

Questions for the Department of Premier and Cabinet

The following questions were provided by community members after the Perth and Peel Strategic Assessment and Green Growth Plan public forum on Thursday 11th February 2016, at the Tuckey Room in Mandurah.

- Will the public comment period be extended if the detailed maps/spatial data are not provided to the public at least 28 days before the closing date (8 April)?
- Funding – [will there be an] increase in DPAW resources?
- One of the key benefits of the initial package of sites is stated as “all areas will be protected with secure conservation tenure and managed for long term conservation”. Will the state commit adequate funding to do so? What is the cost of managing this new conservation reserve on a per/ha basis? Will funding also extend to existing conservation reserves e.g. Lake Clifton and the endangered Thrombolite community?
- Can you clarify: what the expected clearing of Carnaby’s Black Cockatoo in ha?
- Is the EPBC Act ‘turned off’ across the whole strategic assessment area or is it turned off in the areas shown in the class of action footprints?
- Conservation corridors – are they based on rigorous scientific evidence?
- When will a similar plan be applied south of Waroona to Shire of Harvey and beyond?
- Won’t this plan simply give developers carte blanche to do more development?
- How effective are offsets? I haven’t seen anything that shows this method is effective?
- Why isn’t the housing industry encouraged to develop different ways of building that are not dependant on sand and limestone?
- Will developers still be required to provide 10% of the development for public open space? If so, is this included within the “Green Plan” or is it in excess to such plan?
- Will development of the Green Plan mean “in fill” accommodation will have to increase?
- If infill land development will increase under the Green Growth Plan, will this not create a social problem – in so much as e.g where do children play?
- How will implementation ensure management resources allocation is maintained over time?
- How does the streamlining of approvals allow for checking any changes e.g. movement of Carnaby’s population? I.e. What are the triggers for action plan changes?
- Who does the State Government supply timber to? Why?
- How will the State’s financial crisis affect this?
- Is the imminent release of GIS mapping of urban rural residential = sub-regional structure planning?
- Acquisitions for Bush Forever – does it expand to Peel Bioplan?
- How will emerging effects of decreased rainfall be accommodated in the future – i.e. Drop in groundwater and effect on vegetation in Northern Jarrah Forest and Swan Coastal Plain.
- When will the structure plans come out?
- Once approved, will proponents still be required to refer their proposal under the EPBC Act? And will the decision-making function be delegated to the state under the proposed approval bilateral?
- How will the public have access to information/be assured that proponents actually implement in a manner that is consistent with the class of action (and conservation commitments e.g. avoidance at the site scale)?
- Do the conservation commitments meet or exceed the standards set out in the State and the Commonwealth’s offsets policies?
- Can you confirm the approach for how proposals that are at variance to the classes of action will be dealt with through the state planning and environmental approval process?
- How will the community have confidence that the areas outside the class of action footprints won’t be developed?

- Carnaby's Cockatoos are the only species specifically mentioned as beneficiaries of the Conservation Program (see 3.4 Measures to Support Carnaby's Cockatoo). Why weren't the other black cockatoos (Baudin's and Forest Red-tailed) and other endangered and threatened ecological communities and species – flora and fauna – included too? What will be done to compensate for the significant impacts on other conservation significant species as a result of the proposed developments, in terms of replacing lost habitat?
- The description of the Peel-Yalgorup Ramsar site shows that we lack at least one third of the necessary data needed to inform effective decision-making. How will these data gaps be addressed? Will they be addressed before development under the Green Growth Plan commences?
- The public's ability to evaluate the success of the draft Green Growth Plan relies largely on the detail. Will the overarching objectives and outcomes be made more specific and measurable in the final version of the documents?
- Mandatory soil testing will only result in a decrease of nutrient export if the landholder acts on the advice of the agronomist following testing. Under the proposed regulation, there is no compunction for the landholder to do so. What measures will the State use to make sure the soil testing activities result in a measurable change in nutrient loads on the ground?