

PART TWO: GOALS AND STRATEGIC FIT

2.1 STRATEGIC VISION

The over-riding statement of intention by which this management plan is guided is the Strategic Vision for all the Botanic Gardens of Wellington.

To enhance people's awareness and appreciation of plants and their environment, provide appropriate recreational opportunities, and manage and protect our diverse cultural and natural heritage.

2.2 GOALS

From this vision the following goals have been derived. These apply to all four gardens but the emphasis of specific policies will vary from one Garden to another, depending upon the context.

Heritage Conservation

To manage and protect the diverse cultural and natural heritage within the Gardens by:

- Maintaining and enhancing the essential qualities and characteristics of the landscape;
- Protecting and managing historical and cultural elements and features;
- Protecting and enhancing natural ecosystems.

Making a significant contribution to the maintenance of biodiversity by:

- Participating in threatened species recovery programmes;
- Maintaining and developing plant collections of conservation value.

Education

To provide diverse opportunities for people to appreciate and understand the significance and uses of plants and natural communities by:

- Developing and maintaining plant collections;
- Supporting and conducting research;
- Providing formal and informal education;
- Developing and enhancing interpretation.

Recreation

To offer a diverse range of accessible and appropriate leisure and recreational opportunities that enhance and satisfy visitor needs by:

- Providing and facilitating a comprehensive programme of events;
- Developing and maintaining a network of tracks and walkways suitable for a range of interests and abilities;
- Providing a range of indoor and outdoor facilities suitable for recreational and leisure activities.

2.3 RELATIONSHIPS OF THE FOUR BOTANIC GARDENS

The four botanic gardens are to be managed as complementary resources, with a different emphasis in each.

The Wellington Botanic Garden is a 25 hectare park with botanical collections,

comprising a mixture of formal garden areas, native forest remnants and pine plantations. It is one of Wellington's major visitor attractions and is a venue for many cultural events and performances.

Emphasis:

- promoting appreciation of plants and gardens in general;
- conserving and interpreting the historic and natural features of a heritage landscape;
- providing for public recreation in a mixed garden environment.

Otari Native Botanic Garden and Wilton's Bush Reserve (Otari-wilton's Bush) is the only botanic garden in New Zealand dedicated solely to native plants. It is also the country's foremost native plant collection with approximately 2 hectares in cultivation. There are 75 hectares of mature and regenerating native forest. The Garden is a popular recreational area for Wellingtonians and a major resource for scientists, and horticulturists.

Emphasis:

- promoting appreciation of New Zealand's native plants;
- conserving New Zealand's native plants;
- providing for public recreation in a 'natural' environment.



Bolton Street Memorial Park was originally the Church of England, Jewish, and Public Cemetery for the Wellington Colony and is now an inner city park. It contains an extensive collection of heritage roses and a Chapel / Visitor Centre where the public can find information on the graves. It forms an important green link between downtown Wellington and the Wellington Botanic Garden.

Emphasis:

- protecting and interpreting colonial history;
- promoting appreciation of nineteenth century heritage garden plants.

Truby King Park comprises the historic house and garden of Sir Frederick and Isabella Truby King and includes a major collection of rhododendrons. The property is currently undergoing restoration and is not yet widely used by the public.

Emphasis:

- providing a showcase for the specialist rhododendron collection;
- conserving and interpreting an historic garden.

2.4 STRATEGIC FIT

The three parks covered by this management plan are subject to several statutes and the District Plan. These are briefly described in Appendix 5. This management plan sets out how the Council intends to use the powers given to it under legislation and is to be the primary reference for decision-making. If a resource consent is required for any activity within the three parks, the District Plan must also be complied with.

In preparing the management plan, the Council's Strategic Plan has also been taken into account. This sets out a vision for the future of Wellington together with principles, priorities and objectives. Appendix 6 contains a table showing the new initiatives and policies in this management plan that contribute to achieving the Council's Strategic Plan.