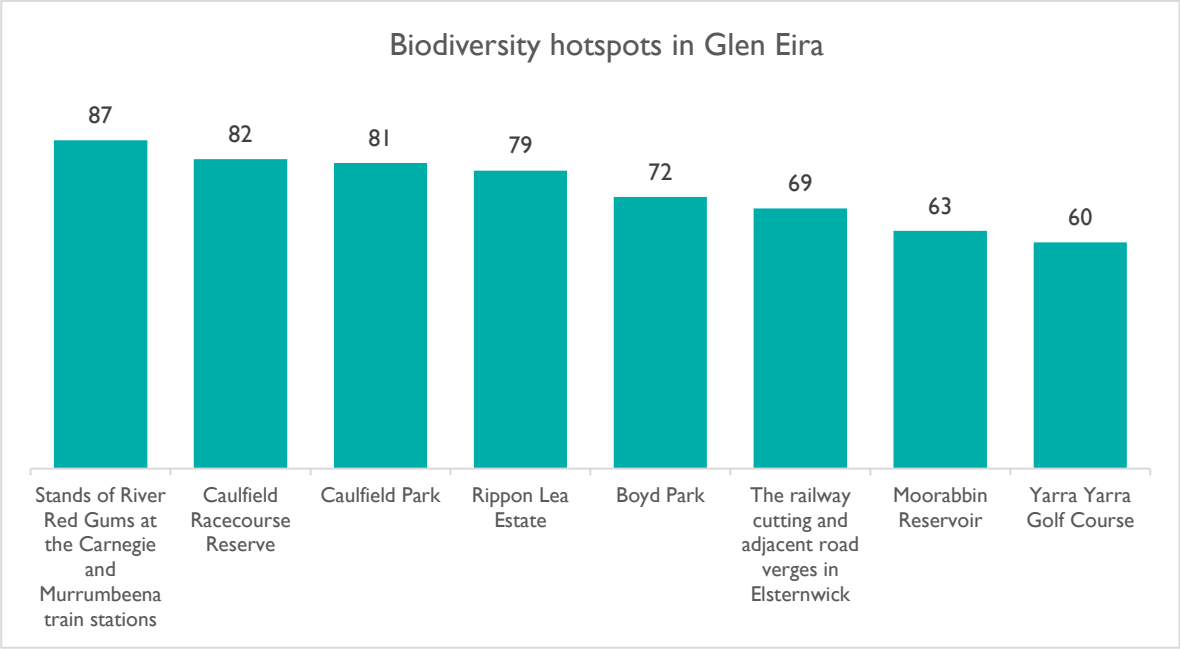
'Native birdlife and wild bees. Native local flora. All important to protect and maintain.'

Question 3: Asked survey respondents to consider the eight biodiversity hotspots in Glen Eira (identified in the *Biodiversity in Glen Eira 2018 Report)* and decide whether they should be prioritised for the protection of species at these locations:

1. **Moorabbin Reservoir**
2. **Caulfield Park**
3. **Boyd Park**
4. **Rippon Lea Estate**
5. **Yarra Yarra Golf Course**
6. **Caulfield Racecourse Reserve**
7. **The railway cutting and adjacent road verges in Elsternwick.**
8. **Stands of River Red Gums at the Carnegie and Murrumbeena train stations**

All 111 survey respondents answered this question and were able to select multiple locations. All eight hotspots received a high response rate for protection however the top four in order of ranking are:

1. Stands of River Red Gums at the Carnegie and Murrumbeena train stations (87);
2. Caulfield Racecourse Reserve (82);
3. Caulfield Park (81); and
4. Rippon Lea Estate (79).



Question 3a. Asked survey respondent if they knew of any other locations in Glen Eira which they felt might be important for protecting or promoting biodiversity?

There were 69 survey respondents who answered this question and 42 who skipped it. Survey respondents identified additional locations that they regarded as important for biodiversity listed in the table below. The top responses by far identify parks; either all parks

or specifically named parks. This is followed by reserves, residential (private) land, railway verges and trails and nature strips.

Illustrative Quotes

'I think all parks in Glen Eira are important for encouraging the return of native fauna.'

'Packer Park and Mallanbool reserve, Green Meadows park, Booran reserve, are all potential places to improve biodiversity and act as corridors between existing refuges for wildlife.'

'Mallanbool Reserve had white browed scrub wrens; laneways in Glenhuntly that run parallel to train line.'

'i think the trainlines can be a very strong wildlife corridor.'

'Planting out your nature strip with indigenous plant species'.

Question 4: Asked survey respondents what they saw as the main challenges for protecting biodiversity in Glen Eira?

All 111 survey respondents answered this question. Responses are categorised and summarised in ranked order in the table below.

Property development and urbanisation were by far the top mentioned response (50 mentions). Selected fauna, both domesticated and wild received the next top response (23) with animals such as cats, dogs, foxes and certain larger bird species being seen to have a negative impact on the protection of biodiversity.

Lack of awareness and education in the community was the third top response (11) indicating that more knowledge on biodiversity is needed. Lack of or loss of green open space, trees, indigenous plants and species received the same mentions (around 10) and climate change a slightly lower response rate of nine mentions.

Challenges to biodiversity	# of mentions
Property development, increased urbanisation, planning schemes	50
Pests (domestic and wild) - including cats (at night), foxes, dogs (off lead), domination of noisy miner and myna birds	23
Lack of awareness and need for community education	11
Lack of green, open space	10
Lack of trees, removal and loss of trees	10
Climate change	9
Lack of indigenous plants, vegetation and trees	9
Pollution and litter	8
Open space priority given to sporting fields, playgrounds, car parks	6
Balancing the value of biodiversity with human use	5
Funding and costs	5
Too much lawn and grass	4
Lack of native vegetation corridors and well-connected biodiversity areas	4

Illustrative Quotes

'Removal of vegetation. Lack of local tree laws.'

'Dogs and cats scaring, threatening, attacking native wildlife. Habitat loss due to excessive dog parks and sports ovals.'

'Urbanisation and number of people and cars.'

'overdevelopment with removal of vegetation + "renewing" of existing plantings to move from exotics to natives (but not at Rippon Lea.')

'Lack of awareness from residents and what they can do to help (e.g. dogs on leashes, cat containment, wildlife gardening), and lack of specific habitat enhancement measures for biodiversity.'

'Managing the competing interest of park users; families using playgrounds, people with dogs and those wanting a focus upon regenerating nature habitat.'

Question 5: Asked survey respondents what they felt were the most important actions that they can take to protect and promote biodiversity in Glen Eira?

All 111 survey respondents answered this question. Responses are categorised and summarised in ranked order in the table below.

The top response given by survey respondents on what actions they can take was to plant more native trees, plants and shrubs in their gardens and properties (48 mentions). Survey respondents also identified that they could raise awareness and improve their knowledge on biodiversity through education and through citizen science activities (28 mentions).

Improving habitats for animals, engaging in local community planting and conservation efforts, protecting older trees and indigenous vegetation and preserving or creating more green space were the next actions identified receiving between nine to 11 mentions.

Community actions to protect and promote biodiversity	# of mentions
Plant natives – trees, shrubs, grasses, greenery (in my garden/property)	48
Raise awareness, learn more, engage in community education and citizen science	28
Create habitats for animals, connected pathways for animal movement and water sources for birds	11
Encourage community plantings, weeding, volunteering and local conservation efforts	10
Protect mature trees, native plants and remnant indigenous vegetation	9
Preserve green space and create more green space and habitats	9
Do proper waste management of green bin and recycling, reduce waste and avoid plastics	7
Plant my nature strip	6
Keep cats indoors	5
Not sure	4

Illustrative Quotes

'I have removed my lawn and planted a natives plant garden to provide habitat for native birds and insects.'

'I already take the following actions - plant indigenous shrubs in my garden and provide water and habitat for birds and other creatures - am involved with local nature surveys. I would like to be more involved with improving habitats by helping to plant '

'Plant native species and not use pesticides. Provide water for birds.'

'Learn more about the plants native to this area and continue to plant them and increase biodiversity in my own backyard and respond to surveys like this.'

'Plant only indigenous native species, create a pollinator garden, eliminate pesticide use, provide water sources, leave dead wood, reduce light pollution and support local conservation efforts.'

'Making sure I compost and throw away my waste properly.'

Question 6: Asked survey respondents what they felt were the most important actions that Council can take to protect and promote biodiversity in Glen Eira?

All 111 survey respondents answered this question. . Responses are categorised and summarised in ranked order in the table below.

The most frequently recorded response by survey respondents on actions Council can take is to protect and restore native plants and trees (31 mentions) as well as to plant and increase native and indigenous plants and trees (24 mentions). Providing education and raising more awareness of biodiversity was an important role for Council (26 mentions) as well as providing leadership and coordination in the strategic, policy and in research (22 mentions).

Addressing and controlling animals considered pests due to their negative impact on other species remained consistent in the mix of high responses (19 mentions) as did minimising the impact of property development in loss of trees and green space (11 mentions).

Council actions identified to protect and promote biodiversity	# of mentions
Protect native plants and trees - restore habitats and understory, create, biodiversity corridors	31
Improve awareness and education on biodiversity.	26
Plant native and indigenous vegetation. trees, shrubs and ground covers.	24
Lead and coordinate planning, strategy, policy, research and reporting for biodiversity	22
Address and control pests including foxes, noisy miner and myna bird overpopulation, cat curfews and fines at night, dog fines for being off leash	19
Minimise property development and add laws in planning scheme relating to tree removal and tree planting	11
Consult with the community to encourage participation	9
Protect, develop, and increase green open space	7
Stop planting non-indigenous plants and deciduous exotic trees	5
Fees and penalties introduced for tree removal and incentives to keep trees	5
Plant and seed give aways and more grants for sustainability	4
Reduce litter and pollution	3
Support planting on nature strips	3
Protect and reinstate wetlands / waterways	3
Work with Traditional Owners and follow their advice	2

Illustrative Quotes

'Prioritise and protect native plants and trees in all public places. Stop planting deciduous exotic trees. Plant more trees for shade in public places.'

'Have a Biodiversity Strategy and imbed it into the Planning Scheme.'

'Require a permit to remove trees in the front & back 4 m of residential sites, protect as many as possible. Plant indigenous understorey under trees in parks. Advocate for community sports in private schools to save green spaced in parks.'

'Take action to reduce the dominance of Noisy Miners, introduce wetlands into parks, plant indigenous plants, don't remove dense vegetation, stop planting non-indigenous trees and eucalypts in parks and as street trees.'

'Have penalties for cutting down trees and incentives for keeping them.'

'Stop chopping down trees. Require new developments to plant trees. Plant native species. Put nesting boxes for parrots, owls and kookaburras in trees.'

'Education, projects, community involvement, attention and more grants for sustainability.'

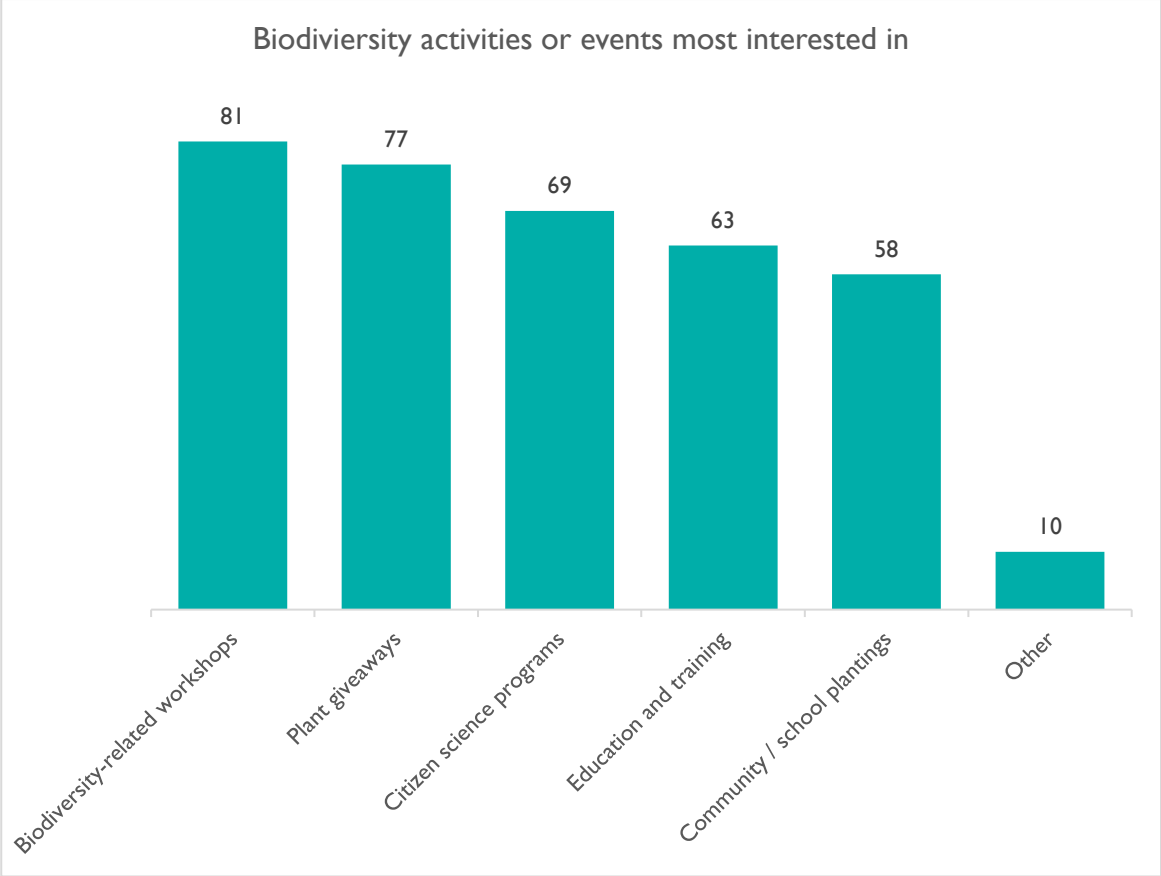
'Have a fox and feral cat control staff. Fine people who do not manage their cats.'

'Introducing local tree laws.'

Question 7: Asked survey respondents whether they would be interested in taking part in any of the following biodiversity activities or events?

Citizen science programs	Education and training	Plant giveaways	Community / school plantings	Biodiversity-related workshops	Other activities (please specify)

There were 100 survey respondents who answered this question and 11 who skipped it. 81 survey respondents were mostly interested in biodiversity workshops, 77 survey respondents selected plant giveaways 69 survey respondents selected citizen science programs. There were 10 responses in the 'other' category. Suggestions included advocacy to state government on planning system reform for biodiversity, helping establish a local community indigenous nursery, providing an intergenerational family and friends workshop, community planting projects and nature engagement activities led by First Nations peoples.



Question 8: Asked survey respondents if they represented or know of any groups, organisations or members of the community who would be interested in working with Council to develop the biodiversity plan? If so, please provide their details below.

There were 53 survey respondents who answered this question and 58 who skipped it. Survey respondents identified having connections with the following groups:

- several Glen Eira habitat, garden, flora and fauna facegroup groups.
- Glen Eira Emergency Climate Action Group (GECAN)
- Carnegie laneways,
- friends of Mallambool, Boyd Park and Wildlife Gardens group
- Care for Nature Glen Eira
- Biosis Indigenous Landcare group
- Birdlife Australia
- Victorian Entomology Society
- Port Phillip EcoCentre
- Scout Association
- Green Wedges Coalition, Defenders of the South East green wedge
- U3A Bentleigh Gardening group
- Beth Weizmann Urban Farm
- East Bentleigh Village Garden.
- Save the Lake at Caulfield Racecourse

- Local secondary schools/students
- Environment Victoria South Eastern Volunteers (EVSEV)
- Entomological Society of Victoria
- Boonwurrung Land and Sea Council
- Royal Botanic Gardens
- Mallambool Flora and Fauna Group

Vision Statement Activity

During the November 2023 Great Southern BioBlitz walk and talks sessions, participants were provided with the opportunity to share a vision statement. They were directed to an online survey on the Have Your Say Page to share their vision which closed at the end of December 2023.

Six people contributed their vision suggestions, these are provided below.

A predominance of native and endemic trees and native plants in public spaces to provide habitat and corridors for native fauna. Greater provision of natural shade (Victorian native trees) in public spaces for humans. 100% eco-friendly, sustainable maintenance of public plantings, including 100% removal of glyphosate from the plan. Outdoor cats required to wear bells on collars to help protect native birds and animals. Enforcement of off-leash dog restrictions. Eradication of foxes. Education and awareness programs re local native flora and fauna in schools. New plantings in public schools would be native and endemic species.
Greener and cleaner and cooler in summer. With less wide open grassed fields being replaced with more trees and shrubs. Better understanding and a more strategic choice of trees and plant by Park Services. At the present there seems to be no understanding or plan of what tree belong where.
sustainable, diverse, vibrant & increase environmental awareness, decrease climate change by our actions.
A beautiful place thriving with flora and fauna.
It would be an area where the old buildings would be preserved and lessen the amount of townhouses being built, thus many of the large open gardens would still exist for the wildlife. The air would be fresher and residents healthier, bc of the existence of more green space being left alone for people to use/enjoy. Also, if we reduced the amount of aggressive bird species -- like the 'noisy minor', then other smaller birds would have a chance to exist & be around for us to enjoy.
The Most Liveable Residential Township in Melbourne, Victoria.

Demographic profile of community survey respondents

What is your age group? (111 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents
18 – 29	11	9.9 per cent
30 - 39	16	14.4 per cent
40 – 49	22	19.8 per cent
50 – 59	20	18 per cent
60 – 69	33	29.7 per cent
70 – 79	8	7.2 per cent
80 +	1	0.9 per cent
Do you identify as any of the following? (111 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents
A woman	69	62 per cent
A man	34	30 per cent
Non-binary	2	1.8 per cent
LGBTIQA+	4	3.6 per cent
Prefer to self-identify	0	0
Prefer not to say	6	5.4 per cent
Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander? (111 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	2	1.8 per cent
No	102	91.8 per cent
Prefer not to say	7	6.3 per cent
Do you identify as a person with a disability? (111 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	8	7.2 per cent
No	97	87.3 per cent
Prefer not to say	6	5.4 per cent
Which suburb do you live in? (111 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents
Bentleigh	6	5.4 per cent
Bentleigh East	10	9 per cent
Carnegie	18	16.2 per cent
Caulfield	4	3.6 per cent
Caulfield East	5	4.5 per cent
Caulfield North	11	9.9 per cent
Caulfield South	9	8.1 per cent
Elsternwick	7	6.3 per cent
Gardenvale	1	0.9 per cent
Glen Huntly	10	9 per cent
McKinnon	7	6.3 per cent
Murrumbeena	5	4.5 per cent
Ormond	10	9 per cent
St Kilda East	1	0.9 per cent
Other	7	6.3 per cent
What is your relationship to Council? (111 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents

Ratepayer	73	70.8 per cent
Resident	74	71.8 per cent
Small business owner	7	6.8 per cent
I use council services	32	31.1 per cent
Other	7	6.8 per cent
Were you born in Australia? (97 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	79	81.4 per cent
No	18	18.5 per cent
Do you speak a language other than English at home? (92 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	9	9.7 per cent
No	83	90.2 per cent
What is your highest level of education? (96 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents
High school certificate	7	7.3 per cent
Cert IV / trade / technical / vocational training	11	11.5 per cent
Bachelor's degree	28	29.2 per cent
Graduate diploma	16	16.7 per cent
Master's degree	20	20.8 per cent
Doctorate degree	11	11.46 per cent
Prefer not to say	3	3.1 per cent
What is your housing situation? (90 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents
Owner with mortgage	32	35.5 per cent
Owner without mortgage	38	42.2 per cent
Renting	11	12.2 per cent
Renting in a share house	3	3.3 per cent
Other	6	6.6 per cent
Who lives in your household? (91 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents
Lone person	17	18.6 per cent
One parent family	5	5.5 per cent
Share household	2	2.2 per cent
Couple with children	34	37.4 per cent
Couple without children	23	25.2 per cent
Multi generation household	6	6.6 per cent
Retirement home	1	1.1 per cent
Other	3	3.3 per cent
How long have you lived in Glen Eira? (97 responses)	# of respondents	% of respondents
Less than 5 years	14	14.4 per cent
Between 6 and 10 years	14	14.4 per cent
More than 11 years	66	68 per cent
I don't live in Glen Eira	3	3.1 per cent