

To: river.health@nre.vic.gov.au  
cc: stephen.wright@whitehorse.vic.gov.au, Libby.Anthony@whitehorse.vic.gov.au  
(bcc: River Health/NRE)  
Subject: Draft Vic River Health Strategy

---

Attention: Project Manager

Thank you for providing us with a copy of the Draft Victorian River Health Strategy. This is a very comprehensive document and the City of Whitehorse is supportive of the long term directions and framework that the Strategy provides.

The comments that we have are relatively minor. In the urban Melbourne Metropolitan area, Melbourne Water is and should be the key player for implementation of capital works to rehabilitate major waterways. Local Government is increasingly carrying this role for tributaries to major waterways. The Box 11.1 seems to emphasise the activities of participation, facilitation, strategy development, funding, developing partnerships and use of best management practice standards. These are very all important aspects of river restoration and catchment management. However, there also needs to be greater emphasis on the roles / responsibilities for actual implementation / carrying out the restoration / rehabilitation works. We recommend that it would be appropriate to include statements relating to implementation of works in Box 11.1 under State Government, Regional CMAs and Regional Resource Managers. Statements relating to "implementation" and "undertaking restoration works" already seem to appear in Box 11.1 for Local Government and Individuals.

On p 31 beneath Figure 2.3, a key to the river regions in Victoria would be helpful.

In Appendix 2, maps showing the location of Victorian Heritage Rivers, the Ramsar Wetlands and the Natural Catchment Areas would be helpful.

Thank you for consulting us on this important initiative.  
Yours faithfully,

Allison Egan  
Open Space Planner  
Ph: 9262 6389  
Mb: 0419 877 914