Attachment 2
to
Item 4.3.1

Hawkesbury Show 2022

Date of meeting: 8 August 2023
Location: Council Chambers
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Engagement Summary: Cooling the Hawkesbury, Hawkesbury Show 2022

In April 2022, Council received confirmation from the Department of Planning and Environment that our application for the [Greener Neighbourhoods Grant](#) was successful. Council applied for this grant funding to engage a consultant to develop a Hawkesbury Urban Forest Strategy.

With the opportunity to have a display at the Hawkesbury Show, the Sustainability Team decided to seek feedback from the community to inform the development of the Urban Forest Strategy and promote the 'Cooling the Hawkesbury' project. Refer to attachment 1 for a copy of the project poster.

The community were asked "What comes to mind when you think of **trees** and why?". Participants were asked to write their answer on a printed leaf and attach it to a wooden tree. Refer to attachment 3 for leaf template.

Staff from Council's Environmental Sustainability Team attended the show on Friday and Saturday. Staff explained the activity to participants and the purpose of the feedback being, to inform the development of Hawkesbury's Urban Forest Strategy. On Sunday the activity continued to run, with the assistance of other teams within the staff tent, when available.

Council staff placed an "A" for adult, "Y" for youth and "C" for child on the back of each leaf, to collect statistics on what age brackets participated in the activity. Following the engagement, the responses were collated.

Additionally, Council's nursery staff and volunteers had a plant giveaway within the Council Tent. Community members were encouraged to plant trees on their property and register their plant via the Department of Planning and Environment's website through their [Everyone Plant One](#) campaign. Refer to attachment 2 for a copy of the poster.

Where: Hawkesbury Council Tent, Hawkesbury Showground, Racecourse Road, Clarendon NSW.

Event: Hawkesbury Show 2022.

When: 06-08 May 2022. Friday 9am-5/6pm, Saturday 9am-5/6pm, Sunday 9am-4pm.

Who: On Friday and Saturday, Environmental Sustainability team staff ran the activity. On Sunday the activity was mostly unmanned.

What: Cooling the Hawkesbury engagement to inform future Urban Forest Strategy.
Question asked: "*What comes to mind when you think of trees and why?*"

Data statistics:

What	Number of people
Filled out leaf (total)	521 people
Adults filled out leaf	247 Adults
Youth filled out leaf	67 Youth
Children filled out leaf	182 Children
Age group not specified (N/A)	25 people

Topic statistics:

What	Number of people	Percentages
Koalas	27 people	5%
Birds	46 people	9%
Air/oxygen	130 people	25%
Shade/cooling	93 people	18%
Life	55 people	11%
Beauty	37 people	7%
Nature	32 people	6%

Top 3 themes overall in the feedback:

- Environmental benefits
- Health/Safety
- Habitat/Wildlife/Biodiversity

Theme statistics:

What	Number of people	Percentages
Habitat/Wildlife/Biodiversity	179 people	34%
Environmental benefits	202 people	39%
Cooling/Shade	88 people	17%
Mental health/Wellbeing	116 people	22%
Aesthetics/Beauty/Appreciation for trees	132 people	25%
Fighting climate change/Risk mitigation	38 people	7%
Resources/Jobs	39 people	7%
Concerns/issues	13 people	2%
Active transport/Infrastructure	24 people	5%
Health/Safety	183 people	35%
Play space/climbing	41 people	8%

Examples of which themes responses fell under. (noting, a response could fall under multiple themes)

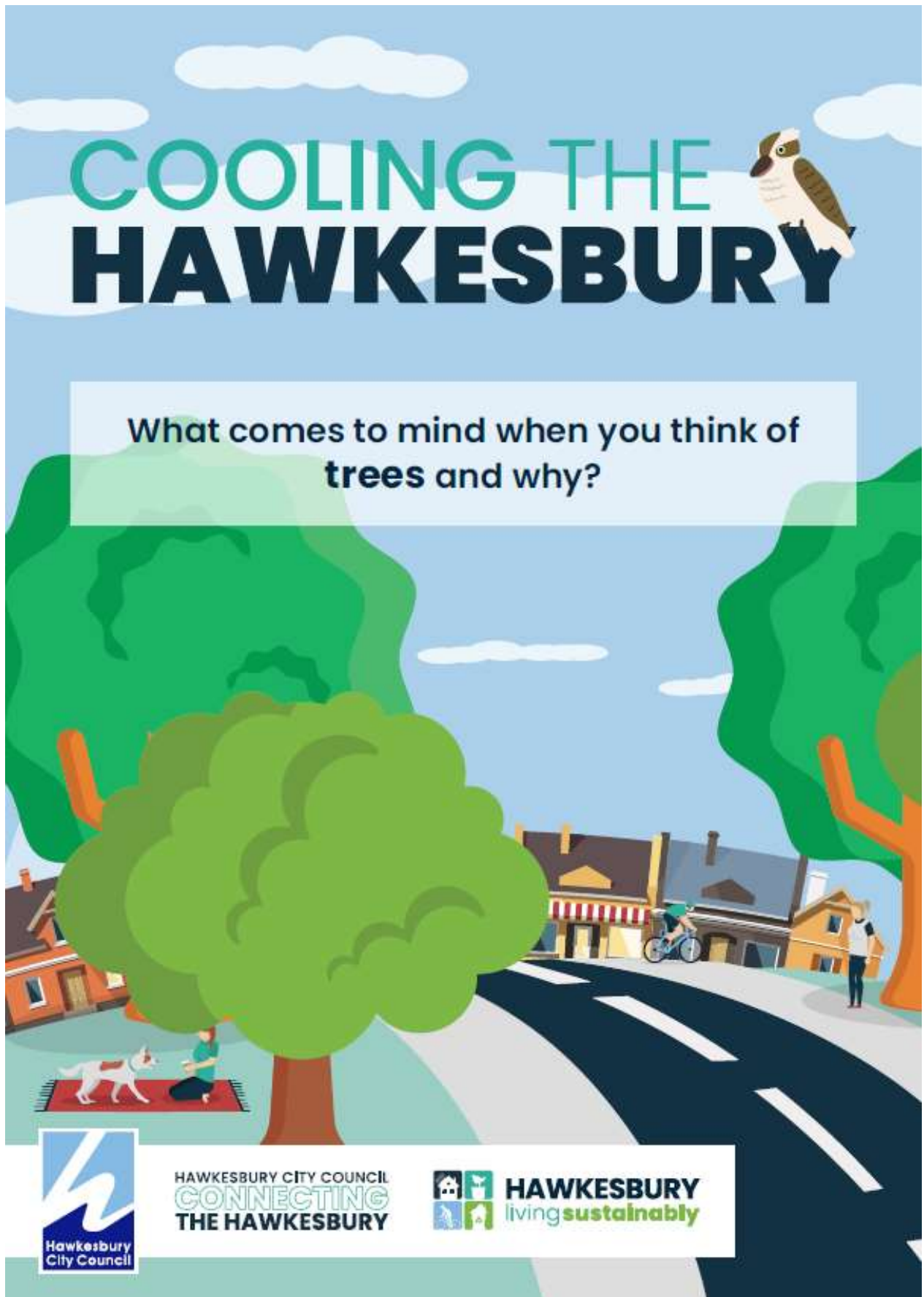| Theme	Theme definition	Responses:
Habitat/Wildlife /Biodiversity	Responses which indicated trees made them think of animals, homes for animals, insects, birds.	"Relaxation, wildlife, life, nature, meditation." "They are pretty and a home for animals!" "They give me hope as a wonderful habitat for birds and other animals." "Need more understory, not just canopy." **Single words like:** "Life", "Animals", "Koalas", "Birds" or "Bees"
Environmental benefits	Responses which indicated trees provided environmental benefits.	"Carbon storage, habitat, food source, transpiration, 02 production, cooling. Amenity. Valuable part of natural environment." "Good for the environment. Peaceful. Relaxing." "Trees create life." "Environmental protection and preservation." **Single words like:** "Life", "Fresh air", "Nature", "Environment", "Clean air"

Cooling/Shade	Responses which indicated trees provided cooling or shade.	"Shade and beauty." "Heat reduction; Shade. Animals." "Big, beautiful, small, loads of leaves and good shade." "Shade: A nice place to rest under. Birds: Nesting and shelter." **Single words like:** "Shade", "Cooling" or "Shady"
Mental health/Wellbeing	Responses which indicated trees provided benefits to mental health or wellbeing.	"Fresh air, happy people." "Being around trees calms me and rejuvenates my soul. Stop deforestation." "Green, roots, strength, community, health." "Nature helps well-being, fresh air." **Single words like:** "Peace", "calming", "rest"
Aesthetics/Beauty/Appreciation for trees	Responses which described the aesthetics/beauty of trees or described their appreciation for trees.	"Leaves on the ground in Autumn. Takes us back to playing and throwing the leaves over each other." "Fresh clean air and beautiful bush smells." "What comes to mind when I think of trees is green and leaves floating down in Autumn." "I think of nature and how grateful I am for trees and nature." **Single words like:** "beautiful", "fresh", "pretty" or "colourful"
Fighting climate change/Risk mitigation	Responses which indicated a need for more trees, addressed climate change or risk mitigation.	"Climate Change" "We should plant more. Clean air. Less pollution." "The trees are the earth's lungs. Without trees our planet cannot breathe. <3>" "Flood prevention. Trees help prevent floods." "Save the trees."
Resources/Jobs	Responses which indicated resources trees provide or jobs that come from having more trees.	"Shade, Air, Leaves, Food, Greenery." "TIMBER." "Beautiful to look at. They provide more work for the emergency services." "Paper, oxygen, building materials, fire." "Natural resources." **Single words like:** "food", "apples", "wood" or "firewood"
Concerns/issues	Responses which highlighted concerns or issues that they have from trees.	"Tree roots can impact the footpath. Need to plant them in the right spot." "Trees are OK but dead ones can be dangerous." "Can be scary during storms when they fall over." "The blower vac noises from people cleaning up after trees is annoying. They start them at 730am each morning across the road." "Bushfires"
Active transport/Infrastructure	Responses which indicated trees improve their experience when walking/cycling or improved infrastructure.	"Increases quality of life. Fresh air. Cool space to walk, cycle, have a picnic." "More funding required to maintain trees." "Our environmental saviours! They make me calm when I observe them; they visually soften the built up areas where we live in the city." "Long walks, Autumn and fresh air." "Trees are wonderful, we need more of them. The over-development is sad. We need them in urban areas."
Health/Safety	Responses which indicated	"Shade, cover, warmth and safety." "Protection, Greenery, Shade, Clean Air, Leaves."

	trees improve their health or safety.	• "Trees are something that help breath." • "They help humans breath." • **Single words like:** "Oxygen", "Air", "Safe", "Fresh air" or "life"
Play space/climbing	Responses which indicated trees made them think of playing or climbing them.	• "I love trees for lots of reasons. Shade on a hot day. Home for birds. Flowers and seeds. Fresh air. Kids can climb them." • "I think of a big green tree with a swing on it and lots of flowers around it. I don't know why I think this." • "Trees, climbing." • "Big branches that I can climb on." • **Single words like:** "Climb", "Climbing", "Picnics"

Attachments:

Attachment 1	Cooling the Hawkesbury poster
Attachment 2	Everyone Plant One poster
Attachment 3	Leaf template
Attachment 4	Photos

Attachment 1: Cooling the Hawkesbury poster
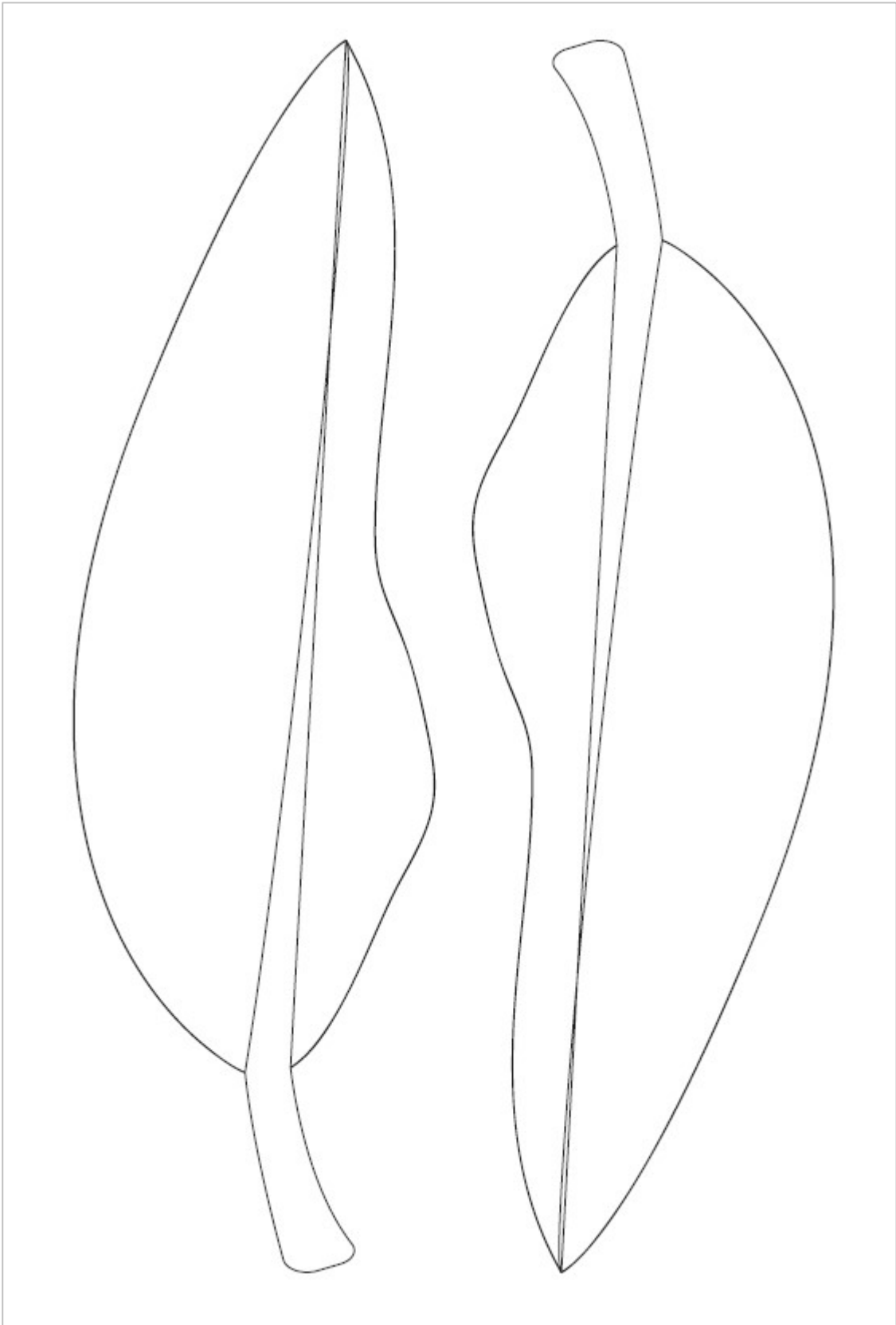
Attachment 2: Everyone Plant One poster

Attachment 3: Leaf template

Attachment 4: Photos