

Dear Professor Newman

## DRAFT STATE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Thankyou for the opportunity to comment. The Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale is very pleased with the preparation of the draft State Sustainability Strategy and the seminars and consultation process being undertaken. Leadership from all levels of government, and especially State Government, is crucial at this time given the need to raise the public profile of this agenda and sustainability is definitely a worthwhile pursuit.

Please find attached the Shire's submission on the draft strategy. We look forward to the release of the final Sustainability Strategy and to the develop and integration of sustainability initiatives across the State.

Please do not hesitate to call should you require any clarification of the points raised .

Yours sincerely

Carlie

-----  
Carlie Eldridge  
Sustainable Development Project Officer  
Special Projects Team Leader  
Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale  
Ph:(08) 9526 1112

>  
>  
>  
>

**DRAFT STATE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY SUBMISSION**  
**Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale**

*Process Is More Important Than Content*

**GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE STRATEGY**

**Role of Government in Implementing Sustainability**

The State Sustainability Strategy supports the role of government in providing the framework which can then allow each sector to advance their pursuits in sustainability in a directed and cohesive manner. Process is more important than content. The process and frameworks need to be clear and strong and supported by both government and industry in all sectors.

**Focus of Actions**

A large proportion of proposed actions are based on actions that are already planned, these actions should combine a mix of “in the pipeline” and visionary actions. Many are also too specific to one organisation eg training refers to TAFE instead of high education sector.

**Implementation**

The Strategy provides many proposed actions that aim to move Western Australia towards being a more sustainable society. These actions need to be supported through the provision of dedicated agencies or units within agencies that will focus on coordinating and supporting those people involved in achieving each of the actions. Without State government making a long term commitment to provide the resources to implement the actions they will not achieve their long term potential. The strength and success of Sustainable Development is that it should be based on a vision for a shared acceptance on a ‘whole of government, a whole of corporate and a whole of community’ approach to sustainable and common economic, social and environmental interests. And that the whole of experience should reflect a continual dynamic and enabling organic growth. The sustainability strategy and approach should encapsulate the following:

- The language, meaning and intent should be common to all stakeholders, clear and purposeful in its delivery
- It should be entirely inclusive and compelling
- It should have the flexibility to allow leaders (whom ever they are) to emerge and go forward

- It should offer opportunities to challenge arenas of need, where a change in weighting may secure benefits without harming the integrity of the other parts of the triple bottom line equation.

### **Role of Local Government**

In some places through the body of the draft Strategy the 'proposed action' suggests that Local Government should accept a wider delegation of activities without the "powers" or a commensurate increase in funding and other resources to add value to the purpose. To undertake the additional activities local government would need appropriate powers that are meaningful and have articulated legislative strength.

The strategy should also recognise that local government and community organisations are at the cutting edge of sustainability initiatives, where other departments are culturally immature. Local Government also works in a more flexible environment with ability to respond quickly and through expanding the role of local government and providing resources and the powers are a way of allowing sustainability initiatives to progress without bureaucratic hindrance.

### **SUSTAINABILITY AND GOVERNANCE**

As noted in the Strategy local government has a critical role to play in implementing sustainability. The proposed State and Local Government Roundtable is an excellent initiative that is long overdue. A genuine partnership will allow for sustainability projects to be implemented through an established framework and clear direction from the roundtable.

The development of regional strategies is also strongly supported by the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale and aligns with the current preparation of a Sustainability Strategy for the Peel Region which we form part of.

The issue for both of these initiatives is that the State government will facilitate these processes and support them both with resources and funding where required.

### **Sustainability Assessment**

#### *General*

In implementing a sustainability assessment process, the Shire believes one of the key issues is establishing a minimum acceptable standard of development and a "defined case for refusal" to ensure the status quo doesn't prevail. The process should also ensure early intervention into projects to achieve the following:

- Save time
- Deny duplication
- Stop independent or cross department barriers
- Provide certainty for applicants and decision makers alike
- Be cost effective

Ensure that the weight given to all of the sustainability factors is equal  
Allow the construction of early intervention criteria to have an education effect in the first instance.

To achieve a true sustainability assessment there needs to equality of weighting of the environmental, social and economic factors/issues . To achieve this a social impact assessment unit, with a broad social sustainability agenda, needs to be established that can develop social indicators and undertake the social assessment in the sustainability assessment process.

#### Table 3. Proposed funding criteria for sustainability assessment

Under the environment assessment objective the only natural resource to be measured in energy why aren't all resource consumption of the project considered especially water consumption but also materials consumption over the projects life cycle. This assessment framework provides the opportunity to go beyond the very limited indicator of energy as a means for assessing the environmental sustainability of a proposal.

#### *Vision*

The vision is to embed sustainability assessment into all levels of government. This needs to also ensure local government issues are addressed as well as larger state significant projects, there are projects that are assessed by local government that have regional and statewide implications.

#### *Objectives*

The Shire supports the establishment of a sustainability assessment frameworks as an excellent means of achieving optimal outcomes in large developments. The assessment framework should ensure it gives clear direction for both government agencies assessing the proposals but also for applicants preparing submissions and for the general public to interpret.

#### *Proposed Actions*

The current proposed actions focus on state government assessment of major development projects. There also needs to be the development of a sustainability assessment framework for smaller projects that is aimed primarily at local government assessment. This would help guide local governments in assessing all their projects based on sustainability and would provide a more cohesive approach to development across the state.

#### *Indicators and Targets*

Indicator that could be added are:

- Number of sustainability Assessment Completed

- Number of state agencies that have integrated sustainability assessment into their assessment processes for all projects in all departments.

- Number of Local government Authorities that have adopted a sustainability assessment framework for assessing development applications

## **Institutional Change**

### *Vision*

The vision should also incorporate that all government agencies have sustainability as their overarching framework. There is a role in the formative years for sustainability units to be established to guide the cultural change and process change that is required to integrate sustainability into the core of business. In the long term the vision should be that sustainability is part of every agencies and every department within that agencies.

### *Proposed Actions*

An additional actions should be to assist agencies to integrate sustainability into all of their actions, policies and procedures.

Action 1.4 notes to “assist relevant agencies to incorporate sustainability capacity...” sustainability is relevant to all agencies, the vision and therefore the actions should aim to achieve sustainability as the framework upon which the agencies function

### *Leadership*

To achieve integration of sustainability into all government agencies there will need to be cultural shift and also strong leadership. To achieve this leadership and integration the integration of KPI's on sustainability should be incorporated into the job requirements of CEO's of all government agencies.

### *Indicators and Targets*

An additional indicator could be the number of agencies with a sustainability culture.

## **Embracing Sustainability in Governments**

### *General*

The sustainability code of practice that is proposed for government agencies is an excellent initiative. It would also be a useful tool for local governments who are implementing sustainability in a number of ways but without a coordinated approach in most cases. The code of practice through the process of preparing it and through implementing it will bring about great cultural change and education of sustainability and also provide a framework on which to move forward to addressing sustainability. The Code when developed needs to have local government involved in the preparation but also made aware of its availability, function and the state government support available to help implement it. Serpentine Jarrahdale in regards to progressive sustainability initiatives has in the past been restrained by State Government and in moving towards integration of sustainability at a State government level it must be ensured that the role of state government is to support progressive actions on sustainability especially as local government moves at faster pace due to their flexibility. All proposed actions for state agencies should also apply to corporatised agencies.

### *Objectives*

Government must lead by example and be transparent in its actions. The action plans should be available for general viewing which will provide an invaluable educational resource.

### *Indicators and Targets*

Number of local government who have a sustainability action plan

## **Partnerships for Action**

### *General*

The partnership between local government and State government is an excellent initiative that will prove numerous benefits and opportunities for achieving sustainability in WA. Long term funding and support should be ensured from the State government so as to allow this process to work to its fullest potential. The roundtable provides an excellent opportunity for the experiences and expertise in local government in the many areas of sustainability to be integrated into the framework and to provide tools for all local governments to work forward with state government agencies in a cooperative and supportive arrangement.

The partnership in providing a framework for local government to achieve sustainability. Local government have limited resources and quite often they are unable to resource the research required for establishing sustainability initiatives. In establishing a clear framework and a range of tools and by also developing up strong relationships between state and local government this will allow local governments to use their resources efficiently in applying sustainability to their everyday actions. Regional governments should be supported where people want them but should not be the only way forward.

### *Objectives*

Another objective should be to establish a long term ongoing partnership between state and local government.

### *Proposed Actions*

There needs to be resources committed to establishing partnerships that have a long term focus.

### *Indicators and Targets*

Number of local governments using the framework established through the Partnerships

The number of local governments and state government agencies contributing to the partnership

## **Planning for Sustainability**

### *General*

The role of local government will be crucial in planning for sustainability. Local government will need support and training to implement the processes required to achieve sustainability in planning. The framework and policies that are proposed to be achieved through the local and state government partnership need to ensure that tools and support for achieving this area of sustainability is achievable.

### *Proposed Actions*

Action 1.12: The State-local government roundtable is a strongly supported initiative by the Shire of serpentine Jarrahdale and where appropriate will provide input on their experience and expertise in sustainability.

Action 1.14: The DPI needs to go beyond having a strategic alliance to assist I the implementation of planning for sustainability they need to have dedicated staff and/or unit to deal with sustainability in planing in WA. This agency is the key agency driving the broad planning agenda and focus and a dedicated unit can provide direction and support in sustainable planning for both within the DPI and for local governments throughout the State.

### *Indicators and Targets*

Staff addressing sustainable planning in DPI as their focus

Integration of sustainability principles into DPI documents and policies

## **Sustainability in the Regions**

### *General*

The Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale is part of the Peel Region which as noted in the Strategy has been addressing long term sustainability and is completing their regional sustainability strategy. The proposed actions of establishing regional sustainability strategies is an excellent initiative and allows for sharing of resources throughout regions across the State. These strategies need to build from the community as sustainability in a region is achieving what the community see as their future and provides a means to implement their vision. There needs to be actions that relate to beyond establishing the regional strategies to assessing and refining the strategies as an ongoing process. The State government with regional development commissions could provide a supportive role to ensure that the strategies are implemented and that the tools and skills are available for this to be achieved.

## **Indigenous**

There needs to be support and acknowledgment of the local knowledge that the indigenous community have. Their intellectual property also needs recognition and the value of it to be incorporated into sustainability and in particular environmental actions.

## **Research and Development for Sustainability**

### *General*

The research outlined in the strategy focuses on scientific research and that technology will provide all the answers to our future sustainability problems. There are many areas of research that need to be supported especially how to we educate and empower people to achieve sustainability. What are the tools, techniques and skills required for addressing sustainability across a broad range of areas and sectors and age groups. Scientific technologies and innovations aren't going to be the only solution for achieving a more sustainable society. There needs to be research into a broad range of areas that addresses all the issues of change in society to achieve sustainability in particular consumption which is the biggest problem facing Western Australia. Renewable energy is a key sustainable industry in WA that has the potential to be developed further in the State and to provide energy technologies to the third world.

### *Objectives*

Expand to include initiate research which targets consumption.

### *Proposed Actions*

Ensure the Global Centre for Sustainability is not a science based research facilities but addresses all academic areas of research and looks at the integration of sustainability through everything.

Instead of continuing to support bids for research that relates to sustainability, if the strategy is taking a holistic approach to implementing sustainability in WA it needs to work towards sustainability being addressed in all research undertaken.

### *Indicators and Targets*

Reduction in consumption per capita in Western Australia

## **Sustainability Information Online**

### *Vision*

Expand the one stop shop to be for all government agencies including local government and peak bodies such as the WA Collaboration. If it is truly to be a one stop shop it should incorporate as much as it can.

### *Proposed Actions*

Action 1.2.9 Implies that the online information site will primarily contain data. What also needs to be on the site are stories and case studies, tools available, links to solutions being undertaken in other parts of the world, key people and contact bodies. It needs to be inclusive of all quantitative and qualitative material on sustainability that would be useful.

There also needs to be support and a long term focus with dedicated staff collecting and disseminating information. The web site will need to be a living changing document.



### *Indicators and Targets*

Amount of information available on the web site

Amount of times the site is accessed daily

## **Recognising Sustainability Excellence**

### *General*

Ensure the awards are across all industries, include all levels of education and all ages. There needs to be more than one award it needs to be a range of awards across different areas.

## **CONTRIBUTING TO GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY**

### **General**

Four key areas are identified as areas that WA can contribute to global sustainability.

There is a fifth area that WA can easily contribute with and that is planning and development. We are located within a developing Asian region where there much development particularly urban development occurring. WA has world class sustainable planning and development expertise they could export to the Asian region.

## **Population, Development Aid and Environmental Technology**

### *Proposed Actions*

Integrate local government into the actions as a partner for developing countries. Action 2.5 proposes research between population and consumption, the key issues is consumption and the reasons for increasing consumption particularly in the first world. Extensive research into how to address this problem would provide developing countries the information and tools they need to address this issue before they are faced with the same problem of increasing consumption and the resultant loss of natural resources and inability to continue providing them at the required rate

## **Maintaining Biodiversity**

### *General*

The role of local government is not mentioned at all in this section on maintaining biodiversity. Local Government throughout the State, and worldwide, has played a significant role in biodiversity protecting and enhancement through a range of initiatives including Landcare, conservation zones, planning policies

### *Objectives*

There is valuable biodiversity within private ownership and this needs to be addressed in the objectives. Develop a framework and incentives to encourage private land owners to maintain and enhance biodiversity rich areas on their land. The Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale offers a 50% rate reduction to landowners for establishing a conservation zone on their land in areas of rich biodiversity.

Another objective should be to co-ordinate the sharing of knowledge which already exists within the many agencies and bodies within WA.

#### *Proposed Actions*

Establish guidelines for local government to implement to encourage and reward protection of biodiversity on private land.

### **Responding to Greenhouse and Climate Change**

#### *Proposed Actions*

The proposed action 2.15 is a voluntary greenhouse offsets program to assist large developments. Large developments should have mandatory greenhouse requirements which will have far reaching benefits for WA. In time these can be implemented for all developments. Larger developments have the capital to allow for innovative solutions to achieve greater greenhouse reductions.

Action 2.16 should be expanded to include a review process to ensure that requirements are tightened every few years gradually lifting the minimum standard.

Action 2.18 has to investigate the potential for all government fleet to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This is very weak, if the government are serious about setting an example they should set a quantitative target such as having all government fleet vehicles using sustainable fuels or fuel efficient (eg Toyota prius) by 2010. Within this time frame all vehicles will have been replaced and as each one is replaced that could be changed to LPG or fuel efficient vehicles.

#### *Global Contribution*

If Australia doesn't sign Kyoto the possibility of Carbon Rights trading won't exist for Australia as we won't be able to establish a market.

### **Oil Vulnerability, the Gas Transition and the Hydrogen Economy**

#### *Proposed Actions*

The current action of having 25% of vehicle fleet is very weak it has no target date to tie government to and there should be a 100% conversion to LPG or better solution in regards to greenhouse emissions.

### **SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE OF NATURAL USE**

#### **Sustainable Agriculture**

##### *Objectives*

"Facilitate land use changes within agriculture" to more sustainable practices.

### *Proposed Actions*

Action 3.2 This will need to be achieved through awareness raising, information provision and training on an ongoing basis.

Action 3.3 The integration of sustainable agriculture through regional partnerships and local government is an excellent initiative. It should be noted and incorporated that currently Landcare deal with sustainable agricultural issues at a local level primarily.

To achieve all the actions proposed a very strong information and training element will be required and this will be resource intensive. Disseminating information through the agricultural industry especially small scale operators is difficult and adequate resources will need to be allocated.

## **Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture**

### *Proposed Actions*

Develop guidelines for achieving sustainable aquaculture that will assist state and local government in assessing development proposals for aquaculture.

### *Indicators and Targets*

Number of certified sustainable fisheries through the Marine Stewardship Council

## **Sustainable Forestry and Plantations**

### *Proposed Actions*

There needs to be a timber certification system established that allows consumers to identify the timber source method of management and harvesting, type and age of timber. This will need to be done in coordination with the other states to ensure an integrated approach is taken Australia wide. WA could become leaders in the provision of sustainable management timber and this is a growing market.

## **Sustainable Mining and Petroleum**

### *Vision*

The current vision is from the view that mining will not have to evolve to more sustainable ways of doing business which incorporate reduce resource extraction over time. The future mining industry could incorporate reuse and remanufacturing of resources to reduce extraction required. The vision needs to look to a better future that is innovative and looks at the whole life cycle and solutions for closing the loop in resource use.

### *Objectives*

the objective in the strategy is to achieve worlds best practice WA has the opportunity to go beyond this and be leaders in the field.

### *Proposed Actions*

Action 3.27 says to consider the GMI principals for mining. These have been developed by the key mining players worldwide and have been accepted internationally as a means for addressing sustainability in the sector. We need to commit to using these as a base framework and not moving away from the global movement and work that is being done but using this resource and expertise to best achieve sustainable mining in WA.

Provide guidelines and training on triple bottom line reporting within the mining industry.

### *Indicators and Targets*

Reduction in minerals extraction and increase in resource reprocessing

## **Sustainable Tourism**

### *General*

Acknowledge that some areas of WA are too valuable to be accessed for tourism and should be protected for biodiversity. These areas will need to be identified and protected through legislation.

If WA is to be marketed as a nature based tourism destination there needs to be education and awareness of the issues associated with what they are experiencing and how to protect it.

Training needs to be provided to operators on the best ways to operate sustainable tourism and manage the impacts they are having.

For sensitive areas accreditation guidelines and system need to be developed before operators can take tourists there. The carrying capacity of tourism areas needs to be identified to ensure that only that number of visitors access the places.

There is a balance between allowing people to experience a place and its long term survival that needs to be considered.

There is great potential for sustainable tourism as opposed to eco-tourism. WA has large sectors such as mining which tourists would like to view, there are many opportunities related to educating tourists on WA sustainability initiatives.

### *Proposed Actions*

Action 3.34 Accreditation is essential especially as sustainable tourism becomes the 'trendy' thing. There needs to be an identified state government agencies responsible for managing the accreditation process which would incorporate training and monitoring.

There needs to be a strong community input to tourism operations. There needs to be a mechanism built in that allows local communities to assess potential tourism operations for the impacts they will have on the physical and social environments.

### **Sustainable Aquatic Systems**

The proposed set of actions will require strong partnerships between state and local government and the community to achieve.

### **Sustainable Coastal and Marine Environments**

#### *Vision*

That the coastline is protected from over development through planning policies and legislation.

#### *Proposed Actions*

A Planning Policy and necessary legislation is implemented to control planning along the WA coastline, particularly within the Perth region to ensure that the coastline is not overdeveloped impacting on the social and physical environment for current and future generations.

## **SUSTAINABILITY AND SETTLEMENTS**

### **Managing Urban and Regional Growth**

#### *General*

The key sustainability issues for declining areas and areas requiring population growth is employment and in particular youth employment. This will help retain youth within regions who can build a thriving community.

#### *Proposed Actions*

There needs to be a strategy developed for the Perth metropolitan region that explores that carrying capacity (ecological) of Perth and where the extent of urban sprawl should be. From this legislation and policies can restrict urban development to within Perth's carrying capacity and all future growth can be accommodated within. This can be achieved through strategic consolidations around urban centres and transport nodes which more sustainably uses infrastructure and reduces car usage.

#### *Indicators and Targets*

Employment in regional areas

### **Revitalising Declining Centres and Suburbs**

#### *General*

The proposed actions need to have long term focus and funding ensured to allow for urban renewal to occur across the metropolitan region. Engaging local governments

during the preparation of guidelines and other initiatives will be key to the success of the programs.

## **Integrated Land Use and Balanced Transport**

### *Vision*

The vision states that transport and land use are to become so interconnected, in a sustainable city land use and transport would be interdependent one should be developed with the other. New Land development should be restricted to areas with adequate transport and transport should be developed where if the current or planned future population to sustain it.

### *Proposed Actions*

Development proposals must address public transport in their applications at both state and local levels.

Large scale development is not to occur where there is insufficient public transport.

Develop a long term public transport strategy that will ensure Perth achieves an extensive, particularly rail, network that is efficient, affordable and integrated with all transport modes and with urban centres.

### *Indicators and Targets*

Number of train stations

Number of bus services

## **Managing Freight and Regional Transport**

### *General*

The relationship between freight and health needs to be recognised.

### *Proposed Actions*

Expanding the use of rail over trucks is an excellent step towards achieving sustainability. When expanding the freight network local communities affected need to be engaged to ensure conflicts can be either avoided or reduced early in the planning stages.

## **Preserving Air Quality**

### *General*

Car usage in Perth is the major contributing factor and with increasing urban sprawl and the slow development of train services and the low usage of existing services, this is the key area to tackle to achieve improved air quality. The proposed actions do not address the interactions of behaviour that planning can influence. It also doesn't explore stronger measures such as car taxes, incentives for public transport especially by companies and agencies.

## **Reducing and Managing Waste**

### *Vision*

Zero waste should be the vision by 2020. This implies that waste is seen as a resource and stays in a closed loop system. It is a much stronger vision.

### *Proposed Actions*

The indicators are excellent for waste but that proposed actions are not strong enough to achieve these targets.

Action 4.45 The use of recycled products should be mandatory for state government agencies by 2010. Government should lead by example and this will drive the market for sustainable products.

Action 4.48 go beyond encouraging agencies to ensuring government agencies reduce consumption and waste

## **Our Water future**

### *General*

Institutional change is required to achieve real water consumption and delivery changes that are sustainable. The use of water by industry needs to be addressed as part of settlements and water delivery and use to ensure greater amounts of grey and black water are reused in industrial processes.

### *Objectives*

Grey water reused within all new developments by 2010.

Water Sensitive Urban Design for all new development across the State.

### *Proposed Actions*

Action 4.53 the target of 10% reduction is very low considering simple cost effective technology such as water efficient showerheads, 4 and 5 star hot water systems, dual flush toilets and flow restrictors for taps amongst many others.

Water sensitive urban design principles should be integrated into planning policy and encourage as the preferred urban form to achieve reduction of water use in the urban environment.

Incentive schemes could be introduced to householders to implement simple things like efficient showerheads.

### *Indicators and Targets*

What are the long term targets 20, 50 and 100 year targets for water consumption?

## **Sustainable Energy**

### *Vision*

The vision should contain a numerical target for energy reduction in consumption and emissions reduction of greenhouse gases.

#### *Proposed Actions*

Support the development of more regional energy and greenhouse coordinators such as the south east regional energy coordinator. This allows for efficient use of resources and a community approach addressing regional issues of energy consumption.

A commercial building energy rating system needs to be implemented, similar to system implemented in NSW by SEDA.

### **Preserving Cultural Heritage and Landscapes and creating a sense of place**

#### *Proposed Actions*

Action 4.74 This should be expanded to all members of a local community. It is important that all members understand their areas heritage and are engaged in understanding and protecting it.

### **Building Sustainability**

#### *Objectives*

Integrate sustainable building and construction requirements into state and local planning policies.

#### *Proposed Actions*

Action 4.78 What system is being used to do star ratings? The NSW Nathers system has been unsuccessful and had many implementation problems, it is also a measure of thermal efficiency as opposed to energy efficiency.

Action 4.79 the preparation of the guidelines should identify areas and issues that will require different implementation methods including legislation, policies, guidelines, education and financial incentives. These should then be implemented.

Review the work in this area being undertaken by the NSW Sustainable Advisory Council, it is appropriate to what WA is trying to achieve and their knowledge would be valuable.

Action 4.82 Should be expanded to include the removal of financial and institutional barriers.

#### *Indicators and Targets*

Legislation implemented

Policies Implemented

## **SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITIES**

### **Community Services and Development**

#### *Objectives*

State government to provide support to local government who play a large role in the community development and coordinating community services.



### *Proposed Actions*

Action 5.2 to achieve this proposed action local government would need to be engaged and supported as they are the key agency in dealing with local communities.

The role of local government in the delivery of community services seems to have been overlooked in the strategy.

There needs to be programs established that identify key people in communities as leaders and change agents and support and training given to these people. The role of government in community development is to support and foster the potential of communities to lead and make change by building the capacity especially through people who are identified as key multipliers.

### *Indicators and Targets*

Indicators of sustainable community development and services include unemployment rates in local areas, crime rates and high school retention rates among many others.

## **Housing and Sustainability**

### *Objectives*

Ensure all new public housing is within walking distance of a train station or major bus node. This provides affordable and sustainable solutions to low income people and avoids more cars being necessary.

### *Proposed Actions*

Action 5.6 developing local housing strategies on a regional basis should provide a better solution and also overcome the “not in my Backyard” syndrome if the housing are distributed evenly throughout the Perth metro region.

Action 5.9 Minimum sustainable building standard could be mandated for public housing, this is an area that needs low energy use and low cost housing more than the general housing market. It also provides an excellent opportunity to demonstrate that it is achievable.

### *Indicators and Targets*

An indicator of sustainable housing and the provision of affordable housing in the Perth region would be the reduction in requirements of public housing.

## **Sustaining Healthy Communities**

### *Proposed Actions*

Local Government plays a crucial role in local and regional communities in ensuring health standards are maintained through the work of the Environmental Health Officers. This needs to be linked to the work of state government and other health agencies to achieve a more integrated approach.

## **Education and Community Awareness for Sustainability**

### *General*

Environment education and Education for Sustainable Development are different things and in the strategy this needs to be clear. Environmental education can help in education for sustainability.

Partnerships is the key to education across all sectors and the current strategy doesn't address how all sectors of the community are going the awareness, education and capacity building they require. If the community is not educated in sustainability all the proposed actions and strategies are not going to achieve much.

### *Proposed Actions*

A Comprehensive communications strategy is an excellent initiative that will guide WA towards achieving sustainability.

The proposed actions are very restrictive and mostly relate to school education, all citizens need to be educated for sustainable development and have the capacity built to make change.

WA to review adopting the ARHUS Convention.

Action 5.19 develop the environment strategy to link to education for sustainability program and integrate social and economic education.

Action 5.21 One officer is not enough resources to deal with education throughout the State. One person could not provide information to every school, develop sustainability into the curriculum and work in partnership with all stakeholders in the education sector. There should be a unit established to deal with education for sustainability across the state that addressed school education and also general education and awareness.

Action 5.25 There is a proposal for schools to adopt an ecological ethic, why are they not being encourage to adopt a sustainability ethic?

## **Sustainability through Culture and the Arts**

### *Proposed Actions*

Action 5.34 there needs to clear guidelines and state government agencies that are responsible for dealing with cultural tourism and sustainability.

## **Multiculturalism and Sustainability**

### *Proposed Actions*

Action 5.38 This needs to be more than a one off seminar, there needs to a series of metropolitan and regional seminars.

Link multiculturalism strategies to education strategies

## **SUSTAINABILITY AND BUSINESS**

### **General**

Frameworks and processes already exist particularly within the global business and sustainability networks such as the world business council for sustainable development.

The role of the government in regards to business is to identify and work towards removing the barriers that exist preventing sustainability in the business sector being achieved.

### **Training and Facilitation for Sustainability**

#### *General*

There needs to be guidelines for training on sustainability established. They are required to ensure that care is taken when “selling” sustainability, in particular that it builds upon the environmental movement and work and culture change that has been achieved and moves forward from this. There is a danger of disempowering and losing people if they feel the work they have done is not relevant to achieving sustainability.

#### *Vision*

The vision needs to add that it relates to training at all levels both formal and informal.

#### *Objectives*

Training needs to incorporate capacity building and equip people with the skills to implement what they have learnt about sustainability.

Training needs to be inclusive of all training not just jobs and courses that are identified as specifically relating to sustainability. This implies integration of sustainability into all courses with the higher education sector.

#### *Proposed Actions*

Action 6.1 needs to have its aim to incorporate integrating sustainability into the curriculum of all courses offered throughout TAFE.

Action 6.2 refers to green jobs, sustainability is not just about green jobs and the strategy should avoid targeting specific programs or actions and make overall proposed actions for across the state and avoid being specific to an area such as green jobs.

Action 6.3 the Working Futures conference provides an excellent example of a conference that addresses sustainability issues. There should be an annual sustainability or a number of sustainability conferences addressing a range of issues that links to the rest of Australia and is a means of sharing ideas and resources.

Action 6.4 Link the enterprise facilitation to local governments especially in fringe and rural areas.

Action 6.5 needs to be expanded beyond a simple statement of providing leadership on accreditation and certification of sustainability. There needs to be the establishment of guidelines for this to be implement and then leadership shown for the implementing these and providing quality assurance of the systems. A single state government agency needs to take responsibility for this as well to ensure a long term consistent approach.

#### *Indicators and Targets*

The current indicators are not useful. It should be the number of courses as a % of the whole who have had sustainability integrated into the course content

### **Financial Reform and Economic Instruments for Sustainability**

#### *Vision*

The vision should incorporate the removal of financial barriers to achieving sustainability.

#### *Proposed Actions*

Review all state government policies relating to finance for consistency with sustainability objectives and amend where necessary.

Link the global business and sustainability initiatives to Western Australian business.

Action 6.9 Mandate that state government agencies must report annually against the triple bottom line by 2005.

#### *Indicators and Targets*

Number of business reporting against the triple bottom line

### **Eco-efficiency and Industrial Ecology**

#### *Proposed Actions*

Action 6.10 Mandate the adoption of the Cleaner Production Statement by all state government agencies by 2010. Government must lead by example and demonstrate how it is achievable for all business.

Action 6.14 this needs to be expanded to action that sustainability is integrated into all existing business associations and networks as opposed to establishing a separate group. Sustainability is an issue for all not the converted.

### **Industry Sustainability Covenants**

#### *Proposed Actions*

Ensure that there is a framework and ongoing support for the covenant program

## **Corporate Social Responsibility**

### *General*

Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives undertaken by business should be acknowledged, supported and encouraged. Corporate Social Responsibility will be different for every sector and every business and therefore setting guidelines and principles may be difficult. The most useful thing to business is providing case studies for actions within WA and throughout the world and also information and links to existing tools and information sources. The government should also support existing groups such as ACCA, the Australian Corporate Citizenship Alliance in disseminating this information.