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Carolyn McNally  
Secretary  
Department of Environment and Planning  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms McNally

## Greener Places - Draft Policy

The Housing Industry Association (HIA) would like to provide the following comments in relation to the draft policy Greener Places prepared by the Government Architect NSW.

As Sydney expands and the city's urban environment takes on a much denser and compact form, the need for green spaces and connections has become more important. The release of Greener Places by the Government Architect is unique in that it will provide a bridge between two very important parts of the planning system, namely; advocacy/collaboration and delivery/implementation.

It is agreed that monitoring and reporting of outcomes is essential for the policy to be successfully implemented. The effectiveness of the policy to deliver green infrastructure requires the development of benchmarks to measure outcomes. The proposed annual monitoring report tracking progress on goals, directions and actions is appropriate. It should look at macro and micro level achievements delivered under the policy.

The aims and objectives of Greener Places have considerable merit. However, some of the objectives will require engagement and cooperation of multiple government agencies and local councils. At this stage it is not clear how these types of delivery issues will be resolved. The implementation of the policy will require strong leadership and a whole of government approach.

We look forward to the release of the three draft manuals later this year which will support the implementation of Greener Places and address the finer grain detail of developing Sydney's Green Infrastructure.

Should you require any further information regarding this submission, please contact Troy Loveday, Assistant Director Residential Development and Planning on 02 9978 3342 or [t.loveday@hia.com.au](mailto:t.loveday@hia.com.au)

Yours sincerely  
HOUSING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION LIMITED

David Bare  
Executive Director