



northern
beaches
council

AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at the Civic Centre, Dee Why on

Tuesday 18 April 2023

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

Louise Kerr
Interim Chief Executive Officer

OUR VISION

Delivering the highest quality service valued and trusted by our community

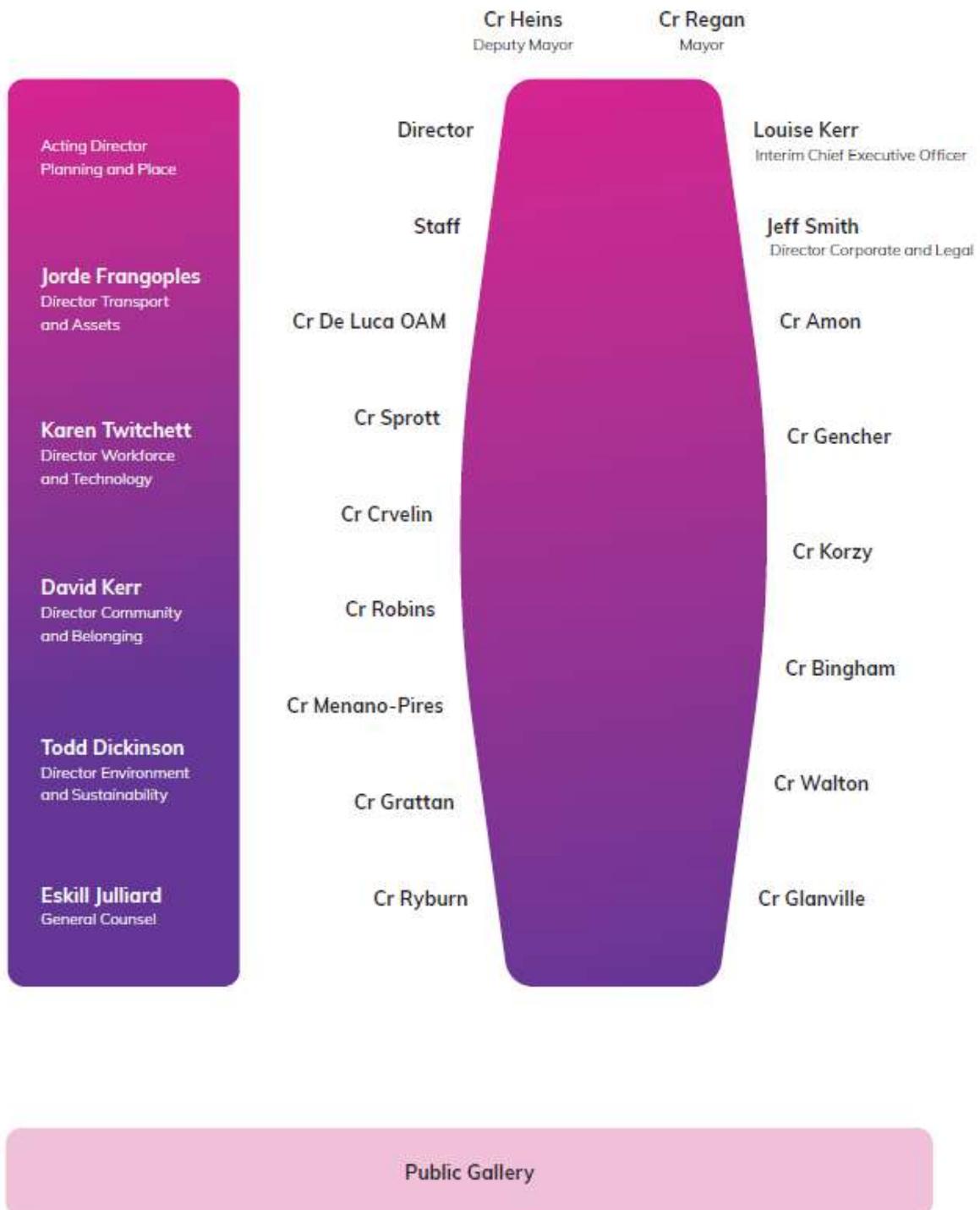
OUR VALUES

Trust Teamwork Respect Integrity Service Leadership

OUR OBLIGATIONS

I swear/solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of the Northern Beaches and the Northern Beaches Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgement.

Council Chambers Seating Plan



**Agenda for an Ordinary Meeting of Council
to be held on Tuesday 18 April 2023
at the Civic Centre, Dee Why
Commencing at 6:00pm**

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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 AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND REMOTE ATTENDANCE

In accordance with Part 6 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Council will consider apologies, requests for leave of absence, and requests to attend meetings remotely via audio-visual link.

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 28 MARCH 2023

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 28 March 2023, copies of which were previously circulated, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

4.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

In accordance with Part 17 of the Code of Meeting Practice, all Councillors must disclose and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting.

A Councillor who has a **pecuniary interest** in any matter with which Council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of Council at which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.

The Councillor must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting:

- a. at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed, or
- b. at any time during which Council is voting on any question in relation to the matter.

A Councillor who has a **significant non-pecuniary** conflict of interest in a matter under consideration at a Council meeting, must manage the conflict of interest as if they had a pecuniary interest in the matter.

A Councillor who determines that they have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter that is **not significant** and does not require further action, when disclosing the interest must also explain why the conflict is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances.

As required by Council's Code of Conduct and the Information and Privacy Commission's Information Access Guideline 1, returns made by designated persons are routinely tabled at Council meetings and published on Council's website.

5.0 PUBLIC FORUM AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

In accordance with Part 5 of the Code of Meeting Practice, residents, ratepayers, applicants or other persons may request to address Council in relation to any one matter related to the general business of Council but not the subject of a report on the agenda (Public Forum) and no more than two matters listed for consideration on the agenda (Public Address).

6.0 ITEMS RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

In accordance with Part 14 of the Code of Meeting Practice, items that are dealt with by exception are items where the recommendations contained in the staff reports in the agenda are adopted without discussion.

7.0 MAYORAL MINUTES

ITEM 7.1	MAYORAL MINUTE NO 2/2023 - RECOGNITION OF FAMILY DAY CARE SERVICES - EXCEEDING THE NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD
TRIM FILE REF	2023/217875
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

BACKGROUND

Northern Beaches Family Day Care has again been recognised as 'Exceeding the National Quality Standard' under the National Quality Framework.

The National Quality Standard (NQS) sets the national benchmark for the quality of children's education and care services across Australia. Northern Beaches are now sitting in the top 7% of services in the State exceeding the standard of service we provide to our families and children.

Reaching this high standard is not easy and assessment is made against 7 key areas including health and safety, education programs, relationships with children and leadership.

As an example of the quality care provided by Family Day Care, the Assessment Officer commented:

"Your service is commended on its achievements in providing quality outcomes for children. Careful planning, reflective practice and willingness to collaborate with families and other community organisations to enhance children's learning and wellbeing demonstrate the commitment to quality by educators at your service. The service's effective governance and leadership team ensures all educators, children and families experience positive, supportive and respectful relationships"

This is a significant achievement and stands testament to the passion, professionalism and commitment of our managers, educators and other childcare staff who continue to provide highly personalised, flexible, quality care for children aged 6 weeks to 12 years.

As elected representatives, we understand the high importance of ensuring we deliver high quality services to our community. This recognition is a reminder of how fortunate we are to have dedicated and committed staff who are continuously looking to improve the quality of the services we provide.

MOTION

That Council again acknowledge the efforts of all the staff and educators who work in Family Day Care and thank them for their part in this achievement.



Michael Regan
MAYOR

9.0 CORPORATE AND LEGAL DIVISION REPORTS

ITEM 9.1	PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF THE DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM 2023-2027, OPERATIONAL PLAN 2023/24 AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023-2033
REPORTING MANAGER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE AND EXECUTIVE MANAGER FINANCIAL PLANNING & SYSTEMS
TRIM FILE REF	2022/716542
ATTACHMENTS	1 ⇒ Draft Delivery Program 2023-2027 and Operational Plan 2023/24 (Included In Attachments Booklet) 2 ⇒ Draft Fees and Charges 2023/24 (Included In Attachments Booklet) 3 ⇒ Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2023-2033 (Included In Attachments Booklet)

SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To seek approval to exhibit the draft Delivery Program 2023-2027, Operational Plan 2023/24 (including the Budget and Fees and Charges) and revised Long-Term Financial Plan 2023-2033.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Councils in NSW need to revise elements of their Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IP&RF) by 30 June 2023. Staff have reviewed our IP&RF and prepared the following for consultation with the community and consideration by Council:

- Draft Delivery Program 2023-2027 and Operational Plan 2023/24 (including the Budget and Fees and Charges).
- Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2023-2033

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Integrated Planning and Reporting, Guidelines for Local Government in NSW 2021* the documents need to be exhibited for a minimum of 28 days. The outcomes of this exhibition will be reported back to Council for consideration prior to adoption.

An overview of the draft Operational Plan and Budget is below. The 2023/24 draft budget projects a total expenditure of \$496 million, including a capital works program of \$93 million. It shows that our financial position is sound, with a projected Operating Surplus before Capital Grants and Contributions of \$3 million and a balanced budget position. A further \$3 million in loan repayments would also be made during the year, reducing the loans balance to \$9 million by 30 June 2024.

Following significant events in recent years, including storms, bushfire threats and the COVID-19 pandemic, restoration of working capital funds is a priority over the 4 years of the Delivery Program. Working capital provides funding to respond to unexpected events, invest in new opportunities, and ensure a financially sustainable position into the future. While the 2023/24 draft budget is balanced and financial performance benchmarks met, the impact of high inflation and the constraints on rates income under the current rate peg methodology may challenge our ability to continue to sustain the same level of service. The draft Long-Term Financial Plan explores an alternative scenario to strengthen our position in the future.

Highlights of the \$93 million draft capital works program include:

- \$14.5 million resurfacing 6.6km of roads and improving other road assets
- \$13.4 million on community facilities including Warriewood Valley community centre
- \$9.2 million on footpaths, shared paths and cycleways
- \$8.4 million on stormwater to reduce flooding and pollution
- \$7.4 million improving reserves and parks at Balgowlah, Dee Why, Frenchs Forest, Manly, Narrabeena, Seaford and Warriewood

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND LEGAL

That:

1. In accordance with essential elements 3.10, 4.10 and 4.25 of the *Integrated Planning and Reporting, Guidelines for Local Government in NSW 2021*, the following draft documents be exhibited for a minimum of 28 days:
 - A. Delivery Program 2023-2027 and Operational Plan 2023/24 (including Fees and Charges 2023/24)
 - B. Long-Term Financial Plan 2023-2033
 2. The outcomes of the public exhibition be reported back to Council.
 3. Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.
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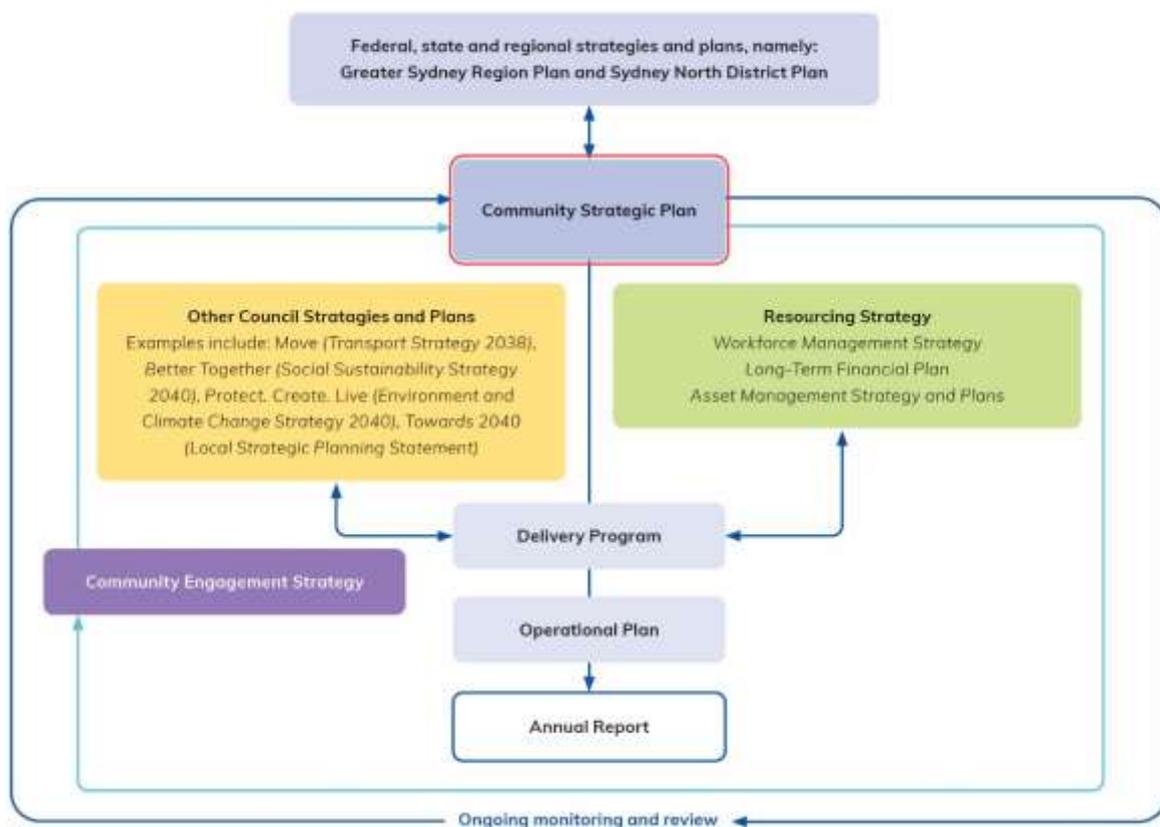
REPORT

BACKGROUND

Following the ordinary local government election in September 2021, Council in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines (2021)* reviewed and updated the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IP&RF) in consultation with its community. Northern Beaches' IP&RF was adopted on 28 June 2022 and comprises:

- Community Strategic Plan 2040 (CSP) - the highest-level plan that a council will prepare with an outlook to 2040. The CSP identifies the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and strategies for achieving these goals.
- Resourcing Strategy 2022-2032 - the people, asset and financial, resources available to Council to support progress towards the goals in the CSP. It includes a 4-year Workforce Strategy and 10-year Long-Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Strategy and Plan
- Delivery Program 2022-2026 - the principal activities Council will undertake in response to the CSP goals over 4 years
- Operational Plan 2022/23 - the individual projects that will be undertaken in that year.

Figure 1: Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework



Section 405 of the Act requires the annual operational plan to be adopted by 30 June. Northern Beaches Council also takes the opportunity to roll forward the Delivery Program a year to show a 4-year program.

While other elements of the Resourcing Strategy are reviewed in the year following an ordinary local government election, the LTFP is reviewed annually to ensure financial planning for the annual Operational Plan and Budget are sound.

DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN

The Delivery Program 2023-2027 continues to respond to community priorities identified through extensive community engagement since 2017, including the engagement undertaken during the review of the CSP.

The document flows directly from the CSP with the 16 key Council services mapped from the community outcome to the goals that they support.

For each service, the document shows the following elements for the next 4 years:

- Ongoing services and programs
- Operational and capital projects
- Performance measures, with revised targets
- Income and expenditure.

The Operational Plan 2023/24 supports the continued delivery of high-quality services and key operational projects to ensure better outcomes for our community. It also includes a capital works program of \$93 million including:

- \$14.5 million resurfacing 6.6km of roads and improving other road assets
- \$13.4 million on community facilities including Warriewood Valley community centre
- \$9.2 million on footpaths, shared paths and cycleways
- \$8.4 million on stormwater to reduce flooding and pollution
- \$7.4 million improving reserves and parks at Balgowlah, Dee Why, Frenchs Forest, Manly, Narrabeena, Seaforth and Warriewood
- \$4.5 million for recreational trails and boardwalks including Manly Dam and McKillop Park
- \$4.2 million on foreshore improvements
- \$2.1 million improving centres such as Avalon and Dee Why
- \$3 million to start work on a new Warringah Recreation Centre
- \$2.4 million improving sports fields and other sporting facilities
- \$1.1 million on tidal and rock pools at Paradise Beach, Bilgola and Palm Beach
- \$1.1 million improving wharves at Mackerel and Currawong Beaches
- \$1 million on playgrounds.

DRAFT LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

The Council's Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) is reviewed and updated each year as a rolling 10-year projection of Council's income and expenditure, assets and liabilities and cashflow. Updates have been made and include revised assumptions and indexation and financial modelling for 2 scenarios.

The 2 scenarios considered in the draft LTFP are:

- Scenario 1 'Delivery Program Model' – rates income increases based on the rate peg in each year** - this option demonstrates a sound financial position and responsible investment in the ongoing renewal of infrastructure assets – however the unfunded items within the Asset Management Plan will not be addressed and the lag between the rate peg and inflation levels is not addressed. While performance benchmarks are met (with the exception of 2024/25 (year 2) due to an operating deficit - new software implementation and election costs occur in this year), the results are weaker especially regarding asset renewal and operating performance. This model is consistent with the draft Delivery Program 2023-2027.
- Scenario 2 'Alternative Model' - rates income increases based on the rate peg in each year with the exception of an additional increase of 6% in 2024/25 (year 2)** - which results in \$11 million more income in that year (which is retained in future years). The additional income is then utilised to maintain and renew existing assets. This produces a stronger operating result and asset management ratios.

PROPOSED REFINANCING OF EXISTING LOANS

No new borrowings are proposed in the 2023/24 financial year, however refinancing of 2 existing loans which have an initial 10-year term is proposed over the next 2 years within the draft Delivery Program. The residual at maturity of the initial term was based on repayments over a term of 20 years. The refinancing of these loans would be consistent with the loan documentation and planning undertaken at their initiation by the former Manly Council.

Loan number	Opening principal	Refinance amount	Current term	Purpose of loan
Westpac 47	\$5,000,000	\$2,500,000	Commenced July 2014 To expire June 2024	To assist with the construction of the Manly Oval Detention Tank (2014/15 financial year)
CBA 48	\$4,000,000	\$2,400,000	Commenced June 2015 To expire June 2025	Public domain capital improvements (2015/16 financial year)

DRAFT BUDGET OVERVIEW AND FINANCIAL FORECASTS

Draft Budget 2023/24

The 2023/24 draft budget projects total expenditure of \$496 million, including a capital works program of \$93 million. It shows that our financial position is sound, with a projected Operating Surplus before Capital Grants and Contributions of \$3 million and a balanced budget position. The \$3 million surplus from the operating budget contributes towards the funding required for the capital works program and a further \$3 million in loans repaid. The balance of funding is derived

from capital grants and contributions, proceeds on the sale of vehicles, funding allocated to asset depreciation and the Council's cash reserves and working capital. With the application of all these funding sources the Council has achieved a balanced budget.

The proposed \$93 million capital works program responds to the priorities in the Community Strategic Plan for improving infrastructure, protecting our environment and provides attractive spaces where we can play sport or relax with friends and family. This investment includes \$43 million in asset renewal to improve the overall condition of our assets and to reduce ongoing operational costs associated with asset repair and maintenance. A further \$50 million will deliver high priority new assets to the community.

Efficiency savings

Council's focus is on continuing to achieve efficiency savings and reinvesting those into our community. Council has achieved efficiencies in operating costs in the development of the 2023/24 draft budget. This includes efficiencies achieved through the introduction of new systems and processes, which have assisted in offsetting inflation driven cost increases and bringing forward the clearance of Narrabeen Lagoon by 12 months. We are continuing to work across the organisation to provide efficiency improvements and contain costs.

Financial Position and Performance

The Council's financial results over the past 3 financial years largely reflect the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on operations and the support measures in place for the community. Significant events have also placed pressure on the Council's finances, including 6 natural disasters over the same period. This Delivery Program is focused on rebuilding the Council's working capital into the future to support the resilience of the organisation to, again, sustain unexpected events into the future.

The draft budget is anticipated to achieve the Office of Local Government financial and asset performance benchmarks in 2023/24.

The 2023/24 forecast operating surplus of \$3 million (excluding capital grants and contributions) provides an Operating Performance Ratio of 0.7%. This is above the industry benchmark of 0%, but has been weakened by a \$6.6 million investment in the implementation of new software. This project is funded and would have previously been considered a capital expenditure project. However, under changes in accounting practices, this project is now classified as an operating expense. The Operating Performance Ratio would be 2.3% excluding this project.

Liquidity meets the industry benchmark (greater than 1.50) with an Unrestricted Current Ratio 2.22x, meaning for every \$1.00 in current liabilities there is \$2.22 in current assets. Rebuilding working capital following the significant events of the past 2 financial years provides a strengthening of this ratio over the 4 years of the Delivery Program, gradually growing to 2.32x by 2026/27.

Net cashflow will be a negative \$34 million in 2023/24, primarily due to project expenditure funded by grants and developer contributions received in the past and implementing a new software system. Net cashflow will return to a positive position from 2026/27.

Uncertainty about the inflation outlook continues to challenge the preparation of the budget. The impact of inflation on costs is closely monitored and options to mitigate emerging issues is explored in the Long-Term Financial Plan.

**Draft 2023/24
Budget Snapshot**

	Result 2021/22 \$ 'mil	Forecast 2022/23 \$ 'mil	Budget 2023/24 \$ 'mil	Projected 2024/25 \$ 'mil	Projected 2025/26 \$ 'mil	Projected 2026/27 \$ 'mil
Operating budget						
Income	408	426	433	421	430	441
Operating expenses	(346)	(378)	(404)	(411)	(419)	(424)
Operating result - surplus / (deficit)	62	48	29	10	11	17
Less grants and contributions for capital projects	(44)	(41)	(26)	(11)	(8)	(11)
Operating result - excl capital income - surplus / (deficit)	18	7	3	(1)	3	6
Capital expenditure						
New works	(44)	(55)	(49)	(22)	(16)	(8)
Renewal works	(33)	(50)	(43)	(45)	(53)	(58)
Total capital expenditure	(77)	(105)	(93)	(66)	(69)	(66)
Loan repayments	(5)	(5)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(1)
Cash and investments						
Externally restricted	41	42	29	27	25	31
Internally restricted	80	80	60	60	62	66
Unrestricted	37	24	21	20	18	20
Total cash and investments	158	145	111	107	106	117
Cashflows						
Net cash from operating activities	90	97	69	69	74	81
Net cash from investing activities*	(73)	(103)	(98)	(69)	(72)	(68)
Net cash from financing activities	(6)	(6)	(5)	(3)	(3)	(2)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash	11	(13)	(34)	(4)	(2)	12
* Exclude purchase and sale of investments						
Financial position						
Assets	5,245	5,602	5,723	5,820	5,923	6,036
Liabilities	(199)	(174)	(154)	(153)	(154)	(155)
Net Assets	5,047	5,428	5,569	5,668	5,770	5,881

Numbers may not sum precisely due to rounding

Performance measures

	OLG Benchmark	Result 2021/22	Forecast 2022/23	Budget 2023/24	Projected 2024/25	Projected 2025/26	Projected 2026/27
Budget Performance							
Operating Performance Ratio <i>measures the extent to which a council has succeeded in containing operating expenditure within operating revenue</i>	>0%	4.5%	1.8%	0.7%	-0.3%	0.6%	1.4%
		✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio <i>measures fiscal flexibility. It is the degree of reliance on external funding sources</i>	>60%	82.5%	84.3%	87.1%	92.8%	93.3%	93.2%
		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Operational Liquidity							
Unrestricted Current Ratio <i>represents a council's ability to meet short-term obligations as they fall due.</i>	>1.5x	1.9x	1.9x	2.2x	2.2x	2.2x	2.3x
		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rates, Annual Charges, Interest & Extra Charges Outstanding Percentage <i>expressed as a percentage of total rates and charges available for collection in the financial year</i>	< 5%	3.6%	3.5%	3.4%	3.4%	3.4%	3.4%
		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cash Expense Cover Ratio <i>liquidity ratio indicates the number of months a council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow</i>	> 3 mths	5.6mths	4.9mths	3.6mths	3.4mths	3.3mths	3.7mths
		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Liability and Debt Management							
Debt Service Cover Ratio <i>measures the availability of operating cash to service loan repayments.</i>	>2.00x	7.3x	7.8x	9.6x	11.6x	13.9x	20.7x
		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Asset Management							
Building and Infrastructure Renewals Ratio <i>assesses the rate at which these assets are being renewed against the rate at which they are depreciating</i>	>100%	112.7%	127.3%	107.3%	100.6%	104.0%	107.9%
		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Infrastructure Backlog Ratio <i>shows what proportion the infrastructure backlog is against the total net carrying amount of a council's infrastructure</i>	<2%	1.53%	1.32%	1.25%	1.21%	1.18%	1.14%
		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Asset Maintenance Ratio <i>compares actual versus required annual asset maintenance. A ratio of above 100% indicates that the council is investing enough funds that year to halt the infrastructure backlog from growing.</i>	>100%	100.6%	100.5%	100.5%	100.5%	100.5%	100.5%
		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cost to bring assets to agreed service level <i>shows what proportion the infrastructure backlog is against the total gross replacement cost of a council's infrastructure</i>		1.26%	1.09%	1.04%	1.01%	0.98%	0.95%
		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

DRAFT REVENUE POLICY

Rating Structure 2023/24

The NSW Government, through the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART), caps the total general income that may be raised from levying rates on property. IPART has determined that general income from rates in 2023/24 may increase by a maximum of 3.7%. This is the basis of the draft 2023/24 budget.

The rating structure is based entirely upon property valuations (ad valorem) but with minimum rates applying where appropriate. Rates for 2023/24 will be assessed on land values as at 1 July 2022 and are forecast to raise \$188 million before rebates and adjustments.

The average residential rate is proposed to increase by \$58 for the year under the 3.7% rate peg as illustrated in the following table:

Average residential rates

Average residential rate	Rates with 3.7% rate peg	
	Additional Rates	Total Rates
Per annum	\$58	\$1,619
Per quarterly instalment	\$14	\$405

Stormwater Management Services Charge 2023/24

The Stormwater Management Services Charge is levied to all eligible residential and business ratepayers to fund a program of stormwater improvement projects and is forecast to raise \$2.2 million in 2023/24. No changes to the charge are proposed.

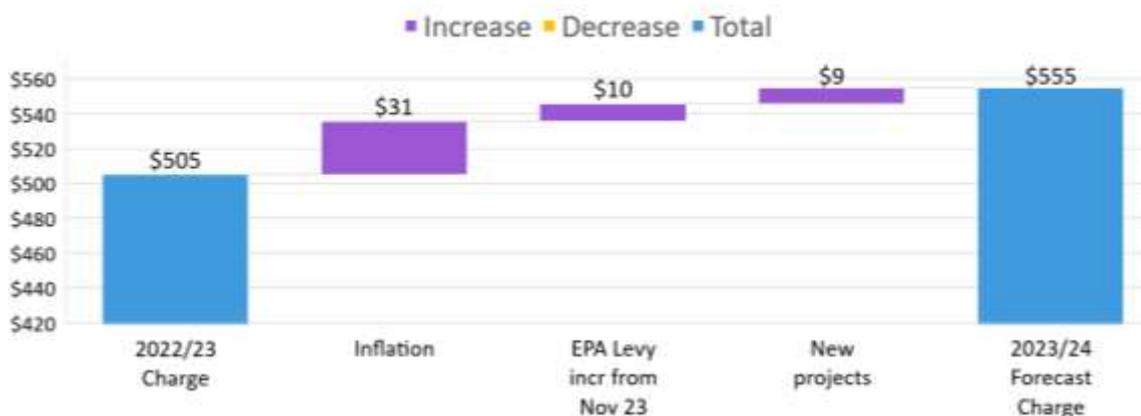
Domestic Waste Management Charge 2023/24

The Domestic Waste Management (DWM) Service is provided to all residential properties. Council must make and levy an annual charge for the service and income must not exceed the reasonable cost of providing the services (Section 496 and 504). The standard domestic waste charge is proposed to be \$555 in 2023/24 (a \$50 increase), raising \$59 million in revenue.

As illustrated in the below chart, the proposed \$50 increase in the charge relates to:

- + \$31 = Inflation on disposal and collection contracts
- + \$10 = Increase in waste disposal costs due to a higher EPA Levy
- + \$9 = Investment in waste service improvements

Domestic Waste Charge price change drivers – 2022/23 to 2023/24



Fees and Charges 2023/24

Fees and Charges relate mainly to the recovery of service delivery costs through the charging of fees to users. These include use of leisure, entertainment and other community facilities and the provision of services such as long day care, vacation care and family day care.

The draft Fees and Charges schedule for the 2023/24 financial year is provided as Attachment 2 to this report and has been prepared in accordance with the principles of the Council's Pricing Policy.

CONSULTATION

A community engagement plan consistent with Council's Community Engagement Policy and Strategy, has been developed to support the exhibition. The draft Delivery Program, Operation Plan (including Fees and Charges) and Long-Term Financial Plan will be placed on exhibition for a minimum of 28 days in accordance with essential elements 3.10, 4.10 and 4.25 of the *Integrated Planning and Reporting, Guidelines for Local Government in NSW (2021)*.

Promotion and engagement will include:

- A dedicated Your Say page, including all documents and frequently asked questions
- Social media
- Bulk emails to around 23,000 people on our Community Engagement Register
- Community outreach activities
- Public forums, two face to face and one online
- Video presentations on the budget and capital works programs
- 12 locality-based summaries of the draft Operational Plan
- Fact sheets on the roads and footpath program, environment and sustainability initiatives and health and recreation initiatives.

Submissions can be made online as well as via letter and email.

TIMING

The draft Delivery Program, Operation Plan (including Fees and Charges) and Long-Term Financial Plan will be exhibited for a minimum of 28 days. A summary of the submissions received along with revised IP&R documents will be presented to Council on 27 June 2023 for consideration.

LINK TO STRATEGY

The draft Delivery Program, Operational Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan address the eight outcomes and 22 goals of the Community Strategic Plan. The development and exhibition of the documents address these three key goals:

- Good Governance - Goal 19: Our Council is transparent and trusted to make decisions that reflect the values of the community.
- Good Governance - Goal 20: Our Council is proactive, and efficiently and effectively responds to, and delivers on, the evolving needs of the community.
- Participation and Partnership - Goal 21: Our community engaged in decision making processes.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

2023/24 Budget and Delivery Program

The draft 2023/24 budget projects total expenditure of \$496 million, including a capital works program of \$93 million. This includes investing \$43 million in asset renewal to improve the overall condition of our assets and a further \$50 million in delivering high priority new assets to the community. It shows that our financial position is sound, with a projected operating surplus of \$3 million (excluding grants and contributions for capital projects), a further \$3 million in loans repaid and a balanced budget position. The 2023/24 draft operating result is impacted by a \$6.6 million investment in the implementation of new software, which is recognised as an operating expense under accounting standards.

The Council is anticipated to achieve the Office of Local Government financial and asset performance benchmarks in 2023/24.

Following significant events in recent years including storms and the COVID-19 pandemic, restoration of working capital funds is a priority over the 4 years of the Delivery Program along with continuing to repay loans taken out by the former Councils. Strengthening of working capital will ensure Council maintains sufficient funding for unexpected events and future opportunities. The current rate of inflation and issues with the current rate peg methodology present a challenge in maintaining sufficient funding in future years.

Long-Term Financial Plan

The Long-Term Financial Plan has been revised and includes an alternative scenario based on a rates increase of 6% in addition to the rate peg (which is assumed to be 4%) in the 2024/25 financial year (year 2). The alternative scenario would result in an increase in investment in infrastructure assets due to the \$109 million increase in income over the remaining 9 years of the plan (\$11 million in the 2024/25 year).

Scenario 1 is the 'Delivery Program Model' which maintains rate increases in line with the annual rate peg only. In this scenario the operating result in 2024/25 is a deficit of \$1 million, primarily due to the election (\$2m) and implementation of new software (\$9m) in that year. These projects are funded, but the deficit will result in Council not meeting the Operating Performance Ratio benchmark in that year. All other performance measures remain within the industry benchmark, however the results are weaker especially regarding asset renewal and maintenance and operating performance. The following table compares key performance measures for the 2 scenarios.

Performance indicators – Long Term Financial Plan Scenarios

Budget Performance														
Operating Performance Ratio														
<i>measures the extent to which a council has succeeded in containing operating expenditure within operating revenue.</i>														
OLG	Result	Result	Forecast	→	Budget	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Benchmark	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Model	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33
> 0%	(7.3%)	4.5%	1.8%	1 - Delivery Program	0.7%	(0.3%)	0.6%	1.4%	1.3%	1.0%	1.1%	1.3%	1.2%	0.7%
				2 - Alternative	0.7%	1.4%	2.3%	3.1%	3.1%	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%	2.4%

Operational Liquidity														
Unrestricted Current Ratio														
<i>represents a council's ability to meet short-term obligations as they fall due.</i>														
OLG	Result	Result	Forecast	→	Budget	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Benchmark	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Model	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33
> 1.5x	1.69x	1.90x	1.94x	1 - Delivery Program	2.22x	2.25x	2.25x	2.32x	2.11x	2.40x	2.53x	2.38x	2.40x	2.58x
				2 - Alternative	2.22x	2.26x	2.27x	2.35x	2.19x	2.56x	2.76x	2.61x	2.65x	2.92x

Asset Management														
Building and Infrastructure Renewals Ratio														
<i>assesses the rate at which these assets are being renewed against the rate at which they are depreciating.</i>														
OLG	Result	Result	Forecast	→	Budget	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Benchmark	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Model	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33
> 100%	117.2%	112.7%	127.3%	1 - Delivery Program	107.3%	100.6%	104.0%	107.9%	107.5%	106.5%	105.5%	103.1%	103.6%	101.9%
				2 - Alternative	107.3%	118.6%	121.4%	124.3%	117.5%	115.9%	114.8%	116.5%	116.8%	110.8%

Infrastructure Backlog Ratio														
<i>ratio shows what proportion the infrastructure backlog is against the total net carrying amount of a council's infrastructure.</i>														
OLG	Result	Result	Forecast	→	Budget	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Benchmark	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Model	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33
< 2%	1.50%	1.53%	1.32%	1 - Delivery Program	1.25%	1.21%	1.18%	1.14%	1.10%	1.06%	1.03%	1.00%	0.97%	0.94%
				2 - Alternative	1.25%	1.21%	1.16%	1.11%	1.07%	1.03%	0.99%	0.96%	0.93%	0.90%

Asset Maintenance Ratio														
<i>ratio compares actual versus required annual asset maintenance.</i>														
OLG	Result	Result	Forecast	→	Budget	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Benchmark	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Model	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33
> 100%	106.5%	100.6%	100.5%	1 - Delivery Program	100.5%	100.5%	100.5%	100.5%	100.5%	100.5%	100.5%	100.5%	100.5%	100.5%
				2 - Alternative	100.5%	106.9%	106.9%	107.0%	107.6%	107.7%	108.0%	108.3%	108.4%	108.6%

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan include initiatives aimed at continuing to build resilience within a safe, diverse, inclusive and connected community.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Protecting the environment and ensuring that we can live sustainably on the Northern Beaches are key features of the draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan to be exhibited. These documents detail programs and activities that protect the environment and support the community to live sustainably.

GOVERNANCE AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The review and updating of the Delivery Program, Operational Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan are integral to the governance framework of Council. These draft documents have been prepared in accordance with Sections 404-406 of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Office of Local Government's *Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines for local government in NSW (2021)*.

ITEM 9.2	SUSPENSION OF ALCOHOL FREE ZONE AND ALCOHOL PROHIBITED AREA FOR REVISED FOOTPRINT OF TASTE OF MANLY 2023
REPORTING MANAGER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS
TRIM FILE REF	2023/223160
ATTACHMENTS	1 Original Taste of Manly 2023 License map 2 Revised Taste of Manly Licence Map

SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To request Council, endorse a new event site layout/ footprint and suspend the Alcohol Free Zones (AFZ) and Alcohol Prohibited Areas (APA) in Manly CBD within the revised event site for the 2023 Taste of Manly to be held on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 May 2023.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the Council Meeting held on 28 March 2023 at which Council resolved in respect of Item 9.4 Suspension of Alcohol Free Zone for Taste of Manly 2023 to suspend certain AFZ's and APA's for the Taste of Manly event, further planning and discussions have taken place with the Northern Beaches Local Area Command including the Local Licensing Sergeant.

This has highlighted some issues with the current layout/ site footprint of the planned Taste of Manly event, including challenges with the new licencing requirement to fully fence the event footprint to separate event patrons consuming alcohol from non-event patrons and the issue of difficult pedestrian access to Manly Beach for visitors not wanting to attend the event but go to the beach (See Attachment 1).

To address these issues a revised layout/site footprint has been developed (see Attachment 2). This involves a change to the suspension to AFZs and APAs approved by Council at its meeting held on 28 March 2023. Thus, the revised site layout and affected APAs and AFZs is being presented for Council's endorsement to bring into effect a suspension that would allow the sale and consumption of alcohol at the event.

The proposed new layout/ footprint offers the following benefits:

- easy access for visitors to Manly who may not be attending the event, to shops, restaurants, and beach without going through event site/ bag check, and
- more space for stallholders and less risk of queuing blocking access in the event site by locating more stalls between Wentworth St and Victoria Parade.

The revised layout is endorsed by the Northern Beaches Local Area Command.

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND LEGAL

That Council:

1. Not implement Council resolution 046/23 made at the Council meeting held on 28 March 2023 in respect of Item 9.4 Suspension of Alcohol Free Zone for Taste of Manly 2023
 2. Suspend operation of the Alcohol Free Zone and Alcohol Prohibited Area for the Taste of Manly 2023 event within the designated event area in Manly (as shown in Attachment 2 to the report for this item) on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 May 2023 between the hours of 11.30am and 5.30pm.
 3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to do all things necessary to give effect to the suspension referred to in 1, including the publication of notices of suspension as required under section 645 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
 4. Staff continue to liaise with Police from the Northern Beaches Local Area Command in relation to safe management of the area during the suspensions.
-

REPORT

BACKGROUND

Taste of Manly is planned to be held on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 May 2023 from 11.30am to 5.30pm daily.

This event has successfully run for over 30 years. During COVID the event format was changed to meet the public health requirements but was designed to support local business activation and safe socialisation where possible.

The event is again returning to Manly this year and continues to strive to support and promote local businesses, visitation to Manly and increased visitor spending, and further enhance Manly's reputation as a destination for great hospitality and experiences.

Following the Council Meeting held on 28 March 2023 at which Council resolved in respect of Item 9.4 Suspension of Alcohol Free Zone for Taste of Manly 2023 to suspend certain AFZs and APAs for the Taste of Manly event, further planning and discussions have taken place with Local Area Command including the Local Licensing Sergeant.

This has highlighted some issues with the current layout/site footprint of the planned Taste of Manly event, including challenges with the new licencing requirement to fully fence the event footprint to separate event patrons consuming alcohol from non-event patrons and the issue of difficult pedestrian access to Manly Beach for visitors not wanting to attend the event but go to the beach (see Attachment 1).

To address these issues a revised layout/ site footprint has been developed (see Attachment 2). The event will be presented along Manly Beachfront promenade and within a road closure along South Steyne between The Corso and Victoria Parade, as well as along The Corso pedestrian mall from the beachfront to Darley Road.

This involves a change to the suspension to AFZs and APAs approved by Council at its meeting held on 28 March 2023. Thus, the revised site layout and affected APAs and AFZs is being presented for Council's endorsement to bring into effect a suspension that would allow the sale and consumption of alcohol at the event.

Under the provisions of section 645(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council "may, at the request of any person or body or of its own motion, suspend the operation of an alcohol-free zone by publishing notice of the suspension in a newspaper circulating in the area as a whole or in a part of the area that includes the zone concerned".

Under section 632A(7) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, an alcohol prohibited area "*operates only so long as there are erected at the outer limits of the area, and at suitable intervals within the area, conspicuous signs—*

(a) stating that the drinking of alcohol is prohibited in the area, and

(b) specifying the times or events, as specified in the declaration by which the area was established, during which it is to operate".

The proposed new layout/ footprint offers the following benefits:

- easy access for visitors to Manly who may not be attending the event, to shops, restaurants, and beach without going through event site/ bag check, and
- more space for stallholders and less risk of queuing blocking access in the event site by locating more stalls between Wentworth St and Victoria Parade.

The revised layout is endorsed by the Northern Beaches Local Area Command.

The risks of the new site layout include the potential restriction of crowd movement in and around The Corso and the beach due to the fencing requirement, a limit on the site capacity (this applies to both layouts due to the fencing requirement) and the risk of reputational damage if potential patrons are turned away. If the revised footprint/site layout is adopted by Council, staff will implement measures to mitigate these risks. If the revised footprint/site layout is not endorsed there is potential that the event will lose the approval of the Local Area Command and/or the sale and consumption of alcohol at the event will not be permitted.

CONSULTATION

The proposed change to the event layout/ site footprint is the result of ongoing consultation with Police from the Local Area Command Licensing and Operations Team. The revised site layout is designed to support the safe management of the area during the event.

The Manly Business Chamber has also been informed and have provided feedback on the proposed changes to the site layout. This includes a request to staff to consider activations along North Steyne in the road closure area and the relocation of the markets.

TIMING

The Alcohol Free Zones (The Corso and South Steyne) and Alcohol Prohibited Areas (Manly Beachfront promenade) will be suspended in the designated event area only between the hours of 11.30am and 5.30pm on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 May 2023. The Alcohol Free Zones and Alcohol Prohibited Areas will remain in place outside of these days and times.

LINK TO STRATEGY

This report relates to the Northern Beaches Event Strategy 2018 – 2023.

This report also relates to the Community Strategic Plan Outcome of:

- Community and belonging - Goal 8 Our community feels safe and supported
- Housing, places and spaces - Goal 11 Our local centres are vibrant and healthy, catering for diverse economic and social needs
- Partnership and participation - Goal 22 Our Council builds and maintains strong partnerships and advocates effectively on behalf of the community

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

All costs associated with the responsible management of alcohol service have been included in the existing 2023 Operational budget.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The sale and consumption of alcohol will only be allowed within the approved event site and times.

In 2023, it is planned that Council contract an external and independent Licensee to hold and operate the liquor licence on Council's behalf. This contractor will oversee the operation of the licence in conjunction with Council's Events Team and RSA-certified contract security guards. The Licensee, Events Team and Security Manager will be onsite throughout the event to liaise with stallholders and authorities to ensure the responsible service of alcohol and licence conditions are adhered to.

Council will provide sufficient security personnel to monitor anti-social behaviour and the responsible service of alcohol and engage User Pays police to further monitor the event site.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

This event is delivered in accordance with Council's Waste Minimisation at Functions and Events Policy.

As part of the event management, staff develop a comprehensive Waste Plan that includes additional waste services, the procurement of biodegradable products where possible and the use of reusable drinking glasses.

Council has undertaken an environmental assessment taking into account to the fullest extent possible all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment by reason of the event and it is considered that the suspension of the AFZs and APAs is unlikely to have any environmental impacts.

GOVERNANCE AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The Taste of Manly event has held successive liquor licences for many years. This licence is issued by the NSW Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing with support and approval from the Northern Beaches Local Area Command.

For the 2023 event, a range of risk management measures will be in place to manage alcohol-related matters including ID checks, drink limits, no BYO or takeaway sales, and security personnel will be onsite to monitor and manage crowd behaviour.

The risks of the proposed new site layout include the potential restriction of crowd movement in and around The Corso and the beach due to the fencing requirement, a limit on the site capacity (this applies to both layouts due to the fencing requirement) and the risk of reputational damage if potential patrons are turned away. If the revised footprint/site layout is adopted by Council, staff will implement measures to mitigate these risks. If the revised footprint/site layout is not endorsed, there is the potential that the event will lose the approval of the Local Area Command, and/or the sale and consumption of alcohol at the event will not be permitted.

TASTE OF MANLY 2023

Originally proposed licensed area



TASTE OF MANLY 2023

Revised Proposed licensed area



10.0 COMMUNITY AND BELONGING DIVISION REPORTS

ITEM 10.1	RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION 36/2020 - MANLY TOWN HALL REIMAGINED
REPORTING MANAGER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER COMMUNITY ARTS & CULTURE
TRIM FILE REF	2023/158897
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To provide an update on the work to investigate the reimagining of the Manly Town Hall and seek funding to undertake feasibility studies.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the Council meeting of 25 August 2020 Council resolved (Resolution 211/20):

That Council commence the process for the adaptive re-use of the Manly Town Hall building.

Since that time, broad community consultation has been undertaken (over 1,000 submissions received), research undertaken on the building and similar projects delivered by other councils, and a Project Working Group established.

Those important activities have gathered meaningful community feedback, subject matter expertise, and benchmarking to shortlist two options for the potential reimagining of Manly Town Hall.

The next step for Council in considering the future of Manly Town Hall is to undertake feasibility studies on the two proposed options.

RECOMMENDATION OF ACTING DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

That Council:

1. Note progress made to date in addressing Resolution 211/20.
2. Endorse the commissioning of 2 distinct feasibility studies for:
 - A. a multi-use performance space and
 - B. an art gallery/museum

as potential future uses for the Manly Town Hall, subject to funding being made available in the 2023/24 budget.

3. Staff report the findings of the feasibility studies back to Council.
-

REPORT

BACKGROUND

In August 2020 Council resolved (211/20):

That Council commence the process for the adaptive re-use of the Manly Town Hall building.

Manly Town Hall remains an operational building of Council, providing a customer service point for the community and administrative office space for Council staff.

Community feedback was sought in 2021 to gather ideas on what potential future uses could be considered in reimagining the Manly Town Hall. This was facilitated through a Council Your Say page and received over 1,000 ideas.

A project working group was established via expression of interest in 2022. Comprising a broad range of stakeholders, the working group considered the potential future uses of the town centre and was provided information from staff gathered during community consultation and initial project work.

This working group included the following representatives:

- Manly Community Forum
- Families for Manly
- Manly Business Chamber
- Tourism experts
- Performing arts experts
- Gallery and museum experts
- Experts with heritage backgrounds
- An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person
- Two local residents.

Manly Ward Councillors and the Mayor were invited as observers to the working group.

The working group engaged across 4 meetings on community feedback received during broad consultation, research undertaken on other similar redevelopments of civic buildings, strategic priorities for any potential future use, and preferred future use options to realise those opportunities. Young people were also consulted through the Youth Advisory Group.

Based on the information considered, the working group identified 2 preferred options for further investigation: multi-use performance space, and a gallery and museum. These two options also align with community feedback undertaken previously.

The next step in the process is to conduct feasibility studies on these 2 options to consider the financial, social, cultural, and environmental impact and suitability. The feasibility studies will also consider alternative operating models.

CONSULTATION

Consultation to date has seen broad community feedback through a Council Your Say page and targeted consultation through the project working group.

Further community consultation will occur following the feasibility studies process if Council determines to pursue a preferred option.

TIMING

The feasibility study process is anticipated to take up to 6 months. External expertise will be sought to undertake this work.

LINK TO STRATEGY

This report relates to the Community Strategic Plan Outcome of:

- Community and belonging - Goal 7 Our diverse community is supported to participate in their chosen cultural life
- Housing, places and spaces - Goal 11 Our local centres are vibrant and healthy, catering for diverse economic and social needs

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

A budget of \$150,000 is required to conduct the necessary feasibility studies.

Funding can be allocated within the 2023-24 Property budget by deferring lower priority operational projects.

There is no identified funding in the Long-Term Financial Plan for future capital works for re-purposing Manly Town Hall.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Reimagining of the Manly Town Hall for a cultural and creative use has the potential to deliver a variety of social and cultural outcomes for the Northern Beaches Community. These will be considered as part of the feasibility study process.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no environmental considerations relating to this investigation. No physical works to the building are proposed at this time.

GOVERNANCE AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Following completion of the feasibility studies, the findings will be presented to Council for a decision on the future of this work.

Each of the options considered for the feasibility study will have a risk assessment included.

ITEM 10.2	OUTCOME OF THE PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF DRAFT YOUTH VOICE ACTION PLAN 2028
REPORTING MANAGER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER COMMUNITY, ARTS & CULTURE
TRIM FILE REF	2023/169519
ATTACHMENTS	1 ⇒Community Engagement Report - Draft Youth Voice Action Plan (Included In Attachments Booklet) 2 ⇒Amended Draft Youth Voice Action Plan 2028 - Shaping the Beaches Future (Included In Attachments Booklet)

PURPOSE

To report the outcome of the public exhibition of the draft Youth Voice Action Plan 2028 – Shaping the Beaches’ Future and seek adoption of the amended draft plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The draft Youth Voice Action Plan 2028 – Shaping the Beaches’ Future (the draft Plan) has been developed to outline five years of actions for youth development and capacity building that will support and engage young people to participate in community life.

At the 22 November 2022 Council meeting the following was resolved (resolution 353/22):

1. *The draft Youth Voice Action Plan 2028 – Shaping the Beaches’ Future be placed on public exhibition from 1 December 2022 to 28 February 2023.*
2. *The outcome of the public exhibition be reported to Council.*
3. *Invite the Youth Steering Group and Youth Advisory Group to have the opportunity to discuss the plan with Councillors during the public exhibition period.*
4. *Ask the Youth Steering Group whether and how issues, such as cost of living and housing affordability might be further enhanced in the action plan.*

The draft Plan was placed on public exhibition from 1 December 2022 to 14 March 2023. A total of 191 responses were received. Of these responses 61 formal submissions were received, 44 of these included comments and 17 indicated support for the plan without providing further comment. The remainder of the responses (130) gave quick ratings but no comments. Most submissions were either supportive of the Plan or supportive with changes.

A summary of the key themes/issues raised throughout exhibition include:

- Agreement of the importance of supporting intergenerational connection.
- Recognition of the rich diversity that exists within the youth cohort.
- Confirmation of a core set of priority issues affecting young people’s ability to participate in community life including concern for the environment, housing affordability, cost of living, and supporting mental health and wellness.
- Recognition that young people like to connect in different ways and acknowledge the value and importance of connection for their sense of belonging.
- Calls for commitment by Council to continue engaging with young people throughout implementation and delivery of the actions.

A summary of the key feedback received and Council's responses are outlined in this report. Further detail of the public exhibition period, submissions received, and Council's response can be found in the Community Engagement Report (Attachment 1). Several minor changes, and six additional actions are recommended to be made in the draft Plan in response to submissions.

The implementation of the amended draft Plan, once adopted, can be delivered within forecast budgets with the redirection of staff and program resources to best deliver on the outcomes identified by young people in the draft Plan.

RECOMMENDATION OF ACTING DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

That Council:

1. Note the outcomes of the public exhibition of the draft Youth Voice Action Plan 2028 – Shaping the Beaches' Future.
 2. Adopt the amended draft Youth Voice Action Plan 2028 – Shaping the Beaches' Future.
-

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The draft Youth Voice Action Plan 2028 – Shaping the Beaches’ Future (the draft Plan) was identified as a priority in the Better Together Social Sustainability Strategy 2040. Young people are active contributors and essential to a thriving and vibrant community. They are our current and future leaders, innovators, creatives, and environmental caretakers. The experience of young people on the Northern Beaches is constantly evolving.

Co-created with more than 1000 young people over a period of six months, the draft Plan recognises the important role everyone in the community has in ensuring young people are an ongoing part of community life. The draft Plan sets the direction and prioritises action for youth development over the next five years on the Northern Beaches to drive positive change for young people.

The four directions represent areas of importance to young people and will deliver the support and resources young people have identified.

Direction 1: Connection and resilience

Objective: Developing emotional resilience and shared values.

Direction 2: Belonging and safety

Objective: Strengthening belonging by helping young people feel safe and included.

Direction 3: Building skills and knowledge

Objective: Building skills and knowledge that young people need to transition into adulthood.

Direction 4: For youth, by youth

Objective: Supporting our next generation of decision makers, innovators, and caretakers.

CONSULTATION

The draft Plan, Easy Read version of the draft Plan, and shorter Snapshot version of the draft Plan were placed on public exhibition from 1 December 2022 to 14 March 2023.

The stakeholder engagement conducted throughout public exhibition of the draft Plan focused on asking young people and the broader community the question “*Have we got it right?*”.

Engagement activities during the public exhibition period included:

- Your Say project page outlining project objectives and timeline, hosting key documents, promoting engagement opportunities, and seeking feedback
- Submission form on Your Say page to capture feedback
- Quick vote polling on Your Say page in response to feedback from young people for a quick way of showing support
- 11 community pop-up events
- Eight school engagements
- Youth led promotion of exhibition within schools that the Youth Advisory Group members attend
- Three workshops with key youth and social services stakeholders

- Two workshops with the Youth Advisory Group including one with Councillors, delivering Items 3 and 4 of resolution 353/22 from the 22 November 2022 Council meeting
- Targeted social media campaign including KALOF and other Council social media accounts
- A range of council newsletters, including KALOF, Disability, Mayor’s newsletter, and Community Engagement Newsletter
- Notification to all registered stakeholders via email.

Council received 61 formal submissions, with 73% of these from young people. Additional verbal feedback was captured at community pop-ups and workshops. Most submissions were either supportive of the strategy or supportive with changes. In response to the submissions six additional actions have been proposed to support delivery of the outcomes identified by the draft Plan.

A summary of the themes raised through submissions and recommendations for changes are below:

Table One: Recommended changes

Theme	Response and recommended changes
<p>Environment – submissions suggested a greater focus on environment and climate change as important issue for young people.</p>	<p>Direction 4 in the Action Plan works towards supporting young people to have their say on topics that impact their future - including climate change.</p> <p>Recommendations for change:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Highlight the environment and climate change as a key issue that young people feel impacts their future (page 10). 2. Insert visual in Direction 1 (page 33) to show Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Resilience Strategy as a related document. 3. Additional actions in Direction 2 (page 39) and Direction 4 (page 47) that support inclusion of young people in the delivery of <i>Protect. Create. Live and Withstand. Adapt. Thrive</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 39 – Engage with the Youth Advisory Group to understand how to improve young people's connectedness and access to information during an emergency event to increase their resilience and safety in significant climate events. • Page 47 – Ensure young people are included when collecting local knowledge to support and enable decision making in preparing for and responding to natural hazards and climate change.
<p>Places and spaces – submissions confirmed the importance of places and spaces for young people to be</p>	<p>Shared places and spaces are critical social infrastructure for a connected community.</p> <p>Young people have told us that they value having ways to connect both with each other, but with others in the community as well. Bumping Spaces is a term used for a communal space where people</p>

Theme	Response and recommended changes
<p>connected to the community.</p>	<p>naturally bump into each other. These are important places in the community for building social connection.</p> <p>Recommendations for change:</p> <p>4. Three additional actions and one amended action recommended for Direction 1 related to places and spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 34 - Identify what makes a good communal gathering space for young people (Bumping Space), especially those aged 18-24, and investigate ways of activating them to increase young people's access and use of them. • Page 34 - Work with young people to create a youth friendly guide to hiring and accessing Community Centres. • Page 35 - Facilitate active youth representation in stakeholder engagement for the Community Connection Plan, exploring the importance of spaces and places for connection. • Page 35 amended to - Engage with young people on the delivery of library programs, services and spaces to encourage utilisation of the libraries.
<p>Ways to connect – submissions identified young people have a diverse set of passions and the importance of participation in activities to enable social connection. Examples include live music, art and creativity, exercise and sport, caring for and enjoying the natural environment, and interest groups such as Scouts.</p>	<p>Many of the passions and activities that young people engage in for connection are delivered by groups and organisations outside of Council.</p> <p>There is an action under Direction 1 (page 34) that will ensure Council delivers activities that are accessible and engaging for young people and complementary to those provided by other stakeholders.</p> <p>Council will continually review activities and events delivered against the directions and seek ongoing feedback from young people about what they are passionate about and what connection opportunities are important to them.</p> <p>Recommendations for change:</p> <p>5. Add a clear commitment (page 48) ensuring ongoing engagement and consultation occurs with young people as the plan is delivered.</p>

Theme	Response and recommended changes
<p>Skills and Education – submissions identified career planning as a gap in Direction 3.</p>	<p>Career planning is an important part of the transition to adulthood and identifying appropriate skills and education pathways.</p> <p>A stronger focus on the career component of these pathways will be included in the Action Plan.</p> <p>Recommendations for change:</p> <p>6. Amend action for Youth Advisory Group on (page 43) to include reference to short skills courses.</p> <p>7. Addition of an action in Direction 3 (page 42) to expand representation of career opportunities at Council at local careers expos.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broaden the types of roles represented by Council at the local Northern Beaches Careers Expo to allow for young people to engage with the many career options that exist within local government.
<p>Volunteering and mentoring – submissions identified the role of volunteering and mentoring in education, skill development, and inclusion.</p>	<p>We agree that volunteering is an important pathway for providing young people with education and skill development outside of the more commonly accessed education and training pathways such as work experience. Volunteering is also an important enabler for inclusion and mentoring.</p> <p>Recommendations for change:</p> <p>8. Amend action (page 43) to include mapping of volunteer pathways in addition to education and training.</p>
<p>Priority Issues – submissions confirmed the importance and impact of the environment, housing affordability, cost of living, and supporting mental health on young people's participation and their desire to contribute to decision making on these issues.</p>	<p>This is consistent with the feedback received in the initial engagement for development of the Plan. The methodology undertaken and finding of this engagement are presented in the companion document "Youth Voice Engagement and Insight Report".</p> <p>There are several existing actions included in Direction 1 (page 35) and Direction 4 (page 47) that will enable young people to contribute to decision making on these important issues.</p> <p>Recommendations for change:</p> <p>9. Call out key topics of interest/concern to Young People in the document and highlight their importance on page 10.</p>
<p>First Nations – focus on engaging with First Nations young people.</p>	<p>The intention of this action is to ensure that young First Nations people are engaged with when developing programs and the wording can be amended to be more explicit about this.</p>

Theme	Response and recommended changes
	<p>Recommendations for change: 10. Amend language in action under Direction 2 (page 38) to emphasise working specifically with First Nations young people.</p>
<p>Links to existing strategies – several submissions raised topics that are addressed in other Council strategies and plans.</p>	<p>Council has a range of actions that impact on young people in the adopted Community Safety Plan and Disability Inclusion Action Plan.</p> <p>The Community Safety Plan is working towards achieving safety related outcomes for young people in the Northern Beaches.</p> <p>There are a range of actions in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan that support identification of employment opportunities for young people, including those living with disability.</p> <p>Recommendations for change: 11. Insert reference to related strategies and plans for each of the four Directions (pages 33, 37, 41, 45).</p>
<p>The title of the Action Plan – one submission raised concern about the use of the word Voice in the title.</p>	<p>The title Youth Voice was selected by young people at the start of the project and represents the language and terms identified by them that describes the purpose of the Action Plan.</p> <p>Recommendations for change: 12. Highlight the process undertaken for selecting the name (page 7).</p>

In addition, several minor working and formatting elements that do not change the intent of the draft Plan have been recommended.

The amended draft Youth Voice Action Plan 2028 (the amended draft Plan) is presented to Council for adoption (Attachment 2).

TIMING

The amended draft Plan outlines actions for delivery between 2023-2028. The first year of the five-year plan will be the 2023-2024 financial year.

LINK TO STRATEGY

This report relates to the Community Strategic Plan Outcomes of:

- Places for People - Goal 7: Our urban planning reflects the unique character of our villages and natural environment and is responsive to the evolving needs of our community.
- Places for People - Goal 8: Our neighbourhoods inspire social interaction, inclusion and support health and wellbeing.

- Community and Belonging - Goal 11: Our community feels safe and supported.
- Vibrant Local Economy - Goal 14: Our economy provides opportunities that match the skills and needs of the population.
- Good Governance - Goal 20: Our Council efficiently and effectively responds to, and delivers on, the evolving needs of the community.
- Participation and Partnership - Goal 21: Our community is actively engaged in decision making processes.

The amended draft Plan is a supporting document for the Better Together Social Sustainability Strategy 2040 and supports delivery of the ten social sustainability outcomes for young people.

This project is included in the 2022-23 Operational Plan to: Develop Youth Voice – Shaping the Beaches' future.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The implementation of the amended draft Plan, once adopted, can be delivered within forecast budgets with the redirection of staff and program resources to best deliver on the outcomes identified by young people in the draft Plan.

The actions within the amended draft Plan have been spread across the five years to allow for delivery within operational and capital budgets, that will be approval annually by Council.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The amended draft Plan was co-created with young people and has been endorsed as being representative of the types of support needed to empower them to participate in community life. The amended draft Plan provides the direction and guidance required to ensure that other key Council strategies, plans and policies give a platform to youth voice in all decision-making processes.

The directions and actions in the amended draft Plan will deliver on the positive outcomes expressed by young people for how they want to experience life and participate in the Northern Beaches community.

Young people have been vocal about their interest in being engaged on an ongoing basis as the Plan is implemented and delivered. This will ensure that the amended draft Plan remains relevant and responsive to changing needs and encourages young people to remain as active and productive contributors to community life.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The amended draft Plan supports achieving positive environmental impact through actions that ensure young people are included in delivery of initiatives and targets outlined in the Protect. Create. Live Northern Beaches Environment and Climate Change Strategy 2040, as well as the Withstand. Adapt. Thrive Northern Beaches Resilience Strategy.

Young people continue to voice their passion about environmental issues and the amended draft Plan provides them the skills, tools and support they need to have their voices and ideas heard.

GOVERNANCE AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The amended draft Plan identifies that young people want to be more involved in decisions that affect their future and includes actions for supporting Council and the broader community to ensure processes are inclusive of young people in decision making processes.

ITEM 10.3	COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO TERMS OF REFERENCE
REPORTING MANAGER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER COMMUNITY, ARTS & CULTURE
TRIM FILE REF	2023/178680
ATTACHMENTS	1 ⇒ Draft Terms of Reference - Community Safety Advisory Committee - April 2023 (Included In Attachments Booklet) 2 ⇒ Confirmed Minutes - Community Safety Advisory Committee - 24 November 2022 (Included In Attachments Booklet)

BRIEF REPORT

PURPOSE

To seek approval for amendments to the Terms of Reference for the Community Safety Advisory Committee to invite State and Federal Members of Parliament.

REPORT

The Community Safety Advisory Committee (the Committee) is a committee of Council, established to provide guidance to Council on community safety issues impacting the Northern Beaches.

At its meeting of 24 November 2022, agenda item 7.0, the Committee proposed to review the Community Safety Advisory Committee Terms of Reference to reintroduce inclusion of local Federal and State Members of Parliament as members of the Committee and submit recommendation for Council's consideration. As such, Council's endorsement is sought for the proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference (Attachment 1).

The minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee meeting of 24 November 2022 were noted by Council at the meeting of 28 March 2023 (Attachment 2).

LINK TO COUNCIL STRATEGY

This report relates to the Community Strategic Plan Outcome of:

Community and belonging - Goal 8 Our community feels safe and supported

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The amended Terms of Reference of the Community Safety Advisory Committee pose no financial impact on Council.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The amended Terms of Reference of the Community Safety Advisory Committee do not present matters that will create adverse environmental impacts.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Committee provides valuable advice relating to social and community-based outcomes. It includes involvement and engagement with a broad range of stakeholders including Police and Health to monitor crime trends, discuss emerging crime prevention and community safety issues

impacting the Northern Beaches, monitor implementation of the Community Safety Plan and provide guidance on issues relating to the development of Council strategies and services aimed at enhancing and improving community safety.

GOVERNANCE AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The Committee is conducted according to Council's governance framework and adopted Terms of Reference. The addition of local State and Federal Members of Parliament in the Committee membership will likely heighten advocacy opportunities on local safety issues. It may also have an impact on the capacity of some members to contribute with an increased level of political representation.

RECOMMENDATION OF ACTING DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

That Council endorse the proposed amendments to the Community Safety Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (Attachment 1) to invite local State and Federal Members of Parliament to the Committee membership.

11.0 ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION REPORTS

ITEM 11.1	MINUTES OF THE NORTHERN BEACHES BUSH FIRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD 6 SEPTEMBER 2022 AND 6 DECEMBER 2022
REPORTING MANAGER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER, ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE
TRIM FILE REF	2023/158797
ATTACHMENTS	1 ⇒ Minutes of the Bush Fire Management Committee Meeting held 6 September 2022 (Included In Attachments Booklet) 2 ⇒ Minutes of the Bush Fire Management Committee Meeting held 6 December 2022 (Included In Attachments Booklet)

BRIEF REPORT

PURPOSE

To report the Minutes of the Northern Beaches Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) meetings held on 6 September 2022 and 6 December 2022.

REPORT

The Northern Beaches BFMC area comprises of 23,525 hectares, of which Council has care, control and management of approximately 13% of the land. The remainder of the area is managed by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) (46%), private tenure (36%), or by other government agencies (5%).

Under the *Rural Fires Act 1997* landowners are responsible for managing bush fire risk on their land. The BFMC consists of a range of agencies and stakeholders such as the fire authorities, land management agencies and community organisations. The BFMC is responsible for coordinating bush fire management across the Local Government Area (LGA) and Council actively participates in the Committee and sub-committees. BFMC meetings are held quarterly.

An Ordinary Meeting of the BFMC was held on 6 September 2022, the Minutes of which were adopted at the BFMC meeting held on 6 December 2022. A copy of the Minutes are attached to this report (Attachment 1).

Matters discussed at the meeting relevant to Council included the following:

- Acceptance of Minutes, Matters Arising and Correspondence In/Out
- 2022-23 Pre-Season Briefing
- New Australian Fire Danger Rating System
- 2022/23 Hazard Reduction Program Update
- 2022/23 Agency Mitigation Reports
- Ingleside Community Protection Plan (CPP)
- Bush Fire Risk Management Plan (BFRMP)
- Ignition Prevention Plan (IPP)

- Fire Access and Fire Trail Plan (FAFT)
- Section 52 Operations Plan
- General Business

An Ordinary Meeting of the BFMC was also held on 6 December 2022, the Minutes of which were adopted at the BFMC meeting held on 7 March 2023. A copy of the Minutes are attached to this report (Attachment 2).

Matters discussed at the meeting relevant to Council included the following:

- Acceptance of Minutes, Matters Arising and Correspondence In/Out
- BFMC Meeting Dates for 2023
- 2022/23 Hazard Reduction Program Update
- 2022/23 Agency Mitigation Reports
- Ingleside Community Protection Plan (CPP)
- Bush Fire Risk Management Plan (BFRMP)
- Ignition Prevention Plan (IPP)
- Fire Access and Fire Trail Plan (FAFT)
- Section 52 Operations Plan
- Proposed Crown Road Closure Duffys Forest
- General Business

LINK TO COUNCIL STRATEGY

Council's participation in the BFMC, and its bush fire management activities throughout the Northern Beaches is in line with the following outcomes in the Community Strategic Plan:

- Protection of the Environment - Goal 1: Our bushland, coast and waterways are protected to ensure safe and sustainable use for present and future generations.
- Protection of the Environment - Goal 2: Our environment and community are resilient to natural hazards and climate change.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Funding to support bush fire management is included in existing operational budgets and supported by NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) grants annually.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Council staff work with RFS, Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) and contractors to manage environmental risks associated with fire management works, such as fire trail preparation, Asset Protection Zone works on Council lands, and prescribed burns. Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Certificates, Reviews of Environmental Factors or approvals under other legislative pathways are undertaken for specific sites as required. Council is working with BFMC partners to encourage and undertake ecological/low intensity Hazard Reduction burns within the LGA.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The BFMC provides valuable information and advice relating to risk and safety of the community to support their resilience. It includes participation and engagement with a number of key state

agency stakeholders. Council works with the fire agencies through this Committee to facilitate community preparedness before and during the bush fire season.

GOVERNANCE AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The BFMC is conducted in accordance with the governance arrangements outlined in the *Rural Fires Act 1997*. Council's participation in the BFMC also satisfies the relevant requirements of Council's Bush Fire Management Policy 2021.

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

That Council note the Minutes of the Northern Beaches Bush Fire Management Committee Meetings held on 6 September 2022 and 6 December 2022.

12.0 PLANNING AND PLACE DIVISION REPORTS

ITEM 12.1	PLANNING PROPOSAL (PEX2021/0001) - 159 - 167 DARLEY STREET, MONA VALE
REPORTING MANAGER	ACTING EXECUTIVE MANAGER STRATEGIC & PLACE PLANNING
TRIM FILE REF	2023/183925
ATTACHMENTS	1 ⇒ Council Reponse to Rezoning Review (Included In Attachments Booklet) 2 ⇒ Sydney North Planning Panel - Record of Decision - 7 September 2022 (Included In Attachments Booklet) 3 ⇒ HillPDA - Affordable Housing Feasibility Analysis - 159-167 Darley Street West, Mona Vale (Included In Attachments Booklet) 4 ⇒ Planning Proposal - 159-167 Darley Street West, Mona Vale (Included In Attachments Booklet)

SUMMARY

PURPOSE

This report is to inform Council of the decision of the Sydney North Planning Panel regarding Planning Proposal (PEX2021/0001) for 159-167 Darley Street, Mona Vale and to seek approval to submit the Planning Proposal to the Department of Planning and Environment for a Gateway Determination in accordance with the Panel's decision.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 14 July 2021, Intrec Management (the Proponent) lodged a Planning Proposal (PEX 2021/0001) with Council to rezone properties located at 159-167 Darley Street West, Mona Vale from R2 Low Density Residential to R3 Medium Density Residential under Pittwater Local Environmental Plan (PLEP 2014) and amend Clause 4.5A (3) of PLEP 2014 to remove the dwelling density control from this site (1 dwelling per 200 sqm site area).

On 26 October 2021, Council resolved (294/21) to reject the Planning Proposal, and not forward it to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (the Department) for a Gateway determination on grounds that it was inconsistent with the North District Plan and Local Strategic Planning Statement, it did not demonstrate strategic or site-specific merit, it did not provide affordable housing in accordance with Council policy and would set an undesirable precedent.

Council also resolved to include the site in the Mona Vale Place Planning Process as part of the Centre Investigation Area identified within Council's Local Housing Strategy.

On 28 January 2022, the Department notified Council that the Proponent had sought a "rezoning review" through the Sydney North Planning Panel (the Panel). On 18 February 2022, Council responded to the Rezoning Review (Attachment 1).

On 19 April 2022, the Panel sought additional information from Council on the status of the Mona Vale Place Plan and the proposed provision of affordable housing from the Proponent.

Following advice from Council that the timing of the Mona Vale Place Plan was not yet fixed, and further advice from the Proponent involving an offer of an affordable housing contribution, the Panel advised the rezoning review would be determined on 7 September 2022.

On 7 September 2022, Council and the Proponent presented to the Panel, and on 14 September 2022 Council was notified that the Panel had unanimously resolved (Attachment 2) that the Planning Proposal should be submitted to the Department for a Gateway determination subject to discussions between the Proponent, the Department, and Council, to resolve an affordable housing contribution consistent with the North District Plan.

Council was offered, and subsequently accepted, the Planning Proposal Authority (PPA) role for this proposal.

Council engaged Hill PDA to undertake a review of the Proponent's feasibility assessment (Attachment 3) for a proposed affordable housing contribution. That review concluded that an affordable housing contribution of 5% of total gross floor area of the development is feasible for this site based on a rate of \$18,272/m² of gross floor area. This would equate to a contribution of \$3,374,872 based on the Proponent's concept plans.

Council has prepared a draft Planning Proposal (Attachment 4) for submission to the Minister for Planning for a Gateway Determination which includes a proposal to introduce an affordable housing clause and map in PLEP 2014 and to provide an affordable housing contribution of 5% of the total gross floor area of any development on this site.

Council's Affordable Housing Contributions Scheme would also require amendment to include this site and the required contribution rate.

RECOMMENDATION OF ACTING DIRECTOR PLANNING AND PLACE

That Council:

1. Note the record of decision of the Sydney North Planning Panel.
 2. Submit the Planning Proposal at Attachment 4 to the Minister for Planning for a Gateway Determination.
 3. Approve the exhibition of the Planning Proposal in accordance with the Minister's determination at Gateway and concurrently exhibit the draft amended Affordable Housing Contributions Scheme.
-

REPORT

BACKGROUND**Planning Proposal**

Planning Proposal (PEX 2021/0001) for properties at 159-167 Darley Street West, Mona Vale was lodged on 14 July 2021 by Intrec Management (the Proponent).

The proposal as lodged seeks to:

- Rezone properties 159-167 Darley Street West, Mona Vale from R2 Low Density Residential under Pittwater Local Environmental Plan (PLEP) 2014 to R3 Medium Density Residential.
- Amend Clause 4.5A(3) of PLEP 2014 to include reference to 159-167 Darley Street West, Mona Vale (thereby confirming that clause 4.5A does not apply and so removing the maximum density requirements for the site which restrict density to 1 dwelling per 200 square metres of site area).

Following a Rezoning Review, the Planning Proposal now also seeks to:

- Introduce an affordable housing clause and affordable housing contributions map into PLEP 2014 to provide an affordable housing contribution to Council of 5% of the total gross floor area of any future development on the site.

A Concept Plan has been prepared for the site by the Proponent which shows an indicative scheme for 2 residential flat buildings containing 38 apartments and 3 townhouses.

Site Description

The subject site (see *Figure 1*) comprises five lots, legally described as Lot 1-5, DP 11108 and with an approximate area of 6,120m². The site contains five one and two storey dwelling houses, and adjoins:

- A residential flat building to the East containing 11 units (155 Darley Street West),
- Darley Street West and Bayview Golf Course to the North,
- Detached dwellings and a residential flat building containing four units (10 Kunari Place) to the West; and
- A mix of one and two storey detached dwellings located in Park Street to the South.



Figure 1 : Aerial photo of the site and adjoining properties

Council Resolution

The original exhibition of the Planning Proposal by Council in August 2021 resulted in 72 public submissions with 66 submissions objecting to the proposal. One submission generally supported the proposal, with a further submission being neutral and four submissions raising no objection to the rezoning but objecting to the proposed removal of the density restrictions.

On 26 October 2021, Council resolved (294/21) to reject the Planning Proposal, and not forward it to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (the Department) for a Gateway determination for the following reasons:

- A. *The Planning Proposal is inconsistent with the provisions of the North District Plan.*
- B. *The Planning Proposal is inconsistent with the provisions of Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement - Towards 2040.*
- C. *The Planning Proposal does not demonstrate strategic merit or site-specific merit when assessed against the NSW Planning & Environment's: A guide to preparing planning proposals.*
- D. *The Planning Proposal may establish an unwanted precedent.*
- E. *The Planning Proposal does not provide affordable housing in keeping with the requirements of Council's Affordable Housing Policy.*

Council also resolved that as part of the Mona Vale Place Planning Process, include 159-167 Darley Street West, Mona Vale for consideration within the Centre Investigation Area (as identified within the draft Local Housing Strategy) and the appropriateness of clause 4.5A of the Pittwater LEP 2014 for the locality be reviewed as part of the Place Planning process.

Strategic Planning Panel of the Sydney North Planning Panel – Rezoning Review

The Proponent subsequently sought a “Rezoning Review” of the proposal by the Sydney North Planning Panel (the Panel), which would determine whether the Planning Proposal should proceed to a Gateway Determination, based on its assessment of the strategic and site-specific merits of the proposal.

On 18 February 2022, Council provided a response to the Rezoning Review (Attachment 1) which re-iterated the reasoning for Council’s decision, including failure to demonstrate satisfactory strategic and site-specific merit, and inconsistency with the strategic planning framework, including Councils Local Strategic Planning Statement - Towards 2040 (LSPS) and endorsed Local Housing Strategy (LHS).

At its meeting of 13 April 2022, the Panel heard the matter and on 19 April 2022 determined that additional information was required from Council in relation to the status of the Mona Vale Place Plan, and from the Proponent in relation to further consideration of affordable housing provision having regard to Councils Affordable Housing Policy and *State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021*.

On 27 April 2022, Council advised that it would not be able to provide any updates on the Mona Vale Place Plan prior to Council’s consideration of the matter and following public exhibition.

On 11 July 2022 Council was notified that the Panel would proceed to determine the matter at its meeting on 7 September 2022.

On 28 July 2022, Council asked the Panel Secretariat whether the Proponent had provided further submissions on affordable housing as requested by the Panel and whether Council could view those submissions. Council did not receive a response to that request.

On 6 September 2022 (the day before the Rezoning Review panel meeting), following a further enquiry by Council about submissions, Council was provided the Proponent’s submission to the Panel (dated 30 May 2022) regarding affordable housing, including a feasibility analysis prepared by Macroplan consulting. The Proponent also provided a draft letter of offer for a voluntary planning agreement to provide an affordable housing contribution of 3.3% of the additional floorspace equating to \$1,476,000.

Council subsequently formally sought to have the Panel meeting deferred to allow appropriate time to review this information. This request was denied.

On 7 September 2022 the Panel undertook the pre-determination meeting. Council attended and re-iterated its previous submissions that the proposal was inconsistent with broader strategic directions contained in relevant regional and local planning policies, including Council’s approved Local Housing Strategy.

On 13 September 2022 Council wrote to the Department reiterating it had not had sufficient time to respond to the Proponent’s additional submission and asserting that the Proponent’s submission was erroneous in law, and inconsistent with Council Policy and current LEP provisions. No response was received.

On 14 September 2022 Council was notified that the Panel had unanimously resolved that the Planning Proposal demonstrated strategic merit and site-specific merit and should be submitted for a Gateway determination (Attachment 2).

The Panel further considered:

“the proposal’s strategic merit included being consistent with the relevant District Plan, LSPS and LHS and notably the provision of affordable housing. Further, in respect of both strategic and site-specific merit, the Panel noted that, not only is the remainder of Darley St West zoned R3 but that it is also development consistent with that zone. The only remaining lots

not so zoned or developed from the subject site. The Panel also noted that its site-specific merit included satisfaction of flooding constraints. It resolved that prior to proceeding to Gateway Determination the Proponent should work with the Department and Council to resolve an appropriate Affordable Housing mix consistent with the North District Plan and address any flooding constraints of the site.”

Planning Proposal Authority Role

Council was invited to be the Planning Proposal Authority (PPA) for this proposal, which it accepted on 25 October 2022.

The Proponent did not provide additional information about the provision of affordable housing following the Panel determination, nor did it engage in any further discussions with Council. It was subsequently agreed with the Department that Council would appoint consultants to provide advice on the Proponent's affordable housing feasibility analysis.

Affordable Housing Contribution

During the Rezoning Review process, the Proponent provided a draft letter of offer for a planning agreement providing an affordable housing contribution of 3.3% of the additional floorspace equating to \$1,476,000.

On 20 December 2022, Council engaged a consultant to undertake a review of the Proponent's proposed affordable housing contribution.

During the review process the Proponent revised its offer of an affordable housing contribution down to 2.085% of the additional floorspace or up to \$1,122,627.

Council's review concluded that an affordable housing contribution of 6.4% of the additional floorspace (equivalent to 5% of the total gross floor area of any development) is feasible for this site based on a rate of \$18,272/m² of gross floor area (Attachment 3). This would equate to a contribution of \$3,374,872 based on the Proponent's concept plans.

Council has therefore prepared a draft Planning Proposal for submission to the Department for a Gateway Determination which includes a proposal to introduce an affordable housing clause and map in PLEP 2014 and to provide an affordable housing contribution of 5% of the total gross floor area of any development on this site.

Council's Affordable Housing Contribution Scheme must also be amended to include this site should the Planning Proposal proceed. It is proposed to exhibit an amended Scheme including this site together with the Planning Proposal upon the issue of a Gateway Determination for the Planning Proposal. The Scheme amendments will reflect the Planning Proposal changes.

Gateway Determination

Council must now submit a Planning Proposal to the Minister for Planning for a Gateway Determination in accordance with the decision of the Sydney North Planning Panel (Attachment 4).

CONSULTATION

If the proposal was to proceed through Gateway and receive a determination to proceed, an additional round of statutory public exhibition would be undertaken for 28 days.

TIMING

If the proposal receives a Gateway Determination to proceed, it is anticipated that it will take approximately 8 months to exhibit the proposal, finalise and then publish the proposed LEP amendment.

LINK TO STRATEGY

This report relates to the Community Strategic Plan Outcome of:

- Housing, places and spaces - Goal 10 Our community has access to diverse and affordable housing options to meet their current and evolving needs
- Good governance - Goal 19 Our Council is transparent and trusted to make decisions that reflect the values of the community

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The actions from the recommendation can be accommodated within existing budgets. Planning Proposal fees cover Council's exhibition and assessment process for the proposed LEP amendments. Amendments to the Affordable Housing Scheme can be undertaken concurrently with this work. If the proposal proceeds, it would result in a significant contribution towards Council's Affordable Housing Scheme based on the additional floorspace achieved through a future Development Application.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Planning Proposal would provide additional housing and would increase the provision of affordable housing in the area. The site is just outside the Mona Vale Place Plan investigation area. It would be preferable that potential impacts of the proposal e.g., demand for additional social facilities, are dealt with in conjunction with the Mona Vale Place Plan work. However, the Sydney North Planning Panel has determined to support the proposal for submission to Gateway.

A further assessment of potential social impacts will be made should the Planning Proposal be given a Gateway approval and following statutory public exhibition of the proposal.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The proposed amendments seek to increase the dwelling density on the site, with potential increased environmental impacts that will be required to be addressed by the applicant and assessed at a future development application stage.

GOVERNANCE AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Governance and risk considerations are standard procedural considerations in relation to actions arising from the recommendations of this report.

13.0 TRANSPORT AND ASSETS DIVISION REPORTS

ITEM 13.1	PROPOSED EASEMENT TO DRAIN WATER OVER ALLINGTON RESERVE, ELANORA HEIGHTS TO BENEFIT 51 KALANG ROAD, ELANORA HEIGHTS
REPORTING MANAGER	MANAGER, PROPERTY, COMMERCIAL & TOURIST ASSETS
TRIM FILE REF	2023/037208
ATTACHMENTS	1 ↓ Proposed Easement Plan 2 ↓ Summary Report of Public Notification

SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To consider a request for an easement to drain water through a Council reserve (Allington Reserve, Elanora Heights) by the adjacent property owner. The land is Council-owned Community Land and the easement purpose is for the installation of an underground stormwater drainage pipe for connection to Council's underground stormwater drainage pit within Council's reserve.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 1 June 2022, the owner of 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights (the applicant) was granted a deferred Development Consent DA2021/1426 for the demolition of the existing dwellings and construction of a shop-top housing development at this location.

The natural fall of this land at 51 Kalang Road Elanora Heights (Lot 2 DP 528120) is towards the rear of the site. As a result, the deferred Development Consent condition requires the applicant to obtain an easement for the disposal of stormwater overflow generated from the proposed development to protect adjoining properties.

Therefore, the applicant has applied to Council to obtain an easement to drain water through the adjoining Allington Reserve, Elanora Heights (Lot 2 DP 513295). This is to allow installation of an underground stormwater drainage pipe connecting to Council's stormwater drainage pit within Allington Reserve.

Council staff have undertaken internal stakeholder's consultation and external public notification in accordance with section 47 of the Local Government Act 1993. Only one submission was received which was in support of the proposed easement.

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR TRANSPORT AND ASSETS

That Council:

1. Authorise an Easement to Drain Water, one-metre-wide and approximately 19 metres in length, and associated Positive Covenant, by underground pipe within Lot 2 DP 513295 Allington Reserve, Elanora Heights in favour of 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights (Lot 2 DP 528120) for an amount in accordance with Council's adopted Fees and Charges.
 2. Require the applicant to fund all costs associated with the granting of the proposed easement and associated Positive Covenant as referred to in Item 1 of this recommendation, including but not limited to, Council's legal costs, GST if applicable, document registration and reinstatement of land post authorised drainage works.
 3. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to execute the necessary documentation to give effect to this resolution.
-

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The owner of 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights (the applicant) proposes to demolish the existing dwellings and construct a new shop-top housing development at 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights (Lot 2 DP 528120). The applicant was granted a deferred Development Consent DA2021/1426 on 1 June 2022.

The natural fall of 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights is towards the rear of the site, therefore, the deferred Development Consent condition requires the applicant to obtain an easement to adequately deal with the stormwater overflow generated from the proposed development.

As a result, the applicant has applied to Council to obtain an Easement to Drain Water through the adjoining Public Carpark and Reserve (Allington Reserve) (Lot 2 DP 513295) for the installation of an underground stormwater drainage pipe for connection to Council's stormwater drainage pit.

The proposed easement is 1 metre wide and approximately 19 metres in length and is illustrated in the Draft Easement Plan (Attachment 1) attached to this report.

Council's Water Management for Development Policy recommends obtaining a drainage easement over the downstream property to Council's drainage infrastructure as an option to deal with stormwater disposal.

Section 46 (1) (a1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* specifically allows for such easements over Community Land and Council has granted similar easements over other Council reserves in the past. The proposed easement will require that the stormwater drainage pipe be placed under the surface of the ground. Therefore, the drainage pipe will have minimal impact on the use of the reserve after installation.

Rectification of Council's reserve and car park following installation of the proposed stormwater drainage pipe will be the responsibility of the applicant. The applicant will be required to submit an appropriate bond, prior to the commencement of construction, for works within the Council reserve. Ongoing maintenance obligations for the underground pipe by the owner of 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights will be registered in a Positive Covenant over 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights as a condition of granting the proposed easement.

CONSULTATION

The application for easement was publicly notified for a period of 28 days in accordance with Section 47 of the *Local Government Act 1993* which included a public notice on Council's website, notice letters to surrounding property owners and notice sign at Allington Reserve seeking public submissions. The submission period commenced on 18 November 2022 and concluded on 18 December 2022. One submission was received which supported the proposal and no objections to the proposed easement were received by Council during the notification period.

A Summary Report of Public Notification which includes the submission received is included in this report as Attachment 2.

TIMING

The creation of the easement to drain water over Allington Reserve, Elanora Heights is expected to be completed within the next twelve months of the applicant satisfying the deferred commencement Development Consent conditions.

LINK TO STRATEGY

This report relates to the Community Strategic Plan Outcome of:

- Good governance - Goal 19 Our Council is transparent and trusted to make decisions that reflect the values of the community

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The applicant will be required to pay Council an amount of compensation for the proposed easement in accordance with independent qualified valuation advice received by Council. All other associated costs in relation to the proposed easement will be borne by the applicant.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There will be minimal impact to the Community as the stormwater drainage pipe will be installed under the surface of the ground and the area re-instated after installation. There will be a short-term disruption for the duration of the proposed construction of the stormwater drainage pipes, however, this is unavoidable to complete any installation.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Rectification of Allington Reserve after construction and ongoing maintenance of the proposed underground drainage pipe will be undertaken by the owner of 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights. The majority of the works required are in the rear of the car park with only a small portion of the works occurring in the grassed area of the reserve.

GOVERNANCE AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

If the proposed easement is not granted, the applicant may seek an order for the proposed easement from the Supreme Court in accordance with Section 88K of the *Conveyancing Act 1919*.

**Proposed Easement - Drainage (Stormwater)
Over Allington Reserve Lot 2 DP 513295
Benefitting 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights NSW 2101**



Legend

- Proposed Easement Area
- Land Parcel Boundary

 <p>northern beaches council</p>	<p>Scale (A4) - 1:350 GDA 94 MGA Zone 56</p> <div style="text-align: center;">   <p>0 1.5 3 6 Meters</p> </div> <p><small>Date Printed: 3/11/2022 Produced By: Spatial Information</small></p>	<p>The publisher of and/or contributors to this map accept no responsibility for injury, loss or damage arising from its use or errors or omissions therein. While all care is taken to ensure a high degree of accuracy, users are invited to report any map discrepancies and should use this map with due care.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">© Northern Beaches Council 2022</p>
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Summary Report of Public Notification

Project name	Proposed easement over Allington Reserve, Elanora Heights
Your Say notification period	Friday 18 November 2022 to Sunday 18 December 2022
Background	<p>We proposed to grant an easement over Council's Community Land known as Allington Reserve (Lot 2 DP 513295) to Lightning Property Developments Pty Ltd, the owner of 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights.</p> <p>The purpose of the proposed easement is for the drainage of stormwater. If granted, the easement will be permanent.</p> <p>The granting of the easement is subject to Council approval and payment of a compensation fee in accordance with Council's Fees and Charges.</p> <p>This notice of the proposed easement is given in accordance with Section 47 of the Local Government Act 1993.</p>
Total number of submissions	One (1)
Summary of findings	We received one submission supporting the proposed easement (see the Findings section below). Council staff will recommend granting the easement as notified.
Engagement approach	<p>The engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with the Northern Beaches Council Community Engagement Matrix (2017).</p> <p>A project page¹ was established on our Have Your Say platform and included project information and the road reserve closure area plan.</p> <p>The project was primarily promoted through resident letter notifications, Council's E-News and our Have Your Say community engagement newsletter.</p> <p>Feedback was captured through an online submission form embedded onto the project page. An open-field comments box provided community members a space to share their comments. Email and written submissions were also invited. Contact details were provided should people have questions.</p>

¹ <https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/proposed-easement-allington-reserve-elanora-heights>

How we engaged	
Properties notified by letter	Seven letters
Authorities notified by email	N/A
Visitors to Your Say page	339 visits
Have Your Say newsletter	Two editions (newsletter distribution approx. 22,000)
Council's E-News	One edition (newsletter distribution approx. 160,000)
Signage installed	One (1)

Findings	
Verbatim submission*	Council Response
Just do it, who cares.	Noted

*Personal details have been redacted where possible. Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused.

Document administration	
Version	1.0
Date	16 January 2023
Approval	Content provided and approved by Property Commercial & Tourist Assets Team
Status	Final
Notes	Community and stakeholder views contained in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Beaches Council or indicate a commitment to a particular course of action.

16.0 NOTICES OF RESCISSION

ITEM 16.1	NOTICE OF RESCISSION NO 1/2023 - ITEM 10.2 - FUNDING REVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES SECTOR
TRIM FILE REF	2023/207462
ATTACHMENTS	1 ↓ March Council Meeting Report - Item 10.2 - Funding Review of the Social Services Sector 2 ↓ March Council Meeting Report - Attachment 1 - Outcomes Reports - Social Service Organisations

Submitted by: Councillor Rory Amon; Councillor Bingham; Councillor Crvelin

MOTION

That Council rescind resolution 056/23 – Item 10.2 – Funding Review of the Social Services Sector, being:

That Council:

- 1. Consider the options for funding social service organisations and determine to proceed with option 2 for implementation.*
- 2. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer as required to implement the decision of Council including any provision of financial assistance under Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993.*
- 3. Note the proposed change to the annual Community Development Grants Program to include a Small Grants Program within existing operational budget.*

Should the rescission motion be adopted, we give notice that it is our intention to move the following motion in lieu thereof of which due notice is hereby given:

That Council:

1. Continues financial assistance to the three organisations for a further three years as follows: For the next two financial years at the existing rate (plus CPI), with a reduction to 50% in year three noting this does not preclude these charities from applying for further funding in the future.
2. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer as required to implement the decision of Council including any provision of financial assistance under Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993.
3. Notes the proposed change to the annual Community Development Grants Program to include a Small Grants Program within the existing operational budget.
4. Presents to Council in a briefing the information submitted by the Northern Beaches Women's Shelter; Community Northern Beaches and the Avalon Youth Hub on how funding provided by Council has been allocated, and their performance against agreed KPI's.
5. Prepares a report, within the next six months, setting out the criteria for the grants program aligning priorities for funding with Council's adopted direction in the Better Together Social Sustainability Strategy identifying the social areas of need.
6. Writes to the relevant Ministers and Shadow Ministers outlining Council's support for on-going core funding from the State Government for local Community Services Centres.

ITEM 10.2	FUNDING REVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES SECTOR
REPORTING MANAGER	MANAGER, SOCIAL PLANNING & SERVICES
TRIM FILE REF	2023/056413
ATTACHMENTS	1 Attachment 1 - Outcomes Reports - Social Service Organisations (Included In Attachments Booklet)

SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To review and determine Council financial assistance to the social services sector. This includes a review of funding to Community Northern Beaches, Northern Beaches Women's Shelter and the Avalon Youth Hub through the auspice organisation, The Burdekin Association, and proposed changes to the Community Development Grants Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As per Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, a Council may, in accordance with a resolution of the council, contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons for the purpose of exercising its functions.

Council has provided financial subsidies to Community Northern Beaches (formerly known as Manly Community Centre) and Northern Beaches Women's Shelter (formerly known as Manly Women's Shelter) since amalgamation in 2016, as a continuation of long-standing funding agreements with the former Manly Council. In 2018, the Burdekin Association was successful in securing \$90,000 in Council funding through an Expression of Interest process, with the proposal of a Youth Wellbeing Hub to act as a triage and assessment facility for young people and their families.

In 2020 the agreements for all three organisations were extended and Council resolved to review the financial assistance prior to the end of the funding period in June 2022. It also resolved that Avalon Youth Hub identify other funding sources prior to June 2022 to become self-sufficient during this period and not reliant on future Council funding.

At the Council meeting on 26 April 2022, it was resolved to extend the agreements for all three organisations and provide an additional 12 months of financial assistance, funding to cease on 30 June 2023. A total of \$252,500 (ex GST) per annum was allocated to these organisations in the 2022/23 financial year. The resolution 106/22 stated:

That Council:

- 1. Allocate \$97,000 (ex GST) in the 2022/23 financial year as financial assistance to Community Northern Beaches, in accordance with section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993.*
- 2. Allocate \$65,500 (ex GST) in the 2022/23 financial year as financial assistance to Northern Beaches Women's Shelter, in accordance with section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993.*
- 3. Allocate \$90,000 (ex GST) in the 2022/23 financial year as financial assistance to Avalon Youth Hub through the auspice organisation The Burdekin Association, in accordance with section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993.*

4. *Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate service contracts with Community Northern Beaches, Northern Beaches Women's Shelter and Avalon Youth Hub through the Burdekin Association, including reporting on KPIs and service outcomes set by Council, and financial acquittals.*
5. *Provide staff support to Community Northern Beaches, Northern Beaches Women's Shelter and Avalon Youth Hub, through The Burdekin Association, to address financial sustainability and reliance on Council funding in the long term.*
6. *Review the future allocation of financial and in-kind assistance to social service organisations and schedule a Councillor workshop on this matter within the next 6 months.*

To progress this resolution, Councillor briefings were held on 5 September 2022, 29 November 2022 and 14 February 2023 to assist Council in determining a clear long-term plan to support the local social services sector in line with the strategic aims of Council. At these briefings, three options were proposed for Council's consideration:

- Option 1: Continue current financial assistance to the three organisations for three years.
- Option 2: Discontinue current financial assistance incrementally over three years and redirect funds towards a new Community Partnership Grants program.
- Option 3: Discontinue current financial assistance on 30 June 2023 and redirect funds towards a new Community Partnership Grants program.

This review identified the opportunity to broaden Council's support to the social services sector through a new community partnership grants program to support social services delivering focused services on strategic priorities. The review assumed that the total amount of funding currently allocated to direct financial assistance and community grants programs would not be reduced.

This report will outline the three options for Council's consideration.

Financial assistance of \$261,085 (ex GST) indexed by CPI at 3.4% from the 2022/23 financial assistance of \$252,500 (ex GST) has been included in Council's draft 2023/24 Operational Budget.

This funding review also recommended consideration that any existing Community Development Grants Program provide targeted seed funding support towards smaller and emerging community groups. As such it is proposed to introduce a new small grants program to build the capacity of small and emerging community groups and organisations within the existing operational budget funding.

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

That Council:

1. Consider the options for funding social service organisations and determine the option for implementation.
 2. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer as required to implement the decision of Council including any provision of financial assistance under Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993.
 3. Note the proposed change to the annual Community Development Grants Program to include a Small Grants Program within existing operational budget.
-

REPORT

BACKGROUND

Council's Social Sustainability Policy clearly articulates the role of local government and Council in the delivery of community development and services to the community. Key sections of the Policy Statement include:

Northern Beaches Council acts principally as a facilitator and enabler of community development and services, with activities carried out in collaboration with service providers including community groups, charitable organisations, government and non-government agencies, and neighbouring Councils.

It further states:

Through these activities Council will work strategically with local services to maximise the efficiency and quality of service delivery to the Northern Beaches community.

Council encourages, enables and assists local groups and organisations to provide relevant services and activities for residents of the Northern Beaches and will consider providing services directly when there is an identified priority and where no other organisation has the capacity or ability to provide the priority service.

The Policy outlines several of the key activities of Council including:

To maximise the use of community buildings and the sustainability of the social services sector, Council facilitates the colocation of services and the provision of community service hubs (Activity 5. Delivering Infrastructure).

History of current funding model

Former Manly Council had agreed funding arrangements in place with Manly Community Centre & Services Inc. (now named Community Northern Beaches) and Manly Women's Shelter Inc. (now named Northern Beaches Women's Shelter). At the Council meeting on 27 June 2017 a three-year extension of funding was approved for both organisations. An additional \$10,000 was allocated to Manly Community Centre to make up for a shortfall in funding for their Homeless Outreach Service. Since that time both organisations have changed their name to reflect their broader service areas across the Northern Beaches Local Government Area.

An Administrator's Minute at Council's meeting of 27 June 2017 endorsed funding for several new programs that support arts and culture, youth, environmental sustainability, and community events on the Northern Beaches. One of these programs related to a Youth Wellbeing Hub with the following detail:

ii. Youth Wellbeing Hub in the northern part of the local government area (e.g., Mona Vale): seed funding (e.g., rental assistance) for establishment of a space for hosting youth outreach services - \$90,000 per year for two years commencing 2017/18 with an intent to secure long term external funding beyond the seed funding term.

Funding was approved at the Council meeting on 27 February 2018, with the Burdekin Association successful in securing the Council funding through an Expression of Interest process, with the proposal of a Youth Wellbeing Hub to act as a 'triage and assessment facility for young people and their families'. Due to the Covid19 pandemic this funding was extended to 31 December 2020.

At the Council meeting on 27 October 2020, it was resolved to extend the agreements for all three organisations and provide an additional 18 months of financial assistance. This funding was scheduled to cease on 30 June 2022. A total of \$252,500 (ex GST) per annum was allocated to these organisations in the 2021/22 financial year.

Council's decision of 27 October 2020 required staff to review the financial assistance prior to the end of the funding period. It also resolved that Avalon Youth Hub identify other funding sources prior to June 2022 to become self-sufficient during this period and not reliant on future Council funding.

At the Council meeting on 26 April 2022, it was resolved to extend the agreements for all three organisations and provide an additional 12 months of financial assistance with funding to cease on 30 June 2023. A total of \$252,500 (ex GST) per annum was allocated to these organisations in the 2022/23 financial year. This also included a review of the financial assistance prior to the end of the funding period. Councillor briefings were provided on 5 September 2022, 29 November 2022 and 14 February 2023 to assist in determining the desired outcomes and criteria for ongoing use of financial assistance.

The total funding provided to local social services by Council in 2022/23 was \$408,058.60, which included the above \$252,500 to these three organisations and \$155,558.60 towards the annual Community Development Grants Program supporting 22 organisations for grants up to \$10,000. This grants program is highly competitive and since commencing in 2018 an average of 78 applications are received each year, with on average 27 organisations (35%) receiving funding.

Under this grant program, Northern Beaches Women's Shelter was successful in receiving \$7,500 towards a Safety and Wellbeing program in 2021/22 and in receiving \$10,000 towards the Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Response Innovation (in partnership with other providers) in 2022/23. The Burdekin Association received \$10,000 in 2022/23 towards Wellbeing Adventure for young people.

Council funded the fit out of the Community Services Hub at 52 Raglan Street Manly and provides rental subsidies to Community Northern Beaches at this location and Brookvale Community Centre. A rental subsidy is also provided to Women and Children First (formerly Manly Warringah Women's Resource Centre).

Funding Review

In accordance with the Council resolution of 26 April 2022, a full review of the funding provided by Council to social service organisations and activities has been undertaken. Attachment 1 provides Outcomes Reports for each of the funded organisations for Quarter 1 (Jul-Sep) and Quarter 2 (Oct-Dec) of 2022/23 as per their funding agreements.

With around two thirds of Council's total financial assistance towards local social services going towards three services, consideration of redirecting these funds through a community partnership program could increase equity and transparency and provide an opportunity to ensure financial assistance remains in line with the long-term strategic aims of Council and demand for service and support in the community.

This review also recognised the need to provide smaller seed funding grants to support and build the capacity of smaller and emerging community groups with an annual turnover under \$500,000 per annum, as per the small charities' classification provided by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

FUNDING OPTIONS

Three options have been developed and are presented for consideration:

Option 1: Continue current financial assistance to the three organisations for three years.

This option will continue the current commitment of Council into the future, recommending that three-year funding agreements be entered into with Community Northern Beaches, Northern Beaches Women's Shelter and the Avalon Youth Hub through the auspice organisation, The Burdekin Association.

The recommendation for the funding contracts to run for three years is to provide greater service continuity as opposed to shorter term contracts.

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes to the service delivery capacity of these organisations providing support for young people, children and families, women experiencing domestic violence and people experiencing homelessness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not provide opportunities for other not for profit and community organisations to provide targeted community services through financial assistance from Council.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides continuity of financial assistance to existing organisations and time for them to identify alternative funding sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotes reliance on ongoing Council funding for sustainability. Does not provide long term strategic direction and process towards Council's support of social services organisations.

Option 2: Decrease financial assistance incrementally over three years and redirect funds towards a new Community Partnership Grants program.

If this option was supported by Council, it is proposed to enter into funding agreements for 3 years to 30 June 2026, at the existing funding level (plus CPI) for the first 12 months in 2023/24, at 75% for the second 12 months in 2024/25 and 50% for the 2025/26 financial year.

From 2025/26 onwards, it is proposed that a Community Partnership Program commence in a staged approach corresponding to the above staged reduction in financial assistance, with a funding pool of \$65,000 in 2025/26 and \$200,000 in 2026/27.

This grant program will be for eligible organisations to apply for grants of up to \$50,000 for up to three years according to strategic outcome areas identified by Council. The current funded organisations will also be eligible to apply for this funding at the completion of their three-year funding agreement.

The proposed Community Partnership Program provides targeted and effective services in line with identified long term outcomes and embeds equity and sustainability into the funding and application process.

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes to the service delivery capacity of the existing organisations, allowing time to develop a new framework and process for continuity of service and to maximise community outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community outcomes may be reduced via an extended change process of financial assistance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides opportunity for Council to set financial assistance according to desired strategic outcomes and for other not for profit and community organisations including the existing organisations to receive larger financial assistance from Council from 2026/27. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change is incremental over time and may result in some confusion by existing organisations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides time for the currently funded services to identify alternative funding sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing services must identify other funding sources to address discontinuation of financial assistance after three years.

Option 3: Discontinue financial assistance on 30 June 2023 and redirect funds towards a new Community Partnership Grants program.

In this option Council will cease directly funding Community Northern Beaches, Northern Beaches Women's Shelter and Avalon Youth Hub via The Burdekin Association and redirect all the funds for social service organisations and activities into a new Community Partnership Program. This grant program will be for eligible organisations to apply for grants of up to \$50,000 for up to three years according to strategic outcome areas identified by Council. The current funded organisations will also be eligible to apply for this funding along with all other not for profit organisations. The existing community grants program and a new small grants program would provide varied levels of support to the sector in addition to this new program.

Option 3 can facilitate broader long term community investment with three tiers of funding to the social sector. Outcomes and criteria would need to be developed for the new grants programs that will provide a clearer long-term plan of support that aligns with the strategic aims adopted by Council.

It will provide opportunities for a wider range of service providers and not for profit organisations to establish new programs and activities in line with community priorities.

This option may impact negatively on Community Northern Beaches, Northern Beaches Women's Shelter, the Avalon Youth Hub and their ability to continue to provide the current services to the community if they are unable to source alternative funding. The service outputs delivered by each organisation between July and December 2022 are outlined in the Outcomes Reports provided in Attachment 1. This provides an indication of the potential loss of service for part of the community if the three organisations are not able to continue providing the programs listed without this funding. It is expected that re-direction of funds to other service providers would result in a corresponding increase in community outcomes through all tiers of the proposed grants programs provided funding is maintained at current levels.

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased community outcomes aligned with long term identified strategic priorities resulting from open and equitable application process from a greater variety of local organisations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current funded organisations may have reduced service delivery capacity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides opportunity for Council to set financial assistance according to desired strategic outcomes and for other not for profit and community organisations including the existing organisations to receive larger financial assistance from Council from 2026/27. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides limited time for existing organisations to identify alternative funding sources and may impact their service delivery capacity in the short term.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides for an increase in funds and outcomes towards community grants programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing grant recipients may have reduced service outcomes if maximum grant amounts are reduced (eg – establishing a \$5000 cap on a small grant program)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM

This funding review also recommended consideration for the existing Community Development Grants Program to provide targeted seed funding support towards smaller and emerging community groups. As such, it is recommended to continue with existing stream of grants of up to \$10,000 towards larger projects and to introduce a Small Grants Program for grants up to smaller \$5,000 towards eligible organisations with an annual turnover under \$500,000 per annum, as per the small charities' classification provided by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

Funding towards this new Small Grants Program could be taken from the current \$120,000 Community Development Grants Program resulting in a reduced funding pool to \$90,000. The proposed grant program would be open all year round and have a streamlined approval process by a Councillor assessment panel. It is noted that Options 2 and 3 could provide an increase funding to these grant streams if supported.

CONSULTATION

Council staff continue to liaise regularly with management at Community Northern Beaches, Northern Beaches Women's Shelter and Avalon Youth Hub via The Burdekin Association, including quarterly reporting requirements. Council staff provided Councillor briefings on 5 September 2022, 29 November 2022 and 14 February 2023 on this matter.

TIMING

If the option endorsed requires Funding Agreements these will commence on 1 July 2023. The new Small Grants Program if endorsed would commence in the 2023/24 financial year, with advertising to commence in July 2023. The annual Community Development Grants Program will commence advertising in June and recipients determined by Council in October 2023.

LINK TO STRATEGY

This report relates to the Community Strategic Plan Outcome of:

- Community and belonging - Goal 8 Our community feels safe and supported
- Partnership and participation - Goal 22 Our Council builds and maintains strong partnerships and advocates effectively on behalf of the community

This report relates to the Council's Social Sustainability Policy articulating the role of local government and Council in the delivery of community development and services to the community:

Northern Beaches Council acts principally as a facilitator and enabler of community development and services, with activities carried out in collaboration with service providers including community groups, charitable organisations, government and non-government agencies, and neighbouring Councils.

This report relates directly to the Better Together 2040 Social Sustainability Strategy outcome for a resilient and adaptive social service sector on the Northern Beaches to provide support and resources in response to changing community needs.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Financial assistance of \$261,085 (ex GST indexed by CPI at 3.4%) has been included in Council's draft 2023/24 Operational Budget. If Options 1 or 2 are endorsed, Funding Agreements will be entered into which outline the terms and conditions of the approved applicant, including annual reporting and financial acquittal of the funds.

\$120,000 for the Community Development Grants Program is included in the draft 2023/24 Operational Budget. The proposed Small Grants Program for 2023/24 can be met within the existing annual Community Development Grants Program budget. All options outlined in this report can be funded by the amounts included in the draft 2023/24 Operational Budget and the Long-Term Financial Plan.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are positive social impacts for the local community resulting from financial assistance and community grants programs. Allocation of financial assistance through a longer-term strategic framework and process would likely increase community outcomes by social service providers and more broadly community satisfaction.

Option 1 allows for continued support provided to the current three organisations to deliver positive community outcomes, however, does not enable other unfunded services to access similar support.

Options 2 and 3 provide a broader strategic framework for apportioning financial assistance in a fair and equitable manner, enabling access to funding for other eligible and relevant social services and ensuring alignment to defined strategic priorities. These options elevate Council's commitment to social services with a defined community investment program with three tiers of grant funding. Option 2 provides time for these three organisations to adapt to this new framework whilst remaining eligible for funding.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no environmental considerations.

GOVERNANCE AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Council may grant financial assistance for the purpose of exercising its functions under Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, by Council resolution.

Council's role is to ensure any funds allocated to external parties will be spent consistent with the objectives and directions of its' endorsed strategies and plans that have been developed in consultation with the community.

The risk to Council regarding community concern differs with each option presented. There may be some community concerns relating to the reduced or ceasing of funding to these existing services. Risks relating to this have been mitigated in Option 1 and Option 2 through a staged and scaled reduction of financial assistance.

Previous Council resolutions have also noted the intention to assist organisations benefitting from funding to work towards financial sustainability and a lesser reliance on Council funding.

Attachment 1: Outcomes Reports for Quarters 1 & 2 (2022/23) for funded social service organisations



Community Northern Beaches

No	KPI/Measure	Annual Target	Outputs Q1 (Jul-Sep 22)	Outputs Q2 (Oct-Dec 22)	Level	Purpose
1	# of instances of service	3500	2033	1869	Impact measure	Measures level of service delivery
2	# client engagements (homelessness)	2390	196	158	Impact measure	Measures level of service delivery
3	# client engagements (domestic violence)	630	67	115	Impact measure	Measures level of service delivery
4	# participants in key child and family programs	832	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 367 - Youth mentor attendees • 357 - Beyond the Gloves attendees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 x students Love Bites • 297 - Youth mentor attendees • 105 - Beyond the Gloves attendees 	Impact measure	Measures level of program delivery with 4 x Love Bites with 200 participants in each program and 4 x Beyond the Glove with 8 participants in each program
5	Demonstration of an increase in sustainable funding streams	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applied to 12 funding grants • Building marketing collateral to fundraise and attract donors • CEO continues to advocate to relevant NSW Government Ministers for sustainable funding • Funds raised in Q1 & Q2 - \$37,000 		Sustainability measure	Measures financial self-sustainability

Impact Stories

STORY 1:

20-year-old Samantha was experiencing family violence on the Gold Coast. She fled the family home and slept rough for a month. She had a contact who offered her a place to stay in Manly, so she travelled by train, hoping for a new beginning. However, she soon discovered they intended to groom her into sex work. The house was hazardous, with unsavoury characters and drug paraphernalia present, and there was no lock on the front door. Her greatest desire at this point was for safety, but she was so exhausted and lost that she could not figure out what to do next. She found our community drop-in service with a google search and came to CNB carrying six bags and two large suitcases. She was exhausted, malnourished, frightened and wary of trusting people. We were immediately able to advocate for temporary accommodation that night in a hotel and paid for an uber to get her there and back again the following day. After some welcome rest, she could engage with a plan to secure supported accommodation, and a Women's Shelter was able to offer her a place.

STORY 2:

Jimmy had been rough sleeping for 30 years. Our Homeless Outreach staff began engaging with Jimmy, building rapport and trust. Jimmy had experienced significant trauma and had little trust in support services. Eventually, with the team's support, Jimmy could find permanent housing and signed his first lease in over 30 years.

STORY 3:

Tania is in a relationship where her partner controls her money and tracks her phone calls. Tania was able to find her way to our community drop-in and begin receiving emotional support and food to feed her son and start the journey of planning a way out of her relationship. Coming to our drop-in was a safer way to access support without using her phone.



Northern Beaches Women's Shelter

	KPI/Measure	Annual Target	Outputs Q1 (Jul-Sep 22)	Outputs Q2 (Oct-Dec 22)	Level	Purpose
1	# women assisted with outreach support	70	246 contacts made with 26 clients	166 contacts made with 23 clients	Activity measure	Measures sustainability of tenancy as key driver to successful outcomes
2	# women assisted with case management support	10	33	29	Activity measure	Measures support to address the women's primary needs.
3	# of collaborative programs/activities delivered	4	8	5	Activity measure	Measures growth in partnership as a factor in increasing self-sustainability, includes Empowerment Circle, Positive Life Skills 360, Streetside Medics, DV Network Fundraiser, Better Together Council Leadership Meeting, TVSN Tea Time, Excelsior Advisory Committee, Zonta Leadership dinner
4	Demonstration of an increase in sustainable funding streams	N/A	Applied for Core and Cluster DCJ tranche 2 funding for 15 years. Awaiting final contract sign off to secure 15 years of operational funding.		Sustainability measure	Measures financial sustainability
5	Up to 3 stories of impact under 300 words	4-12	As below		Indicator for scale of impact	Describes qualitative outcomes as an indicator for the level of impact, particularly relating sustainable transitional to community, outreach support and case management and collaborative projects.

Stories of Impact

Story 1 – “This woman came to shelter with mental health issues so we engaged her with a mental health support service which finally was able to get her medication on track. This then changed everything for her she could work more hours and her mood improved dramatically. She started doing 2 days a week work and then increased to 4 days a week and now working fulltime. She wanted to stay in the area and so for her sharing was a good option as she could share the costs of her living and get a place that was bigger and for her needs more suitable as it was closer to work. We continue to support her through our outreach program.”

Story 2 – “This woman has recently moved into her own place. This lady came from a domestic violence situation that she had been exposed to for years. Finally, she decided to leave and come to shelter she was wanting to do some study so she could become an aged care nurse and we supported her to achieve this goal. Her work ethic has been the key for her she works so hard and was so goal driven to get her own place. She is so proactive in getting her needs met it has been a challenge as it has taken a bit longer that I think she would have liked, but she is now in and feeling very thankful for the support. We continue to support her through our outreach program.

Story 3 – This woman has moved through crisis housing and transitional accommodation, she is now living independently and supported with our outreach program and Women’s Choice Client Contribution program. “This journey is the most challenging I have seen in my work here at the shelter. Coming from Iran with no English, no income and then to be abused by her ex-partner and left to manage on her own has been a difficult road, but I am so proud of how she has managed. This resident has overcome so much, and the feeling was that if we don’t financially support this woman she may be at risk of not sustaining her tenancy. The resident is working fulltime and is gaining much experience but due to the work she does is still not quite really for full independence.

Story 4 - This resident has been connected to the serviced for 3 years. The reason being purely that she was not eligible for housing had complex psychological issues, which meant she needed time to rest, recoup and recover. Our service was in for the long-term care of this woman as we knew the journey would be slow and as we know mental health can take some time. She finally felt well enough to start volunteering at a local charity organisation and through her experience in this work she got full time work in a local NGO. This was the key for her in her affordability of a place on the Northern Beaches. NBWS continue to support this woman financially, giving her the confidence she can afford the unit and to help manage her anxiety of being homeless again. We continue to support this woman now through our outreach program.

Avalon Youth Hub

OUTCOME	MEASURE	Outputs Jul-Sep 22	Outputs Oct – Dec 22	Notes
<p>Improve the wellbeing of clients, including young people and families.</p> <p>The Hub objectives:</p> <p><i>Provide user friendly access, referral and linkage to social support services in a safe, accessible space for young people, their families and support persons</i></p>	<p><i>Enquiries Data</i></p>	<p>37 calls 7 new referrals 20 enquiries 10 other</p>	<p>22 calls 5 referrals to hub services 7 referrals external</p>	
	<p><i>Number of new referrals received directly to the Hub</i> Target - 100 referrals per annum *KYDS/Mission at 90% capacity. <i>Lifeline building clientele-new service</i> *Service partners receive direct referrals from Pittwater community</p>	<p>7 new referrals 2 KYDS 2 Lifeline 3 families – Burdekin All Enquiries directed to other services</p>	<p>5 new referrals 2 KYDS 1 Mission Australia 2 Burdekin</p>	<p>Mission Australia counsellor commenced in December 2022</p>
	<p><i>Number of Counselling Sessions</i> Target - 250 sessions pa</p>	<p>70</p>	<p>54</p>	
	<p><i>Community Workshops –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Number workshops/people</i> • <i>% satisfied</i> <p>Target - 8 workshops pa</p>	<p>1 session Barrenjoey High School Yr 11 - 120 students Online content developed for study tips for HSC students</p>	<p>1 x Community event, Avalon Market Day with 120 people \$408.00 raised Bubble Soccer 70 participants</p>	
<p>Service is well connected and a leader in the community and sector</p> <p>The Hub objective/s:</p> <p><i>Facilitate improved coordination, cooperation and communication between key stakeholders and service providers on the Northern Beaches</i></p> <p><i>Improve awareness, community understanding, and acceptance of mental health and wellbeing issues, of mental health services, and remove the stigma associated with seeking help</i></p>	<p><i>Community Engagement events:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Number Held</i> • <i>Number attended</i> 	<p>5 held 500 attended Weather affected</p>	<p>12 held 200 weekly</p>	<p>Wednesday afternoons Student engagement has an increase in attendance.</p>
	<p><i>Social media</i> <i>Facebook followers</i> <i>Instagram followers</i></p>	<p>1,135 FB followers 922 Instagram</p>	<p>1,141 FB 927 Instagram</p>	<p>FB increase reach & engagement</p>
	<p><i>Number of AYH partner agencies</i> Target - 5 partner agencies</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Negotiations underway to partner with Relationships Australia to provide workshops in 2023. Met with The Village & Narrabeen Sports High to develop new program ideas and potential to partner.</p>

Stories of Impact - Community Engagement & Relational Approach

One of the main aims of operations at AYH is to promote and encourage help seeking behaviour in the community and to help break down the barriers and the stigma that can be attached to engaging with counsellors or other supports, particularly for young people.

Young people need to trust the people they reach out to and seek authentic connections with those that they feel safe enough to share their deepest feelings with or share any concerns that they may have in their lives. This is where the relational approach to our community engagement program provides the foundation on which connections and trust can grow. AYH staff are regularly in the community which promotes familiarity and a consistency in personnel that we feel is essential in the building of confidence in young people to reach out and connect with supports. Our Community Engagement program has been developed with input from young people to be regular with a mix of fun events, informative workshops or small group sessions that focus on wellbeing and issues that are important to young people.

Strong relationships are at the core of AYH operations where our partner agencies are growing and we continue to provide counselling, workshops, information sessions and one to one support based on the needs of young people and families. Further, our relationships with the range of services across the Northern Beaches are key to AYH staff knowing referral pathways for a wide range of support needs. The following are some examples of support provided to young people that have attended AYH community engagement activities and are key indicators that our regular presence and relationships with the community is making a difference.

- ❖ Reporting of sexual assault that continued to prosecution and ongoing counselling support provided by AYH partner agency. We have assisted young people exploring their sexuality and in particular provided information regarding consent.
- ❖ Sharing of suicidal ideation by young people with practical support provided to link with a range of appropriate supports including inpatient stays in youth mental health facility, referrals to acute care services and therapeutic supports.
- ❖ Counselling and support provided by AYH agencies to several young people and parents following the death by suicide of young people in the community.
- ❖ Young people willing to connect with counsellors with encouragement and support of AYH staff after previous negative experiences of the counselling process.
- ❖ Young people engaged in AYH services bringing friends and family to seek support after having a positive experience themselves. This is a key indicator that our aim to promote a safe environment for young people is working well.

Stories of Impact: Case Study, Family Systems Therapy

Tom (pseudonym) is a single parent referred to the Avalon Youth Hub (AYH) due to concerning behaviours exhibited by his 14-year-old daughter, Kate (pseudonym), over a six-month period. These behaviours included poor and erratic school attendance, disengagement from family life and previously enjoyed activities, staying out late with troubled youth and at times not returning home each night. Kate did not agree with her father's perception of this situation and hence could see little need for her to seek help.

When sharing his concerns with Kate, both Tom and Kate quickly escalated into loud arguing, and these unpleasant arguments worsened their already fractured relationship. Although a concerned father, Tom could see that his anxiety drove his unhelpful behaviours and that these did little to address his concerns with and about Kate. For example, he reported that when his anxiety was high, particularly around perceived risks to Kate, he entertained worst case scenarios, could not think clearly, became loud and often lectured Kate.

An aim of Tom's contact at the AYH was to help him better understand and manage his emotional reactions and instead respond more calmly to Kate based on his thoughts, beliefs, and values rather than his anxiety. Some of his unhelpful reactions were rooted in his experiences in his family of origin. In making these links he undertook to better manage his anxiety when responding to Kate. Despite his concerns, Tom found that when he could remain calm, rather than quickly moving in to lecture Kate, he was able to think more clearly and express his concerns in ways that were more likely to maintain a connection to Kate.

Although, currently, some of Kate's concerning behaviours persist, her relationship with her father has improved. Kate is going out less and is more communicative about where she is going and with whom. She and Tom spend more enjoyable time together, some of which has been initiated by Kate. Tom has become less concerned about Kate and feels much more connected to her. Tom continues to attend regular counselling at the AYH and is finding this contact helpful.

17.0 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

ITEM 17.1	QUESTION WITH NOTICE NO 8/2023 - NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL'S STRATEGY AND PROJECTED COSTS TO ACHIEVE NET ZERO EMISSIONS BY 2030
TRIM FILE REF	2023/113891
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

Submitted by: Councillor David Walton

QUESTION

On the 28 November 2022, Northern Beaches Council informed the Northern Beaches community by way of a media release, that Council should reach net zero by 2030. The media release advised the community, amongst other things, that: "We're well on our way to reaching our target to be a net zero Council by 2030". See media release <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/council/news/media-releases/northern-beaches-achieves-leadership-status-on-carbon-disclosure-project>

Climate change has rapidly evolved from being an ethical and environmental issue, to an issue that presents material financial risks and opportunities for organisations, in the short, medium and long terms. It is incumbent upon all Councillors on the governing body of the Northern Beaches Council, to deepen our understanding of the strategic implications of climate change, in order to engage with our executive teams on transition plans, costs and realistic net zero targets to embed climate strategy.

In response to this public media release, the questions on notice are:

1. When did the Northern Beaches Council determine to reach net zero by 2030?
2. What are the strategies and pathway to achieve net zero by 2030?
3. What are the total costs associated with achieving net zero by 2030?
4. Where have we assessed climate change as a material risk and how have we assessed its potential impact on our financial position and prospects?

18.0 RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

ITEM 18.1	RESPONSE TO QUESTION WITH NOTICE NO 1/2023 - FOOTPATH, SURFVIEW ROAD, MONA VALE
TRIM FILE REF	2022/829294
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

Submitted by: Councillor Rory Amon

QUESTION

I refer to request for a footpath on the eastern side of Surfview Road, Mona Vale, to form a part of the Coast Walk and to address safety and amenity issues.

1. The Ocean Beaches Plan of Management - Mona Vale does not specifically prohibit a footpath encroaching in the dune area (it is not listed on the page marked number 79 / page 12 of the published Plan of Management). Could staff please advise whether a footpath could be completed on the eastern side of Surfview Road, Mona Vale, without a need to amend / create a new Plan of Management. If the Plan of Management would need to be amended, could staff please advise why that is the case.
2. If the Plan of Management does need to be amended, could staff please advise when this can occur and what the associated timelines would be.

RESPONSE

An external Environmental Consultant was previously engaged to provide advice in relation to a proposal to construct a path on the eastern side of the southern extent of Surfview Road, Mona Vale.

The area on the eastern side of the southern extent of Surfview Road, Mona Vale is covered by the *Ocean Beaches Plan of Management 2005 (PoM)*. The land is community land owned by Council and is managed under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

"The proposal is likely to be considered inconsistent with the core management objectives for Community land categorised as Natural Area – Foreshore;

- *The vegetation removal required to facilitate the proposal is considered inconsistent with several objectives of the PoM;*
- *The proposed works are not identified in the North Mona Vale Beach Master Plan that forms part of the PoM and, further, the vegetation removal may be considered inconsistent with some of the actions identified in the Master Plan. As such, the proposal is not permissible with or without consent under the PoM."*

It is therefore considered that the PoM would need to be amended before a path on the eastern side of the southern extent of Surfview Road could be permitted. Various other steps would need to be taken. Among other things, a Review of Environmental Factors would need to be prepared to consider the environmental impact of the proposal before a PoM amendment could be considered and the re-categorisation of the land may be required. Whether the proposal could proceed will depend on the outcome of those processes.

Based on recent projects and associated environmental investigations, it is estimated the relevant processes would take approximately 12–18 months.

Other potential options which could be explored to address the safety concerns raised by residents include widening the existing footpath on the western side of Surfview Road or narrowing the road to accommodate a footpath on the eastern side of the road within the road reserve. Both of these options have previously been put to the residents as an alternative to their proposal for a path on the eastern side of the road which impacts on the dune area.

ITEM 18.2	RESPONSE TO QUESTION WITH NOTICE NO 5/2023 - MANLY'S LITTLE PENGUINS
TRIM FILE REF	2023/168492
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

Submitted by: Councillor Sarah Grattan

QUESTION

1. What are the most recent figures of Little Penguin breeding pairs?
2. What are the main causes of the decline in penguin population numbers over the last 10 years?
3. What measures have been taken by lead authorities in the last 12 months to protect Manly's Little Penguins?
4. What support was provided by Council?
5. How effective were the measures instituted to date?
6. What measures and enforcement must be taken by relevant authorities to protect the remaining penguins? What can Council do to support?
7. What would be the cost of increased ranger presence at Collins Beach and other sensitive habitat sites during the penguin nesting season?
8. What actions should we ask the lead authorities to take to avoid the extinction of Little Penguins at Manly (NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Environment)?

RESPONSE

1. What are the most recent figures of Little Penguin breeding pairs?

NPWS have not formally published monitoring data for the past two breeding seasons. However, preliminary results for the 2022-2023 season have seen a net increase in breeding pairs within the monitored area, compared to the 23 pairs recorded in the 2020-2021 breeding season.
2. What are the main causes of the decline in penguin population numbers over the last 10 years?

The key cause of the colony's recent decline is a 2015 fox predation event in which 27 penguins were killed at breeding sites within the National Park. In addition, a study by Taronga Wildlife Hospital found that approximately 25% of penguin mortalities processed by the hospital between 1999 and 2019 could be attributed to boat strike (either confirmed or probable).

Of the three penguin mortalities reported to Council in the past year, boat propellor injury was determined as the likely cause of death in one case, while the other two were inconclusive. Finally, an "unidentified oceanic phenomenon" was also identified by the penguin ecologist engaged by NPWS as a likely cause of decline in the 2018-2019 season.

3. What measures have been taken by lead authorities in the last 12 months to protect Manly's Little Penguins?

NPWS (Sydney North Area) have provided the following response:

The NPWS Sydney North Area follows a little penguin Protection Plan that summarises key threats to the Manly penguin population and outlines the area controls that are currently used. This includes an ongoing fox baiting program; shooting operations (as required); soft jaw trapping (as required); caged trapping (as required); camera monitoring for dogs, cats and foxes; and staff enforcing the requirements outlined for the Area of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (AOBV; formerly known as Critical Habitat).

In November 2022, Sydney North Area conducted a weeklong surveillance of North Head to ensure dogs and cats were not taken down to Collins Beach after hours and to educate the community on the significance of the Manly population. Sydney North Area also works on an ongoing basis with the NSW Water Police to ensure boats are following the requirements of the AOBV.

The little penguin critical habitat signs around North Head and Oyama Avenue are being redesigned to reflect updates to the legislation and improve visitor awareness of the significance of the little penguins.

Sydney North Area is providing support to the little penguin project, which is included in the Seabirds to Seascapes Program. The program aims to improve marine ecosystem health and support important marine species by learning how coastal restoration influences and benefits marine habitat, animals and biodiversity.

4. What support was provided by Council?

Whilst Council only manages small portions of the declared penguin habitat area, Council staff continue to work closely with lead agencies (NPWS and the Environment Energy and Sciences Division of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment) and volunteers on the Little Penguin Recovery Team. Actions undertaken by Council in the past two years include:

- As a consent authority, Council continues to assess development applications within the Little Penguin Area of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (AOBV; formerly known as Critical Habitat) and other areas where penguins are known to occur.
- Collaborating with lead agencies to develop new signage for National Park, Council and private land across the Area of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (AOBV) - formerly known as Critical Habitat.
- Collaborating with lead agencies to update existing educational brochures for landholders within the AOBV.
- Increased ranger patrols in sensitive penguin habitat areas, including at Little Manly and along the Manly Scenic Walkway.
- Supporting Taronga Zoo's Project Penguin by hosting educational and revegetation activities at Little Manly for over 1100 primary and secondary school students. Staff also represented Council during two 'Expert Q&A Panel' events at the zoo.
- Supporting the Manly Penguin Wardens through provision of venues and staff for functions and training sessions, assistance with volunteer rostering, and regular monitoring of penguin habitat at Little Manly.
- In response to a community-reported fox sighting, Council undertook a media campaign to raise awareness and then engaged a pest control contractor who dispatched three adult foxes within/near penguin habitat at Little Manly.

5. How effective were the measures instituted to date?

NPWS (Sydney North Area) have provided the following response:

The 2022-2023 breeding season had a slow start with breeding pair numbers remaining low until November 2022. However, the Seabirds to Seascapes little penguin census and the NPWS monitoring program revealed a late increase in breeding activity from October 2022 to January 2023 resulting in an overall increase in the number of breeding pairs this season compared to 2021-2022, with fledgling numbers within the range of recent years. The 2022-2023 breeding season has finished and the Penguin Ecologist engaged by the Sydney North Area is finalising the annual count and writing the annual report.

6. What measures and enforcement must be taken by relevant authorities to protect the remaining penguins? What can Council do to support?

NPWS (Sydney North Area) have provided the following advice:

As predation and boat strikes are the most significant threats to the little penguins in Manly, ongoing fox management and enforcement of the AOBV boating requirements is undertaken by NPWS. During the off-season, NPWS will be replacing the nesting boxes around North Head in advance of the next breeding season. Further projects and programs will be considered as part of the Saving our Species plan for the little penguins.

In addition to Council's ongoing penguin conservation program, an engagement program for landholders within the Little Penguin Declared Area (formerly Critical Habitat) is proposed for 2023. The program will be developed and delivered in partnership with lead agencies and volunteers.

Potential additional measures include:

- A review of current service levels for ranger patrols at Little Manly and the Stuart Street bushland reserve during the penguin breeding season to mitigate risks associated with off-leash dogs.
- Continue to advocate to DPE for the Manly penguin population to be listed as a species subject to 'Serious and Irreversible Impacts' under the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme.
- Review of the feasibility of a new berthing area at Little Manly Point Park to encourage boat owners to utilise the reserve for toileting of dogs rather than National Park beaches.
- Write to the Minister responsible for maritime transport requesting:
 - additional training for ferry operators to prevent collisions with penguins, and
 - increased maritime officer patrols to ensure compliance with marine speed limits in North Harbour.

7. What would be the cost of increased ranger presence at Collins Beach and other sensitive habitat sites during the penguin nesting season?

Collins Flat Beach is located within the Sydney Harbour National Park (North Head) and as such, costs/staff resourcing matters are the responsibility of NPWS. Increased Council ranger presence at Little Manly Beach and the Stuart Street bushland reserve during key breeding and moulting periods may assist in reducing any risks associated with domestic animals in these locations.

8. What actions should we ask the lead authorities to take to avoid the extinction of Little Penguins at Manly (NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Environment)

Measures to reduce the incident of boat strike are critical to the survival of the Manly penguin colony. Actions which may be taken by State agencies to achieve this include additional training for ferry operators to prevent collisions with penguins and increased maritime officer patrols to ensure compliance with marine speed limits in North Harbour.

In addition, ongoing NPWS support for Penguin Warden volunteers (e.g. ranger patrols in key penguin areas at sunset) will assist in continued mitigation of impacts associated with dogs and human disturbance in the National Park.

ITEM 18.3	RESPONSE TO QUESTION WITH NOTICE NO 6/2023 - BROOKVALE STRUCTURE PLAN - NIGHT CLUBS
TRIM FILE REF	2023/179121
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

Submitted by: Councillor Vincent De Luca OAM

QUESTION

At the recent Candidates' Forum for State Candidates, Mayor Michael Regan stated that the Brookvale Structure Plan will include "Night Clubs" - could this please be confirmed whether this is accurate and if so where exactly would "Night Clubs" be allowed in Brookvale?

RESPONSE

Night clubs are defined as a "Pub" under Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011) as follows:

***Pub** means licensed premises under the Liquor Act 2007 the principal purpose of which is the retail sale of liquor for consumption on the premises, whether or not the premises include hotel or motel accommodation and whether or not food is sold or entertainment is provided on the premises. Note - Pubs are a type of **food and drink premises**.*

The Brookvale industrial area is zoned in part IN1 General Industrial (the main industrial area) and part B4 Mixed Use (adjacent to Pittwater Road).

Pubs are permitted with consent in both these zones.

Under proposed changes to employment zones by the State government set to commence in April, the IN1 zone will change to an E4 zone (Employment Zone - General Industry) and the B4 zone will change to a MU1 zone.

Pubs will remain as permissible uses in both these new zones.

ITEM 18.5	RESPONSE TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE NO 3/2023 - DA VARIATION - CRESCENT ROAD, NEWPORT
TRIM FILE REF	2023/209896
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

Taken on notice at the Council meeting on 28 March 2023 from: Councillor Jose Menano-Pires

QUESTION

Regarding DA 2022/0753 can you please provide a laymans explanation of the issues raised?

RESPONSE

DA2022/0753 is related to the property at 160 Crescent Rd, Newport and proposed the demolition of an existing dwelling and swimming pool and the construction of a new dwelling and swimming pool. That part of the development the subject of the clause 4.6 variation to the Foreshore Building Line (FBL) development standard contained in Pittwater LEP 2014 were roof eaves and retaining walls.

The approved development results in a better outcome, in terms of the extent of encroachment into the FBL, as the existing development encroaches further into the FBL than as approved.

The assessment report prepared for the development application and the approved plans are available to view on Council's website.

19.0 MATTERS PROPOSED TO TAKE PLACE IN CLOSED SESSION

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. In accordance with the requirements of section 10A of the Local Government Act 1993 as addressed below, Council resolve to close the meeting to the public to consider and discuss:
 - A. Item 19.1 RFT2022/206 - Design and Construct Morgan & Oxford Falls Road Bridge on the basis that it involves the receipt and discussion of commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it [10A(2)(d(i)) Local Government Act 1993].

This report discusses/provides advice concerning commercial tenders. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of the information about the matter outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in Council decision-making because the disclosure of this information would result in the release of commercial in confidence information.
2. The resolutions made by the Council in Closed Session be made public after the conclusion of the Closed Session and such resolutions be recorded in the Minutes of the Council Meeting.

20.0 REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with Part 15 of the Code of Meeting Practice, resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting, that is closed to the public must be made public by the chairperson as soon as practicable. The resolution must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.
