

AGENDA

PLACES FOR PEOPLE STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Places for People Strategic Reference Group will be held online via TEAMS on:

THURSDAY 6 AUGUST 2020

Beginning at 6:00pm for the purpose of considering matters included in this agenda.

Committee Members

Cr Ian White (Chair)	
Mayor Michael Regan	
Cr Candy Bingham	
Cr Stuart Sprott	
Caroline Ghatt	Play for all Australia
Stephen Pearse	
Jim Koopman	
Sita Mason	Youth Representative
Mark Lowe	
Merinda Rose	
Les Irwig	
Miranda Korzy	
Maryann Novakovic	
Suzanne Cairns	Manly Dogs
Richard Michell	Manly, Warringah and Pittwater Historical Society
Kelvin Milsom	Northern Beaches Junior AFL Association, Manly Warringah Pittwater Sporting Union

Council Officer Contacts

Louise Kerr	Director Planning and Place
Andrew Pigott	Executive Manager Strategic and Place Planning
Ximena Von Oven	Governance Officer

Quorum

A majority of members including the Chair or one of the elected Councillors.

**Agenda for Places for People
Strategic Reference Group Meeting
to be held online via TEAMS on Thursday 6 August 2020
Commencing at 6:00pm**

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NEXT MEETING Thursday 5 November 2020

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As a sign of respect, Northern Beaches Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and pays respect to Elders past and present.

2.0 APOLOGIES

All members are expected to attend the meetings or otherwise tender their apologies to the Chair and Governance at councilmeetings@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au.

3.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members should disclose any "**pecuniary**" or "**non-pecuniary**" interests in matters included in the agenda. The [Northern Beaches Council Code of Conduct](#) (the Code) provides guidance on managing conflicts of interests.

A **pecuniary interest** is defined in Section 4 of the Code as:

A pecuniary interest is an interest that you have in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to you or a person referred to in clause 4.3.

A **non-pecuniary conflict of interest** is defined in Section 5 of the Code as:

A non-pecuniary conflict of interest exists where a reasonable and informed person would perceive that you could be influenced by a private interest when carrying out your official functions in relation to a matter.

If you required further information or guidance about disclosing an interest please contact Governance at councilmeetings@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au.

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 MINUTES OF PLACES FOR PEOPLE STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP MEETING HELD 7 MAY 2020

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Places for People Strategic Reference Group meeting held 7 May 2020, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM 6.1	PUBLIC SPACE VISION AND DESIGN GUIDELINES
REPORTING OFFICER	URBAN DESIGNER
TRIM FILE REF	2020/434916
ATTACHMENTS	1 ↓ Community Consultation Outcomes Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To provide a briefing on the Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines, community engagement activities undertaken in preparation of the document, and notify the Strategic Reference Group on the upcoming public exhibition.

BACKGROUND

Council staff have undertaken a comprehensive review and consolidation of the three former Councils' various public domain design guidelines.

This has included the consolidation of various materials schedules, palettes and associated public domain policy documents in collaboration with internal stakeholders and document users.

The consolidation of the various documents had identified some critical and overarching information gaps, in line with directions contained within the greater Sydney Commission's North District Plan and the NSW Government Architects Office suite of 'Better Placed' policy documents.

Following the review, the draft Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines has been drafted. The draft Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines incorporates new information, identified in the gap analysis review process. The document has been prepared in line with the increased expectations on the delivery of places for people and the creation of high quality places and spaces for people in the urban public realm.

It is intended the Public Space Vision and Design Guideline document will be a twenty-year document with a review and updating cycle of every 5 years.

CONSULTATION

The community engagement strategy was initially scheduled as a ward based pop-up community consultation. However the consequence and timing of the current climate of COVID-19 restrictions drove the strategy to an online interactive consultation.

Results of the community engagement have been collated and incorporated into the draft Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines, the subject of this briefing. The Community Consultation Outcomes Report (Attachment 1) is included for your reference.

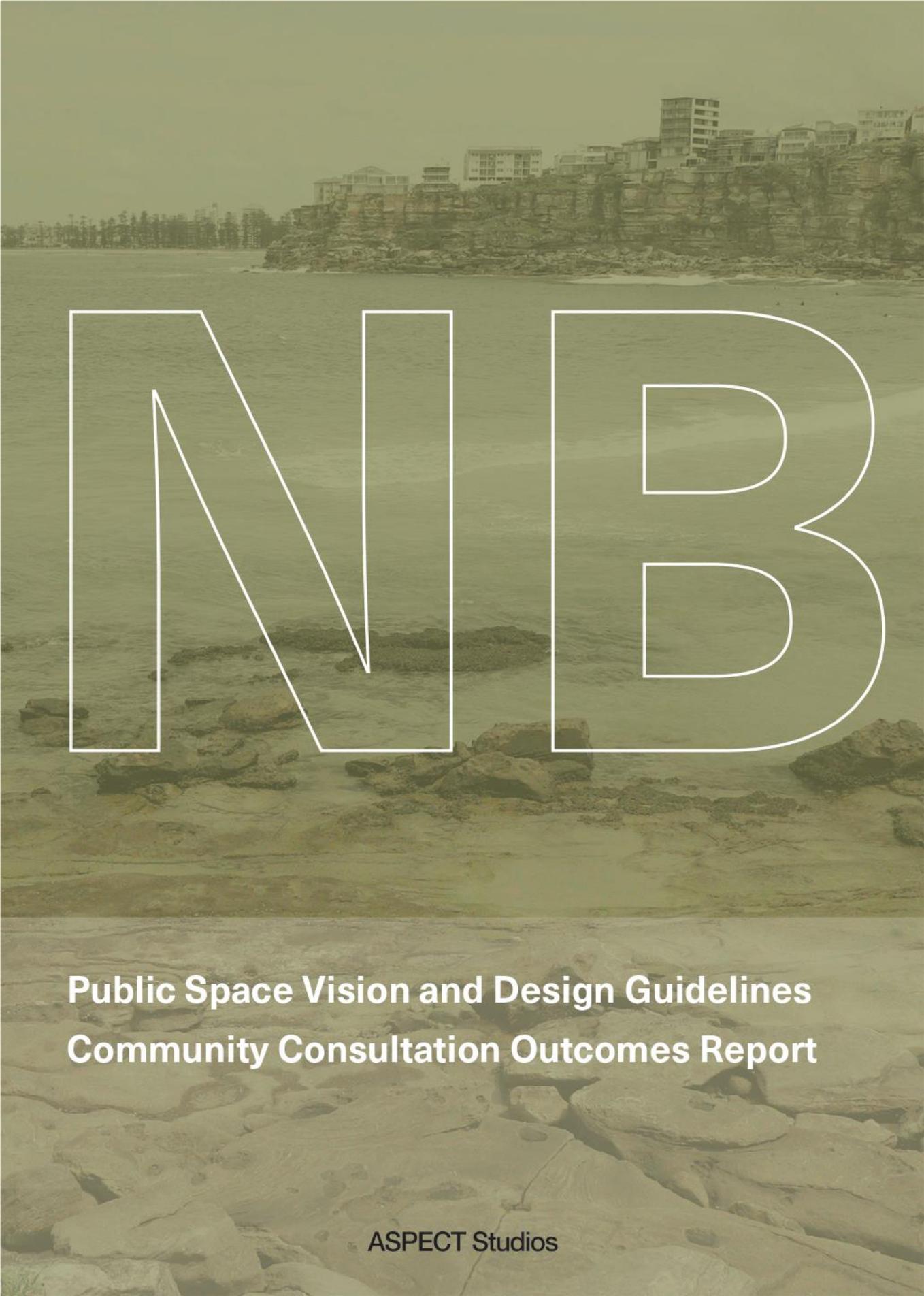
ASPECT Studios were engaged as the preferred consultants to prepare the Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines.

TIMING

The draft Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines will be formally exhibited for public comment in the last quarter of 2020.

RECOMMENDATION OF URBAN DESIGNER

That the Places for People Strategic Reference Group pparticipates in a discussion and provide comments on the key themes and strategy contained in the draft Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines prior to the document being publicly exhibited in the last quarter of 2020.



NB

Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines Community Consultation Outcomes Report

ASPECT Studios

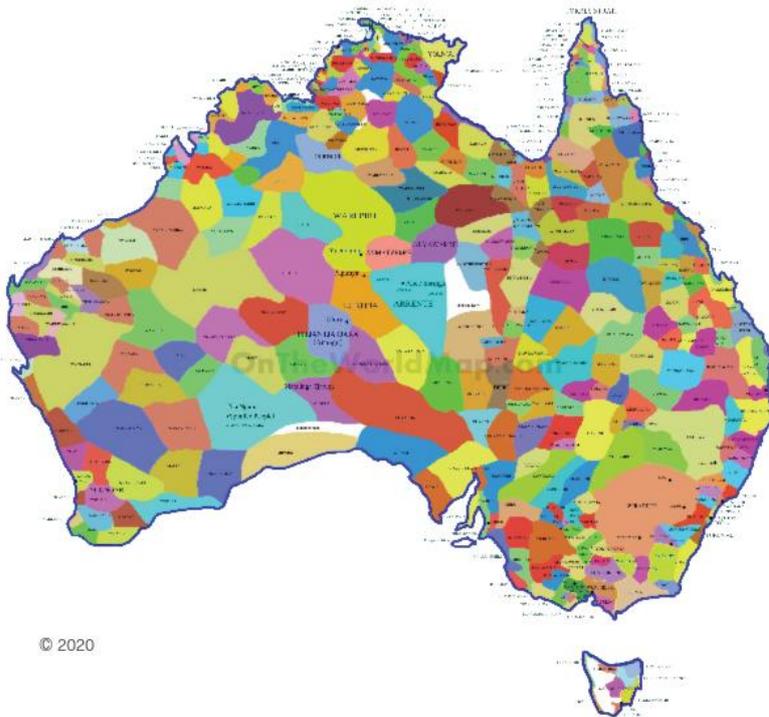
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

The Northern Beaches Council acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands that include the Northern Beaches and the living culture of the traditional custodians of these lands.

We recognise that the traditional owners have occupied and cared for this Country over countless generations, and celebrates their continuing contribution to the life of Greater Sydney.

TEAM

Northern Beaches Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines were prepared by ASPECT Studios for the Northern Beaches Council.



ASPECT Studios acknowledges the traditional owners of the land we work on and travel through. We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

DOCUMENT CONTROL				
V	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	REVIEW
1	03.07.2020	Draft Submission	GH	NB
2	27.07.2020	Final Draft Submission	GH	NB

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Purpose & Background

The Northern Beaches Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines set out to unify and consolidate public domain policy documents from three former council areas in order to ensure consistency and standardisation for projects of all scales across the entire local government area (LGA) whilst also recognising and maintaining the distinct nature of our celebrated unique and individual places.

The Northern Beaches Guidelines seek to retain and enhance its unique landscape character whilst providing additional environmental, social, health and economic outcomes within its centers and neighbourhoods through the introduction of best practice street design and appropriate material selection. Six key objectives form the foundation of the guidelines which are derived from state government public domain targets and previous community consultations.

The key objectives are as follows;



1. Enhance & protect the bush, beach & water character



2. Encourage social activation through street design



3. Inspire healthy & active lifestyles through safe & inclusive footpath & cycleway networks



4. Implement traffic calming interventions to create safe environments



5. Integrate water sensitive urban design into streets & open spaces

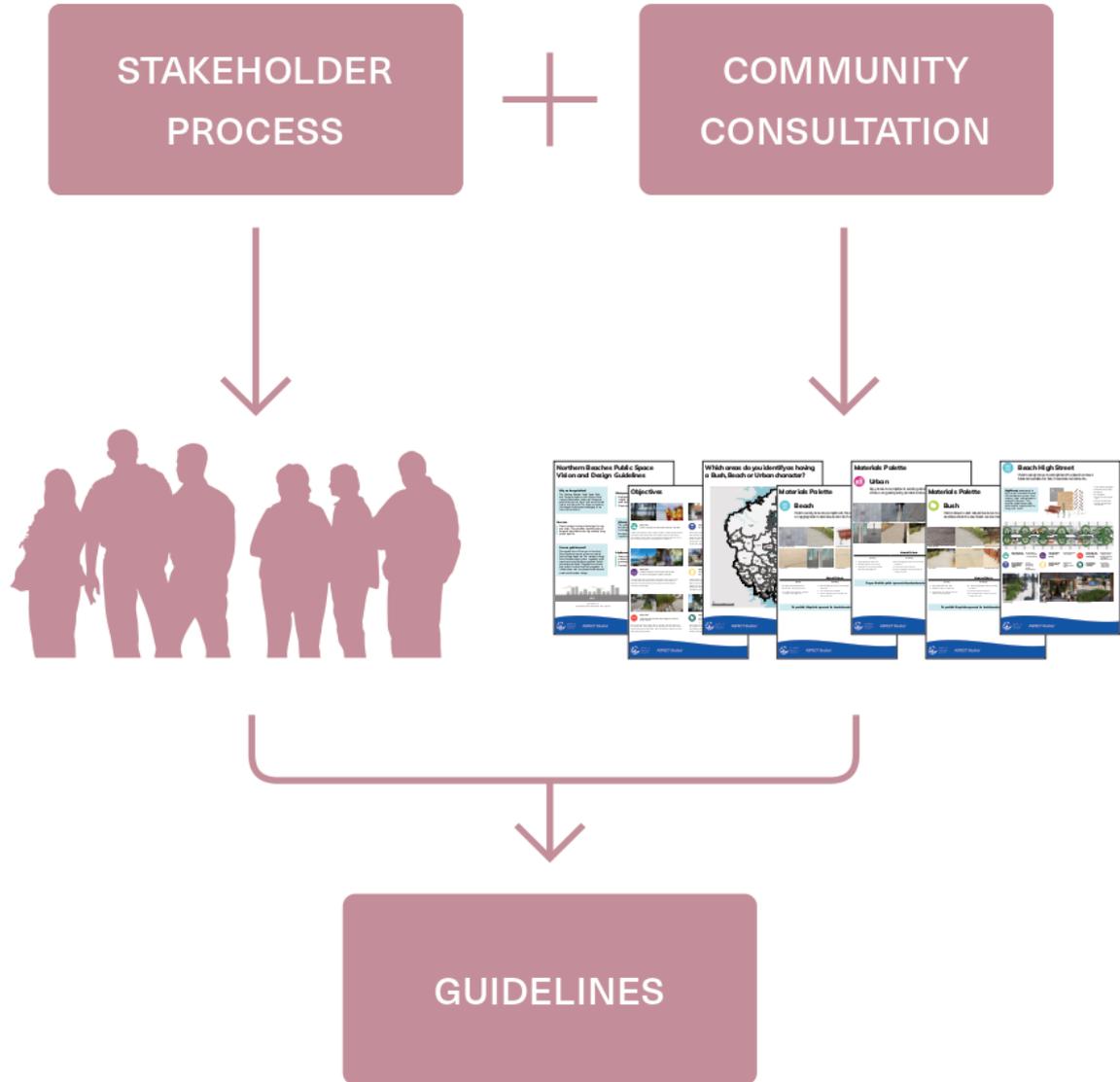


6. Increase canopy cover on streets

A key addition to the guidelines is the inclusion of a street types chapter. Best practice urban design identify 'streets as the backbone of public space', often accounting for a quarter or more of the total lands area in our cities and neighbourhoods. Streets typically make up around 80% of all public space in an urban area, with parks and squares comprising less than a fifth of our shared spaces.

During the process of consolidating the former documents into the Public Domain Design Guidelines 2021, it became apparent that there were several sections within the document requiring further investigation. These areas include a street types chapter- identifying streets as an vital component to any urban design and open space policy document. Other areas include an **introduction of three key material palettes "Coastal, Urban and Bush"** which are responsive to their environmental conditions whilst still providing an overall cohesiveness to the entire LGA.

Approach



Engagement Methodology

The original intent was for a series of face to face consultation 'events' at various locations in the LGA over a number of weeks, but with the presence of COVID-19 and social distancing requirements this was refined to the Your Say online feedback alone, for an extended from 13th March to 17th May 2020.

A 'YOUR SAY' interactive community consultation online link on The Northern Beaches Council website was established to record community comments.

The objectives included;

- Community approval of the overarching design objectives of the Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines
- Provide opportunities for community input to the Guidelines
- Present the framework and material palettes for characters areas identified on the Northern Beaches

- Gain endorsement from the community on the work presented and to capture any specific issues to investigate further.

The information presented to the community is presented within the Appendix of this report. Community feedback was collated by Northern Beaches Council and presented to the ASPECT team.

All feedback has been methodically acknowledged and addressed. Key findings are presented in this report.

The overarching aim of the community engagement process is to build a collective, enduring vision for the design of the public domain on the Northern Beaches.

Engagement will integrate local knowledge and best practice to inform a vision in collaboration with stakeholders to foster ownership and an ongoing commitment to its delivery.



Reviewing feedback

Comments opened: Fri 13 Mar	Comments closed: Sun 17 May	Comments received: 235
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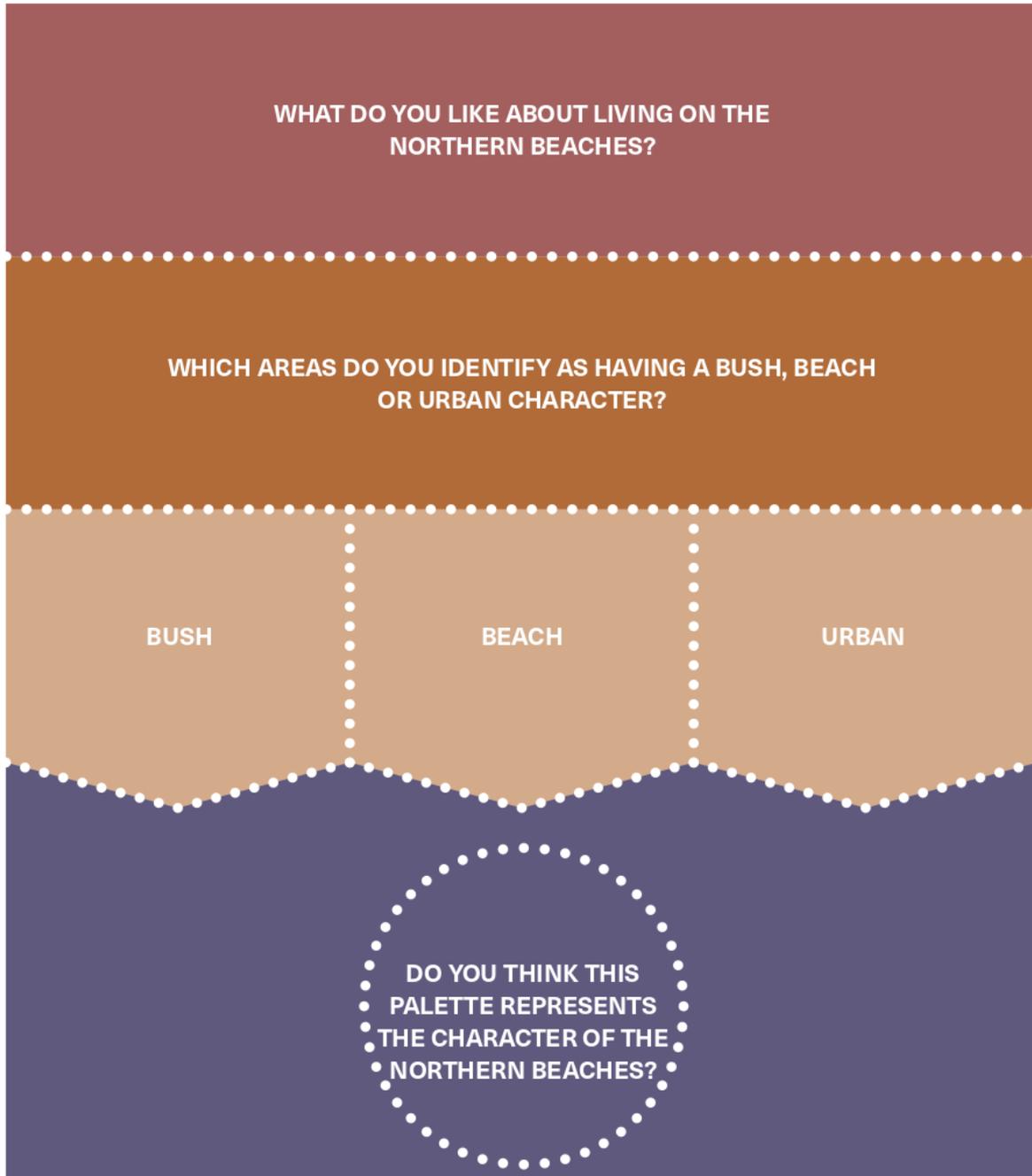
A vision for public spaces

Council is committed to designing and delivering public spaces that enhance our community's lives. Our streets and places of the future will allow people to connect, feel safe and achieve a sense of belonging.

We are harmonising the three former Council's guidelines around public space and developing a framework - Northern Beaches Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines.

These will present a unified vision for our public spaces that also recognises the unique character and heritage of the diverse villages and places that make up the Northern Beaches.

What we asked



WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT LIVING ON THE NORTHERN BEACHES?

WHICH AREAS DO YOU IDENTIFY AS HAVING A BUSH, BEACH OR URBAN CHARACTER?

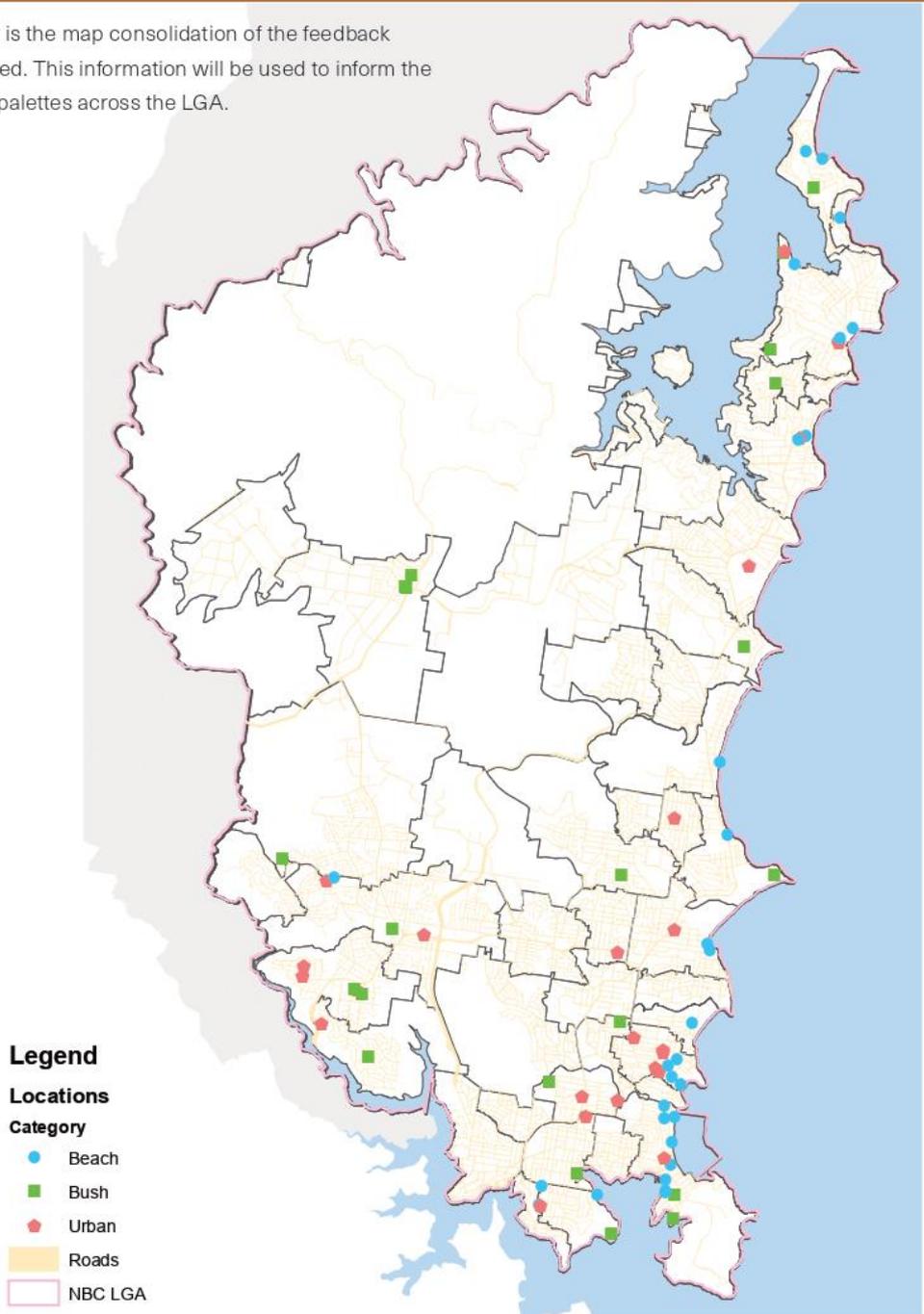
BUSH BEACH URBAN

DO YOU THINK THIS PALETTE REPRESENTS THE CHARACTER OF THE NORTHERN BEACHES?

Results | Mapping

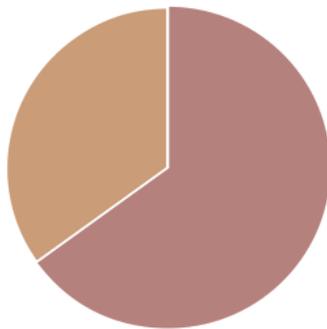
WHICH AREAS DO YOU IDENTIFY AS HAVING A BUSH, BEACH OR URBAN CHARACTER?

Below is the map consolidation of the feedback received. This information will be used to inform the three palettes across the LGA.



Results | Beach

DO YOU THINK THIS PALETTE REPRESENTS THE BEACH CHARACTER OF THE NORTHERN BEACHES?



BEACH

71% OF RESPONDENTS FELT THE PALETTE REPRESENTED THE BEACH CHARACTER 'SOMEWHAT, MOSTLY OR ABSOLUTELY'

KEY FEEDBACK

Overall there was support for the beach palette. The following 9 key themes were given due consideration, and will be actioned in the appropriate way.

1. General Support for the vision/Palette

Comments were supportive of the colour and palette proposed as appropriate for beachside areas.

2. Generally did not support the vision/palette

The majority of comments raised that were not supportive of the palette were concerned with loss of local character and uniqueness through consolidating the palettes.

3. Paving

The main concern in regard to paving was the inclusion of brick within the beach palette.

4. Color

In regard to colour, there were varying comments in regard to the use of stainless steel and grey paving, and suggestions for use of sandstone and timber more widely.

5. Furniture

Comments included suggestions for the bench seats to be more modern in design, and queried the use of timber and whether there are other recycled options available.

6. Cycle

Comments include streets should have a cycle path and focus on sustainable modes of transport.

7. Maintenance

Ongoing maintenance concerns for the palette were raised, and whether this consideration, along with environmental impacts, durability etc were considered in the selection of materials.

8. Manly Corso

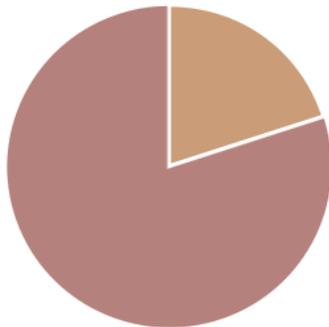
Concern was raised around the appropriateness for this to be applied to Manly Corso.

9. Environment

Comments included support for more native planting, and more large canopy trees.

Results | Bush

DO YOU THINK THIS PALETTE REPRESENTS THE BUSH CHARACTER OF THE NORTHERN BEACHES?



BUSH

80% OF RESPONDENTS FELT THE PALETTE REPRESENTED THE BUSH CHARACTER 'SOMEWHAT, MOSTLY OR ABSOLUTELY'

KEY FEEDBACK

The bush palette was to the most favoured out of the 3 character palettes. The following 7 key themes identified, have been given consideration and will be actioned in the appropriate way.

1. General Support for the vision/Palette

Comments raised were supportive of a consolidated palette for the LGA, and supportive of the palette in terms of colour and materials.

2. Generally did not support the vision/palette

The majority of comments raised that were not supportive of the palette were concerned with loss of local character and uniqueness through consolidating the palettes.

3. Paving

Concerns raised were in regard to appropriateness of brick paving in regard to potential trips hazard.

4. Color

The majority of the comments wanted to see less grey in the palette, and more use of earthy tones, such as sandstone.

5. Furniture

Comments included limiting use of stainless steel finishes, and potential for more artful integration into furniture.

6. Cycle

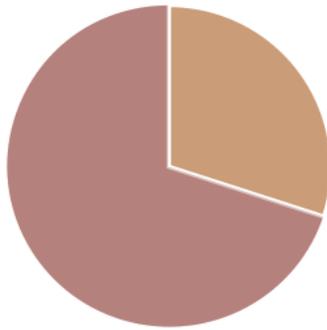
Comments included streets, particularly High streets, should have a focus on active transport and pedestrian priority.

8. Environment

Comments raised included request for more trees and under story planting generally, whilst acknowledging their importance for ecology, wild-life habitat and for shade.

Results | Urban

DO YOU THINK THIS PALETTE REPRESENTS THE URBAN CHARACTER OF THE NORTHERN BEACHES?



URBAN

64% OF RESPONDENTS FELT THE PALETTE REPRESENTED THE URBAN CHARACTER 'SOMEWHAT, MOSTLY OR ABSOLUTELY'

KEY FEEDBACK

The urban palette was the most highly critiqued out of the three character palettes. The following themes were identified and will be actioned in the appropriate way.

1. General Support for the vision/Palette

Comments were supportive of the colour combination of the palette and inclusion of granite paving.

2. Generally did not support the vision/palette

Comments raised concern with the loss of local individual character with the consolidation of a unified palette and lack of distinctiveness.

3. Paving

There was some concern raised with the use of in-situ concrete, and queries raised about potential slip hazards.

4. Color

The majority of the comments raised regarding the colour were concerned with the predominantly grey palette.

5. Furniture

Comments raised were concerned with the use of stainless steel within the palette.

6. Cycle

Comments include streets, particularly High streets, should include cycle paths.

7. Maintenance

Point raised to ensure appropriateness of planting.

8. Environment

Comments raised included request to encourage green street approach and potential for community garden areas within streetscape.

Response to Feedback

The intent of the Design Guidelines is to provide a unified palette for the consolidated Northern beaches LGA. This will be the baseline of quality and materials that is delivered for the typical streets and open spaces within the LGA. For areas that are unique (heritage, culturally significant, parks or foreshore areas, for example) these will be dealt with under 'special places/ culturally significant/ heritage places', and seek a unique design response in consultation and approval with Council. The intent is to maintain a consistency for legibility across the LGA generally, but to allow points of difference in character for special or unique areas.

Materials are selected to build on and refine the existing palette across the LGA, and to consider longevity, sustainability and ongoing maintenance in the selection. The majority of centers will consist of warm tones; brick paving, with timber for seats and bollards. Stainless steel is selected for its longevity in close proximity to coastal conditions. There is limited use of greys in paving, but isolated to specific centres where vast expanses of pavement is already installed. In situ concrete is selected only for residential footpaths where longevity, costs, ease of maintenance and construction across a vast area of land limits alternatives.

Brick pavers bring a warmth and textural quality to the centres, as opposed to grey granites and paving. They perform well in terms of longevity, and are easy to maintain. They are also a lighter colour than the granites and improve heat island effects in our urban environments. In parks, we would encourage the use of permeable surfaces, such as decomposed granite as a sustainable and permeable option for footpaths.

Sandstone, whilst providing warmth, is not a viable material for longevity. Crushed stabilised sandstone, decomposed granite and sandstone colouring to in situ concrete can provide this tonal quality within our parks and reserves.

A palette of street and park trees and understory that are endemic to the area, and appropriate locations for use, will be provided within the document

With reference to climate change and environmental concerns an additional section on environment and climate change will be added to the guidelines. It will outline the parameters for design to ensure cooler city's, including the provision of shade and a selection of lighter surface materials to mitigate heat absorption.

Conclusion & Next Steps

Overall the community consultation feedback provided was positive and constructive. It reaffirmed the importance of the objectives. All feedback has now been reviewed. This report acts as a record of the consultation process and summary of key findings.

Community consultation feedback will be incorporated into the design guidelines where appropriate. This feedback will sit alongside stakeholder and additional feedback from key Northern Beaches Council personnel. The Public Space & Vision Design Guidelines will now move into phase 4; Design Development, which is outlined in the diagram below.



Appendix

'YOUR SAY' BOARDS [PRESENTED ONLINE]

Northern Beaches Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines

Why are there guidelines?

The Northern Beaches Public Space Vision and Design Guidelines will help Council and relevant stakeholders deliver well-designed public infrastructure that is both consistent and retains local character. The document replaces the three policy documents belonging to our former three councils.

What you said

Maintaining elements of the natural environment is highly important to you. It ranked no.1 with 72% value ranking in recent research.

Placescore, 2018

Our vision

Streets can be much more than places for cars and trucks. They should be beautiful and well-designed places that are inviting and help bring people together.

What do the guidelines do?

The guidelines include **objectives**, which set out to meet state government targets, as well as **principles** that will guide Council and developers in achieving great design outcomes in public spaces.

How are guidelines used?

These guidelines will form part of a suite of Council and engineering reference material that will have broad use. This material will help Council and developers when upgrading public spaces, ensuring that they are people-centric, safe and sustainable. The guidelines will also help residents understand future upgrades to infrastructure such as cycle path networks and water sensitive urban design.

A better environment

We aim to increase the proportion of homes in urban areas within 10 minutes' walk of quality green, open and public space by 2023.

Premier's Priorities, 2019



Appendix

'YOUR SAY' BOARDS [PRESENTED ONLINE]

Objectives



Objective 1
Enhance & protect the bush, beach & water character

The Northern Beaches has a unique environment including a spectacular coastline and natural bushland. The habitat is home to native plants, animal species and a number of significant Aboriginal sites. It is crucial that we enhance, protect and celebrate this environment.



Objective 2
Encourage social activation through street design

Streets play a vital role in city life. Beyond providing continuous accessible access for vehicles, cyclists & pedestrians, high quality footpaths enhance connectivity and promote walking. As public spaces, streets serve as the front steps to the city, activating streets socially and economically, bringing people together in commercial centres and residential streets alike.



Objective 3
Inspire healthy & active lifestyles through safe & inclusive footpath & cycleway networks

To encourage a new generation of pedestrians and cyclists, safe and protected facilities should be included in streets wherever possible. This will increase active lifestyles and reduce reliance on vehicles for local trips.



Objective 4
Implement traffic calming interventions to create safe environments

Traffic calming refers to the use of physical design measures, such as kerb extensions and raised pedestrian crossings, to create a balance between the movement and place functions of a street. Traffic calming is employed to increase safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists, and improve amenity for all street users including people living and working along the street.



Objective 5
Integrate water sensitive urban design into streets & open spaces

Water sensitive urban design slows water flow and traps sediments to improve the water quality and remove pollutants from road runoff. Swales, raingardens and slotted kerbs are examples of water sensitive urban design interventions.



Objective 6
Increase canopy cover on streets

Greening our city - Increase the tree canopy and green cover across Greater Sydney by planting 1 million trees by 2022 - Premier's Priorities, 2019

Street trees visually unify and coordinate streets and precincts. They provide health and wellbeing benefits by encouraging walking and cleaning the air. Street trees are an effective way to increase shade and mitigate the urban heat island effect.

Appendix

'YOUR SAY' BOARDS [PRESENTED ONLINE]

Materials Palette



Beach

Warm sandy tones to compliment the coastal context. A focus on appropriate material selection for harsh coastal environments.



Material Criteria

Quality	Durability	Sustainability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly pedestrianised areas Retail and commercial centres Integration with existing materials and future developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials appropriate for the landscape conditions Low maintenance materials Ease of replacement and incremental change over time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in tree canopy cover Increase in permeable surface to reduce runoff Choice of materials with long lifecycle

Do you think this palette represents the beach character of the Northern Beaches?



Appendix

'YOUR SAY' BOARDS [PRESENTED ONLINE]

Materials Palette



Urban

Grey tones to compliment existing urban palette.
A focus on good quality, durable and sustainable materials.



Granite pavers (sesame grey)



Granite setts



Concrete pavers



Timber bench with powdercoat steel (bronze pearl)



Stainless steel bollard



Terrabond tree pit



In situ concrete with aggregate



In situ concrete



Mass planting in slotted kerb

Material Criteria

Quality

- Highly pedestrianised areas
- Retail and commercial centres
- Integration with existing materials and future developments

Durability

- Materials appropriate for the landscape conditions
- Low maintenance materials
- Ease of replacement and incremental change over time

Sustainability

- Increase in tree canopy cover
- Increase in permeable surface to reduce runoff
- Choice of materials with long lifecycle

Do you think this palette represents the urban character of the Northern Beaches?



Appendix

'YOUR SAY' BOARDS [PRESENTED ONLINE]

Materials Palette



Bush

Warm browns and natural textures to unify the existing palette and blend into the bushland environment.



Feature brick pavers



In-situ concrete with aggregate



Timber bench with powdercoat steel (bronze paint)



Brick pavers (bramham colour)



In-situ concrete



Decomposed granite



Steel bollard clad in timber



Mass planting in slotted kerb

Material Criteria

Quality

- Highly pedestrianised areas
- Retail and commercial centres
- Integration with existing materials and future developments

Durability

- Materials appropriate for the landscape conditions
- Low maintenance materials
- Ease of replacement and incremental change over time

Sustainability

- Increase in tree canopy cover
- Increase in permeable surface to reduce runoff
- Choice of materials with long lifecycle

Do you think this palette represents the bush character of the Northern Beaches?



northern
beaches
council

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Appendix

'YOUR SAY' BOARDS [PRESENTED ONLINE]



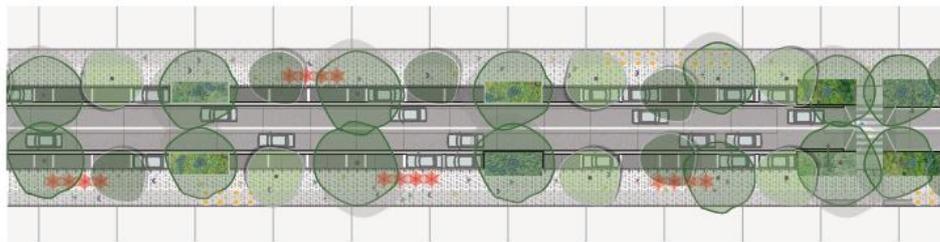
Beach High Street

Warm sandy tones to compliment the beach context.
Material suitable for harsh coastal environments.

High Streets are designed to foster street life and activity, and offer destinations such as local services, shops and restaurants, and public transport. They prioritise pedestrian amenity and maximise opportunities for living in the street.



1. In situ concrete with aggregate
2. Stabilised crushed sandstone
3. Brick pavers
4. Concrete pavers
5. Stainless steel semi hoop bike rack
6. Stainless steel slim bollard
7. Stainless steel classic plaza bench & table



- Enhance and protect the bush and water character**

 - Materials suitable to the location and respond to context and character
- Promote active modes of transport for all local trips**

 - Connected neighbourhood wide cycle network
- Ensure low-flow runoff positively integrates street trees and planting**

 - Slatted kerbs for passive irrigation to street trees
 - Permeable surfaces used in parking bays
 - Rain gardens and swales
- Ensure social activation through high quality footpaths and public amenity**

 - Awnings
 - Street furniture
 - Outdoor dining
 - Lighting
 - High quality paving
- Design as a 'slow street' with vehicle calming measures**

 - Raised pedestrian crossing
 - Introduction of planted islands
- Street tree planting is able to provide shade refuge**

 - Trees positioned to minimise conflict between lightpoles and shop awnings



Street life & ecology



Outdoor dining



Traffic calming interventions

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ITEM 6.2	NORTHERN BEACHES LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM
REPORTING OFFICER	MANAGER, STRATEGIC AND PLACE PLANNING
TRIM FILE REF	2020/418691
ATTACHMENTS	1 ↓ Local Environmental Plan Community Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To brief the SRG on the draft engagement program for the Northern Beaches Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP) and to seek input on the most effective means to engage the community.

REPORT

The first stage of developing a new land use planning framework for the Northern Beaches was completed in March 2020 with the adoption and commencement of Council's first Local Strategic Planning Statement -Towards 2040. This new statutory document outlines our planning vision and establishes a range of priorities, principles and actions; confirming our commitment to a sustainable future.

The next stage of the process is to bring together the four current Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) and Development Control Plans (DCPs) into a single Northern Beaches LEP and DCP which reflects the priorities and implements the actions in Towards 2040, and is consistent with the regional directions set by the Greater Sydney Commission in the North District Plan.

This complex process has already commenced with Council staff undertaking an analysis of the similarities and differences between current LEPs and DCPs, identifying key issues, and consulting with a range of internal stakeholders.

Council has also commissioned a number of studies to inform the preparation of the new LEP and DCP. These include:

- Environment Study
- Local Character Study
- Social Infrastructure Study
- Employment Study
- Strategic Bushfire Assessment (Deferred Lands)
- Biodiversity Study (Deferred Lands)
- Urban Design Guidelines

In addition, Council in conjunction with SGS Planning and Economics, is preparing a Local Housing Strategy. This Strategy, which must be approved by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, will outline Council's preferred approach to the supply of new housing to 2036 to meet the needs of the Northern Beaches Community. This Strategy is currently in draft form and is being tested with focus groups to identify any gaps, improve understanding, and clarify messaging. It is proposed to present the draft to Council this year and subsequently exhibit it publicly for comment. Once adopted, the Strategy will also inform LEP and DCP drafting.

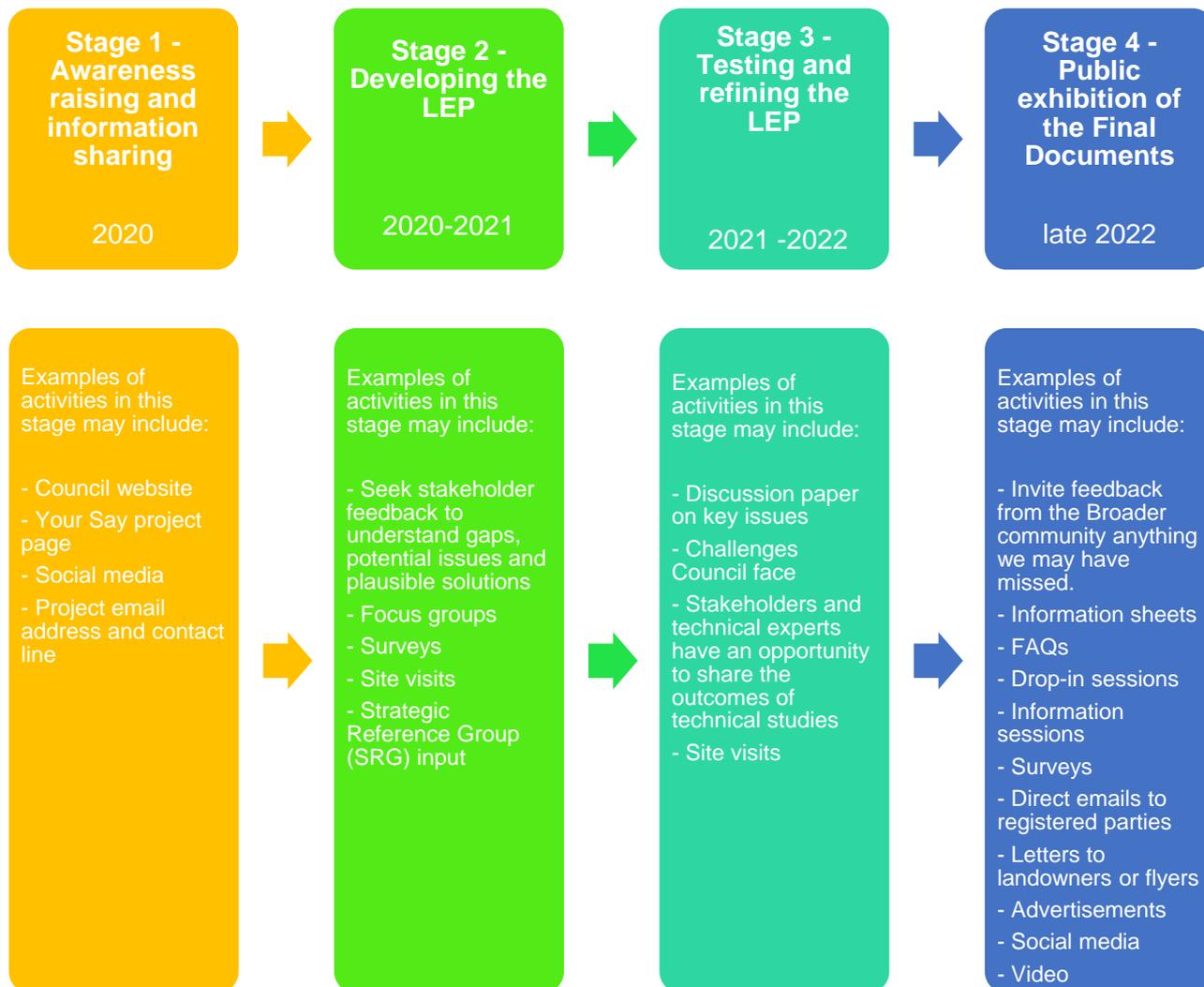
Community engagement in the LEP/DCP process will be crucial to ensure the LEP and DCP are reflective of community concerns, readily and easily understood, legally accurate, and supported. The engagement undertaken by Council for Towards 2040 involved a range of techniques including:

- Focus groups with strategic reference groups, youth and community groups
- Drop-in sessions throughout the LGA
- Surveys
- Video presentations
- Advertising through Facebook, Instagram, Manly Daily and Peninsula Living
- 80,000 notifications in Council's rates notice

The variety and reach of communications used covered a diversity of ages and abilities with technology. It resulted in 337 submissions to the formal public exhibition; a good response given the strategic nature of the document. The vast majority of responses were favourable, indicating Council had identified and addressed most of the issues of concern to the community.

LEPs and DCPs address many development-related issues and must be drafted in accordance with State Government directions (particularly LEPs). This poses unique difficulties in engaging the community, particularly when preparing a new Council-wide LEP and DCP which must also implement Towards 2040 and the North District Plan.

Draft Engagement approach for the Northern Beaches LEP and DCP



The draft engagement approach for the LEP/DCP involves 4 stages and utilises a number of engagement techniques. The draft approach is intended to provide diverse opportunities and mechanisms for stakeholders to contribute to the LEP, beyond the minimum standards required under Council’s Community Participation Plan and the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

It is requested that the Places for People Strategic Reference Group consider and discuss the following questions:

1. What does the community need to know from us to make informed decisions?
2. How do we help the community better understand the issues?
3. How do we best get the community to contribute? (Considerations for Covid-19) e.g. via online survey, targeted stakeholder groups, other?

What are reasonable expectations of us to engage?

RECOMMENDATION OF MANAGER, STRATEGIC AND PLACE PLANNING

That the Places for People Strategic Reference Group note the above report.



Planning Our Sustainable Future

Creating one new
planning framework

Local Environmental Plan Community Engagement

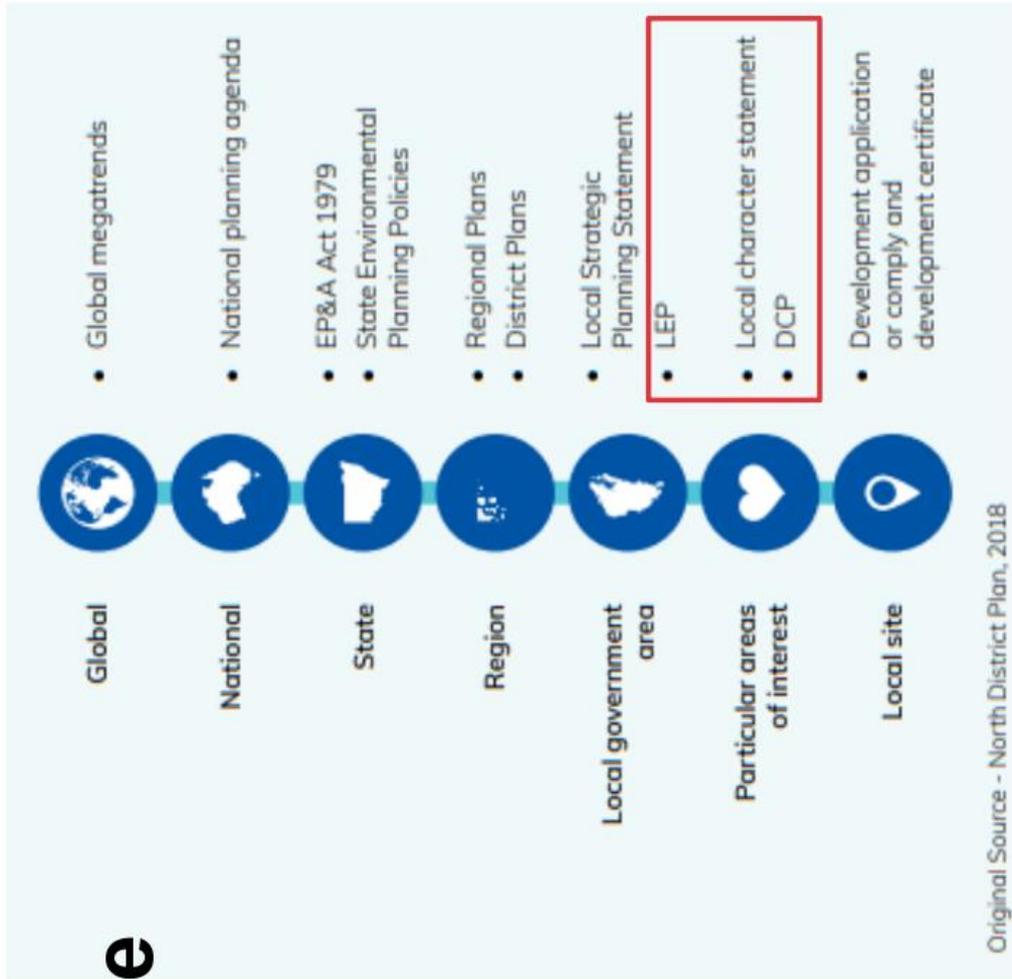
Presentation
Strategic Reference Group –
Partnership and Participation
August 2020

What we will cover

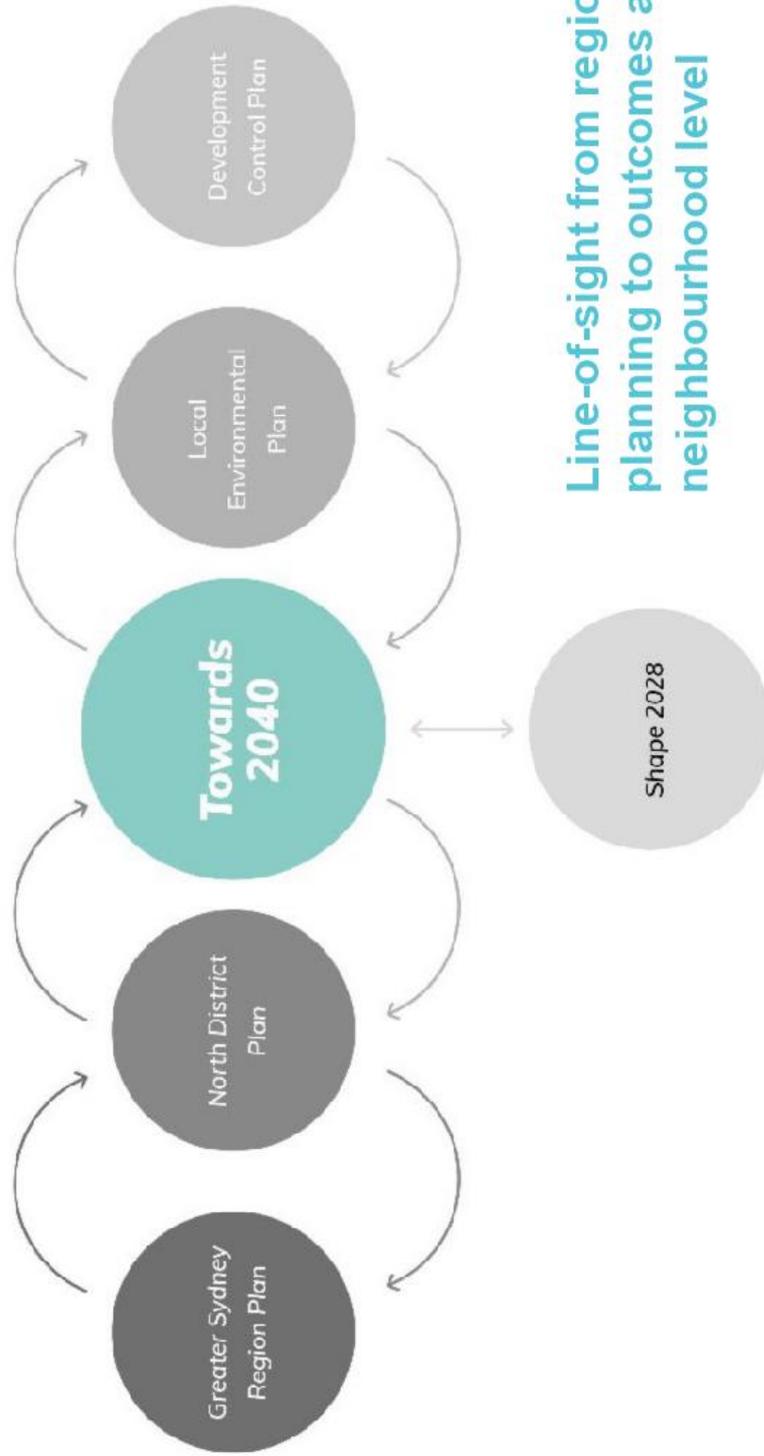
- Project overview
- *Towards 2040* engagement recap
- LEP / DCP draft engagement approach
- Workshop

Introduction

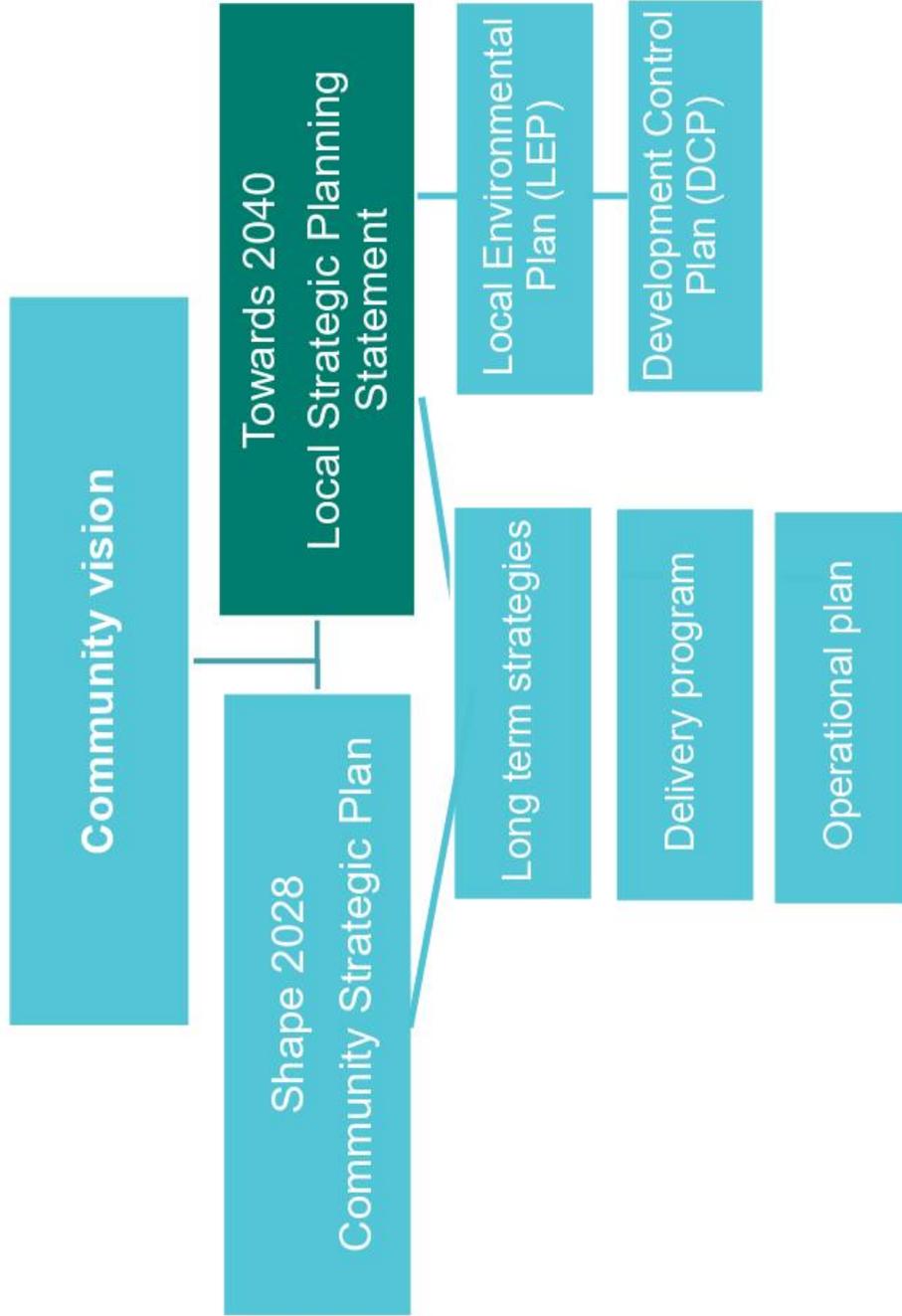
The Big Picture



New Strategic Planning Framework



Council Policy Framework



Project overview

Planning our sustainable future

1st Stage: Local Strategic Planning Statement – Towards 2040

2nd Stage: Local Housing Strategy

3rd Stage: Northern Beaches LEP & DCP & Technical Studies

Sustainability Studies

Livability Studies

Productivity and
Infrastructure Studies

Technical Studies

<p>Sustainability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Environment study</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E-Zone criteria</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bushfire study</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity Planning Analysis</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Lands Study</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater quality strategy</p>	<p>Liveability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Local Housing Strategy</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Local character study</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Urban Design (DCP)</p>	<p>Productivity & Infrastructure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Employment Study</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Social Infrastructure Study</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan</p>
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Towards 2040

Community engagement recap

Pre-exhibition Engagement

Scoping and analysis

- Community preferences survey (172 responses)
- SRG presentations
- Information booklet
- Videos
- Webinar

Drafting

- Placscore analysis (over 3,000 responses)
- Community engagement outcomes analysis (47 projects since 2016)
- Community workshop with 40 attendees (video)

Testing and refining

- Seven focus groups with 51 participants
- Survey testing draft priorities (245 responses)





Public exhibition:

27 September – 10 November (six weeks)

<p>Drop-in sessions 5 sessions</p>	<p>Community group meetings 5 meetings</p>	<p>Newspapers 8 advertisements & 3 editorials</p>
<p>Council e-news & engagement emails</p>	<p>Schools flyer distribution</p>	<p>Flyers >70,500 with rates notices</p>
<p>Videos promoted on Council website & social media</p>	<p>SRG presentation 6 meetings</p>	<p>Emails to stakeholders</p>

Exhibition Package

Technical studies

Evidence base and supporting documentation:

Demographic Analysis
Strategic context
[Download now >](#)

Housing Strategy
Issues and opportunities paper
[Read it here >](#)

Employment Study
Background report
[View the document >](#)

Social Infrastructure Study
Issues and opportunities background paper
[Access it now >](#)

Planning For Our Environment
Background paper
[Check it out >](#)

Have Your Say

 **Got 5 minutes?**
Discover our 20 year priorities
[View page >](#)

 **Got 10 minutes?**
Your Towards 2040 snapshot
[Access it now >](#)

 **Got 15+ minutes?**
Review the complete statement
[Read the document >](#)



SUSTAINABILITY: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following priorities?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
1. Healthy and vibrant coast and waterways	<input type="radio"/>				
2. Protected and enhanced bushland and biodiversity	<input type="radio"/>				
3. Protected water and cultural landscapes	<input type="radio"/>				
4. Protected Metropolitan Rural Area	<input type="radio"/>				
5. Greener urban environments	<input type="radio"/>				
6. High quality open space for recreation	<input type="radio"/>				
7. A low-carbon community, with high energy, water and waste efficiency	<input type="radio"/>				
8. Greater community resilience to natural hazards and climate change	<input type="radio"/>				

Drop in Information Sessions



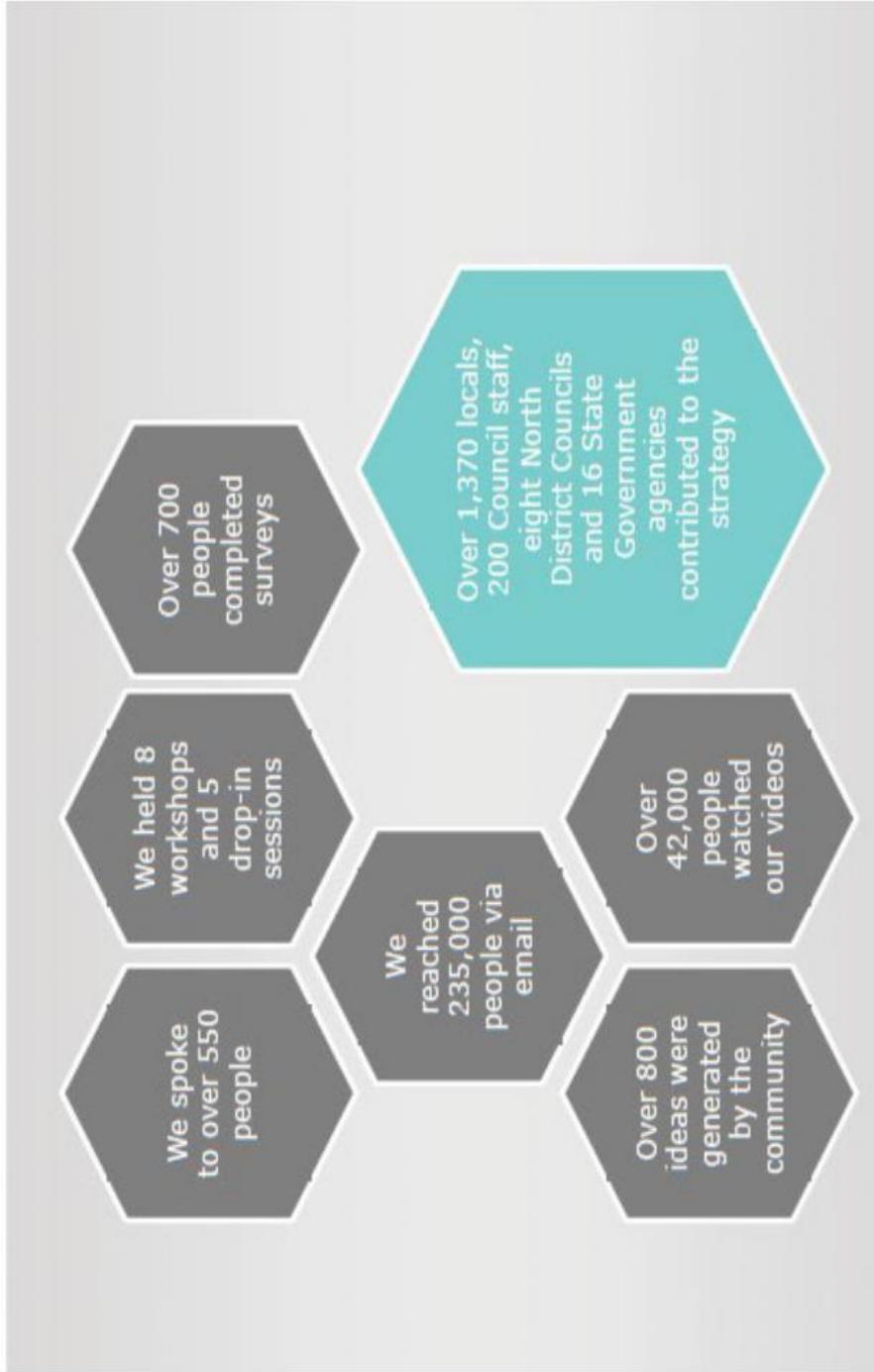
Community Meetings





Towards 2040

Results: who we reached



LEP / DCP Program

Draft engagement approach

Why do we need to engage?

Community engagement in the LEP/DCP process will be crucial to ensure the LEP and DCP:

- Are reflective of community concerns
- Readily and easily understood
- Legally accurate, and supported

Community Engagement Objectives

Provide accessible information so community and stakeholders can participate in a meaningful way (inform)

Communicate to community and stakeholders how their input was incorporated into the planning and decision making process (inform)

Facilitate inclusive and ongoing dialogue using context appropriate spaces and platforms (consult-involve)

Identify community and stakeholder concerns, local knowledge and values (consult)

Community Engagement Objectives

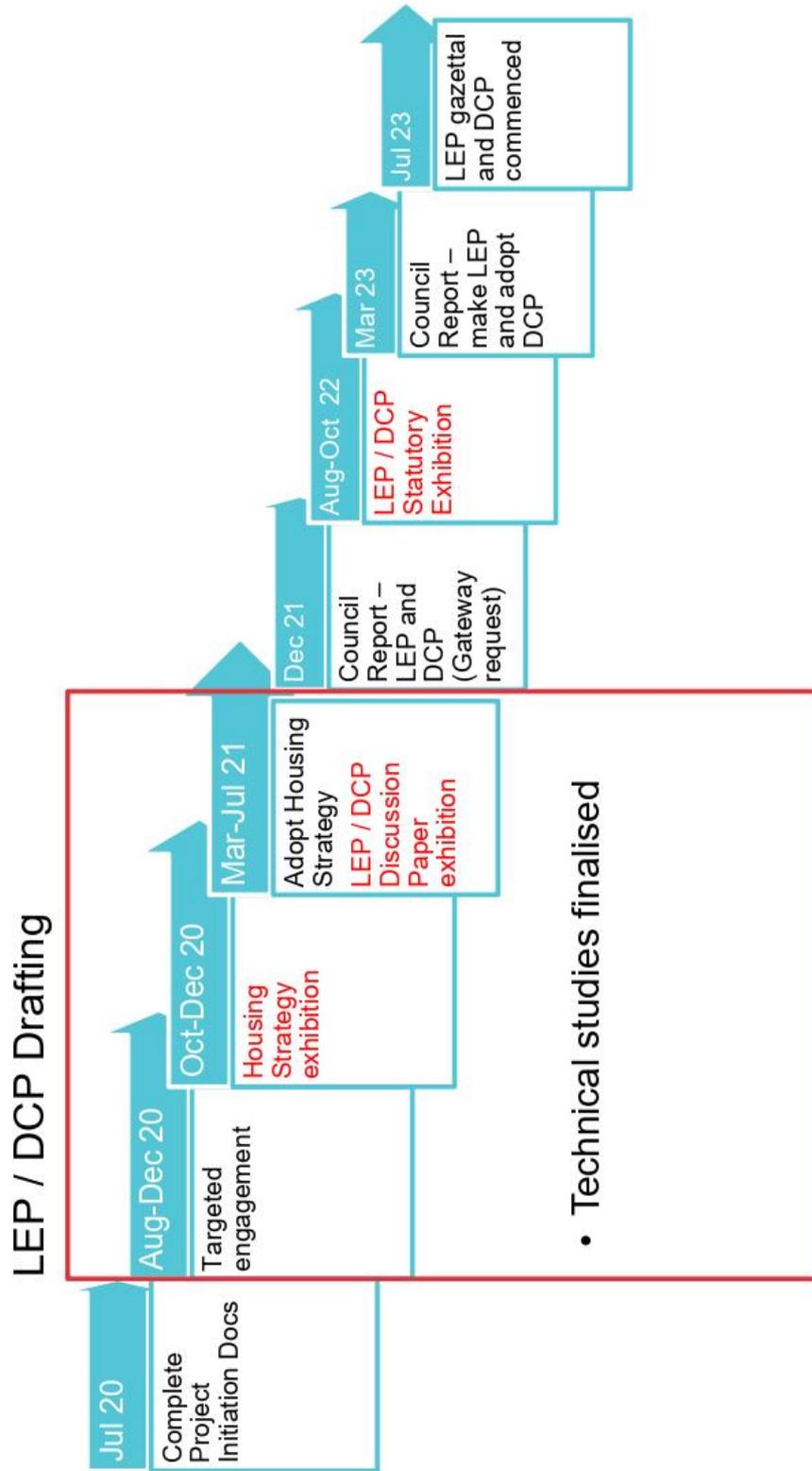
Be clear upfront about how public participation will affect the decision (report back)

Build capacity and educate the community to achieve meaningful participation (higher conversions, more articulate responses)

Involve hard to reach groups e.g. smaller landowners (everyone has the opportunity to understand the project and have their say)

Ensure outputs reflect both Council and the community's aspirations for the LGA (balanced outcomes)

Implementation – Timeline



Draft Engagement Approach

- Utilise a series of engagement techniques
- Provide diverse opportunities and mechanisms for stakeholders to contribute to the LEP
- Beyond the minimum standards required Council's CPP and the EP&A Act 1979
 - Discussion paper as non-statutory engagement and 6 week exhibition

Draft Engagement Approach

- Reviewed and adjusted throughout the course of the project
- Agile approach based on best-practice community engagement and typical for large projects

Technical Studies

Proposed Approach

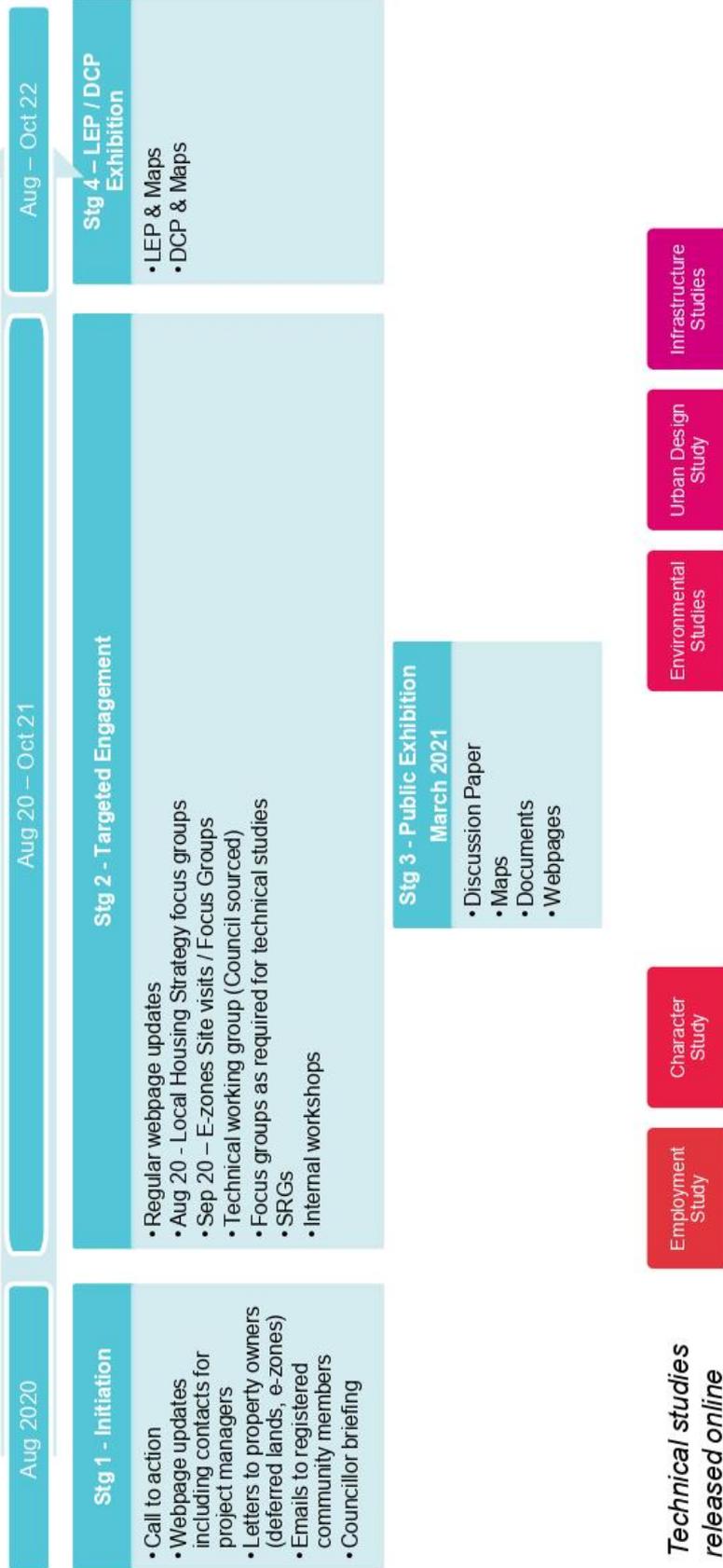
- Published online as completed
- Deadline for comments – e.g. 28 days
- Potentially tested with focus / working groups to tease out any issues (before or after publication)
- Supported by 5 / 10 / 15 min options:
 - 5 mins - short summary
 - 10 mins – survey to seek quantitative feedback
 - 15+ mins – read report and potential consultant webinar

Advantages

- Community kept informed as work progresses
- Community can comment on more manageable sizes of information



Draft Engagement Approach



- Stages and timing are indicative and may change as the project progresses



Workshop

Workshop Questions

- What does the community need to know from us to make informed decisions?
- How do we help the community better understand the issues?
- How do we best get the community to contribute? (Considerations for Covid-19) e.g. via online survey, targeted stakeholder groups, other?
- What are reasonable expectations of us to engage?

Workshop

- What does the community need to know from us to make informed decisions?
 - *What is an LEP / DCP?*
 - *What can I do on my property?*

Workshop

- How do we help the community better understand the issues?

– *Online maps*

Workshop

How do we best get the community to contribute?

– *(Considerations for Covid-19) e.g. via online survey, targeted stakeholder groups, other?*

Workshop

- What are reasonable expectations of us to engage?

ITEM 6.3	SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP MID-TERM REVIEW
REPORTING OFFICER	GOVERNANCE OFFICER
TRIM FILE REF	2020/442315
ATTACHMENTS	1 ↓ Survey Results

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this item is to:

- Share the findings from the survey of Strategic Reference Group (SRG) members early this year
- Update the SRG on the proposed interim improvements
- Workshop role definitions for future SRGs.

SUMMARY

Two years into the term of SRGs, a mid-term review was conducted to identify what is working well and what could be improved. Overall survey feedback from members was largely positive however, some key areas for improvement were identified, notably more strategic input and clarity around role and purpose.

RECOMMENDATION OF GOVERNANCE OFFICER

That the Places for People Strategic Reference Group:

1. Note the survey results.
 2. Provide feedback on the proposed interim improvements.
 3. Participate in a workshop: 'what is the role of the Strategic Reference Group (from the perspective of an SRG member)?'
-

REPORT

BACKGROUND

Strategic Reference Groups (SRGs) are an important part of Council's community engagement framework. They comprise of a mix of subject matter experts in a field relevant to the SRG, community members with an interest in a range of relevant topics and Northern Beaches councillors. They provide input at various stages of projects and strategies to ensure alignment to the Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

Council's community engagement approach is informed by the principles of the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2). This framework is used to determine the level of engagement sought by the SRGs, as well as the wider community. SRGs can be used as a part of a general engagement tool, as well as part of a coordinated community engagement process for a specific project.

IAP2 Spectrum:

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT				
INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:
To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision, including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.

Note: 'Empower' is not a stage used for community engagement as the elected Council is the final decision maker.

MID-TERM REVIEW

Two years into the SRG term we wanted to identify what was working well and what could be improved. A review of the SRGs was undertaken. Activities undertaken as part of the review:

- Review of membership against charters and recruitment of vacant positions
- Formalised the community committee framework into a policy
- Desktop review of agenda items mapped to the IAP2 Spectrum
- Survey of members

Satisfaction Survey

The survey results revealed an overall high satisfaction with the SRGs however, the breakdown of comments identified the following key areas for improvement:

- Clarity around role of SRG
- Strategic input – earlier input into policy and strategy
- Fewer agenda items – more time for workshop and discussion

The full survey results for the Places for People SRG are attached.

Workshop Session: Executive Managers and Chairs

On 3 June 2020 an online workshop with the six lead executive managers and chairs and Manager Community Engagement was conducted. The group provided valuable insight into how they perceived the role of the SRG from their unique perspectives as a councillor (SRG member) and staff member.

Interim Enhancements

Following the survey feedback, some interim enhancements will be progressively implemented:

- Greater information sharing with SRG members out of session
- Consideration of opportunities for cross-SRG consultation
- Annual forward planning workshops with the Chief Executive Team, executive managers and chairs to provide more strategic oversight to agenda topics
- Re-format of the agenda to enable more emphasis on consultation vs informing (eg: 2 x workshops and 1 x 'inform' each meeting)
- Report templates will be clear on the level of engagement sought
- Use a 'Parking Lot' for off topic discussions
- Database for recording and reporting back on actions
- Continuous improvement: pulse surveys post every meeting.

NEXT STEPS

The current SRGs have played an important role in shaping the direction of the Northern Beaches Council and are aligned to the pillars of Council's Community Strategic Plan (CSP). Key milestones are approaching being, the:

- local government election in September 2021 requiring the CSP to be reconsidered by the newly elected Council
- SRG members' terms concluding in February 2022.

Given these milestones, Council is very keen to understand the experiences of our first cohort of SRG members since the first local government elections following amalgamation, with a view to using these experiences in how Council sets up the next term within Council's broader model for engagement.

A report to the Chief Executive Team will be provided incorporating this feedback for its consideration of the next SRG term.

29/07/2020



SRG Mid-term Review Survey Results

Places for People

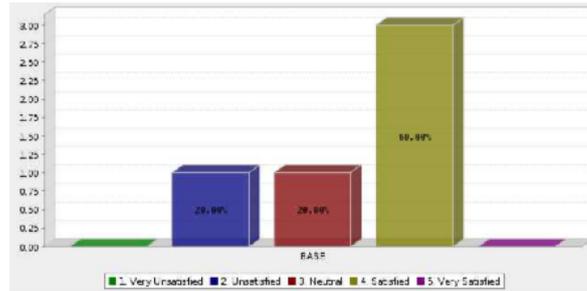


northern
beaches
council

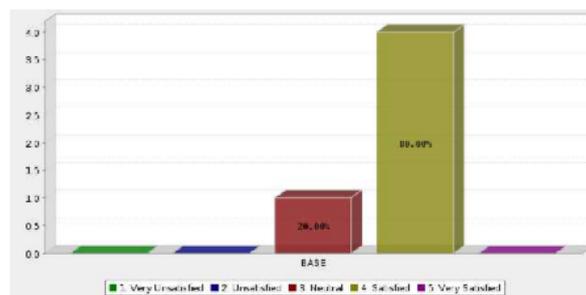


29/07/2020

How satisfied are you with the level of input you have in shaping the strategic input of the agenda topics?

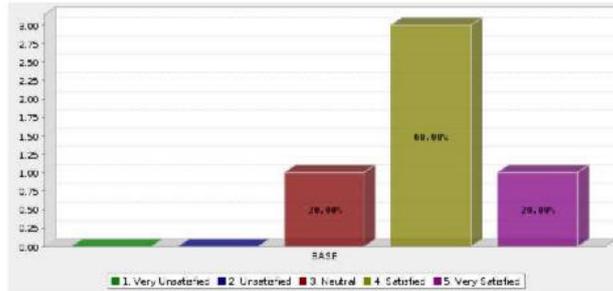


How satisfied are you with the relevance of agenda topics for your SRG?

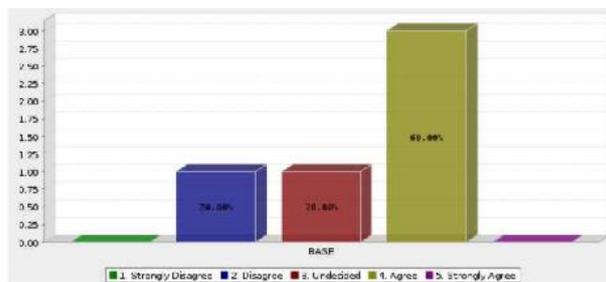


29/07/2020

How satisfied are you with the quality of the business papers?

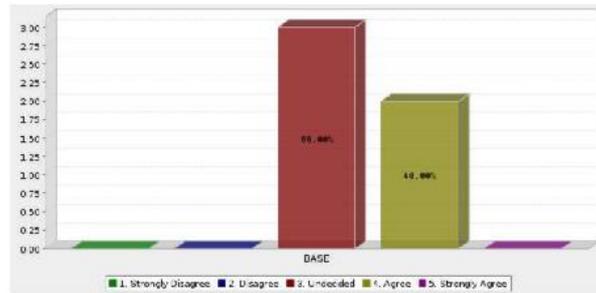


My contributions to the SRG are making a difference.



29/07/2020

My opinions are being heard.

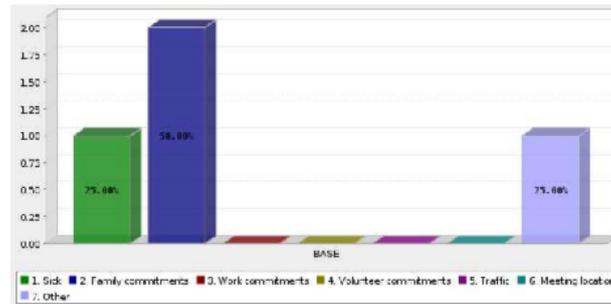


Have you missed any of the SRG meetings?



29/07/2020

What was the reason for missing the meeting(s)?



Member survey What's working well ?

- *'The group is generally keeping on topic and being respectful of others input and opinions.'*
- *'The length of the papers.'*
- *'Workshop type brainstorming.'*
- *'Council staff have been thorough with their presentations and have willingly taken feedback.'*

29/07/2020

What can be improved?

- *'I feel that the SRG is used as a tool by staff, not to seriously impact on strategic direction.'*
- *'Possibly prioritized and slightly reduced agenda so that issues can be fully discussed.'*
- *'Have topics that directly effect dog ownership and the needs for public space for this purpose to be brought to the SRG for discussion.'*
- *'Having more input into the agenda.'*

ITEM 6.4	PARKS AND RECREATION - KEY PROJECT UPDATES
REPORTING OFFICER	MANAGER, OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLANNING
TRIM FILE REF	2020/442832
ATTACHMENTS	1 ↓ Report to Council meeting held 23 June 2020 - Crown Land Reform
	2 ↓ Report to Council meeting held 28 July 2020 - NSW Parks for People Program

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To provide an update on key recreation planning projects currently being undertaken by the Parks and Recreation Unit.

REPORT

Crown Land Reform - Land Categories

At the Council meeting held 23 June 2020 a report was considered regarding proposed land categories for 35 Crown reserves (Attachment 1). The report outlined that the Crown Land Management Act 2016 came into force on 1 July 2018. Since this time Council has become Crown Land Manager for 269 former reserve trust lands, the majority of which Council already managed. The change allows Crown land managed by Council to be managed in line with the Local Government Act 1993, along with Council Community land.

As resolved by Council community consultation regarding the categorisation of these 35 Crown reserves will be undertaken. This will commence in August 2020. Members of the Places for People Strategic Reference Group (the Members) will be provided an opportunity to provide feedback on the categorisation of these reserves.

New South Wales Government Parks for People Program

At the Council meeting held 28 July 2020 a report was considered regarding an agreement with the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Planning Ministerial Corporation for the design and delivery of landscape embellishment works to Nandi Reserve, Frenchs Forest and County Road Reserve, Belrose and the transfer of land to Council through the New South Wales Parks for People Program (Attachment 2).

Members will be provided an opportunity to provide feedback on proposals arising from this agreement. The timeline for consultation has not yet been established.

RECOMMENDATION OF MANAGER, OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLANNING

That the Places for People Strategic Reference Group note the Parks and Recreation Unit's project updates.

ITEM 13.4	CROWN LAND REFORM - LAND CATEGORIES
REPORTING MANAGER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER PARKS AND RECREATION
TRIM FILE REF	2019/662131
ATTACHMENTS	1 Initial Categorisation - Written Notice to Minister for Lands of Assigned Categorisation (Included In Attachments Booklet)
	2 Initial Categorisation of Crown Reserves - Council Crown Land Manager Fact Sheet (Included In Attachments Booklet)
	3 Local Government Act 1993 - Land Category Objectives (Included In Attachments Booklet)
	4 Initial Categorisation - Categories Guidance for Reserve Purpose(s) (Included In Attachments Booklet)

SUMMARY

PURPOSE

For Council to endorse the proposed land categories for 35 Crown reserves for which Council is Crown Land Manager.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The land categorisation process does not propose any change of use for the subject Crown reserves. Change of use would need to occur through a plan of management (PoM) and with the relevant community engagement requirements.

The Crown Land Management Act 2016 came into force on 1 July 2018. Since this time Council has become Crown Land Manager for 269 former reserve trust lands, the majority of which Council already managed. The change allows Crown land managed by Council to be managed in line with the Local Government Act 1993, along with Council Community land.

The transition to managing Crown land under the Local Government Act 1993 requires land categories to be assigned to each reserve. At the 26 February 2019 Council meeting Council considered proposed land categories for 268 reserves. All were endorsed with the exception of reserve 68892 which includes the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park, including Aquatic Reserve. A decision on reserve 68892 was deferred and has since been discussed at four meetings of the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee. A meeting was also held with staff and representatives from the Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee.

The original process for assigning land categories required Council to nominate one initial category per reserve, with additional categories to be added via a public hearing related to the development of a Plan of Management (PoM). Given that Council already has PoM for many Crown reserves, Council requested multiple categories be permitted where they reflect existing PoM, many of which have already been through the public hearing process.

The State Government has confirmed a change to the process. They will now consider assigning multiple categories where they reflect current use of the land. They have subsequently asked that Council reconsider some of the original requested categories in light of the new process.

Attachment 1 is the draft submission to the Minister for Crown Lands, with mapping and justification of the proposed land categories for 35 Crown reserves. The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Crown Land Manager Fact Sheet on the new process can be found at Attachment 2.

The process provides for community consultation to occur when the relevant PoM is being developed or updated as this process of assigning land categories does not propose any change

of use. Prescribed objectives for each land category (Attachment 3) have assisted with assigning the appropriate category to reflect existing use. Guidance categories in relation to the reserve purposes have also been provided by Crown Lands and can be found at Attachment 4.

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR TRANSPORT AND ASSETS

That Council:

1. Endorse the proposed land categories for 35 Crown land reserves for which Council has become Crown Land Manager.
 2. Resolve to notify the Minister for Lands of Council's preferred land categories.
 3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to approve the provision of any documentation required to support Council's proposed land categories.
-

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The introduction of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 allows Crown land managed by Council to be managed in line Council Community land. The transition requires the affected Crown reserves to be assigned land categories according to the Local Government Act 1993.

The land categories include:

- park
- natural area
- sportsground
- general community use
- area of cultural significance.

The category of Natural Area is further broken down into five sub categories:

- bushland
- foreshore
- wetland
- escarpment
- watercourse.

Natural Area subcategories are not required to be allocated at this stage. They can be identified when plans of management (PoMs) are being developed or updated.

Objectives for each land category can be found at Attachment 3. The proposed land categories need to align with the reserve purpose/s. The State Government's guidance categories in relation to the reserve purposes can be found at Attachment 4.

A set of guidelines were developed by the State Government to guide the steps required to transition the management of Crown Reserves, including but not limited to the categorisation process. The guidelines for allocating categories proved problematic for several NSW Councils including Northern Beaches. The process of identifying one initial category to start with then assigning additional categories through a public hearing process linked to the development of a PoM did not take into account that many Council's such as Northern Beaches already have PoM for Crown land. The process therefore would have led to the replication of significant work already undertaken.

Of the land categories endorsed by Council at the 26 February 2019 Council meeting many involved requests for multiple categories, primarily where a PoM exists. In doing so Council requested that the State Government revise its process. The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has recently released a new Council Crown Land Manager Fact Sheet (Attachment 2) that allows the allocation of multiple categories that reflect the current use of the reserve. Subsequently Council has been requested to provide additional information on 35 reserves.

Communications (by phone) with the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Council Crown Land Manager Fact Sheet (Attachment 2) explain that proposed land categories should:

- represent current/existing use
- multiple categories are permitted where they best represent current/existing use
- cannot represent desired future use
- relate to the reserve purpose
- relate most closely to the Local Government Act category objectives
- consider the characteristics of the land
- the category of 'Area of Cultural Significance' can be overlaid over another category.

SUMMARY OF SUBMISSION TO NSW DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

The draft submission to the NSW Department of Industry specifying preferred land categories and including justification and category maps as recommended for each of the 35 Crown reserves can be found at Attachment 1. Some of the reserves are complex and require multiple categories, others only require a simple response to clarify categories in an existing PoM.

Where possible proposed land categories have been assigned consistently where the same or similar land use occurs across the local government area. In assigning land categories reference was made to the category objectives (Attachment 3) as well as the guidance categories for particular reserve purposes (Attachment 4). Some variations occur where the category of the predominant land use extends across other related facilities, including, for example where a reserve has already been categorised in its entirety within an existing PoM. If a reserve has previously been only partly categorised in a PoM, then the reserve categories have been revisited to improve consistency where appropriate. Some examples of consistent land categories include but are not limited to:

Land use	Proposed category
Golf Course	Sportsground
Sports buildings	Sportsground
Car park	General Community Use
Surf Life Saving Club	General Community Use
Bushland	Natural Area
Foreshore	Natural Area
Playgrounds	Park

The 35 reserves include all or part of the following Crown reserves. Note that Governor Phillip Park comprises three (3) reserves.

Manly Warringah War Memorial Park, including Aquatic Reserve	Griffith Park	Governor Phillip Park x 3 reserves
Seaforth Oval	Manly Wharf to the Skiff Club	Manly Wharf to North Harbour Reserve
Mona Vale Golf Course	Balgowlah Golf Course	Clontarf Foreshore
Tania Park	Bilarong Reserve (part)	County Road Reserve
Beacon Hill Oval	18 Walter Road Ingleside	Church Point Reserve (part)
Queenscliff to Manly Beach (sand)	Bantry Reserve	Forty Baskets
Coasters Retreat Wharf surrounds	Waldon Reserve	Nolans Reserve/Dobroyd Hill
Aitken Reserve	Rhoker Reserve	Maroa Reserve
Katoa Reserve	Nalya and Lillihina Reserves	Sunrise Reserve
McKillop Park	Governor Phillip Lookout	Collaroy Foreshore
Shelly Beach to Fairy Bower	St Matthews Farm	Pittwater Park

CONSULTATION

The proposed categories are recommended by a project Steering Group with Executive Manager and/or Manager Representation from Parks and Recreation, Property, and Environment and Climate Change.

The categories recommended for reserve 68892 which includes Manly Dam and Aquatic Reserve were discussed at the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee (MWWMSAPAC) meetings of 6 May 2019, 11 November 2019, 24 February 2020 and 2 March 2020. The proposed categorisation for reserve 68892 by staff was supported by the majority of the members of the MWWMSAPAC.

They also requested that the whole of the State Park be overlaid on the mapping as an Area of Cultural Significance. The proposal to overlay a categorisation of Area of Cultural Significance is supported except for Aquatic Reserve as there is no evidence to support the categorisation. Advice from the Aboriginal Heritage Office is that they are unaware that the site possesses any cultural values. Aquatic Reserve also falls outside of the boundaries of the current Manly Warringah War Memorial Park PoM and does not serve a war memorial purpose.

A meeting was also held on 5 March 2019 with staff and representatives from the Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee. Further details can be found in the Written Notice to the Minister at Attachment 1.

The process outlined by Crown Lands indicates that broader community consultation occur when PoM are developed. Community consultation is not required at the initial categorisation stage. The initial categorisation phase assists in allowing the reserves to be categorised in line with the Local Government Act 1993 by documenting current use. Any change of use would require community consultation including a public hearing when a PoM is developed or updated. It would be complicated to hold community consultation over the affected Crown reserves outside of a broader review of the land as would occur when a PoM is created.

TIMING

The initial categorisation process occurs prior to the development of a draft PoM. At this stage the transition to managing Crown land in line with the Local Government Act 1993 is to occur by 30 June 2021. This would require at least 29 PoM to be developed to cover the 269 Crown reserves. A number of NSW Councils, including Northern Beaches, have expressed concern about meeting this deadline. An extension of the deadline is being considered by the State Government.

LINK TO COUNCIL STRATEGY

This process of assigning land categories to Crown reserves for which Council has become Crown Land Manager is a requirement of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 and associated transition guidelines.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendations of this report in terms of nominating preferred land categories pose no financial impact on Council.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Assigning land categories is the first step toward developing PoM for Crown reserves for which Council is Crown Land Manager. The PoM development phase will allow for broader community consultation over the future use of these Crown reserves.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The land categories recommended in this report document the current use of the Crown reserves and do not facilitate any changes that would cause environmental impacts. Any works proposed in the future would trigger the need for the usual environmental assessments, approvals or conditions as required and in line with relevant legislation.

GOVERNANCE AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The land categorisation process is an important step in transitioning the management of Crown land under Council's management to being managed in line with the Local Government Act 1993. This will provide for both Council managed Crown land and Council Community land to be managed consistently. It will also minimise risk by ensuring that activities on Crown land are occurring in line with the relevant land category definition.

ITEM 13.2	NEW SOUTH WALES PARKS FOR PEOPLE PROGRAM - NANDI RESERVE, FRENCHS FOREST AND COUNTY ROAD RESERVE, BELROSE.
REPORTING MANAGER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER PARKS AND RECREATION
TRIM FILE REF	2020/318132
ATTACHMENTS	1 Letter from NSW Office of Open Space and Parklands, Strategic Open Space Program - 18 April 2019 2 Letter from NSW Department Planning, Industry and Environment, Parks for People Program Project Delivery Agreement - 8 May 2020 3 County Road Reserve Map 4 Nandi Reserve Map

SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To consider entering into an agreement with the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Planning Ministerial Corporation for the design and delivery of landscape embellishment works to Nandi Reserve, Frenchs Forest and County Road Reserve, Belrose and the transfer of land to Council through the New South Wales Parks for People Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In February 2019, the New South Wales Government announced the \$150 million Strategic Open Space Program to connect and improve open spaces across Sydney. \$50 million of this funding is being delivered through the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Parks for People Program. Frenchs Forest was named as one of the areas for funding.

In April 2019, Council received a letter from the New South Wales Office of Open Space and Parklands about their Strategic Open Space Program and allocation of \$9 million for creation of high quality open space in Frenchs Forest on Planning Ministerial Corporation land. The Office of Open Space and Parklands proposed a partnership with Council and nominated Nandi Reserve, Frenchs Forest as a suitable site for funding (Attachment 1).

Since this time, Council and the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Planning Ministerial Corporation (the Department) have been discussing the New South Wales Parks for People Program (the Program) and funding for the Northern Beaches. Council has advocated for consideration of other suitable sites including County Road Reserve at Belrose.

In March 2020, Council entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (the MOU) with the Department about creating better access to open space and greater recreation opportunities and agreed on Nandi Reserve as a suitable site for embellishment works. The MOU also enabled consideration of other suitable sites on Planning Ministerial Corporation land in the Northern Beaches local government area.

In May 2020, Council received a letter from the Department (Attachment 2) and an agreement regarding the design and delivery of landscape embellishment works to Nandi Reserve and County Road Reserve and potential land transfers under the New South Wales Parks for People program. The specific land parcels referred to in the agreement are outlined in attachments 3 and 4. The embellishment works to be undertaken at each reserve have not yet been determined. During the design phase of the project the Council and the Department would develop and decide on the

works to be delivered by the Department at each site. These decisions would be guided and informed by community feedback from key stakeholders including local residents and local groups.

The Program is structured so that the Department project manage and fund project design, planning, construction and community engagement for agreed works and also any land transfers. Council would be represented on all project working groups.

All embellishment works would be programmed to be completed by 31 December 2021 at which time Council would become the land owner of Planning Ministerial Corporation land at Nandi Reserve and County Road Reserve (subject to transfer from Transport for New South Wales to the Department) and would remain Crown Land Manager of the Crown Land at County Road Reserve (Attachments 3, 4).

It is recommended that Council enter into an agreement with the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Planning Ministerial Corporation for the design and delivery of landscape embellishment works to Nandi Reserve, Frenchs Forest and County Road Reserve, Belrose and the transfer of land to Council through the New South Wales Parks for People Program as outlined in this report. The details of the final agreement are to be reported to Council.

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR TRANSPORT AND ASSETS

That:

1. Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and enter into an agreement with the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Planning Ministerial Corporation for the design and delivery of landscape embellishment works to Nandi Reserve, Frenchs Forest and County Road Reserve, Belrose and the transfer of land to Council through the New South Wales Parks for People Program.
 2. The findings of the community engagement and analysis of the proposed projects will be reported back to Council by December 2020.
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REPORT

BACKGROUND

In February 2019, the New South Wales Government announced the \$150 million Strategic Open Space Program to connect and improve open spaces across Sydney. \$50 million of this funding is being delivered through the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Parks for People Program. Frenchs Forest was named as one of the areas for funding.

In April 2019, Council received a letter from the New South Wales Office of Open Space and Parklands about their Strategic Open Space Program and allocation of \$9 million for creation of high quality open space in Frenchs Forest on Planning Ministerial Corporation land. The Office of Open Space and Parklands proposed a partnership with Council and nominated Nandi Reserve, Frenchs Forest as a suitable site for funding (Attachment 1). Council replied, welcoming the opportunity to be included in the New South Wales Strategic Open Space Program and to improve open spaces for our community including at Frenchs Forest.

Since this time, Council and the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Planning Ministerial Corporation (the Department) have been discussing the New South Wales Parks for People Program and funding for the Northern Beaches. The Parks and Recreation and Environment and Climate Change teams have led these discussions on Council's behalf. It was proposed that with the amount of funding available the Department consider Nandi Reserve as well as other suitable sites.

In March 2020, Council entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (the MOU) with the Department about creating better access to open space and greater recreation opportunities. The MOU also enabled consideration of other suitable sites on Planning Ministerial Corporation land in the Northern Beaches local government area. Following further discussions both parties resolved to include County Road Reserve at Belrose as an additional site due to its proximity to Frenchs Forest and Council's desire to gain tenure for continued use of the sportsfield.

In May 2020, Council received a letter from the Department (Attachment 2) and an agreement (the agreement) regarding the design and delivery of landscape embellishment works to Nandi Reserve and County Road Reserve and land transfers under the New South Wales Parks for People program. The specific land parcels referred to in the agreement are outlined in attachments 3 and 4. The embellishment works to be undertaken at each reserve have not yet been determined. During the design phase of the project the Council and the Department would develop and decide on the works that are to be delivered by the Department at each reserve. These decisions would be guided and informed by community feedback from key stakeholders including local residents and local groups.

The Program is structured so that the Department would project manage and fund project design, planning, construction and community engagement for the works and for any potential land transfers. Council would be represented on all working groups including for project management and community engagement.

All embellishments would be programmed to be completed by 31 December 2021 at which time Council would become the land owner of land owned by the Planning Ministerial Corporation at Nandi Reserve and County Road Reserve (subject to transfer from Transport for New South Wales) and would remain Crown Land Manager of the Crown Land at County Road Reserve (Attachments 3, 4).

It is recommended that Council enter into an agreement with the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Planning Ministerial Corporation for the design and delivery of landscape embellishment works to Nandi Reserve, Frenchs Forest and County Road Reserve, Belrose and the transfer of land to Council through the New South Wales Parks for People Program as outlined in this report. The details of the final agreement are to be reported to Council.

County Road Reserve, Belrose

County Road Reserve (Attachment 3) has been managed by Council for many years as a sports field. At this reserve there is one unlit natural turf rectangular sportsfield and an unsealed car park. This field is used mainly by football groups.

Transport for New South Wales is the owner of the land where the sportsfield is located. Council does not have tenure of this land.

The unsealed car park is located on Crown Land which is managed by Council as the Crown Land Manager. The Department have identified that there is an incomplete Aboriginal Land Claim from 2009 and Native Title is not extinguished on this Crown Land. Notwithstanding this matter the Department have indicated that Crown Lands are not opposed to the proposal for this land.

The Department proposes that:

- Funding is made available for embellishment works to the reserve (Attachment 3).
- The Transport for New South Wales land is transferred to the Planning Ministerial Corporation. The land would then be eligible for the New South Wales Parks for People Program.
- Following completion of the agreed works the:
 - Former Transport for New South Wales land would be dedicated to Council.
 - Council would remain the Crown Land Manager for the Crown Land.

The Council's Sportsgrounds Strategy (2017) supports upgrading and seeking tenure for this reserve. Feedback received for the Strategy about this reserve included that there is a need for sportsfield lights, toilets, storage and improvements to the car park and the sportsfield playing surface.

It is Council's intent to put forward a range of projects for consideration and community engagement including:

- New sportsfield lighting to provide field access in the evening.
- Improvements to the quality of the playing surface of the sportsfield.
- New building with at a minimum to have toilets and storage.
- Formalise the car park.
- Restoration works to the surrounding bushland and tree planting.

These proposed projects would assist in meeting the growing need for more access to higher quality sport and recreation facilities by local schools, local sports groups and the local community and enhance the environmental values of the reserve.

Potential residential and environmental impacts as well as community benefits would be considered carefully in making decisions about the projects to be funded.

Nandi Reserve, Frenchs Forest

Nandi Reserve is made up of several parcels of land owned by Council and the New South Wales Government (Attachment 4). The features of this reserve include; bushland, informal trails, a watercourse, a coastal upland swamp and an asset protection zone. Power lines and an access trail are also located in this reserve.

The Department proposes that:

- Funding is made available for embellishment works to the parcel of land in Nandi Reserve owned by the Planning Ministerial Corporation (Attachment 4).
- Following completion of the agreed works, the Planning Ministerial Corporation land in this reserve would be dedicated to Council.

It is Council's intent to put forward a range of projects for consideration and community engagement including:

- Conversion of some informal trails to walking trails (sympathetic to the reserve) with interpretive signage about the local flora and fauna.
- Riparian corridor, creek-line and bushland improvements.

These proposed projects would provide the community with more sustainable recreational access to Nandi Reserve and enhance the environmental values of the reserve.

Potential residential and environmental impacts as well as community benefits would be considered carefully in making decisions about the projects to be funded.

CONSULTATION

The Department would be responsible for preparing and implementing the community and stakeholder engagement and communications plans for any Nandi Reserve and County Road Reserve projects. Council has provided the Department with the Northern Beaches Council Community Engagement Matrix to assist them in developing an engagement approach that is consistent with our community's expectations.

Council's Parks and Recreation, Environment and Climate Change, and Community Engagement teams would review the draft plans and endorse the approaches, timelines, materials, signage, social media and on-line messaging and be involved in implementation.

The outcomes of any community engagement would be provided to Council for consideration.

TIMING

Should Council enter into an agreement with the Department the following timing is planned:

- August 2020 - execute the agreement and complete the community engagement and communication plan.
- December 2020 - report back to Council on the findings of the community engagement and analysis of the proposed project.
- 31 December 2021 - embellishment works programmed to be completed.

The final dates for design, planning, construction and engagement are yet to be determined.

LINK TO STRATEGY

The proposals outlined in this report relate to the Council's Community Strategic Plan Outcomes of Places for People, Protection of the Environment and Environment Sustainability:

- Places for People - Goal 8: Our neighbourhoods inspire social interaction, inclusion and support health and wellbeing.
- Places for People - Goal 9: Our community is healthy, active and enjoys a broad range of creative, sporting and recreational opportunities.
- Protection of the Environment - Goal 1: Our bushland, coast and waterways are protected to ensure safe and sustainable use for present and future generations.
- Environment Sustainability - Goal 5: Our built environment is developed in line with best practice sustainability principles.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Program is structured so that the Department would project manage and fund project design, planning, construction and community engagement for works and for any land transfers.

All embellishments would be programmed to be completed by 31 December 2021 at which time Council would become the land owner of land owned by the Planning Ministerial Corporation at Nandi Reserve and County Road Reserve (subject to transfer from Transport for New South Wales) and would remain Crown Land Manager of the Crown Land at County Road Reserve (Attachments 3, 4). Council would then be responsible for meeting the costs associated with land management and maintenance and renewal of associated assets.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The projects indicated in this report to be considered by the Department and the community for County Road Reserve, would enable more sport and recreation to be played more often and provide local schools, sports groups and the community with access to higher quality facilities and enhance the environmental values of the reserve.

The projects indicated in this report to be considered by the Department and the community for Nandi Reserve, would provide more sustainable and higher quality recreational access to the reserve for the local community and improve the environmental values of the reserve.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Environment and Climate Change team would represent Council in regard to environmental considerations and related matters for the development and implementation of any agreement with the Department. The Department would be required to follow the New South Wales Parks for People project management processes which includes regulatory environmental assessments.

GOVERNANCE AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Council's Legal Counsel would review the final draft agreement and any associated documents.

Council would be represented on all working groups including for project management and community engagement. The Council's role includes articulating and aligning the project with Council strategic directions and identified community needs and managing Council's project related governance and risks.