

Memorandum of Understanding

This document represents an agreement between

Darebin Creek Management Committee

and

Darebin City Council

Scope

This document outlines the key principles and agreements between Darebin City Council and Darebin Creek Management Committee for purpose of undertaking coordination and management objectives within the Darebin Creek Catchment including Darebin Parklands.

Objectives

The partner agencies will ensure the key performance indicators (KPIs) outlined in this document are met. Darebin City Council and Darebin Creek Management Committee are jointly committed to managing, protecting, promoting and ensuring the long term viability of Darebin Parklands and the Darebin Creek. This initiative seeks to provide a formalised framework to achieve these aims.

Terms of agreement

This agreement will apply for a term of 3 years at which time the scope, objectives, terms of agreement and level of compensation will be reviewed. This agreement will take effect 1 July 2016 and terminate 30 June 2019.

Resource contribution

The organisations involved will work actively to support the partnership and share resources and/or facilities to ensure the long term preservation of the Darebin Creek Corridor and Darebin Parklands as educational and natural parkland areas providing space for recreation, habitat for native flora and fauna, management of environmental waste and environmental protection. Roles and responsibilities for each organisation are outlined below.

Darebin Creek Management Committee will

- Manage and maintain the grounds, natural and exotic vegetation, lawns and paths within Darebin Parklands
- Manage and implement the fire safety plan for the areas within Darebin Parklands
- Advocate for capital works funding as required to manage and maintain the public amenities present in Darebin Parklands
- Actively seek appropriate grant funding for Darebin Creek and Parklands as it becomes available
- Employ a Head Ranger to oversee the management and undertake the day-to-day operations of Darebin Parklands
- Employ a Darebin Creek Coordinator to undertake strategic management within the Darebin Creek Catchment

- Manage and operate the Darebin Parklands leachate system
- Provide accurate, regular reports on KPIs, finances and activities as part of the Darebin Creek Management Committee meeting cycle

Darebin City Council will

- Provide a representative to advocate for Darebin Creek Management Committee and Darebin Parklands.
- In collaboration with representatives from Banyule Council and the Chair of Darebin Creek Management Committee, provide staff support and oversight of Darebin Creek Co-Ordinator and Darebin Parklands Head Ranger.
- Hold two positions on Darebin Creek Management Committee and attend all meetings
- In financial year 2016-2017, provide \$56,420 in operational funding to support the role of Darebin Creek Co-Ordinator. The individual in this role will be responsible for overseeing strategic management within the Darebin Creek Catchment. This funding will increase each financial year by 2.5% until the termination of this MOU.
In financial year 2016-2017, provide \$175,212 in operational and capital funding for the day-to-day management of the physical aspects of Darebin Parklands. This funding will increase each financial year by 2.5% until the termination of this MOU.
- Actively seek ongoing grant funding to further support Darebin Creek Management Committee and Darebin Parklands.
- A representative from Darebin City Council Staff will maintain membership on a subcommittee whose goal is to oversee, manage and support DCMC staff.

Key Performance Indicators

Key performance indicators fall into four main categories: Park Management, Strategic Management, Community Development and Finance.

Park Management KPIs cover the day to day operational management of Darebin Parklands to ensure the environmental protection and safety and enjoyment of visitors. Topics to be covered when reporting are:

- Horticulture
- Leachate Management
- Fire Hazard Management
- Public Safety
- Customer Satisfaction
- Increasing Visitation
- OH&S
- Systematic implementation of the Darebin Parklands Masterplan.

Strategic Management KPIs of the Darebin Creek Corridor covers preservation, regeneration and promotion of the ecosystems of the creek. Topics to be covered when reporting are:

- Development of long term strategic corridor and catchment plan(s)
- Systematic implementation of long term strategic plans
- Liaising and engaging with member Councils within the catchment Liaising and engaging with Government Authorities (Melbourne Water, EPA, Parks Victoria, etc)

Community Development KPIs cover interaction and education of members of the community about key environmental issues relevant to the Darebin Parklands and the Darebin Creek corridor. Topics to be covered when reporting are:

- Environmental education
- Engagement with community groups (DPA, Friends Groups, etc).
- Community development programs (junior ranges, events, etc)

Finance KPIs cover the management of an accurate and transparent reporting of allocation and distribution of funds by Darebin Creek Management Committee. Topics to be covered when reporting are:

- Prudent management of budgets
- Generation of funds from other sources
- Clear understanding of how Darebin Council's funds are being managed and spent.

Commitment

Darebin City Council and Darebin Creek Management Committee agree to work collaboratively to jointly manage, protect, promote and ensure the long term viability of Darebin Parklands and the Darebin Creek. This Memorandum of Understanding will be in effect and operate according to the principles outlined in this agreement for 3 years' time.

Darebin Creek Management Committee

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Darebin City Council

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____