

# Kadaltilla

Adelaide Park Lands Authority

## Updated Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) Management Plan

**Wednesday, 27 May 2026**

**Board Meeting**

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Public

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## Purpose

This report presents an updated Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) Management Plan for the Adelaide Park Lands (KBA Management Plan). The updated KBA Management Plan consolidates and revises the six existing KBA Management Plans developed in 2018 and incorporates a seventh KBA in G S Kingston / Wirrarninthi (Park 23), designated following the 2024 Biodiversity Survey.

The KBA Management Plan establishes the objectives, targets, and management actions for each of the seven Key Biodiversity Areas for the period 2026–2031.

As an internal management document, the Plan is subject to finalisation and approval by the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Adelaide.

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## Recommendation

### THAT THE KADALTILLA / ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY ADVISES COUNCIL:

That the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority:

1. Supports the draft Key Biodiversity Area Management Plan as contained in Attachment A to Item 5.3 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 27 May 2026 contemporises and replaces the 2018 Key Biodiversity Area Management Plan.
2. Notes the draft Key Biodiversity Area Management Plan as contained in Attachment A to Item 5.3 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 27 May 2026 will be finalised by the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Adelaide.
3. Recommends that the Presiding Member and Council write to the relevant State Government Minister's seeking their commitment to maintaining Key Biodiversity Areas 1 and 6 and to provide advice on the potential impacts of the North Adelaide Public Golf Course and MotoGP projects on these two Areas.

## Implications

<p>Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036</p>	<p><a href="#">Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy - Towards 2036</a></p> <p>Sustainable and enduring places - Management of biodiversity</p> <p>The KBA Management Plan responds biodiversity management obligations set out in the APLMS – Towards 2036.</p>
<p>2023-2028 Strategic Plan</p>	<p><a href="#">Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority 2023-2028 Strategic Plan</a></p> <p>Strategic Plan Alignment – Cultural Value</p> <p><b>Objective 1.1</b> - To seek Kurna cultural authority in everything we do, aligns with the aim of the Act to incorporate Aboriginal knowledges and perspectives in biodiversity management.</p> <p>Strategic Plan Alignment – Environmental Performance</p> <p><b>Objective 2.2</b> Promote ecologically sustainable initiatives and monitor tree canopy cover, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability and design quality.</p> <p><b>Objective 2.5</b> Increase the accessibility of evidence-based information.</p>
<p>City of Adelaide Strategies</p>	<p><b>Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027</b></p> <p>Action - Strengthen the management of the Adelaide Park Lands, waterways and land practices through Kurna collaboration.</p> <p><b>Integrated Climate Strategy 2030, Resilient, Protected, Sustainable</b></p> <p>Goal 3 advances the role that biodiversity plays in resilience under a changing climate and embeds Caring for Country in the management of the Adelaide Park Lands, which aligns with the Act.</p> <p><b>Adelaide Park Lands Community Land Management Plans</b></p> <p><b>Objective 5</b> - protect and enhance the biodiversity of the Adelaide Park Lands</p> <p><b>Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi Master Plan (2024)</b></p> <p>The Master Plan seeks to preserve the native vegetation and extend the butterfly grassland habitat in KBA 1.</p>
<p>Policy</p>	<p>The KBA Management Plan is an operational management plan developed by the City of Adelaide, guided by the <i>Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005</i> (SA), Adelaide Park Lands Community Land Management Plans (2023), and the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036.</p>
<p>Consultation</p>	<p>Consultation has been undertaken internally within the City of Adelaide and externally with representatives from the Kurna community including Firesticks Alliance - Kurna Group Members, and on-site consultation with Kurna Elders.</p>
<p>Resource</p>	<p>The City of Adelaide's 2025/26 Annual Business Plan and Budget includes a strategic project allocation of \$75,000 to prepare a KBA Management Plan for G S Kingston Park / Wirraminthe (Park 23) and review and update remaining management plans.</p>
<p>Risk / Legal / Legislative</p>	<p>In South Australia biodiversity is protected through a range of legislations that aim to conserve native species, habitats, and ecosystems which have been considered in preparing the KBA Management Plan, including: <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i> (SA), <i>Native Vegetation Act 1991</i> (SA), <i>Landscape South Australia Act 2019</i> (SA), <i>Biodiversity Act 2025</i> (SA), <i>North Adelaide Public Golf Course Act 2025</i> (SA), <i>Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005</i> (SA), <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999</i> (Cth), <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988</i> (SA), and <i>Natural Recourse Management Act 2004</i> (SA).</p> <p>A Management Agreement (2011) exists between the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water and the City of Adelaide for the Grey Box Woodlands and Derived Native</p>

	Grassland, which forms part of KBA 1 in Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16). The Agreement requires a management plan be developed for this area. Both the Management Agreement and its associated management plan will be updated following the review of the KBA Management Plan to reflect the expansion of KBA 1.
Design	<p><b>Good Design (ODASA)</b></p> <p>The KBA Management Plans guide ecological restoration and biodiversity management rather than built infrastructure.</p> <p><b>National Heritage Management Plan (NHMP)</b></p> <p>The NHMP Design Guidance Matrix has been considered. KBAs are managed to protect and enhance the National Heritage Values of the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout.</p>
Opportunities	<p>The updated KBA Management Plan presents the following opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embedding Kaurna cultural land management, including cultural burning, into the management of all seven KBAs.</li> <li>• A newly designated seventh KBA at G S Kingston Park / Wirrarninthe (Park 23), identified as a high-biodiversity value site through recent biodiversity surveys.</li> <li>• Alignment with the <i>Biodiversity Act 2025</i> (SA) and Australia's Strategy for Nature 2024-2030, positioning Adelaide as a leader in urban biodiversity management.</li> <li>• Improved monitoring and evaluation framework to track progress against biodiversity targets over the 2026-2031 period.</li> </ul>
City of Adelaide Budget Allocation	The City of Adelaide's Annual Business Plan and Budget 2025/26 includes a strategic project allocation of \$75,000 to prepare a Key Biodiversity Area Management Plan for G S Kingston Park / Wirrarninthe (Park 23) and review and update remaining management plans.
Capital Infrastructure Projects	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The KBA Management Plan is reviewed 5-yearly. This update covers the period 2026 to 2031.
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

# Discussion

## Purpose

1. This report presents an updated Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) Management Plan (KBA Management Plan) for the Adelaide Park Lands.
2. The updated KBA Management Plan revises the six existing KBA Management Plans developed in 2018 and includes the Education Hub in G S Kingston / Wirrarnintheta (Park 23) that was designated as the seventh KBA following the Biodiversity Survey 2024.

## Background

3. Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) are management boundaries used by the City of Adelaide to prioritise the management of high-value native biodiversity in the Adelaide Park Lands.
4. The KBA areas are:
  - 4.1. KBA 1 – Victoria Park / Pakapakantheta (Park 16) and Carriageway Park / Tuthangga (Park 17)
  - 4.2. KBA 2 – Veale Park / Walyu Yarta (Park 21) and Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21W)
  - 4.3. KBA 3 – Denise Norton Park / Pardipardinyilla (Park 2), Yam Daisy Park / Kantarilla (Park 3), Reservoir Park / Kangatilla (Park 4), Bragg Park / Ngampa Yarta (Park 5)
  - 4.4. KBA 4 – Lefevre Park / Nantu Wama (Park 6)
  - 4.5. KBA 5 – Mistletoe Park / Tainmuntilla (Park 11) (south bank)
  - 4.6. KBA 6 – John E Brown Park (Park 27A) (noting the northern section has been transferred from City of Adelaide care and control under the North Adelaide Public Golf Course Act 2025)
  - 4.7. KBA 7 – G S Kingston Park / Wirrarnintheta (Park 23) – newly designated.
5. At least one KBA is in each of the five recognised pre-European vegetation communities across the Adelaide Park Lands.
6. The six existing KBA Management Plans for the Adelaide Park Lands were prepared in 2018 and have provided guidance for the City of Adelaide's Biodiversity team who manage these areas on a day-to-day basis.
7. The 2026 update revises all existing plans and introduces the newly designated seventh KBA at G S Kingston Park / Wirrarnintheta (Park 23), which was identified as a site of high biodiversity value through recent surveys and did not previously have a KBA Management Plan.
8. KBAs are globally significant conservation sites meeting one or more of eleven International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) criteria across five themes: threatened biodiversity, geographically restricted biodiversity, ecological integrity, biological processes, and irreplaceability.

## Conservation Values

9. KBAs contain remnants of pre-European vegetation communities representing the range of associations once present across the Adelaide Plains. Less than 1% of equivalent native vegetation remains within a 5 km radius.
10. Recent biodiversity surveys (2023–2025) documented:
  - 10.1. 183 indigenous plant species and 5 State-threatened plant species, including the nationally critically endangered Mount Lofty Speedwell.
  - 10.2. 8 species of bats, including 3 previously unrecorded, and healthy possum populations. Two threatened mammal species: Common Brushtail Possum and Grey-headed Flying Fox.
  - 10.3. 71 native bee species and 664 other unique invertebrate species, including the Chequered Copper Butterfly.
  - 10.4. Two threatened bird species observed: Australasian Shoveler and Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo.
  - 10.5. 9 species of native fish in Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens, including the Short-finned Eel.
  - 10.6. Grey Box grassy woodlands – a Nationally Endangered ecological community.

## Updated KBA Management Plan Framework for Management

11. The KBA Management Plan establishes objectives, targets and management actions for 2026 to 2031 for all seven KBA's.
12. It applies a spatial zoning framework across all KBAs:
  - 12.1. Protected Conservation Zone (PCZ) / Revegetation Conservation Zone (RCZ) / Riparian and Wetland Zone (RWZ) / Butterfly Conservation Zone (BCZ) – core habitat zones: no access, no infrastructure, no lighting.
  - 12.2. Buffer Conservation Zone (BCZ) – minimal access (trails only), no amenities.
  - 12.3. Informal Recreation Zone (IRZ) – recreation edges where all amenities and facilities are concentrated.
13. Key management principles include:
  - 13.1. Remnants and revegetation - Protecting and enhancing remnant vegetation and habitat is the highest priority.
  - 13.2. Connectivity - Connected populations have greater genetic diversity and are more resilient.
  - 13.3. Adapting and building resilience to climate change - Native vegetation management needs to adapt to and build resilience to climate change.
  - 13.4. Target vegetation communities and revegetation species selection - In general, the restoration target for PCZ's and RCZ's is to restore the pre-European vegetation communities
  - 13.5. Inclusive, Open and Timely Decision-making - The key stakeholders involved in management of the KBAs will communicate openly with one another and will come together at least annually to review progress on the KBA
14. Each KBA has a plan that identifies:
  - 14.1. Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy (APLMS) precinct and Community Land Management Plan reference.
  - 14.2. Target vegetation communities from five pre-European types (Grey Box, SA Blue Gum, River Red Gum, Mallee Box west, Mallee Box north).
  - 14.3. Zones and boundary of each KBA.
  - 14.4. Biodiversity survey results and species of conservation significance.
  - 14.5. Specific management actions covering weed control, revegetation, fauna habitat, Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED), monitoring and Kaurna cultural management.
15. Key changes as part of the updated KBA Management Plan include:
  - 15.1. Some of the KBA boundaries have been adjusted to reflect changes in the extents of significant vegetation based on the 2024 Biodiversity Survey, this adjustment represents a 16 hectare increase in the KBAs.
  - 15.2. The updated KBA Management Plan embeds Kaurna-led cultural land management programs across all seven KBAs.
    - 15.2.1. The Plan acknowledges the cultural significance of Tarntanyangga (place of the Red Kangaroo Dreaming) and Karrawirra Parri / River Torrens (the Red Gum Forest River) to Kaurna peoples.
    - 15.2.2. Remnant canopy trees within the KBAs are recognised as irreplaceable cultural and ecological anchors.
    - 15.2.3. Cultural fire is identified as vital to the health of the landscape, providing soil nutrients, appropriate germination temperatures for native seed, and promoting ecological renewal.
  - 15.3. Management actions in the KBA Management Plan have had regard to climate change projections and seek to build ecological resilience to projected changes, including the selection of climate-appropriate species for revegetation, and integration of cultural fire as a landscape management tool.

## State Government Projects

16. During the preparation of the updated KBA Management Plan, the State Government announced two major redevelopments within the Adelaide Park Lands with potential implications for key biodiversity areas:
  - 16.1. North Adelaide Golf Course Redevelopment — currently underway in Possum Park / Pirltawardli (Park 1) and John E Brown Park (Park 27A), with potential impacts to the northern and eastern sides of KBA 6; and
  - 16.2. Proposed MotoGP Track, Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) - with potential impacts to KBA 1 and the Butterfly Conservation Zone.
17. At the time of this report, the full extent of impacts arising from both projects remains unknown.

### North Adelaide Golf Course Redevelopment

18. A section of KBA 6 within John E Brown Park (Park 27A) falls within the Project Site of the North Adelaide Golf Course Redevelopment. This section was transferred to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing on 27 April 2026, having previously been under the care, control and management of Council.
19. The area had been managed by the City of Adelaide as Revegetation Conservation Zones and Informal Recreation Zones. The full extent of works affecting this section of KBA 6 is yet to be determined, and future management of the area will require discussion with the State Government.

### Management Agreement — Grey Box Woodlands and Derived Native Grassland

20. A Management Agreement (2011) exists between the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water and the City of Adelaide for the Grey Box Woodlands and Derived Native Grassland, forming part of KBA 1 in Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16).
21. The Agreement requires a management plan be developed for this area. Both the Management Agreement and its associated management plan will be updated following the review of the KBA Management Plan to reflect the expansion of KBA 1.

## Next Steps

22. The following next steps are planned:
  - 22.1. As an internal management plan document, finalisation and approval of the KBA Management Plan rests with the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Adelaide.
  - 22.2. The City of Adelaide's City Operations Program (Biodiversity Team) will take a phased approach to updating work practices and workflows to reflect the requirements of the updated KBA Management Plan.
  - 22.3. Biodiversity and KBA mapping on the City of Adelaide website will be updated to reflect the additional extent of KBAs in the Adelaide Park Lands.
  - 22.4. A Biodiversity Monitoring Plan is being developed to complement the KBA Management Plan and provide evidence-based monitoring to allow for adaptive management of the Key Biodiversity Areas.
  - 22.5. Administration is monitoring opportunities to seek external funding to implement Caring for Country management practices as part of implementing the KBA Management Plan.
23. Administration will continue to monitor State Government announcements regarding the abovementioned projects and their potential impacts on the KBAs and the Butterfly Conservation Zone.
24. The Management Agreement and associated management plan for the Grey Box Woodlands and Derived Native Grassland, forming part of KBA 1 in Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16), will be updated in 2026/27.
25. Any consequent amendments to the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy and Adelaide Park Lands Community Land Management Plan hard copy documents will be made at the next scheduled review, publicly available mapping will be updated as relevant.

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## Attachments

### **Attachment A** –Adelaide Park Lands Key Biodiversity Management Plans 2026–2031