

# Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 30 April 2024

# Seating Plan for Council meetings



Public  
address

Public gallery

# Statement of ethical obligations

| Obligations  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Oath [Affirmation] of Office by Councillors</b> | I swear [solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm] that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Randwick City and the Randwick City Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.   |
| Code of Conduct conflict of interests              |   |
| <b>Pecuniary interests</b>                         | <p>A Councillor who has a <b>pecuniary interest</b> in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the council at which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting.</p> <p>The Councillor must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed, or</li><li>b) at any time during which the council is voting on any question in relation to the matter.</li></ul> |
| <b>Non-pecuniary conflict of interests</b>         | A Councillor who has a <b>non-pecuniary conflict of interest</b> in a matter, must disclose the relevant private interest in relation to the matter fully and on each occasion on which the non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to the matter.  |
| <b>Significant non-pecuniary interests</b>         | A Councillor who has a <b>significant</b> non-pecuniary conflict of interest in relation to a matter under consideration at a council meeting, must manage the conflict of interest as if they had a pecuniary interest in the matter.  |
| <b>Non-significant non-pecuniary interests</b>     | A Councillor who determines that they have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter that is <b>not significant</b> and does not require further action, when disclosing the interest must also explain why conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances.  |



Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Council meeting of Randwick City Council will be held in the Council Chamber, 1st Floor Randwick Town Hall, 90 Avoca St Randwick on Tuesday, 30 April 2024 at 7:00pm

### **Acknowledgement of Country**

*"I would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on the land of the Bidjigal and the Gadigal peoples who occupied the Sydney Coast, being the traditional owners. On behalf of Randwick City Council, I acknowledge and pay my respects to the Elders past and present, and to Aboriginal people in attendance today."*

### **Prayer**

*"Almighty God,  
We humbly beseech you to bestow your blessings upon this Council and to direct and prosper our deliberations to the advancement of your glory and the true welfare of the people of Randwick and Australia.  
Amen"*

### **Apologies/Granting of Leave of Absences**

### **Requests to attend meeting by audio-visual link**

### **Confirmation of the Minutes**

Ordinary Council - 26 March 2024

### **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

### **Address of Council by Members of the Public**

*Privacy warning;*

*In respect to Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act, members of the public are advised that the proceedings of this meeting will be recorded for the purposes of clause 5.20-5.23 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice.*

*Audio/video recording of meetings prohibited without permission;*

*A person may be expelled from a meeting for using, or having used, an audio/video recorder without the express authority of the Council.*

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*This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) (c) Of the Local Government Act, as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.*

CO17/24 Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee Minutes - April 2024

*This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) (f) Of the Local Government Act, as it deals with matters affecting the security of the Council, Councillors, Council staff or Council property.*

## **Notice of Rescission Motions**

Nil

## **Petitions**

Ray Brownlee, PSM  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

## Mayoral Minute No. MM13/24

### Subject: Condolences for victims of the Bondi Junction attack

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#### Motion:

That Council:

- a) express its condolences and deepest sympathies to the families of the victims and survivors impacted by the 13 April attack in Bondi Junction;
- b) commend the actions taken by police, ambulance, doctors, nurses and civilians who responded under exceptionally difficult circumstances; and
- c) hold a minute's silence in memory of the six people who died; Pikria Drchia, Ashlee Good, Dawn Singleton, Faraz Tahir, Jade Young, Cheng Yichuan.

#### Background:

The horrific attack that took place on 13 April at Bondi Junction Westfield has had a huge impact on our community and beyond. It has left many of us shocked and saddened.

Our hearts go out to the family of the six people who lost their lives and to the many more being cared for in hospital. We express our condolences and deepest sympathies to everybody affected.

I would like to commend our first responders – police and paramedics – as well as the people at the mall who approached the assailant and the store attendants who safely protected customers during the attack.

And of course, the actions of the police officer, Inspector Amy Scott, in approaching and stopping the assailant showed exceptional courage, bravery and professionalism and is to be commended.

We also commend the ongoing efforts of the doctors, surgeons and nurses at the Prince of Wales and Sydney Children's Hospitals in Randwick and other hospitals who responded with critical care in a very difficult situation.

The community of Randwick stands together with our friends in the neighbouring council areas of Waverley and Woollahra. In the aftermath of the incident, Council worked with Waverley Council to distribute important updates and messages of support over the weekend of 13 & 14 April.

I reached out to the Mayor of Waverley offering our assistance and support, and Council flew our flags at half-mast on the Randwick Town Hall and Randwick Administration Building on Monday 15 April. Along with so many others in our community, I paid my respects and laid a floral tribute at Bondi Junction on behalf of Randwick Council and attended the candlelight vigil on Sunday 21st April.

Five of the six people killed in the attack were women, as were nine of the twelve people who were injured. We condemn these and all acts of violence.

We acknowledge it has been a very difficult time for many in our community and we have been communicating information about how to contact helplines for anybody who may need support.

On behalf of Randwick Council I extend our deepest condolences to all the families who have been so devastatingly impacted by this horrific incident.

We stand together and will continue to offer support and assistance wherever it is needed.

**Attachment/s:**

Nil

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**Submitted by:** The Mayor, Cr Philipa Veitch

**File Reference:** F2023/06574

MM13/24

## Mayoral Minute No. MM14/24

**Subject:** Proposed closure of Kensington Post Office

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### Motion:

That Randwick Council;

- a) supports the community's opposition to the closure of the Kensington Post Office; and
- b) notes a letter has been sent to Australia Post urging them to reconsider the closure.

### Background:

I have received notification from Australia Post that they are planning on closing the Kensington Post Office located at 168 Anzac Parade, Kensington. The advice is that the shop will close on the 31st of May 2024 due to the lease ending at the site.

The closure of the Kensington Post Office will have an impact on keeping our community connected and will also cause disruption to services in our community.

Not everyone is able to receive mail electronically and Post Offices provide other critical services such as passport applications, licence renewals, applying for a tax number and police checks and paying bills. With the proposed closure of this post office people requiring these services would need to travel to Randwick or Gardeners Road in Kingsford at an extra cost and inconvenience.

The Kensington Post Office is very busy and this will impact many people. Closing this location will have a real impact on members of our community. I believe it is vitally important for all major services such as post offices to continue to have a physical presence in our town centres.

The wellbeing of many of our community who utilise the Post Office at Kensington, including our senior citizens, will almost certainly be affected as they would either need to travel to another destination or make other arrangements. I have also been advised that there are 980 post boxes at Kensington Post Office with existing post-box holders being advised to apply for a post box elsewhere. This could have an overwhelming impact on other nearby post offices. The current location is also well placed to serve a growing population in Kensington and Kingsford.

I have had a number of residents contact me concerned about the closure of the Post Office.

There are also concerns for those staff currently employed at this office, as history shows that it is very difficult to find alternate employment for every affected staff member.

I have written to the Advisor, Government Affairs at Australia Post calling on them to retain their physical presence in Kensington through extension of lease discussions or consideration of an alternative location in Kensington for the benefit of all residents.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** The Mayor, Cr Philipa Veitch

**File Reference:** F2023/06574

## Mayoral Minute No. MM15/24

### Subject: Refugee Week 2024

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#### Motion:

That Council;

- a) notes that Refugee Week will be held Sunday 16 June – Saturday 22 June 2024.
- b) acknowledges the challenges faced by Refugees and people seeking asylum.
- c) acknowledges the important work being undertaken by Refugee Advice and Casework Service in Randwick.
- d) notes the events being planned and supported by Council to mark Refugee Week.
- e) install two banners on the Randwick Town Hall that conveys that Refugees are Welcome Here from 16 – 22 June 2024.

#### Background:

Refugee Week is Australia's peak annual activity to promote greater awareness of refugees, the issues they face, and the contributions refugees are making to the Australian community. It is a simultaneous national and global week of activities to draw attention to the needs and aspirations of refugees and to celebrate refugees' contributions to the communities in which they live.

Over the years Refugee Week has grown into a week in which hundreds of organisations – small and large, from local groups of volunteers to large statutory organisations, people of refugee background and allies from across the community, local councils, schools, students, faith-based organisations and business – can celebrate the week in the way they believe is most meaningful.

The aims of Refugee Week are:

- to educate the Australian public about who refugees are and why they have come to Australia;
- to help people understand the many challenges refugees face coming to Australia;
- to celebrate the contribution refugees make to our community;
- to focus on how the community can provide a safe and welcoming environment for refugees;
- for community groups and individuals to do something positive for refugees, people seeking asylum and displaced people, within Australia but also around the world; and
- for service providers to reflect on whether they are providing the best possible services to refugees.

#### Global Refugee Crisis and Challenges

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports that over **114 million people** worldwide were forcibly displaced by the end of September 2023 due to conflict, persecution, and human rights violations. Key points include:

##### 1. Causes of Displacement:

- **Conflict:** Armed conflicts and wars drive global forcible displacement. Non-state actors, such as political militias and criminal groups, contribute to instability.
- **Climate Change:** Rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and droughts force people to leave their homes. Countries in the Eastern Horn of Africa, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Ecuador, and Honduras are heavily impacted.

- **Food Insecurity:** Scarcity of food and resources leads to displacement, especially in famine-affected regions.
- **Human Rights Violations:** Discrimination and persecution force individuals and families to seek refuge elsewhere. LGBTQIA+ refugees face additional challenges due to visa barriers.

## 2. Challenges Faced by Refugees:

- **Basic Needs:** Refugees struggle to access essentials like food, clean water, shelter, and healthcare. Trauma and mental health issues exacerbate their situation.
- **Legal Uncertainty:** Lack of legal status hinders access to rights and services. Many remain stateless or of undetermined nationality.
- **Human Trafficking:** Refugees are vulnerable to trafficking and serious crimes. The UN estimates almost 50 million people trapped in slavery worldwide.

## 3. Australia's Response:

- Since World War II, Australia has welcomed over **950,000** refugee and humanitarian entrants.
- In 2023, Australia increased its resettlement intake to **17,300**, with refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and Myanmar accounting for 85% of arrivals.
- However, asylum seekers arriving between 2013-2014 and 2023 have faced challenges in obtaining permanent protection, receiving only 'temporary protection' status or being moved offshore.

### Refugee Advice and Casework Service (RACS)

The Refugee Advice and Casework Service (RACS) is a non-profit organization providing essential legal support to people who have fled persecution to find certainty and safety in Australia.

RACS has been located in Randwick for close to 15 years, providing free critical legal services to refugee and asylum seeker communities, and supporting refugees with trauma-informed legal support for people of all nationalities, religions and gender identities, and advocating for fairer and more humane asylum policies. I would like to acknowledge the important work that is being done by all RACS staff and recognise the invaluable community service that they provide.

### Council supporting Refugees

There are a number of ways in which Council supports refugees, supports advocacy for refugees and people seeking asylum and acknowledges the positive impact that refugees have in our community.

- **Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum**

The Local Government Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum is a national coalition of concerned local Councils formed to advocate against federal government changes to income support for people seeking asylum. NSW has the second largest number of people on Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS) in Australia after Victoria.

Council is proud to be a general member of this taskforce and provide advocacy for people seeking asylum.



- **Council Event for Refugee Week**

Council staff are working towards a celebration to be held during Refugee Week which is to host an event in partnership with a service provider and/or local organisation. The event will be held during Refugee week and may include a beach walk and picnic inviting volunteers, relevant Council staff and members of the Multicultural Interagency and community leaders from diverse backgrounds.

- **Funding support for Welcome Merchant short film**

Through the Community Investment Program Council has supported *Welcome Merchant* to produce a unique short-film festival event to mark Refugee Week. The project is specifically intended to foster inclusion for diverse communities in the creative arts sector, focusing on filmmakers from refugee and asylum-seeker backgrounds. The applicant is committed to the creation of new work within Randwick LGA as part of the project and the films will be screened at The Ritz on June 27, 2024.

- **Banners on Town Hall for Refugee Week**

I have received requests from a number of community members to install a banner on the Town Hall saying 'Refugees are Welcome Here' or similar. I propose that a banner is designed with this wording and installed in an appropriate prominent location on Randwick Town Hall from 16 – 22 June 2024 for Refugee Week. This will make a strong statement about our community welcoming and supporting refugees.

**Source of funding:**

The cost of banners including installation is approximately \$2000 which can be funded in the 2023-24 Communications budget.

**Attachment/s:**

Nil

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**Submitted by:** The Mayor, Cr Philipa Veitch

**File Reference:** F2014/00547

## Mayoral Minute No. MM16/24

**Subject: Volunteer Week 2024**

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### Motion:

That Council;

- a) acknowledges the incredible work being done by volunteers in our community and across NSW and the impact of volunteers who play an important role across a range of sectors;
- b) promotes Volunteer Week on 20 – 26 May 2024 via social channels.

### Background:

National Volunteer Week is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteering and will be held on 20-26 May 2024. This special event provides an opportunity to highlight the important role of volunteers in our community and invites people not currently volunteering to give it a go.

I propose that Council uses its social channels to promote Volunteer Week 2024 and encourage residents to get involved with a local charity or organisation looking for volunteers including signing up to GoVolunteer. Local charities looking for Volunteers include:

- The Soroptimists [Randwick & Eastern Suburbs Inc \(siseap.org\)](http://Randwick&EasternSuburbsInc.siseap.org)
- Rotary [Volunteer | Rotary Club of Botany Randwick \(botanyrandwickrotary.org.au\)](http://VolunteerRotaryClubofBotanyRandwick.botanyrandwickrotary.org.au)
- Friends of Malabar Headland [About Friends of Malabar Headland | Friends of Malabar Headland](http://AboutFriendsOfMalabarHeadlandFriendsOfMalabarHeadland)
- Randwick Bushcare Volunteers [Bushcare volunteers - Randwick City Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://Bushcarevolunteers-RandwickCityCouncil.nsw.gov.au)
- Ronald McDonald House [Ronald McDonald House Charities Sydney : Volunteers \(rmhcnsydney.org.au\)](http://RonaldMcDonaldHouseCharitiesSydneyVolunteers.rmhcnsydney.org.au)
- Surf Lifesaving Clubs [Join - Surf Life Saving NSW](http://Join-SurfLifeSavingNSW)
- Sydney Children's Hospital [Volunteer at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick | The Sydney Children's Hospitals Network \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://VolunteeratSydneyChildrensHospitalRandwickTheSydneyChildrensHospitalsNetwork.nsw.gov.au)
- State Emergency Services (SES) - [Volunteer with NSW SES | NSW State Emergency Service](http://VolunteerwithNSWSESNSWStateEmergencyService)
- Parents joining their local school P&C groups

More information on Volunteering can be found here: <https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/get-involved/nvw/>

Go Volunteer [GoVolunteer - Volunteering Australia](http://GoVolunteer-VolunteeringAustralia) is an initiative of Volunteering Australia. Our aim is to match people who are interested in volunteering with appropriate volunteering opportunities.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** The Mayor, Cr Philipa Veitch

**File Reference:** F2015/00252

MM16/24

## Mayoral Minute No. MM17/24

### Subject: Financial Assistance and Donations - February - March 2024

#### Motion:

That Council:

- a) contribute \$4224.00 towards the waiver of fees associated with the hire of the pool at Des Renford Centre for Surf Life Saving Sydney Pool Rescue Clinics on 12 May, 19 May, 26 May and 2 June 2024.
- b) contribute \$2000.00 to the Clovelly Eskimos Winter Swimming Club (sub-branch of the Clovelly Surf Club) towards the publication of a book detailing the history of the club for their 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- c) donate plants to the value of \$800.00 from Council's Nursery to the Sydney Children's Hospital, Saunders Unit- Adolescent Mental Health to rejuvenate the Saunders Unit garden.
- d) contribute \$7200.00 to Serving Hands to deliver critical food packages to community members in need for 12 weeks.

#### Background:

##### a) Surf Life Saving, Sydney – Pool Rescue Clinics

Surf Life Saving Sydney would like to use the Des Renford Leisure Centre Pool for the upcoming Surf Sports Pool Rescue Clinics being offered to youth and senior members of 15 surf lifesaving clubs. Many of the Randwick club members will attend from Clovelly, Coogee, Maroubra and South Maroubra Surf Life Saving Clubs. To be able to conduct the clinics for the members, Surf Life Saving Sydney has requested Council's assistance with the waiver of fees for the pools on 12 May, 19 May, 26 May and 2 June 2024.

##### b) Clovelly Eskimos Winter Swimming Club

Clovelly Eskimos Winter Swimming Club are a sub club of the Clovelly Surf Club, they were established in 1954 by a small group of surf club members who wanted to continue their fitness and social connection through winter.

They will be celebrating their 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 20 July 2024 and are planning to launch a book detailing the history of the club from the perspective of members old and new. The club has requested a contribution from Council of \$2000.00 towards part of the cost of the book (total cost \$3500.00).

##### c) Sydney Children's Hospital – Saunders Unit – Adolescent Mental Health

The Sydney Children's Hospital – Saunders Unit has a small garden attached to their ward, Patients, staff, and families enjoy the garden all year round. The hospital staff are keen to rejuvenate the garden and have requested a donation of plants from Council's nursery to beautify the garden.

##### d) Serving Hands – food packages for Lexington Hub & Kooloora Community Centre

Serving Hands are a volunteer organisation who provide meals to those in the community who are in need. Helping Hands provide up to 180 meals per week directly to the Kooloora and Lexo Hub communities. They have written to me to ask whether Council can support critical food packages for the period of May, June & July as they will run out of funds to be able to deliver this service by the end of April. They are requesting \$7200 to make 180 meals, which is \$600 per week for 12 weeks at \$3.30 per meal. Serving Hands are based at the Coptic Church in Kensington and rely on volunteers from the church. This is a highly valued service by residents in two key housing estates in Randwick and is important to support the interim continuation. From 1 August Serving Hands have advised that they will be

MM17/24

applying for other funding that will commence from that date and also have lead in time to give notice to residents should the funding and service not be able to continue.

**Source of funding:**

The financial implications to Council will be \$14,224.00 funded from the 2023-24 Contingency Fund.

The current spend on the Mayor's Contingency Fund is \$148,213.27 + proposed donations for April in this report (\$14,224) = \$162,437.27. The funding source for the overspend will be found and reported via Quarterly budget review.

**Attachment/s:**

Nil

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**Submitted by:** The Mayor, Cr Philipa Veitch

**File Reference:** F2024/06574

## Mayoral Minute No. MM18/24

**Subject: Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) NSW Awards**

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### Motion:

That Council acknowledge and congratulate:

- a) the Council Officers involved in winning the 2024 IPWEA Award for the 'Design and Construction of a Local Government / Public Works' Project for the Fitzpatrick Park Playground;
- b) the Council Officers involved in winning the 2024 NSW Public Works IPWEA Award for 'Multi-Disciplinary Project Management' for the Heffron Centre; and
- c) Tatiana Castro-Cerneaz – Student Engineer – City Services, for winning the 2024 NSW IPWEA David Abbott Award – Young Engineer of the Year.

### Background:

On Thursday, 11 April 2024, Council Officers attended the NSW State Conference for the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) Awards Night. The Annual Engineering Excellence Awards aspires to endorse and recognise excellence in Local Government and Public Works Projects. This is achieved through inspiration, innovation, collaboration, development and completion of projects and technical management by our staff.

Given the recent efforts of Council Officers in 2023-24, Randwick City Council was nominated for 9 Excellence Awards. A huge achievement for nominations in its own right.

As Mayor of Randwick I am pleased & proud to advise that Randwick City Council was successful in winning 3 awards, including 2 of the major award categories, resulting in Randwick being the most successful Council on the night.

Council won the following awards:

#### **Category 1 – Design and Construction of a Local Government / Public Works Project (Less than \$500,000) – Fitzpatrick Park Playground**

"Councils of all sizes can be acknowledged for works that are within the capacity of the individual Councils from both the ability to fund the project and have engineering expertise to carry out the project".

#### **Category 8 – NSW Public Works – Multidisciplinary Project Management Award – The Heffron Centre**

"The Multi-Disciplinary Project Management award will be presented to a Project Management Team who has successfully completed a project worth over \$500,000 within the past two years that involves 3 or more different disciplines, i.e. Architects, Landscape Architects, Electrical Engineers, Urban Designers, and Civil Engineers etc. The award recognises the team who managed the project best integrating multi-disciplines through both the Design and Construction phases.

#### **Category 9 – The David Abbott Award – Young Engineer of the Year - Tatiana Castro-Cerneaz**

"This Award was created in memory of David Abbott, a dedicated Engineer who mentored and inspired young engineers. It is an award for an under 35 individual IPWEA Member to recognise and encourage their continuing contribution in the delivery of public works excellence"

Tatiana is an undergraduate Civil Engineering student currently studying a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) at University of Technology Sydney and is also currently employed at Randwick City Council as a Student Engineer with the Projects Team, City Services.

Some of Tatiana's key achievements include:

- Development of an improved system for retaining wall and stair inspections that improved the team's efficiency and created data that was easily accessible for planning maintenance.
- Innovated a design solution that improved drainage in high pedestrian areas.
- Delivery of an Open Space HAZMAT Audit project from procurement stage to completion.
- Independently managed contractors in an emergency situation, to relocate large boulders that had been pushed by large swell into a popular swimming spot which presented public safety issue.

Through her engagement with 'Young IPWEA' (YIPWEA), Tatiana has had the opportunity to develop her leadership skills and contribute to other young engineers' professional development. As Deputy Chair of the NSW YIPWEA committee, she has assisted in restructuring the committee to ensure all committee members were working on projects that best suit their strengths and motivations.

Tatiana is an asset to both Council and our community, and I congratulate her on her recent success.

#### **Attachment/s:**

Nil

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**Submitted by:** The Mayor, Cr Philipa Veitch

**File Reference:** F2009/00178

## Director City Planning Report No. CP14/24

### Subject: UNSW land at 215B Anzac Parade Kensington - Review of Planning Controls

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#### Executive Summary

- This report responds to a Council resolution seeking review of the planning controls that apply to the UNSW site at 215B Anzac Parade, Kensington. This resolution is in response to DA/168/2023, submitted on 11 May 2023 by the UNSW for construction of five new buildings which will include student accommodation, retail, university and creation of new public domain.
- The DA is categorised as a regionally significant development, under State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021 as it has a capital investment value over \$30 million. The Sydney Eastern City Planning Panel (SECPP) is the consent authority and Council's role is to carry out the assessment of the application and make recommendations for the Panel's deliberation and decision.
- The SECPP has set a tentative determination date of 18 June 2024 and will hold a public meeting on this date.
- Upon reviewing the planning controls it is considered appropriate that a site-specific Planning Proposal be prepared, to reinforce the current height controls across the entire site. A draft Planning Proposal would set a minimum height for the middle of the site of 24m (7 storeys) and an open public space fronting Anzac Parade with a maximum height of 1m to accommodate public domain improvements. It would also reinforce the 12m height limit at the rear of the site.

#### Recommendation

That Council:

- a) commence the process of preparing a Planning Proposal to amend the Randwick LEP 2012 for the UNSW western carpark site, known as 215B Anzac Parade, Kensington.
- b) endorse the preparation of site-specific envelope controls and provisions to amend Randwick DCP 2013 for the subject site as part of the Stage 2 DCP review.
- c) endorse the submission of the draft Planning Proposal to the Randwick Local Planning Panel (RLPP), in accordance with Ministerial Direction and report back on their advice.
- d) receive a report back on the draft Planning Proposal with supporting urban design technical studies for Council's consideration prior to submitting the proposal to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, requesting gateway determination and public exhibition.

#### Attachment/s:

Nil



## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to respond to Council's resolution of 28 November 2023:

(Luxford/Rosenfeld) That Council reinforces its objection to the development proposed by UNSW/Iglu at 215B Anzac Parade Kensington by reviewing its current LEP & DCP controls to ensure that any development on the site does not exceed 12m in height and incorporates a large civic space to Anzac Parade. This would preserve the amenity of the neighbouring residential properties and NIDA.

This report provides a summary of the planning context and the existing Randwick LEP and DCP development controls that apply to the subject site, reviews these development controls in the context of concerns raised by NIDA and surrounding residents and stakeholders, and in consideration of the long-term planning of the Kensington Town Centre, the UNSW and the integration of the UNSW Anzac Parade Light Rail stop, and the deliberations of the Sydney Eastern City Planning Panel (SECPP) and provides recommendations for amendments to the existing Randwick LEP 2012 height of building standards.

Subject to Council's endorsement of the proposed amendments, a draft Planning Proposal will be referred to the Randwick Local Planning Panel for advice as required by a Ministerial Direction. A report will be prepared for Council's consideration following receipt of this advice prior to the draft Planning Proposal being submitted to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure seeking a gateway Determination (to enable public exhibition).

## Background

- 11 May 2023  
DA/168/2023 submitted by the UNSW for construction of five new buildings which will include student accommodation, retail, university and creation of new public domain.
- 15 August 2023  
Briefing to SECPP by Council and Applicant
- 6 September 2023  
The Randwick Design Excellence Advisory Panel (DEAP) comments on the development proposal were provided to the applicant, with the key matters raised relating to scale and amenity, street and public domain network and aesthetics.

The comments generally relate to the following recommendations and improvements:

- Reduce Building A and B heights to retain amenity to surrounding dwellings and New College. Overshadowing and obstruction of views to the sky should be restricted to that which the DCP wall heights would create. Reference is made to a sketch showing DCP controls.
- Increase setback to NIDA and the western boundary.
- Create a more generous and impactful termination to the western end of the mall and create a generous and activated civic plaza.
- Improve treatment to the end of NIDA pathway to reduce the impact of the blank wall at its end.
- 5 October 2023  
Site inspection by the Panel attended by Council, Applicant and NIDA
- 14 November 2023  
A Council Request for Additional Information (RFAI) was made to the Applicant and the Applicant requested the RFAI be held in abeyance until mid-February 2024 to submit an amended proposal.
- 6 March 2024  
The Applicant submitted amended plans and an interim response to Council's RFAI. The

amended proposal submitted by the Applicant, included reduced tower heights of 1 storey (north tower) and 2 storeys (south tower) and increasing the north tower setback to the NIDA property boundary from 6.875m to 10.0m.

- 14 March 2024  
Meeting of SECPP. The Panel made the following comments:
  - Excessive height and density – consider a reduction in height of the amended scheme of five floors of each building (Building A 14 storeys, Building B 13 storeys), and introduce more separation between Building A and B
  - Parking availability/operation – further clarification and consultation
  - Building separation Building B to NIDA - consider an increase to 14m
  - Confirm semi-trailer access
  - Legal advice to confirm future subdivision permissibility
- 9 April 2024  
The Panel held a Briefing Meeting to clarify the comments of the previous briefing and discuss the progress of the application. The Panel discussed with the Applicant a reduction in the height of the two towers (reduced as previously discussed), legal advice regarding subdivision, NIDA vehicular access arrangements, building separation, NIDA parking provisions, whether re-exhibition will be required and Clause 4.6 update.

A tentative date has been set by the Panel of the 18 June to determine the application. Council's DA Assessment team is preparing a report to assist the Panel in its determination.

### Proposed development

The site at 215B Anzac Parade, Kensington has an area of 9,280m<sup>2</sup> and is currently used as an openair car park. It has a main frontage to Anzac Parade and is bound by the NIDA Parade Theatres immediately to the north, the UNSW Regiment buildings and New College residences to the south and low scale residential development to the west. The site is outlined in green in Figure 1.

DA/168/2023 was submitted on 11 May 2023 by the UNSW for demolition of existing structures, removal of five trees, excavation, remediation for a mixed-use development comprising 1066 student rooms with retail, university space, retail and communal open space. The original proposal included: one x part 19, part 23 storey building (Building A); one x 20 storey tower (Building B); one x 7 storey building (Building C); and two x 4 storey buildings (Building D and E).

A 3D block image is shown in Figure 2. The proposal also includes a two-level basement car park with 250 spaces and 107 bicycle spaces. On 14 March 2024 the Applicant presented an amended scheme to the Panel briefing in response to issues raised during exhibition of the proposal and feedback provided from Council and the Panel (this is further addressed below).

Figure 1: Aerial photo of site

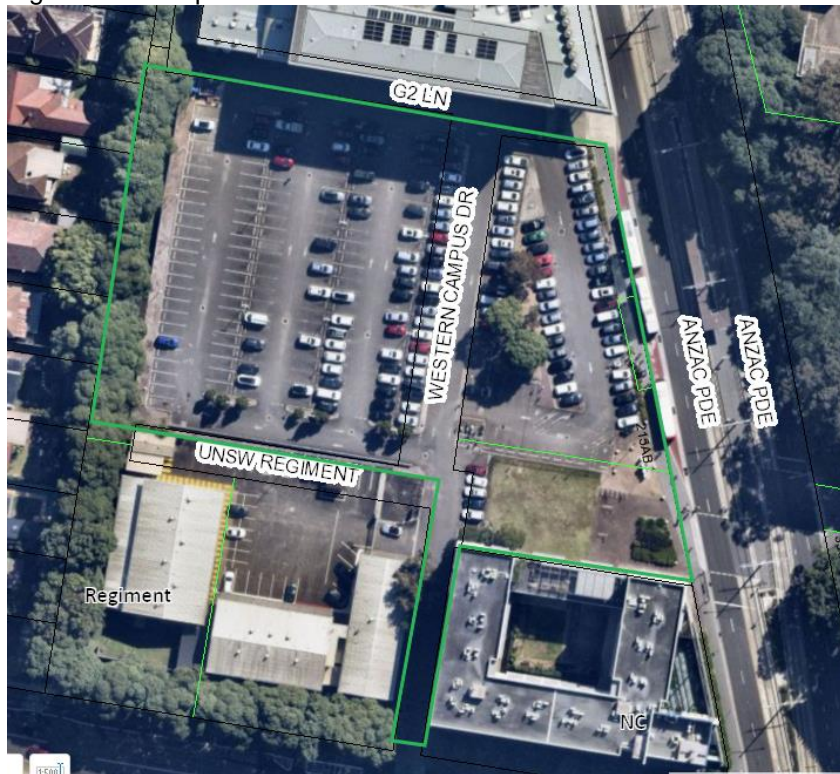


Figure 2: 3D block image of the original DA scheme (lodged 11 May 2023)



## Discussion

### Planning context

The site is zoned SP2 Educational Establishment under Randwick LEP 2012. The development is permissible with consent under the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP. Section 3.45 of the SEPP states that development for the purposes of campus student accommodation may be carried out by a person with development consent on land within the boundaries of a university.

The DA is categorised as a regionally significant development, under State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021, as the development has a cost of works greater than



\$30M and is also a Crown Development with a CIV of more than \$5 million. This means that the SECPP is the consent authority and Council's role is to carry out the assessment of the application and make recommendations for the Panel's deliberation (reference PPSSEC-281).

The UNSW intends to enter a 99-year lease with Iglu to develop, manage and maintain the development.

### Randwick LEP 2012

The Randwick LEP 2012 Height of Buildings (HOB) Map currently sets a perimeter height control, extending 30m into the site from both the west property boundary (rear fence line of the Doncaster Avenue residential properties) and from the east Anzac Parade boundary (refer to Figure 3).

The west perimeter height control is set at a maximum of 12m, equivalent to a 3.5 storey residential building, whilst the east perimeter height control is set at a maximum of 24m, equivalent to a 7 storey residential building.

Figure 3 – Randwick LEP 2012 HOB Map – Subject site in red outline

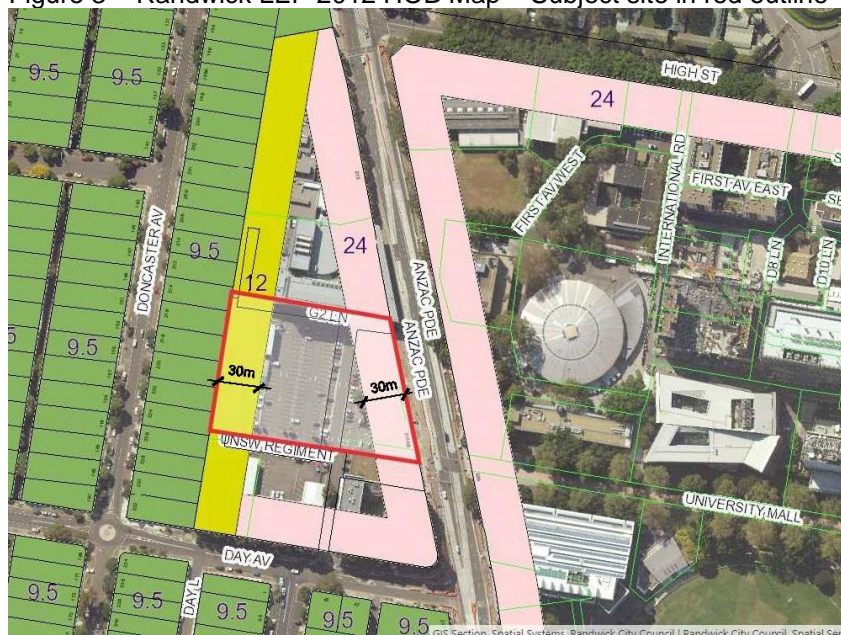


Figure 4 – NIDA building - view of south elevation



Figure 5 – UNSW New College Village building – view of north elevation



The primary massing of the existing NIDA building to the north of the subject site is approx. 20.9m in height, equivalent to a 6 storey residential building. The UNSW New College Village building, immediately to the south of the subject site, is 7 storeys in height (approx. 21.6m).

**Randwick DCP**

In 2004 the UNSW commissioned the ‘Campus 2020 Master Plan’ for the Kensington Campus. This Master Plan was endorsed by Council following the exhibition/community engagement of the Randwick Development Control Plan 2013 and forms the basis of section 4. *UNSW Kensington*, of the E2 Randwick Education and Health Specialised Centre section of Randwick DCP 2013.

The relevant DCP planning controls for the site, include:

- The completion of the University Mall promenade and visual axis
- The continuation of University Mall onto the west side of Anzac Parade to tie the east and west sides of campus together
- Creating a university ‘primary hub’ to the west of Anzac Parade in the form of a public ‘outdoor room’ with outwardly focused ground level activities, including a major new ‘landscape space’ with ‘structural planting’ reinforcing the University Mall spatial axis
- It should be noted that whilst a slender tower building zone (up to 60m height) was envisaged on the main campus (east) in the centre of the block under the DCP and Campus Master Plan, and well setback from adjoining streets, no towers were envisaged or outlined on the subject site (western site)
- Courtyard buildings on the subject site were envisaged to be a maximum of:
  - 12m in the 30m wide strip along the western boundary (equivalent to 3.5 residential storeys or 3 university storeys)
  - 14m in the northeast of the site (equivalent to 4 residential storeys or 3 university storeys)
  - 24m in the middle, and south of the site (equivalent to 7 residential storeys or 6 university storeys)

**Summary of proposed amendments**

|                           | Existing Randwick LEP 2012                               | Proposed amendments to Randwick LEP 2012   |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Zoning</b>             | SP2 Educational Establishment                            | No change  |
| <b>Height of Building</b> | Perimeter height controls extending 30m from boundaries: | New Height of Building (HOB) Map (7 storeys, 24m maximum in middle of the site – aligning with current DCP control and |

|                             | <b>Existing Randwick LEP 2012</b>   | <b>Proposed amendments to Randwick LEP 2012</b>   |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
|                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 24m along Anzac Parade frontage</li> <li>○ 12m to rear of Doncaster Avenue properties</li> </ul> | <p>existing Anzac Parade perimeter height control)</p> <p>1m height control where there is public open space (e.g. the Arrival Plaza to complement University Mall on the eastern side of Anzac Parade)</p> |
| <b>Site Specific clause</b> | Nil   | New site-specific local clause addressing objectives, DCP requirements, setbacks, demonstrate design excellence and sustainability (addressed in more detail below)   |

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### Strategic merit

A draft Planning Proposal for the site has strategic merit as the current Randwick LEP 2012 Height of Building (HOB) controls do not recognise the intent of broader strategic and design approach to balance redevelopment on both the university campus site and the Hospitals Complex with existing surrounding low scale residential development. A draft Planning Proposal aligns with and is not inconsistent with the priorities and key actions of productivity and livability outlined in strategic documents including the Randwick Place Strategy, Eastern District Plan and Randwick Local Strategic Planning Statement that apply to the site.

### Site specific merit

The site immediately adjoins low scale two storey residential development to the west and 5 and 7 storeys respectively to north and south (NIDA building, New College and Regiment site). Whilst perimeter height controls are defined in the Randwick LEP, the height controls for the middle of the site allow maximum seven storey scale envisaged in the UNSW Kensington Campus 2020 Master Plan and objectives and controls in Randwick DCP 2013. By including the DCP height control in the centre of the site as a LEP standard it would respect the sensitive location at the edge of the campus and recognise the need to treat the interface with more tailored controls. It is also considered that a building height standard in the centre of this site would ensure an appropriate built form, scale and massing impacts/outcomes on the surrounding streets and vantage points in Kensington, as well as minimising overshadowing impacts on residential properties surrounding the site.

### Proposed draft DCP controls

Preparation of a draft DCP for the site, included in the Randwick DCP Stage 2 Review, will support the Randwick LEP 2012 provisions by:

- Introducing site-specific built form envelope controls and a public open space to accommodate outdoor seating and landscaped area
- Detailing design excellence provisions
- Specifying the minimum area of public open space and clarifying public domain design requirements and connectivity with the main UNSW Campus
- Incorporating building setbacks including relationship with adjoining buildings
- Incorporating street wall height controls to Anzac Parade
- Addressing access requirements
- Specifying landscape design requirements and sun access
- Specifying environmental sustainability performance requirements
- Parking requirements

### Referral to RLPP

Following Council's consideration and endorsement of this report outlining proposed amendments to height controls for the subject site, the next step is to refer the draft Planning Proposal to the



Randwick Local Planning Panel (RLPP) for advice as required by a Ministerial Direction. Following receipt of the RLPP advice, a further report will be prepared for Council's consideration to seek a Gateway Determination from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to enable the draft Planning Proposal to be publicly exhibited.

### Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan: |   |
|--|---|
| Strategy   | Housing   |
| Outcome  | A city with excellent built form that recognises local character  |
| Objective  | 100% of development applications approved from 2025 onwards are consistent with the desired future character of the local area and consider design excellence       |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Implement local character development provisions across Randwick City through the appropriate planning framework by end 2025.                                       |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Require design excellence and sustainability principles in all new developments by 2025.  |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Investigate opportunities for promoting exceptional architectural and urban design outcomes for high density developments in key locations by 2025.                 |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Advocate for sustainable building and urban design excellence outcomes including higher BASIX requirements for residential flat buildings in Randwick City by 2025. |

### Resourcing strategy implications

The costs associated with the preparation of this work have been prepared in-house by the Strategic Planning team.

### Policy and legislative requirements

Relevant policies and legislation in relation to the UNSW/Iglu 215B Anzac Parade, Kensington Proposed Development are:

- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021
- Randwick Local Strategic Planning Statement
- Randwick Housing Strategy
- Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012 (Amendment 9)
- Randwick Development Control Plan 2013
- Economic Development Strategy
- Environment Strategy
- Integrated Transport Strategy
- Public Art Strategy.

### Conclusion

A review of the existing planning controls for the subject site has concluded that there is site specific and strategic merit in reinforcing the DCP height controls for the centre of the site through a LEP standard to address potential impacts of higher development on the surrounding area. The submitted UNSW DA includes tower buildings that are inconsistent with the lower scale envisaged for the site and interface areas on the University and Hospitals Campus' as outlined in the UNSW Kensington Campus 2020 Master Plan and Randwick DCP 2013.



The site adjoins low scale residential development and is bound by non-residential uses to the north and south that are approximately six and seven storeys respectively. It is recommended that a site-specific Planning Proposal be prepared, to reinforce a maximum height for the middle of the site of 24m (7 storeys), aligning with the Randwick DCP. It is also recommended that new building envelope controls, including setback controls and vehicular access requirements, be incorporated in Randwick DCP 2013, to complement the LEP controls. Council will also seek the advice of the Randwick Local Planning Panel and report back to Council prior to submitting the Planning Proposal to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for a Gateway Determination.

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**Responsible officer:** David Appleby, Coordinator Strategic Planner; Liam Stanley, Coordinator Strategic Planning

**File Reference:** DA/168/2023

## Director City Planning Report No. CP15/24

**Subject: Moore Park South Discussion Paper - RCC submission**

### Executive Summary

- The NSW Government proposes to convert 20 hectares of Moore Park Golf Course to a new recreational park and is inviting the community to share their views on how the new park should be reimaged and reused.
- The Discussion Paper titled *"The Future of Moore Park South – a proposal to convert part of Moore Park Golf Course to a new park"* was released by the Greater Sydney Parklands (GSP) in February 2024. Council officers participated in the discussions at the Stakeholder Workshop held at the Moore Park Golf Clubhouse on 4 March 2024.
- Moore Park South (including the Moore Park Golf Course) is located within the City of Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) and is managed by GSP. The proposed new park and reconfigured nine-hole golf course would be located immediately north of the suburb of Kensington, the Kensington Town Centre, the Kensington North HIA and the Raleigh Park master planned community.
- The proposed new park would primarily serve current and future Randwick City residents of Kensington, which is projected to grow in population by 29% (5,090) between 2021 and 2041 - the largest projected population growth in the Randwick LGA (DPHI population projections for Kensington SA2 based on the 2021 ABS Census).
- The proposal has the potential to open Moore Park to a broader range and number of users in the community, to improve public access throughout this part of the city, and to expand the range of recreational pursuits available, providing parkland tailored to the broader community's open space and recreational needs. The proposal represents a unique opportunity to create open space and recreation in a high-density inner-city location.
- It is recommended that the attached draft submission be endorsed by Council. A key recommendation is for the GSP to consider an alternative park location on the southern side of Dacey Avenue which has greater merit and can provide enhanced recreation/open space benefits to the community. This would also benefit the golf club, consolidating the nine hole golf course, club house, driving range and maintenance facility to the north of Dacey Avenue, rather than having them split on either side.
- Council's feedback also addresses the need for additional investigations to inform the park design, including a heritage study; protection of biodiversity; investigation of land remediation; preparation of a tree master plan and arborists report; bicycle and pedestrian access/safety and connectivity and potential amenity impacts from night time golf activities.
- The next steps for the GSP proposal are the release of a report on public submissions later in 2024, design development and implementation after July 2026.

### Recommendation

That Council endorse the attached draft submission to The Future of Moore Park South - Proposal to convert Part of Moore Park Golf Course to a New Park consultation.

### Attachment/s:

1.  Moore Park South GSP Proposal - DRAFT RCC Submission

## Purpose

To inform Councilors and to request endorsement of a draft Randwick City Council submission to Greater Sydney Parklands (GSP), providing feedback on the proposal to repurpose 20 hectares of Moore Park Golf Course (within the City of Sydney LGA) to a new recreational park.

## Background

Moore Park South forms part of a larger series of interconnected recreational parklands, including Moore Park North, Centennial Park, Queens Park and the Royal Randwick Racecourse. A holistic open space planning approach will be essential in planning the new park, with the many recreational pursuits in the area that span from large stadium sports venues to informal walking tracks, being interwoven with mature green spaces, stands of trees, fauna habitat, and extensive waterway and drainage systems that extend across these interconnected open spaces.

The Office of Sport identifies Randwick City as having a very high provision of golf courses when compared to the Eastern City District (1 per 29,784 compared to 1 per 46,055 people). There are five golf courses in the Randwick LGA, catering for a range of player skill levels, and with public access ranging from exclusive private members clubs (where guests must be invited by a member) to clubs that have full public access. The five golf courses of total 23ha area, represent a significant area, of the total open space within the Randwick LGA. There are eight public golf courses in the Eastern City District.

Centennial Parklands includes Centennial Park, Moore Park (incl. Entertainment Quarter) and Queens Park, which have a combined area of approximately 360 hectares in area. The Parklands attract almost 31 million visits per year (Centennial Parklands website). Moore Park Golf Course is 45 hectares and between 60,000-90,000 rounds are played each year, with the current 18-hole golf course accommodating up to 80 golfers, at any given time.

## Randwick City Open Space and Recreation Needs Study

Council's submission to the GSP Discussion paper has been informed by the Randwick City Open Space and Recreation Needs Study (OSRNS 2020) which investigated open space and recreational needs across the Randwick LGA. The Study involved extensive community engagement, including representative survey of residents to understand the attitudes, priorities and needs of the community. This work informed the preparation of the Randwick City Open Space and Recreation Strategy (RCC July 2021). The Study provides an important and comprehensive insight and understanding of open space and recreational needs of the Randwick City LGA, and specifically the Kensington area, located in proximity to the proposed park.

Consultation with the community identified the following open space and recreation priorities:

- Increase tree canopy and shade cover to provide cooling and amenity, including in parks, playgrounds, along the coast and active transport routes
- Increase active transport links to support recreation, access and safety, including improved footpaths, streets and cycle paths
- Increase the amenity of existing open spaces, including upgrades and maintenance as well as provision of shade, seating, picnic tables, bubblers and toilets
- Upgrade and provide more diverse play spaces for a range of ages and abilities, including with shade, bubblers and toilets
- Continue to provide access to natural areas for connection to nature and preservation of biodiversity
- Provide and plan for recreation with dogs, including desire for upgrades to existing dog spaces, more fenced spaces and beach access
- Increase diversity and quantity of public outdoor recreation spaces, including outdoor gyms and outdoor courts.

The OSARN Study addresses the potential opening of golf courses to shared public access, enabling public use at certain times and at the edge of the courses, and completion of the missing sections of the Eastern Suburbs coastal walkway.

### **Randwick Open Space and Recreation Strategy outcomes and objectives**

The Randwick Open Space and Recreation Needs Study informed the preparation of the Open Space and Recreation Strategy (2021) which provides a vision for the next 10 years on how Randwick will deliver the variety of open space and recreational facilities for its community. The following three outcomes of the Strategy are highly relevant in considering the proposed Moore Park facility:

- Outcome 1 – Open Space grows and changes with the community
- Outcome 2 – Our community is healthy and active
- Outcome 3 – Everyone has the opportunity to participate in sport and recreation

### **Recreational needs of northwest Randwick (Kensington)**

The demographic profile of Kensington is characterised by a higher proportion of young people aged 18 to 24 years. Over a third (34%) of Kensington residents are students studying at University, and two thirds (66%) live in high density dwellings. Kensington has a higher proportion of unemployed residents (11%), likely due to the high student population attending the UNSW. Over a quarter of households (26%) do not own a car, and a relatively high proportion of residents walk to work (10%), and cycle to work (2.8%).

The OSARN Study identified that within Randwick City, and based on population projections to 2031, the lowest level of access to Council owned/managed recreational open space (excluding Centennial Park) occurs in the suburbs and town centres of Kensington (2.5m<sup>2</sup> of open space per person) and Kingsford (2.4m<sup>2</sup> per person). This is low when compared with other areas within the Randwick LGA, that have access to open space in the range of 6.2-32.1m<sup>2</sup> per person.

### **Kensington and Kingsford (K2K) Town Centre Strategy**

The Kensington and Kingsford Town Centres Strategy identified an opportunity to provide well located medium-high density housing (apartments) in proximity of public transport (The CBD and South East Light Rail), business/employment centres, and recreational open space. There has been a progressive uptake of development sites in the Kensington Town Centre, over the last four years following amendments to the Randwick LEP in 2020 which delivered on the urban design vision of increased height and density together with a range of public benefits.

An additional 2,070 dwellings have been projected to be built in the Kensington and Kingsford Town Centres by 2026. A significant number of the dwellings are in the form of student accommodation (generally in the 18-24 year old age group) and currently under construction.

The significant number of new residents, many living in apartment accommodation, will increase demand for open space and recreational facilities within walking or cycling distance. The high proportion of students that will be living in Kensington will contribute a young demographic character to the population of the area. The new park recreational facilities and programming needs to take this into account and be tailored to these community needs.

### **Kensington North Housing Investigation Area (HIA)**

Council has recently completed planning changes for the Kensington North Housing Investigation Area (HIA), indicated in orange colour on Figure 1. This new urban area, of medium density apartment buildings of seven and five storey building height, may accommodate an additional 105 dwellings by 2026.

New development in Kensington North will be required to meet high design quality and best practice environmental performance standards and higher landscaping requirements. There is a focus on active transport and reduced parking rates in the planning of the HIA recognising the locational advantages in terms of proximity to transport, services and employment.

### **The Future of Moore Park South**

The GSP Discussion Paper outlines the overarching principles of the proposed new park - to complement the recreational amenity provided by Moore Park North, Centennial Park and



Queen's Park, improve active transport connectivity between residential areas and recreational green spaces, and to provide new recreational opportunities for the residents of Kensington, Victoria Park, Waterloo and Redfern.



Figure 1 – Interconnectivity of major open spaces, theoretical walking catchment

The system of interconnected green spaces is valued by the Randwick community and provides important recreational open space, contributing to a unique quality of life, and providing mental and physical health benefits for the residents of the suburb of Kensington, and the Kensington Town Centre.

The theoretical walking catchment (as the 'crow flies') from the proposed new park extends across the northwest corner of the Randwick LGA, providing access to new recreational open space for the suburb of Kensington and for the residents and workers of the Kensington Town Centre.

### NSW Public Spaces Charter

Randwick City Council is a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces Charter (resolved in July 2022) and recommends that GSP plan, design, manage and activate the new park in accordance with the ten principles for quality public space, and the core values of:

- Connection to Country
- Equity and inclusion
- Community engagement

The NSW Public Spaces Charter defines public space as *...all places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive*. The ten principles for public space in NSW are:

- Open and welcoming
- Community focused
- Culture and creativity
- Local character and identity



- Green and resilient
- Healthy and active
- Local business and economies
- Safe and secure
- Designed for place
- Well-managed

The Charter's core value of 'Equity and inclusion' is an important consideration in the future planning of recreational parkland for the community. The new park has the potential to provide recreational open space, that is used by a broader cross section of the community, supports a multiplicity of sport and recreational pursuits, and is tailored to community recreational and open space needs.

### Key recommendations in Council's submission

The Discussion Paper is seeking feedback on how the park can be implemented, specifically:

- How the recreation area should be used
- What are the opportunities to reimagine golf at Moore Park
- What are the barriers in accessing this area of open space
- Any other relevant ideas for the proposed change

Having regard to recreation and open space needs and future opportunities for the community, barriers and challenges for pedestrians and cyclists accessing the new park, given the arterial road system, it is considered that the new park location south of Dacey Avenue as shown in Figure 2 would provide greater community benefits rather than the proposed location north of Dacey Avenue.



Figure 2 – Alternative location for new park (indicated in green hatch)

The benefits of the alternative location would be:

- Improved access and pedestrian/cyclist safety for the community (addressed below)
- Consolidation of the golf course holes, clubhouse, driving range, maintenance facility and parking area in the same area of Moore Park

- Negating the need for the golf course to be strung out and divided into two parts by Dacey Avenue, and the need to cross Dacey Avenue via a bridge
- Consolidation and integration of the new park activities with the related sporting activities of the ES Marks athletics field
- Eliminating the safety issue and inherent conflict of the golfing activities with the new park uses, and the resultant need for large fences and nets to mitigate the risk of park users and road users from being hit with golf balls
- Greater usability of the open space

Locating the new park south of Dacey Avenue (instead of to the north) presents a number of positive outcomes and has merit. The GSP should review the current proposal as this has a number of drawbacks including splitting the holes across Dacey Avenue, requiring crossing over via the bridge, stringing out the holes, increasing the distance between some greens and the following tee. The proposed reconfiguration would introduce potential conflicts between recreational uses, with golf balls impacting upon adjoining passive park uses, and a requirement for large, visually intrusive, fences and nets to address the safety issue. Furthermore, the outlook and visibility of most of the fairways and greens from the clubhouse would be significantly reduced.

Consolidating the golf course, club house, driving range and entry/carpark north of Dacey Avenue would improve the day-to-day management, maintenance of the fairways/greens and personal safety of the reconfigured golf course. Night time golfing, may be possible in this configuration, subject to the assessment of lighting requirements and the potential impact on resident amenity.

The land parcel (excluding the Supa Centa and ES Marks athletic facility) is 19.2Ha, only slightly smaller than the proposed 20Ha. Locating the new park south of Dacey Avenue has the advantage of consolidating the new recreational/sport uses with the ES Marks Athletics Field, introducing the potential for shared facilities, access and parking, and brings the park closer to public transport with the ES Marks Light Rail stop a 300m walk to the southeast.

It is considered that the alternative location, and the consolidated golf club holes and facilities, has strong merit and it is recommended that the GSP investigate this new location prior to further developing the proposed concept.

#### **Opportunities and ideas for the park**

Informed by Council's Recreation Study, the following opportunities and ideas are identified for GSP consideration to provide a diversity of open space and recreational facilities in the new park:

- An additional sport field
- Children's splash park
- Public outdoor basketball full/half court/s for informal use
- Multipurpose youth plaza with range of recreational/social spaces
- Fitness stations
- Off-leash dog area - fenced, with shade, seating, dog bags, bins
- Expand existing walking and cycle paths into the park
- Community garden for residents
- Skateboarding and BMX facilities
- Restaurant/kiosk
- Bocce green
- Potential for Centennial Park equestrian trails into the park

#### **Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage**



The entire Centennial Park and Moore Parklands is listed as state heritage listed item. There are six Aboriginal sites identified in the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) within the vicinity of the Parklands. The following indigenous and non-indigenous heritage considerations should be addressed in the next stage of the process prior to implementation of the proposed park:

- That careful consideration is given in the future design to address the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal significance of the site. It is highly recommended to:
  - Consider principles of The Connecting with Country Framework as a guide in the re-imagining of the design to engage with Country and its cultural landscapes
  - Use heritage interpretation in design for both educational and recreational purposes to present its historic (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal) and social values. Meaningful and interactive interpretation would strengthen and sustain the place's relationships between the community and its heritage and provide economic and social benefits for the community and stakeholders
- That investigations are undertaken to establish whether there is a risk of Aboriginal object(s) being impacted by the construction of the new park, and whether an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) will be required. It is recommended that Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Due Diligence be undertaken, in accordance with the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW.

The proposed site for the new park, and the surrounding areas, contain a number of buildings of historic value, including the Moore Park Golf House and Moore Park Toll House and historic tree plantings. Many of these are documented on the Centennial Parkland website. The Discussion Paper states that the proposal will explore opportunities to acknowledge, recognise and conserve the site's cultural and heritage values. A heritage study would provide valuable insights, consolidate and confirm heritage listings and provide a foundation to inform the planning, interpretation, layout, design and future programming of the new park. Engaging with the local Aboriginal community will be critical to ensuring cultural considerations are addressed including potential dual naming of the place.

### **Supporting habitats**

The Southern Regions Organisation of Councils (SSROC) Connected Corridors Mapping has identified Moore Park as providing supporting habitats, and these areas should be retained and expanded wherever possible with habitat plantings in the new landscape design. The SSROC mapping recognises areas of habitat that can be linked providing a continuous habitat or 'stepping stone' habitat areas.

### **Grey Headed Flying Fox**

Given the presence of Grey Headed Flying Fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) camps in nearby Centennial Park, consideration should be given to any potential impacts on the species resulting from the proposed new park. The Grey Headed Flying Fox is listed as a vulnerable species under the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and the Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (1999).

In 2022 a Biodiversity Impact Statement was prepared for the Night Racing proposal at Royal Randwick Racecourse (SSD 8706) to address potential impacts on the nearby Grey Headed Flying Fox camp at Centennial Park. Any potential night time lighting impacts, such as the proposed night time golf idea, should similarly carefully consider any potential impacts on the camps. The National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife can be used to assess, manage, and protect wildlife from lighting impacts.

### **Remediation of land**

Site upgrade works were undertaken for the E.S Marks Oval in 2022. Contaminated incinerator waste was discovered on the site which contained heavy metals. It is recommended that investigations are made for the new park site, to establish the risk of such incinerator waste being present on the site and the risks of exposure managed during any proposed earthworks and levelling for the proposed park.

Further, there is a risk of contaminated land fill, given the previous industrial use of the site. Historically, the mining of sand dunes in the Eastern Suburbs often resulted in excavations that were filled with industrial and demolition materials. A preliminary site investigation under the NSW Contaminated Land Management Act and auditing should be carried out to identify any existing contaminated areas which may impact or restrict redevelopment of the subject site.

### **Tree master plan**

A tree master plan was prepared by Context Landscape Design in 2002 for the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust which covered the Centennial Parklands, and included Moore Park, Centennial Park, and Queens Park, to identify and protect trees of significance.

Recommendations in this plan for Moore Park include the following:

- Anzac Parade, Cleveland Street, Dacey Avenue and Driver Avenue to be defined in character by grand avenues of fig trees:
  - Anzac Parade - Moreton Bay Figs
  - Cleveland Street - Port Jackson and Moreton Bay Figs
  - Dacey Avenue and Driver Avenue - Hill's Weeping Figs
- Reinforce the Parklands character along the edges of Moore Park by developing South Dowling Street, Moore Park Road and Robertson Road edges as open grassland and woodland dominated by mixed species of figs. This will strengthen the identity of the Parklands and the connection between Moore Park and Centennial Park.
- Define the outer corners of Moore Park - Driver's Triangle, the corner of South Dowling Street and Dacey Avenue, the corner of Dacey Avenue and Anzac Parade - with landmark plantings consisting of feature trees or palms and/or garden beds.
- Develop tree plantings at the junction of Cleveland Street, Anzac Parade and Lang Road to emphasise the main western entry point to the Parklands.

Species recommendations are also included in the Tree Master Plan for the Moore Park area, and these, along with the above-mentioned recommendations, should be considered with the redevelopment of the proposed park.

Given the existence of perched water table ponds in the adjacent Centennial Parkland, the site may be subject to a high water table and this will need to be considered in the redevelopment of the site, especially regarding flood planning and drainage management.

### **Existing golf course landscape**

An arboreal audit/survey of all existing trees in Moore Park South should be completed provide a basis for an audit identifying the locations, health, and life expectancy of all trees. The new park landscape design should endeavor to retain as many of the existing trees along the fairways and around the greens as is practicable. Mature tree planting and the shade canopy is a recreation asset given its urban context, and whilst park design thinking must be long term, there is an opportunity for the new park to enhance shade and comfort for users from day one, through the strategic retention and strategic expansion of mature trees of the existing golf course.

### **Transport**

The proposed new park in Moore Park South would directly benefit the Randwick City residents living in the suburb of Kensington, and the Kensington Town Centre. The majority of Kensington would be within a theoretical 800m to 1,600m direct line distance of the proposed new park – equivalent to an approx. 10-20 minute walk.

It is notable that current bicycle and walking access to the proposed location of the new park is difficult due to barriers such as high-volume arterial roads, that have long distances between signalised pedestrian crossings, and long waiting times for pedestrians to cross at intersections.



Figure 3 – Pedestrian access from Kensington to new park in location as proposed in the Discussion Paper

Relevant to the creation of a new park in this area should be upgrading of the two main pedestrian and bicycle access routes from Kensington and Kensington Town Centre to the new park (shown yellow and purple in Figure 3). Future planning should investigate the pathways having generous width, provide high amenity, good paved/marked surface, convenient, timely and safe street crossings – aligned with desire lines, good shade, wayfinding/directional signage, pedestrian lighting, separation/protection from heavy traffic/pollution, and direct/seamless level changes.

The new park entry should open visually to the surrounding streets, with clearly identified entry points for pedestrians and for vehicles. Clear pedestrian and bicycle routes through the new park should be provided that are direct and safe, following good CPTED principles, including suitable pedestrian lighting.

Given barriers and challenges to walking, public transport and cycling to/from the proposed new park, the proposed location should be reviewed. Several benefits of the alternative location south of Dacey Avenue have been addressed above in this report, including improved safety, connectivity and resulting greater usability by the community.

#### **Performance of Anzac Parade/Alison Road/Dacey Avenue intersection**

Randwick City Council commissioned Stantec consultants in 2022 to undertake SIDRA modelling of the Anzac Parade/Alison Road/Dacey Avenue intersection, and the findings of the modelling is that the intersection performs poorly in the morning peak period, with a Level of Service (LOS) of F under existing conditions and for three future scenarios. The limitations of the capacity of this intersection, should be considered in the planning of pedestrian, cyclist and vehicular access to the proposed new park, particularly if the park is planned to be a regional destination for families, and thereby likely to attract trips by car.

#### **O'Dea/Todman Avenue pedestrian link**

The draft submission raises concern regarding the Moore Park Master Plan 2040 (Centennial Parklands/Hassell 2017) proposal to introduce a new east-west pedestrian link (from Boronia Street to Todman Avenue) along the Raleigh Park/golf course boundary. Raleigh Park residents' apartments and their ground level north facing communal open space and swimming pool areas adjoin the boundary with the golf course and would potentially be impacted by such a shared pathway link. The potential loss of privacy and security would need to be addressed if such a proposal were pursued.

Raleigh Park and night time golf

Council’s draft submission raises particular concern regarding the idea of introducing night time golf to the remaining nine holes of the Moore Park South golf course to the south of Dacey Avenue. The amenity of the six apartment buildings (over 300 residents) and more than a dozen residences along the north side of Salisbury Road, that directly overlook the golf course, are likely to be impacted by light spill including potentially floodlighting that would be required for playing golf at night. Some of the Raleigh Park apartment building towers are as close as 12m to the golf course boundary, and most have swimming pools that are on the boundary. It is recommended that this proposal be reconsidered by GSP.

Moore Park Supa Centa

There is an opportunity for GSP to open discussions with the owner of the bulky goods shopping centre, with the aim of improving the interface with the golf course and creating an easement from the centre into the proposed park. There is also the potential for future redevelopment of food and beverage retail to open out to terraces at the upper levels overlooking the golf course landscape. A north-south pedestrian and cyclist access along the east frontage of the development (linking from Todman Avenue to Dacey Avenue) could also be considered, subject to detail considerations for safety (activation and passive surveillance), addressing level changes, and the protection of the existing landscape.

Reconfiguring Moore Park Golf Course

The Discussion paper notes the benefits of golf participation, with studies showing 15% of the population participates in the sport each year. The Paper also cites information from the Australia’s Community Benefits Report 2023 that young people, women, and families with children are more likely to engage in social and alternative format golf, such as mini golf. A recent Golf Australia report indicates that junior and women’s membership is increasing.

The Moore Park Golf Club currently provides a quality, attractively landscaped and popular public golf course, driving range and clubhouse for players. It maintains a valuable green space within the city (providing urban heat mitigation and natural flood reservoir) and provides a social and recreational venue for the community. It is recommended that advice be sought from a professional golf course planner, to ensure the proposed new nine-hole course is creatively designed and continues to be attractive to golfers, in terms of both its picturesque green setting and playing characteristics.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan: |  |
|--|--|
| Strategy   | Open Space and Recreation  |
| Outcome  | A city with open space that grows and changes with the community   |
| Objective  | Every home in Randwick City will have open space of 1000m2 within 800m by 2031   |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Explore partnership opportunities to achieve additional open space and recreation areas to meet community demand.  |
| Outcome  | A community that is healthy and active   |
| Objective  | Maintain a community satisfaction* rating for coastal open spaces, coastal walkway, playgrounds and parks of 97%   |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Actively engage and collaborate with neighbouring councils, State Government and major local land holders to deliver regional open space Green Grid connections. |
| Outcome  | A community where everyone has the opportunity to participate in sport and recreation  |



|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Objective                   | 75% or above satisfaction with new open space and recreation facilities within 2 years of implementation  |
| Delivery program commitment | Investigate opportunities to incorporate informal social sport in particular in areas with many students and culturally diverse population, or as part of new developments if not at ground level than on rooftops. |
| Delivery program commitment | Identify off-leash dog areas for suburbs with greater than 25% high density dwellings including South Coogee, Kensington and Kingsford and one beach location (limited hours).                                      |

## Resourcing strategy implications

N/A. This submission has been prepared by Council officers.

## Policy and legislative requirements

Relevant policies and legislation in relation to the NSW Government proposal to convert part of Moore Park Golf Course to a new park are:

- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021
- Randwick Local Strategic Planning Statement
- Randwick Housing Strategy
- Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012 (Amendment 9)
- Environment Strategy
- Integrated Transport Strategy
- Moore Park Master Plan 2040 – A Place for Everyone (CPAMPT/Hassell 2017)
- Randwick City Open Space and Recreation Needs Study (RCC Dec 2020)
- Randwick City Open Space and Recreation Strategy (RCC July 2021)
- The Future of Moore Park South – A Proposal to Convert Part of Moore Park Golf Course to a New Park – Discussion Paper (NSW Govt Feb 2024).

## Conclusion

Council's draft submission is generally supportive of the proposal to convert part of Moore Park Golf Course to a new park which enhances open space and recreation opportunities for the community.

Council's submission outlines the case for relocating the park south of Dacey Avenue as this would provide considerable public benefits including:

- Consolidation of the golf course fairways, clubhouse, driving range, maintenance facility and carpark
- Negating the need for the golf course to be strung out and divided into two parts across Dacey Avenue
- Removing the need to cross Dacey Avenue via a bridge
- Consolidation of the new park activities and facilities with the ES Marks athletic facility
- Eliminating the safety issue/inherent conflict of the golfing activities with the new park
- Improved pedestrian and cyclist safety
- Greater park utilisation

An alternative location for the new park has the potential to open Moore Park to a broader range and number of users in the community, to improve public access throughout this part of the city, and to expand the range of recreational pursuits available, providing parkland that is more tailored to the community open space and recreational needs.

However, as the proposal is in its early days of planning, without further technical investigations, a concept master plan or concept design yet to be developed at this time, the feedback provided in

the submission is based on the 'in principle' idea, rather than responding to a firm design proposal. A future park designed in consultation with the community has the potential to achieve high quality and positive experiences for visitors.

Key matters contained in Council officer's draft submission are:

- Recommendation for an alternative location of the new park (south of Dacey Ave)
- Concerns regarding splitting the golf course across Dacey Avenue
- Ensuring appropriate park uses/facilities
- Addressing pedestrian and cyclist access from Kensington
- Indigenous/Non-Indigenous heritage
- Remediation of potential contaminated land
- Protecting environmental habitats
- Potential impacts to Grey Headed Flying Fox camps
- Protection of existing significant avenue and fairway trees/vegetation
- Flooding/drainage management
- Anzac Parade/Alison Road/Dacey Avenue intersection capacity
- Privacy concerns regarding the O'Dea Avenue pedestrian link
- Potential amenity impacts resulting from the night time golf idea on nearby residential properties
- Design of a nine hole Moore Park Golf Course/Club

Advice and recommendations made in the submission to the GSP will assist in informing the development of a concept masterplan for the new park, including a reconfigured Moore Park Golf Course. Council's submission requests continued collaboration with GSP in contributing ideas to refine the concept and provide further feedback at the subsequent design development stages of the project.

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**Responsible officer:** David Appleby, Coordinator Strategic Planner

**File Reference:** F2004/07907





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Dear Laura,

**Re: Moore Park South Discussion Paper - Randwick City Council submission**

Thank you for the opportunity for Randwick City Council (RCC) to provide feedback on the Greater Sydney Parklands (GSP) - NSW Government proposal to repurpose 20 hectares of Moore Park Golf Course to a new recreational park.

**1.0 Introduction**

The proposal has the potential to open Moore Park to a broader range and number of users in the community, to improve public access throughout this part of the city, and to expand the range of recreational pursuits available, providing parkland that is more tailored to the communities open space and recreational needs. The proposal represents a unique opportunity to create open space and recreation in a high-density inner-city location.

The overarching principles of the proposed new park should be to complement the recreational amenity provided by Moore Park North, Centennial Park and Queen's Park, improve active transport connectivity between residential areas and recreational green spaces, and to provide new recreational opportunities for the residents of Kensington, Victoria Park, Waterloo and Redfern.

Council raises concerns regarding the location of the park, the splitting of the golf course holes across Dacey Avenue, the night time golf idea, pedestrian/bicycle access from Kensington, Raleigh Park resident's privacy, preserving heritage and fauna habitats, preserving existing trees and vegetation, and the potential for contaminated land.

Council's Strategic Planning and Integrated Transport officers have reviewed the Discussion Paper released in February 2024, and attended and contributed to the discussions at the Stakeholder Workshop held at the Moore Park Golf Clubhouse on 4 March 2024.

## 2.0 The future of Moore Park South

Moore Park South forms part of a larger series of interconnected recreational parklands, refer Figure 1, including Moore Park North, Centennial Park, Queens Park and the Royal Randwick Racecourse. A holistic open space planning approach will be essential in planning the new park, with the many recreational pursuits that span from large stadium sports venues to informal walking tracks, being interwoven with mature green spaces, stands of trees, fauna habitat, and extensive waterway and drainage systems that extend across these interconnected open spaces.



Figure 1 – Interconnectivity of major open spaces, theoretical walking catchment

The system of interconnected green spaces is valued by the Randwick community and provides important recreational open space, contributing to a unique quality of life, and providing mental and physical health benefits for the residents of the suburb of Kensington, and the Kensington Town Centre.

The theoretical walking catchment (as the 'crow flies') from the proposed new park extends across the northwest corner of the Randwick LGA. The new recreational open space has the potential to be accessible from the suburb of Kensington and for the residents and workers of the Kensington Town Centre.

### Location of the new park

Locating the new park south of Dacey Avenue (instead of to the north) has greater benefits and should be considered by the GSP (as shown in Figure 2). The current proposal would split the holes across Dacey Avenue, requiring crossing over via the bridge, and would string out the holes, increasing the distance between some greens and the following tee. The outlook and visibility of most of the fairways and greens from the clubhouse would be significantly reduced. The proposed reconfiguration would introduce potential conflicts between recreational uses, with golf balls impacting upon adjoining passive park uses, and a requirement for large, visually intrusive, fences and nets to address the safety issue.

Consolidating the golf course, club house, driving range and entry/carpark north of Dacey Avenue would improve the day-to-day management, maintenance of the fairways/greens and the personal safety of the reconfigured golf course. Night time golfing, may be possible in this configuration, subject to the assessment of lighting requirements and the potential impact on resident amenity.

The land parcel (excluding the Supa Centa and ES Marks athletic facility) is 19.2Ha, only slightly smaller than the proposed 20Ha. Locating the new park south of Dacey Avenue has the advantage of consolidating the new recreational/sport uses with the ES Marks Athletics Field, introducing the potential for shared facilities, access and parking, and brings the park closer to public transport with the ES Marks Light Rail stop a 300m walk to the southeast.



Figure 2 – Alternative location for new park (indicated in green hatch)

#### Demographics

The suburb and town centre of Kensington is projected to grow in population by 29% (5,090) between 2021 and 2041 - the largest projected population growth in the Randwick LGA (DPHI population projections for Kensington SA2 based on the 2021 ABS Census).

The demographic profile of Kensington is characterised by a higher proportion of young people aged 18 to 24 years. Over a third (34%) of Kensington residents are students studying at university, and two thirds (66%) live in high density dwellings. The proportion of children aged 0-14 years living within the suburb has also increased from 9.8% to 12.3% between 2016 and 2021. Kensington has a higher proportion of unemployed residents (11%), likely due to the high student population attending the UNSW. Over a quarter of households (26%) do not own a car, and a relatively high proportion of residents walk to work (10%), and cycle to work (2.8%).

Centennial Parklands including Centennial Park, Moore Park (incl. Entertainment Quarter) and Queens Park, has a combined area of approximately 360 hectares. The Parklands receive almost 31 million visits per year (Centennial Parklands website). Moore Park Golf Course is 45 hectares in area and between 60,000-90,000 rounds of golf are played each year, with the current 18 hole golf course accommodating up to 80 golfers, at any given time.



### 3.0 Open space and recreational planning

Council's submission to the Discussion paper has been informed by the Randwick City Open Space and Recreation Needs Study (OSRNS 2020) which investigated open space and recreational needs across the Randwick LGA.

The Study involved extensive community engagement, including representative survey of residents to understand the attitudes, priorities and needs of the community. This work informed the preparation of the Randwick City Open Space and Recreation Strategy (RCC July 2021). The Study provides an important and comprehensive insight and understanding of open space and recreational needs of the Randwick City LGA, and specifically the Kensington area, located in proximity to the proposed park.

Consultation with the community identified the following needs:

- Increase tree canopy and shade cover to provide cooling and amenity, including in parks, playgrounds, along the coast and active transport routes
- Increase active transport links to support recreation, access and safety, including improved footpaths, streets and cycle paths
- Increase the amenity of existing open spaces, including upgrades and maintenance as well as provision of shade, seating, picnic tables, bubblers and toilets
- Upgrade and provide more diverse play spaces for a range of ages and abilities, including with shade, bubblers and toilets
- Continue to provide access to natural areas for connection to nature and preservation of biodiversity
- Provide and plan for recreation with dogs, including desire for upgrades to existing dog spaces, more fenced spaces and beach access
- Increase diversity and quantity of public outdoor recreation spaces, including outdoor gyms and outdoor courts.

#### Randwick City golf course supply/demand

There are five golf courses in the Randwick LGA, catering for a range of player skill levels, and with public access ranging from exclusive private members clubs (where guests must be invited by a member) to clubs that have full public access. A summary of their location, ownership and zoning is provided in Table 1.

| Name  | Location   | Ownership       | Zone                   |
|---|------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| <b>St Michaels Golf Club</b>                | La Perouse | Crown land      | RE1 Public Recreation  |
| <b>New South Wales Golf Club</b>            | La Perouse | Crown land      | RE1 Public Recreation  |
| <b>The Coast Golf and Recreational Club</b> | Little Bay | Crown land      | RE1 Public Recreation  |
| <b>Randwick Golf Club</b>                   | Malabar    | Crown land      | RE1 Public Recreation  |
| <b>Australian Golf Club</b>                 | Kensington | Privately owned | RE2 Private Recreation |

Table 1 – Golf courses in the Randwick LGA

The level of public access and the cost per game varies across the golf courses. Refer to Figure 3. The Australian and New South Wales Golf Clubs are private members clubs with limited guest access. The St Michaels Golf Club has limited non-member access on weekends, outside of member's only hours. The Coast Golf and Recreation Club and Randwick Golf Club would be

considered the two fully public golf courses in the Randwick LGA, notwithstanding some small restrictions, in time of use and when member's competitions are taking place.

The Office of Sport identifies Randwick City as having a 'very high provision of golf courses' when compared to the Eastern City District (1 per 29,784 compared to 1 per 46,055 people). There are eight public golf courses in the Eastern City District, two of which are in the Randwick LGA. Randwick City is also well provided for, when comparing the provision of fully public golf courses in the Randwick LGA (two) with the Eastern City District (eight) - there is 1 per 75,272 compared to 1 per 131,250 people.

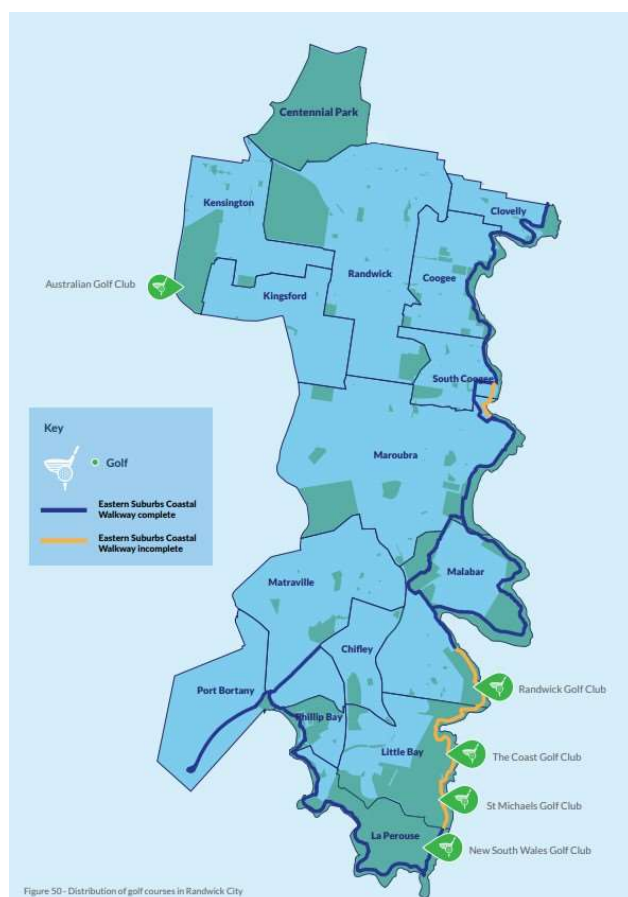


Figure 3 – Existing golf courses in the Randwick LGA

The five golf courses of total 23ha area, represent a significant area, of the total open space within the Randwick LGA. Many of the golf courses are only accessible by members, thereby restricting public access to parts of the Randwick City coastline. The OSARN Study recommends the opening of golf courses to shared public access, enabling public use at certain times and at the edge of the courses, and to the completion of the missing sections of the Eastern Suburbs coastal walkway.

The OSARN Study indicates that the Randwick LGA has an adequate number of existing golf courses. The outcome of the proposal will be a new park, tailored to the recreational needs of the community, to be enjoyed by a broader cross section and greater number of residents.

Recreational needs of northwest Randwick (Kensington)

The OSARN Study identifies that within Randwick City, and based on population projections to 2031, the lowest level of access to Council owned/managed recreational open space (excluding Centennial Park) occurs in the suburbs and town centres of Kensington (2.5m<sup>2</sup> of open space per person) and Kingsford (2.4m<sup>2</sup> per person). Refer Figure 4. This is low when compared with other areas within the Randwick LGA, that have access to open space in the range of 6.2-32.1m<sup>2</sup> per person.

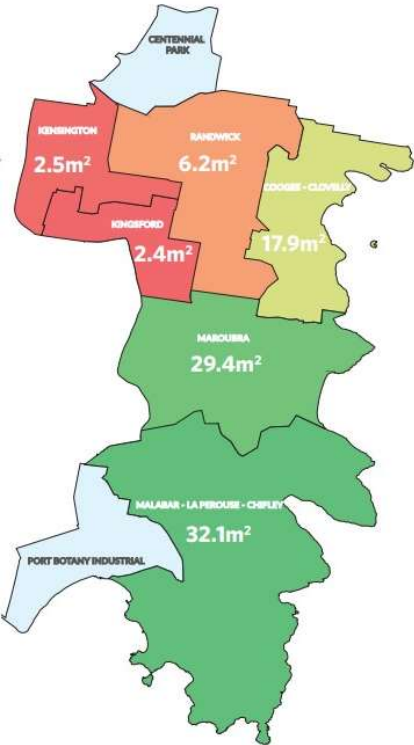


Figure 4 – Projected 2031 Council owned/managed open space provision per person

The key gaps in the provision of recreational open space identified by the OSARN Study are summarised in Table 2.

| Sport or recreational activity | Assessed need in Kensington   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Sports fields                  | There is access to sports fields, including 13 at Centennial Park, and a new multipurpose sports field at Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre (Green Square). Since completion of the study, Council has completed new facilities to the south at the Heffron Park Sports Complex in Maroubra, that now comprises 15 |



| Sport or recreational activity                 | Assessed need in Kensington  |
|--|--|
|  | sports fields, 34 netball courts, 10 tennis courts. Even though the residents of Kensington have access to several sports fields, there is high demand in the surrounding LGAs, and an additional sports field should be considered.   |
| <b>Aquatic facilities, pools, water sports</b> | There is sufficient provision of aquatic centres, with the UNSW Fitness and Aquatic Centre, Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre, and coastal pools. There are private and communal pools in the Raleigh Park precinct. Consider a children's splash park to cater for the growing number of children/families living in apartments.   |
| <b>Outdoor courts</b>                          | Currently one at UNSW, one at Kensington Public School and further south, a new practice half court at Kensington Park. Strong demand for additional public outdoor basketball courts for informal use. Lack of full-size competition basketball courts in Randwick LGA. Kensington, with many students and being culturally diverse, there is an identified need for basketball/outdoor courts as social spaces. There are two private communal tennis courts in the Raleigh Park residential precinct. |
| <b>Indoor recreation centres/courts</b>        | Currently served by four indoor courts at the UNSW Fitness and Aquatic Centre. Also Council has recently completed new facilities to the south at the Heffron Park Sports Complex in Maroubra, including two indoor multi-purpose sports halls suitable for netball, basketball, badminton, volleyball and indoor futsal.  |
| <b>Play spaces</b>                             | The LGA is well served with local and district level play spaces, and the Ian Potter Children's Wild Play Garden in Centennial Parklands provides a regional playground.   |
| <b>Youth precincts/plazas</b>                  | Potential to create multipurpose youth plazas with a range of recreational experiences, community activities/events, skate, courts, climbing walls, biking, outdoor ping pong, pools, waterplay. Incorporating social spaces – interaction, event, performance, art and music.   |
| <b>Outdoor gyms/fitness stations</b>           | Currently served by the new fitness station in Kensington Park (one of five in the LGA). Potential for additional stations to serve north part of Kensington.  |
| <b>Off-leash dog areas</b>                     | Kensington identified as a high need area with an off-leash dog area required. Council approved in Dec 2023 two new off-leash areas in Kingsford (Kensington Rotary Reserve, Gardeners Road, Kingsford) and Emily McCarthy Reserve in South Coogee. Needs to be fenced, with shade, seating, dog bags, and bins.   |

| Sport or recreational activity       | Assessed need in Kensington   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Recreational walkways, loops, trails | Potential to expand existing walking and cycle paths in Centennial Park/Moore Park/Queens Park into Moore Park South.   |
| Community gardens                    | Closest currently is in Paine Reserve, Randwick. Potential for new community garden to serve Kensington residents and broader community.  |
| Adventure sports                     | Consider opportunities for skateboarding and BMX venues in new park.  |
| Golf                                 | Given the reduction to a nine-hole golf course, there is a need to refocus the existing club in the golf playing market, and to consider inviting public access, and expanding the clubhouse facilities to include restaurant/kiosk, to serve the users of the proposed new park.   |
| Lawn bowls, croquet, bocce           | Six current facilities in LGA are run by private clubs. Given Kensington's urban setting, potential opportunity for bocce in association with park clubhouse/kiosk.   |
| Commercial fitness/personal trainers | Personal fitness training is a strong growth sector of the fitness industry and is driven by the increases in density/apartment living in the Kensington Town Centre. Suitable areas in the new park should be managed/licenced under appropriate open space /recreational policy.  |
| Equestrian sports                    | Currently catered for with three facilities in the LGA, including ATC at Royal Randwick Racecourse. Also the Centennial Parkland Equestrian Centre that uses Centennial Park for trail rides and lessons. Consider merit of expanding the Centennial Park trails into the new park. |
| Shooting sports                      | Catered for, as there is a rifle range and pistol club in the Randwick LGA.   |

Table 2 – Kensington – OSARN Study sports and recreation needs assessment

Based on the OSARN Study findings, and considering sports and recreational facilities recently completed by Council, Council recommends the following facilities be investigated for the new park:

- An additional sports field
- Consider a children's splash park
- Public outdoor basketball full/half court/s for informal use
- Multipurpose youth plaza with range of recreational/social spaces
- A fitness station
- Off-leash dog area - fenced, with shade, seating, dog bags, bins
- Expand existing walking and cycle paths into park
- Community garden for residents
- Consider skateboarding and BMX facilities

- Consider expanding the golf clubhouse facilities to include restaurant/kiosk
- Bocce green in association with park clubhouse/kiosk
- Personal fitness training in suitable park areas - managed/licenced
- Consider expanding the Centennial Park equestrian trails into the park

#### 4.0 NSW Public Spaces Charter

Randwick City Council is a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces Charter (resolved in July 2022) and recommends that GSP plan, design, manage and activate the new park in accordance with the ten principles for quality public space, and the core values of:

- Connection to Country
- Equity and inclusion
- Community engagement

The NSW Public Spaces Charter defines public space as *...all places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive*. The ten principles for public space in NSW are:

- Open and welcoming
- Community focused
- Culture and creativity
- Local character and identity
- Green and resilient
- Healthy and active
- Local business and economies
- Safe and secure
- Designed for place
- Well-managed

The Charter's core value of 'Equity and inclusion' is an important consideration in the future planning of recreational parkland for the community. The new park has the potential to provide recreational open space, that is used by a broader cross section of the community, supports a multiplicity of sport and recreational pursuits, and is tailored to community recreational and open space needs.

#### 5.0 Indigenous and Non-Indigenous heritage

The entire Centennial Park and Moore Parklands is listed as state heritage listed item. There are six Aboriginal sites identified in the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) within the vicinity of the Parklands. The following indigenous and non-indigenous heritage considerations should be addressed in the next stage of the process prior to implementation of the proposed park:

- That careful consideration is given in the future design to address the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal significance of the site. It is highly recommended to:
  - Consider principles of The Connecting with Country Framework as a guide in the re-imagining of the design to engage with Country and its cultural landscapes
  - Use heritage interpretation in design for both educational and recreational purposes to present its historic (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal) and social values. Meaningful and interactive interpretation would strengthen and sustain the place's relationships between the community and its heritage and provide economic and social benefits for the community and stakeholders
- That investigations are undertaken to establish whether there is a risk of Aboriginal object(s) being impacted by the construction of the new park, and whether an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) will be required. It is recommended that Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Due Diligence be undertaken, in accordance with the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW.

The proposed site for the new park, and the surrounding areas, contain a number of buildings of historic value, including the Moore Park Golf House and Moore Park Toll House and historic tree plantings. Many of these are documented on the Centennial Parkland website. The Discussion Paper states that the proposal will explore opportunities to acknowledge, recognise and conserve the site's cultural and heritage values. A heritage study would provide valuable insights, consolidate and confirm heritage listings and provide a foundation to inform the planning, interpretation, layout, design and future programming of the new park. Engaging with the local Aboriginal community will be critical to ensuring cultural considerations are addressed including potential dual naming of the place.

## 6.0 Environmental considerations

Council has identified the following issues which should be considered in the redevelopment of the golf course for public recreational park use:

### Supporting habitats

The Southern Regions Organisation of Councils (SSROC) Connected Corridors Mapping has identified Moore Park as providing supporting habitats, and these areas should be retained and expanded wherever possible with habitat plantings in the new landscape design. The SSROC mapping recognises areas of habitat that can be linked providing a continuous habitat or 'stepping stone' habitat areas.

### Grey Headed Flying Fox

Given the presence of Grey Headed Flying Fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) camps in nearby Centennial Park, consideration should be given to any potential impacts on the species resulting from the proposed new park. The Grey Headed Flying Fox is listed as a vulnerable species under the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and the Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (1999).

In 2022 a Biodiversity Impact Statement was prepared for the Night Racing proposal at Royal Randwick Racecourse (SSD 8706) to address potential impacts on the nearby Grey Headed Flying Fox camp at Centennial Park. Any potential night time lighting impacts, such as the proposed night time golf idea, should similarly carefully consider any potential impacts on the camps. The National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife can be used to assess, manage and protect wildlife from lighting impacts.

### Remediation of land

Site upgrade works were undertaken for the E.S Marks Oval in 2022. Contaminated incinerator waste was discovered on the site which contained heavy metals. It is recommended that investigations are made for the new park site, to establish the risk of such incinerator waste being present on the site and the risks of exposure managed during any proposed earthworks and levelling for the proposed park.

Further, there is a risk of contaminated land fill, given the previous industrial use of the site. Historically, the mining of sand dunes in the Eastern Suburbs often resulted in excavations that were filled with industrial and demolition materials. A preliminary site investigation under the NSW Contaminated Land Management Act and auditing should be carried out to identify any existing contaminated areas which may impact or restrict redevelopment of the subject site.

### Tree master plan

A tree master plan was prepared by Context Landscape Design in 2002 for the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust which covered the Centennial Parklands, and included Moore Park, Centennial Park and Queens Park, to identify and protect trees of significance. Recommendations in this plan for Moore Park include the following:

- Anzac Parade, Cleveland Street, Dacey Avenue and Driver Avenue to be retained as avenues of trees with a strong character:
  - Anzac Parade to be Moreton Bay Fig
  - Cleveland Street to be Port Jackson Fig and Moreton Bay Fig
  - Dacey Avenue and Driver Avenue to be Hill's Weeping Fig
- Reinforce the Parklands character along the edges of Moore Park by developing South Dowling Street, Moore Park Road and Robertson Road edges as open grassland and woodland dominated by mixed species of figs. This will strengthen the identity of the Parklands and the connection between Moore Park and Centennial Park.
- Define the outer corners of Moore Park - Driver's Triangle, the corner of South Dowling Street and Dacey Avenue, the corner of Dacey Avenue and Anzac Parade - with landmark plantings consisting of feature trees or palms and/or garden beds.
- Develop tree plantings at the junction of Cleveland Street, Anzac Parade and Lang Road to emphasise the main western entry point to the Parklands.

Species recommendations are also included in the Tree Master Plan for the Moore Park area, and these, along with the above-mentioned recommendations, should be considered with the redevelopment of the proposed park.

Given the existence of perched water table ponds in the adjacent Centennial Parkland, the site is likely to have a high water table and this will need to be considered in the redevelopment of the site, especially regarding flood planning and drainage management.

### 7.0 Existing golf course landscape

An arboreal audit/survey of all existing trees in Moore Park South is important to establish the locations, health, and life expectancy of all trees. The new park landscape design should endeavour to retain as many of the existing trees along the fairways and around the greens as is practicable. Mature tree planting and the shade canopy, in an urban context, is an asset and key characteristic of the parklands, and whilst park design thinking must be long term, there is an opportunity for the new park to provide shade and comfort for users from day one, through the strategic retention and expansion of mature trees of the existing golf course.

### 8.0 Kensington and Kingsford (K2K) Town Centres Strategy

The Kensington and Kingsford Town Centres Strategy identified an opportunity to provide well located medium-high density housing (apartments) in proximity of public transport (The CBD and South East Light Rail), business/employment centres, and recreational open space. There has been a progressive uptake of development sites in the Kensington Town Centre, over the last four years following amendments to the Randwick LEP in 2020 which delivered on the urban design vision of increased height and density together with a range of public benefits.

An additional 2,070 dwellings have been projected to be built in the Kensington and Kingsford Town Centres by 2026. A significant number of the dwellings are in the form of student accommodation (generally in the 18-24 year old age group) and currently under construction.

The significant number of new residents, many living in apartment accommodation, will increase demand for open space and recreational facilities within walking or cycling distance. The high proportion of students that will be living in Kensington will contribute a young demographic character to the population of the area. The new park recreational facilities and programming needs to take this into account and be tailored to these community needs.



## 9.0 Kensington North Housing Investigation Area (HIA)

Council has recently completed planning changes for the Kensington North Housing Investigation Area (HIA), indicated in orange colour on Figure 1. This new urban area, of medium density apartment buildings of seven and five storey building height, may accommodate an additional 105 dwellings by 2026.

New development in Kensington North will be required to meet high design quality and best practice environmental performance standards and higher landscaping requirements. There is a focus on active transport and reduced parking rates in the planning of the HIA recognising the locational advantages in terms of proximity to transport, services and employment.

## 10.0 Transport, access and active transport

### Transport mode hierarchy

Council's Integrated Transport team follows a strategic transport mode hierarchy when considering priorities in managing traffic, transport and parking issues, as follows:

1. People walking
2. Public transport
3. People riding
4. People using shared mobility (hire car/car share/uber/taxi) or delivering freight
5. People using private vehicles

### People walking

The proposed new park in Moore Park South would directly benefit the Randwick City residents living in the suburb of Kensington, and the Kensington Town Centre. The majority of Kensington would be within a theoretical 800m to 1,600m direct line distance of the proposed new park – equivalent to an approx. 10-20 minute walk. Whilst the suburb of Randwick North would in part be within the same walking catchment, residents would be more likely to use the recreational facilities of Centennial Park and Queen's Park due to their proximity.

It is notable that current bicycle and walking access to the proposed location of the new park is difficult due to barriers such as high-volume arterial roads, that have long distances between signalised pedestrian crossings, and long waiting times for pedestrians to cross at intersections.

Further, the configuration of private property land parcels create longer and less direct travel distances. The walking and cycling routes that are available are often challenging - impacted by high traffic volumes, with paths that are narrow, exposed to traffic noise, summer heat and vehicular pollution.

To improve walking to/from and within the new park the following principles are recommended:

- Existing and proposed pedestrian catchment isograms should be prepared for up to 1,600m (20 minute walk) from the proposed park, to identify opportunities to introduce strategic pedestrian paths, bridges, links or new intersection phasing/timing that would significantly increase the walking catchment and the numbers of residents able to use the new park
- Conduct a Movement and Place review of the surrounding streets to enhance seamless movement within the local network
- Consider opportunities to upgrade access pathways and crossings to address walking and cycling desire lines, by identifying:
  - Where residential density is located, and planned for in the Kensington Town Centre, North Kensington HIA and West Randwick HIA
  - The existing walking and cycling connections:

- Shared path on east side of Alison Road - serving people travelling to/from the east, and people coming from the south, on their way to/from the Sydney CBD
  - Completed separated cycleway on Doncaster Avenue – serving people travelling from/to the south and east
- Future pedestrian and cyclist connections based on current strategies/projects:
  - The Todman Avenue cycleway – the design phase is funded by TfNSW
  - The shared path along the west side of Alison Road – proposed improvements extending north to Anzac Parade
- Light Rail and key bus stops
  - ES Marks and Moore Park Light Rail stops
  - Anzac Parade, from Alison Road to Sydney Girls High School, bus stops
  - Cleveland Street and O'Dea Avenue/Todman Avenue bus stops
- Consider the existing pedestrian and bicycle access routes that would feed into the proposed park, and potential future desire lines external to the park and across the new park, to identify opportunities to extend and make new connections and links within the overall access network, to tie together existing parkland, and provide extensions to existing walking and cycling paths and circuits



Figure 5 – Primary access from Kensington to new park in location as proposed in the Discussion Paper

- A prime consideration should be the upgrade of the two main pedestrian and bicycle access routes from Kensington and Kensington Town Centre to the new park. Refer Figure 5. The pathways should be generous in width, provide high amenity, good paved/marked surface, convenient, timely and safe street crossings – aligned with desire lines, good shade, wayfinding/directional signage, pedestrian lighting, separation/protection from heavy traffic/pollution, and direct/seamless level changes.
- The comfort level for pedestrians walking to/from, and within the park should be considered, to encourage people to walk and cycle, with generous width footpaths,

shaded with tree canopy and made attractive by appropriate paving, landscaping, seating and pedestrian lighting

- Consider strategic pedestrian and cyclist crossing and path improvements, such as traffic signal timing, paths and pram ramps
- Provide welcoming pedestrian friendly facilities (paving, seating, lighting, signage/wayfinding) at the main entry points into the new park from the surrounding streets
- Consider widening and upgrading the existing pedestrian/golf cart bridge overpass of Dacey Avenue, to also accommodate general pedestrian and cyclist use, to enhance overall access opportunities in the park areas

#### Public transport

To incentivise the use of public transport to travel to/from the proposed new park the following principles are recommended:

- Improve pedestrian and cycle safety and amenity when travelling from the CBD and South East Light Rail (Moore Park and ES Marks stops) to the proposed new park
- Lobby TfNSW for dedicated public bus services for the new park, reflecting relevant days/times of use, and specific arrangements for drawcard events
- Consider upgrading bus shelter provision and DDA compliance

#### People riding

Following consideration of community feedback on bicycle routes, Randwick City Council identified eleven priority bicycle routes in the Randwick LGA (as shown in Figure 6). Relevant to the proposed new park is the proposed protected bike lane, between Green Square and the Kensington Light Rail stop, just north of the Todman Avenue/Anzac Parade intersection. The 'Y' shaped, *No.3 Todman Avenue and Lenthall Street* bicycle route, is shown on the map in yellow. The proposed route links up with the important City of Sydney east-west linking roads, of O'Dea Avenue (serving the Victoria Park precinct) and Epsom Road (serving Epsom Park Precinct and Green Square).



Figure 6 – RCC bicycle route construction priority (north of LGA)

The new bicycle route would connect with the City of Sydney bicycle paths, extending north and west from the O'Dea Avenue/Todman Avenue/South Dowling Street intersection, and to the Bourke Street cycleway, extending the network for cyclists, and providing safer and more attractive routes to the new park for Kensington residents.

People using shared mobility (hire car/car share/uber/taxi)

To incentivise shared/sustainable access to/from the new park the following principles are recommended:

- Consider provision of dedicated car share parking spaces
- Incorporate Uber/taxi drop off area
- Provide for EV car parking spaces

People using private vehicles

For private vehicle access to/from the new park the following principles are recommended:

- Conduct a microscopic review of traffic behaviour on the local road network for this year, opening year and 10 years after opening
- Assess Traffic Impact (TI) and Level of Service (LOS) at key intersections based on SIDRA modelling (to understand how the new public destination will affect traffic flow within the road network at key intersections within the vicinity of the proposed park)
- Consider potential traffic shifts (traffic migration) to local roads due to the new traffic movements associated with the proposed new park
- Generate a star-rated report (pre and post-upgrade) to identify safety improvement opportunities (aiming for a minimum 3-star road rating)
- Develop an emergency access plan for ambulance and fire truck services

Currently the golf course 'reads' as a secluded destination, with the fairways screened by significant landscaping and sometimes fencing. The new park entry/s should open visually to the surrounding streets, with clearly identified entry points for pedestrians and for vehicles. Clear pedestrian and bicycle routes through the new park should be provided that are direct and safe, following good CPTED principles, including suitable pedestrian lighting.

Parking strategy

For private vehicle parking at the new park the following principles are recommended:

- Develop a parking strategy aligned with the applicable GSP/City of Sydney DCP rates, standards and guidelines
- Determine parking for buses (coaches), EV, bikes, Uber drop off/pick up zone/s
- Ensure parking does not overflow (spill) onto local streets
- Accommodate the expected volume of visitors attracted by the proposed park

**11.0 Anzac Parade/Alison Road/Dacey Avenue intersection**

Randwick City Council commissioned Stantec consultants in 2022 to undertake SIDRA modelling of the Anzac Parade/Alison Road/Dacey Avenue intersection, following the recommendations of the Randwick Junction and HIAs Local Traffic Study (Stantec, Jan 2022).

The findings of the SIDRA Intersection Modelling report (Stantec, June 2022) is that the intersection performs poorly in the morning peak period, with a Level of Service (LOS) of F under existing conditions and three future scenarios.

Stantec's recommendation is that:

*A combination of efforts through collaborating with TfNSW and neighbouring LGAs, with the goal of improving public and active transport mode share, minimising reliance on private vehicle usage and exploring options for intersection reconfiguration or upgrades is more likely to improve the future performance of the intersection effectively.*



The limitations of the capacity of this intersection, particularly the northbound right-hand turn from Alison Road to Anzac Parade, should be considered in the planning of pedestrian, cyclist and vehicular access to the new park, particularly if the park is planned to be a regional destination for families, and thereby likely to attract trips by car.

### 12.0 O'Dea/Todman Avenue pedestrian link

Council raises a concern regarding the Moore Park Master Plan 2040 (Centennial Parklands/Hassell 2017) proposal to introduce a new east-west pedestrian link (from Boronia Street to Todman Avenue) along the Raleigh Park/golf course boundary. Raleigh Park residents' apartments and their ground level north facing communal open space and swimming pool areas adjoin the boundary with the golf course and would potentially be impacted by such a shared pathway link. The potential loss of privacy and security would need to be addressed if such a proposal were pursued.

### 13.0 Raleigh Park and night time golf

Council's submission raises particular concern regarding the idea of introducing night time golf to the remaining nine holes of the Moore Park South golf course to the south of Dacey Avenue. The amenity of the six apartment buildings (over 300 residents) and more than a dozen residences along the north side of Salisbury Road, that directly overlook the golf course, are likely to be impacted by light spill including potentially floodlighting that would be required for playing golf at night. Some of the Raleigh Park apartment building towers are as close as 12m to the golf course boundary, and most have swimming pools that are on the boundary. Refer to Figure 7. It is recommended that this proposal be reconsidered by GSP.



Figure 7 – Raleigh Park apartment towers overlooking the golf course

### 14.0 Moore Park Supa Centa

There is an opportunity for GSP to open discussions with the owner of the bulky goods shopping centre, with the aim of encouraging any future redevelopment of the site to introduce an improved interface with the golf course and investigate the potential for food and beverage retail to open out to terraces at the upper levels overlooking the golf course landscape. A north-south pedestrian and cyclist access along the east frontage of the development (linking from Todman Avenue to Dacey Avenue) could also be considered, subject to detail considerations for safety



(activation and passive surveillance), addressing level changes, and the retention of existing significant landscape. Refer to Figure 8.



Figure 8 – Moore Park Supa Centre opportunity for new link and interface

### 15.0 Moore Park Golf Course

The Discussion paper notes the benefits of golf participation, with studies showing 15% of the population participates in the sport each year. The Paper also cites information from the Australia's Community Benefits Report 2023 that young people, women, and families with children are more likely to engage in social and alternative format golf, such as mini golf. A recent Golf Australia report indicates that junior and women's membership is increasing.

The Moore Park Golf Club currently provides a quality, attractively landscaped and popular public golf course, driving range and clubhouse for players. It maintains a valuable green space within the city (providing urban heat mitigation and natural flood reservoir) and provides a social and recreational venue for the community. It is recommended that advice be sought from a professional golf course planner, to ensure the proposed new nine-hole course is creatively designed and continues to be attractive to golfers, in terms of both its picturesque green setting and playing characteristics.

### 16.0 Conclusion

This draft submission is generally supportive of the proposal to convert part of Moore Park Golf Course to a new park which enhances open space and recreation opportunities for the community.

Council's submission outlines the case for relocating the park south of Dacey Avenue as this would provide considerable public benefits including:

- Consolidation of the golf course fairways, clubhouse and driving range
- Negating the need for the golf course to be strung out and divided into two parts
- Removing the need to cross Dacey Avenue via a bridge
- Consolidation of the new park activities with the ES Marks athletic facility

- Eliminating the safety issue/inherent conflict of the golfing activities with the new park

An alternative location for the new park has the potential to open Moore Park to a broader range and number of users in the community, to improve public access throughout this part of the city, and to expand the range of recreational pursuits available, providing parkland that is more tailored to the community open space and recreational needs.

However, as the proposal is in its early days of planning, without further technical investigations, a concept master plan or concept design yet to be developed at this time, the feedback provided in the submission is based on the 'in principle' idea, rather than responding to a firm design proposal.

Key matters contained in Council officer's draft submission are:

- Consideration of an alternative location of the new park (south of Dacey Ave)
- Issues relating to splitting the golf course across Dacey Avenue
- Ensuring appropriate park uses/facilities
- Addressing pedestrian and cyclist access from Kensington
- Indigenous/Non-Indigenous heritage
- Remediation of potential contaminated land
- Protecting environmental habitats
- Potential impacts to Grey Headed Flying Fox camps
- Protection of existing significant avenue and fairway trees/vegetation
- Flooding/drainage management
- Anzac Parade/Alison Road/Dacey Avenue intersection capacity
- Privacy concerns regarding the O'Dea Avenue pedestrian link
- Potential amenity impacts resulting from the night time golf idea on nearby residential properties
- Design of a nine hole Moore Park Golf Course/Club

We trust that the concerns, advice and recommendations made in this submission to the GSP stakeholder consultation for the proposed new park in Moore Park South, will help inform the development of a concept masterplan for the new park, including a reconfigured Moore Park Golf Course.

We look forward to contributing feedback at the subsequent design development stages of the project, and Council requests the opportunity to provide comment on the park design layout/use options, and the draft preferred concept master plan for the new park and reconfigured golf course.

Thank you again, for the opportunity for Randwick City Council to provide feedback at this stage on the new Moore Park South recreational park proposal.

Yours Sincerely,

"Double-click to insert signature image"

**Stella Agagiotis**  
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## Director City Planning Report No. CP16/24

### Subject: A Road Map for Developing Randwick's Resilience & Recovery Framework


#### Executive Summary

- Resilience planning has and is often associated with events expected from Climate Change: extreme storms, tidal surges, intense rainfall, prolonged drought, heatwave and fires.
- The efforts of each of Sydney's metropolitan Councils culminated in the 2018 Resilient Sydney Strategy. Whilst led by City of Sydney, it was prepared with representation from each of Sydney's metropolitan Councils. City of Sydney and their Resilient Sydney office will be undertaking a review and update of their strategy with the learnings and changes that have been taking place since their strategy was first developed and adopted.
- In order to properly respond to the shocks & stresses of climate change it is vital that Council engages directly with its diverse community on its preparedness and in developing coping or recovery "community infrastructure".
- The attached Road Map for Developing Randwick's Resilience & Recovery Framework aims to set out the path for Council to extensively engage with the community & key stakeholders in the preparation of a Resilience Strategy and Action Plan.
- Randwick's community is key in the preparation and acceptance of a resilience framework. A comprehensive engagement strategy will help build community confidence, capacity and coping tools so that in a time of crisis, the community is empowered to be proactive and supportive throughout the stages of recovery.

#### Recommendation

That Council endorse the attached Roadmap for Developing Randwick's Resilience and Recovery Framework.

#### Attachment/s:

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1.  A Roadmap for Developing Randwick's Resilience and Recovery Framework | Included under separate cover |
|--|-------------------------------|

## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of a road map for developing a resilience & recovery framework. The "Road Map" aims to set out the path for Council to extensively engage with the community & key stakeholders in the preparation of a Resilience Strategy and Action Plan.

## Discussion

### Resilience "shocks" and "stresses" in a Randwick context?

In our context, resilience primarily represents a community's ability to plan for, to mitigate and to withstand a comprehensive range of shocks and stresses. This essentially is no small task for any community considering the suite of shocks and ongoing stresses they may set out to plan for. In essence, resilience attempts to position its community with the capacity to 'bounce back' in the aftermath of potentially severe circumstances.

Greater Sydney is already experiencing increasing shocks and stresses arising from climate change, geopolitical events and economic shifts. Some of these generalised shocks or stresses, often covered in other organisation's resilience frameworks and strategies, include:

- Extreme weather events
- Infrastructure failure(s)
- Digital network outages
- Cyber or terror attacks
- Disease or pandemic.

Some of the ongoing stresses incorporate:

- Housing affordability;
- Demands on health services;
- Social cohesion and inequalities;
- Chronic illnesses;
- Major transport system breakdowns or failures.

The challenge is then to consider these shocks and stresses and develop a framework that can establish positive, reliable and durable recovery pathways to support and enable community capabilities centred on resilience and wellbeing. This will enable or strengthen the community capacity to prepare & 'bounce back'.

### Community as the key

In terms of responding and recovery aspects of Randwick's resilience framework there is a likely tendency that all sectors of our local and neighbouring communities may offer a significant contribution to whatever solutions or steps are identified. This may be more than likely if corresponding examples of 'shock' and 'stress' events experienced elsewhere inform our findings and approach. Developing ways and means that strengthen community-assisting-community outcomes in the context of individual and societal wellbeing and mental health relies explicitly on gaining a very broad level of community understanding, participation and support.

It could be anticipated from the outset, that Randwick's local or broader community is the key in the preparation and acceptance of a resilient Randwick framework. This will of course extend proportionately if our framework intends to consider the importance of developing community confidence, capacity and coping tools so in a time of crisis, it is the community empowered to be proactive and supportive throughout any subsequent stage or stages of recovery.

On this basis, a genuine level of engagement and time allocation needs to be extended to these community members. This needs to be carefully planned for, communicated and allowed for in time and participation.

Consideration of community sectors to involve in developing our framework includes but not limited to:

- First Nations representatives especially La Perouse Aboriginal Land Council
- Residents
- Businesses
- Selected schools (as representative of education sector)
- Young people
- Precincts and Chambers of Commerce
- Representatives of CALD communities
- Older people
- Women
- Families
- People who identify as LGBTIQ+
- People with a lived experience of vulnerability (such as domestic violence, homelessness)

### Why a Roadmap?

The roadmap approach is suggested to incorporate both the strategic outline as well as at least partial implementation. A roadmap typically implies a component of action and a degree of follow up thereby avoiding development of a strategy which then by definition requires some form of action plan preparation to ensure strategy outcomes are implemented and accountable.

A roadmap assures participants and the community of implementation steps and actions on completion, even allowing that some of these will require some separate designs and costings to be actioned along the way.

### Timeline

It is anticipated the timeframe to prepare and finalise Randwick's Resilience and Recovery Roadmap will be in the order of 18 to 24 months in 3 different phases. These are outlined in the proposed timing that follows:

- Planning phase: information gathering, issues scoping, communication strategy and preparation for consultation (approx. 6 months to October 2024);
- Consultation and drafting phase: workshops, drafting and finalising the framework (approx. 12 months to November 2025); and
- Scenario testing, roll-out and celebration (first half of 2026).
- Optional: Resilience Local Govt conference or symposium at Prince Henry Centre (end of 2026).

### Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan: |   |
|--|---|
| Strategy   | Environment   |
| Outcome  | A city with diverse ecosystems that are restored and protected  |
| Objective  | Increase by at least 60% the number of native and indigenous plantings across Randwick City by 2030 from a 2018 baseline  |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Improve preservation of native habitat through the mapping and conducting of various flora or fauna surveys of 10% of Council's managed bushland each year, particularly measuring the density and extent of threatened native flora and fauna species against that of introduced or competing pest plant or animal species (e.g. foxes). |



|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Outcome                     | A community more knowledgeable, proactive and responsive to climate change impacts   |
| Objective                   | Achieve a 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (CO2-equivalent) across Randwick City by 2030 from a 2018 baseline, while acknowledging the significance and importance of aspiring to a 100% greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for the same timeframe |
| Delivery program commitment | Mandate that all future plans of Council (next 10 years) will detail the impacts that the plan will have on climate change using a consistent methodology for measuring this impact.   |
| Outcome                     | A city that protects and conserves our limited natural resources   |
| Objective                   | Reduce the consumption of energy and water across Randwick City per capita by 30% by 2030, from a 2017 baseline  |
| Delivery program commitment | Implement the principles of a circular economy and the UN Sustainable Development Goals into Council strategies and operational plans by 2025.   |
| Outcome                     | A city with coastal and marine environments that are protected and conserved   |
| Objective                   | Ensure community satisfaction* of the coastal experience is retained above 80% in surveys conducted from 2020 onwards  |
| Delivery program commitment | Manage visitor access to our coastline by constructing a coastal walkway and associated facilities along the southern golf courses and Lurline Bay by 2030.  |

### Resourcing Strategy implications

The resourcing of the road map will be initially focused on preparation and community engagement activities and will cost approximately \$100k plus staff time. This would be funded through the Environmental Program should this approved through IPART. A detailed resourcing strategy will be developed in conjunction with the preparation of the resilience framework.

### Policy and legislative requirements

NSW Government Disaster Plan  
Emergency Management Plan  
Randwick Community Strategic Plan & Informing Strategies  
Council's Business Continuity Plan  
Resilient Sydney Strategy.

### Conclusion

The roadmap approach would provide the strategic outline that would deliver a resilience framework for Council and assures participants and the community of implementation steps and actions on completion. Randwick's community is the key in the preparation and acceptance of a resilient Randwick framework. A comprehensive engagement strategy will help build community confidence, capacity and coping tools so that in a time of crisis, the community is empowered to be proactive and supportive throughout the stages of recovery.

**Responsible officer:** Kerry Kyriacou, Director City Planning

**File Reference:** F2023/00240

## Director City Planning Report No. CP17/24

**Subject: Renewables for Sydney Project - providing residents and businesses access to renewable energy**

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### Executive Summary

- The purpose of this report is to update Councillors on the Renewables for Sydney (RfS) project being undertaken as part of an SSROC working group which is aimed at providing residents and businesses who are unable to install rooftop solar, the option to access renewable energy.
- The RfS project supports Council's Environment Strategy objective to achieve a 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions across Randwick City by 2030 from a 2018 baseline, while acknowledging the significance and importance of aspiring to a 100% greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for the same timeframe.
- Approximately 60% of Randwick LGA's emissions are electricity consumption, of which approximately half is residential and half commercial use.
- Notice of Motions NM42/22 and NM13/24 discuss the challenges of apartments and businesses installing rooftop solar, and request that Council investigate alternative options of providing residents and businesses with access to 100% renewable electricity (i.e. zero emission electricity).
- In 2021, the Randwick, Waverley, and Woollahra Regional Environment Program (REP) led a group of staff from nine other climate-ambitious Sydney councils to form a "Renewables for Sydney" project working group. The aim of the project was to identify and implement a pathway for residents and small businesses to access 100% renewable electricity.
- SSROC has agreed to work with the Renewables for Sydney project working group to test market interest through an Expression of Interest (EOI) process to identify a recommended project or retailer. The EOI is being administered by SSROC and is due to be advertised in early May with submissions due in mid-June.

### Recommendation

That:

- a) Council notes the role of the Randwick, Waverley, and Woollahra Regional Environment Program (REP) in leading and managing the Renewables for Sydney project.
- b) the REP continues to work with SSROC to test market interest through an expression of interest (EOI) process.
- c) Council receives a report following the EOI process which details the results of the market testing and, if successful, outlines plans to progress a renewable electricity offering for residents and small businesses.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

## Purpose

This report responds to the following resolutions:

At the Ordinary Council meeting on 26 July 2022, it was resolved:

(Veitch/Wilson) that Council:

- a) notes its target of achieving a 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions across Randwick City by 2030 from a 2018 baseline, and its acknowledgement of the importance of achieving a 100% greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for the same timeframe (2020 Environment Strategy, Objective 2);
- b) notes that only 15.6% of dwellings in the Randwick LGA have installed solar PV compared to an average of 27.7% statewide, placing Randwick in the lower end of NSW Councils in terms of the number of residents taking up solar panels (<http://pv-map.apvi.org.au/>);
- c) notes that 73.5% of the dwellings the Randwick LGA are medium or high density, and that 44.3% of residents (over 69,000) rent their home. These households and businesses fall into the category of 'locked-out' renewable energy users. They face barriers such as split incentives (residential and commercial tenants), unsuitable roofs, or high levels of complexity (apartment dwellers). They are unable to directly participate in the switch to on-site renewables and are effectively locked out of saving money through cheaper power bills;
- d) notes that an increasing number of councils (including Inner West, City of Sydney, Darebin, Moreland, Lismore, Byron and Shoalhaven Shire councils) are investigating or have embarked on community energy projects or similar to help deliver affordable renewables to their residents;
- e) investigate options for increasing the uptake of affordable renewables for apartment dwellers, residential and commercial tenants and small businesses, including consideration of community energy projects, onsite and offsite renewables and storage (such as solar gardens or solar banks), apartment and precinct microgrids and project linked Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs);
- f) write to SSROC; LGP (Local Government Procurement); the Cities Power Partnership; the NSW Minister for Local Government the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP, the NSW Minister for Energy and the Environment the Hon. Matt Kean MP; and the Federal Minister for Climate Change and Energy the Hon. Chris Bowen MP to explore opportunities for information sharing, partnerships and funding; and
- g) receive a report detailing the feasibility, options and recommendations that may arise out of points e and f.

At the Ordinary Council meeting on 27 February 2024, it was resolved:

(Hamilton/Burst) that Council:

- a) notes the importance of supporting our businesses in reducing their energy costs and reducing carbon emissions;
- b) invite Expressions of Interest from the market for methods/options that will provide a 100% renewable electricity Power Purchase Agreement for businesses in the Randwick LGA; and
- c) provide a further report to Council on the outcomes of the EOI process with a view to engaging an Aggregator to provide the above service.

## Background

Council's Environment Strategy includes the objective to achieve a 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions across Randwick City by 2030 from a 2018 baseline, while acknowledging the significance and importance of aspiring to a 100% greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for the same timeframe.

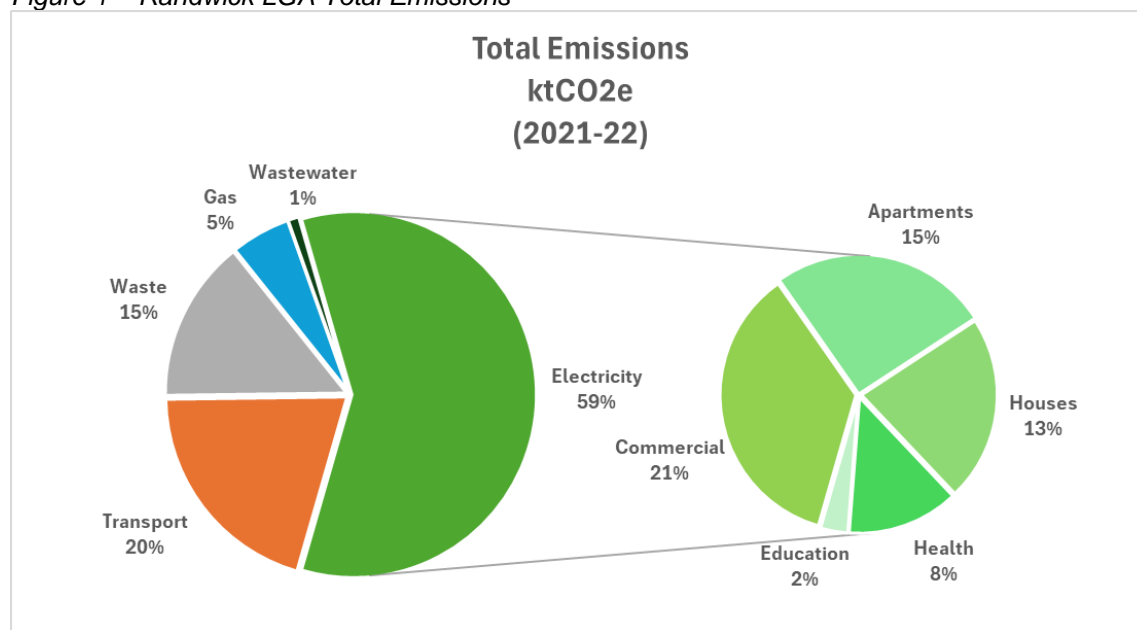
Randwick LGA's emissions in FY2021/22 (the most recent data available) were 952 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e, - a reduction of approximately 12% on the FY2017/18 baseline.

Approximately 60% of Randwick LGA's emissions are attributed to the consumption of electricity in the community. As shown in Figure 1 below, further analysis shows that 15% of the LGA's

emissions are directly attributed to apartment electricity use; 13% to detached and semi-detached houses electricity use, and 21% to commercial electricity use.

As discussed in Notice of Motions NM42/22 and NM13/24 above, there are often significant challenges faced by apartments and businesses looking to install on-site renewables (i.e. rooftop solar) meaning that it is difficult for many in these sectors to reduce their grid supplied electricity usage and therefore emissions. Randwick's Sustainability Rebates program includes assistance to install on-site rooftop solar on houses, units and businesses, however, it is still not feasible for some properties to install solar due to technical and financial reasons.

Figure 1 – Randwick LGA Total Emissions



## Renewables for Sydney

In 2021, the Randwick, Waverley, and Woollahra Councils Regional Environment Program (REP) led a group of staff from nine other climate-ambitious Sydney councils to form a "Renewables for Sydney" project working group.

The group's purpose was to identify, develop and trial a scalable, transparent renewable electricity offer, sourced from new renewable energy projects. The target audience is residents and small to medium sized businesses that are locked out of installing renewables (e.g. renters, apartments, shaded roofs). Across the participating councils this target audience includes 664,000 households and 225,000 small and medium enterprises. This project is not aimed towards large businesses, with annual electricity usage over 100MWh, as these businesses have alternate opportunities and are more likely to be able to seek renewable energy contracts through other means.

Currently, there are limited options available to use renewable electricity for residents and businesses who do not have access to rooftop solar. The main pathway is through the purchase of government-accredited GreenPower as part of their electricity supply contract with their electricity retailer.

The uptake of GreenPower, which has been around since 1997, has reduced markedly over the past 15 years. It peaked in 2008 when it had 904,716 customers but by 2021 this reduced to 160,000 customers nationally (140,000 households and 20,000 businesses).

The 2020 review of GreenPower acknowledged that "A GreenPower purchase supports an unknown renewable energy power station at an unknown location, and nobody else in the community knows you are doing it, so there is little social esteem accruing from the purchase." In addition, detailed information on GreenPower uptake and usage has only recently started to be

collected at a postcode level, as of Q1 2024, which has made it difficult for local government to promote, monitor and report on.

The Renewables for Sydney project aims to identify and implement opportunities in the market to provide an alternative renewable energy offer to GreenPower that provides additionality, tangibility, and equity while supporting households and businesses that are struggling with rising electricity prices and cost of living. Council would have visibility over the uptake and impact of the project, and the associated emission reductions.

### **Project Working Group Participants**

The current project working group has grown organically and now extends beyond SSROC member Councils to include 4 other Councils. The working group includes: Inner West Council, Waverley Council, Willoughby City Council, Ku-ring-gai Council, Randwick City Council, Woollahra Municipal Council, City of Canterbury Bankstown, Northern Beaches Council, North Sydney Council, and Lane Cove Council.

In addition to SSSROC, NSROC and other local governments, Council is in active discussions with the Cities Power Partnership and the State and Federal Governments about the RfS project and its opportunities to also work with and support current initiatives such as GreenPower.

### **Project Outline**

#### Stage 1: Market analysis and project formulation (2022-23) - Complete

The working group engaged energy industry consultants *Common Capital* to identify current and emerging opportunities in the market that had the potential to increase household and business uptake of renewables.

With consideration of the findings from the *Common Capital* industry review, the working group nominated the most suitable approach to progress as a group at this stage was to identify and work with an electricity retailer and/ or technology provider ("supplier") to source renewable electricity in bulk from new, large-scale renewables projects. This offers similar benefits for households to those achieved by Council through the SSROC-led renewable electricity contract. The first stage in progressing this is to issue an Expression of Interest (EOI) to gauge market interest and opportunities.

Similar community-focused projects are being facilitated by other organisations including:

- City of Melbourne's Power Melbourne project, to provide access to renewable electricity for renters and apartment dwellers;
- Cooperative Power project, a not-for-profit retailer where customers can choose renewable electricity options. It is supported by unions, churches, cooperatives and community groups in Victoria, NSW and Queensland;
- The Business Renewables Centre recently launched their Corporate Renewable Energy Buyers' Group Program 2024, supporting large electricity users;
- Northern Beaches Council's Northern Beaches Renewables Power Purchasing Agreement, supporting large electricity users within the Northern Beaches.

#### Stage 2: Market testing via EOI (Sep 2023 – June 2024) - Underway

SSROC has agreed to work with the RfS project working group to test market interest and identify a recommended project or supplier/ retailer through the EOI process.

The EOI is being administered by SSROC and is due to be advertised in early May with submissions due in mid-June. Evaluation of EOI responses will undertaken by the project working group with assistance from an experienced electricity market procurement consultant. Submissions will be assessed for:

- transparency;
- competitive pricing;
- support of new genuinely renewable electricity generation projects;
- proven ability to procure renewable electricity;
- capability to develop and manage power purchase agreements;



- customer service resourcing for enquiries, recruitment and ongoing support; and
- project reporting to councils.

### Stage 3: Future stages and project governance (June – July 2024) – Not started

Subject to the outcome of the EOI process, the RfS project working group will work with SSROC to scope options for the next phase of procurement, formalise project governance and assess project risks. Key tasks include:

- Project Governance: formalise project governance structures and the roles of Councils and SSROC through an MOU;
- Assess risks: complete a joint review of risk and governance structures required to support a third-party electricity offer to residents and businesses; and
- Decision to proceed: prepare briefing pack with recommendations for Council General Managers (GMs) to consider. This would most likely occur through the SSROC GMs Group.

### Stage 4 (2024-5) Tender for project rollout

If a suitable option is identified through the EOI process and supported by the RfS project working group councils, SSROC will complete final procurement with the objective of securing a preferred supplier for councils to implement a trial period rollout. Councils would add value to the project using their community reach and trusted reputation to promote the offer.

## Strategic Alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan: |  |
|--|--|
| Strategy   | Environment  |
| Outcome  | A community more knowledgeable, proactive and responsive to climate change impacts   |
| Objective  | Achieve a 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (CO <sub>2</sub> -equivalent) across Randwick City by 2030 from a 2018 baseline, while acknowledging the significance and importance of aspiring to a 100% greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for the same timeframe            |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Implement by 2021, residential and business participation in energy saving or similar programs (Australian Energy Foundation, Council rebates or GreenPower) to achieve direct and indirect greenhouse emission reductions across those participating by 20% by 2025 from a 2020 baseline. |

## Resourcing Strategy Implications

The cost to Council is only the program's small facilitation costs supporting the EOI process and future costs for the promotion suitable offers to the identified target audience. Council is not purchasing renewable electricity as part of this project. Councils will not underwrite or subsidise any retail electricity offering to residents or businesses.

## Conclusion

Providing residents and businesses with access to renewable electricity is required to meet Council's net zero emission targets for the community. To address this need, the Randwick, Waverley, and Woollahra Councils Regional Environment Program (REP) has led the RfS project working group, consisting of 11 Councils, to identify suitable opportunities to provide renewable electricity to residents and businesses currently 'locked out' of rooftop solar. The RfS working group identified there was a valuable opportunity to test the residential and small business electricity market for current opportunities through and an EOI process. The EOI is underway, being administered by SSROC. The outcomes of this EOI, including if viable solutions are identified for further progression, are expected to be known by July 2024.

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**Responsible officer:** Kara Taylor, Manager Sustainability

**File Reference:** F2017/00493

CP17/24

## Director City Planning Report No. CP18/24

**Subject: Draft S7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2024**

### Executive Summary

- This report recommends that Council place a revised draft Section 7.12 Development Contributions Plan (draft s7.12 Plan 2024) on public exhibition. It is the result of a comprehensive review of the current s7.12 Plan which has been in operation since 2015. s7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) authorises Council or a private certifier to impose as a condition of development consent, the payment of a fixed development contribution levy relating to the cost of works when a development consent or complying development certificate is issued. The development contributions levy is applied on a sliding scale, ranging from nil to 1% of the total cost of works.
- Since the s7.12 Plan 2015 commenced, more than \$17 million has been spent on infrastructure and facilities for Randwick City benefitting the community as a whole. Levies collected have contributed to the funding of the following major projects:
  - Light Rail support works (traffic calming/parking reconfiguration, Meeks Street Plaza) and undergrounding powerlines in Kingsford town centre (\$8.3 million)
  - Heffron Park (various stages) (\$2.87 million)
  - Maroubra Junction town centre improvements (\$318,00)
  - Laneway widening program (\$1.08 million)
  - Mobility improvements (\$552,000)
  - Storm water harvesting (\$901,000); and
  - Public realm works, upgrades and landscaping (\$1.05 million).

Further, minor projects as specified in the s7.12 Plan 2015 have received the balance of spent funding.

- The draft s7.12 Plan 2024 incorporates a revised works schedule which omits works now completed and incorporates new works, updates to certain clauses for consistency with Ministerial directions, a new capital works map, revised population projections and minor formatting changes.
- The new draft s7.12 Plan 2024 allocates funding under five restructured categories Cultural and community facilities, environmental initiatives, transport and roads, parks and open space, and town centres and public realm.
- New major projects identified in the draft s7.12 Plan 2024 include: new youth facility (site to be scoped) (\$1.5 million), Randwick Junction public realm improvements (\$1,140,000), Local Traffic Management Schemes (\$1,500,000).
- It is proposed that the draft s7.12 Plan 2024 be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days in accordance with the *EP&A Act* and the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (EP&A Regulation). Following public exhibition and final adoption by Council, the revised draft s7.12 Plan 2024 will repeal and replace the current s7.12 Plan 2015.

### Recommendation

That Council endorse the attached draft s7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2024 for public exhibition to enable community and stakeholder feedback.

### Attachment/s:

1.  Draft s7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2024

## Purpose

This report provides an overview of a proposed revised city wide s7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2024 (draft s7.12 Plan 2024) which levies contributions from development applications and complying development certificates to help fund identified infrastructure and facilities required as a consequence of population growth and new development.

## Discussion

### Current s7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2015

Section 7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) authorises Council to impose a fixed levy based on the cost of development, when a development consent or complying development certificate is issued. Funds collected are used towards providing additional or improved infrastructure and public facilities to meet expected demands arising from population growth associated with new development. The levy is expressed as a flat percentage rate commensurate with the cost of works (0.5-1%). This fixed rate is mandated under existing planning legislation.

Council's current s7.12 Plan 2015 has been in operation for close to 9 years. It provides an efficient, clear and effective approach to levy developer contributions from applicants. The Plan sets a 5-10 year scenario for the implementation of a schedule of capital works covering a range of items from public domain improvements, road upgrades, and public art installations, to new multipurpose facilities, bushland regeneration and dune restoration.

Development contributions collected over the life of the s7.12 Plan have contributed to several major capital works projects, in conjunction with the Council's Capital Works Budget and grant funding. Over \$28.9 million in s7.12 funding has been received over the life of the plan (average \$3.6 million a year), with the bulk of development contribution levies coming through years 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 which had record building approvals.

Funds have been pooled and distributed to capital works projects identified and staged in the s7.12 Plan. Unspent funds are rolled over from previous years. Surplus funds received under the current Plan will be rolled over to the new s7.12 Plan 2024. To date, approximately \$17.4 million in s7.12 funding has been spent on infrastructure facilities for Randwick City benefitting the community. Key projects partially funded out of s7.12 include:

- Light Rail support works (traffic calming/parking reconfiguration, Meeks Street Plaza) and undergrounding powerlines in Kingsford town centre (\$8.3 million)
- Heffron Park (various stages) (\$2.87 million)
- Maroubra Junction town centre improvements (\$318,000)
- Laneway widening program (\$1.08 million)
- Mobility improvements (\$552,000)
- Storm water harvesting (\$901,000)
- Public realm works, upgrades and landscaping (\$1.05 million).

Major development proposals have made a significant contribution to s7.12 funding in Randwick City (e.g. close to \$1 million has been received from the University of NSW over the life of the Plan).

### Draft s7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2024

The draft Randwick City s7.12 Development Contributions Plan (2024) (**Attached**) has been prepared in accordance with the Government's practice notes on developer contributions, relevant sections of the EP&A Act and Ministerial Directions. The Plan applies to all land within the Randwick LGA, with the exception of:

- The Kensington and Kingsford town centres which are covered by the K2K 7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2019; and
- The Bundock Street precinct which is covered by a separate contributions plan.

To help determine the scope of capital works under the draft s7.12 Plan 2024, projected development contributions income has been estimated over 10 years. It is based on likely development scenarios, including the take up of floor space under the new Comprehensive LEP (e.g. Housing Investigation Areas, redevelopment of major sites etc) as well as the current economic downturn and increasing costs for materials and labour. From the analysis, the projected income under the draft s7.12 Plan 2024 is estimated to be \$27.7 million, split across 10 years ranging from \$2.6-\$2.8 a year.

Key changes in the revised draft s7.12 Plan 2024 are accordingly summarised as follows:

### **Schedule of Works**

The draft s7.12 Plan 2024 Schedule of Works includes ongoing and new capital works projects for the next 10 years which are considered to best meet the community's expectations and needs. These projects have been identified in Council documents including the Local Strategic Planning Statement and Informing Strategies (covering housing, open space and recreation, arts and culture, social inclusion, economic development, and integrated transport). They are also closely aligned to other medium- and long-term plans being Council's Financial Plan and Asset Management Strategy, Operational Plan, and Parks Plans of Management.

The draft s7.12 Plan 2024 restructures the Schedule of Works under the current s7.12 2015 Plan into five categories: cultural and community facilities, environmental initiatives, transport and roads, parks and open space, and town centres and public realm. It is noted that with Council's recent resolution to continue the Environmental Levy in perpetuity, most environmental initiatives in Randwick City over the next decade will be funded out of the levy as opposed to s7.12 contributions.

Each capital works item is staged as follows:

- Short term: 1-2 years
- Medium term: 3-4 years
- Long term: 5-10 years; and
- Ongoing: continuing work

Funding for each capital works item will come from a mix of sources comprising s7.12 levies, general revenue, grants and levies. The monetary figure against each item is the s7.12 funding component.

The updated Schedule omits works that have already been completed under the current s7.12 Plan 2015 including:

- Kensington and Kingsford town centre upgrades
- Undergrounding of overhead powerlines Kingsford
- Light rail plazas (Meeks Street and Waratah Plazas with the latter project partially funded out of the Open Space Legacy Program)
- Heffron Park (various stages)
- Light rail support measures (traffic calming and parking reconfiguration)

The updated Schedule includes ongoing projects currently listed under the current s7.12 Plan 2015 that will carry over to the revised draft s7.12 Plan 2024. These projects have either been unspent under the current Plan or have been spent and have ongoing prioritisation:

- Public art: \$570,000
- Park improvements: \$3,550,000
- Library upgrades and improvements: \$2,030,000
- Remnant bushland restoration: \$200,000
- Green corridor planting/street trees: \$500,000
- Maroubra beach town centre public realm: \$100,000



- Malabar public realm: \$50,000
- The Spot public realm: \$400,000
- Clovelly public realm: \$100,000
- Coastal walkway: \$1,100,000
- Randwick Collaboration Area/Health and Education Strategic Centre: \$3,000,000
- Randwick Literary Institute: \$1,000,000
- La Perouse Museum: \$1,100,000
- Laneway widening: \$900,000
- Mobility improvements: \$3,050,000; and
- Development contributions planning and management: \$1,200,000.

New projects included in the Schedule of works are summarised as follows:

#### *Cultural and Community Facilities*

- \$1.5 million has been allocated towards a youth facility (site to be scoped and investigated) and staged for the medium-long term.
- \$200,000 has been allocated towards transforming Blenheim House into a creative space with artist studios, exhibition space and an accessible studio at the rear. Staging for this project is short term.
- \$350,000 has been allocated towards the Newmarket Big Stables upgrade to ensure compliance with the Building Code of Australia. Staging for this project is short term.

#### *Environmental initiatives*

- \$550,000 has been allocated towards water sensitive urban design including installation of garden beds and swales in town centres to capture storm water and assist in floor mitigation. This project is staged as ongoing.

#### *Parks and Open Space*

- \$800,000 has been allocated towards smart city infrastructure to address public safety, environmental monitoring, and other place-based technology solutions. This project is staged as ongoing;
- \$550,000 towards embellishment and new facilities at Maroubra Beach.

#### *Town Centres and Public Realm*

- \$210,000 has been allocated towards night-time economy initiatives to support the night-time economy and improve safety including smart and creative lighting, public realm activations and power upgrades. This is staged as an ongoing project;
- \$1,140,000 has been allocated towards Randwick Junction public realm improvements (including laneway activation) in accordance with the Randwick Junction Urban Design Plan/Town Centre Strategy. This project is staged as short-medium term;
- \$450,000 has been allocated towards Maroubra Junction public realm upgrades including streetscape improvements along Anzac Parade in accordance with the Maroubra Junction Masterplan. This project is staged for the medium- long term.
- \$450,000 has been allocated towards Matraville Town Centre public realm upgrades including streetscape improvements along Bunnerong Road in accordance with the Matraville Town Centre Masterplan. This project is staged for the medium- long term.

- \$150,000 has been allocated towards installing wayfinding signage to improve connectivity between town centres, coastal locations and other attractions. This is a short-term project.

#### *Transport and Roads*

- \$500,000 has been allocated towards a walking and cycling path along Anzac Parade. This is a short term project.
- \$350,000 has been allocated towards signal upgrade/public realm works at Bunnerong/Military Road to address safety with vehicle movements to the Port/Industrial area. This is a short-medium term project.
- \$1,500,000 has been allocated towards Local Traffic Management Schemes which will integrate pedestrian and bicycle facilities and traffic calming measures to enhance connectivity and accessibility. This project is staged for the medium term.

#### **Updated Provisions**

The draft s7.12 Plan 2024 includes several updates to provisions as follows:

##### *Revised Growth Rates*

The State Government has released revised population growth rates for the Metropolitan area including Randwick City. The population projection for Randwick City is 170,115 by 2041, reflecting an increase by 15,255 residents with an annual growth rate of 0.47%. The draft s7.12 Plan 2024 has accordingly been updated with the revised population projections.

##### *Exemptions*

Clause 13.1 of the current s7.12 Plan 2015 exempts some types of development from paying the s7.12 levy in accordance with a previous Ministerial Direction including: works under \$100,000, development for the purposes of disabled access, development for the sole purpose of affordable housing, energy and water efficiency measures, adaptive re-use of heritage items and circumstances where there is a condition under a previous development consent relating to the subdivision of land.

These exemptions have been removed from the draft s7.12 Plan 2024 as the subject Ministerial Direction has been revoked and they are adequately covered under Clause 208 of the EP&A Act which precludes such works from being included in the cost of works estimate.

The draft s7.12 Plan 2024 also clarifies that works located within Port Botany are not subject to paying the s7.12 levy in accordance with a Ministerial Direction.

##### *Mapping*

The EP&A Regulations require an updated map showing the approximate location of the capital works projects indicated in the Schedule. The draft s7.12 Plan 2024 map has been accordingly updated to reference the aforementioned capital works projects.

##### *Formatting*

The draft plan has also been updated with some minor formatting changes for improved readability and to reflect legislative changes (eg clause numbering).

#### **Fixed Percentage Levy Rate**

As aforementioned, the draft s7.12 2024 Plan has a fixed percentage levy ranging between 0.5-1% based on the cost of works. This fixed rate is mandated under the EPA Act and Regulation and can only be amended by the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces through a Ministerial Direction. Councils can apply to the Minister for an increase to the fixed rate which is generally only considered in limited circumstances.

Council was successful in seeking an increase to the fixed rate for the Kensington and Kingsford town centres (2.5% under the K2K s7.12 Plan 2019), given the substantial uplift afforded to these centres under the K2K Planning Proposal. Since then, the practice notes guiding the preparation of s7.12 Plans have been amended to include criteria to guide the Government’s assessment of council requests for an increase to the levy.

The criteria of the revised practice note has a ‘centres’ focus, requiring that any s7.12 Plan seeking an increase to the 1% levy needs to apply to a ‘strategic area’ that earmarked for substantial economic growth under the applicable regional or district plan. In addition, for an increase to be considered new LEP planning controls must provide for a 25% increase in employment floor space in the area that the s7.12 Plan applies. Notably, where an increase to the fixed rate is supported, the Government must also play a role in the development of the Schedule of Works.

Given that the draft s7.12 Plan 2024 applies across the LGA and most of the land in Randwick City is zoned residential, a request for an increase to the fixed levy rate does not meet the practice note criteria in relation to significant growth in employment floor space. Council’s recent submission on the revised practice notes raised concerns regarding the fixed maximum 1% rate, noting that it has not been amended in over 15 years and is no longer reflective of the actual costs of funding and delivering infrastructure. To date the practice notes have not been amended to address these concerns.

Future Development Contributions Plans

As outlined above, the draft s7.12 Plan 2024 is a city- wide plan with the exception of Kensington and Kingsford town centres (covered by the K2K s7.12 Plan 2019) and the Bundock Street site (covered by the Bundock Street Development Contributions Plan). It should be noted that the adoption of the subject draft s7.12 Plan 2024 does not preclude Council from introducing site-specific development contributions plan in the future where significant uplift occurs and where underpinned by appropriate economic feasibility studies.

Consultation

The EP&A Act and EP&A Regulation set out the process for making a development contribution plan, and requires Council to publicly exhibit the s7.12 plan and seek community feedback. The draft s7.12 Plan 2024 will therefore be placed on exhibition for a minimum of 28 days, with a dedicated YourSay website and hard copies made available at the Council’s customer service centre and libraries.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan: |   |
|--|---|
| Strategy   | Housing   |
| Outcome  | A city with sustainable housing growth  |
| Objective  | Provide 4,300 new dwellings in 2021-2026, with 40% located in and around town centres                     |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Review Council’s S7.12 Contributions Plan to support Council’s provision of local infrastructure by 2023. |
| Strategy   | Arts and Culture  |
| Outcome  | A creative and culturally rich city that is innovative, inclusive and recognised nationally               |

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Objective                   | Establish a strong cultural identity for the Randwick LGA by 2031 that is inclusive and founded on the contribution of First Nations people by 2031   |
| Delivery program commitment | Increase by 20% the opportunities available to Council and external producers for outdoor performance and festival programming, street art and mural installations, to generate a lively street culture both day and night in each town centre by 2031. |
| Strategy                    | Economic Development  |
| Outcome                     | A city with diverse, active places for businesses, including vibrant town and neighbourhood centres   |
| Objective                   | Ensure 86% or more of our community are satisfied* with the vitality of town centres by 2032  |
| Delivery program commitment | Improve the amenity of Maroubra Junction and its connection with Eastgardens as a Strategic Centre to cater for additional jobs by 2036 as identified in the Greater Sydney Commission's Eastern District Plan.   |

CP18/24

### Resourcing Strategy implications

The revised draft s7.12 Plan 2024 will provide for an increased revenue stream and enhance the Council's ability to levy contributions for public amenities and services.

The draft s7.12 Plan 2024 is being prepared in-house with a budget of approximately \$5,000-8,000 for exhibition, consultation, design, printing and finalisation costs.

### Policy and legislative requirements

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979  
Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021.

### Conclusion

This report provides information on the revised draft s7.12 Plan 2024 Plan and recommends that Council exhibit the document in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and Regulation. An update to the s7.12 Plan 2015 is required to keep project lists current and clearly identify infrastructure and facilities required as a consequence of population growth and new development.

The draft s7.12 Plan 2024 incorporates an updated list of capital works items to be partially funded out of s7.12 contributions which aligns with Council's overarching plans and strategies including the Local Strategic Planning Statement, Informing Strategies (covering Housing, Open Space and Recreation, Arts and Culture, Economic Development, Inclusive Randwick and Integrated Transport) and other medium to long term plans.

Once made, the revised s7.12 Contributions Plan 2024 will repeal the existing s7.12 Plan 2015.

**Responsible officer:** Asanthika Kappagoda, Senior Strategic Planner

**File Reference:** F2020/00147

CP18/24

CITY PLANNING

# Randwick City Draft s7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2024

16 April 2024



1300 722 542  
[randwick.nsw.gov.au](https://randwick.nsw.gov.au)



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## Part 1: Administration & operation

### 1.1. Overview

Section 7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act) authorises the consent authority (i.e. Council) or an accredited certifier to impose as a condition of development consent or complying development certificate, a requirement that the applicant pay a fixed levy based on the percentage of the proposed cost of the development.

The percentage of the levy and the types of development which attract the levy are set out under this Plan. Levies paid to the Council will be applied towards the provision, extension or augmentation of public facilities and infrastructure, or towards recouping the cost of their provision, extension or augmentation.

### 1.2. What is the name of this Plan?

This Plan is called Randwick City s.7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2024 ('The Plan').

### 1.3. When did this Plan commence?

This Plan commenced on XXX [to be updated once endorsed]

### 1.4. What is the purpose of this Plan?

The purposes of this Plan are:

- (a) To authorise the imposition of conditions on development consents and complying development certificates requiring that the applicant pay the Council a levy determined in accordance with this Plan
- (b) To enable Council to have funds to ensure that adequate public facilities are provided to meet the demand created by development
- (c) To assist Council in the provision, extension or augmentation of public facilities
- (d) To provide a comprehensive framework for the assessment, collection, expenditure, accounting and indexing of development contributions on an equitable basis; and
- (e) Facilitate the relevant desirable outcomes identified in the Randwick City Local Strategic Planning Statement, Informing Strategies and relevant studies.

### 1.5. Land to which this Plan applies

This Plan applies to all land within the Randwick City Local Government Area with the exception to land covered by the K2K 7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2019 and the Bundock Street Development Contributions Plan.

### 1.5 Development to which this Plan applies

This Plan applies to development on land to which this Plan applies that requires development consent or complying development certificate under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act).

1.6 Repeal of Randwick City Section 7.12 Contributions Plan 2015

This Plan repeals Randwick City Section 94A Contributions Plan 2015.

1.7 Transitional Provision

This Plan applies to a development application or a complying development certificate made on or after the date on which this Plan was first publicly exhibited and not determined on the day this Plan took effect.

1.8 What does this Plan authorise

1.8.1 Development applications

- (a) This Plan authorises the consent authority in respect of a development application to impose a condition on a development consent granted for development to which this Plan applies, requiring the applicant to pay to the Council a levy based on the proposed cost of carrying out the development as set out in the following table:

Table 1: s7.12 levy rate for development applications

| Cost of works          | Percentage levy |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Up to \$100,000        | Nil             |
| \$101,000 to \$200,000 | 0.5%            |
| Over \$200,000         | 1%              |

1.8.2 Complying development certificates

- (a) This Plan authorises the accredited certifier in respect of a complying development certificate to impose a condition for development to which this Plan applies, requiring the applicant to pay to the Council a levy based on the proposed cost of carrying out the development as set out in the following table:

Table 2: s7.12 levy rate for complying development

| Cost of works          | Percentage levy |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Up to \$100,000        | Nil             |
| \$101,000 to \$200,000 | 0.5%            |
| Over \$200,000         | 1%              |

Conditions authorised by this Plan are subject to any direction given by the Minister under section 7.17: Directions by Minister of the Act from time to time.

1.9 Determining the cost of development

- (a) The proposed cost of carrying out development is to be determined by Council, for the purposes of this Plan, by finding the sum of all the costs and expenses that have been or are to be incurred by the applicant in carrying out the development, including the following:
  - (i) If the development involves the erection of a building, or the carrying out of engineering or construction work — the costs of or incidental to erecting the building, or carrying out the work, including the costs (if any) of and incidental to demolition, excavation and site preparation, decontamination or remediation;
  - (ii) If the development involves a change of use of land — the costs of or incidental to doing anything necessary to enable the use of the land to be changed;

- (iii) If the development involves the subdivision of land — the costs of or incidental to preparing, executing and registering the plan of subdivision and any related covenants, easements or other rights.
- (a) Under Clause 208 of the EP&A Regulation, the following costs and expenses are not to be included in any estimate or determination of the proposed cost of carrying out development:
  - (i) the cost of the land on which the development is to be carried out
  - (ii) the costs of any repairs to any building or works on the land that are to be retained in connection with the development
  - (iii) the costs associated with marketing or financing the development (including interest on any loans)
  - (iv) the costs associated with legal work carried out or to be carried out in connection with the development
  - (v) project management costs associated with the development
  - (vi) the cost of building insurance in respect of the development
  - (vii) the costs of fittings and furnishings, including any refitting or refurbishing, associated with the development (except where the development involves an enlargement, expansion or intensification of a current use of land)
  - (viii) the costs of commercial stock inventory
  - (ix) any taxes, levies or charges (other than GST) paid or payable in connection with the development by or under any law
  - (x) the costs of enabling access by people with disability to the development
  - (xi) the costs of energy and water efficiency measures associated with the development
  - (xii) the costs of development that is provided as affordable housing; and
  - (xiii) the costs of development that is the adaptive reuse of a heritage item.

#### 1.10 How is the proposed cost of carrying out development indexed?

In accordance with clause 212(2)(b) of the Regulation and, for the purposes of this Plan, the proposed cost of carrying out development is to be indexed to reflect quarterly variations in the Consumer Price Index, All Group Index Number for Sydney between the date the proposed cost was determined by Council and the date the levy is paid.

The formula governing indexation of the proposed cost of carrying out development is as follows:

$$IDC = ODC \times CP2/CP1$$

Where:

**IDC** = the indexed development cost

**ODC** = the original development cost determined by the Council

**CP2** = the Consumer Price Index, All Groups, Sydney, as published by the ABS in respect of the quarter ending immediately prior to the date of payment

**CP1** = the Consumer Price Index, All Groups, Sydney as published by the ABS in respect of the quarter ending immediately prior to the date of imposition of the condition requiring payment of the levy.



### 1.11 Cost estimate reports must accompany all applications

A development application or an application for a complying development certificate must be accompanied by a report, prepared at the applicant's cost, setting out an estimate of the proposed cost of carrying out the development.

The following types of report are required:

- (a) Where the estimate of the proposed cost of carrying out the development is less than \$500,000 - a cost summary report in accordance with Schedule 2
- (b) Where the estimate of the proposed cost of carrying out the development is \$500,000 or more - a detailed cost report in accordance with Schedule 3

### 1.12 Approved persons for the provision of cost estimate reports

- (a) The following persons are approved by the Council to provide an estimate of the proposed cost of carrying out development in the following circumstances:
  - (i) Where the proposed development cost is less than \$500,00 - a person who, in the opinion of the Council, is suitably qualified to provide a cost summary report
  - (ii) Where the proposed development cost is \$500,000 or more - a quantity surveyor who is a registered member of the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors to provide a detailed cost report.
- (b) Upon reviewing a cost summary report or detailed cost report, the Council may, at the applicant's cost, require a further estimate to be provided by a registered quantity surveyor; and
- (c) The Council may, at the applicant's cost, engage a person referred to in this clause to review a report submitted by an applicant in accordance with clause 1.11 of this Plan.

### 1.13 Exemptions to the levy

#### 1.13.1 Ministerial exemption

- (a) Under the provisions of section 7.17 of the Act the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces has specified exemptions from a levy under this Plan to apply to the following development:
  - (i) Development applications or complying development located within the Port Botany Lease Area identified in the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021*.

#### 1.13.2 Development exempted from the levy

An exemption to the payment of the s7.12 levy may be considered by the Council for the following development:

- (a) Places of worship, public hospitals, police stations, fire stations, and other emergency services,
- (b) Works proposed to be undertaken for charitable purposes by, or on behalf of, a not-for profit charity (as defined by the ATO) but only in cases where the development is of a small scale with minimal floor space intensification, for example a retail outlet operated by the Salvation Army, St Vincent de Paul or similar organisations, and where Council considers that there will not be an increase in the demand for public works or infrastructure as a result of the development which would warrant the payment of a Section 7.12 levy,
- (c) Seniors housing, as defined in the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021* which is undertaken by a social housing provider,

- (d) Applications submitted by or on behalf of Randwick City Council.

#### **1.13.3 Exemption application requirements**

- (a) Those applicants which seek exemption from a levy under this Plan must provide a comprehensive submission to the Council, which clearly demonstrates how the proposed development falls within one of the development types identified in Clause 1.13.2, prior to the Council determining whether such an exemption applies. In considering any application for an exemption the Council will take into account:
- (i) the extent to which the proposed development comprises or includes the provision, extension or augmentation of public amenities or public services that provide a public benefit, and/or
  - (ii) whether the applicant is affected by any adverse financial circumstance which will impact on its ability to fund the payment of any levy which is imposed in accordance with this Plan.

#### **1.14 Application of money obtained under this Plan**

Monies paid to Council under a condition authorised by this Plan are to be applied by Council towards meeting the cost of one or more public facilities that will be, or have been, provided within the area as listed in Schedule 1.

#### **1.15 Priorities for expenditure**

The public facilities listed in Schedule 1 are to be provided in accordance with the staging set out in that schedule.

#### **1.16 Pooling of levies**

This Plan authorises monies obtained from levies paid in respect of different developments, to be pooled and applied by the Council progressively towards the public facilities listed in Schedule 1 in accordance with the staging set out in that schedule.

#### **1.17 Timing of payments**

A levy required to be paid by a condition authorised by this Plan must be paid to the Council at the time specified in the condition. If no time is specified, the levy must be paid prior to the first certificate issued in respect of the development including a subdivision certificate, construction certificate or complying development certificate.

#### **1.18 Construction certificates and the obligation of certifying authorities**

A certifying authority (the Council or Accredited Certifier) must not issue a construction certificate for building work or subdivision work under a development consent unless it is satisfied of compliance with each condition requiring the payment of a levy before work is carried out in accordance with the condition of consent. The certifying authority must cause the applicant's receipt for payment of the levy to be provided to Council concurrent to the provision of other documents required under the Regulation.

#### **1.19 Complying development and the obligation of certifying authorities**

Council may allow deferred or periodic payment of monetary section 7.12 contributions for staged development applications only, subject to consideration of a written application made to the Council. The decision to accept a deferred or periodic payment is at the sole discretion of the Council, which will consider:

- (a) the reasons provided by the applicant requesting a deferred or periodic payment
- (b) whether the applicant has provided the Council with adequate security in relation to the deferred or periodic payment
- (c) any other relevant circumstances of the case. If the Council determines to allow the application, the arrangements relating to the deferred or periodic payment will not take effect until the applicant has entered into a written agreement with the Council reflecting the terms of the Council's approval. The Council may, as a condition of accepting deferred or periodic payment, require the provision of a bank guarantee where:
  - (i) the guarantee is by an Australian bank for the total or outstanding contribution amount plus interest
  - (ii) the guarantee requires the bank to unconditionally pay the guaranteed sum to the Council at the time specified in the agreement
  - (iii) the applicant will be required to pay all costs incurred in the establishment, operation, administration or discharge of the bank guarantee; and
  - (iv) the bank's obligations are discharged when payment to the Council is made in accordance with the guarantee, or when the Council notifies the bank in writing that the guarantee is no longer required, or if the related consent lapses.

### 1.20 Alternative payments

If an applicant for development consent seeks to make a development contribution towards the provision of public facilities to meet development impact other than by payment of a levy, the applicant may adopt one of the following procedures:

#### 1.20.1 Offer made to Council as part of a development application

If an applicant does not wish to pay a levy in connection with the carrying out of development, the applicant may include in the relevant development application an offer to carry out works or provide a material public benefit towards which the levy was to be applied.

Council will consider the offer as part of its assessment of the development application. If the Council agrees to the arrangement and grants consent to the application, it will substitute a condition of consent requiring the works to be carried out or the material public benefit to be provided in-lieu of a condition requiring payment of a levy under section 7.12. If the Council does not agree to the alternative arrangement, it may grant consent subject to a condition authorised by this Plan requiring payment of a levy.

In assessing the applicant's offer, the Council will have regard to the requirements of the current Practice Note issued by the NSW Government and may consider matters such as, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Council must be satisfied that the land so dedicated or the material public benefit is of equal or greater value than the monetary contribution that would otherwise be required, and
- (d) In situations where the material public benefits that are proposed involve works-in-kind, the Council will only accept such an offer where the works are constructed by the developer to the Council's standards and then transferred to Council.

#### 1.20.2 Offer made to the Council following the grant of development consent requiring payment of a levy

If development consent has been granted to the carrying out of development, subject to a condition authorised by this Plan, to pay a levy, the applicant must comply with the condition unless it is modified under section 4.55 of the Act. If the applicant does not wish to pay the levy, the applicant may make an application to the Council under section 4.55 of the Act to modify the

consent by substituting for the condition requiring payment of the levy a condition requiring the carrying out of works or the provision of a material public benefit towards the public purpose to which the levy was to be applied. If the Council approves the application, the applicant will be bound by the substituted condition. If the Council does not approve the application, the applicant will remain bound by the condition authorised by this Plan requiring payment of the levy.

### 1.20.3 Offer to enter into a voluntary planning agreement

If an applicant does not wish to pay a levy in connection with the carrying out of development, the applicant may offer to enter into a voluntary planning agreement with the Council under clause 7.4 of the Act in connection with the making of a development application.

Under a planning agreement, the applicant may offer to pay money, dedicate land, carry out works, or provide other material public benefits for public purposes. Those purposes need not relate to the impacts of the applicant's development or to the items listed in Schedule 1.

The applicant's provision under a planning agreement may be additional to, or instead of, paying a levy in accordance with a condition of development consent authorised by this Plan. This will be a matter for negotiation with the Council. The offer to enter into a planning agreement together with a copy of the draft agreement should accompany the relevant development application.

Council will publicly notify the draft planning agreement and an explanatory note relating to the draft agreement along with the development application and will consider the agreement as part of its assessment of that application. If Council agrees to enter into the planning agreement, it may impose a condition of development consent requiring the agreement to be entered into and performed. If the Council does not agree to enter into the planning agreement, it may grant consent subject to a condition authorised by this Plan requiring the payment of a levy. Applicants should refer to the Council's Policy on Planning Agreements, which has been prepared having regard to the Practice Note on Planning Agreements.

## 1.21 Definitions

In this Plan unless the context or subject matter otherwise indicates or requires:

**ABS** means the Australian Bureau of Statistics

**Council** means Randwick City Council

**Levy** means a levy under section 7.12 of the Act authorised by this plan

**LGA** means the local government area

**Minister** means the Minister administering the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

**Public facility** means a public amenity or public service

**Randwick LEP** is the *Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012*

**Staging** as in schedule 1 means:

- Short Term 1-2 years
- Medium Term 3 -4 years
- Long Term 5-10 years
- Ongoing, continuing works

**Social Housing Provider** has the same meaning as Social Housing Provider under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021

**the Act** means the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

**the Regulation** means the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*

## 2. Expected Development and Public Facilities Demand

### 2.1 Development potential for Randwick City

This part broadly discusses the relationship between the expected types of development in Randwick City and the demand for additional public amenities and services to meet the needs of that development. The relationship is established through current demographic information, and Council prepared strategies and relevant studies.

Section 7.12 levies acquired by condition of consent under this Plan are to be applied to the provision, extension or augmentation of the following categories of public facilities works located across the LGA:

- Cultural and community facilities
- Environmental initiatives
- Parks and open space
- Town centres and public realm; and
- Transport and roads.

#### 2.1.1 Demand for public amenities and infrastructure

The demand for public facilities and infrastructure in Randwick City is related to expected residential, commercial, retail and other forms of non-residential development due to population growth trends and additional capacity afforded by revised controls under the Comprehensive Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012 (Amendment 9).

Specific public facilities and infrastructure required to meet community needs has been identified in a series of supporting documents which includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Randwick City Local Strategic Planning Statement
- Arts and Culture Strategy
- Economic Development Strategy
- Environment Strategy
- Housing Strategy
- Inclusive Randwick Strategy
- Integrated Transport Strategy; and
- Open Space and Recreation Strategy

These studies have demonstrated that adequate public facilities and infrastructure are needed to maintain and grow Randwick City's capacity to accommodate housing and employment. Unless there is adequate investment in public facilities and infrastructure, the levels of service and amenity for existing and future residents, workers and visitors will further decline.

Based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Estimated Residential Population data, the population of Randwick City in 2022 was 135,686 persons.

The population is projected to increase by up to 170,115 people in the period from 2022 and 2041 with an annual growth rate of approximately 0.47% to 2041 (NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure Projections 2022). By way of comparison, the annual growth rate projection for Metropolitan Sydney for the same period is 1.03%. This projection is based on fertility rates, migration and current major redevelopment sites.

The likely population growth and subsequent development required to cater for this growth will create demand for new facilities and infrastructure and improvements to existing facilities and



infrastructure. Public facilities and infrastructure required to meet residential development demands include: parks, open space and recreational facilities, community and cultural facilities, public domain and town centre improvements, transport, access and mobility improvements such as for walking, cycling, public transport and private vehicles, as well as environmental improvements.

Non residential developments such as commercial/retail development will raise demands for public facilities, primarily for public domain and town centre improvements, cultural facilities, and transport, access and mobility improvements.

Mixed use developments and recreation and tourism related developments raise similar demands for public facilities as both residential and commercial development.

Public facilities required to meet the demands of industrial development primarily include transport, access and mobility improvements and environmental improvements.

### **2.1.2 Expected residential development**

As identified in the LSPS, Informing Strategies and other supporting documentation, residential development is expected across the LGA in the residential, business and some special uses zones. Types of residential development include: dwelling-houses, dual occupancies, multi dwelling housing, manor houses, residential flat buildings, boarding houses, secondary dwellings, attached dwellings and mixed use development with a residential component.

Residential development will occur in the form of new development and alterations and additions to existing development.

### **2.1.3 Expected commercial, retail and other non -residential development**

As identified in the LSPS, Informing Strategies and other supporting documentation, the majority of commercial, retail and other non-residential development is expected mainly in the business zones throughout the LGA including local and town centres.

Development is also expected in the Special Use Zones, such as education and hospital sites as well as the Industrial zone.

Development that will occur will be in the form of new development and alterations and additions to existing development.

The section s7.12 levy will enable Council to provide high quality and diverse public amenities and services to meet the expectations of the existing and future residents of the Randwick City.

The additional or improved public facilities to be provided to meet the expected future development are set out in Schedule 1.

## Schedule 1: Schedule of Works

The works listed in this schedule may be funded from a mix of sources, including contributions collected from this Plan. Staging as in this schedule means:

- Short Term 1–2 years
- Medium Term 3–4 years
- Long Term 5–10 years
- Ongoing: continuing work

New projects are highlighted in **red** [highlighting to be removed once endorsed].

| Map Ref                                      | Item | Public Facility  | Comments   | Allocation Draft 2024 Plan | Staging draft 2024 Plan |
|--|------|--|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>1.0 Cultural and Community Facilities</b> |      |  |  |                            |                         |
| *  | 1.1  | Public art   | Projects distributed across LGA/various sites.   | \$570,000                  | Ongoing                 |
| 1  | 1.2  | La Perouse Museum  | Upgrade and repairs to building interior.  | \$1,100,000                | Medium                  |
| 2  | 1.3  | Randwick Literary Institute                                  | Upgrades to building (kitchen, bathrooms, painting, flooring).   | \$1,000,000                | Medium                  |
| *  | 1.4  | Library upgrades and improvements                            | Works include general upgrades, refurbishment and expansion of Council Libraries.  | \$2,030,000                | Ongoing                 |
| *  | 1.5  | Youth facility   | New project. Youth facility and recreational space. Site to be investigated and scoped.  | \$1,500,000                | Medium – long           |
| 3  | 1.6  | Blenheim House   | New project. Transform building into a creative space with arts studios, exhibition spaces and an accessible studio at rear.                         | \$200,000                  | Short                   |
| 4  | 1.7  | Newmarket Big Stables Upgrade                                | New project. New community facility. Fit out and upgrades required to comply with building regulations   | \$350,000                  | Short                   |
| <b>2.0 Environmental Initiatives</b>         |      |  |  |                            |                         |
| 5  | 2.1  | Coastal walkway  | Concept design and construction  | \$1,100,000                | Short to medium         |
| *  | 2.2  | Remnant bushland restoration                                 | Works include increasing planting of native and indigenous vegetation, reducing weed density and undertaking bushland management.                    | \$200,000                  | Ongoing                 |
| *  | 2.3  | Green corridor planting and street trees (urban tree canopy) | Improve connectivity to key bushland areas primarily adjacent to Anzac Parade and Bunnerong Road.  | \$500,000                  | Ongoing                 |
| *  | 2.4  | Blackwater and storm water harvesting                        | Installation and upgrading of stormwater harvesting systems.   | \$600,000                  | Medium                  |
| *  | 2.5  | Wetlands Creation  | Rename to wetlands protection initiatives and transfer to New Plan. Works include new infrastructure to implement and upgrade gross pollutant traps. | \$230,000                  | Medium                  |
| *  | 2.6  | Water sensitive urban design                                 | New project. Installation of garden beds and swales in town centres to capture/treat storm   | \$550,000                  | Ongoing                 |

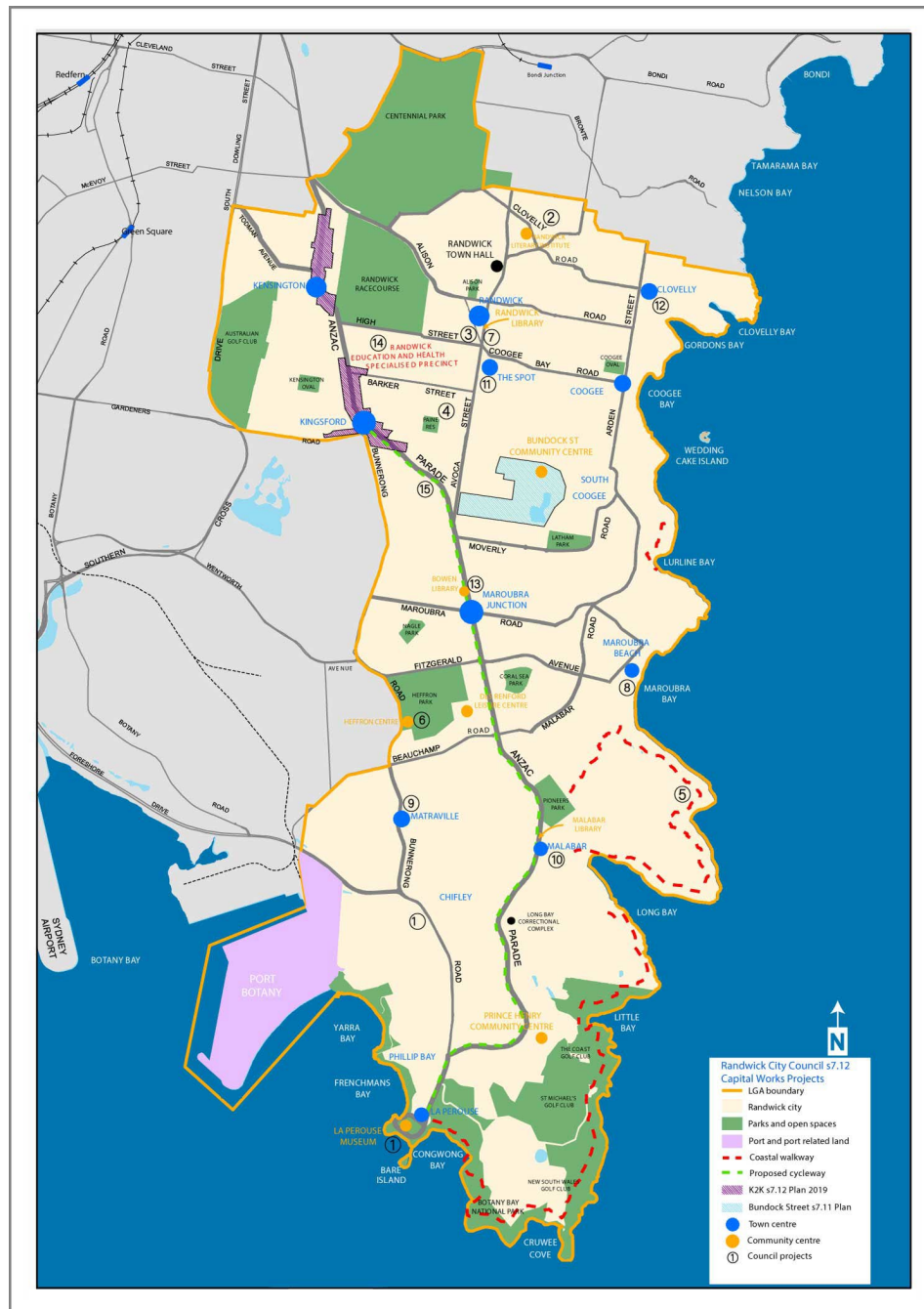
| Map Ref    | Item                                 | Public Facility   | Comments   | Allocation Draft 2024 Plan | Staging draft 2024 Plan |
|------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|
|            |                                      |   | water and assist in flood mitigation.  |                            |                         |
| <b>3.0</b> | <b>Parks and Open Space</b>          |   |  |                            |                         |
| *          | 3.1                                  | Park improvements   | Works include adventure playgrounds, pump tracks and outcomes from the Open Space and Recreational Needs Study.  | \$3,550,000                | Ongoing                 |
| *          | 3.2                                  | Smart City Initiatives*   | New Project. Smart City infrastructure to address public safety, environmental monitoring and other place based technology solutions.  | \$800,000                  | Ongoing                 |
| 6          | 3.3                                  | Maroubra Beach  | New project. Embellishment of new facilities.  | \$550,000                  | Short                   |
| <b>4.0</b> | <b>Town Centres and Public Realm</b> |   |  |                            |                         |
| *          | 4.1                                  | Night time economy initiatives  | New project. Public realm improvements to support the night time economy and improve safety including smart lighting, creative lighting, public realm activations and power upgrades.  | \$210,000                  | Ongoing                 |
| 7          | 4.2                                  | Randwick Junction public realm  | New project. Public realm improvements in line with the Randwick Junction Urban Design Plan/Town Centre Strategy. Streetscape improvements and laneway activations in accordance with the Randwick Junction Town Centre Strategy/ Urban Design Guidelines. | \$1,140,000                | Short-Medium            |
| 8          | 4.3                                  | Maroubra Beach  | Improvements to pedestrian areas including signalisation.  | \$100,000                  | Short                   |
| 9          | 4.4                                  | Matraville  | New project. Public realm works in accordance with Matraville Masterplan.  | \$450,000                  | Medium - long           |
| 10         | 4.5                                  | Malabar   | Landscape improvements.  | \$50,000                   | Short                   |
| 11         | 4.6                                  | The Spot  | Streetscape and landscaping works including undergrounding of powerlines, lighting and paving.   | \$400,000                  | Short                   |
| 12         | 4.7                                  | Clovelly  | Public realm works in line with Clovelly Road Masterplan.  | \$100,000                  | Medium                  |
| 13         | 4.8                                  | Maroubra Junction   | New project. Streetscape upgrades along Anzac Parade in accordance with Maroubra Junction Masterplan.  | \$450,000                  | Medium - long           |
| 14         | 4.9                                  | Randwick Collaboration Area/ Strategic Centre including Botany Street | Public domain works to enhance connectivity, streetscape improvements, enhanced pedestrian safety and access around UNSW.  | \$3,000,000                | Ongoing                 |
| *          | 4.10                                 | Wayfinding signage  | New project. Installation of signage to improve connectivity between town centres, coastal locations and other attractions.  | \$150,000                  | Short                   |
| <b>5.0</b> | <b>Transport and Roads</b>           |   |  |                            |                         |
| *          | 5.1                                  | Laneway widening  | Improvements to road reserves following dedication of private  | \$900,000                  | Medium                  |

CP18/24

| Map Ref | Item                                 | Public Facility  | Comments   | Allocation Draft 2024 Plan | Staging draft 2024 Plan |
|---------|--------------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|
|         |                                      |  | land earmarked for laneway widening.   |                            |                         |
| *       | 5.2                                  | Mobility improvements                                    | City wide including bike plan implementation, pram ramps, walkways, pedestrian/cycle improvements including industrial areas, lighting, signage. | \$3,050,000                | Ongoing                 |
| 15      | 5.3                                  | Anzac Parade walking and cycling path                    | New project. Walking and cycling pathway project along Anzac Parade.   | \$500,000                  | Short                   |
| 16      | 5.4                                  | Bunnerong/ Military Road traffic signal upgrade.         | New project. Signal upgrade/ public realm works to address safety with heavy vehicle movements to Port/ Industrial area.                         | \$350,000                  | Short-medium            |
| *       | 5.5                                  | Local Traffic Management Schemes                         | New project. Integrate pedestrian and bicycle facilities into new traffic calming treatment to enhance connectivity and accessibility.           | \$1,500,000                | Medium                  |
| 6.0     | Development Contributions Management |  |  |                            |                         |
|         | 6.1                                  | Development contribution planning management and studies | Spent. Include in new Plan.  | \$1,200,000                | Ongoing                 |

\* Projects distributed across LGA/various sites dependant on prioritisation

\*\* Subject to project identification





Schedule 2: Cost Summary Report Template

DETAILED COST REPORT  
REGISTERED\* QUANTITY SURVEYOR'S DETAILED COST REPORT  
[Development cost of \$500,000 or more]

| Applicant/Application Details         |  |                                      |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| Development Application No            |  | Complying Development Application No |  |
| Date                                  |  | Development Name                     |  |
| Development Address                   |  |                                      |  |
| Applicant's Name                      |  |                                      |  |
| Applicant's Address                   |  |                                      |  |
| Development Details                   |  |                                      |  |
| GFA – Commercial (m²)                 |  | GFA – Parking (m²)                   |  |
| GFA – Residential (m²)                |  | GFA – Other (m²)                     |  |
| GFA – Retail (m²)                     |  | Total GFA (m²)                       |  |
| Total Car Parking Spaces              |  | Total Site Area (m²)                 |  |
| Total Development Cost                |  |                                      |  |
| Total Construction Cost               |  |                                      |  |
| Total GST                             |  |                                      |  |
| Estimate Details                      |  |                                      |  |
| Professional Fees (\$)                |  | Construction (Commercial)            |  |
| % of Construction Cost                |  | Total Construction Cost              |  |
| % of Demolition Cost                  |  | \$/m² of Site Area                   |  |
| Demolition & Site Preparation         |  | Construction                         |  |
| Total Construction Cost (Residential) |  | Total Construction Cost              |  |
| \$/m² of Site Area                    |  | \$/m² of Site Area                   |  |
| Fitout (Residential)                  |  | Fitout                               |  |
| Total Construction Cost (Commercial)  |  | Total Construction Cost              |  |
| \$/m² of Site Area                    |  | \$/m² of Site Area                   |  |
| Fitout (Retail)                       |  | Parking                              |  |
| Total Construction Cost               |  | \$/m² of Site Area                   |  |

|                                |  |          |  |
|--------------------------------|--|----------|--|
| \$/m <sup>2</sup> of Site Area |  | \$/space |  |
|--------------------------------|--|----------|--|

I certify that I have:

- Inspected the plans the subject of the application for development consent or for a complying development certificate.
- Prepared and attached an elemental estimate generally prepared in accordance with the Australian Cost Management Manuals from the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors.
- Calculated the development costs in accordance with the definition of development costs in Clause 208 (4) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2021 at current prices.
- Included GST in the calculation of development cost; and
- Measured Gross Floor Areas in accordance with the Method of Measurement of Building Areas in the AIQS Cost Management Manual Volume 1, Appendix A2.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position and Qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Schedule 3: Detailed Cost Report

COST SUMMARY REPORT

[Development cost of less than \$500,000]

| Development/Applicant Details        |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Development Application No:          |  |
| Complying Development Application No |  |
| Date:                                |  |
| Development Name:                    |  |
| Development Address:                 |  |
| Applicant's Name:                    |  |
| Applicant's Address                  |  |

| Estimate of Development costs     |    |                     |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|---------------------|----|
| Demolition and alterations        | \$ | Hydraulic services  | \$ |
| Structure                         | \$ | Mechanical services | \$ |
| External walls, windows and doors | \$ | Fire services       | \$ |
| Internal walls, screens and doors | \$ | Electrical services | \$ |
| Wall finishes                     | \$ | Lift services       | \$ |
| Floor finishes                    | \$ | External works      | \$ |
| Ceiling finishes                  | \$ | External services   | \$ |
| Fittings and equipment            | \$ | Other related work  | \$ |
| Sub Total                         | \$ |                     |    |
| Preliminaries and Margin          | \$ |                     |    |
| Sub Total                         | \$ |                     |    |
| Consultant Fees                   | \$ |                     |    |
| Other related development costs   | \$ |                     |    |
| Sub Total                         | \$ |                     |    |
| Goods and Services Tax            | \$ |                     |    |
| Total development cost            | \$ |                     |    |

I certify that I have:

- Inspected the plans the subject of the application for development consent or for a complying development certificate.
- Calculated the development costs in accordance with the definition of development costs in Clause 208 (2) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2021 current prices.

- Included GST in the calculation of development cost.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position and Qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CP18/24

CP18/24



**Randwick City Council**  
30 Frances Street  
Randwick NSW 2031

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## Director City Planning Report No. CP19/24

**Subject: Randwick Council submission on the Eastern Blue Groper fishing rule changes**


### Executive Summary

- The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the new Eastern Blue Groper fishing rule changes implemented by the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) to prohibit taking Eastern Blue Groper as part of a 12-month trial to ensure greater protection of its species. The fishing rule changes prohibit all methods of fishing for Groper. The new laws commenced on 1 March 2024 following two separate Groper spearfishing incidents over the 2023 / 2024 holiday period. Given the cultural significance of the species to Indigenous people, the new changes will not apply to Aboriginal cultural fishing.
- An interim submission in support of the 12-month trial ban has been prepared by Council Officers. The interim submission is provided to Councillors for endorsement and formal submission to DPI (refer to Attachment 1).
- The Eastern Blue Groper is a species of fish native to the coastal waters of eastern Australia. They are long – lived that often travel in groups that frequent a particular site making them susceptible to targeted fishing. Eastern Blue Gropers play a crucial role in their ecosystem by regulating the populations of other marine creatures. Their presence helps maintain a delicate balance, ensuring the health, stability and biodiversity of local ecosystems.
- Council has a long history of promoting and celebrating the iconic blue groper in Randwick. The Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve protects a diversity of rocky shore habitats, including that of the iconic Eastern Blue Groper within an additional enclosure boundary to protect Groper populations from all methods of fishing to retain its iconic status within the community. The implementation of the NSW trial ban of taking 'Blue Groper' assists in the protection and regeneration of the species.
- Council Officers have noted in the submission that the 12-month 'no take' trial may assist in developing further information and data on the regulation of sea urchin populations along the NSW coastline as a result of Eastern Blue Groper protection. It is recommended that DPI survey sea urchin population numbers and crayweed/kelp growth along the NSW coastline and determine whether sea urchin abundances have increased as a result of overfishing of predatory fish such as Eastern Blue Groper.
- The draft submission emphasises the need for DPI to undertake broad community education programs and activities over the trial ban period to maximise the awareness of responsible fishing practices along the NSW coastline through community workshops, social media and adequate, easy to interpret signage to minimise penalties to unaware fishers throughout this period.

### Recommendation

That Council endorse the draft interim submission prepared in response to the new Eastern Blue Groper fishing rule changes, for submission to the Department of Primary Industry (DPI) as a final submission.

### Attachment/s:

1.  Draft RCC Officer submission on 'no take' trial for Eastern Blue Groper



## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the new Eastern Blue Groper fishing rule changes implemented by the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) to prohibit taking Eastern Blue Groper as part of a 12-month trial to ensure greater protection of its species. The 'no take' rule change commenced on 1 March 2024 and is currently undergoing consultation with stakeholders and the broader community on longer term changes to Eastern Blue Groper fishing rules with submissions closing 30 April 2024 (day of Council meeting).

## Discussion

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) has recently introduced changes to recreational fishing rules with a 12-month trial ban of taking Eastern Blue Gropers by any method including line fishing. The new laws commenced on 1 March 2024 and DPI is currently encouraging the community and stakeholders to provide feedback on the 12-month trial as well as longer term changes to Eastern Blue Groper fishing rules. Given the cultural significance of the species to Indigenous people, the new changes will not apply to Aboriginal cultural fishing.

### Why is the Eastern Blue Groper a 'no take' species?

The Eastern Blue Groper (*Acheoerodus viridis*) also known as Brown or Red Groper is a species of fish native to the coastal waters of eastern Australia and have been found in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. Blue Gropers begin life as females (brown/red in colour) and can change sex to male later in life if the dominant male groper leading the harem is removed by fishing or natural mortality. They are long - lived (approximately 30-35 years) that often travel in groups comprising one blue groper (male) and multiple mature females that frequent a particular site making them susceptible to targeted fishing. Eastern Blue Gropers play a crucial role in their ecosystem by regulating the populations of other marine creatures, including crabs and sea urchins. Their presence helps maintain a delicate balance, ensuring the health, stability and biodiversity of local ecosystems.

The Eastern Blue Groper 'no take' rules were enacted following two separate incidents over the 2023 Christmas holiday period where a large male Eastern Blue Groper was speared at Cronulla in December 2023 and a further three Eastern Blue Gropers were allegedly speared near Jervis Bay in January 2024.

Under existing recreational fishing laws, the recreational spear fishing of Eastern Blue Gropers has been prohibited in NSW since 1969 and from commercial fishing since 1980. The prohibition of the spearing of Eastern Blue Gropers accounts for a \$500 penalty infringement notice and/or a maximum court-imposed fine of \$22,000 or imprisonment for 6 months (or both) for a first offence and \$44,000 or imprisonment for 12 months (or both) for a second or subsequent offence. Prior to the introduction of the new rules, line fishing of Eastern Gropers was permissible and allowed recreational and fishers to take a maximum of two Gropers a day. As of March 1, 2024, the abovementioned penalties apply to all methods of fishing and taking of Gropers.

### The Blue Groper in Randwick

Council has a long history of promoting and celebrating the iconic Blue Groper population in Randwick. Council's efforts have included the developed brochure titled *Finding Bluey and His Mates* which showcased the iconic Blue Groper on the front and provided an identification guide to the marine life of Sydney's East - reprinted numerous times over the last twenty years.

In 2010 Council received a Coastcare grant for \$40,000 to develop and install 10 marine biodiversity signs along the length of the coastal walkway in the Randwick Council area. The project aimed to improve public awareness of the marine biodiversity in the waters adjoining Randwick City. This 2010 project built on the success of the fish identification sign erected at Clovelly Beach in 2005 with Coastcare funding. The marine biodiversity identification signage has provided snorkelers and scuba divers with a ready and easy ID to the 20 common fish seen in the Bay which includes the iconic blue groper. The education campaign relies on the premise that if people know what lies beneath the ocean, they are more likely to respect it and modify their behaviour to prevent damage to marine biodiversity. The Gordons Bay Scuba Diving Club and Randwick City Council joined in a partnership to complete this project in 2011. The signs reflected

the different marine ecosystems at each location and associated Marine life most readily seen in the specific environment of each site.

### **Randwick Council's Aquatic Reserves**

Randwick City Council currently has two Aquatic Reserves located within the LGA known as the Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve and the Cape Banks Aquatic Reserve. The objectives of these reserves are to conserve the biodiversity of fish and marine vegetation, protect habitats and facilitate educational activities and scientific research. The Aquatic Reserves permit spear and line fishing however place restrictions on the fishing and extraction of particular species significant to that particular reserve. Generally, the collection of cunjevoi, invertebrates (excluding abalone and eastern/southern rock lobster) and marine vegetation (excluding sea lettuce and bait weed) is prohibited.

*Figure 1: Bronte – Coogee Aquatic Reserve boundary*



Declared in March 2002, the Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve in Sydney's eastern beaches protects a diversity of rocky shore habitats, including that of the iconic Eastern Blue Groper.

Hence, the Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve has additional restrictions that apply which incorporate the Clovelly Bay and Gordons Bay Spearfishing Closure (established in 2005). The spearfishing enclosure prohibits spearfishing between Shark Point and the southern headland of Gordons Bay (See figure 3 for boundary) and prohibits the fishing (by any method) and taking of Eastern Blue Groper within that boundary (prior to the introduction of the 2024 rule changes). The incorporation of the rules to protect the Eastern Blue Groper populations within the Clovelly and Gordons Bay Spearfishing Closure was to retain its iconic status within the community.

Figure 2: Cape Banks Aquatic Reserve boundary



In 2006 Council signed an Operational Agreement with the Department of Primary Industries for the cooperative management on the Bronte-Coojee Aquatic Reserve. In this agreement parties agreed to cooperate and consult on the planning and management on the Bronte-Coojee Aquatic Reserve.

To assist in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), Council's Rangers have completed DPI Fisheries regulation training on a number of occasions since the MoU was signed. This training provides Rangers with information regarding fishing closures and recreational fishing license requirements applicable to the Randwick Council area and the associated marine protected areas.

Although the spearfishing closure provided substantial protection to the local Groper populations inside Clovelly and Gordons Bay, the drawback to the protection area was that Gropers could be fished and extracted (by line fishing methods only) outside of the spearfishing closure boundary. It is understood that Eastern Blue Groper communities often linger and frequent around their habitats however, the limited area of protection meant that they are susceptible to recreational fishing if they were caught outside of the boundary area.

The existing boundary line of the spearfishing closure is also somewhat difficult for a general member of the public to determine as there are currently limited reference points that signify a beginning/end of the closure. As a result, there have been some instances which has led to confusion among the community as to where Eastern Blue Gropers are permitted to be taken, especially along the cliffs of Magic Point and Coojee. As a result of the new temporary 'no take' rules that came into effect on 1 March, Eastern Blue Gropers are now protected along the entire NSW coastline.



Figure 3: Clovelly and Gordons Bay Spearfishing Closure



### Sea urchin populations and crayweed restoration activities

Randwick Council has been supporting the University of NSW's crayweed protection and restoration project along Randwick's coastline for over ten years. Council has also provided financial contributions towards this project. The NSW DPI also conducted a study in early 2023 on barrens (rocky reef areas with a high abundance of sea urchins) that aimed to assess and monitor the prevalence of existing barrens and their interrelationship with local underwater ecosystems. The Study found that the abundance of sea urchin populations (which can be detrimental to crayweed growth) in NSW are increasing especially within marine parks, restoration sites and aquatic reserves.

Council understands that while sea urchin numbers have been monitored at crayweed restoration sites for a number of years, sea urchins are protected, they cannot be removed from the crayweed restoration sites. Council is therefore supportive of exploring alternative measures to

balance ecosystems such as naturally increasing predatory fish numbers to help support crayweed restoration activities.

It has been suggested that the increase in urchin abundance may be explained by the removal of larger predators through fishing practices.

Council Officers have noted in the draft interim submission that the 12 month ‘no take’ trial may assist in developing further information and data on the regulation of sea urchin populations along the NSW coastline as a result of Eastern Blue Groper protection.

**Community awareness and exhibition for longer term changes**

Council Officers note that the 12-month ‘no take’ trial ban was implemented on March 1, 2024, without a prior period of community consultation and rationale for changes around fishing rules (including studies, research material and data on existing Eastern Blue Groper stocks).

Council Officers have recommended that a community consultation and extensive public engagement must occur prior to any proposed permanent changes coming into effect in the future. This should include sharing of studies, data and assessments of the marine ecosystems with the community outlining findings and recommendations as a result of the species protection in NSW.

Council’s submission emphasises the need for DPI to undertake extensive, ongoing and targeted community education programs and activities over the trial ban period to maximise the awareness of responsible fishing practices along the NSW coastline. Activities could include community workshops, social media and adequate and easy to interpret signage to minimise penalties to unaware fishers throughout this period.

**Strategic alignment**

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan: |  |
|--|--|
| Strategy   | Environment  |
| Outcome  | A city with coastal and marine environments that are protected and conserved   |
| Objective  | 100% of Randwick’s beaches achieve a “Good” or “Very Good” result as monitored and reported in the NSW Government’s Beachwatch water quality program   |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Strengthen the LEP by 2021 to include new coastal planning provisions to ensure all new development complies with the community’s desired future character principles for the coastal zones. |

**Resourcing Strategy implications**

The costs associated with the preparation of the submission was completed in house by Strategic Planning Officers.

**Policy and legislative requirements**

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979  
Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012  
Randwick Environment Strategy.

**Conclusion**

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) has implemented new fishing rules which prohibit fishing of Eastern Blue Groper by all methods over a 12- month period to ensure greater protection of its species. The ‘no take’ rule change commenced on 1 March 2024 and is currently

undergoing consultation with stakeholders and the broader community on longer term changes to Eastern Blue Groper fishing rules with submissions closing 30 April 2024.

The interim submission supports the 12-month trial fishing ban given Council's history of promoting the protection of the Eastern Blue Groper in Randwick. Currently, the Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve comprises an enclosure that protects the Eastern Blue Groper from all methods of fishing. Council Officers have also outlined that the trial may provide further opportunity for research and data around sea urchin abundances and its correlation with predatory fish such as Eastern Blue Groper.

Council Officers also recommend an extended community consultation and exhibition period during the 12-month trial before proposing any long-term changes to Eastern Blue Groper fishing rules. The exhibition should include studies, research material and data to ensure that there will be no detrimental impacts to surrounding ecosystems as a result of permanent protection of predatory fish species.

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**Responsible officer:** Liam Stanley, Coordinator Strategic Planning

**File Reference:** F2005/00036



DPI Fisheries NSW  
Locked Bag 1,  
Nelson Bay NSW 2315

16 April 2024

Ref No: F2005/00306

### RE: 'NO TAKE' TRIAL FOR EASTERN BLUE GROPER

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 12-month 'no take' trial of the Eastern Blue Groper by NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) as well as provide input on any future longer-term changes to Eastern Blue Groper fishing rules. It is noted that the 'no take' trial commenced on 1 March 2024 and is currently undergoing consultation with stakeholders and the broader community.

Council supports the decision by the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) to implement a 12-month trial prohibiting the extraction of Eastern Blue Groper by any method including line fishing. The no-take trial of Eastern Blue Gropers ensures greater protection of the species and safeguards their significant role in regulating populations of marine creatures including crabs and sea urchins as well as maintaining delicately balanced, diverse and healthy local ecosystems.

It is understood that the new fishing rules commenced as a result of two recent incidents where a large male Eastern Blue Groper was speared at Cronulla in December 2023 and a further three Gropers were allegedly speared near Jervis Bay in January 2024. Recreational spearfishing of Eastern Blue Gropers has been prohibited in NSW since 1969 with penalties ranging from significant infringement notices, court-imposed fines through to imprisonment. Prior to the introduction of the no-take trial, line fishing of Eastern Blue Gropers was permissible for recreational fishers and were allowed to take a maximum of two Gropers a day.

It is understood that as of March 1, 2024, the above-mentioned penalties now apply to all methods of fishing for Gropers.

#### Eastern Blue Groper populations in Randwick LGA

The local Eastern Blue Groper population has an iconic status within the local community along Randwick's coastline, particularly around Gordon's Bay and Clovelly Beach where existing Blue Groper populations tend to frequent. It is common for recreational divers and snorkelers to swim alongside a Blue Groper, commonly referred to by the local community as "Bluey". In response to the community interest, Council developed a brochure entitled *Finding Bluey and His Mates* which provided an identification guide to the marine life of Sydney's East which has been reprinted numerous times over the last twenty years.

#### Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve

Declared in March 2002, the Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve in Sydney's eastern beaches protects a diversity of rocky shore habitats, including that of the iconic Eastern Blue Groper.

Gordons Bay and Clovelly are located within the Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve which covers an area of 40 hectares and stretches across 4km of coastline in the Randwick LGA. Within the Aquatic

Reserve is an additional area known as the 'Clovelly and Gordons Bay Spearfishing Closure' which was established in 2005. The spearfishing closure prohibits all forms of spearfishing between Shark Point and the southern headland of Gordons Bay and prohibits the fishing (by any method) and taking of Eastern Blue Groper within the boundary area, providing the Blue Groper with extra protection in this part of the reserve.

While the protection enacted by the fishing closure had allowed for the preservation of the local Eastern Blue Groper populations within a specific boundary area, it has not completely assured their protection within the broader area. Local fishers can often be seen fishing from boats adjacent to the boundary of the fishing enclosure. This causes regulatory issues for Council staff and community concern when they land onshore at Gordons Bay with caught blue groper fish.

In response, in 2006 Council signed an Operational Agreement with the Department of Primary Industries for the cooperative management on the Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve. In this agreement parties agreed to cooperate and consult on the planning and management on the Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve.

To assist in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Council's rangers have completed DPI Fisheries regulation training on a number of occasions since to MoU was signed. This training provided Rangers with information regarding fishing closures and recreational fishing licence requirements.

Although it's understood that Eastern Blue Groper populations tend to frequent a specific location, prior to the introduction of the new fishing rules, it was still permissible for fishers to catch and take Gropers if they were caught outside of the exclusion area boundary. There have also been instances which had led to confusion as to where specifically Eastern Blue Gropers were permitted and prohibited to be taken especially along the cliffs of Magic Point and Coogee.

In 2009 Council supported the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) in a Commonwealth Caring for Country Community Coastcare Grant funded project to monitor the movements of the Eastern Blue Groper within the Bronte Coogee Aquatic Reserve. This research tagged and monitored over 20 gropers to determine the habitat and home range requirements and residency time movements. To support the project Council arranged a series of workshop and community events including primary and high school presentations associated with this research project.

In response to community interest to increase public awareness of marine biodiversity, in 2010 RCC successfully received a Coastcare grant for \$40,000 to develop and install 10 marine biodiversity signs along the length of the coastal walkway in the Randwick council area. This 2010 project built on the success of the fish identification sign erected at Clovelly beach in 2005 with Coastcare funding.

The marine biodiversity identification signage has provided snorkellers and scuba divers with a ready and easy ID to the 20 common fish seen in the Bay which includes the iconic Blue Groper. The education campaign relies on the premise that if people are better informed about what lies beneath the water's surface, they are more likely to show respect and modify their behaviour to prevent damage to marine biodiversity. The Gordons Bay Scuba Diving Club and Randwick City Council joined in a partnership to complete this project in 2011. This signage reflected the different marine ecosystems at each location and associated marine life most readily seen in the specific environment of each site.

While the above projects were well received by the community, more recently Council has received numerous correspondence and complaints from the community who have concerns around the targeting of Gropers by fishers. Some of these events may have occurred within the exclusion area boundary.

Although the boundaries of the spearfishing are signposted and strict penalties apply to the taking of Gropers within the Aquatic reserve, there remains some misunderstanding as to the specific boundary - where the boundary starts and ends, both on land and within the water. The implementation of the 'no take' trial by the NSW Government effectively removes any boundary related issues, providing clarity and clear guidance for the protection and regeneration of the species. The trial is therefore

supported by Council, noting any extension or consideration of a no-take approach into perpetuity must be subject to further community consultation outlined below.

#### **Community awareness and exhibition for longer term changes**

Council notes that the 12-month 'no take' trial ban was implemented on March 1 2024, without a prior period of community consultation and clear rationale for the changes to the fishing rules (including studies, research material and data on existing Eastern Blue Groper stocks). Given that the period of trial is set for 12 months, it is recommended by Council that appropriate community education campaign and exhibition occurs prior to any proposed permanent changes coming into effect. As expressed by DPI in consultation material, this community feedback and discussion is to occur alongside potential longer-term changes to fishing laws.

Council supports active opportunities for community consultation and feedback, especially for changes to statewide fishing laws. Consultation material should include studies, data and provide a rationale for any proposed long-term changes to fishing of Eastern Blue Groper ensuring that there will not be any detrimental impacts to surrounding ecosystems, habitats and prey as a result of the Gropers protection.

Additionally, Council strongly recommends that data and statistics of Eastern Blue Gropers are captured during the trial period to ascertain a greater understanding of existing Groper stocks and whether the trial ban will benefit the Groper species and existing ecosystems.

Council Officers also support the need for DPI to undertake extensive, ongoing and targeted education programs and activities over the trial ban period to maximise the awareness of responsible fishing practices along the NSW coastline. Activities including community workshops, social media and adequate, easy to interpret signage may minimise penalties to unaware fishers throughout this period. The implemented education campaign of new fishing rules will ensure that the local community and relevant stakeholders are aware of the new fishing ban to minimise penalties given to fishers who might be unaware throughout this period.

#### **Sea urchin populations and crayweed restoration activities**

Randwick Council has been supporting the University of NSW's crayweed protection and restoration project along Randwick's coastline for over ten years. Council has also provided financial contributions towards this project.

Council has been in contact with the Sydney Institute of Marine Science (SIMS) and Gamay Rangers to enquire about existing crayweed restoration efforts in the Randwick and eastern beaches region. The crayweed restoration projects aim to restore underwater seaweed forests which have been impacted by poor water quality as a result of poorly treated sewage along the Sydney coastline prior to the 1990s. It has been reported over recent years that there has been a substantial increase in the number of sea urchins (which feed on crayweed) along the Sydney coastline and have been found within crayweed restoration plots.

The NSW DPI conducted a study in 2023 on barrens and sea urchin populations in NSW following concerns that sea urchin habitats have increased whilst kelp and crayweed coverage has slightly decreased. According to the study, the main predators of sea urchins in NSW are uncertain but may include the Eastern Rock Lobster and larger predatory fish species such as the Eastern Blue Groper and Snapper. It has been suggested that the increase in sea urchin/barren abundance could be explained by a removal of predatory fish populations through targeted fishing however this remains uncertain.

Council understands that while sea urchin numbers have been monitored at crayweed restoration site for a number of years, sea urchins are protected, they cannot be removed from the crayweed restoration sites. Council is therefore supportive of exploring alternative measures to balance ecosystems such as naturally increasing number of predatory fish to help support crayweed restoration activities.

The 12-month 'no take' trial of the Eastern Blue Groper may assist in developing further information and data on the regulation of sea urchin populations along the NSW coastline as a result of Eastern

Blue Groper protection. By protecting Eastern Blue Groper populations for an extended period of time, DPI may be able to survey sea urchin population numbers and crayweed/kelp growth along the NSW coastline and determine whether sea urchin abundances have increased as a result of overfishing of predatory fish.

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Overall, Council is supportive of the introduction of the 12-month trial which may help in encouraging marine ecosystem balances along the NSW coast as well as assist in current crayweed restoration efforts and maintenance of urchin populations.

If you have any questions regarding issues raised in this submission, please contact Bronwyn Englaro Senior Sustainability officer on 9093 6796 or [Bronwyn.englaro@randwick.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Bronwyn.englaro@randwick.nsw.gov.au)

Yours sincerely,

"Double-click to insert signature image"

**Kerry Kyriacou**  
Director City Planning

## Director City Planning Report No. CP20/24

**Subject: Reducing Textile Waste in the Randwick LGA**

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### Executive Summary

- This report responds to the Council Resolution of 25 July 2023 requesting a report on what can be done to reduce textile waste in Randwick LGA, including repair and mending workshops, available recycling programs and education about the environmental and social impacts of fast fashion and sending fabric to landfill.
- This report outlines the various programs and initiatives staff have been implementing which aim to reduce textile waste. These have included volunteer groups, textile mending groups, clothes swap events, recycling collections and drop off locations and education activities.
- Opportunities to expand the programs and education activities are also being investigated and include activities such as continuing the Saturday Circle program throughout 2024/25, expanding textile recycling drop off and/or collection locations and increasing education programming across all detrimental aspects of the fast fashion and textile industry.

### Recommendation

That Council notes the successful programs and initiatives currently being delivered to support the community to reduce textile waste.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

CP20/24

Purpose

This report is responding to the following Council Resolution from the meeting held on 25 July 2023:

(Chapple/Pandolfini) that Council officers prepare a report on what can be done to reduce textile waste in Randwick LGA including feedback from relevant experts, consideration of repair and mending workshops, available textile recycling programs including blue bins for residents and education about the environmental and social impacts of fast fashion and sending fabric to landfill.

This report outlines the various programs and initiatives staff have been implementing which aim to reduce textile waste and educate the community on the impacts. It also identifies the future opportunities being researched and investigated that would expand current offerings.

Discussion

According to the Australian Fashion Council each year Australia imports around 1.42 billion units of clothing, which equates to approximately 55 items of new clothing per person. Due to a lack of systematic collection of unwearable clothing and limited reprocessing infrastructure 200,000 tonnes of clothing goes to landfill each year. It is reported that this waste is responsible for around 4% of global greenhouse gas emissions as well as being responsible for significant water and chemical usage and links to modern slavery. To address this Federal Minister for the Environment, Tanya Plibersek, is spearheading The National Clothes Product Stewardship Scheme, known as ‘Seamless’. Seamless aims to guide a just transformation towards a resilient circular economy that prioritises social and environmental wellbeing together with economic prosperity. Figure 1 shows the priority areas for the Seamless program.

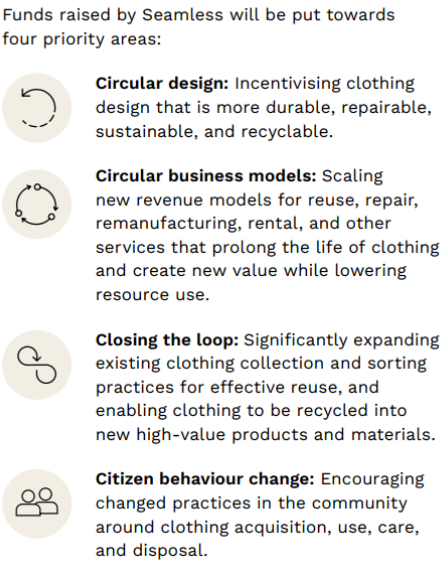


Figure 1: Priority areas for Seamless

In alignment with the Objectives of the Environment Strategy, to *increase residential recycling to 70% across Randwick City and divert 75% of waste from landfill by 2025*, Council has been delivering a variety of education, engagement and services that align with the Seamless priority areas. Staff are also currently investigating opportunities to further this. This report outlines these efforts in response to the following points within the Council Resolution:

- Feedback from relevant experts
- Repair workshops and textile recycling programs for residents
- Education regarding the environment and social impacts of fast fashion
- Further initiatives to reduce fashion and textile waste in Randwick LGA.



### Feedback from relevant experts

Council staff are engaged in a variety of networks that ensure the programs being delivered align with current industry approaches and are informed by relevant expertise. Network examples include:

- SSROC Textile Steering Group, which is addressing the Textile Action Plan for Sydney Councils 2021-2030
- The Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Fashion & Textiles,
- Subscribed to The National Clothes Product Stewardship Scheme (Seamless) newsletters,
- Planet Ark's Australian Circular Economy Hub (ACE Hub), and
- Nina Gbor, ABC's War on Waste presenter and founder of Clothes Swap and Style and Eco Styles. Nina helped Council to facilitate Clothes Swaps and community education at The Saturday Circle. Please see letter of support attachment 1.

### Repair workshops and textile recycling programs for residents

Randwick City Council (RCC) has been delivering a series of projects that aim to support the community to undertake textile repairs and facilitate better access to recycling programs. An overview of recent projects is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Repair and mending workshops

| Initiative                                      | Date                   | Frequency  | Comments   |
|---|------------------------|------------|--|
| Randwick Recycling Centre                       | 2019 - ongoing         | Continuous | In partnership with U-Turn the centre accepts textile drop offs. 100,000 tonnes of textile waste have been diverted from landfill since May 2019.  |
| RecycleSmart – household pickups                | 2019 - ongoing         | Continuous | Funded by RCC, RecycleSmart collects items, including clothing waste, from households and takes them to Randwick Recovery Centre.  |
| Textile bins in Multiple Unit Dwellings (MUDS)  | 2022 - ongoing         | Continuous | Council supported the placement of 7 collection bins in MUDs with free pick up by U-turn.  |
| Clothes Swap Party                              | Feb - July 2023        | 3 events   | Run by Plastic Free Coogee, funded by RCC. Attendance of approximately 30-50 people.   |
| Slow Fashion and Textile Volunteer Group        | March - July 2023      | Weekly     | Local volunteer group that undertook a number of successful projects.  |
| National Clothes Swap Event                     | August 2023            | Once       | War on Waste initiative Run by RCC. Attendance of 80 people. Event became the seed for The Saturday Circle   |
| The Textile Mending Group – The Saturday Circle | Oct 2023 - ongoing     | Monthly    | Well attended group with expert facilitator  |
| Clothes Swap - The Saturday Circle              | October 2023 – ongoing | Bi-monthly | Delivered in 2023 as a partnership with Plastic Free Coogee and textile waste expert Nina Gbor as facilitators. Typically attracting over 100 registered attendees and over 500 items saved from landfill each swap. This is the highest registered activity for the Saturday Circle events. |

### Education regarding the environment and social impacts of fast fashion

Council have supported multiple education initiatives to increase the communities understanding of the environmental and social impacts of fashion including:

- Expert presentation from Nina Gbor on fast fashion, modern slavery, textile waste, pollution, and plastics at the 2023 Eco Living Fair.
- Resource Recovery staff presenting *Circular Economy and You* at both the Eco Living Fair and at St Basils addressing all aspects of circular economy inclusive of fashion and textiles initiatives.
- Clothes Swap Facilitators delivering education sessions addressing fast fashion, textile waste, environmental data, modern slavery data, micro plastics data etc. at all RCC Clothes Swaps from Aug 2023.
- Environmental data for each Clothes Swap and the number of clothes/ items that were saved going to landfill is communicated back to attendees after each swap.
- Randwick City Libraries manager has engaged the Saturday Circle Textile Mending Group Facilitator to run mending and waste avoidance education programming at Randwick City libraries.

### Further proposed initiatives to reduce fashion and textile waste in Randwick LGA

In addition to continuing to deliver current programs, opportunities, engagement and education across the remit of textile waste avoidance staff are investigation the following:

- Continuing the Saturday Circle – repair and share program across the 2024-2025 financial year.
- Delivering textile mending workshops with an expert facilitator at Randwick City libraries. This is proposed for delivery in 2024.
- Fast fashion and textile waste education, including opportunities for schools.
- Expanding textile drop off/collection opportunities.

### Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan: |   |
|--|---|
| Strategy   | Environment   |
| Outcome  | A city that protects and conserves our limited natural resources  |
| Objective  | Increase residential recycling to 70% across Randwick City and divert 75% waste from landfill by 2025, from a 2017 baseline   |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Reduce waste generation per capita across the LGA by 10% by 2030, from a 2017 baseline, through tailored education campaigns including but not limited to tours of our Randwick Recycling Centre, partnerships with other organisations, e.g. Compost Revolution, the Bower, Recycle SMART, and new programs targeting specific waste streams e.g. single-use plastics. |
| Objective  | Reduce the consumption of energy and water across Randwick City per capita by 30% by 2030, from a 2017 baseline   |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Implement the principles of a circular economy and the UN Sustainable Development Goals into Council strategies and operational plans by 2025.  |
| Strategy   | Arts and Culture  |
| Outcome  | A city where everyone can develop, express and enjoy creativity throughout their life   |
| Objective  | Increase attendance at Council's arts and cultural programmes, events and venues by 10% by 2031, from a 2018-19 baseline  |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Increase by 20% the number of small (< 600 people) community cultural events by 2025.   |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Ensure inclusivity is included in the planning and design of all cultural events and activities run by Council by 2031.   |

**Delivering services and regulatory functions:**

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Service area                | Community Development  |
| Function                    | Community capacity building  |
| Delivery program commitment | Promote and strengthen the capacity of community through developing skills, abilities and resources to assist communities to be resilient, adaptive and thrive within their environment. |
| Function                    | Community support  |
| Delivery program commitment | Provide activities and services that support community wellbeing, consistently enable care and promote community connections.  |
| Service area                | Economic Development and Placemaking   |
| Function                    | Place Making   |
| Delivery program commitment | Activate spaces to create an experience where people feel connected and/or inspired  |
| Service area                | Environmental Sustainability   |
| Function                    | Environmental Sustainability   |
| Delivery program commitment | Develop and deliver Council and community programs, projects and initiatives to achieve environmental and sustainability outcomes  |

**Resourcing Strategy implications**

Funding the continued delivery of the current projects is allocated within the 2024/25 budget:

- Randwick Recycling Centre - textile recycling: \$0 (free pickup)
- RecycleSmart – household collections: \$84,000 per year (a percentage of this annual fee supports textile pickups)

The cost to continue the textile component of the Saturday Circle throughout 2024/35 would be approximately \$20,000 (excluding room hire). Potential costs for the further proposed additional initiatives will be considered during the current investigations.

**Policy and legislative requirements**

NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 - Stage 1: 2021-2027  
NSW Circular Economy Policy Statement – Too Good to Waste 2019.

**Conclusion**

Council staff have been delivering a variety of successful solutions addressing the issues raised in the Council Resolution to support the community to reduce textile waste and undertake education on the environmental and social impact of fast fashion and sending textiles to landfill. These initiatives have received positive community feedback, been well attended and address this very pertinent issue. It is proposed to continue delivering the current programs, as well as investigate further opportunities to support the community to reduce fashion and textile waste by refusing, reusing, repairing, educating, and providing to-scale solutions to circular textile recycling across the LGA.

**Responsible officer:** Aanya Roennfeldt-Bongers, Waste and Resource Recovery Project Officer

**File Reference:** F2023/00744

## Director City Planning Report No. CP21/24

**Subject: Statutory review of the Crown Land Management Act 2016**

### Executive Summary

- The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) recently placed on public exhibition a discussion paper covering the statutory review of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 (CLM Act) (see [Statutory Review of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 - nsw.gov.au](https://www.nsw.gov.au/statutory-review-of-the-crown-land-management-act-2016)).
- Under section 13.6 of the CLM Act, the Minister responsible for administering the CLM Act (currently the Minister for Lands and Property) is required to begin a review of the Act as soon as possible after 1 July 2023.
- The review is to determine:
  - whether the policy objectives of the CLM Act remain valid
  - whether the terms of the CLM Act remain appropriate for securing those objectives.
- The discussion paper seeks community feedback on the issues and key reform priorities and goals outlined in the discussion paper including the following:
  - Modernising the objects of, and principles underlying, the CLM Act, and how should they be updated.
  - Improvements to the strategic use of Crown land to meet important NSW Government priorities, such as through different tenure and partnership arrangements.
  - Necessary changes to the CLM Act to make it easier to submit an application for certain development of dedicated or reserved Crown land.
  - The best way to notify people about events, activities or changes that may have an impact on Crown land in their local area to ensure notification methods are contemporary.
  - The clarity of the current Crown land manager structure and the powers and obligations of land managers under the CLM Act and the need to expand or introduce new land manager categories or clarify the scope of the existing categories
- Council's submission raises a number of issues, namely, the need to modernise the objectives of the CLM Act by making environmental sustainability an overarching objective; to include exempt and complying provisions from the Codes SEPP, and Transport and Infrastructure SEPP; to have shorter exhibition periods for low impact plans and strategies on Crown land; to require non-Council private lessees of Crown Land to prepare Plans of Management for land under their tenure; and to consider the potential existence of Aboriginal Place listings and Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits over Crown Land.
- This report provides an assessment of the discussion paper and seeks Council's endorsement of the attached draft submission to the Department on the review.

### Recommendation

That Council endorse the attached draft submission prepared in response to the Statutory review of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 for submission to Crown Lands as a final submission.

### Attachment/s:

1.  Draft RCC Submission to the Crown Land Management Act Review

## Purpose

This report provides an overview and assessment of the discussion paper document on the Statutory review of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 and seeks Council's endorsement of the attached draft submission to the review.

## Discussion

The majority of the comments provided in this submission are based on Council's understanding and experience as a Crown Land Manager, and concerns raised by the community and other non-council Crown Land Managers. With this perspective, it is suggested that a greater focus of the CLM Act review should be on enforcement and compliance of the existing provisions of the Act and the introduction of mandatory management provisions and mechanisms to ensure appropriate actions are being undertaken where and when required.

### Q1. Objectives of the CLM Act

The review seeks feedback on opportunities to modernise the objects of the CLM Act. It is noted that the current object (c) of the Act explicitly recognises the need to integrate environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations in decision-making. However, focusing on all four of these dimensions simultaneously can be complex and may lead to trade-offs. To modernise this object of the Act, the role of environmental sustainability should be brought to the fore in the management of Crown land.

This focus is also important when considering climate change as the major challenge in land management as it relates to environmental stewardship, social equity and economic viability over a long-term horizon. Addressing these challenges effectively requires a holistic approach that has sustainability as the basis for informing and guiding environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations.

Recommendation: it is recommended that object (c) of the Act be reworded or supplemented to focus on sustainability as a leading consideration that steers and guides the existing environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic dimensions of the object to secure reliable and resilient land management.

### Q6. Development Applications

With respect to seeking Minister's consent for development applications, Council currently finds the requirements of Section 2.23 of the CLM Act for Minister's consent for development application to be particularly onerous.

Section 2.23 of the CLM Act permits Crown Land Managers or the holder of a lease or licence over land managed by Crown Land Managers to make a development application for repair and maintenance and restoration so long as it does not involve:

- 2(i) alter the footprint of the building by adding or removing more than one square metre.*
- 2(iii) involve excavation of the land*

Most works undertaken by Council that are minor in nature often require urgent action for emergency repairs, improved safety, and community accessibility. These works are often requested after an incident or community request. These works may also be as simple as plans to improve access to a building such as installing a ramp for disabled access or more involved plans for carrying out excavations for improved drainage works.

Accordingly, in managing crown land as reserve manager, Council has found that the current caveats contained in Section 2.23, sub-section (2) (a) (i) (iii), as listed above, particularly restrictive especially when repair, maintenance and restoration works involve some minor additions to building footprint and/or excavation of land.

In comparison, under the Exempt and Complying Development Codes State Environmental Planning Policy SEPP 2008, excavations (cut or fill) less than or equal to below or above ground level are allowed as exempt development noting that provisions for unexpected archaeological finds during these works remain applicable.

**Recommendation:** that excavation should be allowed for repair, maintenance, restoration or renovation works in any future amendment to the CLM Act consistent with the definition of excavation as exempt development under the Code SEPP.

Similarly, the majority of works for public authorities on public land would otherwise be exempt development under the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP 2021. These exempt development provisions should be incorporated into any future amendments to the CLM Act arising from this review.

In late 2023, Council provided a submission on the recently exhibited [Proposed Exempt And Complying Development Framework For Cemeteries](#), by the Department of Planning and Environment (now DPHI). This proposed exempt and complying development framework for cemeteries is expected to create tailored, fast-track approval pathways for minor ancillary works within existing cemeteries. It would have, among other things, provisions to facilitate general maintenance, the upgrade of amenities and the replacement of damaged or deteriorated fabric.

In particular, the proposed cemetery framework provides clear definitions and standards on what constitutes minor ancillary works via exempt development. These includes minor building alterations and additions through to earthworks and landscaping. Provisions such as these would make it easier for crown land managers to carry out minor works to support ongoing maintenance and operations in accordance with current development standards and community accessibility needs.

**Recommendation:** that the relevant provisions in the proposed exempt and complying development framework for cemeteries; Codes SEPP and Transport and Infrastructure SEPP be assessed and incorporated in the current review of section 2.23 of the CLM Act, especially where this applies to Councils as crown land manager.

#### **Q7. Community Notification of changes/activities on Crown land.**

Council notes similarities between community engagement requirements under the Crown Land Management Act and requirements contained in Council's Community Engagement Strategy. Council accepts that notifications in print media such as newspapers are largely now superseded following the suspension of print editions of most local community newspapers three years ago and the rise of social media platforms and other more direct engagement strategies. Crown Lands, as the department responsible for the management of land held by the NSW Government on behalf of the public, should select appropriate ways to ensure that decisions about Crown land are made in an open and transparent way and that communities affected by Crown Land proposals are adequately contacted.

**Recommendation:** that Crown Lands utilise methods such as social media, Precincts Committees, exhibition at local Libraries, onsite signage and fliers to achieve a multi-pronged community notification approach.

In addition, there may also be opportunities for Council to assist Crown lands to help inform the community about crown land events and changes via Council's numerous communication methods.

#### **Q12. Plans of Management**

While Council is supportive of Plan of Managements (PoMs) for managing complex sites, the timeframes and resources involved in developing a PoM are significantly onerous for Councils. In most cases the development of a PoM requires external technical input and expertise as Council does not have adequate in-house resources and expertise to undertake the process. Additionally, the turnaround time for the Department's review and Minister's consent contributes to the extended PoM time frame especially where council can expect to consult with the Department at least three times over the course of a PoM's preparation.

The community engagement requirements of the CLM Act (effected by Section 5.5 of the CLM Act, and specified within the [Crown Lands Community Engagement Strategy](#)), currently stipulate a 42-day exhibition period. This 42 day exhibition is well in excess of Council's standard exhibition requirements for plans and strategies which are 28 days as outlined in [Council's Community](#)



[Engagement Strategy](#) (CES). The Crown Land's community engagement strategy adds to the lengthy timeframes of the PoM approval process. This is especially onerous for Council when exhibitions relate to minor amendments to PoMs that have minimal impact on the local community. Minor amendments to PoMs are becoming common activities for Council.

Council notes that in the Crown Lands Community Engagement Strategy that the 42 days also applies to State-level strategic plans that have more significant high level, state-wide impacts than, for example, a local Council PoM for a park. In this context, it would be reasonable to reduce the proposed 42-day exhibition period proposed under the current review of the CLM Act for smaller local impact projects such as park PoMs.

Recommendation: that the exhibition period for plans and strategies for smaller local impact projects be reduced to 28 days.

### **Q13. Management of leased Crown Land**

Council notes that under Section 3.33 of the existing CLM Act, the Minister may direct an applicable Crown land manager to prepare a draft plan of management for dedicated or reserved Crown land under the manager's care and control. Alternatively, PoMs can be prepared by an applicable Crown land manager on the manager's own initiative but with the consent of the Minister. Notwithstanding these provisions of Section 3.33, it should be noted that 25 percent (161.85ha) of the Randwick LGA is currently under non-Council crown land management yet Council is not aware of any PoM having been prepared for these non-Council sites (despite receiving indications from crown land managers of these sites that PoMs are being developed).

Council regularly receives contact from residents about activities occurring on non-Council Crown land but because Council does not have any jurisdiction over these lands Council can only pass on this information to the Crown lands office. Similarly, leased non-Council Crown Land in the Randwick LGA often contains sensitive environments, many with listed vegetation species or communities, heritage conservation areas and sensitive coastal areas.

Recommendation: that lessees of private/non-Council Crown land be required under the CLM Act to prepare PoMs through the services of appropriately qualified and experienced consultants. These PoMs should be prepared to the satisfaction of the Crown and consideration should be given to introducing a streamlined template to assist this process. Councils in which these sites are located should be provided with a copy of the PoM once approved.

The triggers for non-council crown land managers to prepare PoMs could include one or more of the following sensitive land criteria:

- Location in the coastal zone as defined under the section 5 of the Coastal Management Act
- Existence of threatened species of vegetation communities under the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act
- Existence of state or local heritage items or conservation areas under Council Local Environment Plans of the NSW Heritage act
- Located in areas containing Aboriginal objects or places under NPWS Act
- Located in sites containing identified contaminated land.

The preparation and provision of PoMs by private lessees and managers of non-Council Crown lands would support these Crown land lessees and managers to meet legislative requirements and respond strategically, consistently, and effectively to complex and site-specific conditions and requirements. Such plans of management could also outline and provide considerations and provisions for public access.

Council notes that the [Coastal Crown Land \(CCL\) Guidelines](#) were released in October last year which were developed to assist coastal Crown Land managers in the preparation of plans of management under the Crown Land Management Act. While council is supportive of the guidelines, Council is unsure as to how non-Council Crown Land Managers will implement these guidelines without a site-specific plan of management in place.

The need for PoMs on non-Council Crown lands is especially important where issues may arise on the interface between Council managed and non-Council managed Crown land. An example of a recent interface issue arose in Randwick LGA where landfill material from a private Crown land leased area was deposited on Council land during storm events, therefore becoming the responsibility of Council to clean up. In this example, an updated CLM Act can include provisions on how to manage the interface areas between Crown and Council land. Additionally, a PoM for non-Council Crown land can assist in regulating non-ancillary activities that might be proposed that would potentially impact on Council managed Crown land.

#### **Q21. Council land Managers seeking written advice from native title Manager**

Under Section 8.6 (1) Council must engage or employ Native Title Managers (NT Managers) and obtain the written advice from the appointed NT Managers that Council complies with NT legislation when undertaking certain listed activities (see section 8.7). Council is also required to pay compensation or indemnify the State against compensation liabilities for any acts undertaken by Council that affect native title (see Section 8, 12 & 13 of the CLM Act).

Randwick Council has good relations with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) including promoting Aboriginal cultural heritage, respect for elders and community members, commitment to positive outcomes for Traditional Owners, advancing self-determination, and providing professional and accountable service. This close relationship with the LALC has led to more inclusive, respectful, and successful outcomes, particularly, when undertaking native title managers' reporting on activities and tenures that impact upon native title rights on Crown Land under the CLM Act.

Council also diligently notifies the NTSCorp Limited (that is, the Native Title Service Provider for Aboriginal Traditional Owners in New South Wales), of all "Future Acts" activities that might affect native title on Crown Land to ensure that all statutory procedures are met. In view of these considerations, it is pertinent that Council retains its accredited Native Title Managers given Council's local knowledge in reporting on activities that might affect native title rights on Crown Land in the Randwick local government area.

#### **Q23. Aboriginal heritage values recognised in the management of Crown Land**

Recognition of Aboriginal Place and requirements for Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits (AHIPs) for any works to a site that may desecrate an Aboriginal place or object are governed under the National Parks and Wildlife Service Act (NPWS Act).

Under this legislation section 86(4) prohibits a person from harming or desecrating an Aboriginal Place. Desecrate can be defined as to deface, damage, pollute, destroy or to otherwise mistreat in a manner to cause outrage. While these prohibitions do not cover maintenance works, capital works improvements may fall under this category and require an AHIP. If a permit has not been sought and works are determined to be intentional, penalties can extend to two years jail for an individual and executive liability for a corporation.

Recommendation: The review should consider how non-Council Crown land managers are made aware of the existence of Aboriginal Places on the lands under their care and control, and what processes they have in place to address the requirements arising from the Aboriginal Place listing and AHIPs.

#### **Q24. Compliance and Enforcement**

Council regularly receives submissions and questions from residents regarding activities on leased crown land. This includes concerns relating to protected vegetation, excavation and land works. Council understands that authorised officers under the CLM Act undertake enforcement and compliance on Crown lands. However, the recommendation in the discussion paper for police to be involved in compliance should have regard to the following considerations:

- Police officers may lack specialised knowledge in environmental matters or understanding of the environmental issues at hand. Identifying illegal activities related to vegetation or landfill requires expertise beyond general law enforcement training.
- Environmental regulations can be nuanced and intricate. Police officers may struggle to interpret and enforce environmental laws related to vegetation, land use, and waste management.

- Whether police officers have the requisite training and resources to apply a more collaborative, educational and community engagement approach to address environmental violations beyond merely law enforcement.

#### **Q26. CLM Act interactions with other legislation.**

Managing a Crown land site requires a good understanding of not only the CLM Act but also a wide range of applicable related legislation. These include, most notably, the Heritage Act covering heritage significance and listings; National Parks and Wildlife Act covering Aboriginal items and places; the Coastal management Act covering coastal management zones; and the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act and Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act covering listed threatened vegetation species and communities. The review also considers how the CLM Act interacts with other legislation and whether there are areas for reform that could improve the management of Crown lands.

Council officers have a good knowledge of these regulatory instruments given the public nature of their role at the local level and community engagement functions. Council officers are also highly familiar with the plan of management process and how this process incorporates land use restrictions that arise from other legislation as they apply to Crown land sites.

In this context, Crown Lands should explore the possibility of assisting non-council land managers to increase their awareness and understanding of the provisions of all of these other legal instruments in managing non-Council Crown land. In particular, non-council land managers would be able to consider how the requirements of the CLM Act and other legislation interact to better ensure that the purposes for which land is dedicated or reserved are considered as part of a plan of management.

#### **Strategic alignment**

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| <b>Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan:</b> |   |
|---|---|
| Strategy  | Open Space and Recreation   |
| Outcome   | A city with open space that grows and changes with the community  |
| Objective   | Every home in Randwick City will have open space of 1000m <sup>2</sup> within 800m by 2031  |
| Delivery program commitment                                     | Review Council owned land and road reserves to identify opportunities for new parks and open space, prioritising areas that have undersupply or limited walking access to open space. |
| Delivery program commitment                                     | Explore partnership opportunities to achieve additional open space and recreation areas to meet community demand.   |
| Delivery program commitment                                     | Planning Proposals and major redevelopment sites should address the proximity to existing open space and capacity.  |
| Outcome   | A community that is healthy and active  |
| Objective   | Maintain a community satisfaction* rating for coastal open spaces, coastal walkway, playgrounds and parks of 97%  |
| Delivery program commitment                                     | Actively engage and collaborate with neighbouring councils, State Government and major local land holders to deliver regional open space Green Grid connections.                      |

#### **Resourcing Strategy implications**

The costs associated with reviewing the CLM Act review Discussion Paper and preparing the submission was completed inhouse by Strategic Planning Officers along with input from the City Services and Corporate Services teams.

## Policy and legislative requirements

Crown Land Management Act 2016  
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979  
Randwick Local Strategic Planning Statement.

## Conclusion

The discussion paper was on public exhibition until 28 March 2024. Council officers have prepared an interim submission in response to the review matters, with a copy of this being provided to DPHI to ensure the return of a response within the prescribed public exhibition period. The attached interim submission is provided for endorsement by Council for submission to DPHI as a final.

---

**Responsible officer:** David Ongkili, Coordinator Strategic Planning

**File Reference:** F2005/00756



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26 March 2024

Ref No: F2005/00756

Dear NSW Crown Lands team,

### RE: Statutory review of the Crown Land Management Act 2016

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the statutory review of Crown Land Management Act 2016 (CLM Act). Council has reviewed the discussion paper and provides the following comments addressing the relevant consultation questions contained in the review brief.

The majority of the comments provided in this submission are based on Council's understanding and experience as a Crown Land Manager and on concerns raised by the community and other non-council Crown Land Managers. Given this perspective, it is suggested that a greater focus of the CLM Act review should be on enforcement and compliance of the existing provisions of the Act and the introduction of mandatory management provisions and mechanisms to ensure appropriate actions are being undertaken where and when required.

#### Q1. Objectives of the CLM Act

The review seeks feedback on opportunities to modernise the objects of the CLM Act. It is noted that the current object (c) of the Act explicitly recognises the need to integrate environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations in decision-making. However, focusing on all four of these dimensions simultaneously can be complex and may lead to trade-offs. To modernise this object of the Act, the role of sustainability should be brought to the fore in the management of Crown land.

This focus is also important when considering climate change as the major challenge in land management as it relates to environmental stewardship, social equity and economic viability over a long-term horizon. Addressing these challenges effectively requires a holistic approach that has sustainability as the basis for informing and guiding environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations.

Recommendation: that object (c) be reworded to focus on sustainability as a leading consideration that steers and guides the existing environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic dimensions of the object to secure reliable and resilient land management.

## Q6. Development Applications

With respect to seeking Minister's consent for development applications, Council currently finds the requirements of Section 2.23 of the CLM Act for Minister's consent for development application to be particularly onerous.

Section 2.23 of the CLM Act permits Crown Land Managers or the holder of a lease or licence over land managed by Crown Land Managers to make a development application for repair and maintenance and restoration so long as it does not involve:

*2(i) alter the footprint of the building by adding or removing more than one square metre.*

*2 (iii) involve excavation of the land*

Most works undertaken by Council that are minor in nature often require urgent action for emergency repairs, improved safety, and community accessibility. These works are often requested after an incident or community request. These works may also be as simple as plans to improve access to a building such as installing a ramp for disabled access or more involved plans for carrying out excavations for improved drainage works.

Accordingly, in managing crown land as reserve manager, Council has found that the current caveats contained in Section 2.23, sub-section (2) (a) (i) (iii), as listed above, particularly restrictive especially when repair, maintenance and restoration works involve some minor additions to building footprint and excavation of land.

In comparison, under the Exempt and Complying Development Codes State Environmental Planning Policy SEPP 2008, excavations (cut or fill) less than or equal to 600mm below or above ground level are allowed as exempt development.

Recommendation: that excavation should be allowed for repair, maintenance, restoration or renovation works in any future amendment to the CLM Act consistent with the definition of excavation as exempt development under the Code SEPP.

Similarly, the majority of works for public authorities on public land would otherwise be exempt development under the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP 2021. These exempt development provisions should be incorporated into any future amendments to CLM Act arising from this review.

In late 2023, Council provided a submission on recently exhibited [Proposed Exempt And Complying Development Framework For Cemeteries](#), exhibited by Department of Planning and Environment (now DPHI). This proposed exempt and complying development framework for cemeteries is expected to create tailored, fast-track approval pathways for minor ancillary works within existing cemeteries. It would have, among other things, provisions to facilitate general maintenance, the upgrade of amenities and the replacement of damaged or deteriorated fabric.

In particular, the proposed cemetery framework provides clear definitions and standards on what constitutes minor ancillary works via exempt development. These include minor building alterations and additions though to earthworks and landscaping. Provisions such as these would make it easier for crown land managers to carry out minor works to support ongoing maintenance and operations in accordance with current development standards and community accessibility needs.

Recommendation: that the relevant provisions in the proposed exempt and complying development framework for cemeteries; Codes SEPP and Transport and Infrastructure SEPP be assessed and incorporated in the current review of section 2.23 of the CLM Act, especially where this applies to Councils as crown land managers.



**Q7. Community Notification of changes/activities on Crown land.**

Council notes similarities between community engagement requirements under the Crown Land Management Act and requirements contained in Council's Community Engagement Strategy. Council accepts that notifications in print media such as newspapers are largely now superseded following the suspension of print editions of most local community newspapers three years ago and the rise of social media platforms and other more direct engagement strategies. Crown Lands, as the department responsible for the management of land held by the NSW Government on behalf of the public, should select appropriate ways to ensure that decisions about Crown land are made in an open and transparent way and that communities affected by Crown Land proposals are adequately contacted.

Recommendation: that Crown Lands utilise methods such as social media, Precincts Committees, exhibition at local Libraries, onsite signage and fliers to achieve a multi-pronged community notification approach.

In addition, there may also be opportunities for Council to assist Crown lands to help inform the community about crown land events and changes via Council's numerous communication methods.

**Q12. Plans of Management**

While Council is supportive of Plan of Managements (PoMs) for managing complex sites, the timeframes and resources involved in developing a PoM are significantly onerous for Councils. In most cases the development of a PoM requires external technical input and expertise as Council does not have adequate in-house resources and expertise to undertake the process. Additionally, the turnaround time for Department's review and Ministers consent contributes to the extended PoM time frame especially where council can expect to consult with the Department at least three times over the course of a PoM's preparation.

The community engagement requirements of the CLM Act as effected by Section 5.5 of the CLM Act, and specified within the [Crown Lands Community Engagement Strategy](#), currently stipulate a 42-day exhibition period. This 42 day exhibition is well in excess of Council's standard exhibition requirements for plans and strategies which are 28 days as outlined in [Council's Community Engagement Strategy](#) (CES). The Crown Land's community engagement strategy substantially extends Council's standard exhibition period which adds to the lengthy timeframes of the PoM approval process. This is especially onerous for Council when exhibitions relate to minor amendments to PoMs that have minimal impact on the local community. Minor amendments to PoMs are becoming common activities for Council.

Council notes that in the Crown Lands Community Engagement Strategy that the 42 days also applies to State-level strategic plans that have more significant high level, state-wide impacts than, for example, a local Council PoM for a park. In this context, it would be reasonable to reduce the proposed 42 day exhibition period proposed under the current review of the CLM Act for smaller local impact projects such as park PoMs.

Recommendation: that the exhibition period for plans and strategies for smaller local impact projects be reduced to 28 days.

**Q13. Management of leased Crown Land**

Council notes that under Section 3.33 of the existing CLM Act, the Minister may direct an applicable Crown land manager to prepare a draft plan of management for dedicated or reserved Crown land under the manager's care and control. Alternatively, PoMs can be prepared by an applicable Crown land manager on the manager's own initiative but with the consent of the

Minister. Notwithstanding these provisions of Section 3.33, it should be noted that 25 percent (161.85ha) of the Randwick LGA is currently under non-Council crown land management yet Council is not aware of any PoM having been prepared for these non-Council sites (despite receiving indications from crown land managers of these sites that PoMs are being developed).

Council regularly receives contact from residents about activities occurring on non-Council Crown land but because Council does not have any jurisdiction over these lands Council can only pass on this information to the Crown lands office. Similarly, leased non-Council Crown Land in the Randwick LGA often contains sensitive environments, many with listed vegetation species or communities, heritage conservation areas and sensitive coastal areas.

Recommendation: that lessees of private/non-Council Crown land be required under the CLM Act to prepare PoMs through the services of appropriately qualified and experienced consultants. These PoMs should be prepared to the satisfaction of the Crown and consideration should be given to introducing a streamlined template to assist this process. Councils in which these sites are located should be provided with a copy of the PoM once approved.

The triggers for non-council crown land managers to prepare PoMs could include one or more of the following sensitive land criteria:

- Location in the coastal zone as defined under the section 5 of the Coastal Management Act
- Existence of threatened species of vegetation communities under the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act
- Existence of state or local heritage items or conservation areas under Council Local environment Plans of the NSW Heritage act
- Located in areas containing Aboriginal objects or places under NPWS Act
- Located in sites containing identified contaminated land.

The preparation and provision of PoMs by private lessees and managers of non-Council Crown lands would support these Crown land lessees and managers to meet legislative requirements and respond strategically, consistently, and effectively to complex and site-specific conditions and requirements. Such plans of management could also outline and provide considerations and provisions for public access.

Council notes that the [Coastal Crown Land \(CCL\) Guidelines](#) were released in October last year which were developed to assist coastal Crown Land managers in the preparation of plans of management under the Crown Land Management Act. While council is supportive of the guidelines, Council is unsure as to how non-Council Crown Land Managers will implement these guidelines without a site-specific plan of management in place.

The need for PoMs on non-Council Crown lands is especially important where issues may arise on the interface between Council managed and non-Council managed Crown land. An example of a recent interface issue arose in Randwick LGA where landfill material from a private Crown land leased area was deposited on Council land during storm events, therefore becoming the responsibility of Council to clean up. In this example, an updated CLM Act can include provisions on how to manage the interface areas between Crown and Council land. Additionally, a PoM for non-Council Crown land can assist in regulating non-ancillary activities that might be proposed that would potentially impact on Council managed Crown land.

#### **Q21. Council land Managers seeking written advice from native title Manager**

Under Section 8.6 (1) Council must engage or employ Native Title Managers (NT Managers) and obtain the written advice from the appointed NT Managers that Council complies with NT legislation when undertaking certain listed activities (see section 8.7). Council is also required to

pay compensation or indemnify the State against compensation liabilities for acts undertaken by Council that affect native title (see Section 8, 12 & 13).

Randwick Council has good relations with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) including promoting Aboriginal cultural heritage, respect for elders and community members, commitment to positive outcomes for Traditional Owners, advancing self-determination, and providing professional and accountable service. This close relationship with the LALC has led to more inclusive, respectful, and successful outcomes, particularly, when undertaking native title managers' reporting on activities and tenures that impact upon native title rights on Crown Land under the CLM Act.

Council also diligently notifies the NTSCorp Limited (that is, the Native Title Service Provider for Aboriginal Traditional Owners in New South Wales), of all "Future Acts" activities that might affect native title on Crown Land to ensure that all statutory procedures are met. In view of these considerations, it is pertinent that Council retains its accredited Native Title Managers given Council's local knowledge in reporting on activities that might affect native title rights on Crown Land in the Randwick local government area.

### **Q23. Aboriginal heritage values recognised in the management of Crown Land**

Recognition of Aboriginal Place and requirements for Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits (AHIPs) for any works to a site that may desecrate an Aboriginal place or object are governed under the National Parks and Wildlife Service Act (NPWS Act).

Under this legislation section 86(4) prohibits a person from harming or desecrating an Aboriginal Place. Desecrate can be defined as to deface, damage, pollute, destroy or to otherwise mistreat in a manner to cause outrage. While these prohibitions do not cover maintenance works, capital works improvements may fall under this category and require an AHIP. If a permit has not been sought and works are determined to be intentional, penalties can extend to two years jail for an individual and executive liability for a corporation.

Recommendation: The review should consider how non-Council Crown land managers are made aware of the existence of Aboriginal Places on the lands under their care and control, and what processes they have in place to address the requirements arising from the Aboriginal Place listing and AHIPs.

### **Q24. Compliance and Enforcement**

Council regularly receives submissions and questions from residents regarding activities on leased crown land. This includes concerns relating to protected vegetation, excavation and land works. Council understands that authorised officers under the CLM Act undertake enforcement and compliance on Crown lands. However, the recommendation in the discussion paper for police to be involved in compliance raises the following considerations:

- Police officers may lack specialised knowledge in environmental matters or understanding of the environmental issues at hand. Identifying illegal activities related to vegetation or landfill requires expertise beyond general law enforcement training.
- Environmental regulations can be nuanced and intricate. Police officers may struggle to interpret and enforce environmental laws related to vegetation, land use, and waste management.
- Whether police officers have the requisite training and resources to apply a more collaborative, educational and community engagement approach to address environmental violations beyond merely law enforcement.

**Q26. CLM Act interactions with other legislation.**

Managing a Crown land site requires a good understanding of not only the CLM Act but also a wide range of applicable related legislation. These include, most notably, the Heritage Act covering heritage significance and listings; National Parks and Wildlife Act covering Aboriginal items and places; the Coastal management Act covering coastal management zones; and the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act and Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act covering listed threatened vegetation species and communities. The review also considers how the CLM Act interacts with other legislation and whether there are areas for reform that could improve the management of Crown lands.

Council officers have a good knowledge of these regulatory instruments given the public nature of their role at the local level and community engagement functions. Council officers are also highly familiar with the plan of management process and how this process incorporates land use restrictions that arise from other legislation as they apply to Crown land sites.

In this context, Crown Lands should explore the possibility of assisting non-council land managers to increase their awareness and understanding of the provisions of all of these other legal instruments in managing non-Council Crown land. In particular, non-council land managers would be able to consider how the requirements of the CLM Act and other legislation interact to better ensure that the purposes for which land is dedicated or reserved are considered as part of a plan of management.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the review of the Crown Land Management Act.

Should you require any further information regarding this submission please contact David Ongkili Coordinator Strategic Planning on 9093 0793 or [david.ongkili@randwick.nsw.gov.au](mailto:david.ongkili@randwick.nsw.gov.au)

Yours sincerely,

"Double-click to insert signature image"

**Kerry Kyriacou**  
Director City Planning

## Director City Planning Report No. CP22/24

**Subject: Westfield Eastgardens Planning Proposal**

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### Executive Summary

- A Planning Proposal for the Westfield site at Eastgardens (152 Bunnerong Road, Eastgardens) has been recently placed on public exhibition by Bayside Council.
- The Planning Proposal seeks to facilitate the redevelopment of the existing Westfield Eastgardens Shopping Centre site to enable the expansion of retail, food, entertainment and leisure uses to the site, including a new public plaza fronting Bunnerong Road, Eastgardens, with upgrades to the bus interchange.
- The changes will facilitate three commercial buildings including modifications to an existing 4 storey commercial building, a new 9-10 storey commercial tower above podium level and a new 8-10 storey commercial tower at the south-eastern corner of the site.
- A submission has been prepared by Council officers for endorsement and formal submission to Bayside Council. The submission objects to the excessive increase in retail and commercial floorspace on the Eastgardens site without adequate justification via a quantitative market needs assessment nor a sustainability impact assessment. There has also not been an assessment of the economic impact on the Maroubra Junction Town Centre and its role within the hierarchy of centres.
- The submission requests that the Planning Proposal be placed on hold to allow Randwick City Council to partner with Bayside Council to produce a Planning Strategy to guide and control future development of the combined Strategic Centre in a holistic manner. A collaborative process for preparation of a strategic review of the Eastgardens/Maroubra Junction Strategic Centre is one of the actions in both the Randwick City and Bayside Council Local Strategic Planning Statements.

### Recommendation

That Council endorse the attached submission prepared in response to the exhibition of the Planning Proposal for Westfield Eastgardens, for submission to Bayside Council.

### Attachment/s:

1.  Draft submission on Westfield Eastgardens Planning Proposal



## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement of Council's submission on the Planning Proposal that is currently on exhibition for the Westfield Eastgardens Shopping Centre (WESC) site (152 Bunnerong Road, Eastgardens) (**Attachment 1**). The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the Bayside Local Environmental Plan (BLEP) 2021 with changes including:

- An increase in the maximum building height from 25m to part 34m, part 40m, and part 59m on parts of the site,
- An increase in the maximum floor space ratio (FSR) from 1:1 to 1.8:1
- A corresponding increase of 37,500sqm (approximately) in retail gross floor area (GFA) and 27,300sqm (approximately) in commercial GFA
- Add the site to the Design Excellence Map so the Clause 6.10 Design Excellence of the BLEP 2021 applies to the site.

The Planning Proposal seeks to facilitate the redevelopment of the existing Westfield Eastgardens Shopping Centre (WESC) to enable the expansion of retail, food, entertainment and leisure uses to the site, including a new public plaza fronting Bunnerong Road, Eastgardens, with upgrades to the bus interchange.

The changes will facilitate three commercial buildings including modifications to an existing 4 storey commercial building, a new 9-10 storey commercial tower above podium level and a new 8-10 storey commercial tower at the south-eastern corner of the site. If endorsed by Council, the attached draft submission will be submitted to Bayside Council prior to the closing of the exhibition period on 3 May 2024 for consideration.

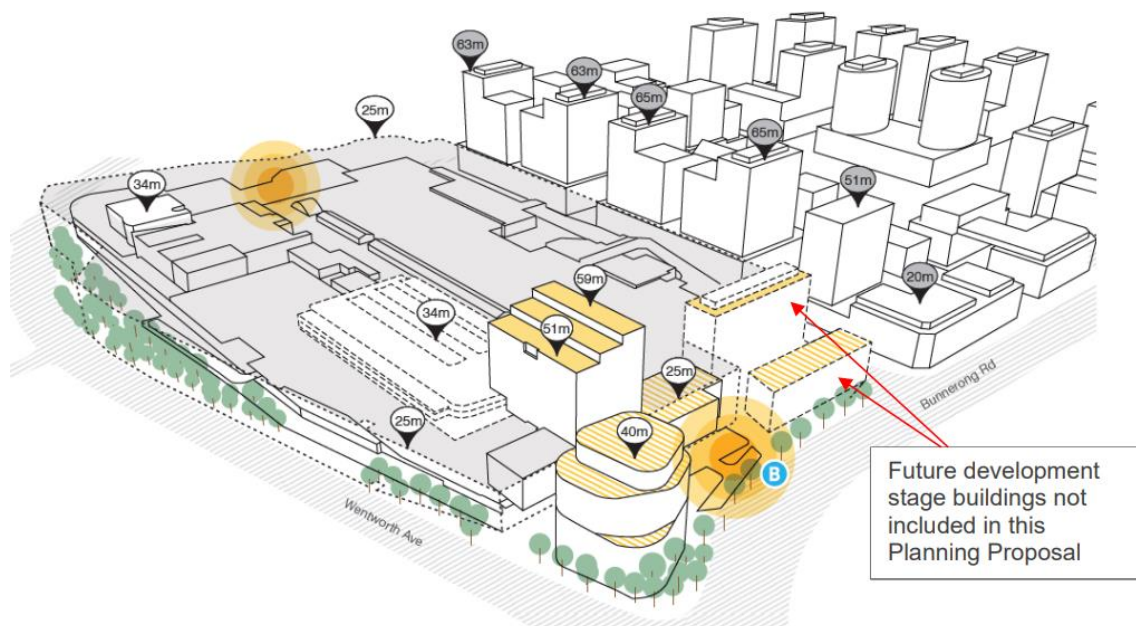


Figure 1 – Proposed masterplan showing massing and location of built form

## Background

### Eastgardens-Maroubra Junction Strategic Centre

The Eastern City District Plan (The Plan) was released in March 2018 by the Greater Sydney Commission. The Plan contains the planning priorities and actions for implementing a Metropolis of Three Cities – The Greater Sydney Region Plan at a district level and is a bridge between regional and local planning.

Under the Plan, the site is identified as being located within the Eastgardens-Maroubra Junction Strategic Centre (the Strategic Centre). Within the relevant Planning Priority (E11), the Plan states that the Strategic Centre has a large retail catchment and that opportunities to link the two centres



along a corridor of activity should be investigated. Six key actions for the planning of the Strategic Centre are identified under the Plan. These include:

1. Protect capacity for job targets and a diverse mix of uses to strengthen and reinforce the economic role of the centre
2. Extend and investigate additional economic activities to connect Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction and compliment the existing activities
3. Leverage future public transport connections in the south, east and west of the District
4. Encourage provision of affordable housing to support the nearby health and education facilities and employment lands
5. Promote placemaking initiatives to improve the quality and supply of public spaces, promote walking and cycling connections and integrate with the Green Grid, and
6. Improve public transport connections, and walking and cycling between Eastgardens-Maroubra and Randwick.

The draft submission has been structured to align with these six actions and demonstrates that the Westfield Eastgardens Planning Proposal (WEPP) has not appropriately considered these broad strategic actions.

The WEPP is the third major unsolicited ad hoc planning proposal received by Bayside Council that seeks to redevelop the Strategic Centre. Council's submission objects to the planning proposal as concentrating significant growth on the Eastgardens site creating an imbalanced economic structure for the Eastgardens/Maroubra Junction Strategic Centre. To achieve a balanced approach to growth within the Strategic Centre, the draft submission recommends that the WEPP be put on hold to allow Council to work in partnership with Bayside Council to produce a Planning Strategy to guide and control future development of the combined Strategic Centre in a holistic manner supported by evidence.

#### **Randwick Economic Development Study, SGS (2019 and 2021 update)**

The Randwick LGA Strategic Directions Paper prepared by SGS Economics and Planning in 2019 establishes a vision for the Randwick LGA by setting city wide directions and centre specific priorities. Considering the LGA Centre Structure by 2036, the Directions Paper states *Maroubra Junction functions as the Strategic Centre for the south of the LGA and Port Botany providing population servicing, retail and some commercial needs of a wide catchment.*

For Maroubra Junction the Paper highlights a role of building *on its population serving character to become the peak population serving centre for the south of the LGA and Port Botany. Complementing the high-end retail offering of its twin centre, East Gardens, Maroubra Junction will leverage its accessibility and welcoming character as a Strategic Centre.*

Specific Priorities for Maroubra Junction range from investigating business opportunities to connect the twin Strategic Centres, investigating connections to the north (to RHIP) and south through to investigating options for the expansion of the town centre along with rezoning to ensure long term capacity for non-residential uses.

The Randwick Economic Study Update 2021 builds upon the 2019 Directions Paper and re-highlights the need for public domain improvements and economic development actions to boost the amenity and vibrancy of Maroubra Junction to compete with Eastgardens. In addition, Maroubra Junction's positive built form attributes of an outdoor/high street offering are raised, which contrast with the high-density shopping centre-built form of Westfield Eastgardens.

#### **Strategic Centre Planning Review**

Council has recently commenced a review of the planning controls for the Strategic Centre with discussions recently being held with Bayside Council Strategic Planners to commence this key piece of work. The Study will investigate linking the Maroubra Junction and Eastgardens Strategic Centres along a corridor of activity, with Maroubra Road providing opportunities to achieve this.

#### **Previous Council Resolution Associated with Eastgardens**

Placing the WEPP on hold is further supported by the previously endorsed Mayoral Minute (MM4/21) from the Randwick City Ordinary Council Meeting on 23 February 2021 in relation to the adjoining site currently being developed by Meriton for over 4,000 apartments, known as

Pagewood Green. Council resolved to write to Bayside Council, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and the Minister for Transport expressing concerns about the impact of the BATA site development (located immediately to the north of the Westfield Eastgardens site) and urging a halt to the development until the infrastructure and capacity issues for the area are addressed.

The planning matters raised in the Mayoral Minute including infrastructure capacity, traffic and services are to be addressed as part of the wider Strategic Centre review which will also include the future economic function of the Strategic Centre, liveability outcomes, public domain improvements, sustainability and green infrastructure. Concerns are raised that increased density on two adjoining sites on the Randwick City boundary will create cumulative impacts on infrastructure within the Randwick LGA. Infrastructure concerns are addressed below.

### **Council's Submission**

As previously stated, Council's submission has been structured to align with the key actions as identified in the Eastern District Plan for the Strategic Centre. A summary of Council's submission is outlined below.

- *Leverage future public transport connections to the south, east and west of the District*

#### **Mass Transport**

The WEPP is reliant upon the potential future commitment to mass transport (Metro) to Maroubra Junction and/or the extension of the light rail from Kingsford to Maroubra Junction as a means to support the proposed additional retail and commercial gross floor area (GFA) and associated increase in employment density. Council's submission highlights that there is no State Government commitment for this type of transport infrastructure at this stage. Concerns are raised that without effective transport measures that traffic congestion in the road network and performance at key intersections will continue to deteriorate.

It is recommended that the proponent undertake a comprehensive review of both local and centre-wide traffic and transport impacts likely to be created by the draft Planning Proposal to ensure that vehicular movements and parking can effectively be managed. Furthermore, the draft planning proposal should address any Transport for New South Wales recommendations on local transport upgrades and long term transport commitments.

- *Protect capacity for job targets and a diverse mix of uses to strengthen and reinforce the economic role of the centre*

#### **Share of forecasted employment growth**

Eastern City District Job Targets place the 2016 estimate for the Eastgardens Maroubra Junction Strategic Centre at 6,900 jobs, a 2036 baseline target of 8,000 and a 2036 higher target of 9,000 jobs. The increase in jobs between the 2016 estimate and 2036 higher target is therefore an approximate increase in 2,100 jobs. The additional 27,500 sq.m of retail floorspace is estimated to provide an additional 1,139 ongoing jobs while the 27,300sqm of commercial floorspace is estimated to provide an additional 823 ongoing jobs<sup>1</sup>.

Combined, the WEPP seeks to realise 93% of the Eastern City District Job Target for the Strategic Centre and consequently Council raises concerns regarding Maroubra Junction diminishing capacity to achieve jobs growth, as a result of declining competition, customer base and foot traffic. An expanded Eastgardens may also have implications for Maroubra Junction's mix of land uses and its economic role and strengths as the largest commercial centre in the Randwick LGA, with a significant catchment extending across the east and south. Declining employment growth may subsequently erode overall economic vitality and character of Maroubra Junction.

#### **Imbalance of floorspace allocation within the Strategic Centre**

<sup>1</sup> Retail Economic Impact Assessment response to peer review October 2018, page 10

*Commercial*

The WEPP proposes an increase of 27,300sqm of commercial floor space within the Westfield Eastgardens site. This represents a two-and-half times increase in commercial floor space within the overall Strategic Centre which could substantially shift the spatial allocation of floorspace within the overall Strategic Centre resulting in more than 85% of office floorspace being located within the Eastgardens precinct. This is inconsistent with the Eastern City District Plan which specifies that 'balanced growth of the centre should link the two centres along a corridor of activity'. The submission raises concerns regarding the substantial increase in floor space without consideration for demand and impact on the adjoining areas such as Maroubra Junction as it pre-determines the strategic planning investigations that have commenced for Maroubra Junction.

*Retail*

The WEPP proposes an additional 27,500sqm of commercial gross floor area (including services). This represents an increase of 40% from the currently developed 70,500sqm and is an increase that is more than what is currently developed within the Maroubra Junction town centre.

The Retail Economic Impact Assessment (REIA) provided does not consider Maroubra Junction or Matraville when addressing the future retail development and economic impact of the proposed retail expansion of the WESC. Of concern, the REIA also does not consider the relationship spatially or economically between the Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction precincts that comprises the overall Strategic Centre.

The draft submission recommends that further investigation is required to address the impacts on Maroubra Junction and the broader retail network including on the feasibility to redevelop and expand Maroubra Junction. Additional qualitative and quantitative research and modelling is also required to be undertaken to understand the implications of the unbalanced delivery of commercial floor space across the Strategic Centre.

- *Extend and investigate additional economic activities to connect Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction and compliment the existing activities*

The nature of the site-specific WEPP results in a proposal that seeks an excessive increase in floorspace on one site at the WESC within the Strategic Centre. Council's draft submission points out that the WEPP does not locate floorspace in a strategic way that extends or increases connections between Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction. Concerns are raised that the WEPP will consume the majority of floorspace demand over the foreseeable future thus reducing the viability of any new floorspace that may seek to extend and connect the precincts.

Accordingly, a detailed review on the impacts of the increased floorspace has on future feasibility of commercial/retail floorspace expansions in Maroubra Junction and along Bunnerong Road is recommended.

- *Encourage provision of affordable housing to support the nearby health and education facilities and employment lands*

**Connections to Randwick Health and Innovation Precinct**

The WEPP states that as part of a *potential future planning proposal* new uses will be introduced into the site such as build to rent accommodation or student housing which is to be located on the northern Bunnerong Road frontage. The WEPP states that this does not form part of the current planning proposal, but it is illustrated on the masterplan to show how part of the site may be developed in the future. The Planning Justification Report states that *additional land use for the site in the form of student accommodation or hotel development that further diversify the site and support the growth of the Randwick Health and Education precinct.*

Council's submission notes that firstly build to rent accommodation (typically shop-top housing) or student housing (co-living) are currently prohibited uses on the E2 Commercial zone that applies to Eastgardens site via the Bayside LEP and does not align

with the long-term strategic intent of the WESC site. Secondly, further analysis is necessary to substantiate and detail the nature of a potential relationship between the WESC and the Randwick Health and Innovation Precinct (RHIP).

The draft submission recommends for the WEPP to clearly note that residential uses are currently not permissible within the E2 Commercial Centre zoning and that a further planning proposal is necessary to justify future changes to the planning controls for the site.

### **Affordable Housing**

The Planning Proposal identifies that as part of a future potential planning proposal new uses such as affordable build to rent and/or student accommodation may also be introduced to the site that is to be accommodated along the northern frontage of the site.

In response to this, the draft submission recommends that any future planning proposal contemplating residential uses must embed within the local planning framework affordable housing requirements and preparation of an affordable housing plan.

- *Promote placemaking initiatives to improve the quality and supply of public spaces, promote walking and cycling connections and integrate with the Green Grid*

### **Proposed built form and public spaces**

An increase in the maximum building height from 25 metres to part 34 metres, part 40 metres, and part 59 metres is proposed on parts of the site with most of the additional building height being provided along the Bunnerong Road frontage to the east of the site. Directly opposite the site to the east is R2 Low Density Residential zone with a 9.5m height limit that is within the Randwick City LGA. Council's submission objects to the extent of the increases to building height, bulk, GFA and FSR as it will further exacerbate the already excessive bulk and scale of the significant BATA development (adjoining the site to the north) particularly when viewed from the surrounding residential properties and local streets. Concerns are raised about the cumulative impacts of any increases in the bulk and scale of the development at the site and how this may negatively affect the character and amenity of the surrounding area.

To assist in reducing the bulk and scale of the proposed development and the associated impacts on the adjoining R2 Low Density Residential zone located within Randwick City the draft submission recommends:

- reducing the height of the buildings that front Bunnerong Road in line with what has been approved along the Bunnerong Road frontage of the BATA site. This would result in 6 storey buildings that would front Bunnerong Road, with the upper level further setback from the street frontage.
- Retaining and enhancing existing vegetation on the Bunnerong Road frontage.
- Relocating the 40m commercial tower in the south-east corner of the site fronting Bunnerong Road and Wentworth Avenue to the center of the site.

### **Connections within Eastgardens Site**

The draft submission highlights that the pedestrian linkages between the WESC and the BATA site to the north are poor.

It is recommended that high-level precinct planning, such as that being undertaken via this PP, should resolve pedestrian safety and amenity issues through the introduction of active frontage requirements and site planning that provides built form that is inherently safe at all times, for all people. In addition, It would be beneficial for Bayside Council to facilitate discussions between owners of the WESC and the BATA sites to improve interface conditions between the landholdings.

The draft submission recommends activating the street frontage along Westfield Drive beyond what is proposed in the Planning Proposal. This includes creating a new shopping centre entrance, including a new publicly accessible plaza fronting Westfield Drive that could include active uses at ground floor level, a public domain upgrade, linking of pedestrian paths and safe crossing points.

In addition, further enhancements of the pedestrian link from the lower level bus interchange connecting Bunnerong Road to the BATA site are also recommended, along remodeling the bus interchange (which is currently split over two levels) to one level.

### **Sustainable Buildings**

The submission raises concerns regarding the environmental impacts and sustainability commitments of the WEPP. The WEPP does not seek to exceed guidelines contained within the State Environmental Planning Proposal Sustainable Buildings.

It is recommended that the WEPP be revised to include sustainable design principles that exceed the current environmental standards, either via DCP controls or an amended design excellence clause within the Bayside LEP.

- *Improve public transport connections, and walking and cycling between Eastgardens-Maroubra Junction and Randwick*

### **Public Transport**

The WEPP outlines upgrades to existing bus infrastructure, including bus terminus and operating capacity, to encourage public transport and limit dependency on private vehicle transport.

The draft submission recommends that further exploration of short- medium term strategies need to be identified to encourage public transport use along with further enhancements to the upgraded bus interchange.

### **Pedestrian connections between Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction and surrounds**

The WEPP considers pedestrian movements across Bunnerong Road however the proposed outcomes do not effectively address issues of informal mid-block crossings or provide safe and efficient pedestrian access to the site via Bunnerong Road intersections.

The WEPP proposes a public plaza along the Bunnerong Road frontage, however the proposal does not adequately address pedestrian flow to and from the plaza. No pathway upgrades of accessible routes are considered from neighbouring suburbs.

The draft submission recommends that the WEPP considers a new pedestrian crossing along southern boundary of Westfield / Bunnerong signalised intersection to enable direct pedestrian access from the east, utilising resources such as The Guide to Walkable Public Space authored by TfNSW.

### **Cycling connections between Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction and surrounds**

The WEPP indicates opportunities to accommodate new cycle parking and end of trip facilities as well as to improve safe and connected cycling network to and within centres, however limited detail of this is modelled or incorporated into intersection upgrades.

When comparing the available modes of transport, the efficiency of cycling is evident when traveling between the centres of Randwick Junction and Maroubra Junction. Therefore, the planning proposal should increase consideration of cyclist safety and accessibility when traveling between broader surrounds in order to actively promote this mode of sustainable transport.

It is recommended that further collaboration with TfNSW takes place to facilitate the safe and efficient movement of people to and from the site.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan: |   |
|--|---|
| Strategy   | Housing   |
| Outcome  | A city with sustainable housing growth  |
| Objective  | Provide 4,300 new dwellings in 2021-2026, with 40% located in and around town centres                                   |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Ensure future redevelopment sites are aligned with future transport investment as identified in the transport strategy. |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Ensure any future redevelopment is aligned with local infrastructure investment.  |

Resourcing Strategy implications

The costs associated with reviewing the Planning Proposal and preparing the submission was competed inhouse by Strategic Planning Officers along with input from the Integrated Transport team.

Policy and legislative requirements

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979  
Randwick Local Strategic Planning Statement  
Randwick Housing Strategy.

Conclusion

Council officers have prepared a submission in response to the Planning Proposal. The attached draft submission is provided for endorsement by Council for submission to Bayside Council.

The draft submission objects to the substantial increase in retail and commercial floorspace on the Eastgardens site without adequate justification via a quantitative market needs assessment nor a sustainability impact assessment. Furthermore, an assessment of the economic impact on the Maroubra Junction Town Centre should examine its future role within the hierarchy of centres.

Council requests that the PP be placed on hold to allow Randwick City Council to work closely with Bayside Council to produce a Planning Strategy to guide and control future development of the Maroubra Junction/Eastgardens Strategic Centre.

**Responsible officer:** Liam Stanley, Coordinator Strategic Planning

**File Reference:** F2021/00232



Bianca Chiu  
Senior Urban Planner  
Bayside Council  
444-446 Princes Highway  
Rockdale NSW 2216

22 April 2024

Ref No: F2021/00232

Via email: [Council@bayside.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Council@bayside.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Ms Chiu,

**Notification of Exhibition – Planning Proposal 152 Bunnerong Road, Eastgardens (Westfield Eastgardens)**

Thank for the opportunity to comment on the planning proposal for the redevelopment of the Westfield site at Eastgardens (152 Bunnerong Road, Eastgardens). The below comments are based on a review of the impacts of the proposal on the Randwick City Council area, which borders the subject site immediately to the east.

As identified in the Eastern City District Plan, the Eastgardens Maroubra Junction as a combined Strategic Centre and should be planned as such. To summarise the below comments, Council objects to the excessive increase in retail and commercial floorspace on the Eastgardens site without adequate justification via a quantitative market needs assessment nor a sustainability impact assessment.

Council requests that the PP be placed on hold to allow Randwick City Council to work closely with Bayside Council to produce a Planning Strategy to guide and control future development of the combined Strategic Centre.

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**Submission structure**

The Eastern City District Plan identifies Eastgardens-Maroubra Junction as a combined 'Strategic Centre'. Within Planning Priority E11, it states that the centre has a large retail catchment and opportunities to link the two centres along a corridor of activity should be investigated.

The 'Actions No.48' for the centre are identified six key actions for the planning of the centres that are provided below:

- *Protect capacity for job targets and a diverse mix of uses to strengthen and reinforce the economic role of the centre*
- *Extend and investigate additional economic activities to connect Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction and compliment the existing activities*
- *Leverage future public transport connections in the south, east and west of the District*
- *Encourage provisions of affordable housing to support the nearby health and education facilities and employment lands*

- *Promote placemaking initiatives to improve the quality and supply of public spaces, promote walking and cycling connections and integrate with the Green Grid, and*
- *Improve public transport connections, and walking and cycling between Eastgardens-Maroubra Junction and Randwick.*

Following a high level understanding and strategic background, this submission has been structured to align with these six actions, demonstrating that the WEPP has not appropriately considered these key actions.

### Understanding of the proposal

The planning proposal seeks to amend the Bayside Local Environmental Plan 2021 with changes including:

- An increase in the maximum building height from 25m to part 34m, part 40m, and part 59m on parts of the site
- An 80% increase in the maximum floor space ratio (FSR) from 1:1 to 1.8:1
- An corresponding increase of 37,500sqm (approximately) in retail gross floor area (GFA) and 27,300sqm (approximately) in commercial GFA
- Add the site to the Design Excellence Map so that Clause 6.10 Design Excellence of the LEP applies to the site.

The proposal seeks to facilitate the redevelopment of the existing Westfield Eastgardens Shopping Centre (WESC) to enable the expansion of retail, food, entertainment and leisure uses at the site, include a new public plaza fronting Bunnerong Road, Eastgardens, with upgrades to the bus interchange. The changes will facilitate three commercial buildings including modifications to an existing 4 storey commercial building, a new 9-10 story commercial tower above podium level and a new 8-10 storey commercial tower at the south-eastern corner of the site.

### Strategic Background

The Westfield Eastgardens Planning Proposal (WEPP) is the third major unsolicited ad hoc planning proposal received by Bayside Council that seeks to redevelop the Maroubra Junction-Eastgardens Strategic Centre (the Strategic Centre) as identified in the Eastern City District Plan.

To achieve a balanced approach to growth within the Strategic Centre, Council objects to the WEPP and request that the planning proposal be placed on hold to allow Randwick City Council to work closely with Bayside Council to produce a Planning Strategy to guide and control future development of the combined Strategic Centre. This additional work will enable a holistic and integrated planning approach that would incorporate strategies and actions that will balance growth and the physical development of the area to ensure prosperity of both precincts. As is outlined further below, concentrating significant growth on one single site within an overall Strategic Centre creates an imbalanced structure and does not align with the Actions for the centre contained within the Eastern City District Plan. The economic advice included within the WEPP also does not adequately consider the impacts upon existing trade within Maroubra Junction, nor does it consider future uplift within the centre.

Importantly, Council has recently commenced a review of the planning controls for the Strategic Centre with discussions recently being held with Bayside Council Strategic Planners to commence this key piece of work. The Study will investigate linking the Maroubra Junction and Eastgardens Strategic Centres along a corridor of activity, with Maroubra Road providing opportunities to achieve this, and integrate opportunities to accommodate appropriate services in accordance with the Eastern City District Plan.

*Previous Council resolutions associated with Eastgardens*

Placing the WEPP on hold is further supported by the previously endorsed Mayoral Minute (MM4/21) from the Randwick City Ordinary Council Meeting on 23 February 2021 in relation to the adjoining site currently being developed by Meriton for over 4,000 apartments, known as Pagewood Green. Council resolved to write to Bayside Council, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and the Minister for Transport expressing concerns about the impact of the BATA site development (located immediately to the north of the Westfield Eastgardens site) and urging a halt to the development until the infrastructure and capacity issues for the area are addressed.

The planning matters raised in the Mayoral Minute including infrastructure capacity, traffic and services are to be addressed as part of the wider Strategic Centre review which will also include the future economic function of the Strategic Centre, liveability outcomes, public domain improvements, sustainability and green infrastructure. Concerns are raised that increased density on two adjoining sites on the Randwick City boundary will create cumulative impacts on infrastructure within the Randwick LGA. Infrastructure concerns are addressed below.

*Randwick Economic Development Study, SGS (2019 and updated 2021)*

The Randwick LGA Strategic Directions Paper prepared by SGS Economics and Planning in 2019 establishes a vision for the Randwick LGA by setting city wide directions and centre specific priorities. Considering the LGA Centre Structure by 2036, the Directions Paper states *Maroubra Junction functions as the Strategic Centre for the south of the LGA and Port Botany providing population servicing, retail and some commercial needs of a wide catchment.*

For Maroubra Junction the Paper highlights a role of *building on its population serving character to become the peak population serving centre for the south of the LGA and Port Botany. Complementing the high-end retail offering of its twin centre, East Gardens, Maroubra Junction will leverage its accessibility and welcoming character as a Strategic Centre.*

Specific Priorities for Maroubra Junction range from investigating business opportunities to connect the twin Strategic Centres, investigating connections to the north (to RHIP) and south through to investigating options for the expansion of the town centre along with rezoning to ensure long term capacity for non-residential uses.

The Randwick Economic Study Update 2021 builds upon the 2019 Directions Paper and re-highlights the need for public domain improvements and economic development actions to boost the amenity and vibrancy of Maroubra Junction to compete with Eastgardens. In addition, Maroubra Junction's positive built form attributes of an outdoor/high street offering are raised, which contrast with the high-density shopping centre-built form of Westfield Eastgardens.

***Leverage future public transport connections in the south, east and west of the District***

The South East Sydney Transport Strategy (SESTS) is the primary strategic transport policy for guiding future growth through regional transport investment within South East Sydney which covers the WESC site. The Planning Justification Report for the WEPP includes the following statement:

*Scentre Group made a submission on the draft report of Future Transport 2056 in December 2017, which supported the confirmation of Eastgardens as a strategic centre and identified the imperative to provide for greater mass transit services to the centre which would be achieved by an extension of light rail or metro rail connection to Westfield Eastgardens<sup>1</sup>.*

<sup>1</sup> Planning Justification Report December 2023, page 13

Released in August 2020, SESTS contains a 'preferred scenario' for South-East Sydney by 2056 which includes a potential Metro Line 2041 generally following the alignment of Anzac Parade with a metro station identified at Maroubra Junction. The Metro Line then continues south towards Little Bay and La Perouse. SESTS does not include commitment to delivering mass transit, metro or light rail, to the WESC site. As shown below, it includes two rapid bus routes running past the site along Bunnerong Road and Wentworth Avenue.

The Planning Justification Report also state the following:

*Eastgardens is the logical location for intermodal transport connections to maximise the future development benefit around new transport infrastructure; whereas Maroubra Junction is essential already developed, and its Local Centre zoning makes it unlikely to achieve a commercial precinct of any substance given permissible residential development will always provide a great return for landowners than office<sup>2</sup>.*

The above statement fails to contemplate the expansion of the Maroubra Junction precinct which investigations has recently commenced. The statement also fails to acknowledge the large areas of low density residential land that currently surround Maroubra Junction that offer, subject to detailed investigation, substantial uplift potential.

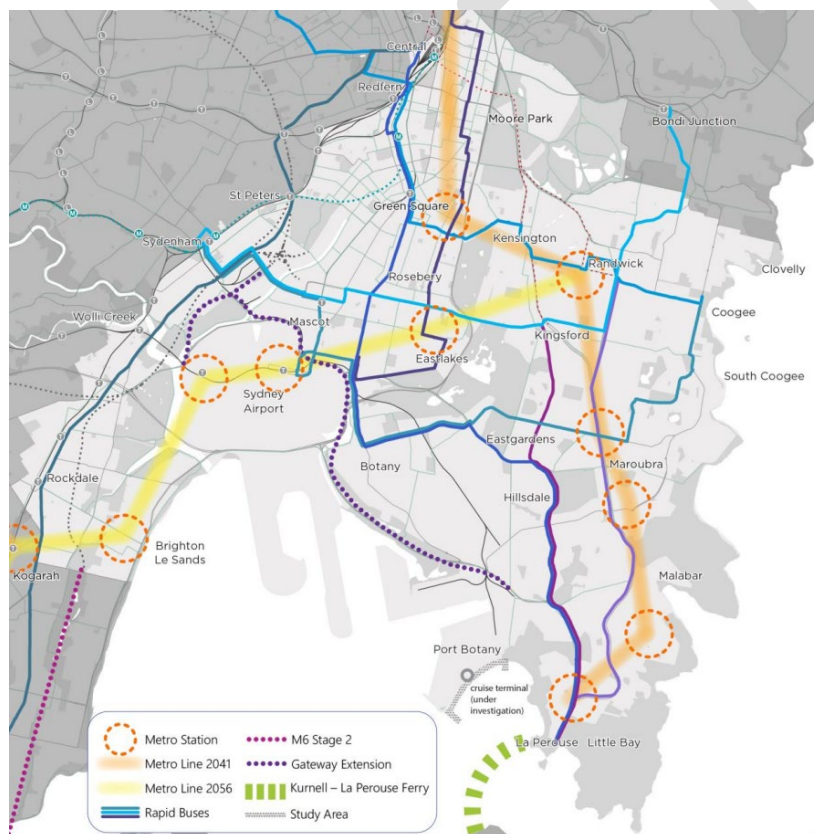


Figure 1. Preferred Scenario of future transport investment in South Eastern Sydney, SESTS August 2020

<sup>2</sup> Planning Justification Report December 2023, page 13

Moving forward, without effective transport measures, including active transport to/from the site, traffic congestion in the road network will continue to deteriorate. Intersections will need to be monitored to ensure they maintain a satisfactory performance.

**Recommendation:** that Council seek a comprehensive review of the traffic and transport impacts of the WEPP to ensure that traffic and parking can effectively be managed. It is also recommended that enquiries be made from TfNSW on long-term transport investments to support the scale of growth throughout the Strategic Centre.

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***Protect capacity for job targets and a diverse mix of uses to strengthen and reinforce the economic role of the centre***

***Share of forecasted employment growth***

Eastern City District Job Targets place the 2016 estimate for the Eastgardens Maroubra Junction Strategic Centre at 6,900 jobs, a 2036 baseline target of 8,000 and a 2036 higher target of 9,000 jobs. The increase in jobs between the 2016 estimate and 2036 higher target is therefore an approximate increase in 2,100 jobs. The additional 27,500 sq.m of retail floorspace is estimated to provide an additional 1,139 ongoing jobs while the 27,300sqm of commercial floorspace is estimated to provide an additional 823 ongoing jobs<sup>3</sup>.

Combined, the WEPP seeks to realise 93% of the Eastern City District Job Target for the Strategic Centre and consequently Council raises concerns regarding Maroubra Junction diminishing capacity to achieve jobs growth, as a result of declining competition, customer base and foot traffic. An expanded Eastgardens may also have implications for Maroubra Junction's mix of land uses and its economic role and strengths as the largest commercial centre in the Randwick LGA, with a significant catchment extending across the east and south. Declining employment growth may subsequently erode overall economic vitality and character of Maroubra Junction.

***Commercial***

The *Colliers Commercial Economic Impact Assessment* (CEIC) dated February 2019 estimates the total current office floorspace within the Eastgardens-Maroubra Strategic Centre at 9,200-10,200sqm. Of this, approximately 3,700sqm (NLA) is located within the Eastgardens precinct<sup>4</sup> and the balance within the Maroubra Junction precinct and along Maroubra Road<sup>5</sup>.

The WEPP proposes an increase of 27,300sqm of commercial floor space within the Westfield Eastgardens site<sup>6</sup> representing two-and-half times increase in commercial floor space within the overall Strategic Centre. This will substantially shift the spatial allocation of floorspace within the overall Strategic Centre resulting in more than 85% of office floorspace being located within the Eastgardens precinct. This is inconsistent with the Eastern City District Plan which specifies that *balanced growth of the centre should link the two centres along a corridor of activity*. Such a substantial increase in floor space without due consideration for demand and impact on adjoining areas such as Maroubra Junction is concerning and may pre-determine the outcome of strategic planning investigations that have commenced for Maroubra Junction.

The CEIC report dated February 2019 identifies that the Eastgardens site presents a special opportunity given Maroubra Junction is currently zoned E2 Commercial Centre which reduces the likelihood of a standalone office given permissibility of shop-top housing. However, it is noted that

<sup>3</sup> Retail Economic Impact Assessment response to peer review October 2018, page 10

<sup>4</sup> Commercial Economic Impact Assessment February 2019, page 14.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, page 34.

<sup>6</sup> Planning Justification Report December 2023, page 29.

recent strategic planning work undertaken by Randwick City Council for other commercial centres within the LGA has included the use of non-residential Floor Space Ratios to mandate the provision of commercial floorspace within centres. Again, if two-and-half times increase in commercial floor space is permitted on one site within the Eastgardens-Maroubra Junction Strategic Centre, this may impact on future feasibilities for commercial floorspace and employment generation within the Maroubra Junction precinct, irrespective of use permissibility.

#### *Retail*

Considering retail floorspace, Maroubra Junction is currently developed with approximately 24,900sqm (GLA) while WESC has 70,500sqm (GLA)<sup>7</sup>. An additional 27,500sqm GFA (including services) is proposed as part of the WEPP<sup>8</sup> representing an increase within the centre to 98,000 sqm (GLA). While WESC currently represents 74% of all retail floor space for the Eastgardens-Maroubra Junction Strategic Centre, the WEPP would increase to 80% with the proposed development exacerbating the disproportionate distribution of retail floor space across the Strategic Centre.

The *Retail Economic Impact Assessment* (REIA) discusses future retail developments along with the economic impact of the proposed expansion. However, REIA does not specifically mention nor explore at any point the expansion of adjoining centres such as Maroubra Junction or Matraville in these sections. The REIA also does not consider or explore the relationship be it spatial or economic between the Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction precincts that comprise the overall 'Strategic Centre'.

While an increase in floorspace within the overall Strategic Centre may be justified, Council raises concern with the imbalance of growth and the potential impacts upon the Maroubra Junction precinct to grow and improve retail offerings through substantial floorspace uplift.

**Recommendation:** Further investigations into the impacts upon Maroubra Junction including the impacts on the feasibility to redevelop and expand is required. In addition, further research into the implications of the unbalanced delivery of commercial and retail floor space across the Strategic Centre is required.

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#### ***Extend and investigate additional economic activities to connect Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction and compliment the existing activities***

The very nature of the site-specific WEPP results in a proposal that seeks an very large increase in floorspace on one isolated site at WESC within the Strategic Centre. The WEPP does not locate floorspace in a strategic way that extends or increases connections between Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction.

While it is acknowledged that the single ownership of the WESC site does present a theoretical opportunity for large floorplate development providing a point of difference in the sub-region, it is important that each precinct within the Strategic Centre has the opportunity to extend and complement existing activities in line with the Actions of the Eastern City District Plan.

As explored above, given the large retail and commercial floorspace increases, it is questioned if the WEPP will consume the majority of floorspace demand over the foreseeable future. This will reduce the viability of any new floorspace that may seek to extend and connect the precincts, meeting the above action within the Eastern City District Plan.

Considering the part of the action associated with complementing roles and existing activities of the individual precincts, the *Colliers CEIC* provides a summary of centre roles, highlighting that for

<sup>7</sup> Retail Economic Impact Assessment March 2018, page 22

<sup>8</sup> Planning Justification Report December 2023, page 23.



the overall Strategic Centre, *smaller office provision located amongst the retail strip is dominated by local service related industries*. The retail strip of Maroubra Junction includes numerous primary medical and allied health services with a strong linear connection to the Randwick Health and Innovation Precinct.

As part of the WEPP it is proposed that Tower B (positioned on the corner of Bunnerong Road and Wentworth Avenue) is to *be geared at commercial usages around services and health... equating to a total NLA of approximately 9,500sqm<sup>9</sup>*. As measured by Colliers in their CEIC, this represents more than double the existing office floorspace provision within Maroubra Junction<sup>10</sup>. Further, the CEIC states that:

*The development also incorporates 27,500m<sup>2</sup> of retail floorspace, which typically incurs higher rents, and as such, will cross subsidise the commercial office component through back of house and construction efficiencies<sup>11</sup>.*

Such cross subsidising may impact the feasibility of existing and future expansions to commercial floorspace within the Maroubra Junction. It may also be inconsistent with the principle of the Eastern City District Plan to balance growth between the centres. In addition, the substantial intensification and cross subsidising land uses on the Westfield site limit the ability to investigate additional economic activities to connect the precincts through expansion of existing E1 Local Centre Zone land along Maroubra Road.

Recommendation: that a detailed review on the impacts the increased floorspace has on future feasibility of commercial / retail floorspace expansions in Maroubra Junction and along Bunnerong Road.

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### **Encourage provisions of affordable housing to support the nearby health and education facilities and employment lands**

#### **Connections to Randwick Health and Innovation Precinct**

The WEPP states that as part of a *potential future planning proposal* new uses will be introduced into the site such as build to rent accommodation or student housing which is to be located on the northern Bunnerong Road frontage. The WEPP states that this does not form part of the current planning proposal, but it is illustrated on the masterplan to show how part of the site may be developed in the future.

The Planning Justification Report states that the *additional land use for the site in the form of student accommodation or hotel development that further diversify the site and support the growth of the Randwick Health and Education precinct<sup>12</sup>*.

Firstly, build to rent accommodation (typically *shop-top housing*) and student housing (*co-living*) are currently prohibited uses under the E2 Commercial Centre Zone applying to the WEPP site. To accommodate any residential uses upon the WESC site, a future rezoning would be required that may not be consistent with the long-term strategic policy framework for this area.

Secondly, the supporting role of the WESC to the Randwick Health and Innovation Precinct (RHIP) is questioned. Considering the location of the Eastgardens precinct, it does not offer as direct linkage to the RHIP as Maroubra Junction, nor other centres within the Randwick LGA. A one-way trip from the centre of the Westfield site to the centre of UNSW within the RHIP is a 50-

<sup>9</sup> Planning Justification Report December 2023, page 22

<sup>10</sup> Commercial Economic Impact Assessment, page 34

<sup>11</sup> Ibid, page 8

<sup>12</sup> Planning Justification Report December 2023, page 19

minute walk or a 25-minute bus trip. Comparatively, the Kensington to Kingsford corridor along Anzac Parade is supporting the delivery of a large number of student housing rooms within a convenient 5-10 minute walk of the UNSW campus.

Recommendation: WEPP to clearly note that residential uses are currently not permissible within the E2 Commercial Centre zoning and that a further planning proposal is necessary to justify future changes to the planning controls for the site.

#### **Affordable Housing provision**

Subject to long-term policy support, as part of any future planning proposal that contemplates residential uses, a requirement for affordable housing should be embed within the local planning framework including being clearly outlined in an affordable housing contributions plan. This would ensure that either in-kind affordable housing dwellings are delivered on site as a part of the development or enable monetary contributions to be levied to deliver affordable housing dwellings within the Bayside Local Government Area.

Recommendation: Any future planning proposal contemplating residential uses must embed within the local planning framework affordable housing requirements and preparation of an affordable housing plan.

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#### ***Promote placemaking initiatives to improve the quality and supply of public spaces, promote walking and cycling connections and integrate with the Green Grid***

##### **Proposed built form and public space offering**

The revised Planning Justification Report states that the masterplan has been prepared based on a number of urban design principles including the proposed building heights that are 'relative to the adjacent context'.

Located directly east and south of the WESC site are R2 Low Density Residential Zones with a 9.5 metre building height limit and a prevailing character of one and two storey dwellings. To the north, the BATA site has been developed with a 6 storey frontage to Bunnerong Road with higher built form set back over 50m from the property boundary.

The proposed increases in maximum building height from 25 metres to part 34m, part 40m, and part 59m are focused on the eastern and southern areas of the WESC site. The proposed location of the higher built form does not respect the adjoining prevailing character nor does it seek to reflect the built form strategy adopted for the BATA site. The proposed scale will impact the relationship between the new development and the existing character of the adjacent areas.

Therefore, Council objects to the extent of the proposed changes to building bulk and scale and the corresponding changes to GFA and Floor Space Ratio (FSR) on the WESC site.

More broadly, the increases in building bulk via additional GFA and FSR will further exacerbate the already excessive bulk and scale of the significant BATA development (adjoining the site to the north) particularly when viewed from the surrounding residential properties and local streets.

Such changes could also result in greater intensification of the development at the site. Council is concerned about the cumulative impacts of any increases in the bulk and scale of the development at the site and how this may negatively affect the character and amenity of the surrounding area. Council also suggests if any additional built form be internalised within the site to minimise visual impacts and retain existing vegetation along key road frontages.

Recommendation: Reduce the building bulk and scale and the corresponding changes to GFA and Floor Space Ratio (FSR) on the WESC site, along with repositioning any additional built form centrally within the WESC site to reduce visual impact while retaining existing vegetation. .

### Connections within Eastgardens site

#### Current connections

Currently, the pedestrian linkages between the WESC and the BATA site to the north are poor. Provided below is an image of the existing pedestrian link between Westfield Drive and Studio Drive, Eastgardens.

As highlighted by image 1, no formal paved footpath is provided. The pedestrian path is created by a 'goat' track linking the two sites. In addition, the area is present with multiple abandoned shopping trolleys, loose rubbish and poorly maintained vegetation.

To further detract from the area a raised driveway to access the above ground carparking at the WESC visually blocks the sightlines between the two major sites. Collectively, these elements significantly impact the accessibility, permeability, safety and security of the area linking to the BATA site, especially as a 'nighttime' pedestrian link.



Image 1. Existing pedestrian link between Westfield Drive and Studio Drive, Eastgardens taken from Westfield Drive, Eastgardens looking north-west toward the BATA site.

#### Proposed connections

Statements within the Planning Justification Report such as focusing on creating a *truly mixed-use precinct that provides a range of services and acts as the focal point for the local community*<sup>13</sup> are challenging to see eventuate with limited improvements to access detailed within the PP documentation.

The PP proposes two wombat crossings and wayfinding signage to direct pedestrians towards crossings along Westfield Drive. These measures aim to reduce speed and provide pedestrian crossing locations, however they do not adequately address pedestrian safety.

The site-specific DCP designates the construction of these crossings as the *preferred day time access*<sup>14</sup>. The *preferred night time access* is shown crossing two slip lanes and taking refuge on two separate traffic islands. Without additional information, the safety of this approach is questioned.

<sup>13</sup> Planning Justification Report December 2023, page 21

<sup>14</sup> Indicative Site Specific DCP March 2024, Figure 5, page 13

A means to achieve better integration of the BATA site with WESC would be to activate the street frontage along Westfield Drive beyond what is proposed in the WEPP. This could include creating a new shopping centre entrance, including a new publicly accessible plaza fronting Westfield Drive that could include active uses at the ground floor level, a public domain upgrade, linking pedestrian paths and safe crossing points.

As highlighted, the proposed measures do not substantially address the integration between the Westfield site and the Meriton BATA site to the north, nor does the proposed site-specific DCP adequately introduce controls to achieve an acceptable design outcome.

**Recommendation:** High-level precinct planning, such as that being undertaken via this PP, should resolve pedestrian safety and amenity issues through the introduction of active frontage requirements and site planning that provides built form that is inherently safe at all times, for all people.

It would be beneficial for Bayside Council to facilitate discussions between owners of the WESC and the BATA sites to improve interface conditions between the landholdings.

#### ***Sustainable Buildings***

The Planning Proposal needs a thorough reassessment to address the concerns regarding environmental impacts and sustainability commitments. Neglecting to integrate guidelines from the SEPP Sustainable Buildings undermines the potential for this development to meet contemporary environmental standards. By disregarding the imperative to quantify embodied emissions, minimize on-site fossil fuel usage, and prioritise resource efficiency the proposal fails to align with crucial sustainability objectives as outlined in the SEPP. NABERS ratings reveal that Westfield Eastgardens heavily relies on non-renewable energy sources for over 80% of its energy consumption. Moreover, it lacks onsite renewable electricity, and its water efficiency only meets a 3-star rating, just meeting market standard. The absence of measures to exceed market standards and uphold local and state environmental commitments represents a missed opportunity to demonstrate leadership in sustainable development.

To achieve state commitments of net zero by 2050, as well as the 70% emissions target by 2035, sustainability must be considered from the beginning of any planning proposal, especially proposals of this scale. The triple bottom line framework underscores the importance of accounting for social, environmental, and financial impacts—a consideration sorely lacking in this proposal. Without addressing these concerns, the proposed development risks perpetuating an imbalanced climate, with adverse social and financial repercussions. As a combined Strategic Centre, Eastgardens and Maroubra junction should approach large scale development collaboratively to ensure balance and simultaneous growth.

**Recommendation:** revise the proposal to incorporate sustainable design principles that exceed current environmental standards, either via DCP controls or an amended design excellence clause within the Bayside LEP.

#### ***Improve public transport connections, and walking and cycling between Eastgardens-Maroubra Junction and Randwick***

SLR Consulting Australia were commissioned by Scentre Group and in consultation with Bayside Council to investigate traffic engineering solutions and transport modelling in relation to the proposed expansion of Westfield Eastgardens. A series of capacity upgrading works have been modelled and evaluated as sufficient in offsetting any incremental traffic congestion. The proposed intersection upgrades can be summarised into:

1. Wentworth Avenue/Banks Avenue/Cornish Circuit
  - additional turn lanes on the northern and eastern intersection approaches

2. Wentworth Avenue/Denison St/Site
  - additional turn lanes on eastern and western Wentworth Avenue approaches
  - reconfiguration of site egress to provide two-way traffic movement
3. Wentworth Avenue/Bunnerong Road
  - addition turn lane on the northern intersection approach
4. Bunnerong Road/Westfield Drive
  - additional turn lane on the northern intersection approach
  - improvements to the existing site approach/departure to increase queue storage and reduce weaving conflicts.

It is noted that these road-based capacity upgrades are nominated as an introductory however the assessments fail to consider the developments impact on the wider context of transport and movement; particularly how connection will be facilitated between centres.

#### **Public transport**

The WEPP outlines upgrades to existing bus infrastructure, including bus terminus and operating capacity, to encourage public transport and limit dependency on private vehicle transport. An advance investment has been proposed to upgrade the bus interchange at Westfield Eastgardens to add operating capacity and encourage use of public transport to the site<sup>15</sup>.

It is understood that as a condition of Gateway, further consultation is required with TfNSW on the Reference Design for the bus interchange. Further enhancements of the pedestrian link from the lower-level bus interchange connecting Bunnerong Road with the BATA site should be considered. This could include improvements such as additional vegetation, places to rest, and wider footpaths. Further, it is understood that ride-share modes of transport have been considered with the addition of a laneway with drop-off / pick-up.

The reports have also highlighted consultation with Future Transport 2056 and relevant strategies in the Future Transport Strategy 2056 vision, indicating future public transport investment to support growth in the centre.

*Future Transport 2056 have supported the confirmation of Eastgardens as a strategic centre and identified the imperative to provide for greater mass transit services to the centre which would be achieved by an extension of light rail or metro rail connection to Westfield Eastgardens.*

As outlined above, the more recent South East Sydney Transport Strategy (SESTS) does not include commitment to delivering mass transit, metro or light rail, to the WESC site.

**Recommendation:** further exploration of short- medium term strategies must be identified to encourage public transport use along with further enhancements to the upgraded bus interchange.

#### **Pedestrian connections between Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction and surrounds**

Through the SLR work, the WEPP has explored pedestrian movement across Bunnerong Rd, however the proposed outcomes does not effectively address issues of informal mid-block crossing or provide safe and efficient pedestrian access to the site via Bunnerong Rd intersections.

The PP indicates development of a public plaza however fails to adequately address pedestrian flow to and from the plaza. The PP does not mention pathway upgrades or consider accessible routes for neighbouring suburbs. In order to deliver the best outcomes for pedestrians in line with

<sup>15</sup> Planning Justification Report December 2023, page 12



Future Transport 2056, the walking and cycling components of a project must be incorporated from the outset and followed through to delivery and maintenance.

Where possible, pedestrians and bike riders should be allocated dedicated space and be accessible to people of all ages and abilities. Walking facilities must be designed and built to be safe, sustainable, and fit for purpose to ensure people walking have continuous access and high-quality experience of the facilities.

Statements within the Planning Justification Report such as focusing on creating a *truly mixed-use precinct that provides a range of services and acts as the focal point for the local community* are challenging to see eventuate with limited improvements to access detailed within the PP documentation.

Recommendation: consider new pedestrian crossing along southern boundary of Westfield / Bunnerong signalised intersection to enable direct pedestrian access from east, utilising resources such as The Guide to Walkable Public Space authored by TfNSW.

***Cycling connections between Eastgardens and Maroubra Junction and surrounds***

The current proposal refers to numerous active and sustainable transport objectives which were outlined in the Eastern City District Plan (ECDP) and Bayside Local Environmental Plan 2021 (BLEP 2021).

The proposal indicates opportunities to accommodate new cycle parking and end of trip facilities as well as improve safe and connected cycling network to and within centres, however limited detail of this is modelled or incorporated into proposed intersection upgrades.

Early consideration and delivery of safe, integrated, reliable, accessible and cycling infrastructure will enhance the local environment, help to drive behavioural change and achieve a sustained uptake in mode share of cycling.

When comparing the available modes of transport, the efficiency of cycling is evident when traveling between the centres of Randwick Junction and Maroubra Junction. Therefore, the PP should increase consideration of cyclist safety and accessibility when traveling between broader surrounds in order to actively promote this mode of sustainable transport.

Recommendation: that further collaboration with TfNSW takes place to facilitate the safe and efficient movement of people to and from the site, particularly between the two precincts. Improving the place qualities of the surrounding streets by providing access for walking and cycling.

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## Conclusion

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this significant proposal. Should you have any queries about this submission or wish to discuss anything further please contact Liam Stanley, Coordinator Strategic Planning on 02 9093 6679, or via email at [Liam.stanley@randwick.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Liam.stanley@randwick.nsw.gov.au).

Yours faithfully,

**Kerry Kyriacou**  
Director City Planning



Ordinary Council

23 February 2021

**Mayoral Minute No. MM4/21****Subject: Pagewood Green - Meriton Development**

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**Motion:**

That Council write to Bayside Council, the Minister for Planning & Public Spaces and Minister for Transport expressing concerns about the impact of this development and urging a halt to this development until the infrastructure and capacity issues are addressed.

**Background:**

Meriton has submitted a development application (DA) related to the Stage 2 redevelopment of the Pagewood Green site located in the Bayside Council Local Government Area (LGA). The DA was submitted to Bayside Council in December 2020 and proposes two towers reaching a height of 16 and 17 storeys containing 383 units.

Stage 2 of the BATA site was rezoned in 2019 to allow for a zoning of R4 High Density Residential and an FSR of 2.35:1. Council raised significant concerns with the rezoning of this site including;

- Excessive intensification of use of the site compared to existing planning controls;
- Excessive building height;
- Inadequate assessment of the transport impacts of the proposal; and
- Ambiguous commitment to the delivery of public open space;

Due to the site's close proximity to our LGA, I am concerned about the significant increase in population, and the added demand this will place upon community facilities and services, open space and other physical and social assets within Randwick City. Apart from Eastgardens, the local services that the occupants of the development will be accessing will be in the Randwick Council LGA.

It is important to add our voice in opposition of this development, given the impacts it will have to Council's infrastructure and the amenity of our community.

**Source of funding:**

N/A.

**Attachment/s:**

Nil

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**Responsible officer:** The Mayor, Cr Danny Said**File Reference:** F2021/06574

CP22/24

**FOR ACTION****ORDINARY COUNCIL****23/02/2021****TO:** Director City Services (Clarke, Todd)

**Subject:** Pagewood Green - Meriton Development  
**Target Date:** 9/03/2021  
**Notes:**  
**Document No.:** D04116393  
**Report Type:** Report  
**Item Number:** MM4/21

Note: This mayoral minute was considered in conjunction with Councillor Matson's Motion NM6/21.

**RESOLUTION: (Mayor, Cr D Said/Matson):** that Council

- a) commission a study on the infrastructure, traffic and service impacts of this development for the Randwick City Council area;
- b) write to Bayside Council, the Minister for Planning & Public Spaces and Minister for Transport expressing concerns about the impact of this development and urging a halt to this development until the infrastructure and capacity issues are assessed and then addressed;
- c) seek a cooperative working partnership with Bayside Council on this mutually concerning issue; and
- d) makes a formal submission to the anticipated consent authority.

**MOTION: (Mayor, Cr D Said/Matson) CARRIED - SEE RESOLUTION.**

[Open Item in Minutes](#)

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## Director City Planning Report No. CP23/24

**Subject: Variations to Development Standards under Clause 4.6 - 1 to 30 March 2024**

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### Executive Summary

- On 15 September 2023, the NSW Government published amendments in relation to the operation and reporting requirements of Clause 4.6 of the Standard Instrument (including Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012) to commence on 1 November 2023, in which it is no longer necessary to report determined variations to Council on a quarterly basis.
- This report provides Council with details of Development Applications (DA) that were determined within the period from 1 March through to 30 March 2024 in which a variation to a development standard under Clause 4.6 of the Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012 was approved, in accordance with Council's internal reporting requirements.

### Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

### Attachment/s:

1.  Clause 4.6 Register - March 2024

## Background

### Changes to Legislation

On 15 September 2023, the NSW Government published amendments in relation to the operation and reporting requirements of Clause 4.6 of the Standard Instrument (including Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012) to commence on 1 November 2023.

Under Department's Planning Circular PS 20-002, Councils were required to provide quarterly reports to the DPE for all variations to development standards that were approved. Furthermore, the Circular required a report of all variations approved under delegation from a Council to be provided to a meeting of the Council meeting at least once each quarter. As part of the Clause 4.6 reform, Planning Circular PS 20-002 has been repealed as of 1 November 2023 and the amendments have introduced a new provision under Section 90A of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2021* (EP&A Regulation) which requires the following:

*"As soon as practicable after the development application is determined, the Council of the area in which the development is proposed to be carried out must notify the Planning Secretary of the Council's or panel's reasons for approving or refusing the contravention of the development standard."*

*The notice must be given to the Planning Secretary through the NSW planning portal."*

As of 1 November 2023, any variations approved by Council/Planning Panel will be made publicly available via a variation register published on the NSW Planning Portal. As such, in accordance with Section 90A of the EP&A Regulation, Councils are no longer required to submit quarterly reports to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, as this information will be extracted from the NSW Planning Portal. Furthermore, as Planning Circular PS 20-002 has been repealed and the variation register shall be publicly available, it is no longer necessary to report determined variations to Council on a quarterly basis.

Notwithstanding the above, Council has resolved to provide monthly reporting on all variations and therefore this report provides Council with details of the relevant applications subject to a variation to a development standard pursuant to Clause 4.6 of RLEP 2012 for the period specified.

This report provides details of the relevant applications subject to a variation to a development standard pursuant to Clause 4.6 of RLEP 2012 for the period specified in accordance with Councils internal reporting requirements.

## Discussion

### **Clause 4.6 – Exceptions to Development Standards**

Clause 4.6 is required to be addressed if a development application seeks to vary a development standard in the Local Environmental Plan. The consent authority (i.e. Council, Randwick Local Planning Panel, Sydney Eastern Planning Panel or NSW Land and Environment Court) must not grant consent for development that contravenes a development standard unless, a written request has been provided by the applicant addressing Clause 4.6 of the LEP. If Council (or the relevant consent authority) is satisfied that the Clause 4.6 request is adequately justified, it may grant consent to the development even though the proposal does not comply with the relevant standard.

### **Details of Variations**

A table is attached to the report detailing all Clause 4.6 exceptions approved in the period between 1 March to 30 March 2024. Further analysis of the largest numerical variation for the relevant period is detailed below. It should be noted that a detailed assessment report is prepared for each DA with a Clause 4.6 exception and is publicly available through Council's website.

### March 2024

Five (5) Clause 4.6 variations were approved in the March period (being 1 March through to 30 March 2024), with one application determined under delegation (less than 10%) and four applications determined by Randwick Local Planning Panel (RLPP) due to variations greater than 10%.

Of the variations approved, the greatest extent of variation related to a Development Application for DA/350/2022 at 49-53 Clovelly Road, Randwick, in which variations of 130%, 162% and 90% to the Floor Space Ratio (FSR) development standard were approved. The RLPP supported the variation to the FSR standard for the following reasons:

- The application relates to an existing mixed-use development comprising three (3) commercial tenancies and three (3) dwellings across three (3) lots, being one tenancy and one dwelling per lot. The existing development is located within a R2 low density residential zone and was subject to existing use rights. As such, the site is subject to a FSR of 0.5:1, consistent with the R2 zoning.
- The existing buildings on site have a FSR of 0.96:1, 1.05:1 and 0.95:1 respectively, and already contravene the maximum FSR applicable to the site.
- The application involved alterations and additions to the three dwellings within the development site in order to improve internal amenity and functionality.
- The proposed works resulted in an increase to the FSR to 1.15:1, 1.31:1 and 0.95:1.
- It should be noted that the application was recommended for refusal by Council due to concerns regarding non-compliance with the FSR standard and R2 zone objectives, as well as non-compliance with the DCP provisions in relation to site coverage, setbacks and solar access, and adverse amenity impacts upon adjoining properties. However, the RLPP identified merit in the proposal and resolved to approve the application for the following reasons:

*Based on the Panels site inspection, an understanding of the history of the site including the existing use rights that apply to the site, and the previous, but not finalised endeavours to rezone the site, the sympathetic design in relation to the heritage status of the buildings on the site and the lack of any unacceptable amenity impacts on neighbouring properties the Panel identified merit in the proposal.*

*The Panel supports and approves the application for the following reasons:*

1. *The Panel accepts the breach to the floor space ratio development standard has been justified by the applicants clause 4.6 written objection.*
2. *The Panel accepts that the proposed development will have no unacceptable impacts on the amenity of adjoining properties.*
3. *The Panel accepts that the proposed development will have no unacceptable impacts on the heritage item, and the additions respond respectfully to the heritage items.*
4. *The Panel is also mindful that the site operates under existing use rights and that strict compliance with the development standards is not necessary in this instance given an assessment under section 4.15 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*
5. *The proposal will provide for diverse housing opportunities consistent with the objectives of the R2 Low Density Residential zone and enhances the amenity of the existing residences within the development.*

## Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering services and regulatory functions: |   |
|---|---|
| Service area                                  | Development Assessment  |
| Function                                      | Assessment of Development Applications  |
| Delivery program commitment                   | Assess and determine Development Applications, Modification Applications and Review Applications under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 |

## Resourcing Strategy implications

There is no direct financial impact for this matter.

## Conclusion

This report provides details of the relevant applications subject to a variation to a development standard pursuant to Clause 4.6 of RLEP 2012 for the period specified in accordance with Councils internal reporting requirements.

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**Responsible officer:** Angela Manahan, Executive Planner

**File Reference:** F2008/00122



| CLAUSE 4.6 REGISTER – MARCH 2024 |            |             |             |          |  |                              |  |  |   |                      |                               |             |             |         |
|----------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------|--|------------------------------|--|--|---|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| DA number                        | Street No. | Street name | Suburb/Town | Postcode | Category of development  | Zoning of land               | Development standard to be varied                                | Justification of variation   | Extent of variation   | Concurring authority | Date DA determined dd/mm/yyyy | Approved by | Submissions |         |
|                                  |            |             |             |          |  |                              |  |  |   |                      |                               |             | Objection   | Support |
| DA/460/2023                      | 30         | Windsor St  | MATRAVILLE  | 2036     | 3: Residential - New second occupancy  | R2 - Low Density Residential | Clause 4.4 - FSR = 0.5:1   | Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy and views. | FSR increased to 0.54:1 or 8.8%   | DPHI                 | 08-Mar-24                     | DEL         | 0           | 0       |
| DA/350/2022                      | 49-53      | Clovelly Rd | CLOVELLY    | 2031     | 1: Residential - Alterations & additions (Note: no change to commercial component) | R2 - Low Density Residential | Clause 4.4 - FSR = 0.5:1   | Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy and views. | 49 Clovelly Rd - FSR increased to 1.15:1 or 130% (existing 0.96:1)<br>51 Clovelly Rd - FSR increased to 1.31:1 or 162% (existing 1.05:1)<br>53 Clovelly Rd - FSR increased to 0.95:1 or 90% (existing 0.95:1) | DPHI                 | 14-Mar-24                     | RLPP        | 4           | 0       |
| DA/252/2023                      | 34         | Clovelly Rd | CLOVELLY    | 2031     | 10: Mixed  | E1 - Local Centre            | Clause 4.4 - FSR = 1:1   | Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy and views. | FSR increased to 1.23:1 or 23% (Existing FSR - 1.1:1 or 10% )   | DPHI                 | 14-Mar-24                     | RLPP        | 0           | 0       |
| DA/602/2022                      | 1          | Wolseley Rd | COOGEE      | 2034     | 1: Residential - Alterations & additions   | R2 - Low Density Residential | Clause 4.3 - Building height of 9.5m                             | Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy and views. | Building Height increased to 11.04 or 16.21% (Existing Height 10.24m or 7.7%)   | DPHI                 | 14-Mar-24                     | RLPP        | 0           | 0       |
| DA/183/2023                      | 1          | Abbott St   | COOGEE      | 2034     | 1: Residential - Alterations & additions   | R3 - Medium Density          | Clause 4.4 - FSR = 0.75:1<br>Clause 4.3 – Building Height = 9.5m | Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy and views. | FSR increased to 0.859:1 or 14.56%<br>Building Height increased to 12.09m or 27.26% (Existing Height 10.86m or 14.3%)   | DPHI                 | 14-Mar-24                     | RLPP        | 5           | 0       |

CP23/24

## Director City Services Report No. CS14/24

**Subject: Rubbish left on Randwick beaches**

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### Executive Summary

- Randwick Council's coastline stretches across 29.3 km starting from Clovelly in the North to Yara Bay in the South. The coastline attracts approximately 4,494.980 visitors each year.
- Council committed in the 2022-26 delivery program to Clean the City's assets and infrastructure in business centers, beaches, parks and other public places.
- Council has responded to the service demand by installing additional litter bins throughout the city whilst increasing service frequency to meet community expectations.
- Council introduced signage on street bins with educational and promotional campaigns across the coast.
- In October 2024 to February 2025, Council's sustainability and communication teams will launch an educational campaign on social media and E-News. This campaign aims to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of litter, particularly plastic litter, on the environment. Once known the results relating to the effectiveness of the educational campaign will be reported back to Council.
- In November 2023, Council conducted a Service Level review for the Coastal and Town Centre Waste and Cleansing unit in accordance with the Integrated Planning and Reporting Program for 2022-26.

### Recommendation

That Council receive and note this report.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

CS14/24

## Purpose

At its meeting held on the 24 October 2023, Council resolved:

(Pandolfini/D'Souza) Resolution:

That a report be prepared into what can be done to curb the amount of rubbish left on Randwick's beaches and in town centres, including but not restricted to:

- a) information provided on the quantity and signposting of bins at Randwick beaches to ensure that there are both enough bins and also that the public understand clearly where they are and what bins to use;
- b) potential effectiveness of an educational campaign across both advertising and social media to encourage people to pick up their rubbish and put it in the correct bins across Randwick beaches; and
- c) a coastal and town-centre waste and cleansing service level review being added/updated to the program of reviews 22-26.

## Discussion

An assessment to the current bins placement on Council's Beaches revealed the following:

### Current number of bin cabinets by coastal locations

| Suburb             | Recycling Bin | Waste Bin  | Total      |
|--------------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Clovelly</b>    | 3             | 21         | 24         |
| <b>Coogee</b>      | 15            | 73         | 88         |
| <b>La Perouse</b>  |               | 26         | 26         |
| <b>Malabar</b>     |               | 14         | 14         |
| <b>Maroubra</b>    | 8             | 56         | 64         |
| <b>Phillip Bay</b> |               | 8          | 8          |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>26</b>     | <b>198</b> | <b>224</b> |

Since 2021, Council has through its Waste, Cleansing and Public Safety Department, introduced additional mobile garbage bins and increased service frequencies for the unmanned beaches to reduce the litter left behind by beach users.

In addition to the bin cabinets, a number of mobile garbage bins are utilised to supplement the fixed bins during peak season.

Council undertakes scheduled and reactive waste collection services to public place bins in accordance with established service level agreements.

### Visibility

Currently Council does not have signposting throughout the coastal locations however to ensure that the bins are visible for beachgoers the following factors are considered when placing the bin on the beachfront:

1. **Strategic Placement:** the bins are placed in high-traffic areas, near amenities (such as bathrooms and change rooms) and at regular intervals along the beach.
2. **Signs:** clear signs are attached to bins, indicating their purpose (e.g., Recyclables, General Waste)
3. **User Perspective:** bins are visible for people from different angles both from the shoreline and the water.

4. Regular Inspection: the bins are inspected regularly to ensure they remain visible, and any obstructions are removed.

Bin cabinets including recycling bins have appropriate signages to indicate their use.



CS14/24

#### **Education Campaigns, Advertising, and social media**

In October 2024 to February 2025, Council's sustainability and communication teams will launch an educational campaign on social media and E-News. This campaign aims to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of litter, particularly plastic litter, on the environment. Additionally, the campaign will extend to bus shelters. Conducting this educational initiative during summer is strategic, as it allows us to reach a broader segment of our community, especially those who frequent our beaches extensively. Once known the results relating to the effectiveness of the educational campaign will be reported back to Council.

Council collaborates closely with Environmental Protective Agency (EPAs) to ensure that innovative approaches and educational materials are effectively integrated into council practices.

Council received the following grants:

- EPA grant for Litter reduction at Yarra and Gordon's bay-\$60,000.00
- EPA grant for butt litter reduction at La Perouse and Short St Randwick- \$20,000.00.

As part of the New South Wales, Environmental Protective Agency (EPA's) Litter Prevention Strategy 2022-30, Council's Waste Education/Sustainability and Waste Operations teams have recently:

- In late 2023 Council completed baseline Local Litter Checks at Gordons Bay and Yarra Bay to investigate the viability of litter prevention improvement programs to reduce the occurrence or littering.
- Signage "Love Where You Live" and "Litter Prevention" were installed throughout Coogee, Maroubra, Clovelly, and Yarra Bay beaches.
- Additional litter bins were installed at Yarra Bay, Bicentennial Park and the entrance and exist points to Gordons Bay. The result of introducing these bins has shown a reduction of over 60% in litter left behind at Yarra Bay and Gordon's Bay.
- In January 2024 Council installed butt out stations at Malabar, and La Perouse. As a result, over 7,127 butts were collected and diverted from our beaches within a 3-month period.
- Commissioned artwork on the Sydney Water pumping station at Clovelly,



Last Summer, Council commissioned the Eaton Gorge Theatre company to have characters, “Green Elves” and “Litter Roaches” visit various beaches to educate about littering and marine debris.



In January 2024 Council organised the Ocean Action Pod at Yarra and Coogee to educate our community about littering.

Council initiatives like “Beach pollution Ends here” <https://www.endbeachpollution.sydney/> , you tube videos, advertising campaigns and endorsement of events such as Clean up Australia Day <https://www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au/> are all targeted towards educating and encouraging positive steps that everybody can take to improve beach water quality.

Council’s website contains a range of information about education, what Council is doing and how residents can help:

- Watermanagement: <https://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/environment-and-sustainability/what-were-doing/water-management>
- cleaning streets, footpaths and gutters: <http://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/services/rubbish-and-recycling/keeping-our-city-clean/street-cleaning>
- monitoring water quality: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/beach/>

### Service Level Review

In October 2023, Council engaged the consultant Morrison & Low to conduct an independent Service Level Review of Coastal and Town Centre Waste and Cleansing Services.

The review considered the legislative requirements, strategic alignment and Council decisions for delivery of the services. It analyses the need for the service to be delivered, service delivery mechanism, resources use to deliver the service, efficiency and effectiveness of the service delivery including community satisfaction.

The assessment of the Service Level Review of Coastal and Town Centre Waste and Cleansing will be presented to the Council in a separate report at April Council’s meeting.

**Strategic alignment**

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering services and regulatory functions: |   |
|---|---|
| Service area                                  | Waste, Cleansing and Public Safety  |
| Function                                      | Public Place Cleansing  |
| Delivery program commitment                   | Clean the City's assets and infrastructure in business centres, beaches, parks and other public places. |

**Conclusion**

Council has introduced additional garbage bins and increased service frequencies of all Council’s beaches to reduce the litter left behind by beach users.

The introduction of messaging on bins has raised awareness for visitors using Council's beaches on how they can keep the beaches clean.

Council will continue to apply for NSW EPA grant funding for litter management projects as they become available.

**Responsible officer:** Mark Bush, Manager Waste, Cleansing and Public Safety

**File Reference:** F2011/00106



## Director City Services Report No. CS15/24

**Subject: Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee - February 2024**

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### Executive Summary

- The Council's Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee meets quarterly to examine issues relating to bike riding and cycling facilities.
- The February 2024 meeting of the Advisory Committee was attended by Councillors, representatives of BIKEast, members of the community, and Council staff.

### Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting held on 21 February 2024, be received, and noted.

### Attachment/s:

1.  MINUTES - February 2024 (Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee)

Purpose

The Advisory Committee considered numerous matters of importance to local bicycle riders and the Minutes from the Committee’s meeting, held on 21 February 2024, are attached.

Discussion

Refer to Minutes - February 2024 (Cycleways and Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting) (D05225832), which is attached.

The following dates have been confirmed for committee meetings in the next 12 months:

- Wednesday, 15 May 2024 at 7:30am
- Wednesday, 21 August 2024 at 6:30pm
- Wednesday, 6 November 2024 at 7:30am.

These 2024 CABFAC meeting dates will be confirmed against 2024 Council meeting schedule has been established.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan: |  |
|--|--|
| Strategy   | Integrated Transport   |
| Outcome  | A city with a transport network where sustainable transport options are the preferred choice for people  |
| Objective  | Increase the active transport mode share to 35% by 2031, from a 2018-19 baseline of 26%  |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Update the 2015 Bicycle Route Construction Priority List and develop an Active Transport Plan for the LGA by 2023.   |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Provide an additional 30km of safe cycling routes by 2031, prioritising fully separate bicycle lanes where possible, in locations informed by our Bicycle Route Construction Priority plan and the TfNSW Principal Bicycle Network plan. |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Implement measures to increase safety for people riding bikes or walking in 5 locations each year until 2031, with priority given to identified crash sites.   |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Provide 200 new bicycle parking spaces across our beaches, local centres and key destinations across the LGA by 2027.  |

Resourcing Strategy implications

Any proposals for expenditure arising from the Advisory Committee’s recommendations are either covered by existing funding allocations or would be the subject of separate reports to the Council for funding.

Policy and legislative requirements

The Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee is set up to advise on bicycle infrastructure related matters. It was established from a Council Resolution on 10 October 2017.

## Conclusion

The Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee is a positive forum for the consideration of matters important to bicycle riders. The Committee's recommendations are supported, and it is considered that they should be endorsed by the Council.

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**Responsible officer:** Jay Lee-Pieterse, Senior Sustainable Transport Officer

**File Reference:** F2018/00158

CS15/24

# Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee

## Minutes

7:30am Wednesday 21 February 2024 (*remote meeting*)

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## Terms of reference

The following information is provided so that you may be aware of the structure and operation of the Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee.

### **Randwick Council resolved to establish a Cycleway and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee with the following terms of reference:**

1. Report to the Council;
2. Enhance consultation between Council and the bike riding community;
3. Advance implementation of the planned and funded cycle ways in the Randwick local government area;
4. Review and provide advice on proposed Council bike related capital works projects;
5. Participate in the yearly draft budget process by recommending appropriate bike related projects;
6. Be consulted by Council on cycle way and bike facility issues involving significant planning proposals and Development applications before Council;
7. Regularly review and propose updating of the Randwick Council bike plan in line with the strategic direction of priority cycleways as detailed within "Sydney's Cycling Future"; and
8. Help advance a Regional Cycle Strategy with neighbouring Councils.

(Council resolution references 172/17 & 87/18)

## 1. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair asked for a volunteer to acknowledge the lands upon which this meeting is being held. Councillor Olive volunteered and stated the following:

*"I would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on the land of the Bidjigal and the Gadigal peoples; being the traditional owners who, for thousands of years, occupied and cared for vast areas along the Sydney Coast.*

*On behalf of the participants of this meeting I acknowledge and pay my respects to the Elders past, present and emerging, and also to those Aboriginal people participating today."*

## 2. Attendance and apologies

### **In attendance:**

|                                  |     |                       |          |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----------------------|----------|
| Mayor Philipa Veitch             | RCC | Ms Emese Ruttley-Wolf | RCC      |
| Councillor Michael Olive (Chair) | RCC | Ms Yvonne Poon        | BIKEast  |
| Councillor Kathy Neilson         | RCC | Mr Dick van den Dool  | BIKEast  |
| Mr Tony Lehmann                  | RCC | Mr Lee Roberts        | BIKEast  |
| Ms Jay Lee-Pieterse              | RCC | Ms Kristina Warton    | Resident |
| Mr Lachlan Wood                  | RCC | Mr Paul Chilcott      | Resident |
| Mr Padmanaban Subramanian        | RCC |                       |          |

### **Apologies:**

Councillor Rafaela Pandolfini  
Ms Kate Lewis, TfNSW

## 3. Declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests

Nil

## 4. Matters arising from Minutes of previous meetings

Wayfinding signage on Doncaster Avenue at Alison Road, Kensington pointing east towards the UNSW Upper Campus and Randwick Light Rail has been removed as requested by BIKEast.

## 5. Items for consideration

### 5.1. Get NSW Active Program Funding / TfNSW Walking and Cycling Program

The status of Council's application for Get NSW Active Grant Funding Program 2022/23 and 2023/24 are as detailed in the table below.

| Applications made 2023/24  | Award Status   | Funding stage requested | TfNSW Contribution       |
|--|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| South Coogee to Kingsford - Stage 1 (Sturt Street)   | Successful for construction of traffic signals at Avoca St / Bundock St/Sturt St / | Construction            | 100%<br><b>\$2M</b>      |
| Maroubra Road Cycleway   | Successful – Concept Design only   | Design                  | 80%<br><b>\$400K</b>     |
| Todman Avenue and Lenthall Street Walking and Cycling Improvements   | Successful   | Design                  | 100%<br><b>\$667K</b>    |
| Anzac Parade Paths Project – Mid B - Fitzgerald Ave to Bunnerong Rd  | Unsuccessful   | Design                  | 100%                     |
| Heffron Park to Maroubra Beach - Separated Cycleway  | Unsuccessful   | Design                  | 100%                     |
| Randwick City Council Bicycle Parking Installation Program   | Unsuccessful   | Construction            | 100%                     |
| Sturt Street link - Road space reallocation and pedestrian access project  | Unsuccessful   | Design                  | 100%                     |
| Fitzgerald Avenue - Hillsdale to Maroubra Beach  | Unsuccessful   | Construction            | 100%                     |
| Previous application made 2022/23  | Award Status   | Funding stage requested | TfNSW Contribution       |
| Active Transport Strategy  | Successful   | Strategy                | 100%<br><b>\$140K</b>    |
| South Coogee to Kingsford walking and cycling streetscape (Bundock Street / Sturt Street) – Detailed design finalisation | Successful   | Design                  | 100%<br><b>\$474,580</b> |
| Coogee to Randwick – Detailed design   | Successful   | Design                  | 100%<br><b>\$776K</b>    |
| Anzac Parade – Mid A – Fitzgerald Avenue to Sturt Street / APPP – Detailed design  | Successful   | Design                  | 50%<br><b>\$396K</b>     |
| Todman Avenue – Implementation   | Unsuccessful   | N/A                     | 0%                       |
| Fitzgerald Avenue - Hillsdale to Maroubra Beach – Construction   | Unsuccessful   | N/A                     | 0%                       |

Council received confirmation from Transport for NSW (TfNSW) regarding Council's submissions for the 2023/24 Get NSW Active Program. Of the eight Randwick City Council projects submitted for grant funding for 2023/24, TfNSW will fund the three above noted projects.

Updates on projects funded as part of the Get NSW Active Program are in the following sections.



The 2024/25 Get NSW Active program applications were opened on 31 October 2023 and closed on 13 December 2023. Council officers reviewed appropriate future projects. Current projects, resourcing and Council's focus in the upcoming financial year. As such the following five projects were identified, which were submitted as four applications (combining the two school crossing upgrade projects into one).

| Applications made for FY 2024/25   | Funding stage requested | TfNSW Contribution |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Kingsford to Centennial Park Cycleway – Section 3 (Barker Street to Sturt Street) – Design assessment  | Design                  | 100% (\$411K)      |
| Maroubra Road Corridor Upgrade   | Detailed Design only    | 100% (\$ 933K)     |
| Paine Reserve - Shared Path (North South)  | Construction            | 100% (\$263K)      |
| School Crossing Improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Franklin Street, north of Matraville Boys High School, near St Andrews Catholic Primary School - Conversion of existing refuge island to a raised pedestrian crossing.</li> <li>Malabar Road West, Maroubra Bay Public School - Raising existing pedestrian crossing</li> </ul> | Construction            | 100% (\$231K)      |

Council awaits TfNSW's decision on these applications.

*Ms Poon (BIKEast) requested an update on the signalisation of the Sturt/Avoca/Bundock Streets intersection. Mr Lehmann advised that RCC are still working with TfNSW and our consultant on issues with the Sydney Water main and that 12-18 month delays are still anticipated due to the approvals processes required, and that interim pedestrian refuges at Sturt Street and Bundock Street are being investigated.*

**Recommendation:**

That the information be received.

## 5.2. Active Transport Strategy / Transport Mode Hierarchy

Council officers, with the consultant, continue to develop the Active Transport Strategy (ATS). The draft ATS and the Transport Mode Hierarchy was to be presented for endorsement to the November 2023 Council Meeting but was subsequently delayed until the February 2024 Council meeting. Stage 2 of the community consultation is expected to begin in March 2024 and will seek feedback on the ATS, including the draft Walking and Cycling Plans. Following community and stakeholder feedback the ATS will be refined and finalised. Council's Bicycle Route Construction Priority list will be reviewed following the adoption of the ATS and the Walking and Cycling Plans. The list will then be released for community consultation.

*Mr Roberts (BIKEast) asked when the Active Transport Strategy will be available. Mr Lehmann advised the Active Transport Strategy is an item on the February 2024 Council meeting and community consultation is anticipated to commence following Council approval.*

**Recommendation:**

That the information be received.

## 5.3. Kingsford to Centennial Park Cycleway

*(Doncaster Avenue, Day Avenue, Houston Road, General Bridges Crescent, Sturt Street permanent cycleway)*

TfNSW and their contractor, Burton, completed the construction of Sections 1 and 2 (1.1 km of 1.8km) of the Kingsford to Centennial Park Walking and Cycling improvements (K2CP) project on behalf of Council, from Alison Road in the north up to Barker Street in the south. Council has also completed the construction of the reinstated roundabout at the Ascot Street and Doncaster Avenue intersection with a continuous separated cycleway on the eastern side.

The elements of the cycleway that were opened to the public in December 2023 include:

- Doncaster Avenue, from Alison Road to Day Avenue,
- Day Avenue, from Doncaster Avenue to Houston Road,
- Houston Road, from Day Avenue to Barker Street.

The tree planting for Section 1, Doncaster Avenue from Alison Road to Anzac Parade, will be completed after this summer due to heat.

TfNSW and Council are also reviewing options to upgrade the Doncaster Avenue / Anzac Parade intersection to provide a continuous separated cycleway through Anzac Parade. Council is investigating options to best fit the separated cycleway whilst minimising the impacts on the existing on-street parking and services.

Section 3, which is pending construction funding, includes the following sections remaining for construction:

- Houston Road, from Barker Street to Gardeners Road
- General Bridges Crescent, from Gardeners Road to Bunnerong Road,
- Sturt St from Bunnerong Road to Anzac Parade.

For Section 3, TfNSW and Council continue to work together to review the design options and budget opportunities. Further updates will be provided when available. As mentioned in section 5.1, Council submitted an application to for a design assessment to consider how to deliver the rest of the project and provide an effective and cost-efficient protected cycleway for the rest of the project.

Council officers are investigating options for improving visibility of the signal boxes with TfNSW with options including providing 'skins' for the signal boxes as well as line marking to guide cyclists around the signal boxes and the power pole.

### 5.3.1. Community Communication

Since the opening of the cycleway, there have been various feedback shared with Council by the community.

The Mayor and Council officers have met with a number of Doncaster Avenue residents to listen to these concerns. To date, a consolidated response letter has been sent out to residents who met with the Mayor onsite.

Some actions that Council is working on are implementing additional linemarking for parking lanes, driveways and pavement reflective markers, as well as reviewing designs for the Kensington Public School layby.

There are also general comments and questions around cyclists still riding on the road. There has also been reported incidences involving frustrated drivers and cyclists. Council officers will be reviewing ways to better communicate with the community how to share the road. Any suggestions on how we can engage cyclists are welcomed.

### 5.3.2. K2CP Bicycle Counts

Prior to the opening of Section 1 (Alison Road to Todman Avenue) and following the opening of Section 2 (Todman Avenue to Barker Street), Council undertook video and pneumatic tube counts along Section 2 of the K2CP cycleway. Video and tube counts were taken at the following locations (on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023 from 6am to 10am for video counts and for a one-week period beginning on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023 to Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 for tube counts):

- Doncaster Avenue at Todman Avenue (video and tube count)
- Doncaster Avenue north of Anzac Parade (tube count)
- Doncaster Avenue south of Anzac Parade (tube count)
- Doncaster Avenue north of Day Avenue (video and tube count)
- Day Avenue east of Doncaster Avenue (tube count)
- Day Avenue at Houston Road (video count)
- Houston Road north of Barker Street (video and tube count)

The video counts provided information on cyclists and pedestrian movements and on-road / off-road (cycleway and footpath) behaviour. Some of the key observations are summarised below:

- The highest peak hour volume was observed to be at Doncaster Avenue and Day Avenue with 241 bike riders during 6:30am to 7:30am. Other intersections' peak hour volumes ranged from 140 to 210 bike riders. The peak hour generally occurred from 6:30am to 7:30am at the counted locations.

- Overall, more people rode on the road than the separated cycleway/footpath, throughout all locations (roughly 60% on-road / 40% off-road)
- The majority of the on-road bike rider volumes were high between 6am and 8am (average of 48 cyclists per hour). Outside of those hours, the on-road volumes were observed to be on average of ~2 riders per hour after 8am.
- Off-road bike rider volumes remained relatively consistent throughout the observation period (6am to 10am) with most bike riders observed between 7am to 9am peak period (an average of 22 cyclists per hour during peak period / 9 cyclists per hour during off-peak period).

## Pneumatic Tube Count Data

| Location   | Weekday      |                   |                | Weekend     |                   |                | Daily             |                |
|--|--------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
|  | Peak Day     | Peak Hour Volume  | Average Volume | Peak Day    | Peak Hour Volume  | Average Volume | Peak Hour Volume  | Average Volume |
| Doncaster Ave north of Todman Ave                | Mon, 18 Dec  | 50<br>(5PM - 6PM) | 423            | Sun, 17 Dec | 42<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 304            | 42<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 327            |
| Doncaster Ave north of Anzac Pde                 | Fri, 15 Dec  | 48<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 448            | Sat, 16 Dec | 43<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 332            | 39<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 354            |
| Doncaster Ave at Roma Ave                        | Thur, 14 Dec | 48<br>(7AM - 8AM) | 361            | Sun, 17 Dec | 27<br>(7AM - 8AM) | 252            | 31<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 279            |
| Doncaster Ave north of Day Ave                   | Thur, 14 Dec | 47<br>(7AM - 8AM) | 381            | Sat, 16 Dec | 40<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 277            | 33<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 298            |
| Day Ave east of Doncaster Ave                    | Thur, 14 Dec | 42<br>(7AM - 8AM) | 321            | Sat, 16 Dec | 30<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 191            | 30<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 235            |
| Houston Rd north of Barker St                    | Mon, 18 Dec  | 35<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 225            | Sat, 16 Dec | 26<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 141            | 23<br>(8AM - 9AM) | 172            |
| <b>Average Total Volume Across all Locations</b> | -            | -                 | 360            | -           | -                 | 250            | -                 | 278            |

The tube counts were taken along the new separated cycleway. The following are some key points noted from the tube count data:

- Majority of cyclists travel north towards the city in the AM and South in the PM at all locations.
- The weekday peak hour volumes were generally higher than weekend peak hour volume in all locations, which may demonstrate that there are high volume of people commuting.
- Highest average bike rider volumes occurred at Doncaster Avenue, north of Anzac Parade, with the average weekday volume at 448 riders, average weekend volume at 332 riders and average daily volume at 354 riders.
- Highest peak hour volumes occurred on Doncaster Avenue, north of Todman Avenue.

The above data represents the opening of Section 2 only. Noting that Section 1 has since opened after the above data collection, the number of cyclists is expected to increase.

*Mr Roberts requested an update related to the Doncaster Avenue and Anzac Parade signalised intersection K2CP. Mr Lehmann advised that Council is working with TfNSW on the design and consultation will commence soon.*

*Mayor Veitch asked for an update on progress on the remaining Section 3 of K2CP. Mr Lehmann advised Council will be assessing design options and applied for funding from TfNSW under the 2024/25 Get NSW Active program.*

*Mr Roberts asked if Council plans permanent counters on our cycleways to show how well the cycleways are performing. Ms Lee-Pieterse advised Council is currently planning to carry out Super Sunday counts at a number of locations, and that Council are investigating with TfNSW possible permanent counters to be installed.*

**Recommendation:**

That the information be received.

#### 5.4. Anzac Parade (Walking and Cycling) Paths Project (APPP)

Council was successful in gaining 50% funding for developing the detailed design documentation package of the Anzac Parade Walking and Cycling Paths Project under the Get NSW Active Program. The Consultant has completed the Strategic Framework report (Stage 1) and is working on the concept design including traffic control signal (TCS) design and path alignments.

The base traffic assessment is currently under review by Council and TfNSW and will assist in understanding the opportunities for, and impacts of, the proposed paths and crossings along the corridor. Council officers continue to work together with the consultant and TfNSW to develop the concept design.

The project program has been updated to reflect some of these delays with project completion now anticipated to be the end of 2024.

*Mr Roberts requested an update on the where the delay in the project was. Mr Lehmann noted that Council officers as well as TfNSW are reviewing at the traffic assessment for intersections provided by the consultant. The anticipated completion of the project is the end of 2024.*

*Ms Poon requested confirmation that the TfNSW Get NSW Active funding is secured and can be extended. Based on the advisement of the consultant, this project is moving forward and is expected to be completed within the TfNSW Get NSW Active funding period.*

#### Recommendation:

That the information be received.

#### 5.5. South Coogee to Kingsford Walking and Cycling Project

Council is continuing to work with the primary consultant to complete the detailed design following the success of Council's Get NSW Active Program submission. The funding covered 100% of the finalisation of the detail documentation package for the South Coogee to Kingsford Walking and Cycling Project (Bundock Street and Sturt Street).

As outlined in section 5.1, Council applied under the 2023/24 Get NSW Active Program for funding to construct Stage 1 of the South Coogee to Kingsford Walking and Cycling Streetscape project. Of the applied funding, the signalisation of the Avoca Street/Bundock Street/Sturt Street intersections was approved with \$2 million allocated for this project. As such, Council has instructed the consultant to prioritise the detailed design for the Avoca Street signalised intersection and to prepare a separate construction tender package.

To date, the consultant has developed the detailed design for the Avoca Street signalised intersection to 80% complete, and the detailed design for the Sturt Street and Bundock Street cycleway to 50% complete.

During the detailed design of the Avoca Street signalised intersection, it was found that proposed new traffic signals and footings would be sited directly above a Sydney Water main which runs along the centre of Avoca Street. Council has been advised that Sydney Water requires unimpeded access to their asset and will not accept having to engage with a third party in case emergency access is needed (i.e. TfNSW traffic signals). Design options were developed and reviewed to avoid this scenario. The encasement of the affected sections of the water mains in concrete has been identified as the best solution, however this triggers a Major Works Approval process which can take between 12-18 months. Council is still determining this process and the implications, including whether to install temporary pedestrian refuges at Sturt Street and Bundock Street at Avoca Street.

The construction ready plans for the Avoca Street signalised intersection are anticipated to be complete by May 2024 and subject to the required approvals process (Ausgrid, TfNSW, Sydney Water). The construction ready plans for the Sturt Street and Bundock Street cycleways area anticipated by August 2024 with construction subject to future successful funding applications.

#### Recommendation:

That the information be received.

## 5.6. Coogee to Randwick Cycleway

The Coogee to Randwick Cycleway project will provide a bike link from Coogee Beach to the Randwick light rail terminus and UNSW. The project will provide an active transport link between these key destinations and provide light rail passengers an alternative to driving to the Randwick light rail stop. The introduction of the light rail corridor on High Street and the new development at the Randwick Health and Innovation Precinct have required that the route originally identified be re-examined.

Council has appointed a primary consultant to complete the first stage of the project, the Strategic Framework and Options Assessment. The strategic framework will establish the vision and objectives for the project and provide a site analysis identifying the opportunities and constraints within the defined study area. Route options will then be developed and evaluated to determine the preferred route alignment in meeting the objectives of this route.

This project will include appropriate bypass links of the High Street Light Rail Terminus. Early consultation with UNSW and Health Infrastructure NSW will commence following completion of the analysis of the study area and the development of route options in order to present potential links with a robust justification.

Completion of this stage is expected to be early 2024, following which Council will appoint a consultant to develop the preferred route from concept design through to detailed design.

*A number of questions were raised about the proposed route selection. Council's consultant is currently working on the site analysis and route assessment to determine the preferred route and this will be complete in the following months, including engaging with Health Infrastructure NSW and UNSW.*

*Ms Poon queried when will BIKEast or CABFAC can see the route options. Mr Lehmann noted that there may be a working group with BIKEast to work through the options once these have been developed.*

### Recommendation:

That the information be received.

## 5.7. Maroubra Road Corridor Study

The Maroubra Road Corridor Study has been finalised along with a high-level concept design. The corridor study focused on improvements to pedestrian, bike rider and traffic facilities. Maroubra Road is very difficult to cross for all transport modes. The recommendation arising out the study included significant access improvements for pedestrians and road safety improvements for all users. The Study also identified the opportunity for the implementation of an east-west cycleway along the southern edge of Maroubra Road. For most of the route the road width is sufficient to accommodate such a facility.

However, at the Meeting of Council held on 23 August 2023, it was resolved that "the Maroubra Road Cycleway be deleted" from the project. Following Council's decision, Council successfully sought TfNSW's endorsement to progress with the new signalised intersections and pedestrian facilities at the nine key locations under the existing. The concept design would be specifically developed to allow for the easy installation of a future separated cycleway to be delivered with minimal disruption if the community and Council was to request cycleway route in the future.

Council is in the process of preparing the scope of works as part of the procurement process to appoint an external consultant to develop concept designs for these pedestrian and road safety improvements.

*Ms Poon noted that BIKEast had provided their submission for the Maroubra Road Intersection Upgrades consultation and that this is also available on their website. Mr Lehmann acknowledged this and noted it will be considered.*

*Councillor Olive noted that the funding offer from TfNSW has been reduced from \$400,000 to \$300,000 following Council's resolution to delete the cycleway component.*

### Recommendation:

That the information be received.



## 5.8. Todman Avenue Cycleway Project

### Todman Avenue - Provisional Line Marking and Signage Upgrade

The proposed line marking upgrades of the interim project underwent a Road Safety Audit and based on the safety items identified, Council officers reviewed the feasibility of the shared paths on both ends of this project: from South Dowling Street to southeast of Supa Centa access; and on the south side of Todman Avenue at Lenthall Street.

This review included consulting TfNSW on the impacts to traffic signals, footpath widths and ramps. Based on the review, the shared path component will be separated from the line marking and signage upgrade proposal to move this project forward due to the associated costs and impact on traffic signals. The shared paths, or other options, will be reviewed as part of the permanent cycleway project. With that update, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2023, Council sent out a community notification letter regarding the planned line marking, signage, and shared path to the residents in proximity, with a 4-week period for response (6 November 2023). The community feedback mainly consisted of residents asking for clarification regarding the concept design provided, as well as providing feedback on the pedestrian crossing at Carminya Street and Todman Avenue intersection.

As the community consultation period has recently concluded, the feedback received will be considered and incorporated into the design and forwarded to BKEast for final review. The line marking works will be brought forth to Local Traffic Committee and will be scheduled for early 2024.

### Todman Avenue and Lenthall Street Walking and Cycling Improvements Project

Council has been successful in securing funding from 2023/24 Get NSW Active Program for permanent, physically separated, walking, and cycling infrastructure improvements project from concept design to detailed design. The procurement process has begun and appointment of the principal consultant and commencement of the project is anticipated in April 2024. As the RCC Bicycle Route Construction Priority 3, it will provide a key link from City of Sydney to Doncaster Avenue where the Kingsford to Centennial Park cycleway will be completed this year.

*Ms Poon requested an update on this project and why the provisional line marking is taking so long. Mr Lehmann provided an update on the project. Mr Lehmann advised the line marking is progressing but acknowledged the delays. Mr Lehmann also advised that Council officers are currently working on appointing a consultant for the design of the permanent cycleway.*

*Ms Poon asked how this proposed cycleway will connect to the K2CP cycleway. Mr. Lehmann advised the permanent cycleway will connect to K2CP via Todman Avenue, but the provisional line marking works are from Eastern Distributor to Lenthall Street.*

*Ms Poon asked what is being done to improve the known issues with cyclists currently turning left into Lenthall Street. Mr Lehmann advised that a shared path is proposed to improve this movement but there are challenges such as drainage conflicts and standard compliance for the ramps that need to be resolved.*

*Mayor Veitch queried if Lenthall Street and Todman Avenue can be separated, given the likely design challenges along Lenthall Street. Mr Lehmann advised that Council officers are reviewing the area through Kensington West Local Area Traffic Management study and consideration of lower speed limit is given, noting that area may not meet the criteria for 30km/h, but will likely be a consideration for a 40km/h speed limit.*

### Recommendation:

That the information be received.

## 5.9. Paine Reserve shared path (north-south path)

Option 3 was chosen following considerations of the three options previously shared for the 3m wide shared path linking the existing east/west shared path in Paine Reserve to connect Rainbow Street to the south and Fennelly Street to the north.

Under this option the shared path follows the Scout Hall property line north and then follows the Fennelly Street alignment to the existing driveway access. It also includes 1.2m wide footpath and concrete staircase leading to Fennelly Street within the reserve lands to accommodate pedestrian desire lines.



With the shared path alignment determined, Council officers are developing the construction documentation and preparing for the application for the approval of the rights to construct and maintain a path within the land subject to Native Title requirements.



Ms Warton highlighted the Fennelly Street footpath is too narrow for two people to pass each other and questioned why it was not widened further. She noted that she met with RCC staff on site and discussed this section of path. Ms Poon noted that the current path should be better designed to encourage kids walking to school.

Mr Lehmann noted that drainage issue on Fennelly St as well as parking impacts have created constraints in widening path and stated but Council will look at further widening options and current thinking. The preferred cyclist movements in connecting to proposed street in Paine Reserve is still to be determined. Council officers will investigate why path wasn't widened but noted possible land ownership issues.

**Recommendation:**

That the information be received.

### 5.10. Alison Road (between Darley Road and Doncaster Avenue)

Council officers have forwarded the concept plans of a full shared path along the southern side of Alison Road, from Doncaster Avenue (future cycleway) to the Light Rail yard and Royal Randwick Racecourse (the Racecourse) accesses to the Australian Turf Club (ATC).

Following review of the costs associated with replacing the footpaths that were constructed as part of the Light Rail project, it is proposed to retain the existing 2.1m footpath and designate them as shared path with shared path line marking between the Racecourse access to Darley Road intersection.

Council is waiting for comments from the ATC, and officers are working on the detailed design of the shared path. The path around the back of the bus shelter will require that the Council enter into a lease arrangement with TfNSW as the land behind the bus shelter is not owned by Council. Once finalised, the detailed plans will be forwarded to Transport for NSW to commence the lease process.

**Recommendation:**

That the information be received.

### 5.11. Super Sunday Bicycle Counts

Randwick City Council has been engaging Bicycle Network to have pedestrian and bicycle counts completed every year on a Sunday, known as Super Sunday. The date varies each year but generally occur in the second week of November on days with generally good riding conditions.

There is general increase in the bicycle uses in the most locations, with the highest growth seen on Alison Road and Doncaster Avenue, Kensington. There has been a drop in Doncaster Avenue and Anzac Parade, Kingston, however, this is expected to increase with the cycleway opening.

On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023, the annual Super Sunday Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts were conducted between 9am and 12pm. In 2023, 14 locations were surveyed, 8 of which were surveyed in the previous Super Sunday 2022, 2 were surveyed years prior to 2022 and 4 newly surveyed locations.

| Location   | 2022<br>Total Riders | 2023<br>Total Riders | Difference | Growth     |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|
| Todman Ave and Lenthall St, Kensington                         | 115                  | 146                  | 31         | 27%        |
| York Rd, Darley St, Avoca St and Musgrave Ave, Randwick        | 278                  | 334                  | 56         | 20%        |
| Doncaster Ave and Anzac Pde, Kensington                        | 244                  | 139                  | -105       | -43%       |
| Alison Road and Doncaster Ave, Kensington                      | 234                  | 504                  | 270        | 115%       |
| Sturt St and Anzac Pde, Kingsford                              | 42                   | 49                   | 7          | 17%        |
| Maroubra Rd and Anzac Pde, Maroubra                            | 215                  | 211                  | -4         | -2%        |
| Avoca St, Bundock St and Sturt St, Randwick                    | 75                   | 70                   | -5         | -7%        |
| Coogee Bay Rd, Perouse Rd, Cuthill St and Belmore Rd, Randwick | 140                  | 170                  | 30         | 21%        |
| Anzac Pde, La Perouse (last counted in 2016)                   | -                    | 182                  | -          | -          |
| Fitzgerald Ave and Anzac Pde, Maroubra (last counted in 2021)  | -                    | 269                  | -          | -          |
| Arden St, Arden St and Coogee Bay Rd, Coogee                   | -                    | 57                   | -          | -          |
| Barker St and, Houston Rd, Kingsford                           | -                    | 135                  | -          | -          |
| Dolphin St and Arden St, Coogee                                | -                    | 70                   | -          | -          |
| St Pauls St and Perouse Rd, Randwick                           | -                    | 76                   | -          | -          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>1343</b>          | <b>1623</b>          | <b>280</b> | <b>21%</b> |

There is a general increase in the bicycle uses in the most locations, with the highest growth seen on Alison Road and Doncaster Avenue, Kensington. There has been a drop in Doncaster Avenue and Anzac Parade, Kingston, however, this is expected to increase with the cycleway opening. As these observations occurred on Sunday, it is expected that these are recreational riders rather than riders commuting.

Super Tuesday counts will be completed in March and an update will be provided in the May 2024 CABFAC Meeting.

*The significant drop at the number of cyclists at Doncaster Avenue and Anzac Parade, Kensington was noted. In addition, the construction along Doncaster Avenue, as well as construction works related to the development on Doncaster Avenue, south of Alison Road, were highlighted.*

**Recommendation:**

That the information be received.

### 5.12. Darley Road / Govett Street Gates

Council officers are continuing the previous conversation with the Greater Sydney Parklands (GSP) to seek their confirmation on the permanent closure of the Parkes Drive gate at Darley Road and Govett Street, Randwick. This proposed gate closure aims to facilitate unrestricted access for pedestrians and cyclists while effectively restricting vehicular movement. By implementing this measure, substantial safety enhancements can be expected in addressing the road safety concerns.

*Councillor Neilson noted that community is concerned about this matter and that TAFE has concerns with closure of the gates. Mr Lehmann noted that GSP is planning on closing the gates and that he was not aware of the concerns raised by TAFE and will further investigate.*

#### Recommendation:

That the information be received.

### 5.13. Anzac Pde / Doncaster Ave and Anzac Pde / High St Shared Paths

BIKEast has noted that with the opening of Kingsford to Centennial Park cycleway on Doncaster Avenue, there is more mixed traffic on the existing shared path to connect Doncaster Avenue at Anzac Parade to High Street at Anzac Parade. BIKEast also requests consideration of shared paths along Anzac Parade, from High Street to UNSW Anzac Parade light rail station, and High Street, from Anzac Parade to the existing separated cycleway on High Street, at Randwick Racecourse access.

#### Shared path on Anzac Parade, from Doncaster Avenue to High Street at Anzac Parade

There is currently an existing shared path connection along the eastern side of Anzac Parade from Doncaster Avenue to High Street. It is acknowledged that there is a major pinch point at the northeast corner of the Anzac Parade and High Street intersection with sharp corner and utility boxes impeding sight lines. Council officers will investigate options to improve this corner.



#### High Street, from Anzac Parade to the existing separated cycleway on High Street, at Randwick Racecourse access

This section of High Street has been investigated and previously reviewed as part of the High Street pop-up cycleway. At the time, it was identified that the removal of lanes was not feasible due to the high traffic volume during the event days for the Royal Randwick Racecourse. Removal of the street trees to accommodate separated cycleway would not be supported.

#### Anzac Parade, from High Street to UNSW Anzac Parade light rail station

Establishing a shared path along Anzac Parade from High Street to UNSW Anzac Parade light rail station was previously reviewed as part of the Light Rail design. Unfortunately, further widening of the footpath to accommodate a proper shared path was not achievable. Any future proposals will require discussions with UNSW as parts of the footpath are within UNSW lands. It is also acknowledged that there is narrower footpath due to the existing trees, which were an issue raised previously. Council will have further discussions with UNSW. Council will also work with UNSW on providing a connection along Anzac Parade between Day Avenue and High Street.



*Ms Lee-Pieterse noted that the above item has been brought forward by BIKEast and highlighted the shared path issues, actions, challenges and information from previous considerations and investigations. The path pinch point on Anzac Pde caused by service boxes and creating sight line issues will be addressed with the trimming of the bush and the Australian Turf Club signage to be requested for removal.*

**Recommendation:**

That the information be received.

**5.14. Proposed committee dates 2024**

The next meeting has been confirmed to be 15 May 2024 at 7:30am.

The following dates are proposed for committee meetings in the next 12 months:

- Wednesday 15 May 2024 at 7:30am
- Wednesday 21 August 2024 at 6:30pm
- Wednesday 6 November 2024 at 7:30am.

Previously proposed Wednesday 14 November 2024 at 7:30am is proposed to be changed to 6 November 2024 at 7:30am following confirmation of Council Meeting dates.

**Recommendation:**

That the information be received.

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**6. Urgent matters or matters for future investigation****6.1. Impacts of Trailer and boat parking on cycle lanes**

*Mayor Veitch noted that large amount of trailers and boats parked on routes with marked cycle lanes and causes safety issues for cyclists. Mr Lehmann noted that Council officers will take this up with Rangers to enforce parking restrictions, under the Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021.*

*Meeting concluded at 8:34am.*



## Director City Services Report No. CS16/24

### Subject: Urban Elements Design Manual - Review

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#### Executive Summary

- The existing Randwick City Council Urban Elements Design manual was initially released in 2006. Minor updates have been made since its inception where products are no longer available.
- At the council meeting held in April 2023, it was resolved that the Randwick City Council Urban Elements Design Manual be updated with a focus on section 4 'paving guidelines', with a view to making standard the incorporation of appropriate greenery such as but not limited to street trees, underplanting, shrubbery, hedging and rain beds with appropriately identified species at city gateways, coastal promenades (considering sight lines), town centres, intersections of major roads and secondary streets. That these changes to the design manual consider best-practice concerning water-sensitive design, flood-prevention, vermin prevention, and urban heat-island effect.
- The review of the entire Urban Elements Design manual has commenced with development of the framework for the manual. This framework forms the basis for the next phase which includes identification and evaluation of materials and products for the paving elements, street furniture and open space elements. The review process and framework for the Urban Elements design Manual is presented in attachment 1.
- In planning the review, it was recognised that the urban planting element could be developed as a separate document to expedite the introduction of these guidelines.
- New draft Technical Guidelines for Urban Planting have been developed to guide planting design decisions within the public domain. These comprehensive new guidelines are included as attachment 2.

#### Recommendation

That:

- a) the expanded framework and holistic review process to update the existing Urban Elements Manual be noted; and
- b) Council endorses the draft Technical Guidelines for Urban Planting.

#### Attachment/s:

1. [LINK TO VIEW](#) Review Process and Considerations of the Urban Elements Design Manual
2. [LINK TO VIEW](#) Draft Technical Guidelines for Urban Planting

## Purpose

This report provides an update on the review of the Randwick City Council Urban Elements Design Manual.

## Discussion

Council at its meeting held in April 2023, resolved as follows:

(Mayor, Cr Parker) that Council:

- a) note the recent excellent design work associated with the Maroubra Junction and Matraville Public masterplans;
- b) update the Randwick City Council Urban Elements Design Manual 2006, particularly section 4 'paving guidelines' with a view to making standard the incorporation of appropriate greenery such as but not limited to street trees, underplanting, shrubbery, hedging and rain beds with appropriately identified species at city gateways, coastal promenades (taking into account sight lines), town centres, intersections of major roads and secondary streets. That these changes to the design manual consider best-practice concerning water-sensitive design, flood-prevention, vermin prevention, and urban heat-island effect;
- c) incorporate a new section in the Randwick City Council Urban Elements Design Manual 2006 for crossings, ramps, median strips, pedestrian islands, roundabouts, green pedestrian barriers and other traffic devices with a view to making standard the inclusion of plantings where appropriate. That these changes to the design manual consider best-practice concerning water-sensitive design, flood-prevention, vermin prevention, and urban heat-island effect; and
- d) develop a draft short term (FY24-25), medium term (2-5 year), and long term (5-10 year) resourcing strategy and delivery program to accomplish the abovementioned changes. That this resourcing strategy take into consideration any future installation, maintenance, replacement and/or labour costs.

The existing Randwick City Council Urban Elements Design manual was initially released in 2006. There have been minor updates made to the manual due to products no longer being available.

### Updating the existing Urban Elements Design Manual

The Urban Elements Design Manual developed by Randwick City Council provides a strategy and comprehensive set of design guidelines for the selection, positioning, installation, and maintenance of the city's public domain assets.

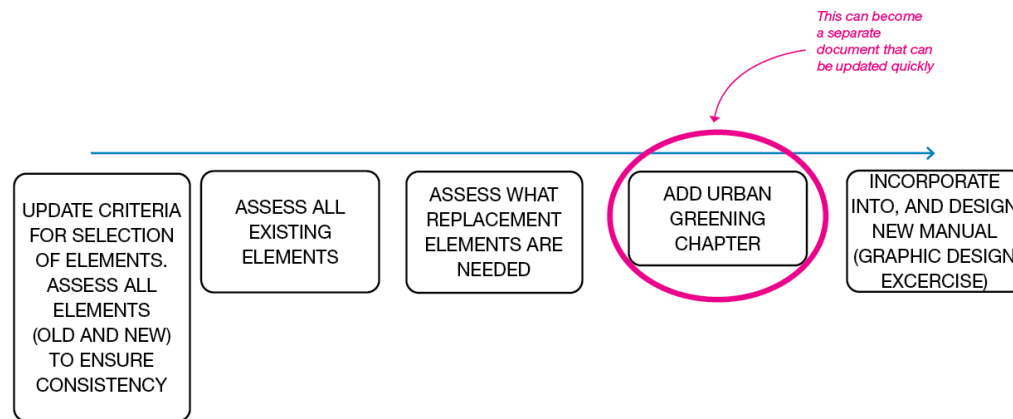
The production of this document included a wide-ranging investigation and selection of preferred elements by a procurement panel. Further, it includes plans and technical information on the layout and installation of these elements.

In planning the review, it was estimated that a holistic review and update of the Urban Elements Design Manual would take approximately 36 to 52 weeks to complete depending on whether work is undertaken in-house or with the assistance of consultants.

Due to the expansive timeframe and required resources for the complete update, it has been determined to stage the works and develop separate Technical Urban Planting Guidelines that can be implemented to complement the existing urban elements.

The following diagram provides information on the process to update the Urban Elements Design Manual.





CS16/24

The standalone draft Technical Guidelines for Urban Planting, once endorsed, will guide public planting and landscaping whilst the review of the urban design elements manual proceeds.

Program, resourcing and budgeting can be organised and allocated over the proposed timeline.

### Draft Technical Guidelines for Urban Planting

The draft Technical Guidelines for Urban Planting outlines the requirements to plant new trees and associated landscaping with the best possible chance for establishment. The following actions were undertaken to achieve this objective and provide a benchmark for public domain planting quality:

- review of key guiding documents (internal and external) technical guidelines for tree and landscape planting in streets - including various street widths, kerb extensions and corner treatments (WSUD included).
- plant, tree, and soil specifications including plant densities and soil volume recommendations.
- planting palettes that reflect the unique urban and coastal environments of the Randwick City Council area.
- key planting details to use as a basis for design.

The Technical Guidelines provide guidance for tree planting and landscape planting in street verges, kerb extensions, median islands and other traffic facilities. The guidelines outline a planting palette suitable for the area, soils and planting specifications and, irrigation to ensure the landscaping is well established and low maintenance.

The objective of the draft Technical Guidelines for Urban Planting is to improve biodiversity, reduce the heat island effect, increase pervious areas to increase absorption and manage overland flow. The implementation of the guidelines will support Water Sensitive Urban Design in our public domain projects.

### Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan: |  |
|--|--|
| Strategy   | Environment  |
| Outcome  | A city with diverse ecosystems that are restored and protected   |
| Objective  | Increase by at least 60% the number of native and indigenous plantings across Randwick City by 2030 from a 2018 baseline   |
| Delivery program commitment                              | Improve the connectivity of key bushland areas by planting and maintaining 14,000m2 of native and indigenous ground covers, shrubs and trees starting in areas between Kamay National Park, Bunnerong Rd Chifley Eastern |

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
|                             | Suburbs Banksia Scrub, Yarra Bay Bushland areas and Malabar Headland National Park by 2026 and extending into additional areas of the City.  |
| Delivery program commitment | Review Council's Local Environment Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP) by strengthening the requirements for new and replacement planting of native and indigenous species for new developments, and also for existing developments when tree and / or native vegetation removal is approved or permissible. |
| Strategy                    | Open Space and Recreation  |
| Outcome                     | A community that is healthy and active   |
| Objective                   | Maintain a community satisfaction* rating for coastal open spaces, coastal walkway, playgrounds and parks of 97%   |
| Delivery program commitment | Create a green grid plan providing avenue tree planting and landscape, including prioritising projects that connect areas with lower open space provision per person including areas in Kensington, Kingsford and Randwick with existing open spaces.  |

## Resourcing Strategy implications

There are no resourcing strategy implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

### Future Resourcing Strategy

The Technical Guidelines for Urban Planting will be incorporated into design practices used for all public domain upgrades that are planned in future capital works programs. Tree planting and landscape planting will be incorporated into town centre upgrade works planned for Maroubra Junction, Matraville, Clovelly Road and Maroubra Beach masterplan implementation.

The guidelines will also be used to incorporate planting into kerb extensions, public plazas and new traffic facilities planned in the future capital works programs.

As new trees and landscaping are planted, the resource requirements to undertake maintenance will increase over time. The review of these resources will be ongoing and additional resources will be nominated in future operational budgets to meet the necessary maintenance requirements.

#### 2024-25

- Street and Park Planting \$250,000
- Maroubra Beach Masterplan \$500,000
- Heffron Park Plan of Management \$500,000
- Maroubra Road Corridor Study \$500,000
- Maroubra Junction Streetscape \$1,500,000
- Matraville Town Centre Streetscape \$1,500,000
- Traffic Committee Works \$300,000

#### 2025-26 (Planned)

- Maroubra Beach Masterplan \$1,000,000
- Heffron Park Plan of Management \$500,000
- Street and Park Planting \$130,000
- Traffic Committee Works \$300,000
- Maroubra Road Corridor Study \$500,000
- Maroubra Junction Streetscape \$1,500,000
- Matraville Town Centre Streetscape \$1,500,000

A medium to long term funding strategy is currently being developed in line with the complete revision of the urban elements manual which will be reported to Council in a future meeting.

## Policy and legislative requirements

- Randwick City Council Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032
- Randwick City Council, Vision 2040, Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS)
- Randwick City Council Economic Development Strategy May 2022
- Randwick City Council, Arts and Culture Strategy.
- Draft NSW Public Spaces Charter: Healthy and Active
- Sydney green grid plan.

## Conclusion

The objective of Randwick City Council's technical Guideline for Urban Planting (attachment 2) is to provide technical information to support the optimal planting, canopy coverage, and gardens within the public domain of Randwick City. Implementation of the guidelines will provide environmental benefits and improve streetscape aesthetics.

The strategy aims to ensure improved growing conditions of existing and proposed trees and, landscape planting within the public domain. This will help mitigate effects of the climate crisis including enhanced carbon sequestration, mitigation of increased urban heat, flash flooding from more frequent flood events and improvements to biodiversity.

This guideline aims to raise the standard of urban greening, being used by developers and council officers in collaboration with horticulturalists, arborists, urban designers, and landscape professionals to help create cool, diverse and vibrant public spaces within our LGA.

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**Responsible officer:** Ross Mills, Landscape Architect

**File Reference:** F2024/00124

## Director City Services Report No. CS17/24

### Subject: Pump Park / Multi-Modal Bike Track - Site Feasibility

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#### Executive Summary

- The proposal for a Pump Park is a direct response to the Open Space Strategy calling to – “Identify potential temporary and/or permanent sites for active informal sports including BMX track, BMX jumps course and/or mountain bike course, or outdoor bouldering for children/young people in existing or new open space.”
- An initial review of suitable locations was undertaken for the location of a permanent site for a pump / BMX bike park. The initial study analysed 10 open spaces in the LGA, with 3 of these found to be suitable locations for further investigation.
- The 3 sites assessed are:
  - 1903R Botany Road, Matraville
  - Cromwell Park (North), Malabar
  - Anzac Parade Median Between Austral St and Mitchell St, Chifley
- A feasibility analysis, conducted by specialist consultants has been undertaken of the 3 sites. This analysis resulted in the identification of the preferred site with supportive information/analysis on why this site was preferred. Trailscapes, who undertook the feasibility study, have provided a short report that clearly states the assessment parameters, opportunities/constraints and an estimated cost comparison.
- The report also considers a Council resolution from its meeting held in December 2023 to consider the feasibility of developing a Disc Golf course at Cromwell Park (North).

#### Recommendation

That:

- a) Council endorse the site at Cromwell Park (North), Malabar.
- b) the design development and consultation for a bike facility at Cromwell Park (North), Malabar proceed.

#### Attachment/s:

1. [LINK TO VIEW](#) Urban Bike Park Feasibility Report

## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the feasibility analysis undertaken to select a suitable site for a BMX / Pump Park facility within the LGA.

Initially, only a pump park was proposed, however we took the opportunity to assess the potential of an expanded bike facility to offer a wider ranging benefit to local users.

Council Officers assessment focused on identifying a suitable site capable of not only hosting a pump track, but also incorporating various cycling features like mountain bike trails, jump parks, and associated passive recreation facilities.

A bike park designer was engaged to evaluate three specific locations within the Local Government Area (LGA), examining their suitability for a bike park and assessing the range of programs they could support.

By broadening our park program from a single typology pump park to a multi-use bike park, we will engage a much larger and more diverse user group. Comparable parks across Australia have experienced tremendous success, inspiring our expansion efforts.

## Discussion

Initially, only a pump park was proposed, however we took the opportunity to assess the potential of an expanded bike facility to offer a wider ranging benefit to local users.

Our assessment focused on identifying a suitable site capable of not only hosting a pump track, but also incorporating various cycling features like mountain bike trails, jump parks, and associated passive recreation facilities.

We engaged a bike park designer to evaluate three specific locations within the Local Government Area (LGA), examining their suitability for a bike park and assessing the range of programs they could support. The 3 sites assessed and shown in the image below are:

- 1903R Botany Road, Matraville
- Cromwell Park (North), Malabar
- Anzac Parade Median Between Austral St and Mitchell St, Chifley





By broadening our park program from a single typology pump park to a multi-use bike park, we will engage a much larger and more diverse user group. Comparable parks across Australia have experienced tremendous success, inspiring our expansion efforts.

### Feasibility of Sites

The primary goal is to establish a comprehensive bike facility that caters to a broad range of users by incorporating multiple cycling typologies. The recommendations in the feasibility report (attachment 1) aim to enhance inclusivity, accessibility, and engagement within the community, providing a platform for a diverse group of riders to participate in the varying forms of cycling and in particular off-road cycling.

Key features for a suitable site include:

- **Varying Typologies:** Designing and implementing various types of biking infrastructure, including trails, jumps, pump tracks, and skill zones, to accommodate riders of all skill levels and preferred styles.
- **Inclusivity:** Focusing on accessibility features to ensure that riders of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds can participate, fostering a sense of community and attempting to break down barriers to entry.
- **Destination Creation:** Transforming the facility into a well-designed and safe destination that attracts not only local residents but also visitors from surrounding areas. This will be achieved by incorporating amenities that compliment the site, green spaces (BBQ and Picnic areas) and different cycling typologies to create a facility that caters to a larger demographic.

Value Proposition:

- **Community Health and Well-being:** Promoting physical activity and a healthy lifestyle by providing a space where individuals can engage in offroad cycling activities. This assists in contributing to the overall well-being of the community.
- **Economic Benefits:** Creating a destination can drive tourism, boosting the local economy through increased patronage of businesses such as cafes, and bike sales/repair/rental shops
- **Social Cohesion:** Offering a communal space for people to connect and share in their chosen past time, fostering a sense of belonging and community. This can lead to the formation of social groups and clubs centered around the facility provided.
- **Skill Development:** Providing opportunities for individuals to enhance their biking skills, contributing to personal development, and creating a potential hub for cycling enthusiasts to progress and learn in a safe environment.
- **Environmental Stewardship:** Integrating sustainable practices in the design and maintenance of the facility, such as eco-friendly construction materials and responsible trail management, to minimize the environmental impact. A well-designed facility can provide a wilderness feeling whilst remaining within an urban environment.

### 1903R Botany Road, Matraville

An existing creek corridor with limited opportunity and significant challenges including weed eradication requirements and challenging site access. This site has also been proposed as a potential site for the new SES headquarters.





Accessible with an undulating bushland character ideal for bike riding. Size is ideal for accommodating mountain bike flow trails, pump park and jumps/skills areas. Parking and amenities available adjacent park.

Accessible with an undulating bushland character ideal for bike riding. Size is ideal for accommodating mountain bike flow trails, pump park and jumps/skills areas. Parking and amenities available adjacent park.



(Said/Burst) that a report be brought back to Council considering the feasibility of the Malabar Community Disc Golf group's request in making the disc golf course at Cromwell Park (North) Malabar, permanent.

Based on the initial feasibility analysis of this site for a bike facility, there is no opportunity to also incorporate a disc golf course within Cromwell Park (North).

The proposal for a BMX / Pump Park facility is an action from our Open Space and Recreation Strategy. There is a very high demand for such a facility from the local community.

The Cromwell Park (North) site is the preferred site recommended in the feasibility study. On this basis, it is not feasible to formalise a disc golf course at this location.

#### **Anzac Parade Median (Between Austral and Mitchell Streets), Chifley**

A long and narrow park could be accommodated within this footprint and tie in with a future Anzac Parade cycle connection. This site could accommodate a pump track and some mountain bike flow trails. However, safety would need careful management.

This site has more constraints including parking and provides less flexibility in design of various bike track / trails than the other sites considered.



#### **Strategic alignment**

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

##### **Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan:**

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Strategy                    | Open Space and Recreation  |
| Outcome                     | A community where everyone has the opportunity to participate in sport and recreation  |
| Objective                   | 75% or above satisfaction with new open space and recreation facilities within 2 years of implementation   |
| Delivery program commitment | Identify potential temporary and/or permanent sites for active informal sports including BMX track, BMX jumps course and/or mountain bike course, or outdoor bouldering for children/young people in existing or new open space. |

#### **Resourcing Strategy implications**

There is \$1,350,000 in the current capital works budget for this project. Due to the planning and consultation for the concept design, construction of this project cannot be undertaken before

2024-25. Should there be support for the project to proceed, the funding should be carried over into 2024-25.

### Policy and legislative requirements

Randwick City Council Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032  
Randwick City Council, Vision 2040, Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS)  
Randwick City Council Economic Development Strategy May 2022  
Randwick City Council, Open Space and Recreation Strategy.  
Draft NSW Public Spaces Charter: Healthy and Active.

### Conclusion

Cromwell Park (North) stands out as the favoured choice among the three potential options for the design and construction of a local bike facility. It boasts ideal construction access, existing amenities, space for multiple typologies, and allows for staged development if required. The site provides an excellent blank canvas for creating a distinctive facility, filling a void that currently exists in urban settings like this.

Selection of this site for the bike facility means that there is insufficient area to also include a disc golf course at this location.

It is proposed to move forward with community consultation and concept designs for a bike facility at Cromwell Park (North).

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**Responsible officer:** Ross Mills, Landscape Architect

**File Reference:** F2023/00448



## Director City Services Report No. CS18/24

**Subject: Service Level Review - Coastal and town centre waste and cleansing services**

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### Executive Summary

- Following recent consideration of ARIC at its meeting in April 2024, this report provides an update on the Service Level Review conducted for Council's Coastal and Town Centre Waste and Cleansing Services in accordance with the integrated Planning and Reporting Program for the 2022-26.
- As a part of the service review process, each service was benchmarked and analysed in relation to its service environment's opportunities and threats, community satisfaction and contribution to community benefit.
- The review has identified areas for both operational improvements (for management implementation) and strategic service options (for Council consideration).

### Recommendation

That Council receive and note this report.

### Attachment/s:

1. [LINK TO VIEW](#) Service Review Assessment - Coastal and Town Center Waste and Cleansing

## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the Service Level Review of Council's Coastal and Town Centre Waste and Cleansing Services which was conducted in accordance with the integrated Planning and Reporting Program 2022-26.

At its meeting held on the 24 October 2023, Council resolved:

(Pandolfini/D'Souza) that a coastal and town-centre waste and cleansing service level review being added/updated to the program of reviews 22-26.

## Introduction

In October 2023, Council engaged the consultant Morrison & Low to conduct an independent Service Level Review of Coastal and Town Centre Waste and Cleansing Services. This review was closely coordinated with the 2023 Micromex Community Satisfaction Survey.

The Service Level review has considered the following elements:

- Review of relevant policies and procedures
- Review current service levels.
- Review operational strategies and priorities.
- Review resourcing, recruitment, and career opportunities
- Review of financial data
- Review previous Customer Satisfaction Survey results.
- Review the current use of technology and opportunities for introduction of new technology to improve service delivery.
- Review Industry benchmarking insights.

It should be noted by Council that at its meeting on the 11 April 2024, Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) resolved to receive and note the Service Level Review of Coastal and Town Centre Waste and Cleansing Services.

## Background

Council's Coastal and Town Centre Waste and Cleansing Services are delivered over 365 days per year for over 156,000 residents and an estimated 5 million visitors. These services contribute Council's delivery program "Clean the City's assets and infrastructure in business centers, beaches, parks and other public places".

The City Cleansing Unit is responsible for Council's Public Place Cleansing with FTE of 70 staff working part-time and full time (7) day fortnight and (8) day fortnight with the spread hours for this workforce extending from 3.30am until 10.00pm 7 days a week.

The following services were benchmarked and analysed as part of the review:

- Public Place Litter Bin Collection
- Public Place Amenities Cleaning
- Mechanical Street and Footpath Sweeping
- Footpath Cleaning
- Graffiti Management
- Beach and Sea Pool Cleaning.

## Discussion

The review considered the legislative requirements, strategic alignment and Council decisions for delivery of the services. It analyses the need for the service to be delivered, service delivery mechanism, resources use to deliver the service, efficiency and effectiveness of the service delivery including community satisfaction. The review as attached provided full detail to substantiate the recommendations / opportunities for improvement in the review.

## Outputs and Performance of Service

| Service Areas | Service Outputs  |                   | Scheduled           |             | Reactive            |             | Customer Satisfaction Survey Results |            |
|---------------|--|-------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
|               | Service output   | Total No. Request | % of Total Requests | Performance | % of Total Requests | Performance | Satisfaction                         | Importance |
| Coastal       | Coastal Output 1<br>- parks, amenities, and facilities cleaning                                  | 8408              | 99.6%               | 99.82%      | 0.4%                | 83.5%       | 97%                                  | 93%        |
|               | Coastal Output 2<br>- beach and ocean pool cleaning  | 3913              | 97.9%               | 87.99%      | 2.1%                | 50.68%      | 95%                                  | 93%        |
| Town Centre   | Town Centre Output 1 - graffiti removal  | 6674              | 94.3%               | 63.4%       | 5.7%                | 99.88%      | 85%*                                 | 81%*       |
|               | Town Centre Output 2 - sweeping and cleaning of Council's footpaths, streets and public carparks | 4804              | 98.5%               | 79.3%       | 1.5%                | 99.1%       | 85%                                  | 87%        |
|               | Town Centre Output 3 - public place bins   | 27092             | 98.2%               | 99.3%       | 1.8%                | 97.4%       | 84%                                  | 87%        |

CS18/24



The Coastal and Town Centre Waste and Cleansing Services are providing a high standard of service to Randwick residents and are meeting industry best practice in performance and productivity for the majority of the outputs as identified in the tables above. This is shown in the results of the community through satisfaction surveys.

The results however do clearly identify opportunities for areas / services for improvement:

- Coastal Output 2 - beach and ocean pool cleaning
- Town Centre Output 1 - graffiti removal
- Town Centre Output 2 - sweeping and cleaning of Council's footpaths, streets and public car parks.
- Town Centre Output 3 - public place bins.

Additional innovation, resourcing and scheduling is recommended to improve these areas which is further outlined in the attached report.

## Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering services and regulatory functions: |   |
|---|---|
| Service area                                  | Waste, Cleansing and Public Safety  |
| Function                                      | Public Place Cleansing  |
| Delivery program commitment                   | Clean the City's assets and infrastructure in business centres, beaches, parks and other public places. |
| Function                                      | Plant & Fleet Management  |
| Delivery program commitment                   | Manage Council's plant and fleet including procurement, maintenance and disposal.                       |

## Resource Strategy Implications

Whilst there are no direct resource strategy implications in this report, should Council wish to increase the service levels in line with the scenarios identified in this review, this will require a future report to Council with an accompanying funding strategy.

## Policy and legislative requirements

National Waste Policy 2010  
 NSW Local Government Act 1993  
 Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 and POEO (Waste) Regulation 2005  
 New South Wales Work Health Safety Regulations 2011  
 NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041  
 NSW Graffiti Control Act 2008.

## Conclusion

The review determined that Coastal and Town Centre Waste and Cleansing services units are providing a high standard of services to the community whilst meeting the industry best practice. Opportunities for improvement have been identified noting the service should explore approaches to increase service levels and resourcing in Town Centre Cleaning and Ocean Pool Resourcing, enhance its plant and fleet management with the introduction of new technologies and efficient processes, that can improve service delivery to the community.

**Responsible officer:** Mark Bush, Manager Waste, Cleansing and Public Safety  
**File Reference:** F2022/00697

## Director Community & Culture Report No. CC5/24

**Subject: Maroubra Rubik's Cube consultation**

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### Executive Summary

- At the February 2024 Council Meeting, it was resolved to undertake community consultation to determine if the community prefer the Maroubra Beach Rubik's Cube solved or unsolved.
- Consultation was undertaken for 28 days in March and April.
- 656 survey responses were received.
- The result of the consultation is that most respondents (83%) expressed a preference for the cube in its unsolved state.
- Key reasons to prefer the unsolved state include visual appeal, the symbolism of diversity, and its ability to engage and stimulate conversation.

### Recommendation

That:

- a) Council notes the outcomes of the community consultation about the Maroubra Rubik's Cube.
- b) communicates the outcome of the consultation to the original artist.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

## Purpose

At the Ordinary Council Meeting, 27 February 2024, Council resolved to conduct community consultation on the Maroubra Rubik's Cube.

(Parker/Rosenfeld) that:

- a) Council conduct a community consultation of Randwick LGA residents considering returning the Maroubra 'Rubik's Cube' to its previous 'unsolved' form or retaining the newly 'solved' form; and
- b) a consultation report is prepared and reported back on or before the April Council meeting.

This report responds to the above resolution and outlines the consultation program undertaken to determine the community's preference for whether Maroubra's Rubik's Cube artwork should remain in its current 'solved' state or return to its original 'unsolved' state.

## Discussion

The Maroubra Rubik's Cube / Rubix's Cube first appeared on Maroubra Beach in 2008, when unknown street artists creatively reimagined the cube-shaped concrete air vent on top of a stormwater outlet at Maroubra Beach into a giant scrambled/unsolved Rubik's Cube. The "Rubix" Cube has become a visual and geographical icon for Randwick, part of the cultural fabric and identity of Maroubra Beach and is much loved by locals.

Over the years the cube has been creatively updated on occasions including as a Lamington in 2017 and into pastel colours in 2020.

The identity of the original artist or artists has remained somewhat of a mystery and the Maroubra Rubix Cube would be classified as Guerilla art. Council had no involvement in commissioning the original artwork. Our staff undertake 'touch up' maintenance painting on occasions if there is graffiti or vandalism. Whilst it is guerilla art, and is ephemeral, arguably now its greatest significance is of social and historical value, rather than aesthetic.

In December 2023, the cube mysteriously appeared 'solved'. This prompted substantial local discussion and media attention and prompted Council's resolution to gauge public views through a consultation.

## Consultation activities

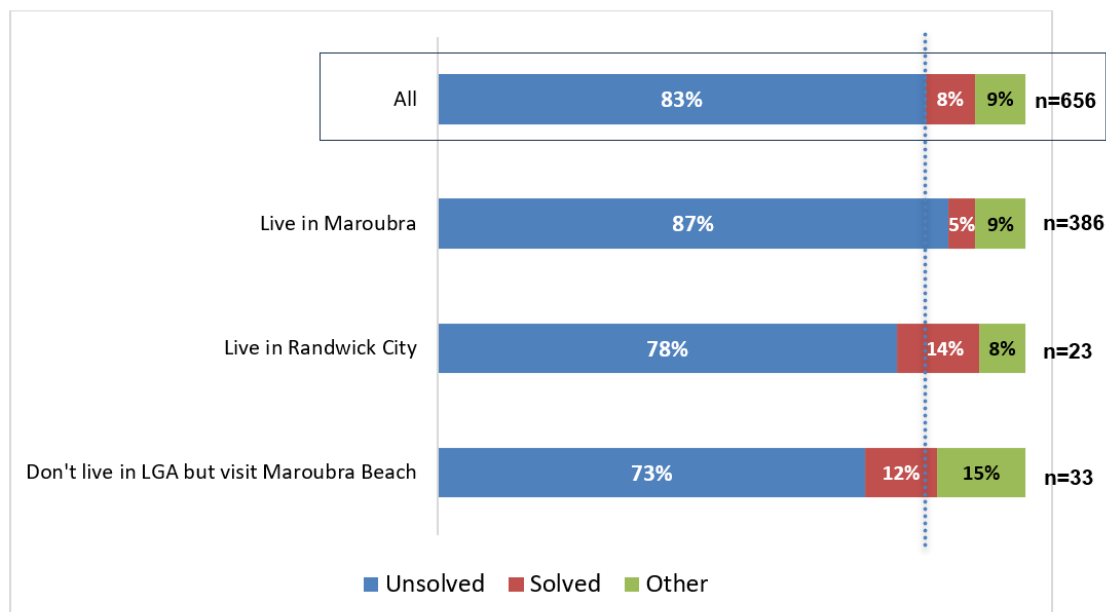
The consultation was open for four (4) weeks from 11 March to 8 April 2024. During this time, the following community engagement activities were undertaken:

- Dedicated consultation website including a survey: [yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au/maroubrarubikscube](https://yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au/maroubrarubikscube)
- Email to Your Say subscribers
- Randwick eNews (weekly email): Listed every week during consultation period
- Social media posts: 15 March 2024
- Email to all Randwick City Precincts
- Digital display screens at Randwick City libraries, Des Renford Aquatic Centre and Customer Service Centre
- Listing on Randwick City Council's Current Consultations webpage
- Councillor notification and email to Randwick City Precincts

## Consultation outcomes

- 3,850 visits to the Your Say Randwick page
- 656 surveys completed
- 32 submissions

## Survey results



As shown in the graph the majority of survey respondents, 544 (83%), prefer the Maroubra Cube unsolved, while 55 (8%) prefer it solved, and 57 (9%) chose 'other'.

The graph also shows a breakdown of responses by Maroubra residents, Randwick City residents, and visitors from outside the LGA.

The preferred view of most respondents is for the cube to be in an unsolved state.

It's interesting to note that this level of support grows even stronger the closer people live to the cube.

The main reasons people cited for preferring the cube in an unsolved state are:

- the unsolved cube symbolises life's mystery and struggle, representing ongoing change;
- its mixed colours make it aesthetically pleasing, reflecting community diversity and complexity;
- desire to honour the artist's intention, as the unsolved cube generates more interest and conversation; and
- the unsolved cube serves as a metaphor for life's challenges and uncertainties, promoting positive meanings and community involvement.

Those who preferred the cube in a solved state, cited the following reasons:

- respect for the artist's intention and their decision to solve the cube;
- appreciation for the spontaneous change and the element of surprise it brought to the community;
- preference for the cube being solved as it looks neater, clearer, and more complete; and
- recognition of the Rubik's cube as a symbol of completion and order, aligning with its original purpose.

Those who opted for an 'other' preference said:

- keep it dynamic, possibly alternating between solved and unsolved;
- the survey is a waste of resources; Council should focus on more pressing community issues; and
- involve the community in determining future themes or configurations for the cube, advocating for dynamic and evolving public art.

**Submissions**

32 submissions were received via email to Council. Of the submissions, 24 want the cube to be unsolved, three want it to appear solved, two suggested it should be the artist’s choice, three made other suggestions.

**Input from Arts & Culture Team**

*Significance*

Guerilla art can have high aesthetic / technical / cultural / social and historical significance, which warrants careful thought before removal or alteration. Whilst it was not planned or commissioned which are typical key criteria for inclusion in a formal collection, the Cube has developed social and historical significance which must be taken into consideration.

The Maroubra Rubix Cube is therefore significant guerilla art; more landmark than aesthetic prowess and a much loved social focal point. Council therefore should consider ongoing visual documentation, recognising the rights and intentions of the artists and any strategies for changes should meet intent and wishes of the original artists.

*Consultation with artists*

The recent painting of the Rubix Cube changes the original compositional choices made by the artists. The composition of the work is at the artist’s discretion as the work is their intellectual property, therefore, it is recommended that prior to making any decisions to change the work, the artists are consulted.

*Design of Rubix Cube*

In the event that the artwork design does change at some point in time there is a question of the pattern of the Rubix Cube. In relation to the question of whether the artwork mirrors an actually solvable Rubix Cube or one that is in a configuration that can’t be solved, it is recommended that this should be left to the discretion of the artist.

**Strategic alignment**

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering services and regulatory functions: |   |
|---|---|
| Service area                                  | Economic Development and Placemaking  |
| Function                                      | Place Making  |
| Delivery program commitment                   | Activate spaces to create an experience where people feel connected and/or inspired |

**Resourcing Strategy implications**

No proposed financial implications.

**Policy and legislative requirements**

None.

**Conclusion**

Community consultation indicates a strong preference for the Maroubra Rubik’s Cube to appear unsolved as this enhances its visual appeal, generates interest, and reflects the diversity of the Maroubra community.

**Responsible officer:** Amanda Mather, Community Consultation Officer  
**File Reference:** F2024/00123

## Director Community & Culture Report No. CC6/24

**Subject:** Screening of silent film - *The Breaking of the Drought* at the Randwick Ritz

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### Executive Summary

- This report responds to a Council Action (NM49/23) to investigate and report back on a screening of a film directed by Franklyn Barrett, with either *'The Breaking of the Drought'* or *'A Girl of the Bush'* to be shown at the Ritz Cinema in the 2023/24 calendar year.
- Screening a Barrett film meets the terms of Todds Barrett's bequest of Barrett House to Council, directly addressing Council's obligation to maintain a permanent exhibition of the Barrett's film legacy.
- The one-off screening can be resourced from the 2023/24 Cultural Arts Program budget.

### Recommendation

That Council hire a cinema at the Randwick Ritz to screen the Barrett film, *The Breaking of the Drought* at a total cost of \$5,020, to be accompanied by live music, historical commentary and a Q&A with a film historian, as a ticketed event.

### Attachment/s:

Nil



Purpose

At the Council Meeting of 25 July 2023 it was resolved;

(Neilson/Pandolfini) that Council investigate and report back on a screening for a film directed by Franklyn Barrett, ‘The Breaking of the Drought or A Girl of the Bush’ to be shown at the Ritz Cinema in the 2023/24 calendar year.

The purpose of this report is to present feasibility and delivery of a screening of *The Breaking of the Drought* (1920) by Franklyn and Mabel Barrett, to be shown at the Ritz Cinema on Friday 17 May as part of the Arts and Culture program.

Discussion

Barrett House in Randwick was the home of cinema pioneers Franklyn and Mabel Barrett. From 1919 to 1926, 15 silent pictures were developed, printed and edited at Barrett House including Australian classics *The Breaking of the Drought* (1920) and *A Girl of the Bush* (1921).

Franklyn and Mabel’s daughter Harrie Sylvia Barrett (known as Todds) bequeathed Barrett House to Randwick Council on the understanding that it be maintained as a community resource, including a permanent exhibition of the work of filmmakers Franklyn and Mabel Barrett. The House is now part of Council’s Creative Space program offering studio incubation and presentation space to local artists, performers, and writers.

In keeping with Council’s obligation to maintain a permanent exhibition as part of the transfer of title agreement, the Barrett’s surviving films had been screened at the House. However due to the limited capacity of Barrett House, the screenings had minimal community impact and reach. To mitigate this, *The Breaking of the Drought* was then screened at Ritz Cinemas in 2019, with 110 attendees.

The film was brought alive with associated programming. Live musical accompaniment was performed by expert organist John Batts on a theatre organ with additional performance by concert organist Ivan Petch. A film history talk and Q&A by historian Bruce Dennett was held after the film. Screening the Barrett silent film at the Ritz provided a greater opportunity to engage with a larger audience in more creative ways.

This Report proposes to deliver a very similar activated screening of *The Breaking of the Drought* at the Randwick Ritz with proposed date of Friday 17 May. The screening will be accompanied by organist John Batts which was very positively received following the 2019 screening. The film historian introducing the film is proposed to be Dr Greg Dolgoplov who teaches and researches at UNSW in video production, film festivals and film theory and literacy. The screening will be a ticketed event.

Beyond the local cultural significance of the films, *The Breaking of the Drought* and *A Girl of the Bush* were both thought to have been lost until 1976 when deteriorating fragments were found and pieced together. Of the two films, *The Breaking of the Drought* is the most complete film to provide a better overall film experience due to quality. Note, excerpts of *A Girl of the Bush* are being shown as part of La Perouse Museum’s *Randwick Stories* exhibition which runs until 13 October 2024.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan: |   |
|--|---|
| Strategy   | Arts and Culture  |
| Outcome  | A creative and culturally rich city that is innovative, inclusive and recognised nationally |

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Objective                   | Establish a strong cultural identity for the Randwick LGA by 2031 that is inclusive and founded on the contribution of First Nations people by 2031 |
| Delivery program commitment | Increase by 10% the programs, activities and initiatives that preserve and tell the stories of the cultural heritage of the city by 2031.           |
| Outcome                     | A city where everyone can develop, express and enjoy creativity throughout their life   |
| Objective                   | Increase attendance at Council's arts and cultural programmes, events and venues by 10% by 2031, from a 2018-19 baseline                            |
| Delivery program commitment | Increase by 20% the number of small (< 600 people) community cultural events by 2025.   |

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### Resourcing Strategy implications

The total estimated cost of a Barret silent film screening at the Ritz Cinema is \$5,020 which may be partially offset by ticket sales of approximately \$1100, with a ticket cost of \$10 each.

This results in an expense of \$3920. The costs will be funded through the existing 23/24 Arts and Culture Budget.

| Expenses   |                |
|--|----------------|
| Hire of the Ritz Cinema Screen 2 (capacity 138 seats)                    | \$1520         |
| Technical assistance   | \$150          |
| Projectionist fee  | \$150          |
| Cinema Marquee Signage Hire  | \$200          |
| Film Hire National Film and Sound Archive Australia inc screening rights | \$200          |
| John Batts organist for live accompaniment to the film                   | \$300          |
| Hire of theatre organ  | \$2000         |
| Film History specialist for Introduction and Q and A.                    | \$500          |
| <b>Subtotal Expenses</b>   | <b>\$5,020</b> |
| Income   |                |
| Ticket sales income (110 x \$10 estimated)                               | \$1100         |
| <b>Subtotal Income</b>   | <b>\$1100</b>  |
| <b>ESTIMATED TOTAL COST (income minus expenses)</b>                      | <b>\$3920</b>  |

### Policy and legislative requirements

There are no policy or legislative requirements or implications.

### Conclusion

Randwick City has benefitted from the bequest of Barrett House made to Council by Todds Barrett. The House is now an active arts and cultural Creative Space providing two studios and a exhibition gallery to local artists and creatives via Expression of Interest process. Creative Space Barrett House meets Council's obligation to maintain Barrett House as a community resource.

Council is also committed to preserving the history of the Barrett's as filmmakers and thereby acknowledging the generosity of Todds. In addition to meeting Council's obligation to keep the Franklyn and Mabel Barrett silent film legacy alive, the screening of these films with live musical accompaniment delivers against the Arts and Culture Strategy while providing a rich cultural experience for community.

**Responsible officer:** Emmaly Langridge, Head Arts and Culture  
**File Reference:** F2023/00758

## Director Corporate Services Report No. CO13/24

**Subject: Investment Report - March 2024**

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### Executive Summary

- This report outlines Council's investment portfolio and performance as at 31 March 2024.
- All investments have been made in accordance with the Act, Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.
- For the month of March, the total portfolio (Term Deposits (T/D), Floating Rate Notes (FRN) and Bonds), provided a return of +0.41% (actual) or +4.96% p.a. (annualised<sup>2</sup>), compared to the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.37% (actual) or +4.41% p.a. (annualised).
- Our overall investment return remains solid. Investment income received to 31 March is \$5,423,272, exceeding revised budget expectations by \$1,126,255 up to the end of March and representing 94.66% of the current budget year to date.
- Cashflow will continue to be monitored closely, as the RBA expects to take further steps in the process of normalising monetary conditions over the coming months. Investments will continue to be managed to ensure liquidity to meet operational requirements.

### Recommendation

That the Investment Report for March 2024 be received and noted.

### Attachment/s:

1.  Certificate by Responsible Accounting Officer - March 2024

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<sup>2</sup> The annualised rate is the rate for a one-year period, based on periodic rates.

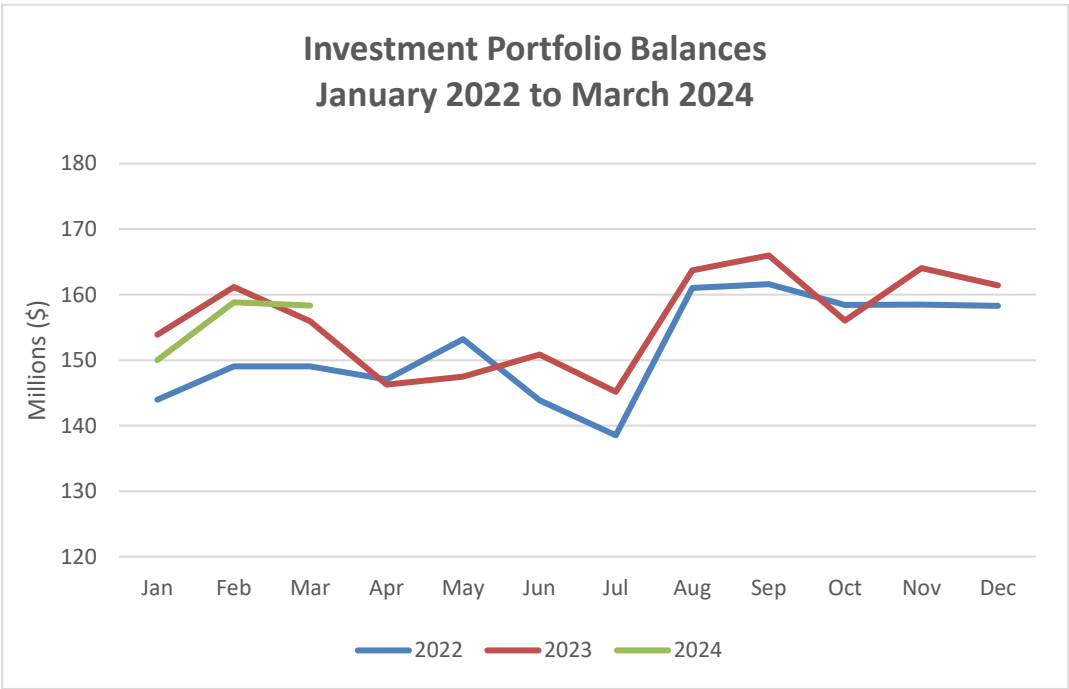
Purpose

The Local Government (General) Regulation requires a written report to be provided to the Ordinary meeting of the Council giving details of all monies invested and a certificate as to whether the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the regulations, and the Council's Investment Policy.

Discussion

As of 31 March 2024, Council held investments with a market value of \$158.48 million. The portfolio value decreased during March by \$347,905. The decrease is representative of a negative cash flow for the month reflecting the net effect of revenue receipts, rates, grants, and miscellaneous payments, offset by capital works expenditure and other operational payments.

The size of the investment portfolio varies significantly from month to month because of cash flows for the period. The variances for the period March 2022 to March 2024 are shown below. Cash outflows (expenditure) are typically relatively stable from one month to another. Cash inflows (income) are cyclical and are largely dependent on the rates instalment due dates and the timing of grant payments including receipt of the Financial Assistance Grants. The portfolio balance movement is the result of the net impact of the cyclic cash outflows versus cash inflows.



Cashflow continues to be closely monitored, ensuring that there is enough cash in the business to operate on a day-to-day basis, to:

- Ensure that Council maintains a balanced operating result;
- Ensure that payments are received on time to control debtors; and
- Manage and finance capital projects.

The RBA's decision in its last meeting on 19 March 2024 was to maintain the cash rate at 4.35 per cent.

The RBA stated in its *March 2024 Statement on Monetary Policy* that 'inflation continues to moderate and is expected to return to the target range of 2-3 percent in 2025 and to reach the midpoint in 2026.'

The RBA also stated 'The central forecasts are for inflation to return to the target range of 2-3 per cent in 2025, and to the midpoint in 2026. Returning inflation to target within a reasonable

timeframe remains the Board's highest priority. The path of interest rates that will best ensure that inflation returns to target in a reasonable timeframe remains uncertain and the Board in not ruling anything in or out.'

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 4.1 per cent for the quarter ending December 2023 according to the latest data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The most significant price rises this quarter were Tobacco (+7.0%) followed by Insurance and Financial Service Group (+1.7%).

## On Call Funds

On Call funds are held to meet Council's immediate cash flow requirements. The on-call balance at month end is \$7.65 million representing 4.82% of the total portfolio.

## Term Deposits

- At month's end the portfolio included \$113.5 million in term deposits.
- Term Deposits made up 71.62% of the total investment portfolio.
- Three term deposits matured in March 2024 totaling \$5 million.
- One new term deposit was placed in March 2024 totaling \$2.5 million.
- As at end of March 2024, the term deposit portfolio was yielding 4.78% p.a. (up 3bp from the previous month).

| Investment | Rating | Balance<br>1 March 2024 | Movement        | Balance<br>31 March 2024 | Date<br>Invested | Date<br>Maturity | Interest<br>Rate |
|------------|--------|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| ICBC       | A      | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 9/09/2021        | 16/09/2024       | 0.94%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$1,000,000             | 0               | \$1,000,000              | 10/11/2021       | 3/12/2025        | 1.70%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$9,304,286             | -\$1,658,282.42 | \$7,646,004              |                  |                  | 4.35%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$1,000,000             | 0               | \$1,000,000              | 10/11/2021       | 9/12/2026        | 1.88%            |
| ICBC       | A      | \$1,000,000             | 0               | \$1,000,000              | 20/04/2022       | 24/04/2024       | 3.13%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$1,000,000             | -\$1,000,000    | \$0                      | 28/07/2022       | 13/03/2024       | 3.80%            |
| Suncorp    | A+     | \$1,500,000             | 0               | \$1,500,000              | 11/08/2022       | 3/04/2024        | 4.04%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$1,500,000             | 0               | \$1,500,000              | 11/08/2022       | 8/05/2024        | 4.05%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | -\$2,000,000    | \$0                      | 17/08/2022       | 27/03/2024       | 4.03%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 17/08/2022       | 17/04/2024       | 4.03%            |
| ICBC       | A      | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 24/08/2022       | 10/04/2024       | 4.30%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 31/08/2022       | 1/05/2024        | 4.24%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 31/08/2022       | 19/06/2024       | 4.25%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 31/08/2022       | 26/06/2024       | 4.25%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | -\$2,000,000    | \$0                      | 1/09/2022        | 20/03/2024       | 4.30%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 1/09/2022        | 12/06/2024       | 4.35%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 9/01/2023        | 23/12/2024       | 4.80%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 9/01/2023        | 31/12/2024       | 4.80%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 9/01/2023        | 8/01/2025        | 4.80%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 9/01/2023        | 15/01/2025       | 4.80%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 9/01/2023        | 22/01/2025       | 4.80%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0               | \$2,000,000              | 12/01/2023       | 17/07/2024       | 4.67%            |

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| Investment | Rating | Balance<br>1 March 2024 | Movement | Balance<br>31 March 2024 | Date<br>Invested | Date<br>Maturity | Interest<br>Rate |
|------------|--------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 12/01/2023       | 25/09/2024       | 4.67%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 12/01/2023       | 16/10/2024       | 4.67%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 12/01/2023       | 3/07/2024        | 4.60%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$1,500,000             | 0        | \$1,500,000              | 25/01/2023       | 24/07/2024       | 4.40%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$1,500,000             | 0        | \$1,500,000              | 25/01/2023       | 9/10/2024        | 4.38%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$1,500,000             | 0        | \$1,500,000              | 31/01/2023       | 10/07/2024       | 4.63%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 21/02/2023       | 31/07/2024       | 4.98%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 21/02/2023       | 2/10/2024        | 4.98%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$1,000,000             | 0        | \$1,000,000              | 28/02/2023       | 12/03/2025       | 4.98%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 28/02/2023       | 18/06/2025       | 4.94%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 28/02/2023       | 25/06/2025       | 4.94%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$1,500,000             | 0        | \$1,500,000              | 2/03/2023        | 9/04/2025        | 4.95%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 23/05/2023       | 23/10/2024       | 4.95%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 01/06/2023       | 12/06/2024       | 5.06%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 01/06/2023       | 19/06/2024       | 5.06%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 06/06/2023       | 29/01/2025       | 5.00%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 06/06/2023       | 05/02/2025       | 5.00%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$1,000,000             | 0        | \$1,000,000              | 08/06/2023       | 26/06/2024       | 5.34%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 1/08/2023        | 19/03/2025       | 5.20%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 1/08/2023        | 30/10/2024       | 5.28%            |
| ING Bank   | A      | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 8/08/2023        | 16/04/2025       | 5.16%            |
| ING Bank   | A      | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 8/08/2023        | 10/07/2024       | 5.25%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 15/08/2023       | 24/07/2024       | 5.24%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$3,000,000             | 0        | \$3,000,000              | 16/08/2023       | 31/07/2024       | 5.56%            |
| CBA        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 24/08/2023       | 17/07/2024       | 5.42%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$1,500,000             | 0        | \$1,500,000              | 25/08/2023       | 18/09/2024       | 5.22%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$1,500,000             | 0        | \$1,500,000              | 30/08/2023       | 25/09/2024       | 5.24%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 31/08/2023       | 11/09/2024       | 5.21%            |
| ING Bank   | A      | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 1/09/2023        | 26/03/2025       | 5.05%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 1/09/2023        | 9/10/2024        | 5.14%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 5/09/2023        | 18/12/2024       | 5.13%            |
| NAB        | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 14/09/2023       | 7/08/2024        | 5.21%            |
| ING Bank   | A      | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 3/11/2023        | 5/11/2025        | 5.52%            |
| ING Bank   | A      | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 30/11/2023       | 6/11/2024        | 5.37%            |
| Suncorp    | A+     | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 1/12/2023        | 23/04/2025       | 5.38%            |
| Westpac    | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 5/12/2023        | 2/04/2025        | 5.35%            |
| Suncorp    | A+     | \$2,000,000             | 0        | \$2,000,000              | 30/01/2024       | 15/01/2025       | 5.17%            |



| Investment   | Rating | Balance<br>1 March 2024 | Movement            | Balance<br>31 March 2024 | Date<br>Invested | Date<br>Maturity | Interest<br>Rate |
|--------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| ING Bank     | A      | \$2,000,000             | 0                   | \$2,000,000              | 30/01/2024       | 30/04/2025       | 5.13%            |
| Suncorp      | A+     | \$2,000,000             | 0                   | \$2,000,000              | 8/02/2024        | 7/05/2025        | 5.09%            |
| Suncorp      | A+     | \$2,000,000             | 0                   | \$2,000,000              | 8/02/2024        | 17/09/2025       | 5.00%            |
| Westpac      | AA-    | \$1,000,000             | 0                   | \$1,000,000              | 29/02/2024       | 9/04/2025        | 5.01%            |
| Westpac      | AA-    | \$2,000,000             | 0                   | \$2,000,000              | 29/02/2024       | 2/07/2025        | 4.99%            |
| Suncorp      | A+     | 0                       | \$2,500,000         | \$2,500,000              | 7/03/2024        | 22/01/2025       | 4.99%            |
| <b>Total</b> |        | <b>\$116,000,000</b>    | <b>-\$2,500,000</b> | <b>\$113,500,000</b>     |                  |                  |                  |

### Floating Rate Notes (FRNs)

- The portfolio includes \$35.68 million in floating rate notes, making up 22.51% of the total portfolio.
- FRNs are classified as “held for trading” and are required to be reported at the latest indicative market valuations at month end.
- The indicative market value of the FRNs as at 31 March 2024 increased by ~\$1 thousand.
- There were three new floating rate notes placed during the month.
- One floating rate note matured during the month.
- Council will continue to look at opportunities and new issuances as they become available, and switch if viable.

| Investment            | Rating | Purchase<br>Price   | Indicative Value<br>31 March 2024 | Date<br>Invested | Maturity<br>Date | Interest Rate       |
|-----------------------|--------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Macquarie Bank        | A+     | \$2,000,000         | \$2,005,070                       | 12/02/2020       | 12/02/2025       | 90D BBSW + 84 bpts  |
| UBS AG                | A+     | \$1,300,000         | \$1,301,778                       | 30/07/2020       | 30/07/2025       | 90D BBSW + 87 bpts  |
| UBS AG                | A+     | \$3,000,000         | \$2,978,430                       | 26/02/2021       | 26/02/2026       | 90D BBSW + 50 bpts  |
| ICBC                  | A      | \$1,700,000         | \$1,689,113                       | 18/06/2021       | 18/06/2026       | 90D BBSW + 66 bpts  |
| NAB                   | AA-    | \$3,100,000         | \$3,082,367                       | 24/08/2021       | 24/08/2026       | 90D BBSW + 41 bpts  |
| Suncorp               | A+     | \$1,750,000         | \$1,738,221                       | 15/09/2021       | 15/09/2026       | 90D BBSW + 48 bpts  |
| CBA                   | AA-    | \$1,500,000         | \$1,499,579                       | 14/01/2022       | 14/01/2027       | 90D BBSW + 70 bpts  |
| Suncorp               | A+     | \$1,800,000         | \$1,798,308                       | 25/01/2022       | 25/01/2027       | 90D BBSW + 78 bpts  |
| Rabobank<br>Australia | A+     | \$2,000,000         | \$1,995,658                       | 27/01/2022       | 27/01/2027       | 90D BBSW + 73 bpts  |
| CBA                   | AA-    | \$1,750,000         | \$1,754,825                       | 17/08/2023       | 17/08/2028       | 90D BBSW + 95 bpts  |
| ANZ Bank              | AA-    | \$2,800,000         | \$2,806,586                       | 11/09/2023       | 11/09/2028       | 90D BBSW + 93 bpts  |
| NAB                   | AA-    | \$3,200,000         | \$3,217,027                       | 16/11/2023       | 16/11/2028       | 90D BBSW + 103 bpts |
| Rabobank<br>Australia | A+     | \$2,250,000         | \$2,265,494                       | 21/11/2023       | 21/11/2028       | 90D BBSW + 115 bpts |
| ANZ Bank              | AA-    | \$750,000           | \$750,578                         | 5/02/2024        | 5/02/2029        | 90D BBSW + 96 bpts  |
| Rabobank<br>Australia | A+     | \$2,000,000         | \$2,003,282                       | 26/02/2024       | 26/02/2029       | 90D BBSW + 103 bpts |
| Suncorp               | A+     | \$2,500,000         | \$2,499,363                       | 19/03/2024       | 19/03/2029       | 90D BBSW + 98 bpts  |
| ING Bank              | A      | \$500,000           | \$500,156                         | 22/03/2024       | 22/3/2027        | 90D BBSW + 95 bpts  |
| NAB                   | AA-    | \$1,800,000         | \$1,794,402                       | 22/03/2024       | 22/03/2029       | 90D BBSW + 90 bpts  |
| <b>Total</b>          |        | <b>\$35,700,000</b> | <b>\$35,680,236</b>               |                  |                  |                     |

## Fixed Bonds

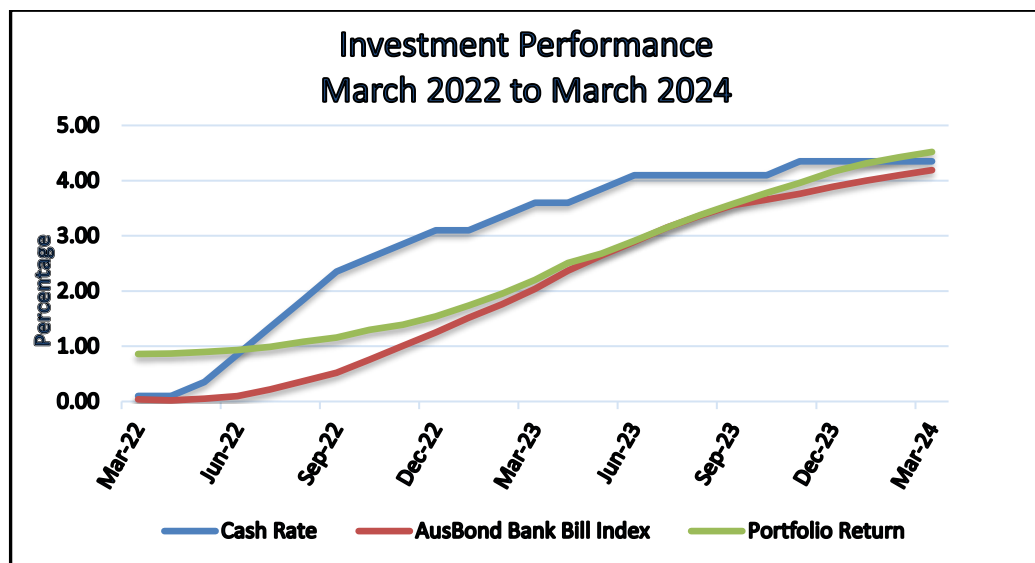
In August 2021, Council purchased, at a discount, \$1.8 million (face value) of the AAA-rated covered fixed bonds with ING Bank Australia. A fixed coupon rate of 1.10% will be paid on a semi-annual basis on the \$1.8 million face value.

The indicative value is the value Council would receive at 31 March 2024 if it were to consider selling this investment prior to its maturity date. Selling prior to maturity would only be considered if a capital gain resulted while holding to maturity ensures a return of the full amount invested along with semi-annual interest payments over the life of the investment.

| Investment       | Rating | Purchase Price     | Indicative Value<br>31 March 2024 | Date Invested | Maturity Date | Interest Rate |
|------------------|--------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| ING Covered Bond | AAA    | \$1,794,762        | \$1,657,593                       | 19/08/2021    | 19/08/2026    | 1.10%         |
| <b>Total</b>     |        | <b>\$1,794,762</b> | <b>\$1,647,491</b>                |               |               |               |

## Performance

The following graph shows the investment returns achieved against the AusBond Bank Bill Index and the official Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) cash interest rate for the period March 2022 to March 2024.



For the month of March, a return of +0.41% (actual) or +4.96% p.a. (annualised<sup>3</sup>), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.37% (actual) or +4.41% p.a. (annualised).

Over the past year, the combined term deposit and FRN portfolio returned +4.52% p.a., outperforming bank bills by 0.33%.

| Performance                    | 1 month | 3 months | 6 months | FYTD  | 1 year | 2 year | 3 year |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Official Cash Rate</b>      | 0.36%   | 1.07%    | 2.14%    | 3.18% | 4.15%  | 3.13%  | 2.11%  |
| <b>AusBond Bank Bill Index</b> | 0.37%   | 1.09%    | 2.15%    | 3.26% | 4.19%  | 3.11%  | 2.08%  |

<sup>3</sup> The annualised rate is the rate for a one-year period, based on periodic rates.

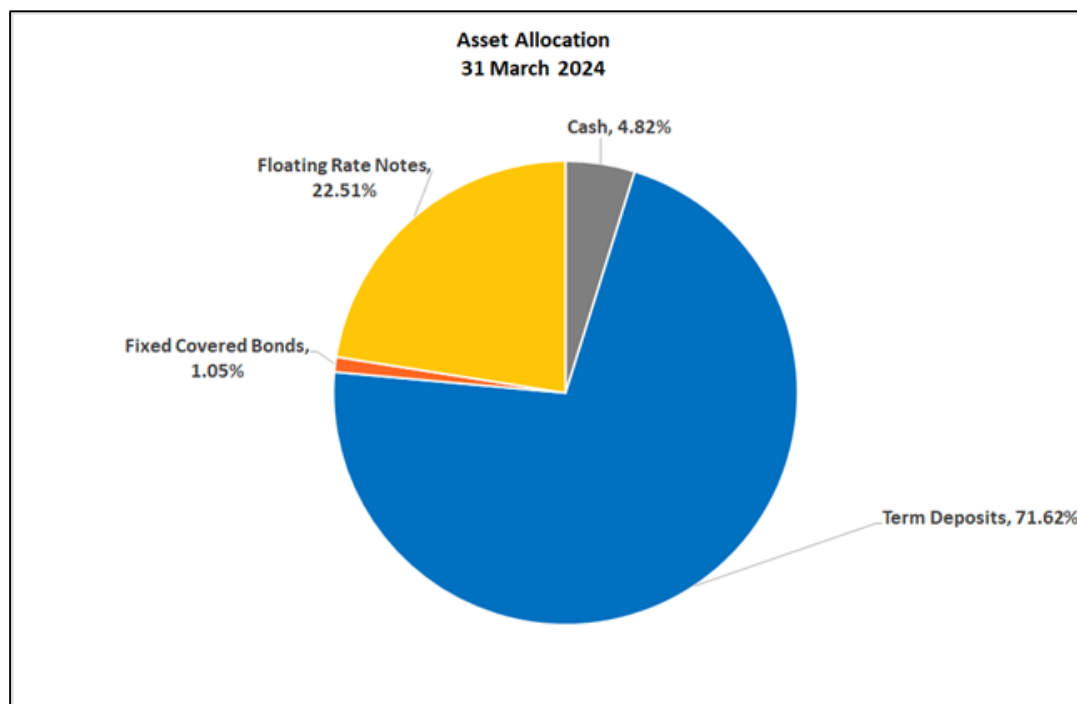
|                                 |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Council's T/D Portfolio</b>  | 0.41% | 1.19% | 2.36% | 3.46% | 4.44% | 3.24% | 2.38% |
| <b>Council's FRN Portfolio</b>  | 0.44% | 1.33% | 2.63% | 3.90% | 5.06% | 4.02% | 3.08% |
| <b>Council's Bond Portfolio</b> | 0.09% | 0.27% | 0.55% | 0.83% | 1.10% | 1.10% | -     |
| <b>Council's Portfolio</b>      | 0.41% | 1.21% | 2.40% | 3.52% | 4.52% | 3.35% | 2.51% |
| <b>Outperformance</b>           | 0.04% | 0.13% | 0.24% | 0.26% | 0.33% | 0.24% | 0.44% |

## Council's Portfolio and Compliance

### Asset Allocation

Most of Council's portfolio is spread between term deposits (71.62%) and senior floating rate notes (22.51%). The remainder of the portfolio is held in the overnight cash accounts with CBA (4.82%) and the "AAA" rated fixed covered bond (1.05%).

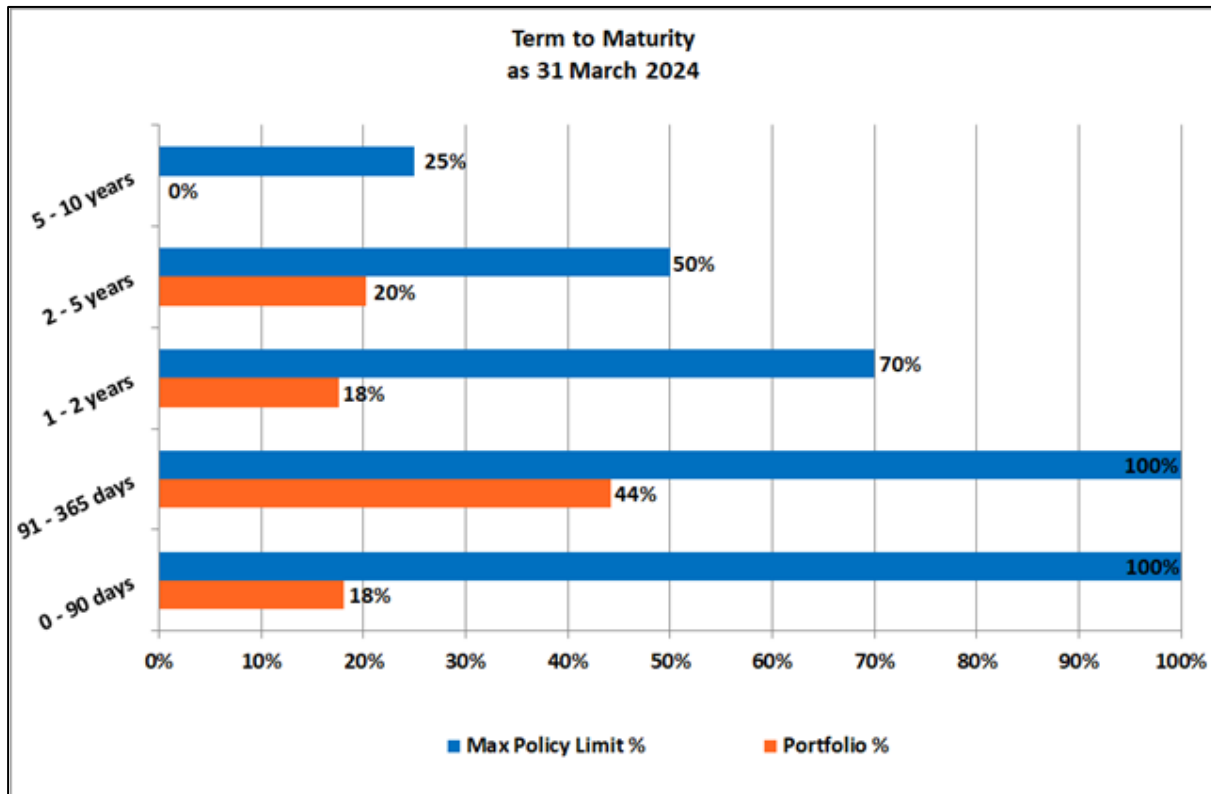
The FRNs add additional liquidity and are generally accessible within 2-3 business days. FRNs are also dominated by the higher-rated ADIs which allows Council to maintain a bias towards the higher-rated banks.



### Term to Maturity

The portfolio remains diversified from a maturity perspective with a spread of maturities out to 5 years. Medium-term (2-5 years) assets account for around 20.22% of the total investment.

| Compliant | Horizon     | Invested     | %      | Min Limit | Max Limit |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| ✓         | 0-90 days   | \$28,646,004 | 18.08% | 15%       | 100%      |
| ✓         | 91-365 days | \$70,005,070 | 44.17% | 15%       | 100%      |
| ✓         | 1-2 years   | \$27,780,208 | 17.53% | 0%        | 70%       |
| ✓         | 2-5 years   | \$32,052,550 | 20.22% | 0%        | 50%       |
| ✓         | 5-10 years  | \$0          | 0.00%  | 0%        | 25%       |



The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed to maximise investment performance and minimise risk. Comparisons are made between existing investments with available products that are not part of the Council's portfolio. Independent advice is sought on new investment opportunities.

### Credit Quality

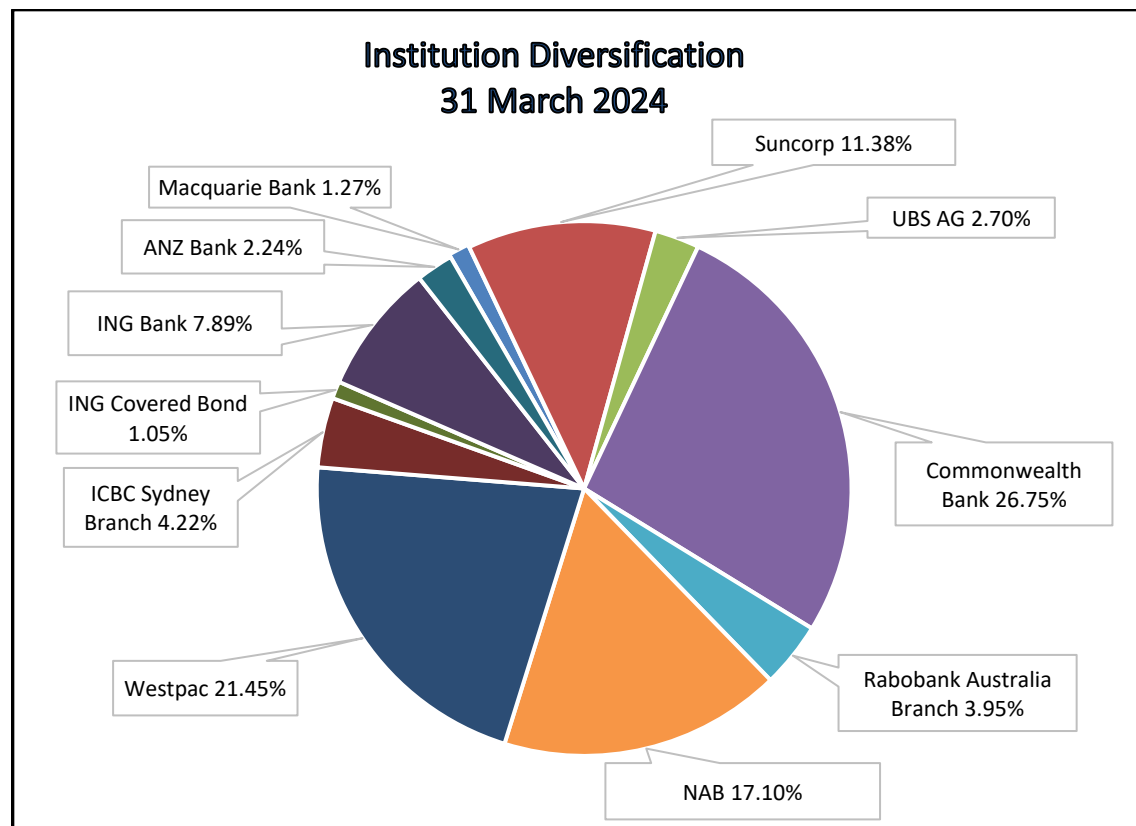
As at end of March, applying the long-term S&P ratings only, Council is compliant across all individual counterparties. The investment portfolio is entirely directly to assets rated "A" or higher, as per Council's adopted policy framework.

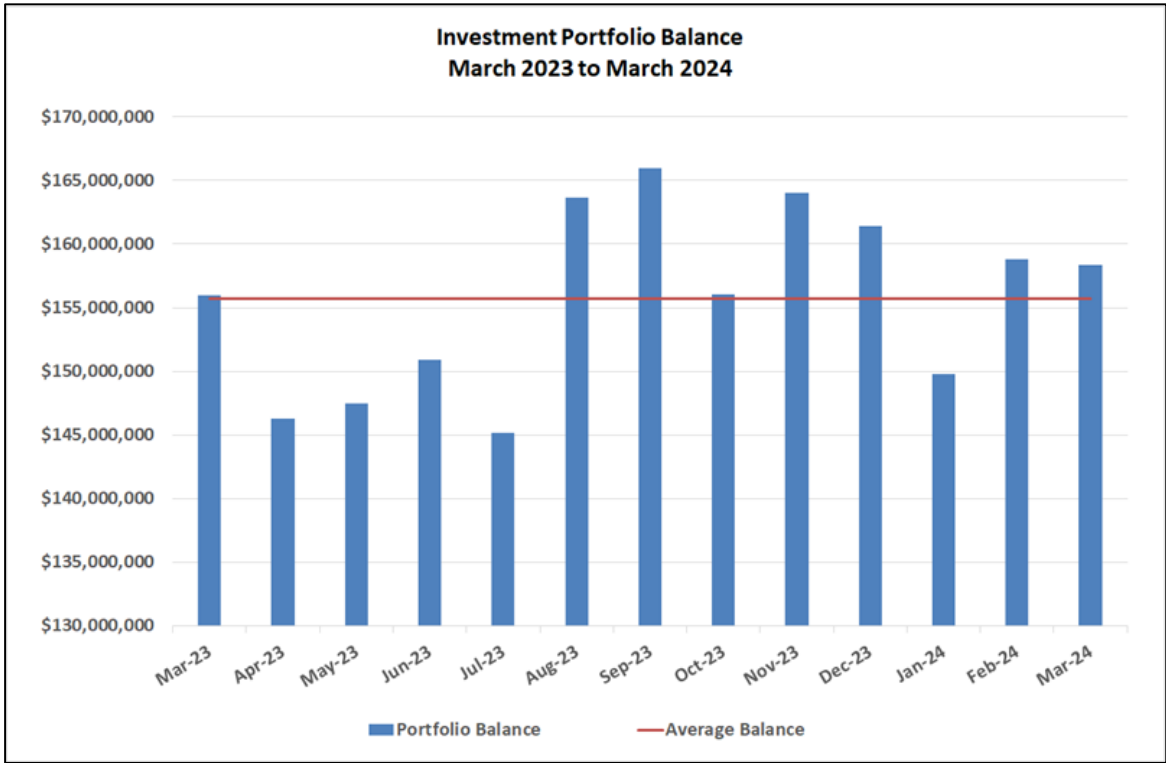
| Compliant | Rating       | Invested      | Invested | Max. Limit | Available     |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|----------|------------|---------------|
| ✓         | AAA Category | \$1,657,593   | 1.05%    | 100%       | \$156,826,239 |
| ✓         | AA Category  | \$107,051,367 | 67.55%   | 100%       | \$51,432,465  |
| ✓         | A Category   | \$49,774,872  | 31.41%   | 80%        | \$77,012,194  |
| ✓         | Unrated ADIs | \$0           | 0.00%    | 0%         | \$0           |

## Counterparty

The table below shows the individual counterparty exposures against Council's current investment policy based on long-term S&P ratings.

| Compliant | Issuer                    | Rating | Invested     | %      | Max. Limit | Available    |
|-----------|---------------------------|--------|--------------|--------|------------|--------------|
| ✓         | ING Covered Bond          | AAA    | \$1,657,593  | 1.05%  | 40%        | \$61,735,940 |
| ✓         | ANZ Bank                  | AA-    | \$3,557,164  | 2.24%  | 40%        | \$59,836,369 |
| ✓         | CBA                       | AA-    | \$42,400,407 | 26.75% | 40%        | \$20,993,126 |
| ✓         | NAB                       | AA-    | \$27,093,796 | 17.10% | 40%        | \$36,299,737 |
| ✓         | Westpac                   | AA-    | \$34,000,000 | 21.45% | 40%        | \$29,393,533 |
| ✓         | Macquarie Bank            | A+     | \$2,005,070  | 1.27%  | 25%        | \$37,615,888 |
| ✓         | Rabobank Australia Branch | A+     | \$6,264,434  | 3.95%  | 25%        | \$33,356,525 |
| ✓         | Suncorp                   | A+     | \$18,035,891 | 11.38% | 25%        | \$21,585,067 |
| ✓         | UBS AG                    | A+     | \$4,280,208  | 2.70%  | 25%        | \$35,340,750 |
| ✓         | ICBC Sydney               | A      | \$6,689,113  | 4.22%  | 25%        | \$32,931,845 |
| ✓         | ING Bank                  | A      | \$12,500,156 | 7.89%  | 25%        | \$27,120,802 |





**Restricted Funds** (*Local Government Act 1993 s409*)

Councils’ preliminary calculations of restricted and unrestricted funds for 31 March 2024 are shown below. Unrestricted Cash is the cash that is readily available or convertible to cash for Councils’ day-to-day management. The restricted cash is either externally or internally restricted. Externally restricted cash can only be spent as permitted in line with legislative responsibilities and/or contractual obligations, while internally restricted cash is to be spent on Council-specific funding commitments as per the operational plan and adopted Council budget.

| Investment Portfolio Balance as at 31 March 2024 |          | \$158,483,832 |
|--|----------|---------------|
| Restricted Cash                                  | Internal | \$86,121,675  |
|  | External | \$54,132,060  |
| Unrestricted Cash                                |          | \$18,230,097  |
| Total Restricted & Unrestricted                  |          | \$158,483,832 |

**Green Investment**

Council’s investment policy includes guidelines that give preference to placing funds with institutions identified as not dealing with fossil fuel companies, where financial institutions offer equivalent investment returns with the same credit rating. The big four banks and other institutions rated A- and above have some exposure to fossil fuels. The banks with little or no exposure to fossil fuels are the lower-rated institutions. The current policy does not permit investments in these BBB-rated institutions.

Council’s exposure to fossil fuel funds is shown below:

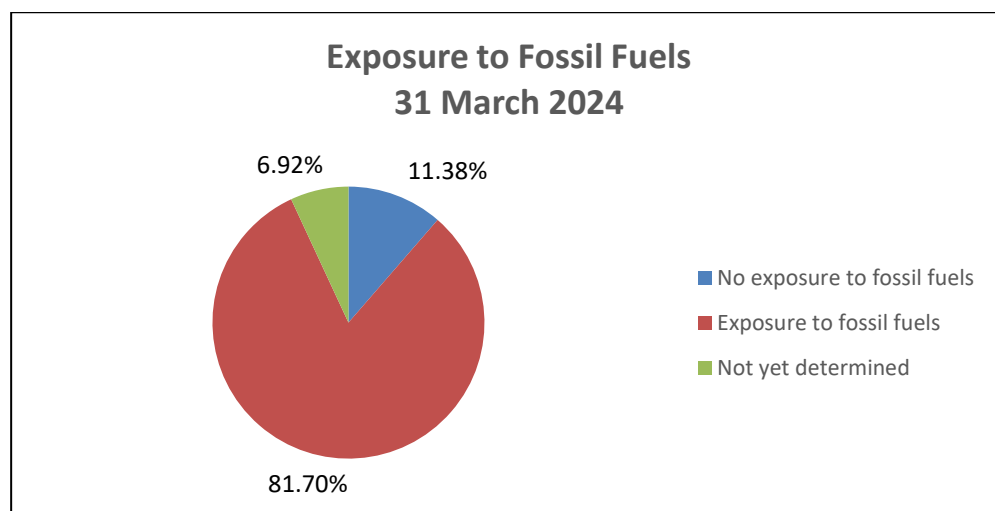


| Counterparty        | Credit rating | Funding fossil fuel | Position   |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|--|
| ING Covered Bond    | AAA           | Yes                 | Loaned to fossil fuels in Australia since 2016   |
| ANZ Bank            | AA-           | Yes                 | Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016  |
| Commonwealth Bank   | AA-           | Yes                 | Loaned to fossil fuels globally since 2016   |
| NAB                 | AA-           | Yes                 | Loaned to fossil fuels globally since 2016   |
| Westpac             | AA-           | Yes                 | Loaned to fossil fuels globally since 2016   |
| Macquarie Bank      | A+            | Yes                 | Loaned to fossil fuels globally since 2016   |
| Rabobank            | A+            | Yes                 | Loaned to fossil fuels globally since 2016   |
| Suncorp             | A+            | No                  | Loans to fossil fuels in 2008/2009, but released the position statement that they have withdrawn from the sector |
| UBS                 | A+            | Not yet determined  | No Position provided   |
| ICBC, Sydney Branch | A             | Not yet determined  | No Position provided   |
| ING Bank            | A             | Yes                 | Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016  |

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Based on the portfolio balance of \$158.48 million at 31 March 2024, funding with green initiatives banks made up 11.38% of total investment, or \$18 million. Funding with banks that have exposure to fossil fuels constitutes 81.70%, or \$129.5 million. The remaining 6.92% are not yet determined as no position has been provided by the financial institutions.

| Institutions                       | Invested      | Invested % |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------------|
| <b>No exposure to fossil fuels</b> | \$18,035,891  | 11.38%     |
| <b>Exposure to fossil fuels</b>    | \$129,478,620 | 81.70%     |
| <b>Not yet determined</b>          | \$10,969,322  | 6.92%      |



### Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

**Delivering services and regulatory functions:**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Service area                | Financial Management  |
| Function                    | Financial Management and Control  |
| Delivery program commitment | Support Council's sustainable delivery of projects and services through sound Financial Management and Control, including long term financial planning, budget preparation, and financial performance monitoring. |

**Resourcing Strategy implications**

The Original Budget provision for investment income is \$4,229,356. The September and December quarterly budget reviews have been adopted by Council with an additional \$700,000 and \$800,000 respectively for investment interest. The March 2024 quarterly review is being reported to Council with an additional budget of \$500,000 for investment interest. If adopted, the total revised interest on investments budget will be \$6,229,356. Interest received to 31 March 2024 is \$5,423,272 representing 94.66% of the current budget year to date. The increased portfolio balance and increases in interest rates continue to result in overall improved returns.

**Policy and legislative requirements**

Council is authorised by Section 625 of the Local Government Act to invest its surplus funds. Funds will only be invested in the form of investment notified by Order of the Minister dated 12 January 2011. The Local Government (General) Regulation prescribes the records that must be maintained in relation to Council's Investment Policy.

**Conclusion**

Funds are invested with the objective of capital preservation and maximising returns as per the Investment Policy for the 2023-24 financial year. Our current investment return remains strong. Investment income received to 31 March 2024 is \$5,423,272, exceeding current budget expectations by \$1,126,255 and representing 94.66% of the current budget year to date.

All investments as at 31 March 2024 have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, the Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

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**Responsible officer:** Zorica Whitby, Financial Accountant

**File Reference:** F2016/06527

## Randwick City Council

## Investments

for the period ending 31 March 2024

## Certificate by Responsible Accounting Officer

made pursuant to Clause 212(1)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

I hereby certify that all investments as at 31 March 2024 have been made in accordance with Council's Investment Policy (adopted Feb 2024).

I hereby certify that all investments as at 31 March 2024 meet the requirements of section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993* including the Ministerial Investment Order (2011).

I hereby certify that all investments as at 31 March 2024, and this investment report, meet the requirements of clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.



Stephen Wong  
RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

3 April 2024

Date

## Director Corporate Services Report No. CO14/24

**Subject: Draft 2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget**

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### Executive Summary

- Our 2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget details the projects and activities that will be undertaken in the 2024-25 financial year to work towards achieving the commitments made in our 2022-26 Delivery Program. It includes a detailed budget for the activities, our 2024-25 Fees and Charges, and a Statement of Revenue Policy.
- The draft Budget for 2024-25 ensures a continued strong financial position, with a net operating result for the year, before grants and contributions for capital purposes, of \$3.8M.
- The draft Budget for 2024-25 is balanced.
- The draft 2024-25 Fees and Charges are also presented for council's consideration for exhibition.

### Recommendation

That:

- a) the draft 2024-25 Operational Plan, including the 2024-25 Budget and associated 2024-25 Fees and Charges, be endorsed for a period of public exhibition of not less than 28 days, from 2 to 30 May 2024, inviting submissions from the public;
- b) Council receives a report at the conclusion of the period of public exhibition, providing the outcomes of public exhibition for consideration; and
- c) the General Manager be authorised to make any minor changes if required.

### Attachment/s:

1. [LINK TO VIEW](#) 2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget - DRAFT
2. [LINK TO VIEW](#) 2024-25 Fees and Charges - DRAFT

CO14/24

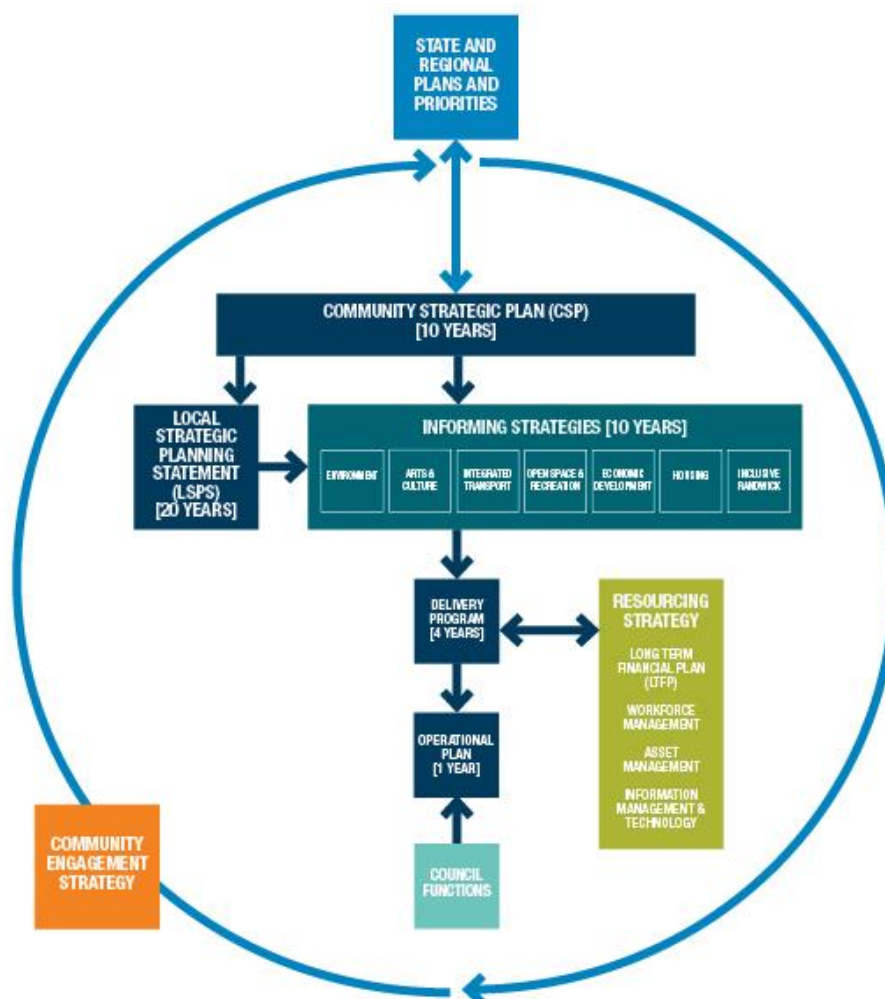
## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek council endorsement to exhibit the draft *Randwick City Council 2024-25 Operational Plan*, including *2024-25 Budget* and associated *Fees and Charges*.

## Discussion

All councils in NSW are required to use the legislated Integrating Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework to guide their planning and reporting activities.

The following diagram includes key elements from the legislated IP&R framework and locates the suite of Randwick City strategic plans. These plans ensure that we are working towards achieving the community's goals as set out in the Community Strategic Plan.



The **Community Strategic Plan (CSP)** is Council's 10-year plan that forms the basis of our integrated planning and reporting framework. It incorporates state and regional planning priorities. The purpose of the CSP is to document our community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and set the direction for all of Council's activities. Although Council prepared this plan, it belongs to the community (not Council) and involves council working together with a range of partners across the community, business, and government to achieve the outcomes.

The **Delivery Program and Operational Plan** covers the specific actions that Council will take to work towards achieving the outcomes of this CSP over the four-year term of council and one year planning period together with the activities to deliver ongoing day-to-day services to our community; ensure compliance with regulatory requirements; and provide the internal support services that are needed to keep Council operating efficiently and effectively.

## How our CSP, Delivery Program and Operational Plan were prepared

Council and our community worked together to create the suite of seven *Informing Strategies*:

- Arts and Culture
- Economic Development
- Environment
- Housing
- Inclusive Randwick
- Integrated Transport
- Open Space and Recreation

These strategies link the high-level outcomes of the *Community Strategic Plan* with Council's day-to-day operations. They are the result of three years of research and consultation with the community. Each strategy consists of outcomes, objectives, strategic approaches, and principles.

Outcomes from the *Informing Strategies* provide the community's aspirations for the future across seven priority areas. The objectives provide clear ways to achieve these outcomes. Together they provide the basis for our *2022-2032 Community Strategic Plan*.

The strategic approaches from the *Informing Strategies* detail what Council will do to work towards achieving the outcomes and objectives over the next 10 years. These were used to develop the Group A commitments in our 4-year delivery program, thereby ensuring that Council's actions are directly aligned with achieving our community's aspirations. The specific actions required to deliver each strategic approach are included in the Group A operational plan activities.

The functions of each business unit were used to develop the Group B commitments in our delivery program and operational plan.

## 2024-25 Operational Plan

Our *2024-25 Operational Plan* lists the projects and activities to be undertaken in the 2024-25 financial year to achieve, or work towards achieving, the commitments in our *2022-26 Delivery Program*. It also includes our annual budget and Statement of Revenue Policy.

The structure of the attached Draft 2024-25 Operational Plan & Budget is detailed below:

### Part 1: About Randwick City

This part provides background information about our City and our Council

### Part 2: About this Plan

This part explains the purpose and structure the Plan

### Part 3: 2022-26 Delivery Program and 2024-25 Operational Plan Activities

This part includes our 2022-26 delivery program commitments and 2024-25 operational plan activities. They are split into two groups:

- Group A details how Council will work towards delivering the outcomes of the 2022-2032 Community Strategic Plan (CSP)
- Group B details how Council will provide the ongoing services required by our community and comply with regulatory obligations

### Part 4: Financial Information

This part provides the budget for planned activities in the 2024-25 financial year

### Part 5: 2024-25 Statement of Revenue Policy

This part provides Council's Statement of Revenue Policy as required under the Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines

### Part 6: Other Statutory and Supporting Information

This part provides additional information on Council's operations



**2024-25 activities**

The **2024-25 Operational Plan** includes new activities and activities carried forward from previous Operational Plans within the 2022-26 Delivery Program.

Previously adopted operational plan activities that reflect ongoing services delivered by Council, or projects that are not yet complete, have been carried over into the 2024-25 plan.

Some of the key activities planned for 2024-25 from each strategy area are noted below:

**Arts and Culture Strategy**

- Complete the long-awaited Blenheim House upgrade, transforming the heritage building into a cultural hub for local artists
- Increase creative spaces by opening Randwick Town Hall for arts and cultural activity
- Recognise, value, and celebrate our First Nations history through targeted events, activities or programs
- Finalise and implement the Public Art Plan

**Economic Development**

- Complete the Randwick Junction Planning Proposal providing opportunities for the support of economic activity
- Work with NSW state government agency, Office of the 24-Hour Economy, to build vibrant, diverse, inclusive, and safe opportunities for activity in Randwick City after 6pm
- Trial monthly markets at two locations in Maroubra for a 12-month period
- Streamline application and approval process for footway dining
- Develop a Food Truck Policy to support our local food trucks and activate open spaces

**Environment Strategy**

- Plant at least 5,000 new native and indigenous plantings to improve the connectivity of key bushland areas
- Plant a minimum of 2,000 trees to provide habitat, shade and heat reduction benefits
- Run the highly successful environment and sustainability programs including the Eco Living Festival and the Marine and Coastal Discovery program
- Investigate ways to save water including blackwater re-use and Reedbed Irrigation facilities at Randwick Environment Park

**Housing Strategy**

- Complete the Stage 2 Review of Council's Comprehensive Development Control Plan
- Review the Affordable Housing Policy and opportunities for increasing affordable housing in councils' property
- Finalise the Randwick Junction planning proposal
- Exhibit the Maroubra Junction planning proposal

**Inclusive Randwick**

- Continue maintenance of the affordable housing at Lexington Place
- Continue work on the accessibility upgrade to Malabar Memorial Hall and Library
- Conduct an audit of council events to discover ways to improve accessibility of events to a wider audience, and increase diversity and inclusion of participants
- Provide a significant investment of over \$650,000 in grant funding for community partnerships and programs

**Integrated Transport Strategy**

- Commence the Maroubra Road Corridor Intersection interventions
- Implement actions identified in the Kensington Local Area Traffic Management Strategy
- Deliver five new publicly accessible EV charging stations
- Improve Road safety under Black Spot funding
- Continue work on the Anzac Parade cycle way designs

**Open Space and Recreation Strategy**

- Finalise design of the first BMX Pump Park and move into construction phase

- Continue planning for the Coogee Beach Amenities, Bus Shelter and Cafe / Kiosk
- Install a new Gross Pollutant Trap at Bilga Crescent which will improve water quality in the south of our City
- Deliver a rock fishing awareness campaign to improve education on rock fishing and safety in our coastal areas

As part of our annual capital works program, the following works are also scheduled for 2024-25:

- Renewal of playgrounds at Grant Reserve, Wills Reserve, Woomera Reserve and Dr Walters Reserve
- Construction of the Malabar Pool Pump and Pump House, Ivo Rowe Rock Pool Access, and Finucane Reserve Playground
- Planning of Heffron Park Criterium
- Construction of Heffron Park Netball Shade Structure
- Planning for amenities at La Perouse Headland, Snape Park, Little Bay, Inglis Park, and Malabar Pool
- Clovelly Catchment Flood Study
- Flood mitigation and design for Anzac Parade Malabar, and Perry Street
- Planning and design of stage 2 of Matraville Town Centre Streetscape and Maroubra Junction Streetscape improvements

### **2022-26 Service Review Program and Continuous Improvement**

The Delivery Program includes the 2022-26 Service Review program. Through this program, a comprehensive review of nominated Council services will be carried out. The service review process involves engaging with the community and key stakeholders to develop agreed priorities and expected levels of service.

In 2024-25, the services of Heritage Assessments, Tree Assessments, Community Hall Management and Green Space Management will be reviewed.

Recommendations from previous service reviews will be implemented in 2024-25 and noted where relevant in reports.

The draft *2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget* is attached for your consideration. Following exhibition and upon adoption, the Plan and Budget will commence 1 July 2024.

### **2024-25 Budget**

In the context of our 2024-25 Budget, we will collaboratively engage with our community and stakeholders to maintain a financially robust and sustainable local government, dedicated to providing affordable services to our community both now and in the future.

Randwick's ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship is exemplified by our current 5-year Environmental Levy program, funded through a Special Rate Variation (SRV) approved by both Council and the NSW Government. This initiative, which has garnered approval on four previous occasions since its inception in 2004, serves as the cornerstone for funding nearly all our Environmental Levy programs and sustainability endeavours.

In February 2024, Council submitted a proposal to IPART for a single-year increase under section 508(2), seeking to incorporate the Environmental Levy into the rating structure on a permanent basis subject to IPART approval. This endeavour resulted in a Special Rate Variation application for an increase of 11.67%, inclusive of the rate peg at 4.90%. Our 2024-25 budget is premised on this application being successful.

The proposed domestic waste management charge is proposed to increase by 4.0%. This adjustment is deemed necessary to sustain current service levels and facilitate the funding of pertinent capital works and remedial undertakings.

The formulation of the 2024-25 annual budget is set to ensure alignment with all financial performance indicators and benchmarks as prescribed by the Office of Local Government. The

Draft Income Statement for 2024-25 forecasts a net operating result for the year before grants and contributions for capital purposes amounting to \$3.8M. Following adjustments for non-cash items, reserve transfers, capital expenditure, and loan funding, a balanced budget is presented.

The following tables list the source and application of funds.

**Table: Source of funds**

| Revenue type                  | Amount<br>(\$000)s |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Rates and annual charges      | 148,947,825        |
| User fees and charges         | 23,616,343         |
| Grants and contributions      | 12,974,567         |
| Other revenues                | 6,806,631          |
| Other income                  | 5,704,190          |
| Reserves                      | 7,850,364          |
| Interest & Investment Revenue | 5,175,000          |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>211,074,920</b> |

**Table: Application of funds**

| Expenditure type         | Amount<br>(\$000)s |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Employee costs           | 88,816,664         |
| Materials and contracts  | 71,085,384         |
| Net Capital Expenditure  | 41,015,046         |
| Other Operating expenses | 5,807,016          |
| Lease & Loan Repayments  | 4,349,734          |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>211,073,844</b> |

Council continues to have a high reliance on own source revenue with an anticipated Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio of 93.62% and maintains a reasonably strong unrestricted current ratio of 2.74X compared to a benchmark of 1.5X.

#### **2024-25 Capital Expenditure**

The Draft 2024-25 Budget includes a \$42.1M proposed capital works program which is detailed within the Operational Plan.

#### **Borrowings**

External borrowings of \$33.5 million were drawn down in 2021-22 and will enable works to be completed for the benefit of Randwick City Council residents and the greater community. No further borrowings are proposed for 2024-25.

Council's principal and interest repayment for the 2024-25 financial year will be \$3.75M.

## Statement of Revenue Policy

### Rating structure

The Council's ordinary rates are structured on an ad valorem basis in accordance with section 497 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993 (the Act), and subject to the minimum amounts in accordance with section 548 of the Act.

Permissible increases in rating revenue are determined by IPART through two distinct processes, including industry standard rate peg and council specific special variation. The rate peg is set by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART). IPART has set the rate peg for the 2024-25 financial year using the new rate peg methodology. This methodology uses the base cost change for council groups, a productivity factor, a population factor, an Emergency Service Levy factor, and other adjustments. All councils are subject to the annual rate peg unless otherwise covered by an approved variation.

IPART determined a 2024-25 rate peg of 4.9%. Council has applied to IPART for a special rate variation of 11.67% for 2024-25 inclusive of this rate peg.

### Domestic Waste Management Charge

Under section 496 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council must make and levy an annual charge for providing domestic waste management services. Under section 504 of the Act, income from the charge must not exceed the reasonable cost to the Council of providing those services.

The domestic waste management charge is proposed to increase by 4% from \$663.35 to \$689.90 for each residential service in 2024-25. This charge funds domestic waste collection services, including general waste, recycling, FOGO and household clean-up, the ongoing operations of the Perry St Recycling Centre, and the continuation of Council's contaminated site remediation program.

### Fees and Charges

The draft *2024-25 Fees and Charges* have been developed in accordance with our Pricing Policy. Fees and Charges are developed for user specific services and ensure that where possible, Council can recover the cost-of-service delivery.

Many fees and charges levied by Council are subject to statutory limits. For those that are not set by legislation, a review process is undertaken each year which considers market comparisons and service costs, including cost indexing.

Cost recovery is not applicable to some services which are considered to offer wider public good. These services are charged at partial or minimal cost recovery.

The draft *2024-25 Fees and Charges* is attached for your consideration. Following exhibition and upon adoption, the fees and charges will commence 1 July 2024.

### Stormwater Management Service Charge

The Stormwater Management Service Charge was introduced in the 2008-09 financial year to establish a sustainable funding source for providing improved stormwater management across Randwick City. The maximum amounts chargeable are prescribed in clause 125AA of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021. The amount varies depending on the type of property and/or property owner.

## Consultation

Council's draft *2024-25 Operational Plan* is required to be publicly exhibited for a period of at least 28 days. The proposed exhibition period is 2 to 30 May 2024.

Throughout the exhibition period, the draft documents will be on display via Council's website, and in hard copy at Council's Administration Building and three libraries.

- Online through Council's Your Say website
- By email

- By mail

Residents will be informed and encouraged to engage through a range of communication and consultation activities including:

- Suburb-specific Information Sheets delivered to residents and available for download from our website
- Feature story in winter 2024 Randwick *SCENE* magazine
- Media release
- Promotion through social media
- Promotion through Randwick eNews distributed to more than 50,000 recipients
- Email notification to Council's Your Say Randwick subscribers
- Notification to local Precinct Committees
- Video content communicating the plan and encouraging people to have their say

All submissions received during the exhibition will be considered before the 2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget is presented to Council for adoption in June 2023.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering services and regulatory functions: |   |
|---|---|
| Service area                                  | Change and Performance Service  |
| Function                                      | Performance Management  |
| Delivery program commitment                   | Identify, measure and develop the performance of Council.   |
| Service area                                  | Financial Management  |
| Function                                      | Financial Management and Control  |
| Delivery program commitment                   | Support Council's sustainable delivery of projects and services through sound Financial Management and Control, including long term financial planning, budget preparation, and financial performance monitoring. |

Resourcing Strategy implications

The draft Budget for 2024-25 is balanced and sustainable, with a budget surplus of \$1K.

Policy and legislative requirements

Section 405 of the *Local Government Act* requires Council to have an Operational Plan ‘that is adopted before the beginning of each year that details the activities to be engaged in by the council during the year as part of the delivery program covering that year’.

The draft 2024-25 Operational Plan has been prepared in accordance with section 405 and the associated *Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines*.

Conclusion

Our draft *2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget* details the individual projects and actions that will be undertaken in the 2024-25 financial year to achieve, or work towards achieving, the commitments made in our 2022-26 Delivery Program. It includes a detailed budget for the actions, our 2024-25 Fees and Charges, and a Statement of Revenue Policy. The draft Budget for 2024-25 is balanced and sustainable.

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**Responsible officer:** Helen Cram, Manager Change Management

**File Reference:** F2024/03004

CO14/24



## Director Corporate Services Report No. CO15/24

**Subject: Monthly Financial Report as at 31 March 2024**

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### Executive Summary

- Monthly Financial Reports are produced as a means of monitoring the financial performance of the Council and ensuring that all appropriate financial controls are being adhered to.
- Council's liquidity remains sound as at 31 March 2024, with capacity to meet short term obligations as they fall due.
- Council's Chief Financial Officer, as the Responsible Accounting Officer, advises that the projected financial position is satisfactory.

### Recommendation

That the Monthly Financial Report as at 31 March 2024 be received and noted.

### Attachment/s:

1.   Monthly Financial Statement - Income Statement - March 2024 - Attachment 1
2.   Monthly Financial Statement - Balance Sheet - March 2024 - Attachment 2
3.   Monthly Financial Statement - Cash Flow Statement - March 2024 - Attachment 3

## Purpose

Section 202 of Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 requires that the Responsible Accounting Officer of a council must:

- a) establish and maintain a system of budgetary control that will enable the council's actual income and expenditure to be monitored each month and to be compared with the estimate of the council's income and expenditure, and
- b) if any instance arises where the actual income or expenditure of the council is materially different from its estimated income or expenditure, report the instance to the next meeting of the council.

## Discussion

This report provides the financial results of the Council as at 31 March 2024.

- **Income Statement (Attachment 1):**

The Income Statement summarises the Council's financial performance year to date (YTD) and presents the financial results for a stated period. The statement quantifies the amount of revenue generated and the expenses incurred by the Council as well as any resulting net surplus or deficit.

- In March, Other Revenues were higher than expectations year-to-date, primarily due to increased revenues from the Des Renford Leisure Centre's operations and fines.
- Interest Income is showing a favourable trend, reflecting higher interest rates on investment returns. This increase is a direct result of Government monetary policy aimed at mitigating high inflation through interest rate adjustments. As a consequence, our interest income has been positively impacted, contributing to overall financial performance.

### 2023-24 Financial Performance Summary

|   | Original<br>Budget<br>2023-24 (\$'000) | Current<br>Budget<br>2023-24 (\$'000) | YTD Actual<br>March 2024<br>2023-24 (\$'000) |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Income from continuing operations                               | 191,689                                | 204,826                               | 158,569                                      |
| Expenses from continuing operations                             | 185,695                                | 185,918                               | 141,734                                      |
| Net operating result  | 5,994                                  | 18,908                                | 16,835                                       |
| Net operating result before Capital<br>Grants and Contributions | 214                                    | 3,932                                 | 2,323  |

- **Balance Sheet Statement (Attachment 2):**

A Balance Sheet is a statement of the financial position of the Council that lists the assets, liabilities, and equity at a particular point in time. In other words, the balance sheet illustrates a Council's net worth. The balance sheet provides a snapshot of the finances (what it owns and owes) as of a specific date.

- Payables and prepayments have decreased by ~\$10m as 3<sup>rd</sup> rates instalment has been earned (recognised) in the March 2024.

- **Cash Flow Statement (Attachment 3):**

The Cash Flow Statement is a financial statement that shows how cash moves in and out of a Council's accounts via three main channels: operating, investing, and financing activities. The sum of these three segments is called net cash flow. The cash flow statement measures how well the Council manages its cash position, meaning how well the Council generates cash to pay its debt obligations and fund its operating expenses.

The current ratio is a liquidity ratio that measures Council's ability to pay short-term obligations or those due within one year. The current ratio as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 is 3.66. The Council's target is a ratio equal to or greater than 1.5 based on the Office of Local Government benchmarks. Our current ratio meets this target and indicates Council's liquidity remains sound at the end of March 2024. Together with a surplus Net Operating Result before Capital Grants and Contributions of \$2.3m, the financial position of the Council remains satisfactory.

Performance Ratio Summary

Based on 22 August 2023 Council meeting feedback, performance ratio indicators will be reported bi-annually, as part of the Annual Financial Statements and the December monthly report. This will provide better indicators to inform Council of the performance in progress.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

| Delivering services and regulatory functions: |   |
|---|---|
| Service area                                  | Financial Management  |
| Function                                      | Financial Management and Control  |
| Delivery program commitment                   | Support Council's sustainable delivery of projects and services through sound Financial Management and Control, including long term financial planning, budget preparation, and financial performance monitoring. |
| Function                                      | Accounting  |
| Delivery program commitment                   | Manage and record the financial transactions arising from Council's activities, including the levy and collection of rates and charges, and the preparation of financial statements and returns.                  |

Resourcing Strategy implications

The Current Budget for 2023-24 as of the December 23 QBRS is balanced and sustainable with a Net Operating Result before Capital Grants & Contributions of \$3.9m. The Council's financial position remains sound. The Council continues to have a strong balance sheet demonstrated through the robustness of working capital and sound liquidity through healthy cash generation.

Policy and legislative requirements

Section 202 of Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

Conclusion

The Council's Chief Financial Officer, as the Responsible Accounting Officer, advises that the projected financial position is satisfactory.

Responsible officer: Stephen Wong, Chief Financial Officer

File Reference: F2021/00364

CO15/24



# INCOME STATEMENT

 % OF YEAR EXPIRED  
AT 31 Mar 2024

75%

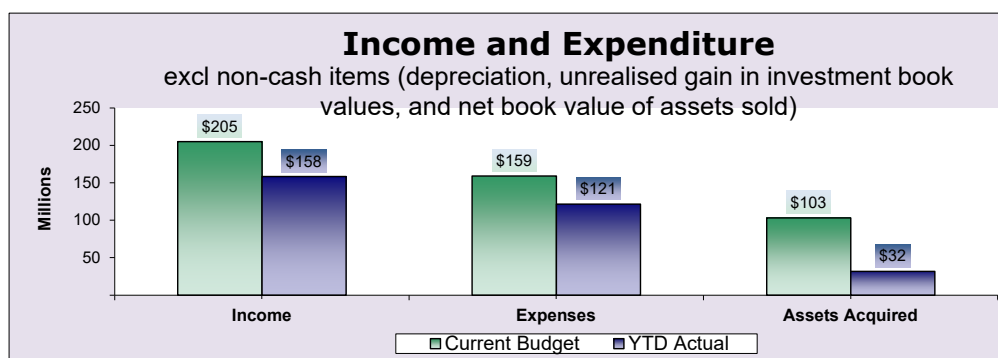
|  | Original<br>Budget<br>(\$'000s) | Current<br>Budget<br>(\$'000s) | YTD<br>Actuals<br>(\$'000s) | %<br>Spent or<br>Earned |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>       |                                 |                                |                             |                         |
| Employee Costs                                   | 82,711                          | 82,811                         | 55,925                      | 67.5%                   |
| Borrowing Costs                                  | 625                             | 625                            | 469                         | 75.1%                   |
| Materials and Contracts                          | 65,880                          | 69,873                         | 57,793                      | 82.7%                   |
| Depreciation and Amortisation                    | 30,851                          | 27,001                         | 20,250                      | 75.0%                   |
| Other Operating Expenses                         | 5,628                           | 5,607                          | 4,051                       | 72.2%                   |
| Loss on Disposal of Infrastructure Assets        | -                               | -                              | 3,246                       | 0.0%                    |
| <b>Total Expenses from Continuing Operations</b> | <b>185,695</b>                  | <b>185,918</b>                 | <b>141,734</b>              | <b>76.2%</b>            |
| <b>INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>         |                                 |                                |                             |                         |
| Rates and Annual Charges                         | 141,279                         | 141,698                        | 106,070                     | 74.9%                   |
| User Charges and Fees                            | 22,204                          | 22,643                         | 17,740                      | 78.3%                   |
| Interest   | 4,429                           | 5,929                          | 5,926                       | 99.9%                   |
| Other Revenues                                   | 6,311                           | 6,340                          | 6,604                       | 104.2%                  |
| Other Income                                     | 4,356                           | 4,347                          | 3,514                       | 80.8%                   |
| Operating Grants and Contributions               | 7,330                           | 8,893                          | 4,112                       | 46.2%                   |
| Capital Grants and Contributions                 | 5,780                           | 14,976                         | 14,512                      | 96.9%                   |
| Gain on Disposal of Plant & Fleet Assets         | -                               | -                              | 91                          | 0.0%                    |
| <b>Total Income from Continuing Operations</b>   | <b>191,689</b>                  | <b>204,826</b>                 | <b>158,569</b>              | <b>77.4%</b>            |
| <b>Net Operating Result - Surplus/(Deficit)</b>  | <b>5,994</b>                    | <b>18,908</b>                  | <b>16,835</b>               |                         |

## FUNDING STATEMENT

|  |               |                |               |              |
|--|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>   |               |                |               |              |
| Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations - Accrual                          | 5,994         | 18,908         | 16,835        | 89.0%        |
| <b>Add Back Non-Funded Transactions included in Operations above</b> |               |                |               |              |
| - Depreciation   | 30,851        | 27,351         | 20,250        | 74.0%        |
| - Sales of Assets (Book Value)                                       | 3,186         | 3,186          | 3,028         | 95.0%        |
| - Transfer - Internal Reserves                                       | 13,825        | 51,587         | 20,854        | 40.4%        |
| - Transfer - External Reserves                                       | 7,029         | 21,005         | 10,294        | 49.0%        |
| - Unrealised Gain/(Loss) on Market Value of Investr                  | -             | -              | 224           | 0.0%         |
| <b>Net Funds Available</b>   | <b>60,885</b> | <b>122,038</b> | <b>71,038</b> | <b>58.2%</b> |

|                                    |               |                |               |              |
|------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>APPLICATION OF FUNDS</b>        |               |                |               |              |
| Assets Acquired                    | 48,808        | 103,159        | 31,856        | 30.9%        |
| Loan Principal and Lease Repayment | 3,523         | 3,523          | 2,378         | 67.5%        |
| Transfer - Internal Reserves       | 3,427         | 4,632          | 11,534        | 249.0%       |
| Transfer - External Reserves       | 5,001         | 5,101          | 10,823        | 212.2%       |
| <b>Total Funds Applied</b>         | <b>60,759</b> | <b>116,414</b> | <b>56,590</b> | <b>48.6%</b> |

|                                      |            |              |               |  |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Total Funds Surplus/(Deficit)</b> | <b>126</b> | <b>5,623</b> | <b>14,447</b> |  |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|--|





## BALANCE SHEET

|   | Actual as at 31<br>March 2024<br>(\$'000s) | Actual as at<br>30 June 2023<br>(\$'000s) |
|---|--|---|
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                       |  |   |
| Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments        | 158,578                                    | 151,071                                   |
| Receivables                                 | 5,058                                      | 12,793                                    |
| Inventories                                 | 596  | 605                                       |
| Other                                       | 434  | 1,277                                     |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>                 | <b>164,667</b>                             | <b>165,746</b>                            |
| <b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>                   |  |   |
| Receivables                                 | 626  | 626                                       |
| Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | 1,977,492                                  | 1,969,265                                 |
| Right of Use Asset                          | 227  | 227                                       |
| <b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>             | <b>1,978,346</b>                           | <b>1,970,118</b>                          |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                         | <b>2,143,013</b>                           | <b>2,135,864</b>                          |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                  |  |   |
| Payables & Prepayments                      | 24,201                                     | 33,213                                    |
| Provisions                                  | 20,756                                     | 21,437                                    |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>            | <b>44,957</b>                              | <b>54,650</b>                             |
| <b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>              |  |   |
| Income received in advance                  | 21,870                                     | 21,870                                    |
| Borrowings                                  | 25,805                                     | 25,805                                    |
| Lease Liabilities                           | 243  | 237                                       |
| Provisions                                  | 711  | 711                                       |
| <b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>        | <b>48,629</b>                              | <b>48,622</b>                             |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>                    | <b>93,586</b>                              | <b>103,272</b>                            |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                           | <b>2,049,427</b>                           | <b>2,032,592</b>                          |
| <b>EQUITY</b>                               |  |   |
| Retained Earnings                           | 910,938                                    | 894,103                                   |
| Revaluation Reserves                        | 1,138,489                                  | 1,138,489                                 |
| <b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>                         | <b>2,049,427</b>                           | <b>2,032,592</b>                          |

C015/24



## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

|  | For the period ended<br>31 March 2024<br>(\$'000) | Actual for the<br>year ended<br>30 June 2023<br>(\$'000) |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>                  |   |  |
| <b>Receipts:</b>   |   |  |
| Rates and annual charges                                     | 113,309   | 137,811  |
| User charges and fees  | 20,351  | 35,625   |
| Interest received  | 5,766   | 3,051  |
| Grants and contributions                                     | 17,890  | 27,784   |
| Bonds, deposits and retentions received                      | 2,188   | 2,048  |
| Other  | 10,095  | 24,841   |
| <b>Payments:</b>   |   |  |
| Payments to employees  | (58,301)  | (72,715)   |
| Payments for materials and services                          | (60,444)  | (73,589)   |
| Borrowing Costs  | (469)   | (786)  |
| Bonds, Deposits & retentions refunded                        | (1,142)   | (1,555)  |
| Other  | (8,763)   | (16,156)   |
| <b>Net cash flows from (or used in) Operating Activities</b> | <b>40,481</b>                                     | <b>66,359</b>  |
| <b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>                  |   |  |
| <b>Receipts:</b>   |   |  |
| Sale of investments  | 59,500  | 99,000   |
| Proceeds from sale of IPPE                                   | (3,189)   | 821  |
| Distribution received from joint ventures and associates     | -   | -  |
| <b>Payments:</b>   |   |  |
| Purchase of investments                                      | (67,050)  | (110,500)  |
| Payments for IPPE  | (28,453)  | (58,131)   |
| <b>Net cash flows from (or used in) Investing Activities</b> | <b>(39,192)</b>                                   | <b>(68,810)</b>  |
| <b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>                  |   |  |
| <b>Receipts:</b>   |   |  |
| Proceeds from borrowings                                     | -   | -  |
| <b>Payments:</b>   |   |  |
| Repayment of borrowings                                      | (1,556)   | (3,061)  |
| <b>Net cash flows from (used in) Financing Activities</b>    | <b>(1,556)</b>                                    | <b>(3,061)</b>   |
| <b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>  | <b>(267)</b>                                      | <b>(5,512)</b>   |
| <b>plus: Cash and cash Equivalents - beginning of year</b>   | <b>8,007</b>                                      | <b>13,519</b>  |
| <b>Cash and cash Equivalents - end of the year</b>           | <b>7,740</b>                                      | <b>8,007</b>   |
| <b>Additional Information:</b>                               |   |  |
| plus: <b>Investments on hand</b> at end of year              | 150,838   | 143,064  |
| <b>Total cash, cash equivalents and investments</b>          | <b>158,578</b>                                    | <b>151,071</b>   |

CO15/24



## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM28/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Hay - Restore a post office to Kensington

---

### Motion:

That Council:

- a) affirms the need for a local post office in Kensington; and
- b) write a letter of support for a Kensington Post Office to the two ministers responsible for Australia Post: Minister for Finance, The Hon. Senator Katy Gallagher and Minister for Communications The Hon. Michelle Rowland MP

### Background:

On 28 March 2024, people who had post office boxes in Kensington were notified that their local post office would close on 1 May 2024, see attached letter.

Kensington had a population of 15,004 at the 2016 census, and has been developed substantially since then, and around 1800 more rooms in student accommodation coming shortly.

Many residents do not have cars and need a reliable post office in walking distance of their home. In the event the building must be sold, there should be a local post office replacement in a nearby shopfront.

### Attachment/s:

1.  Letter from Australia Post - Changes to postal services at Kensington Post Office

---

**Submitted by:** Councillor Hay, West Ward

**File Reference:** F2012/00347

NM28/24



28 March 2024

Dear PO Box Customer,

**Changes to postal services at Kensington Post Office and what it means for your PO Box**

We are writing to you as a valued PO Box holder, to advise that the Kensington Post Office will permanently close at 5pm on Friday 31 May 2024.

The existing PO boxes at Kensington Post Office will not have mail delivered to them after Friday 31 May 2024. This means you will need to change your PO Box mail arrangements. The following alternatives are available to you:

1. Existing PO Box holders at Kensington Post Office can request a new PO Box at a nearby location (subject to availability). This will mean cancelling your PO Box service at the Kensington Post Office and applying for a new PO Box service at your preferred location.
2. Existing PO Box holders at Kensington Post Office can request mail delivery to a residential or business street address. This will mean cancelling your PO Box service and being refunded the balance of any annual rental fee.

To help minimise impact on the delivery of your mail, we are offering a free six-month mail redirection (not extendable) for existing PO Box holders to forward their mail to a PO Box at another location or to a street address.

The closest outlets to Kensington Post Office are:

| Post Office           | Address   | Trading Hours                              | Distance |
|-----------------------|---|--|----------|
| University of NSW LPO | Level G, Bank Building (F22), Library Walk, UNSW NSW 2052 | M-F 8:30am – 5:30pm                        | 1.7kms   |
| Kingsford Post Office | 12 Gardeners Rd, Kingsford NSW 2032                       | M-F 9:00am – 5:00pm                        | 2kms     |
| Randwick Post Office  | Shop 72b/73-109 Belmore Rd, Randwick NSW 2031             | M-F 9:00am – 5:00pm<br>Sat 9:30am – 1:00pm | 2.3kms   |
| Eastlakes LPO         | Shop 8/16d Evans Ave, Eastlakes NSW 2018                  | M-Sat 9:00am – 5:00pm                      | 2.7kms   |

Please advise a team member at any Post Office which of these options you would like to take up by Friday 24 May 2024. You will need to bring the following documentation with you:

Kensington Post Office  
168-170 Anzac Parade,  
KENSINGTON NSW 2033

Contact:  
T 13 13 18  
E [info@auspost.com.au](mailto:info@auspost.com.au)



Australia Post acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we operate, live and gather as a team. We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM29/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr D'Souza - Investigate ways to reinvigorate the Matraville and Malabar shopping strips & La Perouse shops

---

### Motion:

That Council:

- a) investigates ways to reinvigorate the Matraville and Malabar shopping strips also the shops at La Perouse; and
- b) continue to deliver on the Economic Development, Social Inclusion and Open Space & Recreation Strategies and relevant deliverable actions for the Matraville, Malabar and La Perouse shopping strips.

### Background:

Many shops are closing and the shopping strip is in disrepair. It is tired and looks unkept. It lacks colour and vibrance. The shopping strip has not recovered since the downturn in business during Covid and the shop owners are looking to Council to help them recover.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor D'Souza, South Ward

**File Reference:** F2021/00231

NM29/24

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM30/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Burst - Investigate footpath surface water on Anzac Parade, south of Canara Ave, La Perouse

---

### Motion:

That Council investigate the footpath surface water on Anzac Parade south of Canara Avenue, La Perouse.

### Background:

There is constant water running across the footpath along and around the bus stop. This makes it constantly wet standing at the bus stop and for approx. 100 metres below the bus stop the path is constantly wet with moss type growth making very dangerous and slippery.

There is a natural sandstone rock face that runs on the western side of this footpath, there is approx. a 60 cm gap that was designed to run water down to a pit approx. 150 metres down the hill. But the volume and angle has the water running across the footpath and into verge that is the inside of the kerb along Anzac Pde. Also causing erosion inside the kerbing on Anzac Pde

### Source of funding:

To be Budgeted 2024-25.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Burst, South Ward

**File Reference:** F2011/06108

NM30/24

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM31/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Burst - Investigate Malabar Shops Al Fresco Area - western side of Anzac Parade

---

**Motion:**

That Council investigate and report back on a Malabar Shops Al Fresco Area, western side of Anzac Parade Malabar, including opportunities to increase the footpath and decrease the kerb lane that is almost a double lane and providing bollards from Lawson Street around the corner onto Anzac Parade, to allow a safety zone for diners.

**Background:**

There is an opportunity to activate this area on the western side of Malabar shops.

**Source of funding:**

Budgeted 2024-25.

**Attachment/s:**

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Burst, South Ward

**File Reference:** F2021/00231

NM31/24

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM32/24

**Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Luxford - Preserving our historic wetlands**

---

### Motion:

That Council:

- a) urges Sydney Water and the NSW State Government to transfer ownership of the vacant land at 75 Gardeners Road, Eastlakes, back to the community, thereby fulfilling the critical need for vital public open space in the area; and
- b) supports Bayside Council's community campaign for its transformation into public open space.

### Background:

This motion seeks to harness the potential of the vacant land at 73 and 75 Gardeners Road, Eastlakes, by advocating for its transformation into a public open space, aligning with the community's needs and strategic objectives of environmental sustainability and resilience, particularly with increasing housing density in the area.

The property at 75 Gardeners Road, Eastlakes, previously occupied by "Gardens R Us" landscaping nursery until 2015, has remained neglected and deteriorated. This significant land parcel is intricately linked to the heritage-listed Botany Water Reserves Area and serves as a vital component of the precious Sydney wetlands system, which is the largest coastal freshwater wetlands in the Sydney region.

The significance of this land parcel should not be underestimated. Sydney Water's own promotional material states that:

*"As well as its importance to the water supply, the Botany Swamps area includes two regionally rare and distinct remnant vegetation communities of State significance - the Sydney Freshwater Wetlands and Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub. They are listed separately as 'Endangered Ecological Communities' under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 (NSW). The Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub is also protected under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1995. The Botany Swamps are of regional environmental importance as a major recharge source for the Botany Sands Aquifer. The wetlands also have regional ecological value as native animal habitat and movement corridors and may include animal species of conservation significance".*

Recognising its potential, this site could be transformed into an aesthetically pleasing and accessible public open space, serving as a valuable recreational and educational asset for the community, rather than its current status as an eyesore.

With the rise in population density, protecting and enhancing green open spaces becomes increasingly important to maintain the quality of life, physical and mental health of residents, and to mitigate the impacts of urbanization on the remaining natural habitats. This parcel of land overlooks and drains into a chain of ponds which provides important habitat for a wide range of native birds and animals in a densely populated urban area.

The return of this land to public space also strongly aligns with Sydney Waters Botany Wetlands Plan of Management (2018-2028), which is that "Botany Wetlands will make a unique and **important contribution to the liveability of Sydney** through its **significant natural environment, recreational, and heritage values**. The values of the wetland are protected and enhanced by infrastructure that is sustainably planned, operated, and maintained."



**Attachment/s:**

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Luxford, West Ward

**File Reference:** F2004/06471

NM32/24

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM33/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Luxford - Doncaster Avenue residents - door knock and survey

---

### Motion:

That Council door knock all residents of Doncaster Avenue so that they may have their say on the bike track and the residential issues they face and to get a true picture of the problems the bike track is having on residents.

### Background:

The forum held two weeks ago which was meant for Doncaster Avenue residents only, to hear their residential issues with the track, became a pro track rally by people who did not live on Doncaster Avenue.

I received complaints from residents that they felt they could not speak and continue to receive complaints about the track.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Luxford, West Ward

**File Reference:** F2023/00366

NM33/24

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM34/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Rosenfeld - Signage at Heffron Park and Muraborah Reserve

---

### Motion:

That Council request more signage at Heffron Park and Muraborah Reserve that states;

- i. dogs must be kept on leash at this park; and
- ii. penalties may apply for non-compliance.

As Heffron Park has many different fields for public use signage is to cover all these fields.

### Background:

Maroubra has 4 off leash dog parks being Coral Sea Park, Broadarrow Reserve, Snape Park and Nagle Park. Many residents use other parks in Maroubra in the knowledge that dogs will be on leash. These residents complain regularly that persons are not adhering to this rule at Heffron Park and Muraborah Reserve. One concern, amongst many, is having children near dogs that are off leash.

Heffron Park is 350m from Nagle Park and Muraborah Reserve is 600m from Broadarrow Reserve. As such residents can easily use these nearby parks to take their dogs off leash.

Appropriate signage will assist in ensuring the rules are followed.

### Source of funding:

General Parks Upgrades budget.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Rosenfeld, Central Ward

**File Reference:** F2006/00254

NM34/24

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM35/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Wilson - E-bike free zones at Coogee Beach

---

### Motion:

That Council bring back a report which considers the installation of larger, more noticeable signage on both ends of the upper and lower promenades at Coogee Beach to advise riders that the promenade is not a shared footpath, and that bicycles and scooters are not permitted.

That Council officers negotiate with bike hire businesses to investigate the possibility of creating e-bike free zones at Coogee Beach.

### Background:

Residents at the Coogee Precinct Committee complain that bicycles, including e-bikes and e-scooters, have become an increasing hazard to pedestrians on the promenade at Coogee Beach. Investigation by Councillor Olive reveal that the promenade at Coogee is not a shared pathway, and that bicycles and scooters are prohibited.

There is signage in place on the promenade to advise riders that bicycles and scooters are prohibited. Residents have suggested that the existing signage is too small and clearly not sufficiently noticeable to warn riders. As a result, riders continue to ride bicycles and scooters along the promenade regardless of the prohibition on vehicles and the danger to pedestrians.

A restaurant at the south end of Coogee Beach has successfully negotiated with e-bike businesses to create an e-bike and e-scooter free zone around their business. This has resolved the issue of multiple e-bikes and e-scooters being abandoned in this area. The object of the second part of this motion is for Council to approach the issue of e-bikes and scooters at the beach systematically to create appropriate areas for the return of hired e-bikes and e-scooters at Coogee Beach.

### Source of Funding:

The signage is to be funded from the existing budget.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Wilson, East Ward

**File Reference:** F2006/00723

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM36/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Said - Partnering with UNSW Students in Concept Designs for small town centres

---

### Motion:

That Council Officers bring back a report on the possibility of creating a partnership with the appropriate faculty at UNSW where students are given the opportunity to create ways to improve small town centres within the LGA such as Malabar shops which have issues with traffic, pedestrian access, community appeal.

A prize or scholarship could be awarded to the best concepts presented by the students and judged by residents via displays in the local Library or social media.

### Background:

Town centres such as Malabar have become successful despite being penalised with traffic issues in particular the intersection at Franklin St, Prince Edward St and ANZAC Pde. The students could provide a fresh approach to long standing issues that have plagued town centres such as Malabar and at the same time avoiding exorbitant consultant fees.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Said, South Ward

**File Reference:** F2022/00307

NM36/24

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM37/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Said - Extension of stainless steel bollards on the corner of Lawson Street and ANZAC Parade, Malabar

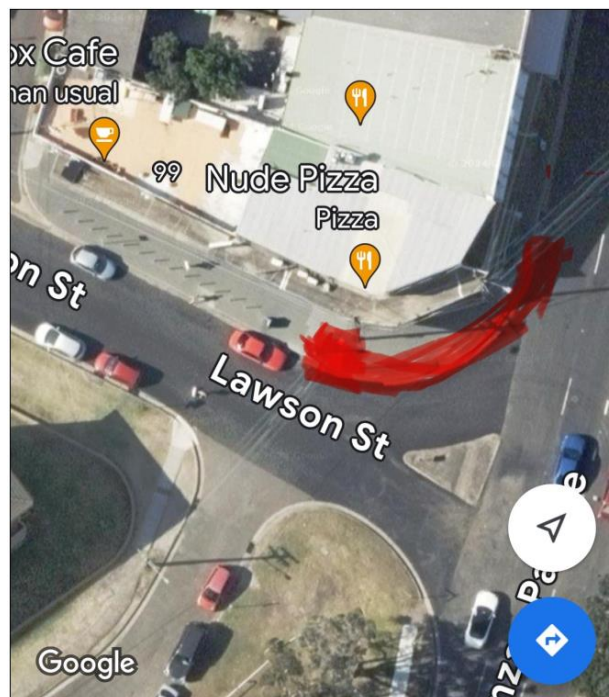
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### Motion:

That the current line of stainless steel bollards in front of businesses on Lawson Street (between Meehan Lane and ANZAC Parade) be extended around the corner ending approximately five (5) metres on ANZAC Parade.

### Background:

Currently the stainless-steel bollards end 3 metres short of ANZAC Pde which exposes the outdoor diners of a very popular Italian restaurant to traffic incidents. Malabar residents and businesses alike have asked me to urge Council in the interests of safety to extend the bollards around the corner and approximately 5 metres on ANZAC Pde.



### Source of funding:

2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Said, South Ward

**File Reference:** F2007/00616



## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM38/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Neilson - Annual Youth Band Competition

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### Motion:

That Council investigate holding an annual youth band competition open to any local, unsigned bands 21 years and younger starting this year 2024.

### Background:

To reduce the issue of venues etc which can be difficult to coordinate:

- Bands would be invited to register online with a one song or one musical piece video which would be uploaded to an appropriate YouTube channel for online voting.
- Online voting would be open to anyone in the community to vote for their favourite band.

The top 8-12 bands would move into the live semi-finals.

The final play off would follow soon after at a date and time and suitable venue to truly showcase the musical talent of the youth of Randwick City.

### Source of funding:

Council officers to identify an appropriate funding source.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Neilson, North Ward

**File Reference:** F2012/00347

NM38/24

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM39/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Neilson - Support the NSW Beachwatch Program as a fully funded State Government program

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### Motion:

That Council continues opposition to the proposed changes to funding of the NSW Beachwatch Program and objects to the cost-shifting of this activity from the State Government to local government and

- a) Supports the NSW Beachwatch Program as a fully funded State program without shifting costs to Sydney coastal councils
- b) Supports the Sydney Coastal Councils Group in its advocacy on this matter
- c) Informs the NSW Government that Council has not allocated funds to pay for the Beachwatch Program in its 2024-25 budget
- d) Writes to the NSW Minister for Water, Rose Jackson and the NSW Minister for Local Government, Ron Hoenig and local State Members to express Council's strong opposition to impose the financial responsibility of the Beachwatch program to Council
- e) Informs Sydney Coastal Councils Group Committee of Randwick Councils formal position

### Background:

The NSW Government Beachwatch Program has undertaken a comprehensive water quality monitoring at Sydney's beaches since 1989. In December 2023, the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (now known as the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water) wrote to Council and all other councils proposing a fee for service model to continue the Beachwatch Program.

Note that the General Manager, Ray Brownlee wrote to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water objecting to the proposal to shift the cost from the NSW Government to Council and other Sydney councils.

- NSW Beachwatch Program currently monitors 11 locations in the Randwick local government area: Clovelly Beach, Gordons Bay, Coogee beach, Maroubra beach, South Maroubra beach, South Maroubra Rockpool, Malabar beach, Little Bay Beach, Yarra Bay, Frenchmans Bay, Congwong bay
- Beachwatch advised the proposed Beachwatch universal program is expected to cost Randwick City Council approximately. \$40,000 per annum.
- Beachwatch will monitor Randwick City Council beaches until July 2024, Council must reach a decision before May 2024 regarding its participation in the Beachwatch program under the new partnership model.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Neilson, North Ward

**File Reference:** F2004/08246

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM40/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Hamilton - Anzac Day 110th Anniversary planning

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### Motion:

That Council:

- a) Begin planning the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Anzac Day, 2025;
- b) Engage the Anzac Pde Monument (La Perouse) Trust to begin a working party to assist in decision making;
- c) Conduct a comprehensive consultation process involving all stakeholders including RSL and Surf Clubs; and
- d) Bring back a report on any additional funds that may be required

### Background:

ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. Anzac Day falls on the 25th of April each year. The 25th of April was officially named Anzac Day in 1916. On the 25th of April 1915, Australian and New Zealand soldiers formed part of the allied expedition that set out to capture the Gallipoli peninsula. These became known as Anzacs and the pride they took in that name continues to this day.

### Attachment/s:

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Hamilton, North Ward

**File Reference:** F2004/08326

NM40/24

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM41/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Chapple - Signage on drains to build awareness

### Motion:

That Council:

- a) use council social media channels to encourage community members, gardeners, builders and others to ensure waste products don't go down the drain;
- b) works with local developers and professionals to ensure they are aware of their obligations to prevent run off and waste entering drains and ending up in our waterways; and
- c) prepare a report on signage around drains highlighting they are only for rain.

### Background:

There are resident concerns about excessive soil and construction waste, grass clippings and other materials entering drains in the Randwick LGA.

Contractors employed to undertake gardening like cutting lawns have an obligation to ensure clippings are properly disposed of.

Likewise on many building sites across the LGA insufficient controls means rains create significant run off issues which end up in our oceans.

Campaigns in other council areas have included signage on drains to build awareness in the community.



**Attachment/s:**

Nil

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Chapple, Central Ward

**File Reference:** F2020/00100

NM41/24

## Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM42/24

**Subject:** Notice of Motion from Cr Parker - Supporting the Sydney Eruv Committee

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### Motion:

That:

- a) Council notes the work of the Sydney Eruv Committee and its ambition to join the Northern Eruv with the Southern Eruv;
- b) Council endorses connecting the two;
- c) Council delegates authority to Council staff to progress with the Sydney Eruv Committee and other members of the Sydney Jewish Community a mutually agreed proposal; and
- d) the matter returns to Council for further direction if there is to be any significant financial impact outside of that provided under existing resources / budget line items.

### Background:






<https://www.sydneyeruv.org.au/>

An eruv is an urban area enclosed by a boundary which extends the private domain of Jewish households into public areas, permitting activities within it that are normally forbidden in public on the Sabbath.

On 24 January members of the Sydney Eruv committee met with Randwick City Council staff seeking support to join the Northern and Southern Eruvin.

Within the Randwick LGA there is an existing eruv covering parts of Maroubra and Kingsford then extending into Pagewood.

### Attachment/s:

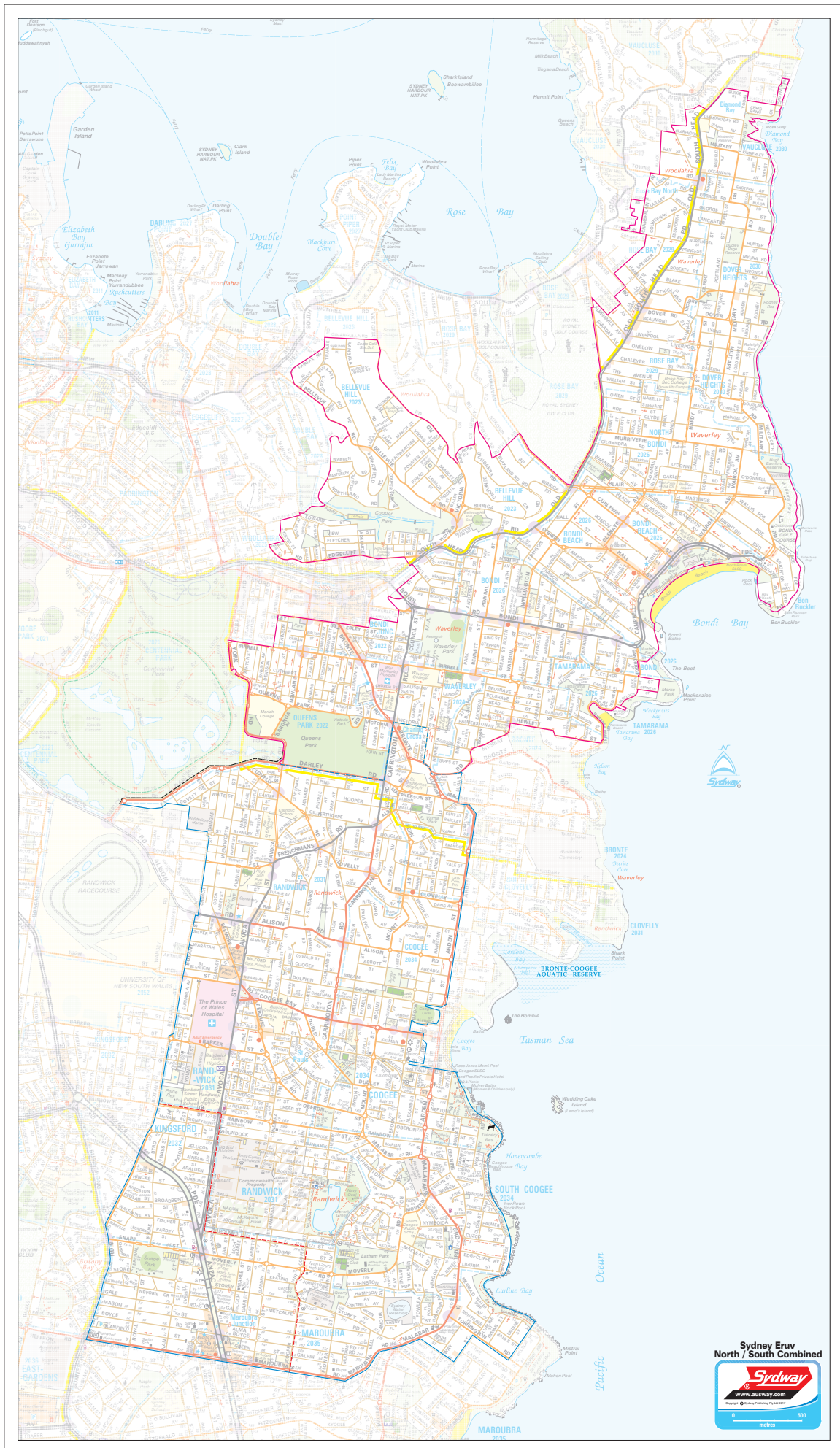
1.  Full Eruv
2.  North Eruv
3.  Maroubra Eruv
4.  Bondi lights1
5.  Bondi lights 2

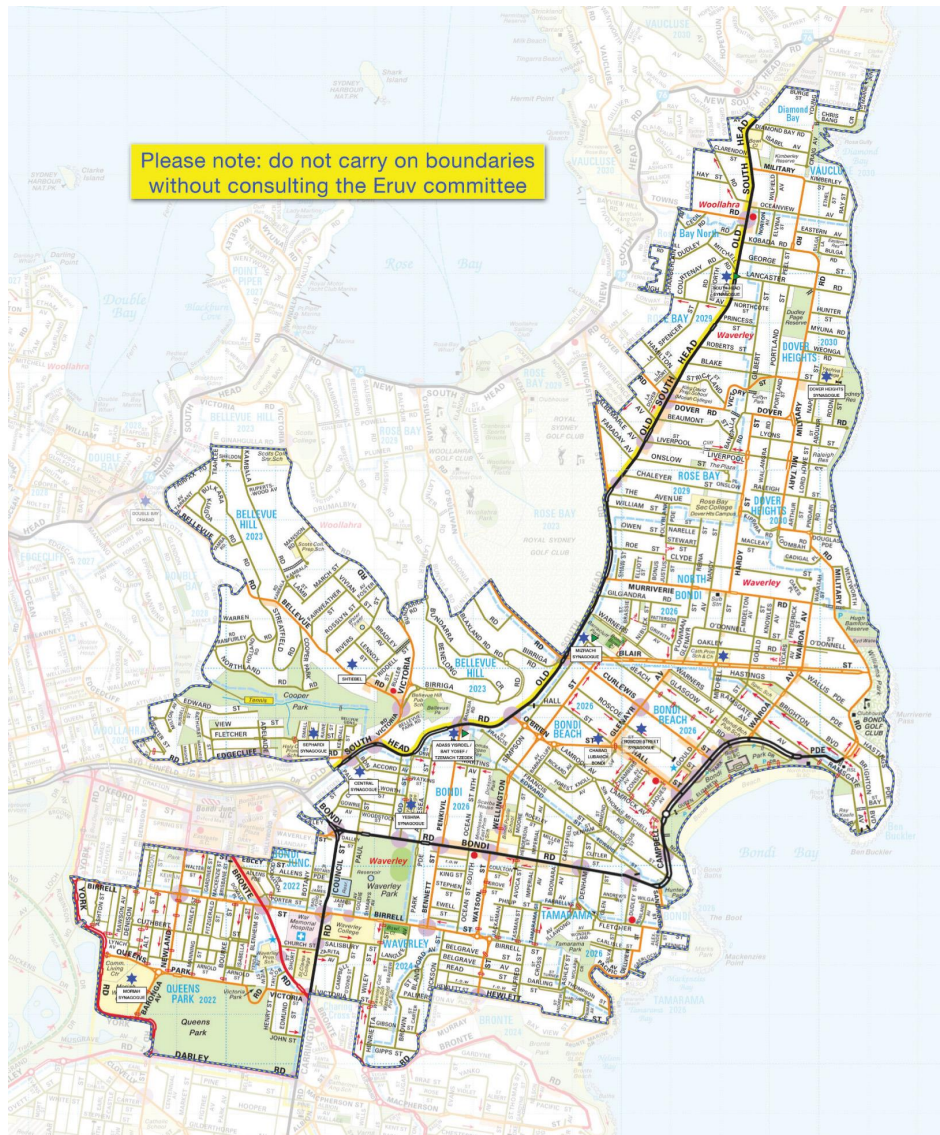
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**Submitted by:** Councillor Parker, Central Ward

**File Reference:** F2012/00347

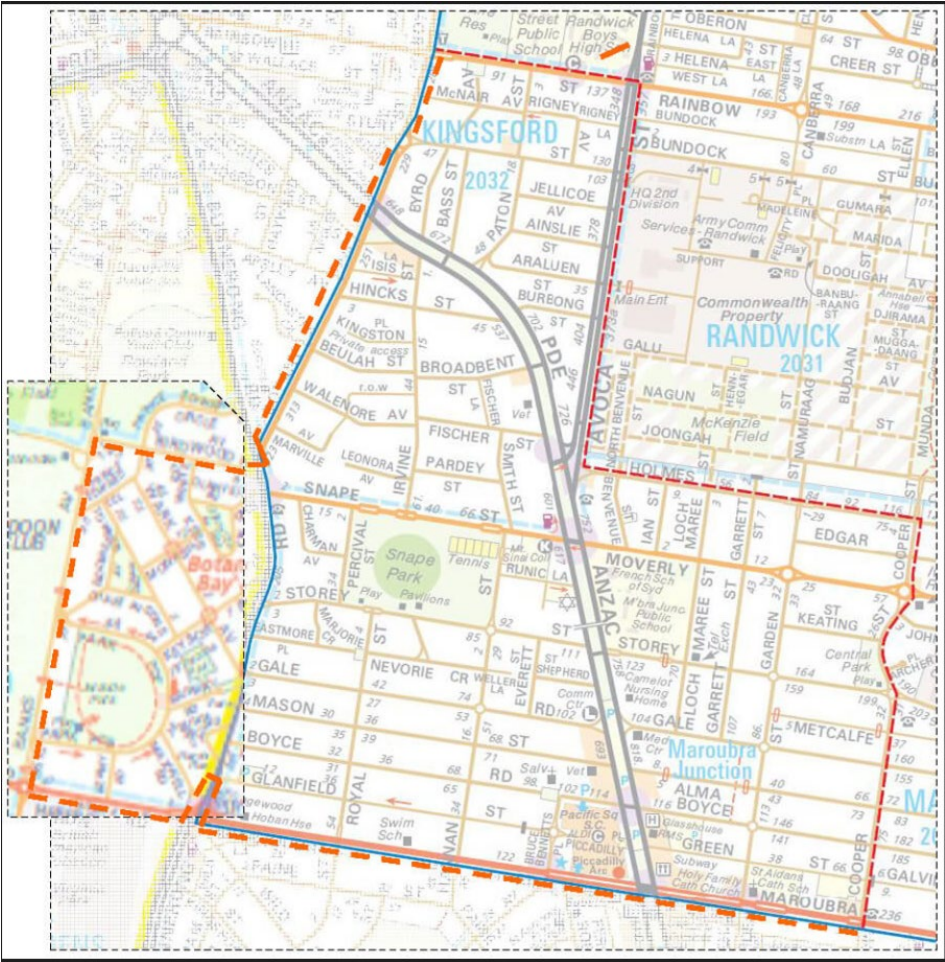








NM42/24





NM42/24



NM42/24

## Question with Notice No. QN3/24

**Subject:** Question with Notice from Cr Olive - Coogee Beach Amenities Community Consultation

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### Question:

Council officers presented two concept designs for the Coogee Beach Amenities to Council at the November 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting. One of these was a refurbishment of the current structure, while the other was a knock down and rebuild design.

Council endorsed both options to proceed to community consultation, with the results to be reported back to Council.

What is the timeline for this matter to proceed to community consultation?

### Response from Director City Services:

To be distributed in a supplementary business paper.

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Olive, East Ward

**File Reference:** PROJ/10199/2021/4

QN3/24



## Question with Notice No. QN4/24

**Subject:** Question with Notice from Cr Hay - Kensington Cycleway Costs

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### Question:

Regarding the cycleway on Doncaster Avenue, from Alison Road to Day Avenue, and Houston Road from Day Avenue to Barker Street:

1. What is an estimate of the cost to Council during cycleway planning?
2. How much money was spent by the NSW Government on cycleway construction?
3. How much money was spent by council on construction of the planned cycleway?
4. How much money was spent restoring the Doncaster Avenue and Ascot Street roundabout?
5. In the event that the roundabouts at Doncaster Ave & Day Ave, Houston Rd & Barker St are reinstated, what is the estimated cost?
6. How much has been spent, or is expected to be spent regarding non-roundabout post-construction fixes to the cycleway on issues disclosed so far?

### Response from Director City Services:

To be distributed in a supplementary business paper.

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**Submitted by:** Councillor Hay, West Ward

**File Reference:** F2012/00347

QN4/24