



Greater Sydney Landcare Network Inc.

The Hon. Victor Dominello, MP
Suite 202 Ground Floor
5-9 Devlin Street
RYDE NSW 2112

14 November 2022

Dear Victor

As you know I am involved in not only Habitat Network and The Habitat community nursery and garden but also with Landcare in NSW. One of my current roles is Chair of Greater Sydney Landcare (GSL) which helps to coordinate the landcare/bushcare networks across Greater Sydney.

Landcare across Greater Sydney brings together between 8,000 and 13,000 volunteers each year. This work is supported largely by volunteers however for the past 4 years we have also been supported by the NSW State Government and the **NSW Landcare Program** with 1 x .5 fte regional landcare coordinator (RLC) and 6 x .5 fte local landcare coordinators (LLCs) hosted by GSL, Local Land Services, Hawkesbury Nepean Landcare Network, Parramatta River Catchment Group, Cooks River Alliance and OceanWatch. Having these paid people on board allows us to grow our contribution to the environment by at least \$3 for every \$ spent.

Having paid RLC and LLCs has helped us to secure grants to expand even further on what we deliver across our region, for example we have just completed planting 106,000 trees as part of the Premiers Greening our Cities program where we had 500 regular volunteers helping us to plant, we have been running a Cumberland Plain Restoration (ET/SOS) project and are now actively involved in The Koala Strategy for SW Sydney. Additionally paid staff provide support services such as information, training, communications, data, tools, guidelines and advice. This enables Landcarers, Bushcarers, etc to get on with the job of protecting our biodiversity, conserving our natural resources, promoting sustainable agriculture in our peri-urban areas and building social capital.

As volunteers we are willing to work hard to improve our environment and communities but we can't do it alone. **I am writing to ask for your support for the NSW Landcare Program to continue beyond 2023.**

Leading into the NSW State Election on Saturday, 25 March 2023, Landcare NSW is calling on

all political representatives to support the Landcare movement and commit to funding an enhanced program requiring a \$59 million investment over the next four years.

Together with the NSW Local Land Services, Landcare NSW submitted a business case to the NSW Minister for Agriculture in October 2022.

The business case outlines why a bold, fully optimised Program funding of \$59 million is needed over four years to provide further support, and build on the success and momentum created through the NSW Landcare Program in 2019 - 2023.

Please see the attached Fact Sheet to answer more questions about this program.

Sincerely

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