

## STRATEGIC RESPONSES AND ACTIONS 7.0



**KEY ISSUES AND OBJECTIVES**

**STRATEGIC RESPONSES  
AND ACTIONS**

**MASTER PLANS  
AND  
PRECINCT DESCRIPTIONS  
AND PROJECTS**

## Strategic Responses and Actions

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Strategic Responses and Actions respond to the Issues and Objectives identified in Section 6, and are listed under the sub-categories shown below.

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## 7.1 Gardens

### 7.1.1 BUILT HERITAGE

BUILT HERITAGE –  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Replace the existing Victoria House and Schomburgk Range glasshouses with a new purpose-built pavilion to display the Amazon Waterlily and associated flora.

**ACTIONS:**

- Construct the new Amazon Waterlily Pavilion and environs as part of the 'Gardens 150' sesquicentenary celebrations.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop the Museum of Economic Botany to provide a focus for education and interpretation programs while respecting its historical role and architecture.

**ACTIONS:**

- Undertake conservation work on the Museum of Economic Botany and develop sympathetic display systems to allow its continuing use as an educational and cultural facility.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop the North Lodge precinct as a Gardens Resource Centre for grounds staff, Friends and volunteers.

**ACTIONS:**

- Build new facilities to the rear of North Lodge and refurbish North Lodge in accordance with the Conservation Management Plan (2003) for the building in order to create a Garden Resource Centre.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Review all buildings and fences along the Gardens hospital boundary south of the Palm House, to determine opportunities to increase garden area and provide improved screening and amenity.

**ACTIONS:**

- Undertake a full heritage assessment of the building fabric of the existing Francis Arbour structure and review the depot facility requirements in this area.
- Rationalise those buildings adjacent the Francis Arbour that have no heritage or strategic value and where possible, develop the sites as gardens with screen tree planting and themed garden planting.
- Renovate or replace fencing along the hospital boundary.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Ensure integrity and safety of the historic bridge over First Creek in Botanic Park so that it can continue to be used by staff and the public.

**ACTIONS:**

- Undertake conservation works on the First Creek Bridge in Botanic Park.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve security along the Botanic Road frontage while respecting the heritage status of the wall.

**ACTIONS:**

- Design and install appropriate additions to the Botanic Road wall to improve security for the Gardens.

## 7.1.2 GARDEN HERITAGE

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GARDEN HERITAGE –  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Ensure future development recognises the exceptional cultural significance of the Garden, and the findings of the Adelaide Botanic Garden Conservation Study regarding individual garden buildings, statuary, fences, gardens and collections.

#### ACTIONS:

- Review all capital works projects with regard to the Conservation Study findings to ensure the Garden heritage is maintained and reinforced.
- Redevelop landscaping adjacent Francis' Obelisk to improve its heritage setting

### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Ensure future development of Botanic Park recognises the high cultural significance ranking of the Park, and the findings of the Adelaide Botanic Garden Conservation Study.

#### ACTIONS:

- Review all landscaping works with regard to the Conservation Study findings to ensure the Park's heritage is maintained and reinforced.

### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Conserve the Garden's heritage artefacts.

#### ACTIONS:

- Develop in consultation with a recognised heritage consultant a maintenance program for all Garden heritage artefacts such as statuary, fountains, and garden furniture. Include in the program all items identified as having either exceptional or high cultural significance in the Adelaide Botanic Garden Conservation Study.

GARDEN HERITAGE –  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

### **STRATEGIC RESPONSES:**

Review land holdings associated with Mount Lofty Botanic Garden to achieve an integrated Garden maintainable to the standard outlined by this document and the BGA Strategic Plan.

#### ACTIONS:

- Explore divestment of the quarry site as a means of rationalising land holdings that can be realistically maintained.
- Explore improved integration and/or connectivity of Somerset Rocks and, if this is not practical then explore divestment.
- Seek to overturn the public access restriction on the Arthur Hardy sanctuary so as to allow public usage and improve integration of this site within the Garden.

### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Ensure future development recognises the high cultural significance ranking attributed to the Garden, and the findings of the Draft Mount Lofty Botanic Garden Conservation Study regarding individual gardens, living collections and trees.

#### ACTIONS:

- Review all capital works projects with regard to the Draft Conservation Study findings to ensure Garden heritage is maintained and reinforced.

### 7.1.3 SPATIAL EXPERIENCE

SPATIAL EXPERIENCE –  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Maintain the established spatial qualities of the lawns and garden beds around Botanic Creek and Main Lake.

#### ACTIONS:

- Review current lake edge landscaping around Main Lake and investigate opportunities for improvement of public access to the Lake, while maintaining the lake's garden setting and key views.
- Undertake re-landscaping of Botanic Creek to recreate a more natural creek character, both to enhance the landscape setting of the creek and improve water quality.
- Review the spatial experience from the top of the Araucaria Avenue ridgeline to Palm House, including the proposed new Amazon Water Lily Pavilion and links to, the Bicentennial Conservatory and National Wine Centre. Consider extending the Avenue as well as relocating the Nymph statue to the eastern terminus.

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Maintain the distinct spatial qualities of the 'garden rooms' in the northern half of the Garden.

#### ACTIONS:

- Ensure future plantings in the Classground, the Economic Garden and the Mediterranean Garden are undertaken with due consideration to the distinct and historic spatial quality of these 'garden rooms'.

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Develop a recognisable landscape character for

the currently open and indistinct areas within the south eastern corner of the Garden.

#### ACTIONS:

- Prepare a detailed brief and concept plan for the south east corner of the Garden adjacent the National Wine Centre between the Mallee Section and the future First Creek wetland and retarding basin. Ensure the proposed concept plan incorporates the following elements into the design:
  - Themed display gardens featuring Australian native plantings linking the arid and semi-arid Mallee planting with the moist Australian Forest collection and the proposed future ephemeral riverine and wetland plantings associated with the First Creek works, to create a more complete combined collection of Australian flora.
  - Extension of the moist Australian Forest collection around the southern edge of the Bicentennial Conservatory to strengthen the link between the main collection and those trees on the Eastern side of the Conservatory.
  - Recognition of the natural topography of the ridgeline and the lookout opportunities on axis with the Araucaria Avenue and over the future wetland to the northeast.
  - Redevelopment of the existing Sunken Garden space for perennial flower focus collection and as an event space. Include linkage to the new curved path above it that connects the Mallee section to the Morgue Bridge.
  - Incorporation of the Andy Goldsworthy site specific environmental sculpture.
  - Pathway links to the National Wine Centre
  - Improved amenity and integration of staff carpark facilities (adjacent Goodman building) into the landscape.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Reconfigure the International Rose Garden to achieve a spatial experience more compatible with the scale of the remainder of the Garden, and to intensify the setting for interpretation of the Rosa species.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a detailed brief and concept plan for improvements to the formal layout and design of the International Rose Garden. Ensure the proposed concept plan incorporates the following elements into the design:
  - Intensification of the Rose Garden collection by reducing the extent of hard landscaping, relocating the plantings into beds in the centre of the garden and increasing opportunities for interpretation
  - Improving the spatial definition of the International Rose Garden by replacing the outer beds with structural plantings on all four sides to create a 'garden room' experience similar to other formal garden rooms existing in the Garden.
  - Improving visitor amenity by screening Hackney Road and Plane Tree Drive, and increasing opportunities for shade and seating.
  - Incorporation of the Rose Trial Garden beds, possibly in NW corner.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain the distinct spatial definition of the following collections and spaces:

- The Western Wild Garden
- The Plane Tree Lawn
- The Dahlia Garden
- Wisteria Arbours

**ACTIONS:**

- Ensure future planting in or around the Western Wild Garden, the Plane Tree Lawns, the Dahlia Garden and the Wisteria Arbours are undertaken with due consideration of their distinct edges, variations in canopy density and path layouts which currently define these spaces.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Enhance the experience of entering a high quality garden environment at all entrances.

**ACTIONS:**

- Ensure future planting at the Friends Gate and Conservatory Gate enhances the special spatial experience created primarily by tree canopies, grass and shrubbery, which provides a marked contrast with the external environment.
- Maintain the spatial experience and key view lines at the North Terrace Gate.
- Develop the Hackney Road entry to the Garden to provide a higher quality entry experience, by creating a distinct entry space with defined edges, a strong presence of vegetation, and restricted vehicle access.
- Ensure future development of a new western entry to the Garden is designed with a strong presence of vegetation, accentuates key view lines and has a landscape character equal in quality to the other Garden entries.

**SPATIAL EXPERIENCE –  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN****STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain and enhance the existing spatial experience created by the Garden's natural topographic form, and enhanced by the original Correy Master Plan.

**ACTIONS:**

- Ensure future development within the Garden reinforces, and does not detract from, the natural topographic form of the Garden and its systematic patterning of exotically planted gullies between ridges of native forest.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:** Develop a recognisable landscape character for the currently open and indistinct Arthur Hardy Sanctuary.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a concept plan for Arthur Hardy land based on the findings of the feasibility study referred to in the Recreation Section of this document.

#### 7.1.4 KEY VIEWS

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**KEY VIEWS –**

ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain and enhance the key views within the Garden to assist orientation, appreciation of regional context and the spatial qualities of the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Ensure future development within the Garden maintains the historically and functionally important axial views along Main Walk and Fig Tree Avenue.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Re-establish the visual and possibly pedestrian link from Main Walk to Fig Tree Avenue across Main Lake.

**ACTIONS:**

- Remove screen planting at the northern end of Main Walk and at the southern end of Fig Tree Avenue to provide open views to Main Lake at the termination point of these axial pathways.
- Prepare a detailed brief and concept design for a footbridge over the Main Lake, aligned with and physically linking Main Walk and Fig Tree Avenue.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Undertake future planting and plant removal to take better advantage of vistas from the top of the Araucaria Avenue ridge.

**ACTIONS:**

- Undertake staged removal and replanting of specimen trees located on the slopes of the Araucaria Avenue ridge and lake edge in order to maximise opportunities to establish key views and sight lines from the ridge out into the Garden, particularly to the Palm House, Amazon Waterlily Pavilion and Bicentennial Conservatory.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain and enhance important short views within the Gardens.

**ACTIONS:**

- Ensure future plantings around Main Lake, in distinct 'garden room' spaces, and near the Palm House, Amazon Water Lily Pavilion and Museum of Economic Botany are undertaken with due consideration to important short views in and around these spaces. Refer to Spatial Experience section of this document.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Carefully manage views when designing the proposed Western Entrance.

**ACTIONS:**

- Ensure the proposed future concept plan for the Western Entry to the Garden off Frome Road considers options for screening unsightly views of the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the Uni SA Reid building. Refer to Physical Access section of this document.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain open views across the Dell to maximise public safety.

**ACTIONS:**

- Undertake staged removal and replanting of vegetation adjacent realigned footpaths in the Dell to improve sightlines and public safety.

**KEY VIEWS –  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN****STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Identify and preserve the key panoramic views from the upper precincts of the Garden which allow a better appreciation of the Garden topography.

**ACTIONS:**

- Upgrade existing lookouts and establish new sheltered lookout points at key locations in the upper Garden. Refer to Wayfinding Section of this report.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Redevelop the Lothian Viewing Platform to maximise appreciation of the Garden landform, layout and regional context.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a detailed brief and concept plan to redevelop the Lothian Viewing Platform as an important visitor

attraction with universal access, interpretation media and explanatory information to assist wayfinding for visitors to the Garden. Investigate opportunities for this facility to be open 24 hours a day.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain views at the lower car park lookout point.

**ACTIONS:**

- Upgrade the existing lookout at the lower carpark as an important visitor attraction with interpretation media and explanatory information to assist wayfinding for visitors to the Garden. Ensure universal access is provided along pathways connecting the carpark and lookout to the proposed new visitor facility.
- Upgrade the landscaping on the slopes of the dam wall and below the lookout to create a striking visual display that meets the collections policy and is practical to maintain.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Identify and preserve the important intimate views found in the gully gardens.

**ACTIONS:**

- Ensure future planting in discrete garden spaces, particularly the Gullies are undertaken with due consideration to important views in and around these spaces.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:** Screen views to the neighbouring properties to the east, and to the Garden nursery.

**ACTIONS:**

- Screen unsightly views to the nursery and neighbouring properties north east of the lower

Garden, particularly from the lower carpark lookout. Consider plantings in the context of future enhancement of the lower arboretum.

### 7.1.5 WATERWAYS

WATERWAYS –  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Implement the recommendations of the ABG Waterways Study (July 2003) and interpret stormwater capture and reuse techniques to the public.

**ACTIONS:**

- Commence negotiations with the Adelaide City Council and the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board to investigate opportunities to address flooding from Botanic Creek within the Garden by constructing stormwater retarding basins upstream in the city parklands, at either of two potential sites: in Victoria Park or Rymill Park.
- Modify the outlet at Main Lake to reduce the incidence of blocking.
- Incorporate into the brief and subsequent concept plans for the proposed new Western Entry, the requirement for a landscaped overland flow path from Main Lake to the western boundary to divert flood waters and protect the Garden from flooding during infrequent flood events. Negotiate and cooperate with Adelaide City Council to extend the floodway across the parkland to First Creek.
- Prepare a detailed brief and concept plans to redevelop the section of First Creek between

Hackney Road and the Australian Forest, and land to the north, as a pollution reduction and flood retarding basin and ephemeral wetland system for First Creek, as proposed in the ABG Waterways Study (July 2003). The concept plan should aim to achieve the following:

- The maximisation of wetland area, including negotiated use of land leased to the University of Adelaide.
- Control stormwater flows entering the Garden via First Creek such that rehabilitation of the creek downstream can occur.
- Improve water quality in the creek by removal of pollutants
- The harvesting of stormwater from First Creek for storage and reuse utilising underlying aquifers for storage (if feasible).
  - As a consequence of the development of the First Creek retarding basin and wetland system, prepare a detailed brief and concept plans to rehabilitate First Creek through the Garden and Botanic Park, by removal of concrete channels and re-landscaping the creek and banks into a more natural waterway and safer Garden asset.
  - Prepare a detailed brief and concept plans to rehabilitate Botanic Creek between Top Lake and Main Lake by removal of concrete channels and re-landscaping the creek and banks into a more natural waterway and safer Garden asset.
  - Investigate the health of Top Lake and it's groundwater supply, with the aim of improving overall water quality.

WATERWAYS –  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Investigate opportunities to enhance the waterways within the Garden, address issues of waterlogging, and reduce potential for future problems associated with water quality and erosion.

**ACTIONS:**

- Identify, monitor and control problem areas of stream bed and bank erosion across the Garden.
- Prepare a detailed brief and concept plans for the lower arboretum ephemeral wetland and recreational lawn precinct to reduce the incidence of waterlogging currently occurring on the site.
- Improve water quality and reduce nutrient loads in the Main Lake through the reconfiguration of upstream ponds and rehabilitation of streams.
- Develop stormwater treatment systems for the runoff from the two main car parks to remove pollutants and improve water quality into the streams below.

### 7.1.6 STAFF FACILITIES

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STAFF FACILITIES –  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Review depot locations and facilities throughout the Garden to take advantage of opportunities presented by the proposed new Western Entry development. Consider locations in Botanic Park and investigate the rationalisation and sharing of facilities with adjacent institutions.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a detailed brief and undertake a feasibility study for relocating all or part of the Garden Depot and

associated yards and facilities to a new location off Plane Tree Drive in Botanic Park near First Creek as a shared facility developed jointly with the Adelaide Zoo and/or Adelaide City Council.

STAFF FACILITIES –  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Review locations of garden sheds and storage yards to determine the best balance between landscape and functional values.

**ACTIONS:**

- Audit and review all existing Garden depot infrastructure.
- Develop a plan to centralise Garden depot infrastructure to a smaller number of key locations, and decommission duplicated sites for redevelopment as garden or regenerated forest.
- Incorporate fire safety measures into all remaining and new buildings.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Review administration facilities to maximise staff efficiency, and improve visitor access.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a brief and commission design options which improve the function and access to the existing administration complex, in particular the provision of all -weather access between workrooms.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:** Review nursery facilities to ensure maximum efficiency while minimising the visual impact of buildings and associated yards.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a brief to engage a professionally qualified architect or building designer to review existing conditions and design alterations to the nursery buildings to improve function and access.
- Screen buildings from the lower carpark and lower arboretum.

**7.1.7 INFRASTRUCTURE**

INFRASTRUCTURE –  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a recognisable, hierarchical pathway system to assist orientation and wayfinding.

**ACTIONS:**

- Review the audit of existing pathway types within the Garden from the Access Plan for Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park (May 2003) and develop a coherent, hierarchical pathway system specifying path widths, maximum gradients and surface material, with consideration to universal access, cost, maintenance and durability.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a garden furniture style manual and systematically introduce a consistent suite of garden furniture, with built-in flexibility to cater for specially themed precincts within the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Audit all existing furniture types and styles within the Garden and develop a furniture style manual with a consistent suite of garden

furniture, with consideration to universal access, cost, maintenance and durability.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain heritage garden structures, and upgrade as required over time in a manner sympathetic to their conservation value.

**ACTIONS:**

- Undertake an audit and develop a program for monitoring the condition of the built fabric of the Summerhouse and the Rotunda near the Mediterranean Garden. Engage a suitably qualified heritage architect to propose restoration works as required.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Introduce lighting at important locations to enhance public safety and the night-time landscape appeal of the Garden to improve the potential of the Garden as an after hours venue.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a brief to engage a professional lighting designer to design external lighting at locations concentrated around the major Garden entries and central precinct.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Upgrade lighting for vehicles and pedestrians in Botanic Park to improve public safety for casual visitors and patrons to Garden functions and events.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a brief to engage a professional lighting designer to design improved street and pedestrian lighting throughout Botanic Park.

INFRASTRUCTURE –  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a recognisable, hierarchical pathway system based on the existing network. Maintain existing paths and upgrade over time in a manner sympathetic to the overall system. Install new paths in accordance with the system.

**ACTIONS:**

- Audit all existing pathway types within the Garden and develop a coherent, hierarchical pathway system specifying path widths, maximum gradients and surface material, with consideration to existing path infrastructure, universal access, cost, maintenance and durability .
- Extend the existing signage system through the implementation of a Signage Plan designed to significantly improve wayfinding in the Garden.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a garden furniture style manual and systematically introduce a consistent suite of garden furniture, with built-in flexibility to cater to specially themed precincts within the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Audit all existing furniture types and styles within the Garden and develop a furniture style manual with a consistent suite of garden furniture, with consideration to universal access, cost, maintenance and longevity.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Introduce lighting at key locations within the Garden to improve public safety and the night-time landscape appeal to enhance the potential of the Garden as an after hours venue.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a brief to engage a professional lighting designer to design external lighting associated with the lower carpark and the major event site on the lower Arboretum lawns.

## 7.2 Collections and Interpretation

### 7.2.1 LIVING COLLECTION

LIVING COLLECTIONS –  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Create a dramatic and distinctive display garden for the Cacti and Succulent Collection, with highly developed interpretation as an integral part of the design.

#### ACTIONS:

- Review and assess the relevance and health of the current holdings in the Cacti and Succulent Collection against the audit undertaken as part of the Plains Garden Collection Proposal: Cacti and Succulent Collection (September 2001).
- Develop a new display garden for the Collection adjacent the Palm House with interpretative media fully integrated into the garden fabric.

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

To coincide with the development of the new Western Entrance to the Garden, take the opportunity to enhance the underdeveloped Western Garden area.

#### ACTIONS:

- Develop a Physic Garden to complement the nearby Economic Garden and as a thematic link to the nearby Hospital complex and Universities. Use interpretive media to describe the historic association of botanic gardens with advances in medicinal plant use.

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Implement the tree management strategies proposed in the Adelaide Botanic Garden Tree Study (May 2004) for specimen and avenue trees both in the Garden and in the Botanic Park arboretum collection.

#### ACTIONS:

- Identify all significant trees in the Garden and Botanic Park.
- Address removal recommendations in the Study, and implement a tree risk reduction program.
- Develop guidelines for tree care and maintenance, including pruning.
- Reinvigorate the Wisteria Arbor through appropriate pruning.

LIVING COLLECTIONS –  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Provide a consistent collections theme for the whole of the lower carpark area by extending the Magnolia Gully and Himalayan influence down to the Robjohn Gates.

#### ACTIONS:

- Review, revise and implement the Collection Proposal for the Lower Car Park, as proposed in the Living Collections Policy document.

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Review and as necessary develop the Gondwanan planting themes in the Garden's southern gullies.

#### ACTIONS:

- Review current holdings in the South American, New Zealand and Temperate African gullies and if considered appropriate upgrade the collections to achieve greater representation of flora.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop strategies to ensure survival of the native forest and Stringybark tree canopy where their health is compromised by the inability of the forest to regenerate naturally, and the effects of artificial off-season watering regimes.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a Management Plan for the Native Forest areas of the Garden, including guidelines for biodiversity, endangered flora, fire management, adjacent horticultural practices and fauna protection.
- Undertake a maintenance program to keep native re-growth out of exotic gardens to increase fire resistance of these areas.

### 7.2.2 Focus Collection

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FOCUS COLLECTIONS –  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Review the current International Rose Garden to enhance interpretive messages and improve visitor appreciation of the collection.

**ACTIONS:**

- In conjunction with the Rose Society, audit the existing holdings in the International Rose Garden. Nominate material that may be deaccessioned due to unnecessary repetition within the ABG collection or with other significant collections in South Australia. Nominate important material missing from the current collection.
- Prepare a detailed brief and concept plans for improvements to the formal layout and design of the International Rose Garden that provides a more focused setting for the rose collection with detailed interpretation.

Incorporate into the brief the requirement to co-locate the National Rose Trial Garden within the International Rose Garden site, but distinctly planned and interpreted as a separate garden from the general rose collection.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve the interpretation and increase the representation of South Australian indigenous flora held in the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Using interpretive signage associated with standard plant labels, identify the indigenous plants of South Australia held within the Garden.
- Develop new plantings of South Australian indigenous flora at the First Creek wetland development and the indigenous riverine landscape of the south bank of the Torrens River in Botanic Park

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Continue to enhance the existing Cycad collection by developing a complimentary Australian Cycad display, and make thematic links with associated collections, such as the Australian Forest and Bicentennial Conservatory.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a brief and concept plan for the Cycad collection which integrates a new display garden for an Australian Cycad Collection with the existing exotic cycad holdings which, in turn, require partial relocation to the East to accommodate an extension of Main Walk to Main Lake. Provide interpretive media within the collection.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop the existing Palm collection with an emphasis on 'dryland' palms of the world, with the opportunity to create a more sustainable collection for the Garden and to educate visitors on the large variation within dryland flora.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a collections plan for the existing Palm holdings in the Palm Garden, along the Main Walk and in the Bicentennial Conservatory that proposes a long term plan to develop two sub-collections of Palms: the tropical Palms held in the Bicentennial Conservatory, and the Dryland Palms held mainly in the Palm Garden.

Include in the plan a species list of current holdings that are difficult to maintain for long term deaccession and a list of new acquisitions that would add significantly to strengthening the two sub-collections.

- Enhance the Palm collection in the Dell as an extension of the adjacent Palm Garden.
- Improve access and interpret the Dryland Palm collection to the public and promote species most well adapted to the semi-arid climate of the Adelaide region.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a collection of 'world-changing plants' incorporating new plantings thematically linked with the existing Economic Garden, the Class Ground plantings and the Museum of Economic Botany. With interpretative signage, the overall collection would describe the cultural importance of the world's flora and the influence of botanic gardens on human civilisation, in terms of survival, economics, medicine and religion.

**ACTIONS:**

- Develop a new display garden on the existing Class Ground site that builds on the current theme and is more demonstrative of the development of human knowledge of plants as well as the scientific classification of plants.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain the existing collection of southern hemisphere conifers, explore opportunities to intensify the collection at certain locations and interpret the collection to the public.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a collections plan for the existing southern hemisphere conifer holdings across the Garden with the long-term aim of developing the Conifer Lawn near the Museum of Economic Botany and the conifer collections in Botanic Park as interpreted concentrated collections. Develop a species list of acquisitions that would add significantly to the collection.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain and develop the Garden's existing plant material that might be collectively termed 'charismatic plants', as a series of individual specimens located throughout the Garden and interpret the plants to the public both individually and collectively.

**ACTIONS:**

- Develop a themed interpretation of the Garden's most charismatic specimens from the existing collections of orchids, carnivorous plants, bromeliads, ferns, water plants (including the Amazon Waterlily), cacti and succulents, to actively promote an interest in plants in the general community.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop the existing specimens of showy, flowering trees into a more comprehensive collection spread throughout the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a collections plan for showy flowering trees with a species list that would add significantly to current holdings.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Incorporate the Dahlia garden into a wider themed collection of showy, flowering perennial plants located in discrete locations throughout the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a collections plan for showy flowering perennials with a species list that would add to the current Dahlia collection and other holdings.
- As part of a review of the Economic Garden and its collections, consider the potential for developing a new display garden of roses and other showy perennials located in the central beds. Undertake this review after the adjacent Physic Garden is designed.

**FOCUS COLLECTIONS –**  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:** Develop the Fern Gully collection into a more sustainable grouping which requires less maintenance.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a collections plan for the Fern Gully with a long-term aim of concentrating on tree ferns and specifically *Cyathea* and a selection of allied species. Include in the plan a detailed species list of current holdings in the gully that are difficult to maintain for long term staged deaccession, and a list of new acquisitions that would add significantly to a themed tree fern focus collection.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain the Rhododendron and Species Rosa collections as important focus collections in the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Continue to maintain the Rhododendron Gully collection as a focus collection for the Garden. Increase the level of interpretation to reflect the popularity of the collection.
- Continue to maintain the species Rosa collection as an important element in the Garden, and also as a compliment to the Rose collection held at the Adelaide Botanic Garden.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain the native forest as the major contribution to the BGA's overall 'collection' of South Australian indigenous flora.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a Management Plan for the Native Forest areas of the Garden as part of the Garden focus collection of indigenous South Australian flora.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop the existing specimens of showy, flowering trees into a more comprehensive collection spread throughout the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a collections plan for showy flowering trees with a species list that would add significantly to current holdings.

### 7.2.3 FLORA CONSERVATION

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#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Continue to develop the Germplasm Research Program, and the seed banking and tissue culture conservation work of the Seed Conservation Centre.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Undertake regular audits of operations of the Germplasm Research Program, and as necessary adjust focus, scope, funding, staffing and research facilities according to strategic objectives.

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Continue to participate in the Millennium Seed Bank Project, in partnership with the Royal Botanic Garden Kew, to collect and conserve ten percent of the world's seed-bearing flora by 2010.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Locate or develop necessary facilities for seed storage in accordance with the storage guidelines specified under the Millennium project.

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Continue to participate in monitoring programs such as at the West Terrace Cemetery, to protect the few remaining areas of remnant Adelaide Plains flora still in existence.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Build on the experience gained in participation in the West Terrace Cemetery program, and seek out similar opportunities at other sites with threatened plant communities.

### FLORA CONSERVATION –

#### ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:** Maintain and monitor the health of three specimens of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* thought to be remnant indigenous flora pre-dating the establishment of the Garden.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- In addition to the recommendations of the Adelaide Botanic Garden tree study (May 2004), undertake frequent monitoring of the health of the *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* specimens and provide necessary care to maintain health.
- Through interpretive media, interpret the natural and Kaurua history of the trees to visitors.

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Seek out opportunities for the replanting of local provenance indigenous flora at locations within the Garden and Botanic Park.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Develop a species list of suitable indigenous wetland plants for use in the proposed First Creek retaining basin and wetland development, and source local provenance material where possible.
- Develop a species list of suitable indigenous riverine plants for use in the proposed revegetation of the south bank of the Torrens River north of Botanic Drive, and source local provenance material where possible.

FLORA CONSERVATION –  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a Management Plan to maintain the indigenous Stringybark forest areas within the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Develop a Management Plan that audits, monitors and, through specified guidelines, ameliorates the health and survival of the Stringybark Forest in the Garden. Ensure the plan addresses issues related to native fauna populations, fire hazard, weed infestation and the effects of irrigation regimes in the adjacent exotic gully gardens. Refer to Living Collections Actions.

#### 7.2.4 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Ensure that the horticultural activities of the Gardens protect the biodiversity and economic resources of South Australia.

**ACTIONS:**

- Continue to assess the weed potential of species held within the collections.
- Assess for weed potential any species being considered for introduction into the collections.
- Dispose of species assessed as a threat in accordance with the Weed Policy.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Implement gardening practices that meet the Gardens' benchmarks in the Sustainable Horticultural Practice Policy document.

**ACTIONS:**

- Continuously review the benchmarks set against internationally recognised best practice in sustainable horticulture and assess standards being achieved.

- Interpret initiatives being undertaken to the public for education purposes.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Utilise solar technologies and passive solar building design principles in the design of future buildings or upgrades.

**ACTIONS:**

- Specify in briefing documents for future capital works building projects that design proposals should seek to utilise passive solar building design principles, and where possible solar power technologies.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY – ADELAIDE  
BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maximise opportunities to implement and showcase sustainable horticultural practices in future garden developments.

**ACTIONS:**

- Ensure the proposed concept plans for the new Western Entry seek to establish garden spaces that showcase best practice sustainable horticulture.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Investigate water conservation opportunities within the Garden and its built facilities.

**ACTIONS:**

- Complete investigations into possible aquifer recharge and water reuse using stormwater entering the Garden via First Creek.
- Implement the recommendations of the Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park Irrigation Master Plan (July 2004), and interpret water wise irrigation techniques to the public.

- Complete the trials of waterless urinals and assess feasibility for adoption across the Garden.
- In the development of new Garden areas and with reference to the Collections Policy and particular garden themes, plant predominantly low water use plants, and interpret the plantings to the public.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY – MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Continue to assess and manage environmental weed species present in the Garden.

##### ACTIONS:

- Develop a Management Plan that audits, monitors and guides the staged removal of weed species from the Garden, with particular attention to the native forest areas.
- Interpret weed removal procedures to the public.

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Demonstrate wise water use in the irrigation of Garden collections.

##### ACTIONS:

- Act on implementing the recommendations of the Mount Lofty Botanic Garden Irrigation Infrastructure Report and Management Plan (June 2004), and interpret water wise irrigation techniques to the public.

## 7.2.5 EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

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##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop an Education and Interpretations Policy document for the BGA.

##### ACTIONS:

- Structure the education policies to allow the continuation of the successful current schools education program, and particularly the innovative learning programs based on events, performance and student interaction with the Gardens.
- Develop an interpretive plan for each garden with stipulated outcomes and timeframes for the implementation of specific interpretive messages relating to Garden precincts and collections aimed at the general public.

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Investigate options for integrated interpretation of the Gardens' major attractions in a variety of media.

##### ACTIONS:

- Undertake a feasibility study to assess the best forms of interpretive media to maximise the interpretation of specific Gardens attractions and collections while maintaining the Gardens' cultural and heritage settings.

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Ensure that appropriate interpretive themes are developed and integrated into the design of new Garden areas.

##### ACTIONS:

- Prepare design briefs that clearly describe the proposed specific interpretation themes and objectives for all new garden spaces, including the Physic Garden, the Cacti and Succulent Garden, the Ephemeral Wetland, the Rose Garden, the Flowering Perennial Garden, and the lower gardens at Mount Lofty.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Further develop and promote guided and self-guided walking trails to enhance public education opportunities.

**ACTIONS:**

- In conjunction with the Garden Interpretive Plans, establish a series of themed walks, similar to the existing 'Prior Knowledge' trail at ABG.
- Continue to operate the free guided walks conducted by the Friends of both Gardens.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Further enhance community awareness of Aboriginal relationships with the two Garden sites.

**ACTIONS:**

- Install plant labels in the Kurna language for locally indigenous plants
- Install signage which describes Kurna uses for locally indigenous plants
- Continue to provide and promote an understanding of Kurna associations with the two garden sites through culturally appropriate brochures, tours and/or signage.

EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION – ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a facility for the coordination and promotion of the Garden's educational programs.

**ACTIONS:**

- Develop an 'outdoor classroom' space associated with the Schomburgk Pavilion's visitor facilities.

EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION – MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a facility for the coordination and promotion of the Garden's educational programs.

**ACTIONS:**

- Include 'outdoor classroom' spaces in the brief for the design of the multi-purpose visitor facility.
- Extend the activities of the Gardens' Schools Education Program to include specifically themed events and programs at MLBG.

## 7.2.6 ARTS

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**ARTS****STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a BGA Garden Arts Program, which builds on the Gardens current program of cultural events. Investigate a spectrum of potential arts activities, including both the visual and performing arts, and consider both permanent and temporary sculptural works.

**ACTIONS:**

- Structure the Arts Program to allow for both temporary and permanent art works to form part of the interpretive strategies for specific garden precincts and collections.
- Develop a curatorial approach to the staging or commissioning of events and installations to ensure that synergies with the objectives of the Gardens' Strategic Plan are maximised.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Foster alliances with regional, state, national and international cultural institutions and organisations to develop and host arts and cultural events within the Gardens.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:** Develop culturally appropriate projects that provide opportunities for Aboriginal artists to work within the Gardens.

**ACTIONS:**

- Develop a permanent artwork in each garden that acknowledges the traditional Aboriginal landowners.
- Develop interactive storytelling based projects that foster understanding of Aboriginal relationships with the land and plants.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a curatorial management framework for the management of existing artworks and future art acquisitions held by the Board.

**ACTIONS:**

- Review and appropriately manage existing artworks
- Develop cooperative programs with other cultural institutions for the display of artworks
- Develop a public art policy to guide the acquisition of future artworks.



## 7.3 Visitor Facilities and Services

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### 7.3.1 VISITOR FACILITIES

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VISITOR FACILITIES –  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Establish a clearly defined one-stop location for detailed visitor information supported by secondary information signage at major Garden entries and main buildings.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Provide a central visitor information outlet as part of the Schomburgk Pavilion development.
- Using signage at the major Garden entries (North Terrace Gate, Friends Gate/North Lodge, Bicentennial Conservatory Gate, Goodman Gate, and future Western Entry Gate), direct visitors to the Schomburgk Pavilion to access detailed visitor information.

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve the visitor appeal and amenity of the Simpson Kiosk Building, in particular its lakeside setting. Rationalise food outlet operations between the dual operations at the Kiosk and new proposed operations at the Schomburgk Pavilion.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Undertake market analysis to assess feasibility of alternative food outlet operations within the Garden, with the aim to rationalise services provided by Simpson Kiosk (high quality restaurant and basic kiosk facilities) and the future Schomburgk Pavilion (kiosk).
- Undertake redevelopment of Simpson Kiosk to improve its lakeside setting, for both restaurant and basic kiosk functions.

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Upgrade all toilet facilities within the Garden to a standard that meets visitor expectations.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a staged schedule of briefs and works to upgrade toilet facilities to meet current building codes and standards.
- Consider removal of the toilet facilities adjacent the Francis Arbour, on the basis that opening up access to the immediate precinct of Main Lake will improve access to the Simpson Kiosk toilets from the southern area of the Garden.

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve visitor awareness of the privately operated public car park located at the north end of the RAH campus, to relieve pressure on road-side parking, particularly during major public events.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Provide clear and easily accessible pedestrian links between the RAH carpark and the new Western Entrance.

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve visitor facilities in the eastern precinct adjacent Hackney Road.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Consider the development of a new pedestrian entry plaza with shelter and public administration reception as part of any development of a Centre for Conservation and Science that link the Goodman and Tram Barn A buildings.
- Consider transfer of the entry to the Bicentennial Conservatory to the southern side (to improve links to the Schomburgk Pavilion and Hackney Road entrance along with improved shelter at the entry).

- Improve the landscape presentation of the carpark and adjacent banks along Hackney Road in Botanic Park.

#### VISITOR FACILITIES – MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Act on the recommendations of the 'Feasibility Study for the Development of a Multi-Purpose Visitor Facility at Mount Lofty Botanic Garden's (June 2004) to develop a visitor information/kiosk structure near the main lake and lower car park.

##### **ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a detailed brief and develop design concepts for a visitor information/café facility.
- Seek expressions for interest for the operation of a kiosk as part of the facility.

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Progressively upgrade toilet facilities.

##### **ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a staged schedule of works and briefs to up-grade toilet facilities to meet current building codes and standards.

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Upgrade visitor information facilities.

##### **ACTIONS:**

- Prepare concept plans for a signage shelter which incorporates existing signage and provides all weather protection to visitors at the Upper Carpark.
- Improve the quality of visitor information available at the Upper and Lower Carparks and any future Visitor Facility, including information on fire safety.

### 7.3.2 PHYSICAL ACCESS

#### PHYSICAL ACCESS – ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle safety throughout the Garden.

##### **ACTIONS:**

- Upgrade the path on the west side of Plane Tree Drive between the Depot Trade Entrance and Botanic Drive.
- Develop a new pedestrian path on the north side of Botanic Drive adjacent the Zoo.
- Provide pedestrian crossings at the two entries to the Garden off Plane Tree Drive. Develop designs that investigate the use of raised thresholds over Plane Tree Drive, variations in pavement material, narrowing of the carriageway, and signage to reduce vehicle speed.
- Provide a major bicycle rest stop at the Hackney Road and new Western Gate entrances to the Garden.
- Review and improve the level of lighting along all cycle routes to meet current code requirements.
- Improve compliance with the posted speed limit on Plane Tree Drive and Botanic Drive utilising speed reduction devices and a narrowed carriageway in strategic locations. Improve directional and speed limit signage.
- Improve the Botanic Drive/Hackney Road intersection for vehicles exiting Botanic Drive.
- Develop a new Trade Entrance as part of the new western entrance redevelopment and use the existing Trade Entrance only for Depot deliveries until the Depot is relocated.
- Improve the regulation of traffic into the Gardens via the National Wine Centre gate off Hackney Road.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Provide safe all-access pathways, with associated signage and ramp treatments, between car parking and Garden entries.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare concept plans for a footpath along the south side of Plane Tree Drive between Hackney Road and the Trade Entrance with associated narrowing of the road carriageway and realignment of carparking to sixty degree angle parking on both sides of Plane Tree Drive, as proposed in the Access Plan for Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park (June 2003).

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Link into city-wide pedestrian and cycle networks.

**ACTIONS:**

- Liaise with ACC regarding the detailed design of the Parklands Recreational Trail along the west side of Hackney Road, with associated improvements to crossings of Plane Tree Drive and Botanic Drive.
- Pursue proposal with Adelaide City Council for a footbridge over the River Torrens at the eastern end of the Zoo. Explore potential for this bridge to take light garden equipment should depot sharing be considered with the Council.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Ensure the overall path system either responds to visitors needs and provides convenient access throughout the Garden and Botanic Park or adequately addresses undesirable shortcuts.

**ACTIONS:**

- Continue the introduction of narrow saw-dust paths within garden beds to facilitate visitor access to the collections.

- Continue to enhance access around the perimeter of the central lawn space of Botanic Park. Maintain the open informal character of this area by not introducing paths which will bisect the space.

- Review the internal pathway system to reduce the potential for shortcutting across garden beds by commuters traversing the Garden between Hackney Road car parking and the city. In particular, either re-install a N-S path from the Botanic Creek weir to the Museum of Economic Botany or prevent access across the area adjacent the Nymph statue to deal with the strong pedestrian desire line and consequent lawn erosion that occurs in this area.

- Provide a new path along the west side of First Creek through the Dell.

- Provide a path from the Kiosk/Lake edge to the hospital boundary path to accommodate the strong pedestrian desire line and consequent lawn erosion that occurs in this area.

- Improve pedestrian access to the Palm Garden.

- Create a curved path along the eastern edge of the Central Lawn which links the Mallee Garden to the Morgue Bridge.

- Upgrade the path along the south-west edge of the Zoo boundary between Frome Road and Botanic Drive.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve access and management for emergency services, suppliers and contractors.

**ACTIONS:**

- Utilise the proposed Western Entry off Frome Road to improve service vehicle access to the Garden through creation of a new trade entrance.
- Enforce time restrictions on supplier and contractor access, and improve management of vehicle movements during events and functions.

**PHYSICAL ACCESS –**  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a path network which allows visitors of varying abilities to experience a larger area of the Garden and a wider variety of its collections .

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a trail plan, based on the Site Master Plan, which builds on the existing paths and identifies a series of looped contour trails accessible from both the upper and lower car parks. Investigate the construction of swing bridges as part of any such trail plan.
- Construct the all-access walking loop around the main lake.
- Plan and construct an all-access path from the lower car park to the lower event space and improve drainage in this area to improve the extent of public accessibility.
- Investigate options for improved access to Somerset Rocks from the main Garden. If this is not practical or feasible then consider divestment of this land.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Make the most efficient use of existing parking and road resources to improve parking for major events.

**ACTIONS:**

- Utilise the staff carpark and adjacent areas as public car parking during major events. Establish a two-way road and appropriate signage from the lower car park to the staff car park.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve public safety on roads and paths throughout the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Review existing gully paths to identify steep sections which require attention to reduce public risk.
- Address the problem of pedestrian visitors remaining within the Garden after closing, eg. exit-only turnstile gates or the installation of emergency phones.
- Create safe passing spaces for vehicles at dangerous areas of the road network to avoid potential conflicts between pedestrians and approaching vehicles.

### 7.3.3 WAYFINDING

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#### WAY FINDING –

#### ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain and enhance Main Walk and Fig Tree Walk as the major north and south entry points into the Garden.

##### ACTIONS:

- Remove screen planting at the northern end of Main Walk to provide open views to Main Lake. Provide new landscaped gardens at this important location which reinforce the central axial view to the north.
- Remove screen planting at the southern end of Fig Tree Avenue to provide open views to Main Lake. Provide new landscaped gardens at this important location which reinforce the central axial view to the south.
- If necessary, relocate the Elvis Presley Cupola. Either incorporate it as part of a roundabout style of intersection or consider alternative sites for the Cupola with relevant interest groups, including potential sites outside the Garden such as Botanic Park, or the two hills gardens.
- Upgrade the entire length of Fig Tree Avenue to reflect its ranking as a major path in a way which protects the root system of the trees.

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Enhance the existing Hackney Road entry and consider options for the new western entrance from Frome Road. Establish a major east-west route across the Garden between these two entrances.

##### ACTIONS:

- Repave Hackney Road entry and pathways from the entrance to First Creek with a high quality surface material.

- Develop concept designs for a new Western Entrance to the Garden adjacent Adelaide City Council owned land fronting Frome Road.

- Pave and sign the main east-west route through the Garden appropriately to signal the route's importance to visitors.

- Pave the new Western Entry pathway with a high quality surface material as per the north-south route.

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a central core precinct in the Garden around the northern side of Main Lake, clearly linked to the four main entrances into the Garden, namely the North Terrace Gate from the south, the Hackney Road Gate in the east, the Friends Gate to the north and the proposed new Western Entrance off Frome Road.

##### ACTIONS:

- Prepare a concept plan for a recognisable central Garden precinct, which links Simpson Kiosk, the proposed Amazon Waterlily Pavilion and the Schomburgk Pavilion, with a consistent planting theme and pavement treatment. Link the pavement to pathways from the four main entries, and pave with a high quality surface material.

##### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop a hierarchical signage system, which relates to a hierarchical path system throughout the Garden and Botanic Park.

##### ACTIONS:

- Further enhance existing signage to create a logical, coherent and unobtrusive hierarchical signage system for both the Garden and Botanic Park.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve signage in Botanic Park to enhance boundary definition.

**ACTIONS:**

- Complement or replace existing signage as appropriate, and install new readily identifiable signs at the major points of entry into Botanic Park to increase its recognition as a Botanic Garden of Adelaide asset.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve lighting, signage and path alignments in Botanic Park west of Botanic Drive.

**ACTIONS:**

- Develop a design concept for The Dell in Botanic Park to improve wayfinding through new paths, realignment of existing paths, signage and lighting.

#### WAY FINDING – MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain and enhance existing lookout points as way-finding and orientation tools. Develop lookout points at other key locations to assist wayfinding, and incorporate rest points where appropriate.

**ACTIONS:**

- Upgrade existing lookouts as sheltered rest points and identify suitable locations on new contour path system.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain and enhance the presence of the main lake as a wayfinding tool.

**ACTIONS:**

- Review planting around the perimeter of the main lake and remove planting that screens important views to and from the lake. Provide new landscaping with consideration for maintaining key views.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Convey more clearly to visitors the natural and designed layout of the Garden, with particular attention to the natural 'amphitheatre' form and the succession of forested ridges and gully Gardens.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a brief and concept designs to develop a logical, coherent and unobtrusive hierarchical signage, path/marker, and map system based on the looped contour path system proposed for the Garden.

### 7.3.4 DISABILITY ACCESS

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#### DISABILITY ACCESS – ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Upgrade existing and develop new pathways where practical, to provide continuously accessible paths of travel in the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Ensure path materials and widths for primary path systems are compliant with disability access codes and that transitions between differing ground surfaces are graded evenly.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve access to all buildings to ensure accessibility by disabled visitors.

**ACTIONS:**

- Ensure any future redevelopments of the Palm House, North Lodge, East Lodge, Summerhouse and the rotunda north of the Mediterranean Garden provide for improvements to disabled access.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Install signage and furniture that is accessible to all users.

**ACTIONS:**

- Progressively introduce a signage system that is accessible for the vision impaired.
- Relocate existing furniture and install new furniture in accordance with the 'Disability Access Audit: Botanic Garden Adelaide Plains and Mt Lofty' (November 2002) to ensure universal accessibility.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Provide compliant disabled car parking spaces adjacent to the Garden entries on Plane Tree Drive.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a concept plan, as discussed under Physical Access, which provides compliant disabled car parking adjacent to the Garden entries on Plane Tree Drive, including all necessary kerb ramps, suitably designed footpaths from existing and proposed disabled bays, and the positioning of all parking meters in accessible locations.

**DISABILITY ACCESS –  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN****STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Upgrade existing and develop new pathways to provide continuously accessible paths of travel where practical within the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Develop a series of designated disabled access pathways which comply with disability access codes and provide disabled visitors with improved access to the Garden.
- Ensure path materials and widths on designated disabled access pathways are compliant with disability access codes and that transitions between differing ground

surfaces are graded evenly. Replace loose gravel paths with an alternative surface material where they occur on designated disabled access pathways.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Upgrade the pathways adjacent the main lake to provide a fully compliant accessible pathway around the lake.

**ACTIONS:**

- Complete planning and construct the proposed fully compliant pathway around the main lake

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Upgrade the staff facilities at the Administration Building to better accommodate people with a disability.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a detailed brief and concept plans to upgrade the Administration Building to better accommodate people with a disability in accordance with the 'Disability Access audit: Botanic Garden of Adelaide Plains and Mt. Lofty (November 2002)', in particular the approach to enter the building, car parking, the lunchroom, toilet and shower facilities, and sick bay.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve access to all buildings generally to ensure accessibility by disabled visitors.

**ACTION:**

- Ensure that the proposed visitor facility adjacent the lower car park maximises disability access by linking with the car park, proposed lake perimeter path, and the lower Arboretum event spaces.

- Upgrade toilets at the northern end of Allan Correy Drive to meet current requirements of Australian Standards for accessibility.
- Ensure any future redevelopment of the Garden ancillary buildings provide for improvements to disabled access.

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Upgrade the Lothian Viewing Platform to ensure accessibility by disabled visitors.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Provide a continuously accessible path of travel between the viewing platform and the nearby car park and toilet facilities.
- Upgrade viewing platform handrails to comply with disability access codes.

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Install signage and furniture that is accessible to all users.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Progressively introduce a signage system that is accessible for the vision impaired.
- Relocate existing furniture and install new furniture in accordance with the 'Disability Access Audit: Botanic Garden Adelaide Plains and Mt Lofty' (November 2002) to ensure universal accessibility.

### **7.3.5 PUBLIC SAFETY**

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PUBLIC SAFETY –  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Address risks to public safety in Botanic Park.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Upgrade roads, parking and pathways in Botanic Park to improve the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.
- In preparing any future concept designs for The Dell ensure improvements to public safety are made through path realignment, signage, lighting and attention to sight lines.
- Prepare a concept plan for the banks of the River Torrens in Botanic Park to improve public safety through path realignment, signage, lighting and attention to sight lines.
- Prepare a brief to engage a professional lighting designer to design street and pedestrian lighting throughout Botanic Park to improve public safety.

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Reduce risk associated with high stormwater flows through the Garden.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Consider public safety in the design of all new creek and wetland edges.
- In the short term, identify key risk areas and undertake remedial action as appropriate.

#### **STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain and monitor public safety risk associated with permanent water bodies in the Garden.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Through an auditing process, review the existing approaches to and edge depths for Main Lake, Top Lake and the Nelumbo Pond and assess compliance with currently accepted risk management recommendations. Undertake remedial works as required.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain and monitor public safety risk associated with trees in the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Act on the recommendations of the Adelaide Botanic Garden Tree Study (May 2004) for urgent tree removal and implement a tree risk reduction program.

**PUBLIC SAFETY –  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN****STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Ensure pathways along walking trails are well maintained to reduce risk of injury due to slippery or unstable surfaces, especially on steep terrain.

**ACTIONS:**

- Audit the condition of existing pathway surfaces within the Garden, and develop a maintenance program to repair or replace damaged or unsafe surfaces.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Develop resting points at regular intervals along walking trails to reduce walker fatigue and assist way finding.

**ACTIONS:**

- Install rest points with seating throughout the gully gardens. Where possible locate rest points to provide views across the Garden.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Improve pedestrian safety along the roadways by improving visibility for drivers and pedestrians and increase passing widths at high risk locations.

**ACTIONS:**

- Audit and assess the locations of potential conflict between vehicles and pedestrians on the Garden's roadways, particularly Allan Correy Drive, and prepare a plan to reduce risk through vegetation clearance, road widening or installation of bollards.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Manage bushfire risk to minimise the threat to public safety.

**ACTIONS:**

- Implement the recommendations of the Independent Audit of Bushfire Preparedness and Response for the Mount Lofty and Wittunga Botanic Gardens (April 2005).

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain and monitor public safety risk associated with permanent water bodies in the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Through an auditing process, review approaches to and edge depths for the main lake and the Duck Pond and assess compliance with currently accepted risk management recommendations. Undertake remedial action as appropriate.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Maintain and monitor public safety risk associated with trees in the Garden.

**ACTIONS:**

- Prepare a detailed brief to audit existing tree risk in the Garden's more highly visited areas, concentrating on the lower arboretum and main pathways. Undertake remedial action as appropriate.

### 7.3.6 RECREATION

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#### RECREATION –

ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

The aims of the objective for Recreation at Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park are currently met.

ACTION: -Nil

#### RECREATION –

MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Develop a Recreation Policy document for the Mount Lofty Botanic Garden.

ACTION:

- Undertake a review of current recreational use of the Garden and prepare a Recreation Policy document which identifies desirable activities.

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Accommodate additional recreation activities for patrons using the upper carpark by creating opportunities in the Arthur Hardy sanctuary for casual public use such as picnics, barbeques, ball sports, children's play etc.

ACTION:

- Prepare a detailed brief to undertake a feasibility study into the development of the Arthur Hardy sanctuary as a casual recreational precinct in a park or arboretum setting.

Ensure the study reviews requirements of the bequeathment of the lands to the Garden, and the potential for alternative legislative controls on land use for the area, that may allow a wider range of public uses, similar to Botanic Park.

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Maintain and enhance the use of the main lake and lower arboretum for passive recreational activities, such as picnicking.

ACTIONS:

- Reduce the impact of seasonal waterlogging on the lower arboretum by draining water flows to a dedicated ephemeral wetland zone.
- Prepare a detailed brief and concept plan for the lower arboretum ephemeral wetland and recreational lawns precinct, to enhance the potential of the space both for passive recreation and as a major event space.

Ensure the design addresses functional connections to the proposed new visitor facility, the main lake and the lower carpark.

- Review current lake edge landscaping west of the lower carpark and investigate opportunities for increased public access and recreational use.

### 7.3.7 PRIVATE FUNCTIONS

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#### PRIVATE FUNCTIONS –

ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Continue to cater for the current demand to utilise spaces within the Garden for private functions, such as weddings, in a managed and sustainable way.

ACTION:

- Review the current weddings sites within the ABG and discontinue use or upgrade as appropriate. Review alternative sites.
- Develop the external spaces around the Noel Lothian Hall and the northern side of Tram Barn A to make better use of the precinct and facilities for private outdoor functions and events.

- Develop the Speakers Corner site and adjacent areas in the Dell as a small scale event space and interpret the history of the site.

PRIVATE FUNCTIONS –  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Continue to provide open spaces within the lower arboretum for private functions in a managed and sustainable way. Consider options for upgrades to the area to improve usability of the space during winter months.

**ACTION:**

- When preparing plans for the lower arboretum ephemeral wetland and recreational lawns precinct, enhance the potential of the space for use for private functions, such as weddings.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Continue to utilise the Dwarf Conifer garden as a wedding site and consider alternative sites either existing within the Garden or in areas proposed for future upgrading works.

**ACTION:**

- Upgrade the rotunda adjacent the Dwarf Conifer garden to improve its general function as a garden shelter, with an additional function to serve as a wet weather contingency wedding venue.
- Prepare a detailed brief and concept plan to redevelop the Lothian Viewing Platform both as a visitor attraction, with an additional function to serve as an alternative wedding venue in the Garden.

## 7.3.8 MAJOR EVENTS

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MAJOR EVENTS

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Within the context of the proposed Gardens Arts Policy, develop policy initiatives for the staging of performing art events in the Gardens.

**ACTIONS:**

- Incorporate the Gardens existing Major Events policy into an overriding Arts Policy document that not only sets out guidelines for the functioning of performing arts events in the Gardens but proposes a framework for engaging with the arts community to increase the profile of the Gardens as a long term host of quality outdoor arts events.

MAJOR EVENTS –  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGY RESPONSE:**

Continue to host major events such as WOMAdelaide and the Moonlight Cinema in Botanic Park, while reviewing management of the events to ensure their continued viability and the sustainability of the Park.

**ACTIONS:**

- Develop a major events management plan for Botanic Park which deals with impact issues.
- Continuously review the impact of major events on the Botanic Park landscape through enforcement of evolving guidelines stipulated in the Garden Major Events Policy and the Botanic Park Major Events Management Plan.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Continue to host events such as Adelaide Symphony Orchestra concerts as well as other performances and gatherings within the Garden,

while reviewing management of the events to ensure the sustainability of the sites as event venues.

#### ACTIONS:

- Continuously review the impact of events in the Garden. Ensure event organisers and guests follow guidelines stipulated in the BGA Major Events Policy.

#### STRATEGY RESPONSE:

Upgrade the provision of services infrastructure in Botanic Park as recommended in the Botanic Park Power and Lighting Study (August 2003).

#### ACTIONS:

- Act on the recommendation in the study that undergrounding of heavy cabling, or at least conduiting, be installed to alleviate the need for excessive runs of overhead cabling during events.

#### MAJOR EVENTS – MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Continue to host events such as Adelaide Symphony Orchestra concerts as well as other performances and gatherings within the Garden, while reviewing management of the events to ensure the sustainability of the sites as event venues.

#### ACTIONS:

- Continuously review the impact of major events on the Garden. Ensure event organisers and guests follow guidelines stipulated in the BGA Major Events Policy.

- When preparing plans for the lower arboretum and recreational lawns precinct, enhance the potential of the space as a venue for major events.

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Undertake a review of the adequacy of services infrastructure for the continued staging of events in the Garden.

#### ACTIONS:

- As part of the brief to enhance the lower arboretum and recreational lawns precinct as an event space, fully audit existing services infrastructure and develop a plan for infrastructure upgrades to meet any proposed increase in requirements for future events.

## 7.4 LINKAGES AND PARTNERSHIPS

### LINKAGES AND PARTNERSHIPS

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Engage in joint partnership programs on projects external to the Gardens that create close ties with the wider community and demonstrate the Gardens' vision and principles.

#### ACTIONS:

- Continue to participate in initiatives on environmental conservation and sustainable horticultural projects.
- Continue to engage in environmental monitoring programs to conserve threatened flora, such as with the West Terrace Cemetery.

#### STRATEGIC RESPONSE:

Engage with community organisations in mutually beneficial partnerships to enhance the Gardens' ability to educate and promote botanical and horticultural knowledge.

- Continue to participate in initiatives with the South Australian aboriginal community to recognise the contribution of their culture to plant knowledge in the region.
- Continue to support the Friends and other volunteers for their highly valued contribution to the Gardens.
- Continue existing engagements, and seek new opportunities, for partnership programs with South Australian horticultural societies.

LINKAGES AND PARTNERSHIPS -  
ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN AND BOTANIC PARK

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Participate in research and public education initiatives with nearby peak cultural institutions.

ACTIONS:

- Continue to participate in the joint BioCity initiative, and other similar partnerships, to showcase sustainable horticulture and urban conservation principles.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Explore opportunities for sharing facilities with adjacent institutions.

ACTIONS:

- Undertake a feasibility study for jointly developing a shared depot facility with the Adelaide Zoo and Adelaide City Council.
- Negotiate with relevant stakeholders the shared use of the access road off Frome Road adjacent the Adelaide University Medical School to provide service vehicle access to the Garden, as well as access to the Hospital, University buildings and the public carpark.

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE:**

Explore opportunities to create improved pedestrian links with adjacent institutions and the wider community.

ACTIONS:

- Improve existing pathways in Botanic Park and develop signage that identifies links with the Zoo, the Universities and the Torrens and parkland precincts.
- Develop the proposed extension to the Parkland Recreational Trail in Botanic Park along the west side of Hackney Road. Provide joining pathways onto Hackney Road, including stepped paths at steep grades, to improve physical access to the Park for the residential population east of Hackney Road.
- Improve physical links with the university community through the development of pedestrian pathways at the proposed new Western Entry off Frome Road and between the National Wine Centre and the central precincts of the Garden.
- Improve physical links with the North Terrace Cultural Precinct by enhancing the connection between the North Terrace entrance and the proposed pedestrian promenade across the front of the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

LINKAGES AND PARTNERSHIPS -  
MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDEN

**RESPONSE:** Explore opportunities to maximise tourist links within the region.

ACTIONS:

- Develop opportunities to enhance access between Mount Lofty Botanic Garden and Mount Lofty House.
- Undertake a feasibility study into facilitating improved access between Mount Lofty Botanic Garden and Cleland Wildlife Park and Mount Lofty Summit.



