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The General Manager Hornsby Shire Council Attention Lisa Pearce, March 6 2025

Dear Lisa,

The Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust supports the Walking Track Upgrade Castle Howard Road Track to Lyne Road Reserve, Cheltenham Upgrade project. This section of the bushland in Cheltenham has been overlooked and neglected for many years. Linking up with the Devlins Creek track in the Lane Cove National Park will attract many local and regional walkers.

The Trust would like to see a bush regeneration get started along this section of the bushland when the track is constructed. The weeds in this area of Lyne Rd are very bad. The density of the weed growth create safety issues as well as loss of biodiversity. Removing weeds and regenerating the bushland will open up the area and attract more walkers.

This has been the experience at Burns Road South in Beecroft where a similar strategy of bush regeneration was initiated by Council's bushcare volunteers. The Burns Road South track is very well used by locals and improving the natural environment around Lyne Rd will have a similar result. If not already programmed, a bush regeneration program will require additional funding, for initial works but more importantly in the longer term. Perhaps a programme to attract more local bushcare volunteers may be required.

Regards, Ross Walker

Vice President BCCT