

## Priority areas

Which areas are most vulnerable?

In order to achieve the overall aim of this Plan, it will be important to focus efforts in the areas most in need of tree canopy. This includes areas where the tree canopy is most at risk, areas where the community is most vulnerable and areas of low biodiversity.

### Data analysis

Council completed preliminary analysis of the LGA to contribute towards the development of this Plan. A prioritisation matrix to identify areas of high vulnerability was developed (as seen in Table 1 and Figure 7) to identify the most important areas across the Northern Beaches. Table 1 outlines the elements that were included in the analysis and assessment of vulnerability. Figure 7 and Figure 8 show the layers included in the analysis and the areas that are the most vulnerable. The priority of areas will change as more data becomes available. It will be important to confirm the method of priority assessment and to establish a multi-disciplinary approach that includes relevant teams across Council.

**Table 1**

Elements and criteria for assessment of high vulnerability areas

Element included in analysis	Criteria for assessment as being vulnerable
1. Existing canopy cover	Canopy cover is low
2. Socio-economic disadvantage (SIEFA)	Socio-economic advantages are low
3. Urban heat	Urban heat is higher
4. Areas subject to change with future development	The area is expecting increased development
5. Flooding hot spots	The area is subject to flooding
6. Biodiversity	There are threatened species present, or the area is a wildlife corridor
7. Bush fire risk	There is identified bush fire mitigation required
8. Heat vulnerability	The community is more vulnerable to urban heat