



## **Submissions**

### **Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Plan**

**February 2021**



# Cherrybrook

16/01/2021	D08086916
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hi

I would like to share my opinion on the proposed location of library at Cherrybrook.

Firstly, the Cherrybrook station is essentially in west pennant hills and far from Hornsby shire suburb of Cherrybrook for which the library is being planned. The location of library should be central to the suburb / hornsby shire and near amenities.

Cherrybrook station essentially is plagued with massive car parking issue with the car park full at 7am and Cherrybrook residents essentially not able to use the metro. Location of library near station will require residents to drive there and will need parking. If there is land available for library, its better utilised for additional parking space for station with parking permits given to hornsby shire residents.

Good design practice and to ensure the asset is being utilised, the location of public amenity like library should be near public footfalls i.e. shopping centre / schools / public park / residents / sports facilities. Take example of Hornsby library / castle hill library.

Number of people I hv spoken to support the library to be near the existing cherrybrook community centre so that it is will connected and utilised and is a resource that benefits the hornsby shire residents and not Hills residents.

Hope you will consider the suitability of the location to the benefits of the hornsby shire residents.

thanks

16/01/2021	D08086860
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Hello Officer

My email to you is in relation to the proposed location of library in cherrybrook station precinct. This is a grave mistake for number of reasons

1. Station is not accessible by residents of cherrybrook / Dural as it has limited parking which is full at 7am most of times. Suppose everyone is aware of the massive transport issue in and out of station and constant petition to transport nsw to provide linkages. No one wud want to take bus that's irregular to get to library

2. Library shud assist our young and retirees. Suitability of library near cherrybrook shopping village shud be considered as it's near schools and residential area. It serves few purpose given number of people visit shopping village / swim classes/ school pickups/ park so library somewhere there will be helpful

3. Like Hornsby where library is next to shopping centre it's automatically provides for increased usage of library as it becomes super convenient to visit when doing weekly grocery shopping

I hope you will consider moving location from station to somewhere near shopping village

Thanks

18/01/2021	D08088199
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Hi,

In reference to the library thats being considered near the Cherrybrook Station - its a very poor choice of location. So inaccessible for Cherrybrook/Dural residents.

I am a young man who lives in the area. The whole premise of modern planning is based on connectivity, accessibility and placemaking i.e. how you bring various asset uses together in a public setting to make it the focal point.

The focal point of the area is the Shopping village/Greenway Park/Community Centre precinct.

For young people like me, it will be great to have the library somewhere there so that we can utilise the asset when we are already there whether for playing a game - going for a walk - doing grocery shopping - catching up with friends in the village.

Thanks

06/12/2020

D08100919

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

Yes

**Please explain below:**

The Library and Community Facilities in the Cherrybrook SP area cannot come soon enough, we have many excellent schools in this section of Hornsby Shire Council, with very limited Library space in close proximity.

Pennant Hills and Castle Hill are at capacity.

We can't wait for the Library in Cherrybrook SP / Landcom development.

Thank you for listening and supporting us.

Warm regards

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

Yes

**District:**

Cherrybrook SP

**Key Strategy:**

Library & Community Facilities

**Comments:**

Yes Yes Yes

**Suggested Edits:**

Hurry up !!! Hahaha

15/01/2021

D08086589

Dear Councillors

It has come to our attention that the Hills Shire Council and Landcom (Developers) are working to make a 100Sqm library at the Cherrybrook Station Precinct.

Earmarking Cherrybrook Station Precinct as a preferred location is a massive mistake. I am a resident of the surrounding area and I can say that the station parking facility is actually full by 6.15 am (Pre Covid).

Cherrybrook SP is in a remote, southernmost boundary of Cherrybrook, not readily accessible by residents from central & northern Cherrybrook, Oakhill and Dural

The precinct is limited in space, bounded by busy regional and local, narrow roads. Already, extremely congested during peak hours

Residents who are not within walking distance or live outside the precinct will need to take buses, which are not regular. We are all aware of the massive bus issues in & out of Cherrybrook Train Station

Residents who drive into the train station precinct do not have ample parking, only limited 'off street' parking and a parking station that is full by 6.15am on weekdays

The train line must not be the only determination factor, as 'Cherrybrook and other Hornsby residents, young, matured & retired' some of whom do not take train, will need ready access to this Library

A preferred location must be thoroughly investigated to ensure all residents, including parents with underage school children, school kids, elderly people, teenage kids can have easy access to the new library in close proximity.

Cherrybrook is a leafy, quiet and beautiful suburb. Residents may want a library but not as a 'GATEWAY' for Developers to build high rise apartment buildings in the precinct and destroy what we already have. This has been made well known to Landcom and Hornsby Council.

Hoping the Hornsby Council Councillor will look into this and not make Cherrybrook into another Chastwood and Macquarie Park area as this is one suburb where a lot of young family want to move to to the greener and forest around.

Regards

15/01/2021	D08086588
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Dear Sir,

The proposed library location at the Cherrybrook train precinct is not ideal. It should be located where the majority of residents and others can easily access without having to drive or take public transport.

I agree with the comments and recommendations made Vince del Gallego.

Regards



16/01/2021

D08086886

Dear NSW State Planning, Hornsby Council, Councillors and Our Member Dominic Perrottet

I love where I live in Cherrybrook and even when living in Melbourne for three years for my husbands work the feeling of coming home driving down Edward Bennett Drive Cherrybrook with those well-manicured gardens, green lawns and beautiful trees gave me a sense of being home.

I have heard very little about what is to be developed by Landcom on both sides of Castle hill road. I am a logical and practical person by nature and believe in doing the right thing. I have volunteered free at a Salvation Army Op Shops for around 6 years now and my husband has retired and joined SES Westleigh late last year. In short we care about our Shire and the people here so please take what I say now into the perspective of a genuine resident, and their needs.

I recognise that progress and housing density is important throughout Sydney as a whole but not when:-

1. Parking at the station -The drop in public transport by removing buses and the during the day bus runs has significantly disadvantaged greater Cherrybrook which is not based near Cherrybrook station. We are worse off from having Cherrybrook station and the absolute lack of parking provided at the station. More parking is required and was promised for this station. Three quarters of Cherrybrook would have to drive and park to use this station. Can you please advise how this is being fixed? You already have devalued our quality of life here. The train takes longer to get to the city so our time is taken too.
2. Parking around the station- There is no parking around suburban streets near the station (which half are higher density town house developments near the station). This means the people there, need parking stickers to park on the road and I implore you to think of these poor people. I am not one but see the problems for what they are. If you live anywhere near public transport, other councils provide this, why don't you? Help you residents please!
3. Increased residents require infrastructure –
  - (1) None of the current schools in the area have the capacity to handle any of the new more than 100 percent increase in residences you build here.
  - (2) None of the current streets have the capacity to handle parking for visitors to visit any of the new more than 100 percent increase in residences you build here. Widen streets provide more visitor parking within the apartments.
  - (3) The streets will need widening to handle on the street parking please as the schools and special needs facilities at the station have lost parking too. Parking is lost badly.
  - (4) The sporting ovals in this area are at capacity utilising cricket and soccer field all weekend all Saturday and Sunday for games so more ovals netball courts etc are needed, not a piddling little square of grass green spot of no use. Sporting facilities, playgrounds with built in bicycle tracks like Edward Bennett park are required for these people who will have kids and need to get out of their units and get fit. Note Edward Bennett park is full of parties and kids and oval users all weekend every weekend so all these new residents need their own facilities. What about a playground with a bike track with some gym gear so the family can use it at

once. We desperately need ovals too please, don't forget. We have the largest soccer team in the region and your going to increase the needs for sports significantly.

- (5) More tennis courts or tennis courts for the whole of Hornsby, built into the roof tops even. It can be done and they are needed desperately. We can do this here and build in the facilities to keep the lifestyle we are losing with higher densities.
  - (6) What community facility is being provided like Cherrybrook north has. There are no community halls provided for churches, ping pong groups, Pilate's or yoga lessons, Your adding a load of people to a region in an extreme density. We are at capacity now so where are the community facilities for baby clinics etc? What about dance classes, karate classes, English speaking lessons or even first aid? Where are the facilities for a 100 percent increase in residents? Macquarie community courses need venues provided by council for the community where are these going?
- 4. Library – I hear a smallish library is being considered here but what is needed is a large community facility with halls ie. Size for a for netball and basketball. The library complex would require a guaranteed computer internet usage for at least a tenth of residents to live here, along with enough on line book services to handle at least a third of Hornsby Council.. This can easily be built into a unit block on ground floor. A more than 100 percent expansion in resident population just for Hornsby shire needs and requires the infrastructure to go with it.
  - 5. Roads inside the Landcom development – consider fully wide roads that allow visitor parking and tree lined streets such that the area fits into the Hornsby shire, rather than, a glaring, heat emitting, block of apartments with no local personality. The practical reasoning for these is to allow access for health and safety personal like ambulances, SES, fire and safety in such a large development. People need to live here too.
  - 6. Glare and reflection from buildings – providing non glare developments in becoming a real issue. As the climate heats up these towers emit significant glare in a fairly large radius surrounding them. The type of construction materials used, needs to take glare and heat emissions via glare refecton into consideration to help the planet and not heat up the local residents as well.

You can understand that our facilities in this area are being utilised at maximum capacity now so, whilst you are using up the very last open areas governments have in our region, please, make the right choices in providing the facilities to handle the more than 100 percentage increase in population growth for the area of Cherrybrook and West Pennant Hills and more importantly to all who live here, more parking!!!

Please do not disadvantage the people who live here and, the people that will. Please ring anytime.

Yours Sincerely

16/01/2021	D08086918
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I would like to comment on the draft for Cherrybrook library. I believe that the library should not be a hostage of developers and that the best position for the library is near Appletree Drive shops or The Lakes of Cherrybrook in Shepherds Drive. This is near the true hub of Cherrybrook which is the Cherrybrook shopping centre. It seems that previous calls to reduce the apartments near Cherrybrook metro has fallen on deaf ears. I have not heard from Council or Landcom this year regarding decisions. Why are local residents' opinions ignored time and time again? The residents give their opinions but no adjustments are made despite opposition. Through this document many changes seem to be at least five years in the future. We have lived in Cherrybrook for 30 years and progress has been very slow.

I also noted zoning changes for Beecroft, Thornleigh, Pennant Hills and other nearby areas. We do not agree with zoning changes that will ruin these areas amenity. They are suitable for low level residential not high rise and I wonder whose interests Hornsby Council is representing, certainly not those of their ratepayers. We will therefore vote accordingly in the next elections.

Regards

16/01/2021	D08086860
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Hello Officer

My email to you is in relation to the proposed location of library in cherrybrook station precinct. This is a grave mistake for number of reasons

1. Station is not accessible by residents of cherrybrook / Dural as it has limited parking which is full at 7am most of times. Suppose everyone is aware of the massive transport issue in and out of station and constant petition to transport nsw to provide linkages. No one wud want to take bus that's irregular to get to library
2. Library shud assist our young and retirees. Suitability of library near cherrybrook shopping village shud be considered as it's near schools and residential area. It serves few purpose given number of people visit shopping village / swim classes/ school pickups/ park so library somewhere there will be helpful
3. Like Hornsby where library is next to shopping centre it's automatically provides for increased usage of library as it becomes super convenient to visit when doing weekly grocery shopping

I hope you will consider moving location from station to somewhere near shopping village

Thanks

15/01/2021	D08086998
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Greetings All

I have just read the email from Councillor Vince del Gallego regarding the proposed building of the Cherrybrook Library next or near to the Metro Railway Station at Cherrybrook & can't wait to lodge my objection.

What a ridiculous & dumb idea. It is right on the extreme end of Cherrybrook & an area we would never visit.

We won't even go to the this railway station as it is too far way & there is no parking. We always go to Pennant Hills railway station to catch a train as at least we can get a park & go straight through to Central. If we go won't go to the Metro station because it is too fas away & no parking why would we go to to a library there.

It should be built near to the Cherrybrook Shopping Centre where there is land available & this is a central area for the residents of Cherrybrook.

We have lived in Cherrybrook for 34 years & love the area & we don't want it spoilt by hungry & unscrupulous developers.

So wake up tp yourselves & scrap this stupid idea immediately.

Best wishes,

15/01/2021

D08086654

I am writing to you to discourage you from placing a new library at Cherrybrook train station precinct. There is already a library close by in castle hill and this library will only service locals and be difficult for people living in Dural , castle hill , oak hill and Cherrybrook to get to - especially the CTHS kids and children from John purchase , oak hill drive and Cherrybrook primary schools. There will be inadequate parking and access options for other public transport from anywhere the train is not connected to

please rethink having developers dictate to us where a new library will be

kind regards

16/01/2021

D08086999

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am concerned that the location for the proposed library for the Cherrybrook area is within the Cherrybrook Station precinct. This area already has inadequate parking and will most likely suffer from congestion problems in the future. It is not a location that is easily accessible to the elderly or children. It will really only be useful to future residents of apartment buildings in the area.

My proposal is to build a library as an extension of the Cherrybrook Community Centre at Greenway Park. There is plenty of parking, it is on existing bus routes, and is already an area that is the cultural, shopping and sporting hub of Cherrybrook. It is also adjoining two of the largest schools in the area. Here are hundreds of children who need library resources and study spaces. There are many children who need a space away from their homes to concentrate on their learning. If the library is located here children will have easy access and the library will be a success.

Also there is plenty of space to extend the existing community centre to accommodate a library.

I am also concerned that the decision to locate the library at the station precinct is being considered because it is tied to developer funding and promises being touted by developers. In my opinion this should not be a consideration when planning a public resource. In this case the success of the library would be co-dependant on the success of the developer to make good the building. This is fraught with business complexities. Is the developer a competent builder? Is the developer financially sound? Is the future management of the building going to be sound? All questions that should be asked and answered. In my opinion far too complex and too many variables that can go bad. Don't forget all the recent mayhem created by shonky developers in Sydney.

I'm sure that in your decision making a 'sweetener' from developers as far as funding for the library is in the mix. If a library is built in an apartment building in the precinct it will only benefit the developers and be used as a sales marketing strategy. The bulk of the people of the wider Cherrybrook area will be the losers.

If you want to compare this proposal to the adjoining Hills shire and their library located in an apartment building there is no comparison. That library was purpose built by council in a building that they constructed. It is located at the main shopping precinct of Castle Hill and has ample parking within the building as a part of the master plan.

The shopping/ sporting / school precinct at Cherrybrook in Greenway Park is the ultimate location for the proposed library. This is a very simple decision and obvious to me and many others I talk to. I'm sure you wouldn't want the embarrassment of an under utilised resource if it is located the the Metro precinct.

I am hoping that the proposed library is not linked to developer funding and is within the councils budget.

Never forget that you are working for the people that live in the area and their needs are first priority not to bolster the selling strategies of private companies.

Sincerely,

31/01/2021	D08096187
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Dear Hornsby Shire Council.

thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Strategic Plan

I have a concern regarding the proposed Cherrybrook Library being located at the station.

Some of the concerns have already been well observed by Councillor del Gado

The station is hard to get to, the parking is totally filled with commuters and previously more regular buses have had schedules significantly reduced. For example access for an older non-driving resident in WPH would be very difficult.

There is significant traffic congestion on Castle Hill Rd, admittedly improved during the Covid shut downs but presumably this will return to normal at some stage. Especially if the huge number of dwellings proposed for the IBM site go ahead.

Locating the library closer to existing Cherrybrook shops/oval area would be more accessible and connect better with other activities.

The principles informing the planning do not seem to be identifiable in choosing Cherrybrook Station as a Library Location. Please look at an alternative site.

yours sincerely



30/01/2021

D08095893

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

We are longtime residents of Cherrybrook. We are delighted that Council is planning on establishing a new library for Cherrybrook. Please take the insights of established residents into consideration when deciding on the location of the library.

To meet residents' needs the new library should be:

- Centrally located in Cherrybrook in an established community hub served by multiple bus routes, with a well-used shopping centre, cafes, sporting facilities, community centre and well provided with parking;
- Readily accessible by foot for the suburb's school children, particularly the 2000+ high school students at Cherrybrook Technology HS, who would most likely be very frequent users of the library.

All these requirements are met by establishing the library in a redeveloped Community Centre at Greenway. This would meet Council's other requirement of establishing multipurpose facilities within the Shire.

The location proposed in the Strategic Plan at the Cherrybrook Metro station fails to meet any of the above basic requirements and will continue to do so even with the new high density development :

- Remote from the hub of Cherrybrook, tucked away on the far boundary with Hills Shire Council;
- Inadequate parking – the station car park is full by 7am – and limited street parking. Sufficient parking is rarely provided in high density developments and we can only expect the parking situation surrounding the station to become even more difficult;
- Remote from Cherrybrook's public schools and High school and only accessible by limited bus services.
- Effectively inaccessible for residents living in the parts of Cherrybrook not serviced by a bus route.

Kind regards,

21/01/2021

D08090361

Dear HSC

My view is very simple:

1. Yes, a library in Cherrybrook is a development to be applauded. I have always found the staff of HSC Library (either in electronic communication, the online services or dealing with staff in person at Pennant Hills) to be exceptionally good.

The physical capacity of the Pennant Hills branch is obviously severely constrained and on occasion quite crowded (especially in pre-COVID days).

Cherrybrook has been and continues to be an area with expanding population and I am glad Council is acknowledging the need for Library services for Cherrybrook.

2. However, the suggestion that a new Library be in the development adjacent to Cherrybrook station is NOT at all what we need. That location is on the fringe of Cherrybrook, there are no other services there at present to attract people and parking is already virtually impossible.

The new Library must be in a location central and with convenient access by car, on foot, by bicycle and local public transport. That suggests the current "centre" of Cherrybrook where the Village shops, community centre and sporting facilities are already located would be a far preferable location. A second choice in my view would be the Appletree shops precinct.

Thank you for considering my views.

21/01/2021	D08089848
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Thank you for your reply, I don't know one resident that is in agreement with this landcom plan. It is not needed in Cherrybrook.

The only people that would agree with it, don't reside here. My opinion is that the people who live in Cherrybrook should be the ones that know best what fits for the suburb and creating another "sub suburb" such as this within the suburb is not needed. All it will do is bring in people who want low income housing to bring their children to our renowned schools, and then if renting move out once their children are fully installed in said schools. This is something that already occurs in the area, and will continue to occur if this development as proposed is allowed to go ahead. There is no proposal on how the traffic will increase and it will. Once COVID is on the downhill slide and we return to more of a normality, the roads will go back to the original congestion. Schools are overcrowded with demountables and with the proposed library playground child care centre, obviously the developer is proposing this as a site for families. So where do those children go to school, into the already crowded public school system in the area? There is minimal space as it is in Cherrybrook, lets not turn Cherrybrook into another Carlingford or Castle Hill that is overcrowded with high rise. It is not the suburb that people want, it is not what people move to Cherrybrook for, and not one that people want to live in. It will lower housing values and lower the appeal of the suburb.

20/01/2021	D08089741
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Dear Sir / Madam

In response to the draft plan, I would like to provide feedback on the proposed location of the new library at Cherrybrook SP.

To be honest, I get the sense that the office bearers/planners who proposed the public amenity like library at Cherrybrook SP are not in touch with their local community. Such a huge number of residents had come together to raise voice that the Cherrybrook metro is not accessible by residents of Cherrybrook / Dural / Pennant Hills. Hence, the bus services to City among other services had to be restored.

How do they propose for people to access the library at metro? There is no parking (full in morning) / limited and infrequent bus service. Who is the asset being proposed for?

Pls consider another appropriate location that is accessible like Cherrybrook Community Centre.

Thanks

20/01/2021

D08089438

Hello Coucillors and Mayor Ruddock,

I am writing to you to object to the location of a new "Cherrybrook" library, within the bounds of the Government-owned lands adjacent to Cherrybrook metro station.

The draft Community and Cultural Facilities Statagic Plan identifies principles to guide the planning of community and cultural facilities in Hornsby Shire as follows:-

- 1 a coordinated network • centrally located within districts and regions
- 2 serving identified social and cultural needs
- 3 making best use of existing facilities
- 4 financially sustainable
- 5 multipurpose and flexible friendly and welcoming
- 6 accessible • near public space.

If a new library were to be built next to the dubiously-named Cherrybrook station , both could not be further located from central Cherrybrook, if that was the primary planning aim! Both are and would effectively be in Cherrybrook in name only.

With regard to the above 6 planning principles, it appears that none, except for number 5, supports the location of a future library adjacent to the station, so what is being proposed appears conspicuously irrational.

It is also highly apparent that Landcom, with its heavily biased recent community surveys has attempted to justify unwanted, congested high-rise apartments, by concentrating their questions on maximising responses to a wide range of ancillary facilities.

They avoided pointing out, that support for the maximisation of the latter could easily be interpreted as indirect support for high-rise apartments- given the finite land available.

The far more logical location option is either in or close to either the Cherrybrook Shopping Village or the Community Centre, which is adjacent. Either modified or new buildings at this central location would meet all the planning principles shown above, with greater certainty and utility.

If, illogically, the station locality on the periphery of the Hornsby and Hills' shires is sustained, because the Hills residents will benefit equally from that location, the Hills Shire should contribute to the planning and its cost.

Regards,

15/01/2021	D08087306
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I was appalled to read the initial developers proposal for the development of the site and this is just a joke proposing that a library in the development will be used by residents.

It will only be used by residents that have access to the site and this of course is going to be the developers own residents. Elderly people will not travel to this library, school students wont and parents wont take them there. It is inconvenient, there is insufficient parking as it is in Cherrybrook and there is never enough parking at the railway station. This is just an abuse of power by the developer to ruin our beautiful green suburb. I never wanted a station at Cherrybrook, deeming the one at Castle Hill sufficiently located to service those who wanted trains but for Hornsby council to permit, Mr Ruddock for such a long term supporter of your electorate this is a joke that you would bow down to developers in this manner. You are ruining our suburb and why I have planned for retirement once my children leave school to move out of the area. I have seen how the developers have been allowed to infiltrate the castle hill area, the new and increased crime that it has brought to the area and do not want this for what I thought would be out forever home in this beautiful suburb. Shame on you for allowing landcom to do this. It is horrid and not in fitting with why people live in Cherrybrook and the Hills district. I live and work locally and am disappointed Mr Ruddock how you have chosen to spend your time in retirement from Federal politics. I did have a lot of respect for you, but not if you permit this to go through

09/02/2021	D08109194
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Dear Councillor

I read with interest your article on the proposed Cherrybrook library and could not agree more that the very thought of it at the station defies logic!

I live on the other side of Cherrybrook and as you rightly point out buses are infrequent at best outside of peak travel times and there is insufficient parking and lots of parking restrictions.

Surely a better option would be near the community centre or shopping complex where this is parking and more choice of buses.

It is to be hoped that sanity prevails and the best interest of the community is put first and not the grab for more money from developers.

If the library is going to be used as a gateway for developers to build high rise apartment complexes I would rather forego the library. This area can not sustain high rise buildings as certainly the roads will not accommodate the extra traffic.

Your sincerely

08/02/2021

D08109199

Hi Vince

You make some very good points about the Cherrybrook library location in your Dooral Roundup article. The Station precinct is a poor choice. No parking for starters!

I would just add that for many elderly in retirement living, their weekly bus outings take them to the Cherrybrook shopping precinct (Woodlands, Glenhaven Green, the Brethren one off Newline Road to name but a few I have seen there).

These residents would have access to a library located at the Cherrybrook precinct, but not necessarily at other places unless their bus specifically dropped off & picked up from there too.

These older people have time to read & are accustomed to reading books, not doing online reading, so are a big potential user group.

Appletree would be a great location (bias because I live near there myself!) But unless the buses would take residents there too, it isn't as accessible & seriously if they only have an hour or two once a week for the trip, most would probably prefer to go to the centre that had other shopping & services as well eg bank, dry cleaners, supermarket, variety shop, clothes, cheaper coffee shops etc.

We certainly don't want high rise station developers fabricating an excuse around a library - if it's to be accessible to those most likely to use it (younger families, retirees, students etc) the station precinct is utterly useless.

Council needs to look at the reality of user base, access & need.

Glad we have you as our sensible voice in this.

Yours sincerely



06/02/2021	D08109206
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Dear Mr del Gallego,

As a resident of Cherrybrook for 20 years I consider a library would be a wonderful addition to this lovely place. Placing a library in the station precinct would however be of no use to the majority of residents. Perhaps if one resided in West Pennant Hills it would be of use.

I agree with most of the sentiments expressed in your article in the Dooral Roundup. A library near Cherrybrook Station would be of no use to us in the same way that the so called 'Cherrybrook' Station is hopeless for us now. Castle Hill library is easier to access than the proposed library would be.

Best wishes

13/02/2021

D08109209

Dear Vince, I am long time resident of Cherrybrook, having moved here in 1983 and have seen the area grow from building sites to a vibrant community. The only occasion people go to the Metro precinct is to catch the Metro. The fastest way to get to and from the Metro is by car as buses are intermittent. Parking is also at a premium. The Metro precinct is dead after hours and would pose security issues for children.

It is DEFINITELY not an appropriate place for a library.

The library should be located somewhere close to the two schools, within walking distance for everyone. I do not know about availability of land in the area, but there are no houses between the schools and the dog park. Perhaps the library could be built as an adjunct of the two schools and may compromise part of the dog park.

Please keep me informed.

Kind regards

13/02/2021	D08109214
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Dear Councillor Vince del Gallego

I have read the article in the Dural Roundup. I agree entirely with your summation of the mistake to place such a library at the Cherrybrook Station.

I cannot think of a better way of dumping many thousand of interesting books and manual etc. in a building that is never going to be accessible to most Cherrybrook people – old and young. As stated – there is no parking. Limited bus service and very limited street parking.

Cherrybrook Village is where the shopping centre is- The sports facilities are – the Swimming pool is and the current community centre is.

The Cherrybrook Railway Station cannot be relocated, but do not restrict access to the proposed library by dumping it there. I have lived in Cherrybrook for almost forty years, so I do understand it's development.

Best wishes

12/02/2021	D08109218
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I agree that a library would be a welcome addition to Cherrybrook but NOT as part of development "high rise". Perhaps it may be possible to have one in the Greenway Park area where we have the community hall etc.

Thanking you,

15/02/2021	D08111173
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Dear Vince,

Thank you for championing the cause of Cherrybrook, in the recent Dooral Roundup.

As you correctly point out the metro station at Cherrybrook is not the hub of community activities in Cherrybrook and I suspect never will be. Unlike suburbs that have grown up around rail stations and where the stations become a logical central focus for development, the suburb of Cherrybrook and its community is already well developed around the village and adjoining oval, swimming centre and community centre. The so called Cherrybrook station is probably more truly a second or third Castle Hill station. There is not really the possibility to develop a true second hub even if the library was added, it would simply become a second inconveniently located service.

If you are looking for an alternative, my suggestion would be to consider expanding the existing cherrybrook community centre along the lines of the Castle Hill Library, which has a mixture of library / childcare and other community meeting rooms and services in the one building. There is already a reasonable parking facility both at the centre and easy path way linkage to the village shopping centre.

Another alternative may be to work with the shopping centre developers to accommodate the library as part of future shopping centre expansion.

It seems to me that both these leverage existing infrastructure and also provide services where they are truly needed and accessible to young families along with other business without necessitating an extra trip to be fitted in to peoples increasingly busy lives.

Hope this is helpful

Kind regards



# Pennant Hills

27/11/2020

D08100921

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

Yes

**Please explain below:**

I agree with the development plans. The way to go is to develop multipurpose facilities, near Railway stations and easily accessible to community members

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Yes

**Suggested Edits:**

Add detailed plan for maintenance of existing facilities.

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

Yes

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

What I missed seeing is the maintenance plan for existing facilities. I am representing Iranian Senior Women Associations which is a non-profit Association. We have been the regular hirer of Leisure & Learning Centre in Pennant Hills.

In the last 8 years we have seen very little up grade on the premise. The broken tabs and the sink in the toilets are badly in need of attention and replacement. The windows and window panes from inside are so dirty that is unhealthy. In short this facility is rundown and neglected.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

There was little information about fee structure changes. Ryde council seems to have more equitable strategy.

Just being non -profit organisation and being regular hirer should not be the only criteria for fee allocation. Our members are seniors and mostly supported by Centre-link . The Iranian women Association Aims to bring the senior member of the community who are linguistically isolated together to improve their mental and emotional well being. Some of our member have been referred to us by physicians to help them over come their depression and loneliness. we are not supported by any other sponsor for assistance from the Council.

I believe these factors should also be considered when developing policy of fee charges.

02/12/2020

D08100920

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

Yes

**Please explain below:**

we welcome the development of more multi purpose facilities. However major renovation of some of the existing facilities like Leisure and Learning Centre in pennant Hills that have good potential because of the court yard behind it must be included in the 15 year plan.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Maintenance of existing facilities. We, The Iranian Senior Women's Association have been hiring the Leisure & Learning Centre in Pennant hills for the past nine years. the place has been painted may be once but the toilets have not been fixed despite our report on the broken pipe and request for replacement.

Cleanliness of the premises is another sad story. The cobweb on the windows from inside and outside, the broken blind gives the feeling that this hall has been totally neglected. We are looking forward to some changes in the priority given to the maintenance of Leisure & Learning Centre in Pennant Hills



21/12/2020	D08073992
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Dear Mr Head,

Thank you for inviting us to contribute a submission to the above proposal.

The Trust is directionally supportive of the Principles on P76. We will be commenting on Libraries in particular.

P41 – Previous Library surveys from even a few years ago will have been largely eclipsed by social, work, study and technology trends. (Borrowing physical DVDs etc). However the Community oriented input like reading to Children remains very relevant.

We fortunately don't have as much unemployment and deprivation in this area as the US, but the observations in the Bloomberg article are instructive that the focus of libraries is now way beyond "shelves of books".  
<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-06-24/how-coronavirus-is-changing-public-libraries>

Some key suggestions re Pennant Hills Library

- The halls are well used for clubs and recreation, no reason to change
- The toilets are inadequate for the traffic
- More studying space
- Co-working space – The Library is the ideal spot, and this is sorely missing locally. Ties perfectly to the Economic and Tourism Strategy
- A coffee area for people to interact informally
- Smaller bookable meeting rooms
- Soundproof music practice rooms

In the spirit of a "network of facilities" this should be all public assets available, not just other libraries. In other Countries, one Local Authority would run the Schools, Leisure and Libraries. With modern technology, cameras and remote locks, there is no reason why the obstacles can't be overcome to use school facilities selectively for public use after hours and during vacation periods.

Perhaps starting with the larger libraries like Hornsby, it would be worth experimenting as a satellite location for University Tutorials/Seminars.

A Note Re P73 on Hall Hire.

- HSC has a "sunk cost" with the assets of our halls.
- There are a number of alternatives e.g. Hotels & RSL's.
- It's desirable to have activities happening in the Shire, Fitness sessions etc.
- Community Oriented Gatherings are often on very low budgets.

Our view is rather than look at what other Councils are pricing halls at, keep prices at the lower end. If one day there is a shortage, consider raising prices modestly and selectively, and even by time of day 5-7pm etc.

With kind regards,



# Hornsby

05/01/2021

D08100918

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

Yes

**Please explain below:**

The overall plan balances a commercial approach with the communities needs with one deficiency as outlined below.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

Yes

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Hornsby lacks a flexible modern theatre space seating at least 1000 people to provide facilities for Amateur and semi professional theatre groups in Hornsby Shire as well as exhibitions and art support. This could be incorporated with a central library and other community facilities in the CBD. Given the lack of decent facilities I think it could be justified on a commercial basis with reasonably full bookings.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

More input and consultation with theatre groups. (I am not associated with any group but I was involved with the Scouts Sydney North Region Gang Show as a Scout leader years ago.) I note that they have now to use the Pioneer Theatre situated with the library at Castle Hill which is in Cumberland Territory.

09/01/2021

D08100916

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

Yes

**Please explain below:**

I would love to see dedicated, subsidised artist studios (with shared facilities such as use of an intaglio press/kilns etc. and a manager) in the Hornsby area to provide a focus and a space for linking with the many artists in this area (of which I am one). I always felt that Wallarobba was under-utilised and was awkward as an exhibition space. There really needs to be a dedicated exhibition space within the Hornsby precinct which is part of a larger community hub and this draft plan definitely addresses this.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

Yes

**District:**

Central

**Key Strategy :**

2

**Comments:**

Something like Primrose Park would be great.

[https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Community\\_Services/Arts\\_Culture/Arts\\_and\\_Creative\\_Spaces/Primrose\\_Park\\_Art\\_Craft\\_Centre](https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Community_Services/Arts_Culture/Arts_and_Creative_Spaces/Primrose_Park_Art_Craft_Centre) <https://primrosepark.com.au>

**Suggested Edits:**

Individual artist studios with shared facilities such as a common room, kilns, intaglio press.

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

With the Wallarobba site, my daughter would do Girl Guides there in the evening and there were some problems with security with groups of young people hanging around and vandalising. Seeing as the site has the potential to be accessed until late hours, some consideration of security needs to be addressed.

I would like to see the upstairs section of the Bobbin Head Inn more utilised as a regular exhibition space with exhibitions focussing on work in the Hornsby shire.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

When there was a proposal for a cultural centre on the Westside underneath a monstrous tower replacing the quaint and character-filled shops, it seemed like the council was putting development over every other consideration and not considering the community and its history. The focus should be solely on a dedicated cultural centre for the community without compromise to the developers' interest.

11/01/2021	D08083584
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I note in the introduction that this plan supersedes the 2015 plan but only 1 objective is labelled as completed. This pushes the plan out even further. I would like to point out that there have been many consultants engaged over many years to create studies, strategic plans, reviews and studies into this subject with nothing much achieved. Perhaps this one will be more successful.

It is gratifying to see that serious consideration has been given to the creation of Community and Cultural space in the Hornsby Town Centre. This is much needed and long overdue. I do, however, query the order of priority given to the proposed provision of facilities deemed necessary.

- expansion of Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre: \$8,933,25.00 – completion by 2024
- new Cherrybrook Community Centre: \$2,153,424.00 – completion by 2028
- new Pennant Hills Library and Community Centre: \$19,040,710.00 – completion by 2029 embellishment of existing community centres: \$7,065,500.00 – completion by 2029
- new Hornsby Central Library: \$23,352,000.00 – completion by 2035
- new Hornsby (multipurpose community centre): \$19,817,000.00 – completion by 2035

The proposed completion date for Hornsby Central Library and the adjacent Multipurpose Community Centre of 2035 is an insult. There has been no Community Centre in the Hornsby Town Centre since the School of Arts burned down in the 1957 bushfires. 20 years ago, the urgent need for such a facility was brought to Council and since then there have been working groups and committees working to make this necessity a reality. Over that time the increase of home unit dwellings adjacent to the Town Centre and throughout the neighbouring suburbs has exploded and is still growing (as flagged in the draft plan), so the need is even more pressing. So, to say that Council makes no provision for community space for our residents until 2035 is outrageous.

It is apparent in the report that no serious attempt has been made to identify the number of performance groups throughout the Shire who are crying out for proper performance space. Such a facility would be booked out by Dance and Music schools, Performance Groups, Schools, Musical Societies and the prestigious Hornsby Gang Show which has had to move to Castle Hill because there is nowhere available in their hometown. All willing to pay a hire fee at an affordable community rate.

As an inaugural member of the Hornsby Art Prize Committee, I am fully supportive of Wallarobba and the good work being done in that space but, there has already been significant investment in Wallarobba and the need for other facilities is greater now.

### Scouts and Guides

I draw your attention to page 46 which covers Scout and Guide Halls. These facilities are classified as 'other buildings owned by Council' which is not correct. I have been a member of Scouts Australia (NSW) since 1982 and to my knowledge these facilities have all been built by Scouting communities and are maintained by Scouting communities on land leased from Council and any improvements are funded by parent contributions and Grant applications. Council makes it quite clear that the land surrounding the halls does not belong to Scouts so any requests for assistance will involve that land.

The information in the report shows a complete lack of understanding of the history and involvement of Scouts in the Hornsby Shire. Scouts and their families are members of the Hornsby Shire community. They pay rates and contribute as good citizens, always ready to lend a hand in times of need. The existence of such organisations which relieve council of significant responsibility to provide for youth in the Shire should be encouraged and supported, not disparaged as a problem.

**IN CONCLUSION**

I respectfully request that Council commit to building a Hornsby Town Centre Community and Performance space as a matter of urgent priority and that Council work with State and Federal Governments to secure funding for this purpose.

12/01/2021	D08084057
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Dear Sir/Madam,

The show committee wishes to submit comments regarding: -  
Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan

Hornsby Gang Show has been part of the fabric of the Hornsby Shire for over 40yrs. During this time, we have trained over 10000 youth community members in all aspects of the performing arts and performed to over 200000 audience members. Everyone in the shire either was part of or knows someone who has been involved in Hornsby Gang Show.

While it is satisfying to see that some consideration has been given to the creation of the community and cultural space in the Hornsby Town Centre we are concerned about the proposed order in which the council is planning to provide the facilities. It appears that Hornsby Council does not value the performing arts nor wish to develop any facilities to encourage such endeavours.

There has been no Community Centre in the Hornsby Town Centre since the School of Arts burned down in the 1957 bushfires. 20 years ago, the urgent need for such a facility was brought to Council and since then there have been working groups and committees working to make this necessity a reality. Over that time the increase of home unit dwellings adjacent to the Town Centre and throughout the neighbouring suburbs has exploded and is still growing (as flagged in the draft plan), so the need is even more pressing. So, to say that Council makes no provision for community space for our residents until 2035 is outrageous.

No serious attempt has been made to identify the number of performance groups throughout the Shire who are crying out for proper performance space. Such a facility would be booked out by Dance and Music schools, Performance Groups, Schools and Musical Societies. Hornsby Gang Show has had to move to Castle Hill for our 2021 season because there is no suitable performance space for our show available in our hometown. The Hills Shire has welcomed us with open arms, the facilities available are outstanding. We as a committee are even considering a change of name, if we cannot perform in Hornsby Shire, how can we be called Hornsby Gang Show?

### Scouts and Guides

With regards to scouts and guides, we draw your attention to page 46 which covers Scout and Guide Halls. These facilities are classified as 'other buildings owned by Council' which is not correct. These facilities have all been built by Scouting communities and are maintained by Scouting communities on land leased from Council and any improvements are funded by parent contributions and Grant applications. Council makes it quite clear that the land surrounding the halls does not belong to Scouts so any requests for assistance will involve that land.

The information in the report shows a complete lack of understanding of the history and involvement of Scouts in the Hornsby Shire. Scouts and their families are members of the Hornsby Shire community. We pay rates and contribute as good citizens, always ready to lend a hand in times of need. The existence of such organisations which relieve council of significant responsibility to provide for youth in the Shire should be encouraged and supported, not disparaged as a problem.

IN CONCLUSION

**We respectfully request that Council commit to building a Hornsby Town Centre Community and Performance space as a matter of urgent priority and that Council work with State and Federal Governments to secure funding for this purpose.**

Sincerely,

Secretary  
Hornsby Gang Show



12/01/2021

D08084544

**Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan**

I wish to comment on the Draft Cultural Plan currently on view.

It is pleasing to see that Council has finally acknowledged the long overdue need for Community and Cultural/Performance space within the Hornsby Town Centre however, the 2035 timeframe for provision of this space does not represent the urgency with which this facility is needed and is totally unacceptable.

I respectfully request that Hornsby Council elevate the status of the provision of Community and Cultural/Performance space to urgent and of the highest priority. Also, that stakeholders be consulted on the design of performance space to ensure that it is fit for purpose and affordable.

Yours sincerely,

13/01/2021	D08084904
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**Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan**

I wish to comment on the Draft Cultural Plan currently on view.

It is pleasing to see that Council has finally acknowledged the long overdue need for Community and Cultural/Performance space within the Hornsby Town Centre however, the 2035 timeframe for provision of this space does not represent the urgency with which this facility is needed.

I respectfully request that Hornsby Council elevate the status of the provision of Community and Cultural/Performance space to urgent and of the highest priority. Also, that stakeholders be consulted on the design of performance space to ensure that it is fit for purpose and affordable.

Yours sincerely,

Kind Regards

13/01/2021	D08084914
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**Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan**

I wish to comment on the Draft Cultural Plan currently on view.

It is pleasing to see that Council has finally acknowledged the long overdue need for Community and Cultural/Performance space within the Hornsby Town Centre however, the 2035 timeframe for provision of this space does not represent the urgency with which this facility is needed and is totally unacceptable.

The provision of appropriate spaces for performance within the Hornsby Shire is vitally important to the vibrancy of our local community.

I respectfully request that Hornsby Council elevate the status of the provision of Community and Cultural/Performance space to urgent and of the highest priority. Also, that stakeholders be consulted on the design of performance space to ensure that it is fit for purpose and affordable.

Yours sincerely,

13/01/2021	D08085391
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**Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan**

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to comment on the Draft Cultural Plan currently on view.

It is pleasing to see that Council has finally acknowledged the long overdue need for Community and Cultural/Performance space within the Hornsby Town Centre however, the 2035 timeframe for provision of this space does not represent the urgency with which this facility is needed and is totally unacceptable.

I respectfully request that Hornsby Council elevate the status of the provision of Community and Cultural/Performance space to urgent and of the highest priority. Also, that stakeholders be consulted on the design of performance space to ensure that it is fit for purpose and affordable.

Yours sincerely,

President  
Sydney Youth Musical Theatre Society (SYMT)  
[www.symt.com.au](http://www.symt.com.au)

13/01/2021	D08085419
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**Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan**

I wish to comment on the Draft Cultural Plan currently on view. I have been a resident of Hornsby Shire for 60 years, and have seen many changes, including commercial, residential and sporting, but never any provision for cultural, artistic and theatrical events.

It is pleasing to see that Council has finally acknowledged the long overdue need for Community and Cultural/Performance space within the Hornsby Town Centre however, the 2035 timeframe for provision of this space does not represent the urgency with which this facility is needed and is totally unacceptable.

I respectfully request that Hornsby Council elevate the status of the provision of Community and Cultural/Performance space to urgent and of the highest priority. Also, that stakeholders be consulted on the design of performance space to ensure that it is fit for purpose and affordable.

Yours sincerely,

13/01/2021

D08100914

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

My support is yes and no. I strongly feel that Wallarobba should remain a gallery accessible for community exhibitions, it should also be extended to include the attached halls as 'art making' space on a non commercial basis, not rented out to privately run schools. There is very little available in the community for exhibition spaces, saying a hall in a park or paddock is suitable for an exhibition is not realistic. A gallery that is to be taken seriously must have easy access, some street access and be in the centre of community as Wallarobba is. Should it become a regional gallery, it should include accessible, affordable exhibition spaces for practising artists in the community. Before opening there were lengthy and ongoing community consultations about the centre's purpose, function and operational basis. It needs an administrator whose job is to ensure year around function. As an exhibitor, I find the venue to be expensive for artists to book, certainly for solo events. As our community is expanding at an unprecedented rate, I want a local gallery where I can visit, exhibit. A venue that is not empty most of the year because of a lack of administrative staff,

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Less strategic plans and more action.

13/01/2021	D08085640
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Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan

I wish to comment on the Draft Cultural Plan currently on view.

It is pleasing to see that Council has finally acknowledged the long overdue need for Community and Cultural/Performance space within the Hornsby Town Centre however, the 2035 timeframe for provision of this space does not represent the urgency with which this facility is needed and is totally unacceptable.

I respectfully request that Hornsby Council elevate the status of the provision of Community and Cultural/Performance space to urgent and of the highest priority. Also, that stakeholders be consulted on the design of performance space to ensure that it is fit for purpose and affordable.

Yours sincerely,

14/01/2021	D08085672
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I wish to comment on the Draft Cultural Plan currently on view.

It is pleasing to see that Council has finally acknowledged the long overdue need for Community and Cultural/Performance space within the Hornsby Town Centre however, the 2035 timeframe for provision of this space does not represent the urgency with which this facility is needed and is totally unacceptable.

I respectfully request that Hornsby Council elevate the status of the provision of Community and Cultural/Performance space to urgent and of the highest priority. Also, that stakeholders be consulted on the design of performance space to ensure that it is fit for purpose and affordable.

Yours sincerely,



14/01/2021	D08085806
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Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan

I wish to comment on the Draft Cultural Plan currently on view.

It is pleasing to see that Council has finally acknowledged the long overdue need for Community and Cultural/Performance space within the Hornsby Town Centre however, the 2035 timeframe for provision of this space does not represent the urgency with which this facility is needed and is totally unacceptable.

I respectfully request that Hornsby Council elevate the status of the provision of Community and Cultural/Performance space to urgent and of the highest priority. Also, that stakeholders be consulted on the design of performance space to ensure that it is fit for purpose and affordable.

Yours sincerely,

15/01/2021	D08086291
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Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan

I wish to comment on the Draft Cultural Plan currently on view.

It is pleasing to see that Council has finally acknowledged the long overdue need for Community and Cultural/Performance space within the Hornsby Town Centre. The 2035 timeframe for provision of this space does not represent the urgency with which this facility is needed and is totally unacceptable.

I respectfully request that Hornsby Council elevate the status of the provision of Community and Cultural/Performance space to urgent and of the highest priority. Also, that stakeholders should be consulted on the design of performance space to ensure that it is fit for purpose and affordable.

Yours sincerely,

27/01/2021

D08100896

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

Yes

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

There are two main additional facilities I would like in the Shire. Firstly a quality performance space with tiered seats. It must be large enough for school performances, and visiting performances such as plays and orchestras. Current spaces, Berowra and Pennant Hills, are not satisfactory due to size, shape and raised stage. Hornsby RSL only caters for a narrow market. New space would best be located in Hornsby but alternative sites could be considered in redeveloping suburbs such as the Cherrybrook area and Pennant Hills.

Secondly an art gallery with decent hanging space. Wallarooba is gorgeous and must be used for community purposes but it is not ideal as a gallery. Manly Art Gallery and Museum is an excellent example.

All facilities that enable people to gather and feel welcome are valuable. I have particularly enjoyed the facilities of the Berowra and Hornsby libraries since retirement. Good to see all sorts of people, including the young also enjoying them as well.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Liaising with all cultural organisations.

29/01/2021

D08100861

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

The date of completion by 2035 is too long a time to wait for the Cultural/Performance Venue to be completed. Surely planning and construction can be done in a shorter time frame. The community needs action now as those involved in the performing arts would be dismayed at the time frame provided

24/01/2021	D08091530
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For the personal attention of the General Manager

.....a community and performance space in the Hornsby Town Centre

Dear Sir,

As a former Director of Hornsby Gang Show and National Performing Arts Advisory Council (NatPAC) – the performing arts arm of Scouts Australia, I reviewed with interest Council's Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan. It is good to see Council considering the need for a community and performance space in the Hornsby Town Centre.

Sadly, it appears that once again, performing arts in Hornsby remains a low priority. Surely, the events of the past year have highlighted the urgent need for a standalone facility being made available for communities, organisations and performance groups who, no longer can rely on clubs and schools for support. Youth facilities should be a high priority for a young, growing area like Hornsby.

In terms of priorities, surely the need for community space has always been urgent? I urge Council to give make the provision of a community and performance space in the Hornsby Town Centre the highest priority.

Regards



# Brooklyn

25/01/2021

D08100906

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:** No

**Please explain below:** I have discussed this Plan for future of Community and Cultural facilities where it applies to Brooklyn with many local residents and users of the current facilities at Brooklyn and I believe serious errors have been made. Lack of support by Council for facilities has been justified by relatively low resident numbers applicable to Brooklyn and surrounding Communities.

Firstly this does not take in to account the very large number visitors that travel to this area not only from other areas of the shire but from other areas of greater Sydney. I am a supporter of LHARA of which there are many members of the affiliated Clubs and organisations who live outside this area however who participate in activities in this area. For example I am a member of the Hawkesbury River Yacht Club and my yacht is moored in Brooklyn. I am now a resident of Brooklyn however when I lived elsewhere yet had a boat moored here, I was never consulted or given a chance to contribute to discussions on Brooklyn's future. Many fellow Club members share this sentiment and would like to participate in Brooklyn's future but are excluded because they are not residents.

These members come to Brooklyn and need facilities to use just as much as local resident do. Council should note some of the wonderful facilities that are provided up and down our NSW north coast for areas that welcome tourists and provide facilities and therefore support local businesses.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**  
No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**  
No

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

One point that is not noted is the lack of commercial facilities in Brooklyn that in other areas of the shire, give people options that we in Brooklyn do not have. For example Commercial premises suitable for social functions, fundraisers and club functions are limited to the Local Pub and perhaps the Mooney Mooney Club.

Residents of Hornsby for example have a wide choice of facilities within a couple of Kilometres including large school halls and large clubs such as the Hornsby RSL.

I would ask the Council to bear this in mind when they advise current facilities in Brooklyn are adequate.

Council seem to ignore the huge potential Brooklyn brings to a Hornsby Shire as the premium water access to the Hawkesbury River and its beautiful waterways.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Council should consider input from local resident as well as all the other people from all over Sydney who flock to Brooklyn for their recreation.

## **Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn**

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Council should take note of the population that flock to Brooklyn on weekends.

Parsley Bay recently over most weekend have all parking taken early each day with existing parking of approximately 130 car spaces say averaging 3 people per car is nearly An additional 400 people that the council have not taken into account. Population of Brooklyn is noted and referenced in this report as 670

Mount Colah for instance does not have an increase in population at weekends where Brooklyn has a significant increase however in this draft plan they are both treated per number of residents.



22/01/2021	D08091204
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November 11, 2020

Submission to Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Plan.

First, we want to thank the Council for partnering with the Brooklyn Community Association to create The Cottage. We have been able to work successfully together to bring back a derelict building to a beautiful heritage, tourism and community hub. We have recently emailed all the Councillors our last Council report.

You would be aware that the Brooklyn Place Plan is in active development, and we have found it a bit difficult to navigate through the 17 new strategies and how they fit in with the Place Plan. So, we have been anticipating the updated Community Facility strategy, and we would like to outline a few concerns we have identified before it goes to public exhibition.

The Plan seems to be one developed from set formulas and guidelines and not necessarily designed for separate villages in different natural environments and therefore meet local requirements. It is not clear if the count of Brooklyn residents is included in the Berowra Heights-North Eastern Rural Balance as it is included as a separate line below.

The population figure does not use the latest ABS, which is 722. However, as the Councillors would know, Brooklyn is the hub for river community groups and not a separate community and it includes Dangar Island, Mooney Mooney, Cheero Point, Milsons Passage, Bar Point, Cogra Bay and Little Wobby. We go to the same primary school, parent-run day care, playgroup, senior group activities, the health centre and other functions. The total population of the Lower Hawkesbury is approximately 1600 people.

Last October, we opened The Cottage, 10 Dangar Rd in Brooklyn. Unfortunately, the report states that there is not enough information to include in the document. However, the BCA has provided two reports already to the Council to show the incredible usage of this facility. The Cottage is a central place to provide information, history and art for many of the visitors on weekends. The Cottage is also a member of the Hawkesbury Tourism Collective to help promote the businesses and activities in the Lower Hawkesbury.

The Meeting room is a shared facility with Northern Sydney Health, where they pay market rates and pay the costs of utilities and most maintenance. It does not have any outdoor space, which is essential for a community facility. The usable meeting space is really about 108 sqm as the kitchen is a shared facility with the Health Centre. It has inadequate parking. It is in the middle of the village, where the businesses struggle already due to the well-known parking constraints. Additionally, the acoustics in the meeting room do not allow for any large groups in the space.

Baden Powell Hall is one of the traditional, community-built buildings which is located by the Oval and school which includes a fenced-in playground that is utilised for the playgroup which is also attended by families from Berowra. No other facility in Brooklyn is suitable for young children. The community is looking into the utilisation of this building for a Preschool, now that our population numbers are back up with many more young children.

We agree that there is some fragmentation of facilities within Brooklyn. The former seniors centre is not used effectively, and there is some potential to reuse the space occupied by the building.

We do not agree with the consolidation of the facilities as written in the document, none of the facilities meet the actual needs of the Lower Hawkesbury community. However, we realise that there would need to be some consolidation, but we remain firm that the Meeting Room is not sufficient for the community's requirements.

We find the document confusing on page 110, where it states that the plan does not support the delivery of smaller facilities (less than 500 sqm) for local community facilities is unlikely to accommodate multi-purpose and flexible use, but a larger facility is unlikely to be sustainable. This recommendation is based on insufficient knowledge of the area. The BCA, along with the Lower Hawkesbury Aquatic and Recreational Association, met with our Federal and State members, the Mayor, the GM, the Head of Community Services and many Councillors to present a concept for a new facility located at Parsley Bay. It is a multi-use centre that includes the three sailing clubs, kayakers and the Dragon boats to have storage facilities for safety boats, markers etc. and shower facilities. The top floor proposal is a multi-use centre of approximate 165 sqm (without kitchen facilities) for many different activities such as BCA meetings, school fundraisers and assemblies, exercise classes, workshops and educational facilities. This concept conforms with the currently approved Hornsby Council Sustainable Water Based Recreation Facilities Plan which states under Suggested Actions

*Consider providing a small, shared clubroom facility for sailing clubs if a suitable site can be found adjacent to the water.*

Whilst the proposed centre is only a concept at this stage, we request this is included in the document as this is a 10-year strategic plan.

We understand that preparing documents in COVID-19 time can be difficult; however, looking at just square meter figures does not depict an accurate snapshot of how the whole Lower Hawkesbury River Community works.

The recommendation is to use Hornsby regional centres which can work for many but not all. We live in an isolated area, and our train services are only minimal at times and bus services are only one a day. We do hope that with the lift opening early next year it will enable our older residents to get out more, such as to the Hornsby library, shopping and appointments. But this is 25-minute drive away for those in Brooklyn and even longer for those who must take their boat or ferry over first.

Another recommendation is to use other community facilities such as school halls. Unfortunately, Brooklyn Primary School does not have a school hall so there is no indoor facility to hold community and school events. Consequently, a facility such as mentioned above would not only benefit the afore mentioned parties but also the school as it would allow them to proceed with school events and meetings that are constantly cancelled due to the fact that there is no indoor facility available.

We believe that the current strategy is not representative of all possibilities, rather it is a limited vision with some fundamental inaccuracies of the knowledge of the community and data.

We ask that the concept facility be included in the strategic document, so that it is not automatically excluded by omission.

Yours sincerely

President  
Brooklyn Community Association

22/01/2021

D08100912

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

I disagree with the plan.

Because it doesn't provide adequate facilities for the community and the recreation associations operating in Brooklyn. Brooklyn is the centre for a number of more remote and inaccessible communities in the district. Communities who's residents cannot easily access other areas where facilities may be more appropriate.

The current facilities are too small to be viable as multifunctional community centres and simply cannot provide sufficient space for activities other than very small gatherings.

The sporting and recreation associations operating in the area would welcome a facility as proposed by the Lower Hawkesbury Aquatic and Recreation Association Inc. (LHARA). LHARA's proposal is to provide a community and recreation facility that is suited as a multipurpose facility serving the needs of the wider community and recreation associations to share.

Hawkesbury River Yacht Club Inc. has been providing aquatic recreation facilities since 1993. We have no access to suitable facilities in Brooklyn.

It is important to reconsider Brooklyn as the hub centre for the outer lying communities. Brooklyn Community Rooms do not provide adequate multipurpose facilities for this community.

Members of Hawkesbury River Yacht Club support the cultural and community facilities proposed by LHARA Inc. and we need Council support to achieve that goal.

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Key Strategy:**

Brooklyn

27/01/2021	D08092379
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Submission to the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan

To start from the beginning, What is the purpose of the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Plan? The opening paragraph on the Council website states:

This draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan (Plan) provides direction for the future planning, provision and management of Hornsby Shire Council's (Council) community and cultural facilities over the next 10 years.

And in the draft plan it states:

As this Plan sets the strategic, long term framework for all community and cultural facilities in Hornsby Shire, it will be supported by detailed planning for individual facilities.

A standard definition of strategic planning is:

At its core, strategic planning is the process of defining the goals of your organisation for the immediate future and the strategies by which these goals will be achieved and resourced.

In practice, it is a doorway to innovation, cultural change and proactive strategies to manage your response to a changing environment.

Traditional strategic planning models, developed throughout the 1960s, are heavily weighted toward quantitative analysis, and hardly stand up against today's rate of social and technological change.

If this is a proper strategic plan, then the question should be asked, Why does the Council provide facilities?

What innovation will be considered, and how do we allow for today's social needs and issues? What should facilities be used for both currently and in the future, Who are the users now and in the future, What are the benefits of providing these facilities? How can you improve the usage of current facilities, what are the barriers to use? How does the provision of these facilities meet the growing need for social connection and improve current mental and physical wellbeing? Should the Council make a profit, or should it be a break- even proposition and provide the ratepayers with sufficient facilities?

This Plan instead is limited and only focuses on the following questions:

Where should facilities be located – and what spaces and services should they include?

What size should facilities be?

What is a sustainable approach to fees and charges?

What principles and directions should guide planning for facilities?

What strategies should Council prioritise?

I believe that the Council should provide community facilities for many reasons. We know that people can live healthier physically and mentally if they feel connected to their community. So how can the Council increase connection? It is through the Council facilities. These facilities become the meeting places, places to celebrate, places to share ideas, places to learn and become the hubs of social connection.

The Brooklyn Community Association was truly fortunate to work with the Council to create The Cottage. They have provided many reports and also offered to review how they run the cottage as an example for the new Facility Strategy. The draft plan states there wasn't enough information regarding The Cottage. It was unfortunate that the consultants were not provided with our details to understand how well this can work and increase connection across all age groups in a community. The example of genuine community connection at 10 Dangar Road should be duplicated in all the smaller communities within the Shire.

Another area not addressed in the draft is how the Council can increase usage of their facilities. One of the strategic questions would be, why are local groups not utilising the current facilities?

One of these barriers is insurance. Perhaps the Council could be the umbrella policyholder for insurance. The Community Associations could pay the Council for the insurance, or another option would be to roll into the cost of insurance into the hire. How can the booking systems be designed for the correct usage- does a small community hall need to be on an inflexible booking system? Dangar Island Hall is an example of a Hall that was widely utilised in the past, but the community rarely uses their hall due to the booking system and insurance requirements.

Whilst we all understand that preparing a strategy during Covid-19 would come with some issues, we also understand that it was probably rushed due to the other strategic plan deadlines. However, we are disheartened that this plan was developed without any community input. Phone calls and Zoom have all been shown to be straightforward and effective ways to communicate, and even the Council meetings moved online. If it is to be a genuine Community and Cultural Facility Strategy for ten years, how can this be completed and finalised without the community?

It is more a numbers report rather than a proper strategy. And even then, the numbers are incorrect.

At the November Council meeting, the Councillors agreed that they would continue with the policy of posting the unadulterated consultant reports up on the website. Whilst I agree in Principle with this, it should be noted that incorrect facts should be corrected before it goes on public viewing. When a resident reads inaccurate information, they begin to doubt the legitimacy of the report.

For those of us reading this plan, it looked like it was done entirely by formulas and square meters and population data, all on a quantitative basis. But when you talk about community, qualitative data is imperative. Without this, there isn't an understanding of the way the Lower Hawkesbury Community actually works, Brooklyn is a hub for many communities. The incorrect population data does not reflect the reality of our community.

This strategy did not address the wellbeing of communities. There are so many innovative ideas and interventions being utilised today; for example, the Wheel of Wellbeing for Communities that should be considered in improving wellbeing, <https://www.wheelofwellbeing.org/wow-your-community>

This plan did not address the issue of loneliness. The Australian Government site, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare states:

- 1 in 10 (9.5%, or around 1.8 million based on 2016 population) Australians aged 15 and over report lacking social support (Relationships Australia 2018)
- about 1 in 4 report they are currently experiencing an episode of loneliness (Australian Psychological Society 2018)
- 1 in 2 (51%) report they feel lonely for at least 1 day each week (Australian Psychological Society 2018).

A question needs to be, How can community facilities work for communities to improve wellbeing and social connection? Both the Federal and State Government are focussing on these issues now; the Council can also provide input into improving mental health by looking closely and strategically at the Facilities.

Specifically, in my community, the report states the following:

There are four small existing facilities in Brooklyn which are reasonably well located and appear accessible to the local community. The total floorspace of 382sqm is very high for a local area, accounting for 20% of the total North Eastern district floorspace, while the population of Brooklyn (approx. 670 people) is only 3% of the current district population.

This information is incorrect.

Questions I have regarding this chart are:

1. How can there be a negative operating balance with no information on maintenance costs?
2. How can the plan include the Brooklyn Leisure and Learning Centre, which is not even available to hire and remains in a dilapidated state? Why was this not noted in this document?
3. How can it show a negative operating cost for the Brooklyn Meeting Room? Northern Sydney Health pays a market-rate lease for this property. It should show a profit.
4. How can you state that there is no information on 10 Dangar Road? The BCA signed a lease with the Council over a year and a half ago and provided reports. It isn't for 'community hire' it is a different structure of a one-year lease. The BCA sent in reports and asked that it be considered in this Strategic Plan. It is not in this draft.
5. Most importantly, how can the same outdated 10-year asset cost formula be applied to all buildings? How could the exceedingly small Leisure and learning centre's asset cost be the same as the Meeting room which is twice the size? This is not a true reflection of the facilities and the cost to the Council and ratepayers. They should each be reviewed on real-life figures, not an outdated, blanket formula

The consultants should have reviewed the possible future use of some of these facilities as part of a strategy. For example, In the past, Baden Powell previously was used as a Preschool by KU. Due to changes in the State funding, they were unable to continue to lease this space. With our current baby boom in the community, there is a growing need to increase preschool facilities. The parent-run Hawkesbury River Day Care is a potential hire of this building as it is already built to suit a Preschool.

Finally, there is much confusion around this statement:

The fragmentation of the floorspace across four centres in Brooklyn also limits their flexibility and reduces the hub effect created by a vibrant multipurpose facility

Community and cultural facilities provision in Brooklyn should align with the principles of making the best use of existing facilities, such as improving financial sustainability and being multipurpose and flexible. This Plan does not support the delivery of smaller facilities (i.e. less than 500 sqm) for local community facilities, as this size is unlikely to accommodate multipurpose and flexible use.

However, a larger facility (larger than 500sqm) is unlikely to be sustainable in Brooklyn based on current and projected population numbers. The review should consider the balance between community value and sustainable Council management.

It seems that they only have considered Council management and not community value in this recommendation.

In summary, the document states that a good facility should be multipurpose and flexible. The plan doesn't support delivery of smaller facilities as it is unlikely to accommodate multipurpose and flexible use.

For any situation that does not fit into this box, such as smaller communities, they recommend making the situation worse for the community. Instead of keeping some smaller facilities that fit particular needs, it is recommended that we all get shoved into the meeting room for all of our community needs which is impossible. Did the consultant go see this room? How could they and the Council possibly consider this recommendation to be a viable one? There is no outdoor area, it is shared with the Health Centre, there is no provision for small children, there is no parking, the acoustics are horrible, and it is undoubtedly not multipurpose and flexible.

I am incredibly disappointed in this deficient recommendation for the Brooklyn and Lower Hawkesbury River community. I am aware that many other organisations and people are also unhappy with this recommendation. There is a lack of inclusion of additional options such as the Parsley Bay Centre. Additionally, some previous Council adopted strategies were not considered or referenced in this document.

I ask that the Councillors do not agree to put this up for review until it is a solid strategy with long term vision. I would imagine that most Councillors would agree that a Community Facility strategy without community does not provide a comprehensive, inclusive document. We ask that the consultant talks to smaller communities about usage, barriers, and future needs to determine how to deliver real direction for the next ten years.

Best Regards,

27/01/2021

D08100901

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

I disagree with the Draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community.

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages. The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity.

The Brooklyn Meeting Room will NOT be sufficient to meet the needs of the Lower Hawkesbury River. It is an interim meeting room with no outside area, no parking, it is shared with the Health Centre and it is not big enough for the greater community. The recommendation to consolidate and just the meeting room is sufficient is ludicrous.

I am aware of a proposal by LHARA for a multipurpose centre on the water. As a patron of the sailing clubs and a member of the school and wider community, I request this be included in the plan.

Additionally, the information is incorrect in the document, I refer to table on page 104.

I don't feel comfortable with the Council and Councillors making decisions on incorrect data.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:** No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

It doesn't seem to be a strategic plan but rather just a document about the size of facilities vs the population. Not sure where the strategy is?

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Talk to the communities, as far as I am aware no one in my community, the regular users were contacted as a part of this 10 year plan. Disappointing....please talk to regular users and the community groups.

Revise this before it gets adopted.



28/01/2021

D08100891

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Yes

**Comments:**

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Key Strategy:**

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

## Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

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Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

27/01/2021

D08100893

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

I wholeheartedly support an upgrade and expansion of the facilities available in Brooklyn, and at Parsley Bay in particular. However, I am very concerned that, yet again, Brooklyn's role as a hub for the surrounding river communities is being overlooked.

Brooklyn itself is not large but it serves as the the gateway for many hundreds of other river residents. Any council plans for Brooklyn must take into account that they will also be the ONLY facilities available for the hundreds, possibly thousands, of residents of Dangar Island, Milsson's Passage, Bar Point, Little Wobbly, Cogra Bay, Cheero Point and many others.

Therefore I urge council to take Brooklyn's position as a hub for these many other communities into consideration and not make its decisions based on Brooklyn's size alone.

Thank you  
Chris Haskett

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

Yes

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

See above. In general I would hope that council ALWAYS keep in mind, as I wrote above, that Brooklyn's needs are greater than just its resident populace. Water communities have even fewer options than their equivalently-sized mainland equivalents. How about a (small) library to replace the one at Mooney Mooney?

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

GO to Dangar Island, Milson's Passage, Bar Point, Little Wobbly etc and ASK the residents about where and how they use civic resources. Failing that, put a targeted questionnaire in the post.

31/01/2021	D08100887
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Dear Steven,

As a 83 year old veteran with a 82 year old wife and ill health, I must make a comment on the above Draft Plan. We cannot lose our Medical Centre ! If that goes so will the Chemist, a disaster for the many seniors and young mothers in the lower Hawkesbury area.

Would you also consider including a Tourist information centre and Museum in your Draft plan? There is more history in the lower Hawkesbury than anywhere else in our Shire. I could be a great help in this regard.

Your would be well aware of the many tourists who visit Brooklyn, so let's tap into some of their money to pay for the information and history provided.

Wishing you well in your plans for the future .

With kind regards ,

31/01/2021

D08100886

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

There seems to be little investment in Brooklyn, particularly of the older facilities that seem to have no short, medium or long term plans to replace. As a resident I was really glad to hear of the option of the Parsley Bay toilets to be replaced with a modern facility as raised by the 'Lower Hawkesbury Aquatic and Recreation Association'. This appears not to have made a mention in the report.

Whichever projects do go ahead, I would suggest that a review of the very old and dilapidated buildings in Brooklyn should be undertaken.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Better community halls with enough space to fit community events would be a good start.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Councillors should view and personally inspect the facilities in Brooklyn which they have suggested are sufficient for many years to come, in particular the facilities in Parsley Bay.

31/01/2021

D08100884

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

The draft plan does not adequately allow for the additional facilities that our community desperately needs.

Brooklyn is the central location that is used by a number of river-access communities, who otherwise have no other practical to access the area and so use Brooklyn as their central hub. This is well demonstrated in our School Community, where only a portion of the students are Brooklyn based, with a large number coming from Dangar Island and other water-only-access communities, as well as other locations further up the river accessed by road.

It is also noted on page 105 of the draft Strategic Plan, it is assumed that the Village requires 20 sqm/1,000 people and 45 sqm/1,000 people for the District. This is incongruent with our view, that given the remote and isolated nature of the Village we live in, we would in fact require more facilities, which is especially true given the community nature which is so unique to Brooklyn. This remoteness means that the District allotment of 45 sqm/1,00 people is not easily accessible by Brooklyn residents given the aforementioned isolation, and so we believe that more space is required to compensate for this specific Brooklyn remoteness.

Additionally, the calculation fails to address the fact that Brooklyn is in fact the hub to so many communities, and is not purely the sum of the residents within Brooklyn, but should take into account the broader community which would almost double this number. This would be easily demonstrated by a visit to the community on a normal day, where the number of cars and people you can see far exceed what would be expected from the numbers used in your analysis.

As you have also noted on page 105 of the draft, the facilities that were reviewed were "Dispersed facilities", and therefore not always able to be used by large groups as is often required by the community. This is especially important for us as a P&C who have struggled in recent years to host our events, including community building, cultural and fundraising gatherings. Given the large number of students who attend our school, our events often have to cap number well below interest levels as there is no facility in the area large enough to host what would otherwise be our natural limit.

The constraint on community events, in both number and size, has in part lead to a slowing in our community engagement in recent years. We see the community engagement as critical in growing both our school, and in turn the broader area, with young families often looking to the school and community as a key decision in choosing where to raise their children.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Yes

**Page Number:**

83

**Comments:**

Floorspace provision does not factor in accessibility of District, Non-Council and Sub-Regional facilities to the specific village in question

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

We would like the project we previously supported, 'The Parsley Bay Centre', to be reconsidered for inclusion in the plan as this would be ideal for our Village (as attached). This would allow us to hold Community and Cultural events for Students, Parents, and Citizens of our community more in line with our P&C objective without the current need to decrease the frequency and reduce the size of the events we do hold.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

It would be great if Hornsby Shire Council organised a meeting down in Brooklyn with the local community to observe and hear directly from the residents of our village as well as the surrounding villages.

31/01/2021

D08100883

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

It does not provide adequate facilities for the community, my sailing club uses facilities at Brooklyn. We are unable to support the growth of our club due to a lack of adequate facility to meet demand. Development of a proper sailing club with adequate storage is required especially in the Parsley Bay/Dead Horse Bay vicinity.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No



31/01/2021	D08100882
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**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

According to HORNSBY DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013 RIVER SETTLEMENTS Part 8 -Brooklyn plays a vital role in the maritime operations of the Hawkesbury river, providing a transport interchange, maritime services facilities and a gateway for tourists, visitors and residents of the Hawkesbury River. Yet the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan lists Brooklyn as a standalone suburb with Dangar Island, Milson's Passage lumped into the North Eastern District with Berowra Heights 16.5 km away.

The Plan for the Future For Community & Cultural Facilities fails to even list the Community Facility Heritage Listed Railway Shelter Shed at 6 Dangar Rd, Brooklyn which is being used for car parking and storage, this facility must be generating a large income due to its location close to railway and waterfront.

The Leisure and Learning centre also at 6 Dangar Road which is listed on the Draft Plan ( snapshot Utilisation 0% pg 43)as a facility for Brooklyn is not available for bookings on councils website and is clearly not maintained and unsafe yet has a 10 year asset cost of \$294,413.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Our Brooklyn Meeting Room at 138sqm ( minus 38sqm bathrooms and cupboards ) meeting room will fit 5% of our population

Brooklyn deserves a multi function centre that would serve the community and visitors to Brooklyn.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Brooklyn seems to be about what it can provide to visitors and not the liveability of the Brooklyn Community. Many Masterplans and Surveys are conducted but still nothing has changed, we still lack parking, a police presence, camera's to our amenities to catch vandals and somewhere to meet as a community. Our Brooklyn Meeting Room at 138sqm ( minus 38sqm bathrooms and cupboards ) meeting room will fit 5% of our population.

31/01/2021

D08100879

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

As Chairperson of the Brooklyn Community Hall Project Committee we have struggled since 1997 for council to recognise and provide a community hall that is fit and proper to meet our ever growing community's needs. We have on numerous occasions offered advice on funding options but, which each change of council, our vision has been relegated to the basement.

A 25 seat INTERIM meeting room at the medical centre does not meet our needs now, or into the future.

Attached is an updated information sheet as to Why Brooklyn Needs a Hall that was presented to the council meeting in November, 2020.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Please show that we can come together in conjunction with the LHARA group and present a state of the art aquatic, community and educational facility that meets the needs of the wider community and will showcase Brooklyn as the jewel in the crown of Hornsby Shire.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Communication, consultation and using your place making team as a conduit.

31/01/2021

D08100878

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

Even I, as a 98 year old resident, can see that this proposal is deeply flawed. Brooklyn is the epicentre to many other settlements yet is geographically isolated and needs proper facilities to service its community now and into the future. A 25 seat meeting room doesn't cut it. Apart from a community hall that meets the population's needs, we require more facilities including a library, learning centre, internet kiosk and visitor information bureau.

I support the planned multi purpose facility at Parsley Bay.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

31/01/2021

D08100877

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:** I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community.

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only communities.

Brooklyn and surrounding river communities (including Little Wobby, Cogra Bay) are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn.

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activities in Brooklyn as it is the 'HUB' of the Lower Hawkesbury River wider community.

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms and Baden Powell Hall whilst both essential to community groups and need to remain available for use, they do not provide a large enough, adequate and flexible facility that our community needs.

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack – 2019

See attachments please.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

The Lower Hawkesbury River Residents Association (LHRRRA) supports the LHARAs submission. Please see attached.

Brooklyn and surrounding river communities (including Little Wobby, Cogra Bay) are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn.

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activities in Brooklyn as it is the 'HUB' of the Lower Hawkesbury River wider community.

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms and Baden Powell Hall whilst both essential to community groups and need to remain available for use, they do not provide a large enough, adequate and flexible facility that our community needs.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

The Lower Hawkesbury River Residents Association (LHRRRA) supports the LHARAs submission. Please see attached.

Request Council to have further engagement and meaningful consultation on the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan;

Request the proposal to establish the Parsley Bay Recreation and Community Centre be registered and included as an option in further development of the Strategy

31/01/2021

D08100876

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community.

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only communities.

Brooklyn and these river communities (including Little Wobby, Cogra Bay) are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activities in Brooklyn as it is the 'HUB' of the Lower Hawkesbury River wider community.

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms and Baden Powell Hall whilst both essential to community groups and need to remain available for use, they do not provide a large enough, adequate and flexible facility that our community needs.

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack – 2019

See attachments please.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

HSC needs to shift it's focus to one that supports new and existing infrastructure for the benefit of all community members especially the council's smaller isolated communities.

Council should respect that many of the current community facilities in Brooklyn where built and paid for by the community.

This included the Brooklyn meeting rooms/GP centre \$1 for \$1 funded by the community and Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital and Baden Powell Hall built by the Scouts.

These facilities are essential venues that are valued and used by our isolated community groups to meet and engage with each other. Groups ranging from babies/toddlers attending the Playgroup at Baden Powell Hall to the seniors chair yoga at the Brooklyn Meeting rooms.

These facilities alone do not meet the needs of our growing community and there is much need and desire for a large multiuse facility. This need has not been addressed in your draft plan.

## **Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn**

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Please see attached facility proposed by LHARA for consideration to be included into the Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan.

Please see attached Parsley Bay Centre Info pack.

I supports the LHARAs submission. Please see attached.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Council to have further engagement and meaningful consultation on the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan;

Request the proposal to establish the Parsley Bay Recreation and Community Centre be registered and included as an option in further development of the Strategy

31/01/2021

D08100875

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

I do not support the draft plan in its current form.

Rather than four hubs, there should be some recognition to the position of Brooklyn within the Lower Hawkesbury and the significant community and cultural land / water interface that this provides.

A narrow definition of community and cultural is devised which ignores intersections between communities. This has disastrous consequences for Brooklyn in the current draft plan - a reduced population that ignores the numbers beyond Brooklyn that interface with our services, our facilities.

A formulaic method of dividing current population with potential sq.m. of available space results in a statement that facilities are currently adequate.

No strategic context is explored; no consideration of 'fit for purpose' principles is explored; no other context is explored.

The geographic isolation of this community (and surrounds) and deficits in services have been ignored.

Three community facilities in Brooklyn are identified in the draft plan and included in square metres yet there are only two on Council's website No one knows the old Senior Cits/leisure and activity centre is available for lease.

Key principles identified in Council's strategic planning documents are ignored and not considered with reference to Brooklyn.

Brooklyn - this old community with extraordinary community and cultural history - would see some form of vision of considering a multi-functional community /recreational facility that would meet the needs of the community more broadly

As part of a network with the Hornsby Town Centre hub it could provide contribute to a more cohesive network for the benefit of the densely populated areas within the Shire - to expand and provide alternate community and cultural recreation facilities- rather than to concentrate all into the refurbishment of the town centre.

Suggested edits or additions should be arrived at through consultation with the local community organisations.

This may have been just a regulatory standard five year review but should have been more robust. If you are going to have a network then make sure it is a network and recognises the location and attributes of communities and their distance.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No



**Key Strategy:**

Brooklyn

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

As above.

The community more broadly would welcome consultation and discussion around Brooklyn and opportunities to address the needs of this local community.

Currently the draft Strategic Plan fails to deliver in its most essential form, where and how Brooklyn sits within this co-ordinated Network. There are 20 references to Network in this plan and Brooklyn given its location and distance, is not serviced by this so - called Network.

Network - definition:

- an arrangement of intersecting horizontal and vertical lines.
- a group or system of interconnected people or things.
- connect as or operate with a network.
- interact with others to exchange information and develop professional or social contacts.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

In the first instance, take note of the Brooklyn draft improvement plan which was shelved. That identifies some of the key parameters of this community and its connections and opportunities.

Genuine consultation with the Brooklyn Community Association would be of value.

31/01/2021

D08100872

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

1. The census figure of 700 persons in Brooklyn does not take into account all the many who live in River communities and have as their mainland base, Brooklyn. If you want to disenfranchise us, Brooklyn businesses and its residents will be 'outlawed' by those people you demean in your draft strategic plan.
2. To be so petty and divisive does no goodwill at all.
3. Every day, people visit Brooklyn from Western and Southern Sydney. They park, they bring their own picnics, they swim and fish. You don't tax them, but you provide free facilities for their use. Yet at the same time, you want to limit parking by river residents, who shop, dine, and patronise businesses at Brooklyn.
4. Hornsby Council must change its thinking to include river communities.

NOTE I have not made specific comments as requested below. That's your job, not mine, to provide leadership. In this case, you have failed. We have gone through many 'community' sing-sings, all to the benefit and pocket linings of consultants. I've lived at Little Wobby for 28 years.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Please re-read my comments above.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Re-read my comments above. Too many experts have put this stuff together. Make the meeting room a large gathering place at Parsley Bay.

29/01/2021

D08100870

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?**

No

**Please explain below:**

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

- Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only Dangar Island communities
- Brooklyn and Dangar Island are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn
- The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity
- Brooklyn and Dangar Island Meeting Rooms and halls do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community
- I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Yes

Section:

xxx

Page Number:

xxx

**Comments:**

The plan is silent on all issues important to river communities

**Suggested Edits:**

Review required

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Key Strategy:**

Plan silent on river community issues

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

The plan is silent on river community issues and needs address these issues

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

The council and its consultants need to seek and display an understanding of river community issues and how they may be resolved.

29/01/2021

D08100868

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

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**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

29/01/2021

D08100866

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

29/01/2021

D08100860

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

Yes

**Please explain below:**

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity.

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

Yes

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Keep things simple .KISS .. you confuse individual ratepayers with your ideas and plans. Thereby create suspicion and mis trust.

Then you just do what you want then say ... we asked for your comment.

Never any good analysis done to back up your plans. Who shouts loudest WINS.

Such a shame when some of us actually vote you in.

Very disappointed in HSC response to all things pertaining to Dangar island specifically. Roads, garbage, community hall, morning cooperative, Brooklyn handicap access onto ferry.... consistent unresolved issues for years.

29/01/2021

D08100858

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

The Council continues to ignore the need for adequate parking facilities for Brooklyn and Hawkesbury river rate paying residents and indeed has over the last 50 years reduced parking and unreasonably restricted parking at the transport hub area on Dangar Road while commercial activities have increased but not been required to provide parking for the traffic they create.

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

The local community groups in the Brooklyn and Dangar area should be consulted with regard to solutions for improving/providing additional parking facilities.



28/01/2021

D08100857

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for the community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

My local boating club uses the existing facilities at Parsley Bay and I support additional storage and amenities for the aquatic recreation clubs as proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack – 2019

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?**

No

28/01/2021

D08100856

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

No

**Please explain below:**

I support the fact that there is a plan ... but I do not agree with some parts of the draft.

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

No

**Key Strategy:**

esp. Dangr Island Community Hall, and Brooklyn Parking

**Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

I disagree with elements of the Draft Plan - in respect of Brooklyn:

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages and is inadequately served by community facilities and parking.

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

And in respect of Dangar Island:

The plan needs to allow for increased / permit-based parking space available to residents of Dangar Island & other water-access locations that depend on Brooklyn, in close proximity to the Brooklyn Mooring Cooperative. Parking at a distance, such as near the fire station, is completely impractical.

The Community Hall should be available to small community groups at concessional hire rates, and use of the hall by these groups should be covered by the Council's own public liability insurance.

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Council should work with their insurers to endorse their public liability insurance to cover small community groups ... such insurance should NOT be offered only to unincorporated groups. Small, not for profit groups become incorporated so that they may apply for government grants ... NOT because they are large organisations that can afford expensive insurance covers. In respect of the Dangar Island community hall, the requirement for additional PLI cover is absurd. If an incident occurred when a community group was using the hall, the reaction of that group's insurer would IMMEDIATELY be to make a claim against Council's insurer - depending on the circumstances the 2 insurers (maybe the same insurer ...) would probably settle 'knock-for-knock'. Council is facilitating double-dipping on the part of the insurance industry, and crippling what should be a community cultural hub.

28/01/2021

D08100852

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?**

Yes

**Please explain below:**

As president of the Mooney Cheero progress association our members support the establishment of the Parsley Bay Community Centre as detailed in the LHARA Parsley Bay Centre info pack

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

No

**Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:**

Yes

28/01/2021

D08093717

LHARAs submission to:

## YOUR VISION YOUR FUTURE

### Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan

(Hornsby Shire Council)

This submission is made by the Lower Hawkesbury Aquatic and Recreation Association (LHARA) on the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan (the Draft Strategic Plan - 2020) prepared by Hornsby Shire Council (HSC).

LHARA was formed to provide storage and amenities for recreational boating clubs which operate from Parsley Bay and Dead Horse Beach and to pursue improved community facilities for Brooklyn and nearby communities.

LHARA is an incorporated body established in 2019 by the following sponsors:

- ☐ Hornsby Ku-Rin-Gai PCYC Sailing Club
- ☐ Hawkesbury River Yacht Club
- ☐ Hawkesbury River Sailing Club
- ☐ Hawkesbury River Dragons (Dragon Boat Club)

The aquatic recreation clubs were joined by the following organisations to promote improved community facilities:

- ☐ Brooklyn Community Association
- ☐ Brooklyn Community Hall Project Committee

LHARA sponsors have been individually engaged over many years in numerous Brooklyn-focussed strategic planning and improvement initiatives undertaken by HSC. LHARA considers the delivery of improved community and cultural facilities critical to the future liveability of Brooklyn and surrounds.

LHARA asserts that the Draft Strategic Plan fails to acknowledge Brooklyn's place as the cultural hub and services centre of the remote and isolated Lower Hawkesbury River Community which numbers around 1500 permanent residents, and an estimated 500 "part-time" residents who regularly stay at their properties.

This critical oversight drastically understates the population reliant on Brooklyn's facilities – transport, education, medical, commercial, community and cultural. The proposition that the future needs of this community will be met by a meeting room with current capacity for 25 people is deeply flawed.

The Draft Strategic Plan also fails to acknowledge that sub-regional and district facilities in Hornsby Centre and Berowra are largely inaccessible to this remote and isolated community – particularly youth, the elderly, and those with impaired mobility.

LHARA proposes that its concept for a shared-use multi-purpose facility at Parsley Bay would better meet the needs of our community and provide accessible facilities which leverage the strategic and environmental context of Brooklyn.

Brooklyn is the hub of the Lower Hawkesbury River Community

Brooklyn is the hub of a cluster of satellite hamlets which form the Lower Hawkesbury River community amounting to approximately 2000 permanent and part-time residents mainly in the 2083 postcode, as well as water access only settlements at Little Wobby, Sunny Corner, Marramarra Creek, and Mullet Creek.

Brooklyn's satellite hamlets include Little Wobby, Dangar Island, Cogra Bay, Milsons Passage, Bar Point, Sunny Corner, Coba Point, Marramarra Creek, Mooney Mooney, Cheero Point. Community Associations representing these hamlets combine to form the Lower Hawkesbury Community Coalition.

With the exception of a small hall on Dangar Island, there are no permanent community or cultural facilities supporting these hamlets, and many in the community are forced to travel more than 15km to access social programs, services, and facilities.

To the satellite hamlets, Brooklyn serves as transport and commercial hub, a centre for primary education, medical facilities, café/ dining and essential retail, and a limited array of sports, arts, and social groups.

Residents from Brooklyn and surrounds engage in common cultural and community activities such as special interest groups (gardening, sustainability, exercise religious), music and theatre groups, and all-ages soccer and sailing/ paddling activities through the local clubs. Community members also participate in gatherings such as the Brooklyn Spring Fair, Christmas Fun Day, Trivia Night, Dinner Dance, and Theatre in the Park.

Generally speaking, Brooklyn is the only place where the wider community comes together. This valuable connectivity should be nurtured and fostered through the growth and enrichment of community and cultural activity. Accessible and flexible community and cultural facilities located in Brooklyn are critical in this regard.

Brooklyn and the lower Hawkesbury River hamlets are remote and isolated. The Draft Strategic Plan's focus on multipurpose sub-regional and district facilities at Hornsby and Berowra denies the significant impact of the "tyranny of distance" on accessibility – particularly for the less mobile or time-poor.

For the residents of "mainland" hamlets, a district hub at Berowra is 15km to the south and accessed via a 23 minute train journey and 8 minute walk. There is one to two trains per-hour servicing this route at peak times (less frequently off-peak and weekends) and the walking component assumes unimpaired mobility.

To access sub-regional facilities and services at Hornsby a car journey of 30km can be done in 30 minutes at off-peak times. The train takes around the same time.

The car commute to Hawkesbury River Station from land-based hamlets takes 10 minutes although parking in the station precinct is often not possible. The bus journey from Mooney Mooney and Cheero Point along the Pacific Highway and Brooklyn Road to the station takes 15-25 minutes. On weekdays there are three morning and two afternoon services, but no weekend services.

For water-access-only communities, their car and public transport journeys start with a boat ride of up to twenty minutes duration, and boat parking supply close to Brooklyn station is far outstripped by demand.

Many residents of Brooklyn and surrounds will not be able to access sub-regional or district facilities or participate in community activities and programs provided there. Community facility access benchmarks quoted from the North Sydney Regional Organisation of Council's (NSROC) Social and Cultural Infrastructure Strategy – 2019 confirm that our community will be disadvantaged.

For this reason primarily, the multifunctional district facility proposed in Berowra and sub-regional facilities proposed in Hornsby will not serve the identified social and cultural needs of the Lower Hawkesbury River community.

The Draft Strategic Plan does not provide for equitable and sustainable community access to quality community and cultural facilities for all Hornsby Shire Residents. In order to fulfil this objective, the lack of focus on non-urban and remote and isolated communities should be addressed. The unique characteristics of the Lower Hawkesbury River community and its social and cultural needs (and opportunities to leverage social, environmental and cultural connection) should be the subject of specific focus.

The needs of this community are changing with significant demographic shifts and increasing population density

In the 19th and much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Brooklyn was tightknit in that many resident families were represented across multiple generations, and many residents were connected by local work in fishing, aquaculture, or the railway.

Since the 1980's an influx of new families – often reliant on out-of-area employment - has changed the community make-up and social dynamic of the area. With innate cohesion reduced, the importance of community events and programs in the making of new connections and strong social networks has been highlighted.

The lack of community and cultural facilities serving the Lower Hawkesbury River community presents a challenge to the sustainable provision of these social touchpoints challenging. While young children may be served through the local school and sports clubs, the region's youth, adult, and aged populations frequently travel out of area to access community and cultural activities and programs which are unavailable in Brooklyn and surrounds.

Families and individuals seeking a broad and contemporary range of activities and social opportunities may be prompted to move away or commit to regular and time-consuming commutes to access these. If the pulse and vibrancy of the area diminishes with increased out-of-area participation, so too will the range of opportunities for the elderly and other less active community members to be engaged.

The value of a multifaceted and connected social ecosystem must not be overlooked, and the importance of community and cultural facilities supporting connectivity and integration cannot be overstated.

Our community is growing and changing (particularly the rate of full-time residency at water-access only properties). We anticipate that 2021 census data will show overall population growth across the Lower Hawkesbury River community greater than 3% and a demographic shift toward younger people, and families. Strategic planning must also take in to account the Peat Island redevelopment which is expected to add 268 dwellings to the community in the coming decade.

To sustain and invigorate the connected and cohesive Lower Hawkesbury River community, and provide for future liveability, Hornsby Shire Council must promote and support local activities and programs which engage residents across the age spectrum, and provide for these in accessible, fit for purpose facilities.

This would better fulfil the objectives of Hornsby Shire Council's Community Strategic Plan which counts among its Community Outcomes "Infrastructure meets the needs of the population". Agreed Indicators for which include:

- o Able to access a range of community facilities and services to meet needs
- o Aged care and disability services and facilities are adequate
- o Youth services and facilities are adequate

Also significant in the context of the draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan is the Community Outcome "People have good opportunities to participate in community life". Agreed indicators for which include:

- o A range of community events and activities take place that help bring people together
- o A good range of opportunities for cultural and artistic activities and expression
- o A good range of leisure and recreation opportunities.

Under the heading “Liveable”, focus areas include:

- Identifying, protecting and creating places and spaces for people
- Community wellbeing and neighbourhood amenity
- Advocating with the NSW Government for the infrastructure needs of the local area.

It appears that these objectives have been overlooked in the application of a simplistic and formulaic approach to development of the Draft Strategic Plan which consequently fails to consider the lack of access for our remote and isolated community to sub-regional and district facilities.

A bolder vision is needed to build community participation and one that recognises and embraces the value of the Brooklyn as the hub of the Lower Hawkesbury River community.

### Local Strategic Planning Statement

The Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan is informed by a range of strategic documents, including the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) which sets out the need to:

“Consider additional opportunities for inclusive community facilities that are capable of shared use that will serve as social, cultural and economic hubs within different parts of the Shire”.

The LSPS also notes the “opportunities to use public land for the provision of new or embellished social infrastructure in highly accessible locations or areas generating higher demand for services”.

The proposal to locate multi-purpose district facilities elsewhere in the Shire is appropriate, but none of these can provide a community facility for the Lower Hawkesbury River community, or cultural facilities which leverage the waterside location and rail accessibility of Brooklyn.

Brooklyn is ripe for renewed social infrastructure which meets the needs of the local community and provides enhanced opportunities for the regional population.

### Brooklyn and its satellite hamlets are underserved

Currently, Brooklyn’s community and cultural facilities are largely outmoded and inadequate.

Whilst Hornsby Shire Council and the Brooklyn Community Association have worked to revitalise the property at number 10 Brooklyn Rd and generally improve the amenity of the town centre precinct, the community and cultural facilities need of the community remains poorly catered for in three small and dated facilities.

Number 10 Brooklyn Rd is now a valued community asset and provides a boutique gathering and gallery space, and pleasing grounds that are used to host popular village markets. Yet numerous gatherings and activities are still hosted at private homes, local commercial establishments (café’s and licenced premises), or out of area premises.

Regular activities in this category include gatherings of special interest groups, as well as meetings of the local community associations, and sports clubs.

Occasional activities in this category include the Brooklyn Public School Trivia Night (P&C fundraiser), Brooklyn Soccer Club events (dinner dance, comedy night, presentation days), and boating club events (regatta functions, presentation days).

Unusually for a remote and isolated community, there is no church or school infrastructure in the area to support cultural and educational/ extracurricular uses. Indeed, events and activities at Brooklyn Public School are routinely cancelled due to the lack of all-weather facilities there.

There is also no accessible community-use space in neighbouring Council areas. To be clear, there are no complementary facilities available for community or cultural activity.

For this community Council is the sole provider of community and cultural facilities. The Draft Strategic Plan comprehensively impacts the provision of services for many in the community, and is a critical document informing the next phase of the areas' growth and evolution.

Whilst Brooklyn's existing facilities may be fit for a limited range of purpose, they are certainly not multi-use, flexible, or sufficient for the needs of our community – now, or in the decades to come.

Planning for the future must aim to shift the needle and pave the way for outcomes aligned with modern expectations and strategic priorities.

The Brooklyn Improvement Master Plan project – 'draft' constraints and opportunities report identified the following:

- ☐ Place criteria including the importance of events space and communities facilities
- ☐ Opportunities to bring the whole community together (e.g.: a hall)
- ☐ Identified need for upgraded and additional community infrastructure and services

Whilst the Master Plan project has been shelved, it was comprehensive in its scope and incorporated extensive community consultation. Key findings and observations such as those above should inform specific strategic planning for community infrastructure, yet instead, the draft Strategic Plan proposes consolidation of existing largely inadequate and inflexible facilities – an approach which does nothing to change the status quo.

It is clear that the true number of residents reliant on Brooklyn's infrastructure must be considered, and that closer focus on the geographic situation and community dynamics of the Lower Hawkesbury River community is needed.

### Clarity of current state, and bold vision for the future

Given the shifting demographics of Brooklyn and its satellite hamlets, and the outmoded state of Brooklyn's social infrastructure, the final Community and Cultural Facilities Strategy must be more realistic, equitable, and bold.

Our population is greater, and more geographically and culturally diverse than the Draft Strategic Plan recognises, and its recommendation for facilities which suitably and equitably service our community lacks consideration.

After a century of relative stability in the social and cultural dynamic of the area, change has come. If the Lower Hawkesbury River community is to thrive and progress, liveability must be at the forefront of strategic thinking. The dearth of social infrastructure that is undeniably the current state must be fixed.

The dowdy meeting room that is slated as "sufficient" to meet the needs of the next generation was set up as an interim measure in response to a decade of intensive advocacy by the community through the Brooklyn Community Hall Project Committee.



In the years since, numerous studies and documents have noted the need for improved community facilities in Brooklyn, and numerous commitments and statements of intent to resolve this acknowledged shortcoming have been made by Council representatives. It is an affront to find that Hornsby Shire Council now considers this room a suitable permanent facility.

Often touted as the “Jewel in the Crown” of the Hornsby Shire, the majestic Hawkesbury River and its intricate historical tapestry is worthy of more vision.

As the gateway to the Lower Hawkesbury River on account of its viewing opportunities and waterway access infrastructure, Brooklyn is already the focal point of engagement with this environment for passive and active users from across the Shire and beyond. Its offering to the region cannot be replicated in Cherrybrook, Galston, Berowra or Hornsby Town.

This place is the hub of a unique society of settlements amidst a natural and historical backdrop of national significance. The local and regional community deserves facilities in Brooklyn which are enabling, fit for purpose and adequate, and which acknowledge and respond to our remote and isolated context.

The Community and Cultural Facilities Strategy represents an opportunity to boldly turn the page on Brooklyn and pave the way for an exciting mixed-use facility which provides for future generations, and sets a new standard for the Hornsby Shire, its residents, and visitors.

### The Parsley Bay Centre

Set among sandstone and gumtrees, Parsley Bay is emblematic of the LGAs northern border which tracks the sinuous run of the Hawkesbury River. For most, the opportunity to appreciate the interface between the bushland of Hornsby Shire and the river which is so much a part of the region's identity is unique to Brooklyn.

LHARA has established a vision for a shared-use, multi-purpose facility on the site of the toilet block at Parsley Bay. The proposed facility would cater to a wide range of community activities on a flexible upper-level floorplan of 150m<sup>2</sup> (excluding bathrooms and storage). Please refer to the attached Information Pack.

Sailing and paddle craft would be stored on the lower level, which would also house members amenities (toilets and showers), public toilets, and a small kiosk. In the same way that successful community facilities are co-located at playing fields, this proposed multipurpose centre embraces our river playground and promotes aquatic recreation for which this location is distinctively suited.

The draft business plan identifies uses such as community gatherings and meetings, exercise classes, and learning for young and old. Boat storage elements and member amenities would support and enhance the activities of the sponsoring recreational waterway user groups.

It is proposed that the financial sustainability model be underpinned by rent on storage areas and kiosk, one-off and recurring room usage fees, and regular visitation by school groups which would engage in a program covering cultural, heritage, and environment curriculum.

Design principles will guide the delivery of an environmentally sensitive and sustainable building, sympathetic to its setting, and accessible to people of all ages and mobility.

The facility is envisaged as:

- ☐ A collaborative enterprise which harnesses and leverages groups across the community in support of improved connectivity and community outcomes.
- ☐ A unique building utilising contemporary and sustainable architectural and operating principles,

to provide a base for recreational waterway users and a facility for Lower Hawkesbury River community activities and events.

- A learning centre engaging young people to connect with the river and its ecosystems, the natural environment, the indigenous heritage and the river landscape.

Our proposal is aligned with various objectives of the Draft Strategic Plan and NSROCs Social and Cultural Infrastructure Strategy which supports co-location of community groups and complimentary activities, as well as Hornsby Shire Councils Sustainable Water-based Recreation Facilities Plan (2012) - leveraging existing infrastructure at Parsley Bay and improving access for passive craft, as well as the mobility impaired.

The most recent of a number of master-planning and placemaking exercises focussed on Brooklyn stated:

Brooklyn is a unique community, framed by the natural grandeur of the National Park and the Hawkesbury River. In this location, and since its founding, its activity has always been focused on the interface between land and water.

Brooklyn is the centre of myriad operations, movements and transactions across the riverine threshold. Beyond the attraction of this activity and employment, Brooklyn can also be the epicentre and stepping off point for the natural beauty and environments that surround it.

The community can not only be a setting for shared experiences within these environments, but also be a focal point of local identity, community pride, and common heritage and values. Successful municipal centres must be multifunctional social hubs built on existing assets and local desires, not simply short-term destinations or facilities for consumers and users.

Brooklyn has the chance to offer irresistible opportunities and experiences that do not exist elsewhere, and that are founded in the interests and needs of local people and their enterprises.

Creating an environmentally progressive community ecosystem that both protects and enhances its unique natural environment will allow Brooklyn to evolve with a rapidly changing world.

LHARA agrees wholeheartedly with this sentiment and has frequently engaged Councillors and staff since its inception. LHARA presented a detailed proposal to Hornsby Shire Council (HSC) at a Mayoral meeting in October 2019, and formally requested the inclusion of the proposed community facility in the Placemaking Strategy for Brooklyn via a letter to the General Manager in January 2020.

It is therefore very disappointing that there is no acknowledgement of our proposal in the Draft Strategic Plan, and that neither LHARA nor its sponsors were consulted in the course of developing this document.

### Moving forward

Despite the unflagging commitment of many in the community to work with HSC to improve key aspects of liveability for the Lower Hawkesbury River community and Brooklyn in general, the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan leaves the region stranded on a low tide.

As the hub, Brooklyn's infrastructure is key. Considering tenets of Hornsby Shire Councils Community Strategy – Liveable, Sustainable, Productive and Collaborative – it is critical that this opportunity is taken to deliver accessible facilities which meet the needs of this remote and isolated community.

We formally request:

- further engagement and meaningful consultation on the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan;
- that as part of our submission to the Draft Strategic Plan, the LHARA proposal to establish the Parsley Bay Recreation and Community Centre be registered and included as an option in further development of the Strategy.

### *The Parsley Bay Recreation and Community Centre*



*A contemporary mixed use facility in Brooklyn to support the Lower Hawkesbury communities, aquatic sports and recreation, and learning and development opportunities for the Region.*

### Executive Summary

The Parsley Bay Centre will be located at Brooklyn, on the southern shore of the lower reaches of the Hawkesbury River and at the border of the Berowra and Robertson Federal electorates - easily accessed via Hawkesbury River Station from the Newcastle/ Sydney rail line, and the M1 Motorway.

The town of Brooklyn also serves as the main access point for water-access-only hamlets at Dangar Island, Little Wobby Beach, Cogra Bay, Milsons Island, Bar Point and Sunny Corner. A short drive away, residents of Mooney Mooney and Cheero Point access Brooklyn's Primary School, retail and social options, railway station.

Populations across the Northern Sydney and Central Coast regions continue to grow, as does the density and ethnic diversity in centres such as Hornsby, Gosford, and the North West Growth Area within the Hills District. Young people and the Over 60 demographics are well represented in the region.

The Hawkesbury River and surrounding National Parks provide passive and active amenity and recreational opportunities for Lower Hawkesbury residents, as well as numerous visitors from the wider region and beyond.

The Parsley Bay Centre will establish a place for recreation, learning and development, and community use. The facility will also house public amenities and a small scale food service outlet, and be central to placemaking opportunities to renew and activate the precinct.

The Parsley Bay Centre will be a regional hub for aquatic sports and recreation, a learning and development centre for people of all ages, and a critical social and recreational asset for the Lower Hawkesbury Estuary community.

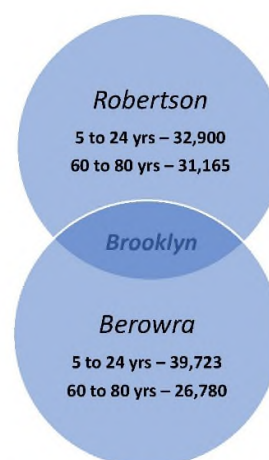
### Concept

A shared facility at Parsley Bay to support recreational waterway users, residents of Brooklyn and river settlements, and the regional community.

A contemporary, quality building, sympathetic to its surrounds, utilising modern architectural and 'living building' principles, with launch/ retrieval and storage areas for passive watercraft, and modern amenities.

The Parsley Bay Centre will be a hub for community activities and events, allowing groups with shared goals and interests to work and be together, and a learning centre to engage a broad range of interest and age groups, embracing and responding to the local environment.

A kiosk and public toilets will provide amenity for the many visitors to the Parsley Bay Precinct.



### Facility features

**Ground Floor** will have an aquatic activities base for sailing, dragon boats and paddlers. A kiosk-style food outlet will be located here, as well as change rooms with showers and toilets for members and guests.

The facility will incorporate the existing Council-owned public toilets, and sit adjacent to a passive craft rigging lawn, and launch and retrieval stage within the existing protected harbour.

**First Floor** will serve as a community hall and learning centre - a multi-purpose venue with kitchen and servery, and a flexible floorplan to suit events seating up to 150 people, or a range of smaller group activities.

Spacious covered decks will capitalise on northerly aspect and river views to the east over Parsley Bay.



### Activities

The Facility will support a wide range of activity to engage people of all ages for the Lower Hawkesbury community, and wider Regional context.

*The boatshed* will have capacity to operate from dawn 'til dusk - 7 days a week, enhancing and growing participation in existing passive craft uses operating from Parsley Bay, and leveraging the strategic location and proximity to population-growth areas along the Sydney/ Newcastle rail line and Pacific Motorway.

At present, Parsley Bay and surrounds support aquatic recreation clubs for junior and all ages sailing, dragon boats, and kayaks. Weekly activity rates peak in summer at around 400 participants – mainly on weekends.

Through establishment of a vessel storage “base” and modern facilities, it is proposed to grow weekend participation rates, and catalyse weekday utilisation including early morning and evening activities for local community and nearby schools, as well as on-water and passive recreation for groups of all-ages drawn from the local and regional population.

Target growth activities include sailing, kayaking and Stand-up Paddleboard, and rowing, with a key focus on children and young adults.



*The Community Centre* will service a diffuse group from across the Lower Hawkesbury estuary, connected through the local school and sports clubs, and general love of their incredible natural and cultural setting.

The upper floor of the facility will house a multi-purpose and flexible space to serve larger events such as community gatherings and fundraisers, sports club regattas and presentation days, and significant school assemblies and performances.

Existing arts, cultural, and health and fitness activities currently use private homes, open areas with no shelter, or small and inadequate meeting facilities. The Parsley Bay Centre will accommodate these with improved capacity and amenity, delivering enhanced experience and building participation and engagement across the community.

In addition, it is anticipated that options currently unavailable to the community due to lack of appropriate space and shelter can be established to service the area. These include scouts, music performance, and martial arts.

### Learning

It is anticipated that The Parsley Bay Centre would deliver a unique learning opportunity for school groups combining Environmental, PDHPE and HSIE subject matter alongside rich Aboriginal and early European heritage.

In a landscape which has remained largely unchanged for millennia, the middens and art of ancient aboriginal settlements sit alongside Australia's earliest aquaculture, and the echoes of Arthur Phillip's voyages to chart the riverine artery that would stave off the starvation of Sydney Town, and kick start agriculture in the upriver farming lands to the west.

Of great significance, here is the birthplace of Federation and Nation-building.

The Australian Constitution was drafted aboard the S.S. *Lucinda* in the Hawkesbury River estuary in 1891, and the defining piece of Australia's rail history – the Hawkesbury River Railway Bridge – opened in 1889 to international recognition.

Sir Henry Parkes in his opening address said the railway helped bind the whole population of Australia in one chain. His toast calling for a United Australia was a forerunner to the Tenterfield federation speech some six months later.

A small-scale estuary fishing fleet and resilient oyster industry continues to operate from Brooklyn, and recent developments in disease-resistant oyster species underpin local hopes for resurgence. Active oyster leases and processing facilities lie within minutes of Parsley Bay, and the local fishing co-op brings ashore prawns and shallow water species for the Sydney Market.

Work is already underway with professional educators to develop various day-visit packages involving key curriculum and personal development elements for school groups, and the opportunity exists to offer health and educational programs to Seniors through partners such as University of the Third Age (U3A).





### Passive Recreation

A number of self-guided walks will enable visitors of all ages to experience the history, beauty and diversity of the area.

Starting with the Federation Walk from Hawkesbury River train station via Flat Rock Point, visitors experience panoramic views to Brisbane Waters and Ku-ring-gai National Parks before arriving at the Parsley Bay precinct.

With proposed enhancements this precinct offers a modest parkland area with picnic facilities, public toilets, a kiosk, and the opportunity to relax and drink in the surrounds before exploring the causeway and rock pools, or taking one of the many walking paths of Ku-ring-Gai Chase National Park – including the most iconic sections of the Great North Walk.



### Delivery

Delivery of the Parsley Bay Concept is proposed through a partnership between Hornsby Council and the Lower Hawkesbury Aquatic & Recreation Association (LHARA).

The LHARA sponsors are:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ❖ <i>Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Sailing Club</i> | ❖ <i>Hawkesbury River Yacht Club</i>               |
| ❖ <i>Hawkesbury River Sailing Club</i>    | ❖ <i>Hawkesbury River Dragons</i>                  |
| ❖ <i>Brooklyn Community Association</i>   | ❖ <i>Brooklyn Community Hall Project Committee</i> |

29/01/2021

D08095601

29 January 2021

Steven Head  
General Manager  
Hornsby Shire Council, NSW  
hsc@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

**RE: Comment on Community and Cultural Facilities DRAFT Strategy**

In addressing the above plan may I congratulate Hornsby Shire Council on this initiative to analyse the assets to support the community and it's cultural activities, especially in Brooklyn which is a hub for not only residents of Brooklyn but for the Lower Hawkesbury Communities for at least 1600 residents- not including the many visitors to this ever increasingly popular tourist area.

I acknowledge that Council is seeking to amalgamate it's assets to purportedly to provide the most effective and efficient community and cultural facility for this hub. I also recognise that this is a very historic community, especially since, for instance the Constitution was written on the "Lucinda" on the Hawkesbury River. Many of our community assets have a history attached to these facilities, which does not seem to be recognised as a value to be retained-due to the fact that Hornsby Shire Council wishes to consolidate these assets. May I suggest that, Hornsby Shire Council (HSC) investigate this aspect more fully before eliminating the





# Galston

31/01/2021

D08100880

**Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:**

Yes

**Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Yes

Section: Districts  
 Section: Table 4  
 Section: Libraries snapshot: Key spaces and features  
 Section: Libraries snapshot: Utilisation  
 Section: Libraries snapshot: Consultation outcomes  
 Section: Recommended provision  
 Section: Table 13: Recommend

Page Number: 27

Page Number: 30

Page Number: 40

Page Number: 41

Page Number: 41

Page Number: 80

Page Number: 81

**Comments:** Comments: Galston Library is the smallest of Council's libraries and offers the most restricted level of service as a result. It is a standalone building not co-located with any other services (other than external toilet block). It must be noted in clear terms that Galston Library does not offer a complete library service. There are no children's programs, adult programs are limited to a book group, there are no study/meeting/exhibition spaces. Residents of Galston/Middle Dural/Arcadia-NW must visit other library branches to access these services. For example, local students from Galston High School or Galston Public School have no after-school study option and there is no story time program for local families with pre-school children (a keystone of public library services across Australia).

**Comments:** Where public libraries offer a full range of services, are accessible by public transport, are co-located with other facilities (shops, community centres) the percentage of local resident's using the services is high. Galston has the lowest usage figures. I would conclude that this is because the library is a restricted service (no study space, meeting rooms, children's programs etc).

**Comments:** This section states that "In the preceding Plan, the main activities and services online survey respondents have accessed in the past, or would consider accessing in the future, were: • library resources, such as books, DVDs and magazines • library activities for adults, such as seminars and author talks • library study space and meeting space • library activities for children, such as storytimes. For all types of community and cultural facilities, car parking was identified as the most essential feature of a facility. A significant majority of survey respondents identified study, reading and meeting spaces as an essential or desirable feature of libraries". Galston Library is currently unable to fulfil most of these requirements (other than a collection and limited parking spaces)

## Submissions pertaining to Galston

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**Comments:** How was the 250sq m for Galston Library calculated? Where in the Galston Community Centre footprint will the library be accommodated?

**Comments:** The table is unclear as to what the proposal is for Galston Library. Using the State Library of NSW Library Building Calculator, a library of 250 sq m is the recommended size for a population of 3,620. Using the 2016 Census figures for State suburbs the suburb populations immediately around Galston Village in 2016 were: Arcadia (1384) Galston (3133), Berrilee (227), Fiddletown (231) total population of 4,975. This total does not include population of the Middle Dural, Glenorie or other areas of the NW district. The 250sq m recommendation will perpetuate underserving the Galston area. Local residents and school students have very poor access to public transport and cannot easily access library and community services in other suburbs unless they have access to a car.

**Suggested Edits:** It must be outlined clearly that Galston Library offers a collection and 2 PCs only, it is NOT A FULL-SERVICE public library.

**Suggested Edits:** Footnote: Galston Library is not a full service branch.

**Suggested Edits:** Add to the dot point about Galston Library: Collection only, no study/meeting/program spaces.

**Suggested Edits:** Add a dot point about Galston Library:. There is a clear need to expand the size of Galston Library so that it can provide spaces for community activities, programs and facilities such as study spaces.

**Suggested Edits:** Add consultation responses directly related to Galston Library.

**Suggested Edits:** State clearly that Galston Library will be relocated to Galston Community Centre, the table does not refer to this. Page 109 says that "250sqm library addition to existing community centre."

**Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:**

Council should continue to liaise with AGRA (Arcadia Galston Residents Association).



# General

27/01/2021	D08092804
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The Hornsby Council Draft Community & Cultural Facilities plan response.

27 January 2021 Summary

Girl Guides wish to work with Council on developing this strategy and we wish to be collaborative in this approach not resistive. We understand the need to have a greater portfolio of community halls that are financial sustainable and suitable for community organisations. We would welcome a mix of multipurpose use halls and some head lease halls subject to the right terms and conditions.

We want to ensure that hall use and lease arrangements with Guides can offer facilities that are fit for purpose, modern and/or upgraded which do not burden financial obligations for the Guides Districts.

Finally, we would welcome opportunities to explore variations to offer Girl Guides in new developments and/or identified pockets of growth, etc. where Council would build or renew infrastructure.

Girl Guides Comments:

Galston, Beecroft & North Epping are not on the map and commentary - can you please confirm they are in the Council area). See p46

On first reading the plan seems positive.

Concern raised with the state of Normanhurst Guide Hall and wish to do something with the Waitara hall as they expand the Arts centre. (Normanhurst was recently unsuccessful in getting CBP grant funding).

Pennant Hills hire the Community centre (but are not specifically mentioned).

The plan calls for a desire for the Guide halls to be sub leased, is this correct?

Council is working towards renewing leases; we would like to discuss with Council on a mutual beneficial strategy to achieve this.

Proposed cycle route.

The preferred options go past the front of the Guide / Scout Hall and possibly through the new and wonderful campfire circle (only from what we can see on the map).

The parents and leaders of the Guide and Scout Groups expressed some concerns based on the information available.

The path may have the following impacts on hall usage.

1. The pathway will be out the front of the hall in the area currently used for off street parking at 90 degrees to the road. This is important for the parents at pick up and drop off as well as for hall hirers such as the Church who have around 20 cars each Sunday and the Rotary Book fair which attracts up to 50 cars.

2. The rough line drawing seems to indicate that the path would go through the new campfire circle. This is not mentioned in the document and needs to be confirmed.

The proposal for BC1A is the construction of a new path in front of the hall. There is quite a slope, so I am not sure it would be close to the hall or at the road level. If at the road level, it would impact the parking, unless the rest of the road was sealed and 90-degree parking spaces could be marked before the bike path. This way the cars could still park, and the bike path could be constructed.

The proposal BC1B is for the bike path to be on the road. It does not specify which side of the road, just that it would be painted on the existing road. If this was the case, then the cars could still park in front of the hall. Possibly it would benefit from car park markings as well.

Guides will welcome the opportunity to use the path to access the station and cycle in the local area.

That Guides appreciate the support the Council gives to the organisation to ensure we have good facilities to empower these young community members.

The building of the cycle path needs to take into consideration the parking requirements of the hall users or they are likely to find a different venue and we will not have the funds to maintain the Hall.

5. One of the activities that Guides, and Scouts at Beecroft are able to enjoy, is campfires in the new purpose built fire pit. This fire pit gives the opportunity for girls and boys to cook on an open fire as well as enjoy singing and drama activities around a fire. The fire pit is not only used for fire, but this whole outdoor space enables the programs which develop these young people, to take place in the outdoors, one of the unique features of Guides and Scouts and important in youth development. For this reason, can the bike path please be kept to the edge of the area to minimise the impact on this outdoor space.

**RE: Draft Hornsby Shire Council Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan**

**AND**

**Scout Association of Australia - New South Wales (Scouts NSW, Scouts) response to the Hornsby Shire Council Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic 2020.**

Scouts NSW supports the principles identified in the Hornsby Shire Council Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan 2020 (refer as Draft Plan).

**About Scouts NSW**

The main objective and aim of Scouts NSW is to encourage the physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual development of young people so that they may play a constructive role in society as responsible citizens and as members of their local communities. Further we encourage the integration of children with special needs – physical and mental disabilities or medical conditions – into regular Scout Groups.

We are able to achieve our main objective by providing and promoting active learning through physically and intellectually challenging activities – we offer a wide range of activities including (but not limited to) camping, abseiling, caving, horseback riding, fishing, rock climbing, diving, and activities linked with the internet and amateur radio, performing arts, and community services.

Local Scout Groups can consist of Joey Scout Mob (boys and girls aged 6 to 7 years), a Cub Scout Pack (boys and girls aged 8 to 11 years), Scout Troop (males and females aged 11 to 15 years), a Venturer Scout Unit (males and females aged 15 to 18 years) and a Rover Crew (males and females aged 18 to 25 years). Each Group is supported by a Group Support Committee made up of parents of the young people in the Group.

And within the Hornsby Shire Council LGA, our local Scout Groups are engaged community collectives made up of members who are residents, community participants, active contributors to the local economic, social and spiritual fabric with decades of engagement as a highly collaborative, respectful and community-focused cohort.

Scouts affirms that the release of the Draft with its ten year forward planning, aligns with the recently adopted Scouts NSW Property Strategy, endorsed, and adopted by the Board of Scouts NSW in 2019/20, with its similar ten-year planning framework.

Scouts supports and wishes to collaboratively engage with the core drivers contained within the Draft Plan being - increased optimisation and utilisation; securing and ensuring the ongoing financial viability of Community organisations like Scouts in the operational delivery of community facilities and halls; renewing all Scout facilities and halls within the Hornsby Shire LGA and working together to best promote a strong, vibrant community with the expanding population base whilst preserving and promoting the Scouting program.

**Scouts NSW view of the Draft Strategic Plan**

Scouts NSW is in agreement with the draft Strategic Plan and its broad mandate that facilities on community land should be available to community groups. Scouts looks forward to the opportunity presented in 2021, to directly engage and discuss with Council on the practicable opportunities presented within the Draft Plan.

Support of those community groups that should be able to access suitable, affordable, economically viable, low-cost facilities for activities, (thus ensuring that they are not financially disadvantaged from having a

## **Submissions pertaining to the Plan in general**

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meaningful involvement in the growing local community) is a direction Scouts NSW supports, and actively works to deliver across its various facilities and halls.

Scouts also notes that, like the most recently released Strategic paper by Crown Lands which presents in a similar vein, the ongoing desire by all parties to increase community access and strengthen social, economic and community outcomes, as facilitated by organisations like Scouts NSW, is reinforced.

Scouts firmly believes that community facilities should be used by multiple groups, or users and is aligned in encouraging maximum community use.

Scouts understands that certain references to specific community locations within the Draft Plan issued, and any specific Scouts halls or facilities specifically named, are based on a mix of desktop review, some observations and references from a selected sample. Scouts NSW looks forward to the opportunity in the upcoming direct consultation and engagement forums, to discuss and/or address any specific matters that Council may wish relevant clarifying information.

Scouts respects the halls within which it operates, and the ownership displayed by our eager and passionate members of Scouts in maintaining the halls and facilities it uses, has been a key focus of our Scouting members for many, many years.

This extends to, and includes the halls that are located on property leased from Hornsby Shire Council, where Scouts has in many cases added to, or built the halls at Scouts cost; striven to maintain the buildings; provided and covered the costs of utilities and services, as well as the insurance costs, all whilst partnering with other community groups in short, or longer term usage arrangements, thus demonstrating Scouts NSW social and community ethos.

### **Utilisation of Scout Halls**

It should be noted that although the various Sections of a Scout Group meet at regular times, the halls are also used outside of these hours by Members for special meetings, additional youth training and other Scouting activities throughout the year.

Additional usage through calendar cyclical period and events also occurs and Scouts NSW appreciates that as a regular user, as per definition stated in the Draft Plan, the Council wishes to collaboratively engage with Scouts NSW to optimise further community use of community and cultural facilities.

The halls are also used to store and protect the valued Scouting equipment, resources and educational tools, used for the specific purpose of the Scouting program and ensuring that such provisions are secure, readily accessible, and available for Scouting operations is paramount to the ongoing delivery of Scouting programs.

Further, Scouts notes that as referenced *on pg. 5 of the Draft Plan footnote*, the year 2020 was one where COVID-19 severely impacted community access; and the use and operation of community and cultural facilities; and for Scouts in particular, this posed a significant impact with cessation of all physical use by both our Scouting members, and the inter-connected community groups that rely on the facilities. This would have impacted immensely on any generality expressed in the utilisation and sharing of nominated facilities and halls.

### **Lease/Licence Arrangements with Council**

Scouts NSW notes that within the Draft Plan, as per pg.3 & 4, Council notes it has 'yet to start' the possible review and/or engagement, that will occur in reference to '*Lease/Licence by Council Policy (2018)*', and the '*Lease/Licence of Council Land and Buildings to Community Groups Policy (2018)*'.

Scouts will hold in abeyance any considered feedback until such relevant time as Council commences this review, and Scouts looks forward to actively assisting Council with insightful feedback on this matter in due course.



## **Submissions pertaining to the Plan in general**

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Scouts supports the outlined intent as ascribed on pg.7, Strategic Direction 5 being to *'Work with Scouts NSW and Girl Guides NSW to renew all leases for scout and guide halls...'* and is confident that all Scout halls and facilities are valid, and worthy for renewal within Hornsby Shire Council LGA.

Scouts contends that it is well placed to monitor, maintain, manage, and administer these facilities and halls, and would be seeking longer term leases than referenced within the Draft Plan. Scouts emphasises that in consideration of not only the history, the provision of community support, and broad-based social engagement, but Scouts NSW overarching aligned energies as a provider of youth focused leadership within the LGA by better enabling tomorrow's leaders from within today's youth reinforces that our aligned efforts are highly supportive.

As part of the lease renewal process, Scouts NSW is seeking Council's approval to sublease, and that this be included in the new agreements, without the need to apply to Council for approval for each individual sublease enacted.

Ensuring that viable, affordable income generation aligned with supporting community groups of limited financial means, will allow Scouts to constantly reinvest into the maintenance and operational costs of the facilities and Halls, assisting Council of the burden of this impost, as well as supporting the broader Scouting purpose.

We invite and encourage the Council to communicate with Scouts and refer other organisations whenever there is a query from the community as to the availability of facilities and the Council are not able fulfil the desired needs. This will ensure more optimal use of our Scout Halls and ongoing strong interconnected Community engagement and support, ever more relevant in these COVID 19 times.

Within the Draft released, where Council may have, or seeks to raise any concern that a specific Scout Hall may require a review of maintenance or presentation, Scouts is keen to openly engage with the Council, as it has done, to resolve any issues or matters raised.

It does follow that Scouts strongly believes that these halls and facilities need to be financially viable, to ensure that they are adequately maintained and repaired and thus looks forward to the ongoing partnership with Hornsby Shire Council in the year ahead through the discussion and consultations to follow.

Scouts NSW appreciates the specific mention within the Draft Plan, on pg. 100, of the current and ongoing success of the Mt. Colah community precinct, and welcomes the ability to further support Council, with the precinct success being a key Strategy #(7) of the Central District defined within the Draft Plan.

## **Conclusion**

Scouts NSW is in agreement with the Strategic Plan, that use of buildings on community land should be maximised for the benefit of members of the community, and we are looking forward to collaborating with Council in 2021 during the process of consultation and engagement, referenced within the Draft plan.

Finally, supportive of the impact and means by which Scouts continues to support both the community and the Council through its Scouting program, for awareness, Scouts NSW informs the Council by way of this submission, its broader commitment to social and community mandate, by referencing:

## **Scouts NSW Diversity and Inclusion**

Australia has one of the most diverse populations in the world, from an Indigenous culture stemming up to 120,000 years, to today where one in every four people in Australia were born overseas. This rich, cultural diversity is one of our greatest strengths. It is central to our identity as Australians and a fundamental value we hold at Scouts NSW.

Scouts NSW prides itself on being a diverse and fully inclusive organisation that welcomes all people regardless of their gender, sexuality, cultural heritage, social class, religious background, or ability. We aim to

provide young people with lifelong essential skills that empower them to take a constructive place in society as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

Our members come from different walks of life; Indigenous Australians, families born overseas, families born in Australia and refugees all bring rich cultures and histories to our mix. It is this diversity that has brought us a wealth of ideas, perspectives and experiences – all of which have directly contributed to the increase in participation in Scouting in our State and makes Scouting the movement it is today. Each member of Scouts NSW is responsible for welcoming diversity and being inclusive in all facets of their involvement. This includes ensuring our colleagues in Scouting and those we interact with outside of Scouting feel respected and valued, especially for the differences they bring to our community.

As an organisation, we are intentional about the initiatives, events, and opportunities we put in place to ensure this diversity and inclusion is championed and that all people in Scouting feel safe, supported, and welcome at Scouts NSW.

- **Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement to Country:** Scouts NSW understands the importance of ensuring the respect we show to the traditional owners of country is visible to younger generations, in particular our youth members. At major events, Scouts NSW works with the Land Council of the event location to invite a traditional owner of the country to deliver a Welcome to Country and a Smoking Ceremony for the event. We also conduct an Acknowledgement of Country at our smaller events and meetings. It is one of the ways we teach our young people to value Australia's long and rich Aboriginal heritage so that they can carry those same sentiments of respect through to adulthood.
- **Scouting in Indigenous Communities Program:** Scouts NSW Australia, in consultation with the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation, the Australian Sports Commission, ATSIIC and Indigenous leaders, introduced the Scouting in Indigenous Communities Program in 2003 to meet the cultural needs of Indigenous young people and their communities. Scouts NSW later adopted the program, which aims to encourage young people to actively participate in the development of their communities and participate in activities designed to build self-determination and meaningful life opportunities.
- **Mapping Nations and Scouts NSW:** Scouts NSW has a project underway to map every Scout Hall in New South Wales to identify the traditional Aboriginal Nations our Scouts NSW are located in. The outcome of this initiative will allow Scouts NSW to assist our Groups to identify and connect with the traditional owners, local elders or Land Councils in their local area to build stronger relationships and connections.
- **Online Indigenous Cultural Awareness Course:** Nationally, Scouts NSW has collaborated with Girl Guides Australia and a major bank to develop an Indigenous Cultural Awareness [course](#) to give our members the opportunity to learn more about indigenous history and considerations around indigenous cultural interactions. This course is especially helpful in facilitating positive connections with indigenous people in local communities.

Other initiatives include:

- 'Family Support Fund' for families in genuine need of financial assistance
- 'Scouts NSW for Refugees' for young people new to Australia
- 'Try Scouting' for Muslim and Christian refugees
- 'NSW Lone Scout Group' for young people in remote areas of NSW
- Community Engagement efforts with the Ethnic Communities Council
- Internal Events and activities such as the annual Scouts NSW Agoonoree and JOTA-JOTI
- Participation in community events such as ANZAC Day, Harmony Day, Children's Festival and Sydney Mardi Gras parade.

## **Submissions pertaining to the Plan in general**

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We trust you will find this submission of assistance and relevance, in response to the issued **Draft Hornsby Shire Council Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan**.

If we can further assist in any way please contact Bruce Retallick (9735 9022) or Brian Warters (9735 9032) in the first instance, and the undersigned and Scouts NSW will ensure a response either from the appropriate Scouts NSW persons at either Region or Branch level, including our Regional Commissioner, Mr. Kerry Griffin and our Sydney North Regional designates.

Yours sincerely,

(electronic signature)

**Head of Property  
Scouts NSW**

11/01/2021	D08101015
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The Dangar Island League (DIL) welcomes the opportunity to provide comment to the draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan

The Executive Summary produced in the report to Council's November 2020 meeting states that the Strategic Plan focuses on the following questions:

- Where should facilities be located – and what spaces and services should they include?
- What size should facilities be?
- What is a sustainable approach to fees and charges?
- What principles and directions should guide planning for facilities? And
- What strategies should Council prioritise?

However, of the 8 identified directions for the revised plan, it's extremely disappointing to note that the plan comprehensively fails to address the singularly most important and vexing problem in relation to the use of Council's community facilities - that of access by the community.

By "access" we don't refer to disabled access - which already exists – nor to obtaining access by the allocation of a key, but to the issue of the use of facilities by small, local, incorporated groups who are now required to provide their own Public Liability Insurance (PLI).

At p22 of the report, under the heading "Key directions and implications from plans and policies", the problem is very clearly identified. It states:

"..... the need for regular hirers to have their own Public Liability Insurance (PLI) may restrict the regular use of facilities by some groups.....who might be unable to afford their own PLI. The requirement for hirers to be responsible for set up and cleaning may also restrict use of facilities for conferences and other forms of professional use where assistance with set up, pack up and cleaning is generally included – for a price"

Sadly, there is then no further discussion on the matter nor any suggestion as to how that particular and significant problem might be overcome. It's just left out there.

In the past, the Dangar Island community centre formed the hub of the community - providing access for meetings of local groups such as the Dangar Island League, the Dangar Island Historical Society (DIHS) and the Dangar Island Film Society (DIFS), and was very well-used as a venue for community fundraising events, family celebrations, weddings, playgroups, etc. Usage was managed by local community representatives and overseen by Council via the Community Centres' 377 Management Committee. However, from around 2012 all that changed.

First was the imposition of the centralised booking system which took over bookings from the community committee and made the major part of their role redundant. Then came the imposition of the requirement for incorporated groups on Dangar Island (the main users) to provide their own PLI. Groups such as the DIFS, the DIHS and even the DIL, who became incorporated for very good reasons - including the ability to apply for grant funding, were no longer able to make use of the centre to meet, or bring the community together at fundraising events, because of the unaffordable cost burden of PLI on such small groups. The result - a significant reduction in community use of the facility.

Over the years it's been suggested that perhaps the community, for example via the DIL, might prefer to take over management of the facility from Council. It could be said that in theory that might be a great idea. However, if the largest

## **Submissions pertaining to the Plan in general**

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group on the island, the DIL, cannot afford the PLI to be able to use the hall for meetings then how could it then be envisaged that the League might be able to afford even the simplest aspect of that idea – that of the “market rental” the DIL would be required to pay Council? (see p29 for those requirements).

The result is that the “Key principles” informing the plan, stated as including the service of identified social and cultural needs, and making the best use of existing facilities, simply cannot apply - at least in the case of the Dangar Island community centre.

In summary, the DIL feels it would appear to be counter-intuitive to produce a strategic plan for the next 10 years without addressing the most significant problem for community access to Council's facilities – that of the requirement for small incorporated groups to fund their own PLI if they wish to use them. An improved model might include the development of a different plan for isolated centres in small communities that addresses the issues outlined. Until the problem of access is addressed then what's the point?