

Tuesday 24 June 2008

Dr Kathy Alexander
Chief Executive Officer
City of Melbourne
PO Box 1603
Melbourne Vic 3001

Dear Dr Alexander

Re: Future Melbourne – from liveable to sustainable city

Thank you for inviting Sustainability Victoria to comment on the draft Future Melbourne Plan.

Congratulations on drafting a vision that articulates the need for change and the challenges this presents in order for Melbourne to achieve the status of 'ecocity'. While much work is underway to mitigate and also adapt to climate change, there is much more to be done as pointed out in the draft.

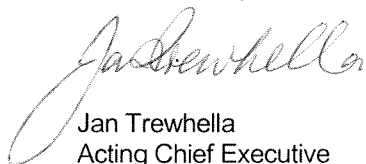
Particular challenges for the City of Melbourne noted by Sustainability Victoria include:

The resource recovery rate for City of Melbourne, which will be difficult to raise to the sort of levels other councils can achieve due to the high-rise nature of the built environment - organic waste management in particular

- > Achieving a suitable balance between waste water collection and maintenance of health/safety standards
- > Gauging the amount of potable water actually saved through rain water collection
- > Developing targets and performance indicators that meet the need for accurate and meaningful metrics
- > Developing performance measurement baselines, where possible, in order to help contextualise improvements over time
- > Incorporating a life-cycle sustainability approach into the technology, processes and services employed
- > Engaging all stakeholders in order to optimise the potential for success.

Sustainability Victoria wishes the City of Melbourne success in its vision for a sustainable city. We have worked successfully with the City of Melbourne and the municipal, business, industry and community sectors in and around Melbourne, and will continue our emphasis on these partnerships to deliver on the Victorian Government's objectives for a sustainable Victoria into the future.

Yours sincerely



Jan Trewhella
Acting Chief Executive