



PURPOSE OF THE MASTER PLAN

The purpose of the Master Plan is to provide a framework for both the day to day operational and long-term decision making. By identifying future projects and setting priorities, the Master Plan provides a basis for infrastructure planning and investment.

While the BGA Strategic Plan provides a strategic framework for the Gardens, the Master Plan translates this framework onto the ground at each site.

The Botanic Gardens of Adelaide manages three gardens and an experimental field site – the Adelaide Botanic Garden (including Botanic Park), Mount Lofty Botanic Garden, Wittunga Botanic Garden and the John Gould Kelly Memorial Plantation. This Master Plan covers the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Gardens.

The Adelaide Botanic Garden is one of the State's most visited and loved institutions. Established in 1855, the Garden has developed with the city, providing a rich array of leisure, tourism, cultural and scientific opportunities for the community and visitors. The Garden has significant cultural heritage values .

Mount Lofty Botanic Garden was opened to the public in 1977 following a staged process of land acquisition beginning in 1952. Located on the east side of the main Mount Lofty Ranges ridge, the Garden provides an opportunity to grow cool temperate plants less suited to the Adelaide Plains. The initial master plan for the site was prepared by landscape architect, Allan Correy in 1965.

STRUCTURE OF THE STUDY

This Master Plan sets out its contextual basis by reviewing the operating parameters of the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide and the history and physical attributes of the two sites. Section 2 of the study specifically reviews the overall purpose of the Gardens and the current management and policy framework under which the organisation operates. The History section of the study contains a brief history of

each Garden based on the work of the recent conservation studies and sets the heritage context for the Master Plan. Section 4 contains site analysis of the two sites using a graphic format, and covers areas such as surrounding land use, topography and current user movement patterns. The following section of the study, Botanic Gardens of Adelaide Values, draws from the Gardens' Current Strategic Plan (2004-2007) a summary of the core values and principles that the Gardens have set to guide the future directions of the organisation.

This Master Plan follows the preparation of reports into the following complementary study areas, which have been examined by the Master Plan team through the process of the study:

- Access at Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park
- Waterways at Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park
- Existing tree study at Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park
- Power and lighting requirements for Botanic Park
- Heritage conservation at Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park
- Heritage conservation at Mount Lofty Botanic Garden
- Disability access at Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park
- Disability access at Mount Lofty Botanic Garden
- Irrigation systems at Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park

- Irrigation systems at Mount Lofty Botanic Garden

These studies, along with extensive site analysis and research by the Master Plan team, have provided the basis for the identification of a wide range of issues which require consideration across the Gardens.

In Section 6 of the study, Issues for the Master Plan are grouped into four categories and twenty-one subcategories, with an Objective stated for each issue subcategory. These objectives are the basis for the preparation of a set of Strategic Responses that form the framework of Section 7. Each Strategic Response describes broad directions for future Actions within each Garden; the Actions are subsequently listed.

The final two chapters illustrate the development of the Site Master Plans for the two Gardens, incorporating conceptual analysis, the final recommended Plans and precinct-by-precinct descriptions of the planning of the Gardens into the future.

PROCESS

The preparation of the Master Plans has involved extensive consultation with the Board, Gardens management and staff. In addition, input from a Project Reference Group, representing a broad range of stakeholders, has been sought periodically during the process.

In August 2004, a staff workshop was held in which all Gardens staff responded to draft analysis and actions for the precincts for both the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Gardens. This and earlier workshops were also attended by representatives of the Friends of the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide and representatives of the Rose Society of South Australia.

In July 2005 a Draft Site Master Plan Report was released on the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide web site for public consultation. That report provided, for certain precincts, a number of alternative future options for consideration.

This Master Plan document has been prepared following a review of the earlier report and consultation feedback on the proposed options.

STUDY STRUCTURE

KEY ISSUES AND OBJECTIVES

STRATEGIC RESPONSES AND ACTIONS

MASTERPLANS

PRECINCT DESCRIPTIONS AND ACTIONS

