

Draft Waste Strategy Framework - TOWARDS ZERO WASTE

Waste and Recovery Strategic Reference Group – June 2017

Purpose of this paper

Northern Beaches Council is a new entity created by the merging of three former local government areas; Manly, Warringah and Pittwater. The former councils each had relevant strategies and policies relating to waste management. This paper outlines possible directions and ideas in waste management for the new Council, capturing the deliberations and aspirations of the Waste and Recovery Strategic Reference Group.

Waste and Recovery Strategic Reference Group

Following the formation of the new Northern Beaches Council in May 2016, eleven Strategic Reference Groups (SRGs) were formed across key areas of council's operation. The role of the SRGs is to provide a valuable contribution to the directions of the new Council, including input into the development of the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) and future plans and strategies. SRG members were recruited via EOI, represent a cross-section of the community, and bring expertise to their area of appointment. Each group also includes two-three former Councillors as Chair and Deputy Chair. The Waste and Recovery SRG consists of 18 members, listed in Appendix 1. This paper has been prepared to capture the efforts and aspirations of this SRG over a 10 month period from 2016-17.

Waste Strategy Framework

Vision

Smart Green Clean
Northern Beaches leading Australia
in waste-free living

Mission

To avoid waste and maximise recycling by implementing
best practice solutions with an informed and responsible
community

Guiding Principles

- Avoid, reduce and recycle
- Best practice
- Social change
- Easy access to waste management solutions
- Everybody has a role to play

Community Strategic Plan – Shape 2028

“Shape 2028” is an extensive community engagement program in 2016-17 to develop the first Community Strategic Plan (CSP) for the Northern Beaches. This will be the new Council’s 10-year plan, which captures the community’s needs and aspirations, and provides directions for Council in planning its services. Some 2,500 community members have provided feedback in Stages One and Two, including all the SRGs, with valuable SRG input being used to help prepare this Waste Framework. The draft CSP will be exhibited and then finalised by the new Council in late 2017.

The strategic directions of this Waste Strategy Framework align with several of the CSP’s draft outcomes and goals:

- **Outcome 1 – Protection of the environment**
 - Goal 3 – our community is well supported in protecting the environment
- **Outcome 2 – Environmental sustainability: growth is sustainable and well balanced**
 - Goal 4 – our Council is recognised as a community leader in environmental sustainability
 - Goal 5 – our built environment is developed in line with best practice sustainability principles
 - Goal 6 – our community will continue to work towards sustainable use of resources
- **Outcome 8 – Participation and partnerships: we have a say in what happens in our local area**
 - Goal 21 – our community is actively engaged in decision making processes
 - Goal 22 – our Council builds and maintains strong partnerships and advocates effectively on behalf of the community

Strategic Directions

Seven strategic directions have been identified that if addressed would collective work toward achieving the vision and mission of the framework:

1. Clean public spaces and a natural environment that is litter free
2. Policy and advocacy for waste avoidance
3. Enforcement of policies and regulations
4. Education and social change
5. Problem waste and illegal dumping
6. Best practice solutions
7. Targets and measures

The below table contains the identified strategic directions alongside focus areas for each and ideas put forward by the SRG that could deliver against the strategic directions in each focus area.

Strategic Direction	Focus Areas	SRG ideas to address strategic direction
1. Clean public spaces and a natural environment that is litter free	Marine ecosystems and waterways, creeks, foreshores, beaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop environmental workplace standards and systems for Northern Beaches Council employees • Encourage recycling in public areas in key locations by providing bin infrastructure • Clear labelling of waste and recycling bins • More 'soft' plastic collection points • Encourage responsible pet ownership • Street cleansing programs that actively prevent litter and debris from entering drains and waterways
	Parks & Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standardised bin infrastructure to encourage optimum recycling, clearly sign posted
	Streets and public places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standardised bin infrastructure to encourage optimum recycling, clearly sign posted • Public place waste collection frequencies that meet demand

Strategic Direction	Focus Areas	SRG ideas to address strategic direction
2. Policy and advocacy for waste avoidance	No single use plastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with State and Federal Governments to ban single use plastic bags, bottled water, styrofoam cups, polystyrene and straws Northern Beaches Council's Plastic Policy adopted by Council Advocate for better solutions for disposable coffee cups Advocate for best public Container Deposit Scheme and integration process
	Plastic free events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council's Event Waste Management Policy and Guidelines to ensure all public events are responsibly managed. Public events are required to adhere to Councils Policy, maximising recycling, avoiding waste and prohibiting single use items such as plastic bags, , straws, polystyrene, sachets and balloons etc.
	Waste free	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage sustainable living practices through education and activities e.g. Waste free lunchbox promotion and other events
	Marine impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with Federal and State governments to ban micro plastics. Encourage the business community to take the lead and provide more sustainable solutions to services, packaging etc. Improved education and enforcement for the proper management of smoke free zones and disposal of cigarette butts.
	Working with stakeholders (collaboration/partnerships with waste industry, businesses, charities, community organisations, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the establishment of co-operatives Support community group litter reduction initiatives Actively support national and international litter reducing initiatives Provide support to businesses to increase recycling and reduce waste Encourage corporate social responsibility through targeted initiatives Advocate for Extended Producer Responsibility Ensure adherence to Waste Management DCP Work with business to reduce packaging through cost effective alternate solutions to plastics. Engage with charitable organisations (Vinnies, Salvos, etc.) to better manage waste and community expectation

Strategic Direction	Focus Areas	SRG ideas to address strategic direction
3. Enforcement of policies and regulations	Enforcement of policies and regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify litter and illegal dumping hotspots Enforce fines for littering Targeted education and enforcement to address illegal waste dumping
	Planning controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Beaches Waste Management DCP All commercial , residential and industrial buildings to be assessed and comply with the provisions of the Waste Management DCP Waste Management DCP to be reviewed to reflect best practice waste management.
4. Education and social change	Educate & collaborate (Engage community in sustainable living)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with environmental community groups to drive waste education initiatives Targeted education programs that engage and effect social change. Key areas include cigarette butts, littering, hazardous waste etc. Build and foster pride of place within our communities Encourage sustainable living by educating the community to take responsibility and enabling them to live without single use plastics Develop waste free toolkits
	Encourage composting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support community level composting with community gardens Increase / encourage home composting: supply residents with compost kits including plant based compost bags Encourage composting within schools
5. Problem waste and illegal dumping	Problem waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify solutions and provide easy access the management of problem wastes e.g. Styrofoam, batteries, radioactive, heavy metals, light bulbs and e-waste
	Illegal dumping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education and enforcement
6. Best practice solutions	Public infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more water fountains in key locations such as parks, sporting fields , beaches Standardised well designed bin infrastructure with clear signage for optimum recycling
	Domestic waste collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Council clean-up service and deliver services that reduce waste to landfill Provide easy access to local recycling and reuse centres (examples: Bower, Junktion) Recommend the new standard domestic waste service be 80 litres per household based on the principles of waste avoidance
7. Targets and Measures	Measurement framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define clear goals for Council and business – investigate Scope 1,2,3 emission targets Identify baseline and measure against this through regular reporting and waste audits
	Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report card measuring the community and Council’s performance with regard to waste Mandatory reporting – State of Environment, NSW EPA Annual Return

Appendix 1: Waste and Recovery Strategic Reference Group - Committee Members

Cathy Griffin (Chair)	Implementation Advisory Group
Barbara Aird	Local Representative Committee - Environment
Pat Daley	Local Representative Committee - Environment
Billy Bragg	Resident – Pittwater Ward
Camila Cantoli	Resident – Pittwater Ward
Richard Cox	Resident – Frenchs Forest Ward
Kerry Euers	Resident – Pittwater Ward
Emily Fewster	Resident – Manly Ward
Jude Furniss	Bommie Australia
Rowan Hanley	Surfrider Foundation Northern Beaches
Conny Harris	Resident – Frenchs Forest Ward
Ian Lang	Manly Community Forum, formerly Little Manly Precinct
Alicia Lloyd	Sustainable Organisations of Manly (SO Manly)
Cathy Natoli	Resident – Narrabeen Ward
Anthony Petrolo	Resident – Curl Curl Ward
Stacey Randell	NSW Business Chamber
Natalie Warren	Resident – Curl Curl Ward
Louise Williams	Resident – Manly Ward