



BUSINESS PAPER

GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday 10 March 2021
at 6:30PM**



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AGENDA AND SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

PRESENT

NATIONAL ANTHEM

OPENING PRAYER/S

Reverend James McFarlane from The Hornsby Presbyterian Church, will open the meeting in prayer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

Statement by the Chairperson:

"We recognise our Shire's rich cultural and religious diversity and we acknowledge and pay respect to the beliefs of all members of our community, regardless of creed or faith."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Statement by the Chairperson:

"Council recognises the Traditional Owners of the lands of Hornsby Shire, the Darug and Guringai peoples, and pays respect to their Ancestors and Elders past and present and to their Heritage. We acknowledge and uphold their intrinsic connections and continuing relationships to Country."

VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETING

Statement by the Chairperson:

"I advise all present that tonight's meeting is being video streamed live via Council's website and also audio recorded for the purposes of providing a record of public comment at the meeting, supporting the democratic process, broadening knowledge and participation in community affairs, and demonstrating Council's commitment to openness and accountability. The audio and video recordings of the non-confidential parts of the meeting will be made available on Council's website once the Minutes have been finalised. All speakers are requested to ensure their comments are relevant to the issue at hand and to refrain from making personal comments or criticisms. No other persons are permitted to record the Meeting, unless specifically authorised by Council to do so."

APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE

POLITICAL DONATIONS DISCLOSURE

Statement by the Chairperson:

"In accordance with Section 10.4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, any person or organisation who has made a relevant planning application or a submission in respect of a relevant planning application which is on tonight's agenda, and who has made a reportable political

donation or gift to a Councillor or employee of the Council, must make a Political Donations Disclosure Statement.

If a Councillor or employee has received a reportable political donation or gift from a person or organisation who has made a relevant planning application or a submission in respect of a relevant planning application which is on tonight's agenda, they must declare a non-pecuniary conflict of interests to the meeting, disclose the nature of the interest and manage the conflict of interests in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct."

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Clause 4.16 and 4.17 of Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors requires that a councillor or a member of a Council committee who has a pecuniary interest in a matter which is before the Council or committee and who is present at a meeting of the Council or committee at which the matter is being considered must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable. The disclosure is also to be submitted in writing (on the form titled "Declaration of Interest").

4.16 A councillor who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the council or committee at which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.

4.17 The councillor must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of the council or committee:

- a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the council or committee, or*
- b) at any time during which the council or committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.*

Clause 5.10 and 5.11 of Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors requires that a councillor or a member of a Council committee who has a non pecuniary interest in a matter which is before the Council or committee and who is present at a meeting of the Council or committee at which the matter is being considered must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable. The disclosure is also to be submitted in writing (on the form titled "Declaration of Interest").

5.10 Significant non-pecuniary conflict of interests must be managed in one of two ways:

- a) by not participating in consideration of, or decision making in relation to, the matter in which you have the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest and the matter being allocated to another person for consideration or determination, or*
- b) if the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to a matter under consideration at a council or committee meeting, by managing the conflict of interest as if you had a pecuniary interest in the matter by complying with clauses 4.16 and 4.17.*

5.11 If you determine that you have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter that is not significant and does not require further action, when disclosing the interest you must also explain in writing why you consider that the non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

THAT the Minutes of the General Meeting held on 10 February, 2021 be confirmed; a copy having been distributed to all Councillors.

PETITIONS**PRESENTATIONS****RESCISSION MOTIONS****MAYORAL MINUTES****ITEMS PASSED BY EXCEPTION / CALL FOR SPEAKERS ON AGENDA ITEMS**Note:

Persons wishing to address Council on matters which are on the Agenda are permitted to speak, prior to the item being discussed, and their names will be recorded in the Minutes in respect of that particular item.

*Persons wishing to address Council on **non agenda matters**, are permitted to speak after all items on the agenda in respect of which there is a speaker from the public have been finalised by Council. Their names will be recorded in the Minutes under the heading "Public Forum for Non Agenda Items".*

GENERAL BUSINESS

- *Items for which there is a Public Forum Speaker*
- *Public Forum for non agenda items*
- *Balance of General Business items*

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER**Page Number 1****Item 1 GM2/21 DRAFT SUSTAINABLE HORNSBY 2040 AND SUPPORTING STRATEGIES****RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council:

1. Note the results of the public exhibition for the draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy, draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, draft Urban Forest Strategy, draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy and draft Climate Wise Hornsby Plan.
2. Adopt the draft amended Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy, draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, draft Urban Forest Strategy, draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy and draft Climate Wise Hornsby Plan as detailed in Attachments 1 to 5.

3. Write to all submitters notifying them of the Council's decision and thanking them for their comments and suggested amendments.
4. Update the Future Hornsby Website to reflect the adoption of the strategies.

CORPORATE SUPPORT DIVISION

Page Number 19

Item 2 CS2/21 CLASSIFICATION OF LAND - 302-308 PEATS FERRY ROAD, HORNSBY

RECOMMENDATION

THAT pursuant to Section 31 of the Local Government Act 1993, Lot 10 DP 3802, Lot 1 DP 131842 and Lots 1 & 2 DP 133469 being 302-308 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby be classified as "Operational Land".

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Item 3 CS8/21 INVESTMENTS AND BORROWINGS FOR 2020/21 - STATUS FOR PERIOD ENDING 31 JANUARY 2021

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the contents of Director's Report No. CS8/21 be received and noted.

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT DIVISION

Nil

PLANNING AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION

Nil

INFRASTRUCTURE AND MAJOR PROJECTS DIVISION

Page Number 26

Item 4 IM1/21 DRAFT PUBLIC DOMAIN GUIDELINES

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Endorse the draft Public Domain Guidelines for a 42-day public exhibition.
2. The results of the consultation process be reported to Council at the first available opportunity.

PUBLIC FORUM – NON AGENDA ITEMS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

MAYOR'S NOTES

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Item 5 MN2/21 MAYORS NOTES 01 FEBRUARY 2021 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2021

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Page Number 33

Item 6 NOM1/21 HORNSBY SHIRE'S NATVE WILDLIFE

COUNCILLOR HEYDE TO MOVE

That Council:

1. Note that Hornsby Shire is characterised by its unique bushland and diverse range of native wildlife.
2. Note that thirty-one Wildlife Protection Areas have been designated by Council to help preserve our region's unique biodiversity.
3. Note that residents can help our wildlife thrive by keeping cats contained within their own property and by keeping them inside at night.
4. Recognise the essential role that volunteer wildlife rescuers and carers play in treating, rehabilitating, rehoming and advocating for our local wildlife, and
5. Council formally thank our volunteer wildlife rescuers for their work within Hornsby and across the state acknowledging their ongoing commitment and expertise

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

MATTERS OF URGENCY

1 DRAFT SUSTAINABLE HORNSBY 2040 AND SUPPORTING STRATEGIES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- At its meeting on 9 September 2020, Council resolved (GM18/20) to place the draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy, draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, draft Urban Forest Strategy, draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy and draft Climate Wise Hornsby Plan on public exhibition.
- The draft strategies provide the vision, principles and recommendations for managing our natural environment and ensure a sustainable, liveable, productive and collaborative Shire.
- The draft strategies were placed on public exhibition from 10 September to 13 November 2020, with a total of 159 submissions being received. The feedback from these submissions has been reviewed, with suggested amendments being incorporated into the final draft strategies in Attachments 1 to 5.
- Implementation of the strategies is limited to, and dependent upon, future funding opportunities, resource availability and Council's strategic priorities. Subsequently, all strategy actions will be reprioritised annually with actions that are able to be implemented being incorporated into Council's Operational Plan. Council will also seek opportunities for alternative funding, such as grants from the NSW and federal governments to support strategy implementation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Note the results of the public exhibition for the draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy, draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, draft Urban Forest Strategy, draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy and draft Climate Wise Hornsby Plan.
2. Adopt the draft amended Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy, draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, draft Urban Forest Strategy, draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy and draft Climate Wise Hornsby Plan as detailed in Attachments 1 to 5.
3. Write to all submitters notifying them of the Council's decision and thanking them for their comments and suggested amendments.
4. Update the Future Hornsby Website to reflect the adoption of the strategies.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Report is to outline the submissions received during the public exhibition of the draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy (Attachment 1), draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (Attachment 2), draft Urban Forest Strategy (Attachment 3), draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy (Attachment 4) and draft Climate Wise Hornsby Plan (Attachment 5), and to seek Council adoption of the amended draft strategies.

BACKGROUND

In March 2018, the *North District Plan* was released by the Greater Sydney Commission which provides a 20-year plan to manage growth while enhancing the liveability, sustainability and productivity of the North District. To enable alignment with the *North District Plan*, and to prepare a Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS), legislative changes were made to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) requiring all councils to update their Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) within 3 years.

At its meeting on 13 June 2018, Council considered Group Manager's Report No. PL19/18 concerning District Planning and a funding offer from the (then) Department of Planning and Environment and resolved that:

1. Council accept the funding offer of \$2.5 million under the Department of Planning and Environment's 'Accelerated LEP Review Program'.

At its meeting on 10 October 2018, Council endorsed the commencement of several specialised strategies under the (then) Department of Planning and Environment's Accelerated LEP Review Program.

The specialised strategies included the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, Urban Forest Strategy, Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy and Climate Wise Hornsby Plan. Collectively these strategies inform the overarching Environmental Sustainability Strategy – Sustainable Hornsby 2040.

Completion of these strategies was outlined as a priority action within the Local Strategic Planning Statement that was adopted in February 2020 and published on the NSW Planning Portal in March 2020.

At its meeting on 9 September 2020, Council considered Executive Manager's Report No. GM18/20 and resolved that:

1. The draft:
 - a) Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy
 - b) Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
 - c) Urban Forest Strategy
 - d) Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy
 - e) Climate Wise Hornsby Plan

Attached to General Manager's Report No. GM18/20 be placed on public exhibition for a period of 42 days.

2. Following exhibition, a report on submissions be presented to Council for its consideration.

DISCUSSION

The draft strategies were placed on public exhibition from 10 September to 13 November 2020. A total of 159 submissions were received during the public exhibition period and 49 residents participated in an online webinar and discussion forum.

The following provides an overview of the key themes, number of submissions and responses for each draft strategy.

General

The Hornsby Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consultative Committee (HATSICC) submission identified that local Aboriginal peoples, Cultural values, Heritage and sites need to be at the forefront of any Council policy and planning discussions, documents and decisions. HATSICC recommended that Council engage local Traditional Owners to provide wording and inform strategy sections including Indigenous Connections to Country, Hornsby's Environmental Snapshot, Hornsby's Shire's Water Story etc that can be used across Council documents in a consistent manner.

Council will engage local Traditional Owners to prepare accurate and consistent information for inclusion in the draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040 strategies and any future Council documents. As this work is yet to be undertaken, it is proposed that the Sustainable Hornsby 2040 strategies will be updated to include this information once developed.

Draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040

A total of 24 submissions were received, with 22 submissions outlining their support for the vision and goals of the document and 2 submissions did not comment either way. The key themes outlined in the submissions include:

Issue / Theme	Details	No. of submissions	Response
Climate emergency declaration / immediate need for action on climate change	Climate change is accelerating. Failure to tackle the climate crisis will have disastrous and far reaching consequences.	6	Comments are noted. The Climate Wise Hornsby Plan acknowledges the need for mitigation and adaptation.
Lobby higher levels of government for greater sustainability action and commitment	That Council lobby State and Federal government to drive sustainability initiatives and carbon reduction	5	Comments are supported. Several actions in the Plan relate to lobbying State and Federal Government. Council will continue to advocate on behalf of the community.
Waste issues	The earth's resources are finite. Waste going to landfill is a source of greenhouse gas and loss of precious resources. Waste minimisation and recycling are critical.	5	Comments are noted. Implementation of the Waste Matters Strategy will assist with reducing emissions from the waste sector.
Tougher planning controls and	Planning controls through the LEP and DCP can influence	4	Comments are supported. Council will look to

sustainable buildings	sustainable design and reduce emissions in the built environment.		strengthen sustainability considerations in planning controls. Council will also lobby State Government to improve BASIX.
Community education	Community education will be important to raise awareness amongst the community about their role in sustainability	3	Comments are supported. Implementation of the Strategy will involve community education and collaboration across all sectors – residents, industry and business
Collaboration with government, business and community	Local government must collaborate with government, businesses and the community	3	Comments are supported. Implementation of the Strategy will involve community education and collaboration across all sectors – residents, industry and business
Need funding for these strategies	The actions with the strategies all require funding for implementation.	3	Comments are noted. Council will seek opportunities for alternative funding, such as grants from the NSW and federal governments to support strategy implementation.
Aboriginal knowledge and collaboration	Identified need to engage with representatives of local Aboriginal groups.	2	Comments are supported. Council will continue to engage with the Hornsby Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consultative Committee and look to establish relationships with local Aboriginal groups.
Trees	Hornsby Shire has a high canopy cover however there is concern that for every tree planted, more are lost through natural attrition (exacerbated by climate change), development, infrastructure, and illegal removal. Strong support for more trees.	2	Comments are noted. Both the Urban Forest Strategy and Biodiversity Conservation Strategy address tree loss and the need to increase canopy cover.
Local food production	To reduce food miles and ensure food security local food production must be looked at	1	Comment is noted. Implementation of the Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy and Waste Matters

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			Strategy will look at local food production and food waste.
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Following community consultation, the priority of some actions has changed as per amendments to the supporting strategies outlined below. Additional actions have also been added as per the amendments to supporting strategies outlined below and can be seen in Attachment 6.

Draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy

A total of 56 submissions were received (1 was a late submission), with 31 submissions outlining their support of the vision and goals. Twelve submissions outlined they did not support the Draft Strategy, with each submission expressing concern over how mountain-biking had been portrayed in the draft document. The key themes outlined in the submissions include:

Issue / Theme	Details	No. of submissions	Response
Concern over how mountain biking is portrayed	Mountain biking mention as example of a threat / challenge to the conservation of biodiversity.	36	The threat of unsanctioned mountain biking on biodiversity was raised during community workshops (along with others). Action to prepare Natural Areas Recreational Strategy removes reference to activity with more broad considerations to achieve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - diverse nature-based recreation opportunities are available and accessible - community connections with nature through participation in sustainable nature-based recreation - environmental protection through well managed nature-based recreation - community awareness of the cultural heritage significance within the Shire's natural areas.
Connecting people to Nature	Need to enable sustainable nature-based recreation that encourages connections	17	Adequately covered in Section 5 of Strategy. Amendment to focus of Natural Areas Recreation Strategy (as above).
Community education and collaboration	To enable improved collaboration and education on issues of biodiversity conservation. Several submissions outlined the need	16	Comments are supported by Strategy content. Development of Natural Areas Recreation Strategy will involve community collaboration and identify opportunities for improved biodiversity outcomes through education.

	to collaborate with mountain biking community.		
Need to better protect and enhance vegetation cover	Concern over loss of vegetation, connectivity and terrestrial biodiversity	6	Comments are supported by Strategy content. Inclusion of numerous approaches to achieving this throughout draft Strategy, including development of the Green Infrastructure Framework
Climate Change	Concern over the impact of a changing climate on biodiversity	3	Comments are supported by Strategy content. Preparation of a vulnerability assessment included to determine future impact of climate change on biodiversity values followed by a strategy to mitigate identified risks.
Pest Species	Need to improve pest species management	3	Comments are supported by Strategy content. Strategy prioritises implementation of best practice weed and feral animal control and management to improve the health of lands and waterways.
Fire management	Opportunity for fire management to positively influence on biodiversity	3	Comments are supported by Strategy content, including fire specific actions for monitoring, maintaining collaboration with land managers and encouraging biodiversity conservation goals to be considered in fire planning, management and hazard reduction activity.
Aboriginal knowledge and collaboration	Identified need to engage with representatives of local Aboriginal groups	2	Comments are supported. The Strategy includes specific reference to this need and in identifying the opportunity for collaboration in managing biodiversity and land management outcomes.
Monitoring and Reporting	Importance of monitoring biodiversity and reporting to community	2	Comments are supported with biodiversity intelligence central to the Strategy. Council will further develop its comprehensive biodiversity baseline data and monitoring activities. Council will also ensure approaches to management adjust appropriately while reporting outcomes of biodiversity monitoring and implementation to community.
Critically endangered species	Need for improved management of critically endangered species	1	Comments are supported within Strategy through legislative and planning controls, NSW Government programs, works, education, planning and compliance actions.
Population growth	Concern over threats to	1	Comments are supported. The five strategies which encompass the document

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	biodiversity posed by ongoing population growth		are focussed on mitigating the impact of humans on the Shire's biodiversity.
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Following consultation, the priority of 13 actions were elevated, 6 KPIs amended and 2 new actions were added ('Assess benefits and impacts of GIF on biodiversity' and 'Undertake assessment of migratory species presence and potential habitat') (for further detail on the amendments see Attachment 6).

Draft Urban Forest Strategy

A total of 34 submissions were received with all supporting the Strategy, albeit with suggested changes. This includes a number of submissions which seek to elevate proposed 'medium' priority actions to 'high'.

Issue / Theme	Details	No. of submissions	Response
Replacement trees are provided where trees are removed	Concerns raised regarding trees are not being replaced on development sites or where trees are approved to be removed	11	Specific action supported by the Strategy to undertake site audits and enforce conditions of consent.
Development controls to increase focus upon tree protection and replacement	Concerns development controls need to be strengthened to increase tree protection and provide opportunities for new and replacement	15	Specific actions supported by the Strategy to review Council's development controls.
Financial incentives for those properties that maintain and support trees vs those that have no trees	Concerns land development and use does not financially benefit properties that retain and support trees	4	This suggestion is beyond the scope of the strategy noting land is currently valued through the Valuer General's office and subject to Stamp Duty upon sale.
Canopy cover targets for rural areas	Requests canopy targets be expanded from urban areas to rural areas.	2	Specific actions supported by the Strategy to explore opportunities to establish a canopy target for rural areas.
Protecting trees in residential areas	Concerns at the rate and volume of tree loss that has occurred in residential areas.	27	Specific actions supported by the Strategy regarding protecting and enhancing tree provision on private land.
Underground powerlines through development	Request for more undergrounding of powerlines to increase opportunities for	8	Specific actions supported by the Strategy to explore opportunities to establish a

	larger trees		canopy target for rural areas.
Education programs regarding trees in urban areas	Requests that existing strategy action to be prioritised	21	Specific actions supported by the Strategy subject to funding availability.
Greater promotion needed for the benefits of trees when faced with the impacts of Climate Change	Requests that existing strategy action to be prioritised	7	Specific action supported by the Strategy.
Advocate changes to 10/50 to stop inappropriate tree removal	Requests that existing strategy action to be prioritised	11	Specific action supported by the Strategy as a priority.
Concerns regarding unauthorised tree removal	Requests unauthorised tree removal be investigated, and penalties be applied	7	Specific action supported by the Strategy as a priority.
Sufficient staff and resources to deliver the actions	Requests the required resources be provided	3	Resources to undertake the strategy actions will be considered together with Council's collective priorities.
Canopy mapping needs to be more frequent	Requests that canopy mapping be done more frequently	9	Canopy mapping to date has been provided by the NSW State Government noting the high expense is not provided by Council.
Engage with local indigenous representatives to raise knowledge and awareness of cultural value of trees	Request for existing strategy action to be prioritised	5	Priority amended to 'high'
Resolve conflict between trees shading and solar panels	Concerns that shading provided by trees prevents residents from accessing the environmental benefits generated by solar panels	3	New specific action to explore issues and confirm policy position regarding trees and solar panels.
Address potential conflict between provision of shared pathways and street trees	Concern the provision of sustainable transport options such as shared pathways will impact existing and proposed trees	1	New specific action to explore options aimed at optimising trees and shared pathways in streetscapes.

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Following community consultation, the priority of 11 actions were elevated and 2 new actions were added (Review conflicts for trees / private solar panels and Shared pathways / trees located in road corridors) (for further detail on amendments see Attachment 6).

Draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy

A total 13 submissions were received with 10 submissions in support of the draft Strategy, including the vision and goals (the other submissions did not state either way). The key themes outlined in the submissions include:

Issue / Theme	Details	No. of Submissions	Response
Terminology	Need to simplify and expand on new concepts and ideas.	4	Comments are supported.
History statement	Concern about accuracy of Aboriginal and early European history statements.	1	Comment noted. Advice on consistent wording will be sought.
Planning Controls	Need to ensure compliance with planning controls, e.g., erosion and sediment control, impervious areas, water sensitive urban design, environmental flows. Basix too ambiguous. Need stronger controls to safeguard groundwater. Use of DCP and LEP to facilitate WSC outcomes. Controls mandating permeable surfaces, e.g. permeable paving	10	Comments are supported. Several actions in the Strategy relate to reviewing and strengthening planning controls.
Policy	Need stronger policy to retain and protect natural watercourses Need effective policy to reduce potable water use, e.g., irrigation.	2	Comments are supported. Several actions in the Strategy relate to policy review and/or development.
Compliance	Compliance of construction activities. Review consent conditions and related compliance and enforcement measures. Compliance of development post-development.	3	Comments are supported. Several actions in the Strategy relate to reviewing and strengthening compliance measures.
Pollution and Littering	Need student education, specifically plastic littering,	3	Comments are supported. Several actions relate to

	<p>using varying platforms. Expand on catchment tours. Educate on chemical and detergent use. Dedicated staff for water pollution and dumping.</p>		<p>education and compliance to address pollution and encourage behavioural change.</p>
Sewer leaks	<p>Questioned cost (from Sydney Water) for residents to initiate sewer leak investigations.</p>	2	<p>Comments are noted.</p>
Effluent	<p>Effluent into waterways detrimental. Need to work with Sydney Water to better utilise effluent reuse.</p>	2	<p>Comments are supported.</p>
Rainwater harvesting	<p>Residential reuse should be widely promoted, including the outcome of reducing run-off to protect waterways. Need to promote Councils stormwater harvesting. Need to pursue community harvesting, e.g., for community gardens.</p>	6	<p>Comments are supported. Implementation of the Strategy involves expanded community engagement and education, including promotion and guidance on reuse at all scale, e.g., household, local and municipal.</p>
Sewer reuse	<p>Sewer reuse should be investigated at a municipal level. Both black and grey water reuse should be investigated. Mandate grey water for irrigation.</p>	3	<p>Comments are supported. This will be addressed through actions in the Strategy relating to collaboration with Sydney Water and other relevant agencies.</p>
Incentive	<p>Need incentives to reduce potable water use. Grants to be investigated to implement water sensitive plans, upgrades to infrastructure, recycling and reduction of water use. Establish targets and track progress. Develop guidelines to assist residents to implement reuse.</p>	6	<p>Comments are noted. There are actions in the Strategy relating the investigation of incentive programs to encourage water sensitive behaviour.</p>
Showcase best practice	<p>Limited promotion of best practise water sensitivity in residential building. Lobby companies and state to showcase best practise. Need to promote examples of</p>	3	<p>Comments are supported. There are several actions in the Strategy that identify the need to promote or showcase examples of water sensitive best practise at different scales, e.g.,</p>

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	<p>water sensitive best practise at different scales, e.g., residential, commercial, public infrastructure.</p> <p>Showcase best practice construction activities.</p>		<p>residential, commercial, public infrastructure as well as promoting good behaviour.</p>
Community Engagement	<p>Ensure planning controls are fully understood.</p> <p>Promote water wise initiatives for different land uses, e.g., urban, rural and for different purposes, e.g., fauna mgt.</p> <p>Investigate the use of behavioural economics to change behaviour and boost compliance.</p> <p>Investigate innovative 3D visualisation technology to illustrate catchment behaviour and assist communications.</p> <p>Education of children through schools, via targeted curriculum-based material.</p> <p>Promote waterway history, e.g. history cruises.</p>	5	<p>Comments are supported.</p> <p>Implementation of the Strategy involves expanded and robust community engagement and education, including all demographics.</p>
Website	<p>That information be placed on Council's website on what residents and businesses can do to save water and help transition to a water sensitive city.</p>	2	<p>Comments are supported.</p> <p>There are actions in the Strategy relating website upgrades as well as investigation of other platforms</p>
Resilience	<p>Drought response and resilience are an important attribute that the strategy needs to address in the long-term goal.</p>	1	<p>Comment is noted.</p>
Water governance	<p>Council needs to be more proactive in pursuing the integration of water sensitivity into all facets of Council business.</p> <p>Need to acknowledge and address areas for improvement and understand the critical role water plays in sustaining cities.</p> <p>Advisory committees have a</p>	4	<p>Comments are supported.</p> <p>Several actions (see below) in the Strategy identify the need for expanded and inclusive arrangements of water related issues.</p>

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	role to oversee implementation. Questioning trust of Council by community.		
Collaboration with state agencies	Need better strategic collaboration with state the on-planning controls.	2	Comments are supported. Several actions in the Strategy relate to lobbying State and Federal Government. Council will continue to advocate on behalf of the community.
Cross boundary partnerships	Cross Council waterway partnership should be pursued.	2	Comments are supported. There are actions in the Strategy relate to strengthening collaboration with neighbouring Councils. Furthermore, it is noted that the Coastal Management Plan currently being developed involves collaboration with six Councils.
Business and Tourism	Businesses to be included in all education and engagement activities. Potential tourism opportunities, specifically the Hawkesbury and Brooklyn	3	Comments are supported. Several actions in the Strategy relate to engaging and strengthening relationships with business and industry.

Following community consultation new tasks were added, and some amended slightly to include water sensitive practices that Council currently undertakes. The priority of one action changed from low to high (for further detail on amendments see Attachment 6).

Draft Climate Wise Hornsby Plan

A total of 32 submissions were received (1 was a late submission) with 29 submissions outlining their support of the vision and goals. Three submissions outlined they did not agree with the vision and goals as they would like to see more action on climate change. The key themes outlined in the submissions include:

Issue	Details	No. of submissions	Response
Community education and collaboration with businesses	To reduce community emissions education and collaboration is required. Several submissions outlined the need to collaborate with businesses.	15	Comments are supported. Implementation of the Plan will involve community education and collaboration across all sectors – residents, industry and business.

Accelerated target to 2030 or sooner	Council has a target of net zero by 2050. Several submissions outlined the need to accelerate that target to 2030 or sooner.	13	Comments are noted. Council will periodically review climate modelling data to ensure the most up to date data is being used for risk assessments and future emission targets.
Lobby State and Federal Government	That Council lobby State and Federal government to drive sustainability initiatives and carbon reduction	10	Comments are supported. Several actions in the Plan relate to lobbying State and Federal Government. Council will continue to advocate on behalf of the community.
Monitoring and Reporting	Ongoing monitoring and reporting of the outcomes and Council's progress to achieving net zero emissions by 2050	9	Comments are supported. Council will monitor and report corporate and community emissions on an annual basis.
Community solar farm and increase uptake of solar across the Shire	Individual and community solar projects can significantly reduce community emissions.	9	Comments are supported. Several actions in the Plan relate to the investigation of community solar projects, identification of potential locations, education and partnerships with businesses.
Active transport	Active transport such as walking, and cycling have the ability to reduce emissions from transport. Encouraging active transport through education, provision of infrastructure (bike lanes, bike racks, footpaths, improved connectivity etc) will assist with the uptake of active transport.	7	Comments are supported. Initiatives in the draft Walking and Cycling Strategy support the uptake of active transport.
Planning controls (LEP / DCP)	Planning controls through the LEP and DCP can influence sustainable design and reduce emissions in the built environment.	7	Comments are supported. Council will look to strengthen sustainability considerations in planning controls. Council will also lobby State Government to improve BASIX.
Electric Vehicles	Electric vehicles can reduce emissions when charged with	6	Comments are supported. Several actions in the Plan

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	renewable energy. Provision of electric vehicle charging stations will help with the take up of EVs within the Shire.		relate to electric vehicles.
Climate emergency	Climate change is accelerating. Failure to tackle the climate crisis will have disastrous and far reaching consequences.	5	Comments are noted. The Climate Wise Hornsby Plan acknowledges the need for mitigation and adaptation.
100% renewable electricity	Electricity is the highest emission source for both Council and the community. Transitioning to 100% renewable electricity will reduce emission levels.	5	Comments are noted. The priority relating to investigating the purchase of renewable energy has changed from High/Med to High.
Trees	Hornsby Shire has a high canopy cover however there is concern that for every tree planted, more are lost through natural attrition (exacerbated by climate change), development, infrastructure, and illegal removal. Strong support for more trees.	4	Comments are noted. Both the Urban Forest Strategy and Biodiversity Conservation Strategy address tree loss and the need to increase canopy cover.
Waste minimisation	The earth's resources are finite. Waste going to landfill is a source of greenhouse gas and loss of precious resources. Waste minimisation and recycling are critical.	3	Comments are noted. Implementation of the Waste Matters Strategy will assist with reducing emissions from the waste sector.
Aboriginal knowledge and collaboration	Identified need to engage with representatives of local Aboriginal groups.	2	Comments are supported. Council will continue to engage with the Hornsby Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consultative Committee and look to establish relationships with local Aboriginal groups.
Community resilience	Hornsby Shire is vulnerable to a variety of shocks and natural disasters. Our community needs to be resilient and able to integrate their resources and capability to respond positively to these crises.	2	Comments are supported. Several actions in the Plan identify the need to develop a community resilience program.
Phase out	Switch from gas to electricity and source electricity from renewable	2	Comments are noted.

ITEM 1

natural gas	sources.		
Grant funding	Implementation of sustainable actions can be costly. Provision of grant funding could assist with the uptake of sustainability initiatives.	2	Comments are noted; however, Hornsby does not have an environmental levy.
Bushfires	Hornsby Shire has a large bushland interface and bushfires are our largest risk.	2	Comments are noted. Council is currently preparing a Bushfire Management Strategy
Environmental Levy	Neighbouring councils have an environmental levy that assists with grant funding and implementation of environmental education programs and sustainability initiatives.	1	Comments are noted; however, Hornsby does not have an environmental levy.
Urban Heat	Urban heat island occurs when a city or metropolitan area experiences much warmer temperatures than nearby rural areas. Our built-up areas need to be designed to minimise urban heat.	1	Comment is noted. Several actions in the Plan identify the need to address urban heat.
Underground powerlines	Powerlines often come down in storm events and can be an ignition source for bushfires during extreme weather days.	1	Comment is noted. Council will continue to work with Ausgrid and lobby for the undergrounding of power lines.
Biodiversity loss	Climate change can lead to loss of vegetation, connectivity and terrestrial biodiversity.	1	Comment is noted. Both the Urban Forest Strategy and Biodiversity Conservation Strategy address biodiversity, tree loss and the need to increase canopy cover.
Impact of LEDs on wildlife	LED lights are beneficial for energy efficiency however concerns were noted for their impacts on wildlife. Concern was noted for the use of filtered blue, violet and ultra-violet wavelengths which are considered to be problematic for night vision and navigation of nocturnal species	1	Comment is noted.

ITEM 1

Six submissions requested amendments to the priority of actions and 2 submissions requested new actions. The priority of 2 corporate actions changed (moving from medium to high priority) and 3 new

actions were added (implementation of Waste Matters Strategy, review of Procurement Determination and requirement for contractors to report emissions). Five community action priorities were increased and amended (moving from low / medium to high) and 3 new actions were added (implement Walking and Cycling Strategy and increase active transport, prepare homes for extreme weather events and efficiency and finally lobby State and Federal Government to green the electricity grid) (see Attachment 6 for further details on amendments).

CONSULTATION

In the preparation of this Report there was consultation with Council's Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee, Bushland Management Advisory Committee and the Hornsby Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consultative Committee. The committees were tasked with providing technical advice on their areas of specialty and provided valuable input into the prioritisation of actions.

Beyond Council's advisory committees, and to further engage with the community notification of the public exhibition occurred through the following channels:

- Advertisement on Council's website – Have Your Say
- Advertisement on Future Hornsby website
- Council's eNewsletter – October edition
- Emails to Future Hornsby database (users who registered for updates on the Sustainability or "all topics" under the Accelerated LEP Review), Bushcare and sustainability database
- Social Media (Facebook, LinkedIn and Localised)
- Advertising and Mayor's message - Bush Telegraph, Galston & Glenorie News, Dural Roundup, Hornsby Kuring-gai Post and Living Heritage
- Online Webinar via Zoom – presentation of material and the ability for the wider community to ask questions on the draft strategies

Forty-nine residents participated in the online webinar and participated in an online Q&A session. Over 75 questions were answered during the webinar.

BUDGET

The \$2.5 million *Accelerated LEP Review Program* funding was utilised for the development of the draft strategies and associated community consultation.

This report recommends that Council adopt the following draft strategies: -

- Draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040
 - Draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
 - Draft Urban Forest Strategy
 - Draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy
 - Draft Climate Wise Hornsby Plan

The draft strategies outline an aspirational, long-term, sustainable vision for the Hornsby community over the coming 20 years and identify a range of actions and tasks for Council to implement. In many cases, these are new actions additional to Council's current provision of services and require additional resources to be allocated, existing resources to be reallocated or most likely a combination of both.

Implementation of actions contained within the draft strategies would occur through the development of Council's future Delivery Programs, annual budgets and Operational Plans. Implementation would be subject to the strategic priorities of Council, the availability and allocation of resources by Council.

To accelerate delivery of the strategies, Council will seek alternative funding pathways such as applying for grants and working in collaboration with partners. Formal adoption of strategies is often a precursor to successful funding applications from providers such as the NSW and Australian government.

POLICY

The strategies set a vision for Council as it seeks to improve environmental sustainability of the Shire. Adopted priorities and actions will be incorporated into future amendments to the Local Strategic Planning Statement and new Community Strategic Plan.

CONCLUSION

The strategies provide a vision, principles and recommendations for managing our natural environment to ensure a sustainable, liveable, productive and collaborative Shire. It is recommended the draft strategies be adopted and actions be implemented in accordance with Council priorities and available resources.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

The officer responsible for the preparation of this Report is the Julie Ryland - Strategy Manager - who can be contacted on 9847 6773.

LOUISE GEE

Manager - Strategy and Place
Office of the General Manager

STEPHEN FEDOROW

Director - Community and Environment
Community and Environment Division

STEVEN HEAD

General Manager
Office of the General Manager

Attachments:

1.  Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy
2.  Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
3.  Urban Forest Strategy
4.  Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy
5.  Climate Wise Hornsby Plan

6.  Strategy Amendments

File Reference: F2018/00162-001#36

Document Number: D08081125

ITEM 1

2 CLASSIFICATION OF LAND - 302-308 PEATS FERRY ROAD, HORNSBY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Council's purchase of 302-308 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby completed on 11 February 2021.
- The properties may be required for widening of Jersey Lane and contribute to the future vision for Hornsby Town Centre.
- Erected on the land is a two-storey commercial building, mechanics workshop and a car park.
- These buildings are rented, and this will continue until road widening and/or redevelopment.
- On 12 August 2020 Council requested a further report upon acquisition of the site.
- Council also authorised public notice of its intention to classify the site "Operational Land".
- Classification as "Operational Land" is required to facilitate these potential future uses.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT pursuant to Section 31 of the Local Government Act 1993, Lot 10 DP 3802, Lot 1 DP 131842 and Lots 1 & 2 DP 133469 being 302-308 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby be classified as "Operational Land".

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Report is to obtain Council support and resolution to the classification of Lot 10 DP 3802, Lot 1 DP 131842 and Lots 1 & 2 DP 133469 being 302-308 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby as “Operational Land”.

BACKGROUND

At the General Meeting on 12 August 2020, Council considered Confidential Director’s Report No. CS/26/20 and resolved that:

1. *Subject to negotiation of commercial terms acceptable to the General Manager, Council approve the purchase and/or disposal of properties identified within confidential Director’s Report No. CS26/20.*
2. *The General Manager be authorised to negotiate, make offers and execute any documents in relation to this matter as deemed appropriate by Council’s legal advisors.*
3. *If required by the absence of the General Manager or by legal statute, Council authorise the use of Council’s seal on any legal documents in relation to this matter as deemed appropriate by Council’s legal advisors.*
4. *Upon purchase, Council give public notice of its intention to classify the subject property as “Operational Land” in accordance with Section 31(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.*
5. *A further report outlining the outcomes of this matter be reported to Council upon acquisition of the site.*

DISCUSSION

Purchase:

These properties were offered for sale by the owners through Selling agent, L J Hooker Commercial.

Council has already acquired an adjoining property at 43 Jersey Street, Hornsby and owns rescinded road widening on the Peats Ferry Road frontage of numbers 306 & 308. It was recognised that this acquisition would increase current options for the future widening of Jersey Lane and a possible traffic link with Jersey Street. In addition to a future possible link the residue may be able to more broadly contribute to the realisation of Council’s vision for the Hornsby Town Centre.

Expressions of Interest closed on at 4.00pm on 28 August 2020 and Council submitted a conditional offer within the range recommended by Council’s Valuer. Four other competing offers were lodged including one at the same price.

After endorsement by Council’s Valuer, a purchase price was negotiated with the sale subject to the existing tenancies (i.e. provided the Vendor’s exchanged and registered new leases with the tenants accepting the premises in “as is” condition). The sale was completed on 11 February 2021.

Land Classification

In accordance with the Council resolution on the 12 August 2020 in respect to Confidential Director’s Report No. CS/26/20 is to classify the subject property to Operational Land” in accordance with Section 31(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 upon ownership of this site.

Apart from public roads held under the Roads Act, all land owned by Council must be classified as either “Community Land” or “Operational Land”.

“Community Land” is typically public parks, sportsgrounds, drainage reserves and natural bushland held by Council on behalf of the residents and ratepayers. There are restrictions preventing Council from selling these properties or entering leases longer than 5 years without public consultation. Any objections to a lease must be reported to the Minister through the Office of Local Government.

Of particular relevance is a restriction preventing Council from constructing a road through “Community Land” although, subject to conditions, it is possible to widen an existing road.

By comparison, these matters need not be considered by Council when dealing with “Operational Land” which is typically the case with properties held for future strategic development such as business/retail sites and car parks. Subject to authorising resolutions, Council is able to sell or lease these properties.

Purchase of this site was a strategic acquisition recognising future proposals to create a traffic link between Jersey Street and Peats Ferry Road as well the proposed Bus Network being considered as part of the Hornsby Town Centre Review. Either of these proposals has the potential to impact on the current Locksmith’s retail premises as is evident from the attached concept plans.

Section 31(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to classify land within three months of purchase or the property is deemed to be “Community Land”. However, Section 47F then restricts Council’s ability to dedicate “Community Land” as a public road and there are also restrictions on redevelopment of community land for other than public purposes.

For that reason, Council’s resolution on 12 August 2020 proposed classification as “Operational Land”

Section 34 of the Act requires Council to give at least 28 days public notice of a proposed resolution to classify a property “Operational Land”. The required public notice was given on Council’s website to comply with this requirement. Plans of the land were also on public exhibition during this period.

One written submission and two verbal enquiries were received during the public notice period and answered to the satisfaction of the residents. No objections were received.

Council is now able to classify the property as “Operational Land” and it is appropriate for Council to duly resolve so.

CONSULTATION

In the preparation of this Report there was consultation with the Infrastructure and Major Projects Division. As required by the Local Government Act (1993) public notification of Council’s intention to classify the property outlined in this report was undertaken and any queries were addressed.

BUDGET

There are no budgetary implications associated with this Report.

POLICY

There are no policy implications associated with this Report.

CONCLUSION

This is an important strategic land acquisition negotiated for a purchase price that reflects the current market and on terms that ensured that Council’s interests are protected. The existing tenancies can continue for the foreseeable future with either party able to terminate the lease if the condition of the buildings deteriorates to an unacceptable level. Classification as “Operational Land” is appropriate.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

The officer responsible for the preparation of this Report is the Property Asset Manager – Stewart Bates who can be contacted on 9847-6725.

ROBERT STEPHENS
Deputy General Manager - Infrastructure and
Major Projects
Infrastructure and Major Projects Division

GLEN MAGUS
Director - Corporate Support
Corporate Support Division

Attachments:

1.  Jersey Lane Extension - Concept Drawings
2.  Proposed Bus Network for Hornsby Town Centre

File Reference: F2012/00882
Document Number: D08077349

3 INVESTMENTS AND BORROWINGS FOR 2020/21 - STATUS FOR PERIOD ENDING 31 JANUARY 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Council invests funds that are not, for the time being, required for any other purpose.
- The investments are made in accordance with relevant legislative requirements and Council's policies; and the Chief Financial Officer must report monthly to Council on the details of funds invested.
- This Report provides details of Council's investment performance for the period ending 31 January 2021 as well as the extent of its borrowings at the end of the same period.
- Council's investments have been made in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, the Local Government (General) Regulation and Council's Investment of Surplus Funds Policy and Investment Strategy.
- In respect of Council's cash and term deposit investments, the portfolio achieved an annualised return for January of 0.98% which includes a negative yield of -2.71 % from TCorp Managed Funds.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the contents of Director's Report No. CS8/21 be received and noted.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Report is to advise Council of funds invested in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act; to provide details as required by Clause 212(1) of the Local Government (General) Regulation and Council's Investment of Surplus Funds Policy; and to advise on the extent of Council's current borrowings.

BACKGROUND

Legislation requires that a report be submitted for Council's consideration each month detailing Council's investments and borrowings and highlighting the monthly and year to date performance of the investments. Initial investments and reallocation of funds are made, where appropriate, after consultation with Council's financial investment adviser and fund managers.

DISCUSSION

Council invests funds which are not, for the time being, required for any other purpose. Such investment must be in accordance with relevant legislative requirements and Council Policies, and the Chief Financial Officer must report monthly to Council on the details of the funds invested.

Council's investment performance for the month ending 31 January is detailed in the attached document. In summary, the portfolio achieved an annualised return for January of 0.98%.

In respect of Council borrowings, the weighted average interest rate payable on outstanding loans taken out from June 2011 to June 2013, based on the principal balances outstanding, is 6.07%. The Borrowings Schedule as at 31 January 2021 is also attached for Council's information.

BUDGET

Budgeted investment income for the year is \$5,239,939 with an average budgeted monthly income of \$436,662. Net investment income for the month ended 31 January 2021 was \$249,185 which includes an unrealised net loss from TCorp Managed Funds of (\$50,259) for the month of January 2021.

Budgeted investment income year to date at 31 January 2021 is \$3,056,635. Total investment income year to date at 31 January is \$3,079,638 which includes a year to date net gain of \$847,857 from TCorp Managed Funds.

Approximately 56.8% of the investment income received by Council relates to externally restricted funds (e.g. Stronger Communities Grant funding and Section 7.11 and Section 7.12 development contribution funds) and is required to be allocated to those funds. Investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, the Local Government (General) Regulation and Council's Investment of Surplus Funds Policy and Investment Strategy.

It should be noted that Council's portfolio is above the maximum holding level in the BBB category as set in Council's Investment Strategy, with a current holding of 11% compared to the limit of 10%. This is a result of funds being temporarily held in Cash to meet forecasted cash flow requirements in February 2021. It is then anticipated that the BBB category will be in accordance with the current strategy holding level.

The returns from TCorp Managed Funds are presently experiencing significant market volatility due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. It is noted that this product has a 7-year investment horizon and will, therefore, reflect marked to market valuations monthly. Advice provided by Council's independent investment advisor, Prudential Investment Services is to hold this investment for the 7-year timeframe

originally planned. This is due to the anticipated net positive performance returns that will be gained over the long term for this investment.

CONCLUSION

The investment of Council funds and the extent of its borrowings as at 31 January 2021 is detailed in the documents attached to this Report. Council's consideration of the Report and its attachments ensures that the relevant legislative requirements and Council protocols have been met in respect of those investments and borrowings.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

The officer responsible for the preparation of this Report is the Chief Financial Officer – Duncan Chell - who can be contacted on 9847 6822.

DUNCAN CHELL
Chief Financial Officer
Corporate Support Division

GLEN MAGUS
Director - Corporate Support
Corporate Support Division

Attachments:

1.  HSC Borrowings Schedule 31 January 2021
2.  HSC Investments Summary Report 31 January 2021

File Reference: F2004/06987-02
Document Number: D08099672

4 DRAFT PUBLIC DOMAIN GUIDELINES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Draft Public Domain Guidelines provide additional guidance in the design and delivery of future public spaces.
- The Guidelines identify options to provide an integrated public domain solution for five higher density population centres - Asquith, Waitara, Beecroft, Thornleigh and West Pennant Hills, but the solutions can be readily applied to other similar areas.
- Proposals centre around the creation of civic plazas, improved pedestrian and cycle connections, traffic management, reorientation away from major roads at West Pennant Hills, Thornleigh and Asquith and street tree planting and landscaping of public lands.
- The draft Public Domain Guidelines provide guidance on disability design principles, sustainable materials selection, material types and application and typical streetscape upgrades to areas outside of civic centres.
- The Guidelines complement a shire-wide Signage Strategy which provides a hierarchy and palette of outdoor identification, wayfinding / directional and interpretive signage to be used to identify suburbs, community centres, parks and roads. The signage palette accompanied by the palette of public domain elements create a complete guide to the public domain.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Endorse the draft Public Domain Guidelines for a 42-day public exhibition.
2. The results of the consultation process be reported to Council at the first available opportunity.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Report is to update Council on the progress of the draft Public Domain Guidelines and seek approval to publicly exhibit the draft document to the community.

BACKGROUND

At the 11 July 2018 Ordinary/Planning Meeting, Council considered Executive Manager's Report No. IR7/18 and resolved that:

1. *Council support the development of Public Domain Plans in the order of priority identified in Deputy General Manager's Report No. IR7/18.*
2. *Council allocate \$300,000 to commence the preparation of Public Domain Plans and associated documentation for the priority areas nominated in Deputy General Manager's Report No. IR7/18.*
3. *Community and stakeholder engagement strategies be developed to support each Public Domain Plan.*
4. *Draft Public Domain Plans be reported to Council prior to exhibition.*

Subsequently, draft Public Domain Guidelines have been prepared and presented to Council at several Briefings:

- 2 October 2019, where the findings of site analysis studies and outcomes of community consultation were presented.
- 4 November 2020 where an update was provided on the detail and content of the draft Public Domain Guidelines as they relate to both general inclusions and site-specific concept plans.

INTRODUCTION

The Public Domain Guidelines provide additional guidance in the design and delivery of upgrades to existing and future public spaces (the Public Domain) in Council's housing and business precincts.

The guidelines recommend changes to built form and the function of outdoor spaces with the aim of:

- Creating outdoor spaces that improve connectivity pedestrian activity and prioritise pedestrians.
- Promoting design of outdoor spaces on public or privately-owned lands that makes people want to pause and enjoy the place.
- Better integration of buildings with plaza spaces by proposing a site responsive solution that is more human in scale and promotes active frontages that are oriented towards pedestrian activity.

Consequently, the Guidelines have been prepared with a focus on five key project areas identified for growth and enhancement over the coming years. To ensure that all future development and upgrades of the Public Domain provide good design quality, consistent solutions are proposed that respond to the growing needs of the Shire's community, while also respecting the Bushland Shire character that makes Hornsby what it is. These guidelines describe the minimum standards for the design and assessment of future public domain proposals within the Shire. The principles and requirements outlined in this document are designed to be used as guidance for the assessment and preparation of public domain plans related to all areas across Hornsby Shire Council including areas where Key Project plans have not yet been prepared.

The Guidelines complement a shire-wide Signage Strategy which provides a hierarchy and palette of:

- Outdoor identification, wayfinding / directional and interpretive signage to be used to identify suburbs
- Community centres, parks and roads
- The signage palette accompanied by the palette of public domain elements create a complete guide to the public domain

DISCUSSION

The Guidelines cover the public domain development of higher density public domain areas for the five nominated town centres of Asquith, Waitara, Thornleigh, West Pennant Hills and Beecroft.

Key elements developed in the Guidelines include:

- Public domain development in context with other Council strategies and legislative requirements including State and Local strategic planning documents, equitable design standards and the DCP
- The creation of civic plaza spaces in most centres
- Typical streetscape design incorporating pedestrian friendly solutions
- Street furniture solutions
- Materials selection and application
- Application of Water Sensitive Urban Design and Biodiversity strategies in the public domain
- Key concept proposals for public domain upgrades to each of the five nominated study areas

The Guidelines provide a finer level of detail than that available in the DCP and demonstrate physical arrangements that could accommodate the installation of WSUD devices, green infrastructure and provide representation of the built public domain outcomes of Council's adopted strategies. Furthermore, the Guidelines coordinate with various Council strategies and initiatives and will provide a valuable tool for the assessment of future development proposals within the study areas and their impact on the public domain.

They provide detailed, site-specific design proposals for various elements such as footpath and circulation widths; minimum sizes for civic plazas, guidance on material selection and regulatory requirements and industry best practice required to guide future detailed design documentation. There are guidelines to ensure that people of all abilities are accommodated.

Whilst each of the study areas has its own site-specific context with key project proposals developed to address the existing constraints and opportunities, the draft Guidelines have been developed to direct public domain guidance for the broader Hornsby Shire area.

A brief outline of each of the site-specific areas is provided below.

Asquith

Key projects include:

- Extension of Wattle Street to address traffic routing concerns in line with DCP recommendations
- Creation of a civic plaza space away from the Pacific Highway on publicly owned land

- Implementation of a pedestrian overpass linking to Asquith train station
- Creation of a gateway park on underutilised TfNSW land on the western side of Asquith train station (contact has been made with TfNSW representatives regarding this proposal)

Beecroft

Key projects include:

- Traffic calming of Hannah Street in conjunction with the creation of new outdoor retail and dining opportunities
- Creation of a civic plaza between Hannah Street and Wongala Crescent on privately owned land
- Reconfiguration of Wongala Crescent to provide cross falls capable of supporting shared path and safe and comfortable pedestrian footpaths
- Minor park upgrades and WSUD water capture are proposed for the Beecroft village green

Waitara

Key projects include:

- Development of retail opportunities in line with the current DCP at the intersection of Waitara Avenue and Alexandria Parade, with future possible amendment to align with the draft Employment Land Study
- Shared path upgrades along the Waitara Avenue frontage of Mark Taylor Oval
- Development of a shared path along Edgeworth David Avenue
- Development of a pedestrian-priority shared zone along Park Lane to provide safe pedestrian access from residential developments to Waitara Public School

Thornleigh

Thornleigh is a complex site due to interactions with Pennant Hills Road and complex land ownership arrangements. General streetscape upgrades are outlined with one key project at Railway Parade. The key project includes the redevelopment of the pedestrian bridge to meet equal access requirements and the redevelopment of Railway Parade into a civic plaza with a trafficable shared zone. This proposal includes interactions with Thornleigh train station and TfNSW lands and discussion with TfNSW has commenced.

West Pennant Hills

The West Pennant Hills study area is limited to the shopping village at the intersection of Pennant Hills Road and Castle Hill Road. The proposal is in line with current DCP requirements and includes the creation of amended vehicular and new pedestrian routes, a civic plaza space on publicly owned land, increased tree canopy cover and the implementation of on-site water harvesting for future developments.

CONSULTATION

It is proposed that the draft Public Domain Guidelines are exhibited to the community for a period of 42 days. Notification of the public exhibition would be through the following channels:

- Advertisement on Council's website – Have Your Say

- Council's eNewsletter
- Contact with stakeholders including key community groups, emergency services, utility and government authorities
- Social Media (Facebook, LinkedIn and Localised)
- Advertising and Mayor's message - Bush Telegraph, Galston & Glenorie News, Dural Roundup, Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Post and Living Heritage.

Following exhibition, a report will be put to Council summarising submissions received and recommended responses. This Council report will also identify potential amendments to the Public Domain Guidelines and seek adoption of the Guidelines as new policy.

BUDGET

There are no budgetary implications associated with this Report.

POLICY

The preparation of the Public Domain Guidelines addresses priority actions in the Greater Sydney Commission's North District Plan, the Resilient Sydney Strategy and other associated policies including the State Government's Greener Places - Green Infrastructure Policy and other referenced documents including Council policies.

Adoption of the Public Domain plans will necessarily require minor amendments to Council's DCP to address inconsistencies. Further work will also need to be undertaken to develop Technical Specifications providing guidance on construction requirements for urban landscape spaces and streetscapes.

CONCLUSION

The Draft Public Domain Guidelines include concept proposals, design standards, streetscape design and materials selections to provide an integrated public domain development approach in the Asquith, Waitara, Thornleigh, West Pennant Hills and Beecroft town centres. The Guidelines will provide one source of information for residents, Councillors and council officers in the development of these public domain precincts and will inform budgetary proposals, grant applications and other potential funding sources. The Guidelines will inform revisions to Council's DCP and assist in providing developers and the development assessment process clarity over the desired public domain vision of Council, not just in the study areas but across the Shire, and how it will be achieved. The Guidelines also ensure that people of all abilities are accommodated.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

The officer responsible for the preparation of this Report is the Manager Major Projects – Richard Minter - who can be contacted on 02 9847 6677.

RICHARD MINTER
Manager, Major Projects - Infrastructure and
Major Projects
Infrastructure and Major Projects Division

ROBERT STEPHENS
Deputy General Manager - Infrastructure and
Major Projects
Infrastructure and Major Projects Division

Attachments:

1.  Public Domain Guidelines

File Reference: F2018/00311-002

Document Number: D08108299

5 MAYORS NOTES 01 FEBRUARY 2021 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2021

Note: These are the functions that the Mayor, or his representative, has attended in addition to the normal Council Meetings, Workshops, Mayoral Interviews and other Council Committee Meetings.

Wednesday 3rd February 2021 – The Mayor hosted two Citizenship Ceremonies at Pennant Hills Community Centre in Pennant Hills.

Friday 5th February 2021 – The Mayor attend the College Blessing and Rededication and Chapel Reconsecration at St Leo's Catholic College in Wahroonga.

Saturday 6th February 2021 – The Mayor attended the Sri Lanka Association of NSW Inc 73rd Independence Day Celebration Event in North Rocks.

Thursday 11th February 2021 – The Mayor attended the Northholm Grammar - The Mitchell Old Company - Musical "The Last Five Years" at The Pioneer Theatre in Castle Hill.

Monday 15th February 2021 – The Mayor attended the Official Opening of the Lift at the Hawkesbury River Railway Station in Brooklyn.

Thursday 18th February 2021 – The Mayor attended the Commencement of Ministry Service of the Rev. Anton Marquez at the All Saints Church in North Epping.

Saturday 27th February 2021 – The Mayor attended the Annual Open House at Ahimsa in Cheltenham.

File Reference: F2004/07053

Document Number: D08113906

6 HORNSBY SHIRE'S NATVE WILDLIFE

COUNCILLOR HEYDE TO MOVE

That Council:

1. Note that Hornsby Shire is characterised by its unique bushland and diverse range of native wildlife.
2. Note that thirty-one Wildlife Protection Areas have been designated by Council to help preserve our region's unique biodiversity.
3. Note that residents can help our wildlife thrive by keeping cats contained within their own property and by keeping them inside at night.
4. Recognise the essential role that volunteer wildlife rescuers and carers play in treating, rehabilitating, rehoming and advocating for our local wildlife, and
5. Council formally thank our volunteer wildlife rescuers for their work within Hornsby and across the state acknowledging their ongoing commitment and expertise.

Note from Councillor

In recognition of World Wildlife Day on 3 March 2021 it is important to highlight the pressures faced by native wildlife across the Shire.

Hornsby Shire is characterised by its unique bushland and diverse range of native wildlife. There are over 388 species of mammals, birds and reptiles and over 1,000 different plant species known to occur in the local bushland, and there have been recent sightings of koalas at Berrilee, Cowan and Brooklyn

Hornsby Shire's unburnt bushland provides a precious refuge in the Northern Sydney area for native fauna after the 2019-2020 bushfires which killed or displaced an estimated 3 billion koalas, kangaroos and other animals across the nation (*Australia's 2019-2020 Bushfires: The Wildlife Toll, WWF 2020*).

Council's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions is in part a recognition that rising temperatures and the consequent risk of natural disasters such as bushfires are a serious threat to our bushland and native wildlife.

Council's draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy identifies the need for protection,

preservation and enhancement of habitat in our Shire through compliance, education, planning, citizen science, monitoring and habitat restoration activities in conjunction with land managers and local residents.

Council has also established 31 Wildlife Protection Areas (WPAs) in bushland reserves to conserve the unique biodiversity of the region. WPAs increase community awareness of our local wildlife and encourage responsible pet ownership - cats are prohibited from entering a WPA and dogs must be on a leash at all times and remain on established tracks when in a WPA.

Wildlife Protection Areas include:

Arcadia

- Arcadia Park Bushland Reserve
- Carrs Bush Conservation Reserve

Berowra Heights

- Berowra Park Conservation Reserve

Berowra Waters

- Furber Park Bushland Reserve

Brooklyn

- Brooklyn Park Conservation Reserve
- McKell Park Bushland Reserve

Cherrybrook

- Callicoma Conservation Reserve
- Cherrybrook Lakes Conservation Reserve
- McKinley Place Conservation Reserve

Cherrybrook/Castle Hill

- Erlestoke Park
- Upper Pyes Creek Conservation Reserve

Cherrybrook/Dural

- Lower Pyes Creek Bushland Reserve

Dural

- James Henty Park Bushland Reserve

Galston

- Galston Bushland Reserve

- Galston Gorge Conservation Reserve

Hornsby

- Florence Cotton Bushland Reserve
- Hornsby Park Conservation Reserve

Hornsby Heights

- Rofe Park Bushland Reserve

Hornsby/Westleigh

- Dog Pound Creek Conservation Reserve

Middle Dural

- Forsters Bushland Reserve

Mt Kuring-gai

- Mt Kuring-gai Park Bushland Reserve

Normanhurst

- Waitara Creek Conservation Reserve

Pennant Hills

- Azalea Grove Conservation Reserve
- Britannia Street Conservation Reserve
- Pennant Hills Park Conservation Reserve

Thornleigh

- Larool Creek Bushland Reserve

Westleigh

- Corang Road Bushland Reserve

West Pennant Hills

- Walumeda Reserve
- New Farm Road Conservation Reserve

Wisemans Ferry

- Singleton Mill Bushland Reserve
- Wisemans Ferry Lookout Bushland Reserve

All of our volunteers are very special people and it is appropriate that in this motion we seek to formally acknowledge their efforts and ongoing commitment to sustaining our biodiversity. This acknowledgement could take place through the Mayors various weekly columns, our

Facebook and social media platforms and Council newsletters

Attachments:

There are no attachments for this report.

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