Investment Information:

Types of Investments -

At Call refers to funds held at a financial institution and can be recalled by Council either same day or on an overnight basis.

A **Term Deposit** is a short term deposit held at a financial institution for a fixed term and attracting interest at a deemed rate.

Credit Rating Information -

Credit ratings are generally a statement as to the institutions credit quality.

Ratings ranging from BBB- to AAA (long term) are considered investment grade.

A general guide as to the meaning of each credit rating is as follows:

AAA *Extremely strong capacity to meet financial commitments (highest rating)*
AA *Very strong capacity to meet financial commitments*
A *Strong capacity to meet financial commitments, but somewhat more susceptible to adverse economic conditions and changes in circumstances*
BBB *Adequate capacity to meet financial commitments with adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitments*
BB *Less vulnerable in the near term, but faces major ongoing uncertainties and exposures to adverse business, financial, and economic conditions*
B *More vulnerable to non-payment than obligations rated 'BB', but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation*
CCC *Currently vulnerable, and is dependent upon favourable business, financial, and economic conditions to meet its financial commitments*
CC *Currently highly vulnerable*
C *Highly likely to default*
D *Defaulted*

The **Bank Bill Swap Rate (BBSW)** is the average mid rate, for Australian Dollar bills of exchange, accepted by an approved bank, having regard to a designated maturity.

C11.3 Response to Pittwater Unleashed

Meeting: Leading and Learning Committee **Date:** 17 November 2014

STRATEGY: **Recreational Management**

ACTION: Respond to a range of community, cultural and social needs

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To respond to Councils adopted Notice of Motion of the meeting August 18, 2014 which requested as follows:

1. *That Council staff review the submission from the "Pittwater Unleashed" group and prepare a report to Council responding to the issues raised and present to Council at the first meeting in November 2014.*

2. *That research into how other coastal metropolitan Councils deal with dog access to beaches be included within the report and develop a framework for best practice.*

3. *Council staff report the condition of both Rowland Reserve and Careel Bay unleashed areas and make recommendations on how to improve the amenity for both dogs and dog owners.*

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 In June 2014, Michelle Myers, from the newly formed group of residents named 'Pittwater Unleashed' approached the Mayor with a proposal to allow a trial for exercising unleashed dogs on Pittwater beaches.

1.2 At the Council meeting on 21 July, Ms Judith Davie addressed the Meeting regarding Pittwater Unleashed dog related issues.

1.3 At the Council meeting on 18 August, a Notice of Motion was submitted by Cr White that Council staff review the Pittwater Unleashed proposal and report back to Council in November 2014.

1.4 Over the past few months, Council staff have been researching the approach taken by other metropolitan Councils with regards to dog access to beaches and also the possibility of introducing such a proposal in Pittwater.

2.0 ISSUES

2.1 **Other Metropolitan Councils with Ocean Beaches**

The position taken by other metropolitan Councils with ocean beaches is summarised as follows:

Council areas within Sydney:

Warringah

No dogs are allowed on beaches. Last review was rejected based on environmental and community reasons. No intention to review policy anytime soon. Water access is available at Curl Curl Lagoon.

Manly

No dogs allowed on beaches. To protect wildlife, Manly Council has declared that dogs are prohibited**,** whether or not they are leashed or otherwise controlled on any beaches or in swimming enclosures. Water access (not ocean beach) is available at Manly Lagoon unleashed dog exercise area and Clontarf Reserve leashed with restricted times.

Randwick

No dogs are allowed on beaches under any circumstances.

Waverly

No dogs are allowed on beaches. There are only 3 beaches in the area, all with high volume activity.

Sutherland

Dogs are allowed on 3 beaches with restricted access – Greenhills (Wanda), Horderns and Silver Beach (Foreshore). Greenhills Beach is a less populated stretch of beach, with no facilities for beach users and no patrolled swimming area. A 12 month trial of 24hr access at Wanda was suspended after only 21 days, with time restrictions to be re-instated (4pm–10am) due to two serious dog attacks in the first two weeks at Wanda Beach. Between 1500 - 2000 dogs were present on the beach on each day of the weekend during the suspended trial.

"The trial has been suspended indefinitely for two reasons. The first is due to the irresponsibility of some dog owners who have not adequately trained their dogs or realised the danger their dog presents to the community. This has resulted in two serious dog attacks in eight days. The second reason is the sheer number of dogs that descended on Wanda Beach since the trial began. The media coverage of the trial, while excellent and welcomed at the time, advised Greater Sydney that dogs were welcome on Wanda Beach at any time of day and this encouraged a large number of dog owners to take up this opportunity to exercise and socialise their dogs off leash," said the Mayor (Sutherland Shire Council Media Release, Tuesday 27 August 2013).

In the short period of the 24hr trial, the following issues were present:

- Uncontrolled dogs, over 180 cautions issued on first Saturday in a 'leashed' area
- Dogs in prohibited areas, at least 100 dogs sighted in Sand Dune area
- Dogs off leash in car park
- Dog attacks. Two dog attacks in first eight days of trial
- Dog faeces left on beach
- Bags of dog faeces left tied on fencing and also left in sand dune area
- Contagious disease, skin irritations or parasitic infection
- Joggers chased by dogs
- Surfers having their towels urinated on
- Sheer number of dogs in area
- Limited numbers of Council staff to Police issues

One year on following the 24hr trial suspension at Greenhills, Sutherland Shire Council have reported that there is almost a 50% split in the community satisfaction ie: For and Against. Council believes it has achieved an adequate balance for both users of the community space. However the area has resulted in permanent Council patrols of the area, which results in additional resource pressure. In order to undertake these patrols Council has had to purchase an All-Terrain Vehicle to accommodate the patrols as well as purchasing and installing additional signage, dog and rubbish bins. There have still been a large number of compliance issues in regards to dog behaviour, visitors out of time/area boundaries, and cleaning up, hence the need for constant permanent patrols.

Council areas outside of Sydney:

Gosford

Dogs are allowed on all 9 beaches with restricted access. Under the policy review Off/On Leash Exercise Areas are provided on a section of every geographical beach in the City. Dog owners can access these areas in a responsible manner 24 hours per day, every day of the year.

The policy also sets aside areas on every beach in the City as 'No Dog' areas. This provides for those residents and visitors who wish to have a dog free beach experience.

The combination of beach dog exercise areas and no dog areas provides for recreational opportunities for those seeking contact with dogs and those seeking separation from dogs.

In October 2014, Gosford City Council reviewed its 'Dogs in Open Spaces' policy for the first time in 10 years at a cost of $60,000. Beach access has largely been left the same as it was with the exception of 2 lagoon areas that are being environmentally assessed. Including reserves, there are 50 off leash areas provided in the Council area. Although this appears to be a very pro dog area there are still a number of complaints received by Council which include:

- Owners not picking up after their dogs on beaches
- Dogs in out of zone areas where they are not allowed
- Dogs urinating on children in an out of zone area
- Wet and sandy dogs shaking off over beachgoers
- Dog attacks, however, a large number of dog attacks tend to go unreported for fear of the area closing down

Rangers have found timed access is difficult to enforce as dog owners claim ignorance or have a complete disregard for the rules and are often hostile. Rangers finish at 6pm in daylight saving and at this time beaches are inundated with people disobeying the rules knowing there is no risk of fines.

With the knowledge the area is dog friendly on the beaches, visitors travel from Hornsby and other Sydney areas on weekends. Complaints are often received when the beaches are closed at times with surf lifesaving carnivals and other events, thus the Council has to do extensive signage and advertising prior to the closure.

Councillors have a difficult time discussing dog issues at Council with over 300 people turning up at meetings. The area is very pro-dog and lots of residents have moved there for that reason. It would be very difficult if Gosford were ever to change their policy, the resistance would make it almost impossible.

Wollongong

Dogs are allowed on most beaches with restricted access using a traffic light system however the 'Dogs on Beaches and Parks Policy' is under review with a shift away from beaches as off leash areas. The public exhibition period closed on 6th October with staff currently preparing a report for Council. Staff received an overwhelming response with approximately 2050 surveys completed including a number of people outside of the LGA in greater Sydney. The majority community feedback was against the proposal, to leave the current beach access as it is.

There were a few reasons underpinning the proposals, which suggest moving away from off-leash areas on beaches to parks. Partly, this reflects that as the City of Wollongong continues to grow so will the competing use of the beach area. It will become more important to provide recreational spaces in parks.

There have also been issues relating to compliance with the zoning system on beaches as well as general compliance with picking up after your dog and having control of your dog. This has led to community complaints. Proposals to assist with better compliance include further education campaigns, increased use of signs and colour coded fencing, along with modification of existing off-leash beach areas.

2.2 Other Councils with Foreshore Reserves

The position taken by other metropolitan Councils with foreshore reserves (not beach) is summarised as follows:

Rockdale

No dogs allowed on beaches. A recent trial for restricted timed access similar to Sutherland was not approved by Council in August 2014. Councillors were concerned about the risks of dog attacks.

Mosman

Unleashed dogs are permitted on the beach and in the water in 4 locations - Sirius Cove, Spit West and Spit East Reserves, and east of the Clifton Gardens jetty. Clifton Gardens was added 18 months ago with no compliance issues to date. Council received many verbal complaints at the time but they weren't prepared to officially lodge them on paper. There are no plans to add any more beaches at this point in time.

Woollahra

Dogs are prohibited on some of Council's Beaches; on others they are permitted on a leash at all times, and on the Rose Bay Foreshore they are permitted unleashed 24hours (this regulation was recently adopted through a Council resolution, December 2013; however they did not review all the dog regulations across the lga).

In regards to the environment, the Sustainability and Environment Team Leader advised that BeachWatch do reports on all the beaches in regards to water quality. The report shows evidence of dog faecal matter; however this environmental evidence did not stop Council permitting dogs off leash on a small section of beach in Rose Bay.

Willoughby

No foreshore access for dogs.

Kogarah

No foreshore access for dogs.

North Sydney

Unleashed dogs are permitted foreshore access with no time restrictions at all 10 bays with numerous reserves at each location – Willoughby Bay, Mosman Bay, Shell Cove, Neutral Bay, Long Bay, Lavender Bay, Berrys Bay, Balls Head Bay, Gore Cove and Careening Cove.

Leichhardt

Unleashed dogs are permitted on 9 reserves with foreshore access, some unrestricted and some with restrictions to time and area. Dogs are prohibited from public bathing and wetland areas.

Canada Bay

Unleashed dogs are permitted on 4 reserves with unrestricted foreshore access and 3 reserves with time restrictions. Dogs are prohibited from public bathing and wetland areas.

Hunters Hill

Unleashed dogs are permitted on 3 reserves with foreshore access with restrictions.

Lane Cove

Unleashed dogs are permitted on 3 reserves with unrestricted foreshore access and 2 reserves with time restrictions.

2.3 **Potential areas in Pittwater**

Previous areas that have been researched and have been found to be unsuitable are:

Station Beach – The Crown and the Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries) did not support the proposed trial.

Careel Bay Wetlands – Environmental Protection Area inappropriate for dogs.

Areas suggested for restricted use by Pittwater Unleashed in their submission are:

- North Palm Beach - to 100m of Surf Club and/or Station Beach
- Whale Beach - north of café boundary
- Bilgola Beach – extension of trial 'dog parking' area
- Newport Beach – north of last platform/entry at northern end
- Bungan Beach – entire beach
- Mona Vale – south end beneath headland
- Bongin Bongin Bay – entire beach
- Turimetta Beach – entire beach

Following a successful trial, Pittwater Unleashed propose North Palm Beach, Station Beach, Newport Beach, Bungan Beach, Mona Vale Beach, Bongin Bongin Bay and Turimetta Beach could be reviewed for 24hr access due to limited public use. Pittwater Unleashed suggest that by offering several beaches for use, it will take the pressure off one single beach and spread the usage and number of dogs therefore reducing the risks associated with overpopulation and crowding.

In response to these suggested areas:

- North Palm Beach is adjacent to the National Park area of Barrenjoey Headland. NPWS would vigorously oppose any such proposal. The sand hills in this area are often used for endurance training; Home and Away filming in this area and the Department of Defence (Navy) sometimes use it for exercises. Not Recommended.
- Station Beach has previously been investigated. At the time, Council received vigorous opposition from local residents, objections from Palm Beach Golf Club and the PBA. The Department of Primary Industries (Fishing) objected because of the potential damage to the adjoining sea grass beds and the Crown eventually denied the request from Council. Not Recommended.
- Newport Beach is used extensively by beach goers with the Northern end also being used by beach volleyball players and hang gliders. Not Recommended.
- Bongin Bongin is in close proximity to the Mona Vale rock pool and Mona Vale beach itself. It has houses adjacent to it and because of its protected position, it is used by families. Not Recommended.
- Bungan Beach and Turimetta Beach are both isolated beaches which are not extensively used by members of the public. Worth consideration.
- Mona Vale Beach (South end below the UDEA). From the south end of the beach there is a 200m stretch which is relatively isolated before it reaches the MV golf course southern boundary. This area is a further 700m south of the MV surf club. Worth consideration due to the remoteness and also it borders the MV unleashed dog exercise area at Robert Dunn Reserve.

2.4 **Policies**

If Council determines to allow a dog trial at any of the mentioned beaches, there will be a need to change Councils Beaches and Rock Pools policy and also the Plans of Management for the ocean beaches nominated.

2.5 Public Submissions

Whilst Council did not advertise for submissions/public comment, it has nevertheless received 99 submissions on the matter; 61 for and 38 against, with several people against writing in up to 3 or 4 times each.

General issues that have been raised are:

Against –

- Environmental impact on wildlife – flora and fauna
- Irresponsible owners polluting beaches with dog faeces and urine
- Health hazard from urine/faeces left behind
- Potential attacks on other beach users
- Potential attacks on other dogs
- Sheer number of dogs on the beach at any particular time
- Excessive number of out of area visitors and thus creating parking/traffic problems
- Interruptions/intimidation to other beach users and activities
- Northern Beaches has less beach space vs residents compared to some other Councils that allow dogs on beaches
- Ratepayers money spent on potential litigation
- Increased cost/workload for rangers and Council to implement and control the trial
- Dog policy has been in place a long time, current owners of dogs would have known when they got their dog what places were available to them
- Uncertainty of how a 'successful' trial would be measured
- Residents haven't had a chance to form lobby groups/submissions; current submission covers view of supporting dog owners only

For –

- Less driving to dog parks, less cars on the road
- Less cars on the road, less pollution
- Increase in fitness in Pittwater population
- Reduce overcrowding, visitors from out of area
- Alleviate parking problems at Rowland Reserve
- Tick-free environment on beaches
- Reduce tension between owners and rangers
- Projected Council profit from 'Pay for Play' tag system – however Council is legally unable to implement this system
- Owners will collect litter on beach
- Responsible owners will encourage less responsible owners to clean up
- Reducing barking dogs in yards caused by boredom

2.6 Local Government Act

Under the Companion Animals Act 1998, all Local Councils have a responsibility to productively manage dog exercise in their area. In terms of dog exercise, the key elements of this State legislation can be summarised as follows:

1. Councils must provide at least **one 'off-leash' exercise area**.
2. Council is able to declare areas as '**dog exclusion areas**'
3. All owners must pick up their dog's droppings
4. Council must provide bins in areas designated for dog exercise.

2.7 Pittwater Council Offleash Exercise Areas

Pittwater Council provides well above this requirement with 7 off leash areas; two of those with water access, one with creek access, and a designated dog training area.

The following parks are designated off leash with no restrictions:

- Hitchcock Park - Careel Bay/Avalon;
- Dearin Reserve, Newport;
- Rowland Reserve, Bayview;
- South Mona Vale Headland; and
- Progress Park, North Narrabeen.

The following parks have time and zone restrictions:

- Mackerel Beach - Dogs are permitted off-leash under effective control between the Wharf and the most northerly house between 6:30am-9:30am and 5pm-sunset. At all other times dogs must be leashed when moving between boats and houses. Dogs are not permitted below the high tide mark or in the water.
- McCarrs Creek Reserve - is an off-lead dog area from Monday to Friday in the sign posted area which is west of the main access road into the reserve.

In addition, Deep Creek Reserve, North Narrabeen is a Designated Dog Training Park. Dogs can only be unleashed when conducting dog training sessions within the fenced areas. At all other times dogs must be leashed. Dogs are not permitted over the bridge across the creek.

Council is also proactive in its support for dog owners. Each year, Council organises 'Dog Day by the Bay' which is an extremely popular and very well attended event. Thousands of people (and their dogs) come to Rowland Reserve at Bayview for a day of events that involve dogs and their owners. The event is well promoted and very successful.

2.8 Companion Animals

Benefits:

Companion animals such as dogs, have long been acknowledged as having significant health benefits to their owners. There is evidence that having a pet can help a person lead a longer, healthier life. A study of the National Institute of Health found that people who owned dogs were less likely to die as a result of a heart attack than those who didn't own one. Pets stimulate their carers by giving them someone to take care of, someone to exercise with and someone to help them heal from physical or psychological injuries. Dogs also give their owners the opportunity to socialise at Dog Exercise Areas.

Health Risks:

The health risks associated with dogs are:

- Aggravation of allergies and asthma caused by hair
- Falling injuries – tripping over dogs – more than 86,000 annually in the US result in a trip to the hospital emergency
- Mauling; sometimes death caused by bites and attacks
- Disease and/or parasites due to animal hygiene problems
- Stress caused by dog behaviour

2.9 **Framework for best practice**

The proposal from 'Pittwater Unleashed' suggests the use of one beach during the timed trial. Research from Sutherland Shire Council suggests this would place too great an impact on any one beach with the area becoming inundated with visitors. Not only would this be an issue on the beach but for the parking and local community. As per the approach of Wollongong and Gosford Councils, the better approach would be to run the trial over several beaches to lessen the load on any particular beach and also restrict the hours to early morning or late afternoon to minimise the impact from visitors out of the area.

Prior to the trial starting, Sutherland Council embarked on a one month education program, handing out pamphlets and speaking to the community and stakeholders; advertised on their website, in newspapers and sent information out in rates notices.

Council could consider undertaking a trial and if so, it would be advisable to do so at a number of beaches to minimise the massive impact that Sutherland Council experienced. It would also be recommended that Council restrict the hours to minimise the impact from out of the area visitors.

If Council were to consider a trial, there would be a cost to Council for increased enforcement. Council staff believe that once a beach area becomes accessible to dogs, even under restricted usage, visitors will come to the area to use it even if it is outside the regulated hours, eg Council staff know from the content of petitions, etc received regarding Bayview Reserve, that a very high proportion of non-residents visit our popular UDEAs.

This would put a lot of extra pressure on Council's compliance officers who would also be chasing up visitors from well outside the area for statements following major incidents.

The submission from Pittwater Unleashed suggests that a form of registration could be introduced to ensure that local dogs were able to use any nominated beach area and also that Council could place a fee on this registration which would fund the costs of the required infrastructure at new UDEAs as well as the increased enforcement levels. It was also suggested that fines be increased to further discourage non-compliance by dog owners.

In response, Council has no authority under the Local Government Act to require any type of registration of dogs. The current dog registration system is state-wide with a micro chipping system which is administered by the State Government.

Further, if Council were to introduce its own paper system, it would require Council enforcement officers to confront people and ask for identification. This in itself can sometimes lead to conflict.

To this end, it is suggested that if Council determines to move in this direction, the beaches nominated would be Bungan Beach, Turimetta Beach and the southern end of Mona Vale Beach below Robert Dunn Reserve up to the southern end of Mona Vale golf course. It is however noted that these locations have either limited parking or parking already heavily utilised.

Should Council determine to undertake a trial, there would be a significant cost for additional signage, additional dog bins as well as rubbish bins, dog bag dispensers and the cost to empty the bins at the chosen locations.

There would also be the cost of surveillance/enforcement at these areas.

The costs associated with these 3 areas would be as follows:

Items	Cost Each location	Cost of Installation of bins/signs at each location	Overall total
3 dog bins at each location @ $700 per bin	$2,100	$250 per bin = $750	$8,550
2 2400L garbage bins at each location @ $430 per bin	$860	Included in supply cost	$2,580
6 signs at each location @ $250	$1,500	-	$4,500
3 bag dispensers at each location @ $100 per month	$1,200	-	$3,600 pa
Servicing of dogs pins – 3 services per week @ $3 per service	$1,400		$4,200 pa
		Total Cost	**$23,430**

2.10 **Condition of Rowland Reserve and Careel Bay**

A large amount of vegetation could be cleared from Careel Bay to allow for sunlight exposure which will encourage the turf to grow thus providing a larger and more suitable surface for the dogs to run on. Shade could be provided in other areas with the installation of shelters with seating. Extra water stations for dogs and owners could be installed.

A further improvement to the park could be the installation of Dog Agility Equipment creating varied exercise for dogs and aiding owners to train their dogs. This type of fixed equipment includes tunnels, bridges, platforms, hoops, hurdles and weaving poles.

Improved signage marking leashed/unleashed areas and facilities would make it clearer to owners and help avoid penalties.

Fencing could be provided along parts of Barrenjoey Road and Etival Street to corral dogs away from the road and from entering private property. Fencing should also be provided along the southern boundary to separate the UDEA from the adjoining soccer field.

Rowland Reserve is extremely popular and often very overcrowded. There was a makeover undertaken several years ago (in conjunction with the construction of the seawall) however, there is a need for fencing to separate the UDEA from the car park as well as additional bins, signage, seating and shelter areas and an additional water station. Council staff are also investigating the provision of a small kiosk which could make coffee and snacks available to the many users of the reserve. Income from the lease arrangement could assist with the costs associated with running a large regional facility.

Likewise Progress Park at North Narrabeen needs to be fenced to separate the dog area from nearby Garden Street. Additional seating, water stations, shelter and signage could also be provided.

The costs of providing these improvements to the existing UDEAs would be as follows:

Item	Careel Bay	Rowland Reserve	Progress Park
Fencing	$14,500	$5,500	$13,000
Signage	$1,000	$1,000	$1,000
Furniture	$10,000	$5,000	$2,000
Water Station	$7,000	-	-
Vegetation removal and re-turfing	$30,000	-	-
Total	**$62,500**	**$11,500**	**$16,000**

Total cost to Council for upgrades is $**90,000.**

It is recommended that Council should invest additional funds to upgrade the major UDEAs.

2.11 **Comments Received**

This report is in response to a Councillor request and although Council has received a large number of submissions – 61 for and 38 against – the issue has not been placed on public exhibition for comment and a number of the submissions have been as a result of lobbying by the Pittwater Unleashed community group.

There is no doubt that there are many in our community who own and love dogs. Access to good recreational facilities is extremely important to these people who value the opportunity to exercise and socialise with their dogs. However, it should be noted that there are many people opposed to dogs having access to beaches.

Therefore, it is a recommendation of this report that the matter be placed on public exhibition for comment.

2.12 **Options**

Council has a number of options to consider with regard to the submission from Pittwater Unleashed.

1. Council could allocate funding to undertake significant improvement works at the existing UDEAs, particularly Rowland Reserve at Bayview, Careel Bay and Progress Park at Narrabeen.
2. Council can re-affirm its existing policy of not allowing dogs on beaches.
3. Council could allow dogs on a limited number of beaches at restricted hours (Monday-Friday between 5pm and 8am) but only on a leash.
4. Council could allow unleashed dogs on a limited number of beaches at restricted hours (Monday-Friday between 5pm and 8am).

The conflict between dogs and people in public reserve (beaches) is a major concern to Council. Council recognises the value of companion animals and supports dog owners by providing a number of Unleashed Dog Exercise Areas, some with water access. Council also hosts programs such as Dog Day by the Bay which provides opportunities for promotion of dog products and activities.

However, the issue of unleashed dogs on beaches raises many areas of concern being health, safety, overcrowding, enforcement, cost and impact on local residents.

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

3.1 Supporting & Connecting our Community (Social)

3.1.1 UDEAs provide both dogs and their owners the opportunities to socialise on a regular basis. At the same time, those people wishing to use beaches without coming into contact with dogs will be impacted upon. Conflicting users should therefore be separated wherever possible.

3.2 Valuing & Caring for our Natural Environment (Environmental)

3.2.1 Studies have shown that the introduction of dogs to beach areas does have an impact on the quality of the water and sandy beaches when correct enforcement and education programs are not introduced to minimise the impact of owners not removing their dog faeces from the area.

3.3 Enhancing our Working & Learning (Economic)

3.3.1 The introduction of new UDEAs will have a significant cost to Council in terms of new infrastructure, ongoing servicing and also additional enforcement programs. The report also recommends much needed improvements works to the main existing UDEAs to the value of $90,000.

3.4 Leading an Effective & Collaborative Council (Governance)

3.4.1 Given the level of community interest both for and against the issue of dog access on beaches, this matter needs to be placed on public exhibition for comments.

3.4.2 It would also be necessary to amend Council's Beach & Rockpool Management Policy and also the relevant Plans of Management for the beaches involved.

3.5 Integrating our Built Environment (Infrastructure)

3.5.1 The provision of new UDEAs would require infrastructure such as signage and bins to be provided.

4.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4.1 Following addresses to Council regarding the provision of beach access for dogs, Council resolved to have staff investigate the issue.

4.2 Council staff have researched the position of all Sydney Councils with ocean beaches and also many with foreshore reserves.

4.3 The issues both for and against have been discussed and are presented for consideration by Council. Should Council determine to make selected ocean beaches available to dog owners, the costs of administration requirements are also provided.

4.4 At the same time, Council staff have reviewed the condition of the main UDEAs. Costs have been provided for the recommended upgrades to these areas.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the information provided within this report be noted.
2. That the proposal to undertake significant improvement works at Careel Bay, Rowland Reserve and Progress Park unleashed dog exercise areas at a cost of $90,000 be considered for inclusion in the Council's 2015/2016 Delivery Plan.
3. That Council's policy of not allowing dogs on beaches be continued.

Report prepared by

Les Munn
MANAGER, RESERVES, RECREATION & BUILDING SERVICES

C11.4 Floodplain Management Association National Conference 19-22 May 2015

Meeting: Leading & Learning Committee **Date:** 17 November 2014

STRATEGY: **Disaster, Emergency and Risk Management**

ACTION: To promote a well-informed community and Council that knows how to effectively respond to disaster and emergency situations

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To nominate one (1) Councillor delegate to attend the Floodplain Management Association Conference at Brisbane from 19-22 May 2015.

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The 55th Floodplain Management Association National Conference is being held at Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre from 19-22 May 2015.

1.2 The theme for this year's conference is *"Building a Flood Resilient Australia"*. The conference is expected to attract over 200 practitioners who are interested in, or working within, floodplain management. Attendees will include Commonwealth, State and Local Government representatives, research and education organisations as well as consultants, engineers, land-use planners and community volunteer organisations.

1.3 Provision has been made in the 2014/2015 budget for one Councillor to attend. One staff member has been registered to attend the conference.

2.0 ISSUES

2.1 Nominate one (1) Councillor delegate to attend the 54th Floodplain Management Association Conference.

2.2 The estimated total cost of attendance, including transport and accommodation, is $2,000.

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

No sustainability assessment is required for this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council nominate one elected member delegate to attend the 55th Floodplain Management Association Conference at Brisbane from 19-22 May 2015.

Report prepared by

Jennifer Pang
MANAGER, CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

C11.5 Tender T05/14 - Provision of Construction, Electrical, Painting and Plumbing Services

Meeting: Leading & Learning Committee **Date:** 17 November 2014

STRATEGY: **Economic Development**

ACTION: Establish a program of effective cost reduction through continuous monitoring of costs and sustainable purchasing

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider in accordance with Clause 177 of the Local Government (General) Regulation, the Tender Evaluation Panel's (TEP) recommendations following its assessment of the tenders received for Tender.

1.0 BACKGROUND

Council has as part of its service of works the need to procure construction, electrical, painting and plumbing related services as part of its ongoing responsibility for the construction and maintenance of assets.

Council seeks to improve the availability, quality and economy of services to be obtained, by providing staff with a list of successful service providers from which quotes can be obtained as per the service required. The expected result of this Tender is to create a panel from the top five (5) Contractors from each category; from which Panel Members may be approached by Council to quote for specific works.

2.0 SCOPE

The Scope of Services required as follows:

The Scope of Service required for this tender is for the supply on an as required basis of services in the following categories:

- Category one (1) Construction services
- Category two (2) Electrical services
- Category three (3) Painting services
- Category four (4) Plumbing services

3.0 ISSUES

Tender Process and Assessment

3.1 The tender process was via an open invitation to the market and called in accordance with Section 55 of the Local Government Act and Clause 177 of the Local Government (General) Regulation.

The tender process was facilitated by Paul van der Kraan, Procurement and Contracts Officer. Tender documentation included the Conditions of Tender, Schedules, Services Specification, General Conditions of Contract and Special Conditions of Contract.

3.2 **Call for and receipt of tenders**

Tenders were advertised in the Sydney Morning Herald on Tuesday, 29 July 2014 and via Tenderlink on Tuesday, 29 July 2014.

Tender documents were available for sale via Mona Vale Customer Service Centre and through the Electronic tender portal Tenderlink on Tuesday, 29 July, 2014.
A contract term of an initial two (2) year period with one (1) optional extension of one (1) year will be offered upon successful performance.

3.3 **Tender Advertising and Closing date**

As per the call for tenders, the tenders could be received via Council's Tender Box located at Mona Vale or via Council's Tenderlink portal prior to the specified tender closing time/date of 11.00 am, Thursday, 21 August 2014.

3.4 **Receipt of Tenders**

All tenders received were opened on the closing date immediately following the closing time.

3.5 **Tender Opening & List of Tenders Received**

Nine (9) tenders were collected from the tender box, with nineteen (19) tenders received via Tenderlink were duly registered by Council. Tenderers are listed in alphabetical order, as follows:

- Acland Group Pty Ltd
- Alectrics Electrical Services Pty Ltd
- Algraz Pty Ltd
- Argent Building Group
- Bayteck Pty Ltd
- Brad Palmer Plumbing
- Coular Mate Pty Ltd
- Davidson Plumbing Drainage & Gasfitting
- GreenElec Pty Ltd
- Innuku Pty Ltd
- Jayonn Industries Pty Ltd
- Lights Power Action Pty Ltd
- LPD Electrical
- Moore Building & Consulting Services Pty Ltd
- Northside Plumbing Services Pty Ltd
- Omega Paints Pty Ltd (Supply & Apply)
- Paintwork Plus
- Paul Innes Plumbing Pty Ltd
- ProAsset Painting Maintenance
- Programmed Group Corporate
- R G Smith Plumbing Pty Ltd
- Randall Electrics Trade Services Pty Ltd
- SGH Electrical
- Skilled Plumbing Drainage and Gasfitting Pty Ltd
- Spotless Services Corporate
- Stacey Electrical
- Timeframe Group
- Twofortyvolt

3.6 **Outline of Tender evaluation process**

Tenders contain commercial in confidence information. As such, under Section 10A (2) of the Local Government Act 1993 the detailed assessment of tenders is included in the confidential section of this Agenda.

A Tender Evaluation Panel (TEP) was specifically formed to confidentially assess the tenders received. The TEP has provided a confidential assessment with covering report and recommendations for formal consideration by Council. The TEP takes into consideration the following steps as part of its confidential assessment:

- Probity checks including a declaration as to any conflict of interest or pecuniary interest associated with the tender.
- Initial assessment & cull – this assesses compliance with the call for tender requirements, any company not conforming is culled (not considered further) from the next stages of the tender assessment process
- Detailed assessment of remaining tenders then takes place, including performance against the tender evaluation criteria. Each tender was assessed using the following criteria:

Mandatory Criteria	**Schedule**	
Compliance with Conditions of Tender and submission of all documentation required by the Invitation to tender	Submission of all completed Forms	Pass/Fail
Form of Tender	Form 1	Pass/Fail
Financial & Corporate Capacity	Form 2A	Pass/Fail
Compliance with Work Health and Safety legislation and the requirements of WorkCover Authority	Form 7	Pass/Fail
Insurances	Form 8	Pass Fail
Departures, Qualifications and Compliance with Specification	Form 10	Pass/Fail

Scored Criteria	**Schedule**	**%**
The Fees, Rates and Prices	Form 1	40
Key Personnel including Key Personnel of Sub-contractors	Form 2B	15
Demonstrated Past Experience in performing work similar to the Works required in this Tender	Form 3	30
Qualifications and Licencing	Form 6	10
Environmental Sustainability and Social Equity	Form 9	5

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

4.1 Supporting & Connecting our Community (Social)

4.1.1 This tender and the services it provides will assist Council with the ongoing maintenance of its infrastructure.

4.2 Valuing & Caring for our Natural Environment

4.2.1 The tender documentation also included a questionnaire covering aspects of environmental sustainability. Tenderers provided information relating to products used, waste management, energy and water efficiency as well as recycling and were scored accordingly.

4.3 Enhancing our Working & Learning (Economic)

4.3.1 This tender supports the Council and the communities' economic outcomes by providing a competitive opportunity to provide services to Pittwater.

4.4 Leading an Effective and Collaborative Council (Governance)

4.4.1 Council provides a range of services for the community and resources these through a combination of internal and external providers

4.4.2 The tender process enables Council to seek competitive prices from the market to resource its external providers of the supply of goods and services.

4.4.3 The calling for and assessment of Tenders is in accordance with Section 55 of the Local Government Act and the Local Government (General) Regulation.

4.4.4 Members of the Tender Evaluation Panel (TEP) are required to make a declaration in regard to any conflict or pecuniary interest

4.4.5 The tenders received are assessed by a specifically convened Tender Evaluation Panel against the pre-determined mandatory and weighted criteria

4.4.6 The Tender assessment and recommendations are reported to Council for formal consideration and are assessed against organisational and product information, systems, policy, capacity to deliver and experience.

4.5 Integrating our Built Environment (Infrastructure)

4.5.1 The engagement of Building, Electrical, Painting and Plumbing Service providers will add to the effectiveness of Council's ability to maintain Council and Community assets.

5.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

5.1 Pittwater Council prepared a Request for Tender T05/14 for the Provision of Building, Electrical, Painting and Plumbing Services.

5.2 Twenty-eight (28) Tenders were received.

5.3 The Tender Evaluation is presented to Council for consideration in the confidential section of this Agenda.

RECOMMENDATION

That the recommendation contained in the Confidential Tender assessment report for T05/14 – Provision of Building, Electrical, Painting and Plumbing Services, be adopted.

Report prepared by
Donald Gibson – Principal Officer Building Services
Paul van der Kraan – Procurement & Contracts Officer

Paul Reid
MANAGER – PROPERTY, PROJECTS & COMMERCIAL

C11.6 Council Meeting Dates for 2015

Meeting: Leading & Learning Committee **Date:** 17 November 2015

STRATEGY: **Corporate Management**

ACTION: To maintain and service Council's range of Committees

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To confirm Council meeting dates for 2015.

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 Section 365 of the Local Government Act requires Councils to meet at least 10 times per year.

1.2 Pittwater Council meetings are generally scheduled for the first and third Monday of each month of the year apart from January when Council is in recess.

2.0 ISSUES

2.1 The proposed Council meeting schedule for 2015 is attached (refer **Attachment 1**).

2.2 As is Council practice meetings are proposed for the first and third Monday of each month apart from January.

2.3 Public holidays in 2015 fall on Monday 6 April (Easter Monday) and Monday 6 October (Labour Day). It is therefore proposed that only one meeting be held in April (Council/LL/STV on 20 April 2015) and one meeting in October (Council/LL/STV on 19 October 2015), thus ensuring that other scheduled meetings and appointments are not interrupted and Council meetings do not coincide with traditional holiday periods.

2.4 If the attached schedule is adopted Council will have twenty (20) Ordinary meetings in 2015.

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

3.1 A sustainability assessment is not required for this report.

4.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4.1 Council meetings for 2015 are scheduled for the first and third Mondays of each month apart from January.

4.2 April and October 2015 each have a public holiday on a relevant Monday and it is proposed to limit meetings to one during each of these months.

RECOMMENDATION

That the attached 2015 Council meeting schedule be confirmed.

Report prepared by
Nicholas Mamouzelos – Principal Officer, Administration & Risk

Warwick Lawrence
MANAGER, ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE

Proposed Council Meeting Dates 2015

February 2015
Monday 02 February – CC/NE
Monday 16 February – LL/STV

March 2015
Monday 02 March – CC/NE
Monday 16 March - LL/STV

April 2015
Monday 20 April – LL/STV
Monday 18 May - LL/STV

May 2015
Monday 04 May – CC/NE

June 2015
Monday 01 June – CC/NE
Monday 15 June - LL/STV

July 2015
Monday 06 July – CC/NE
Monday 20 July - LL/STV

August 2015
Monday 03 August – CC/NE
Monday 17 August - LL/STV

September 2015
Monday 07 September – CC/NE
Monday 21 September - LL/STV

October 2015
Monday 19 October – LL/STV

November 2015
Monday 02 November – CC/NE
Monday 16 November - LL/STV

December 2015
Monday 07 December - CC/NE
Monday 21 December – LL/STV

C11.7 Report on the Walk21 International Conference on Walking and Liveable Communities - 21-23 October 2014

Meeting: Leading and Learning Committee **Date:** 17 November 2014

STRATEGY: **Corporate Management**

ACTION: To report on the Walk21 International Conference on Walking and Liveable Communities held in Sydney from 21 – 23 October 2014 attended by Councillor Townsend on the 21 October 2014.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of Councillor Townsend's report following her attendance on 21 October 2014 at the Walk21 International Conference on Walking and Liveable Communities held in Sydney from 21 – 23 October 2014.

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 Council's Policy No 145 – Policy for the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors provides that:

'Conference Reporting:

Following attendance at a Conference authorised under this Policy, the relevant Councillor is required to submit a report of approximately one page in length to the community via the Council's Agenda papers on the outcomes of the Conference, with particular emphasis as to any outcomes affecting Pittwater.'

1.2 At the Ordinary Council Meeting held 13 October 2014 Council authorised Councillor Townsend's attendance at the Walk21 Conference for the 21 October 2014.

1.3 This report is submitted by Councillor Townsend.

2.0 ISSUES

2.1 Reporting on attendance at conferences.

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

3.1 **Supporting & Connecting our Community (Social)**

The report will have no impact on this Strategy

3.2 **Valuing & Caring for our Natural Environment (Environmental)**

The report will have no impact on this Strategy

3.3 **Enhancing our Working & Learning (Economic)**

The report will have no impact on this Strategy

3.4 **Leading an Effective & Collaborative Council (Governance)**

This report is in response to Council's Policy 145 – Policy for the Payment of expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors – Conference Reporting.

3.5 **Integrating our Built Environment (Infrastructure)**

The report will have no impact on this Strategy

4.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4.1 Council's Policy No 145 – Policy for the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors – provides that following attendance at a Conference authorised under this Policy the relevant Councillor is required to submit a report of approximately one page in length to the community via the Council's Agenda papers on the outcomes of the Conference, with particular emphasis as to any outcomes affecting Pittwater.

4.2 Councillor Townsend's report, following her attendance at the Walk21 International Conference on Walking and Liveable Communities held in Sydney from 21 – 23 October 2014 is attached (refer **Attachment 1**) for Council information.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information provided in the report be noted.

Report prepared by
Kim Reading – Executive Assistant to Mayor & Councillors

Warwick Lawrence
MANAGER, ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE

REPORT ON THE WALK21 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WALKING AND LIVEABLE COMMUNITIES

On 21 October 2014 I attended the opening day and signed the Walk21 International Walking Charter (Refer **Attachment 2**).

I also had the opportunity of hearing a number of speakers and participated in Speed Dating under the Big Top where our Manager for Place Making, Melinda Hewitt, was telling anyone who asked about our Enliven Program.

PROGRAM DAY 1

I heard from speakers on Transforming NSW into the Walking State and the work being done by Transport for NSW. Graham Jahn, the Director Planning, Development and Transport, City of Sydney told us about Walking in the City of Sydney.

The keynote speaker was Mike Lydon who told us how tactical urbanism gets us moving and highlighted the work done at Penrith City Council around the installation of a temporary community space on a budget of $40,000.

All of these speakers highlighted the benefits of walking and building infrastructure from the top right down to community activism.

My favourite speaker was the second Keynote speaker – Paul Tranter who told us about the 'hurry virus' and how walking is the cure for it. It was refreshing to hear about how our lives have been transformed by us hurrying to getting to one place, then another as quickly as we can. We tend to use vehicles as we think it is the fastest mode of transport, but it isn't the cure for the 'hurry virus.' The cure is to slow down and for walking to be our preferred mode of transport.

One of the speed dating sessions I attended was with Andrew Wheeler who spoke on the Vision for Sydney in 2031 and provided us with a copy of the draft Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney (Refer **Attachment 3**) and a copy of his paper Policy Steps for Planning Walkable, Healthy and Liveable Cities (Refer **Attachment 4**). His paper focuses on the COAG criteria for future strategic planning of capital cities and how each Australian city now has a Metropolitan Planning Strategy. Note h) "health, liveability, and community wellbeing is one of the nationally significant policy issues.

It was great to learn we here at Pittwater are headed in the right direction.

JACQUELINE TOWNSEND
MAYOR

Walk21 — Taking walking forward in the 21st Century . . .

International Charter for Walking

Creating healthy, efficient and sustainable communities where people choose to walk

I, the undersigned recognise the benefits of walking as a key indicator of healthy, efficient, socially inclusive and sustainable communities and acknowledge the universal rights of people to be able to walk safely and to enjoy high quality public spaces anywhere and at anytime. We are committed to reducing the physical, social and institutional barriers that limit walking activity. We will work with others to help create a culture where people choose to walk through our commitment to this charter and its strategic principles:

1. ***Increased inclusive mobility***
2. ***Well designed and managed spaces and places for people***
3. ***Improved integration of networks***
4. ***Supportive land-use and spatial planning***
5. ***Reduced road danger***
6. ***Less crime and fear of crime***
7. ***More supportive authorities***
8. ***A culture of walking***

Signed _____

Name Cr Jacqueline Townsend

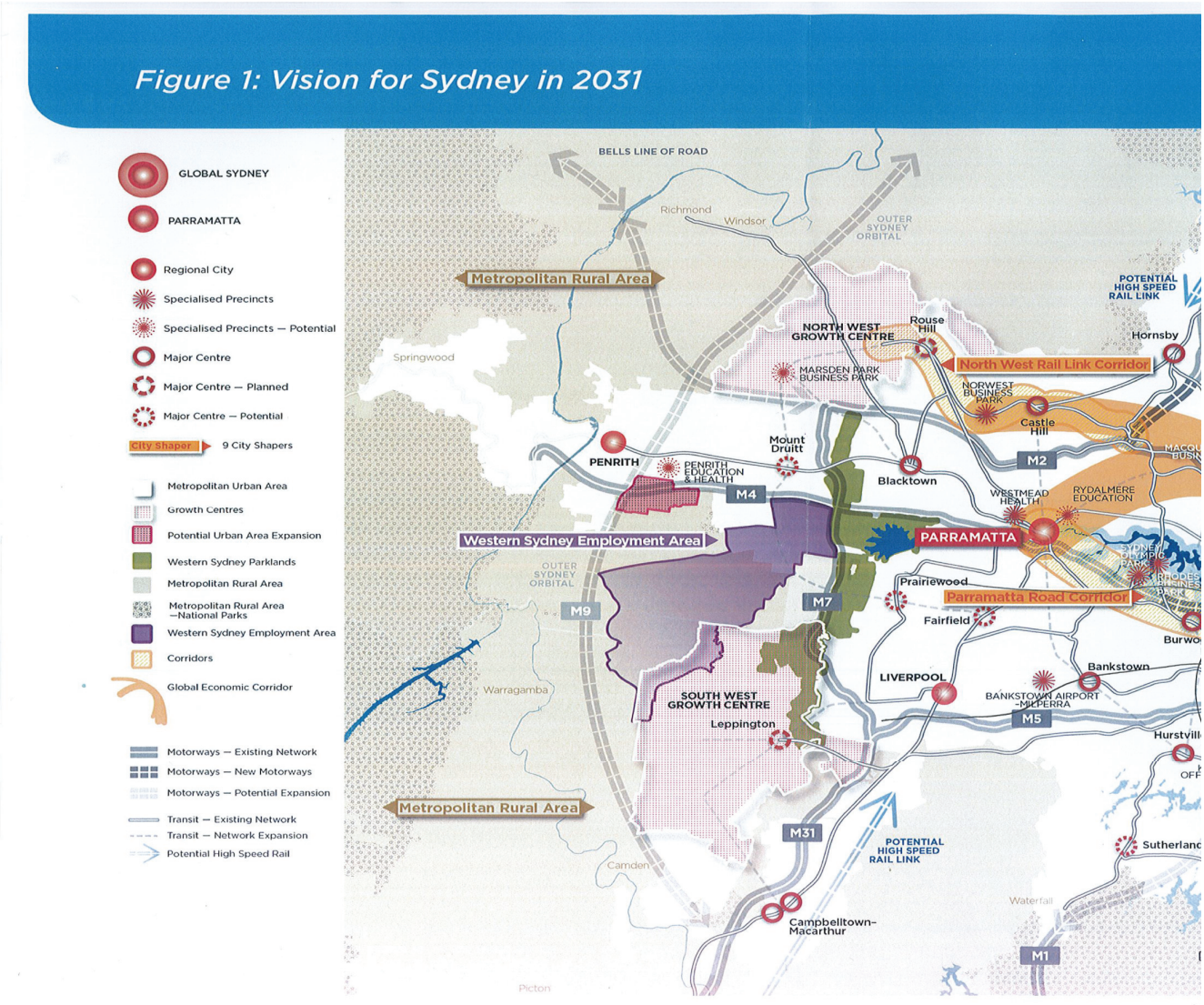
Position Mayor of Pittwater Council

Date 21st October 2014

PITTWATER COUNCIL

www.walk21.com

Figure 1: Vision for Sydney in 2031



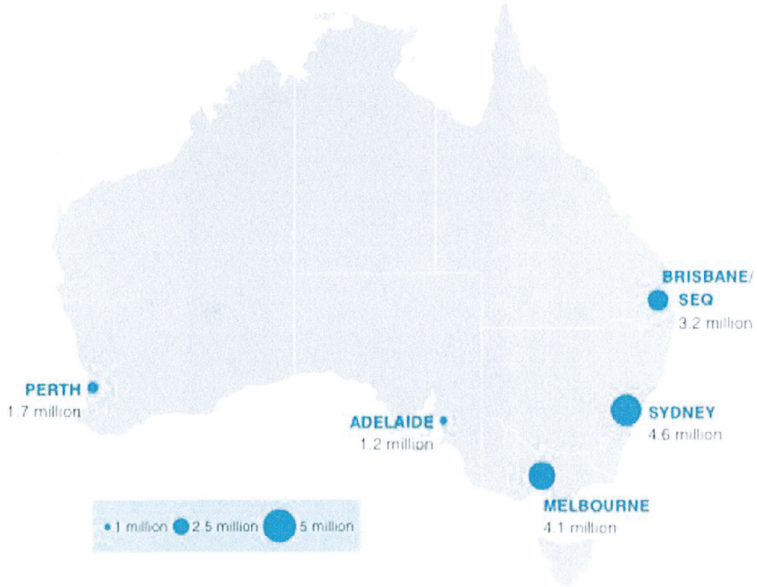
Policy Steps for Planning Walkable, Healthy and Liveable Cities

Never Stand Still | Built Environment

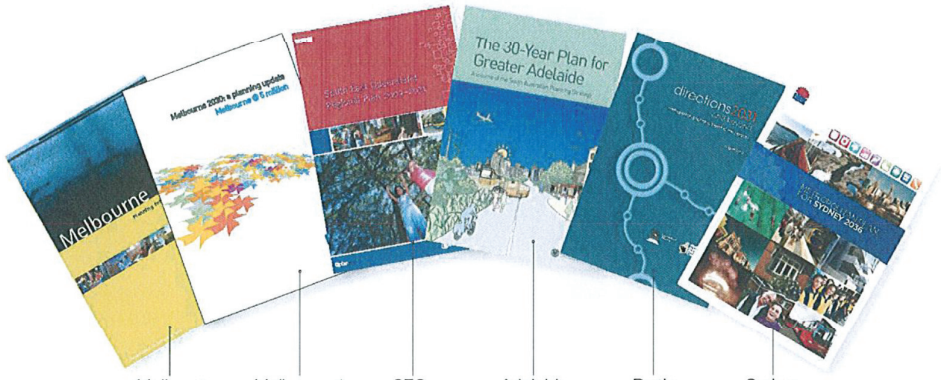
Andrew Wheeler

Walk21: 15th International Conference on Walking and Liveable Communities

Luna Park, Sydney, 21-23 October 2014



Metropolitan Planning Strategies



*Update to *Melbourne 2030*

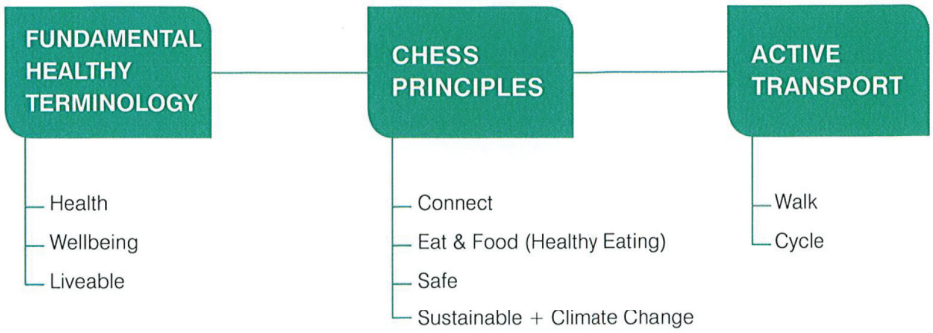
UNSW

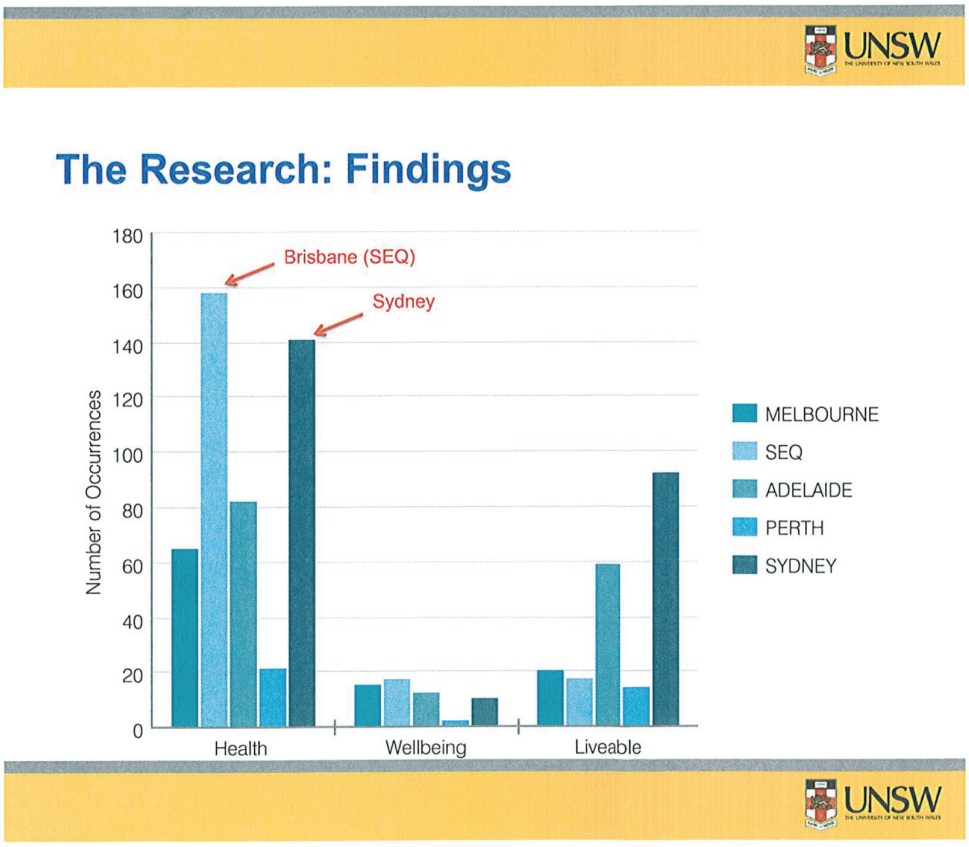
COAG criteria for future strategic planning of capital cities, December 2009

Capital city strategic planning systems should address nationally significant policy issues including: 10 needs:

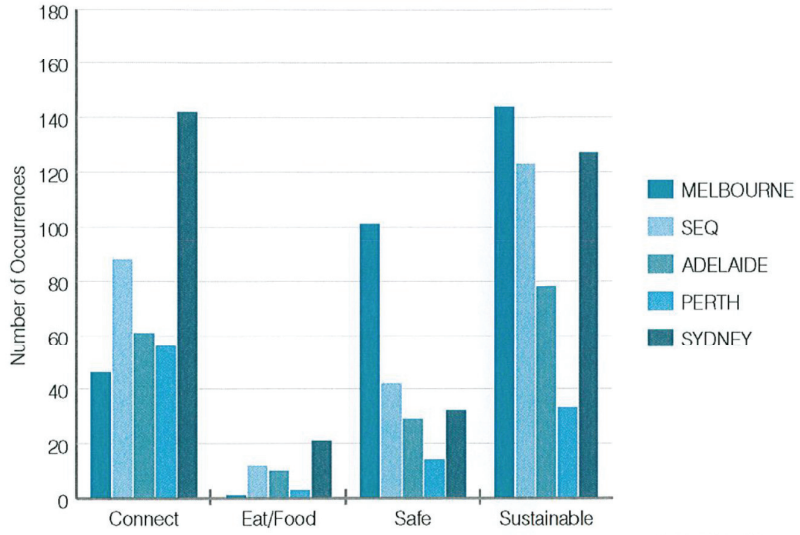
a) population growth and demographic change
b) productivity and global competitiveness
c) climate change mitigation and adaptation
d) efficient development and use of existing and new infrastructure and other public assets
e) connectivity of people to jobs and businesses to markets
f) development of major urban corridors
g) social inclusion
h) health, liveability, and community wellbeing
i) housing affordability
j) matters of national environmental significance

UNSW


FUNDAMENTAL HEALTHY TERMINOLOGY
Health
Wellbeing
Liveable
CHESS PRINCIPLES
Connect
Eat & Food (Healthy Eating)
Safe
Sustainable + Climate Change
ACTIVE TRANSPORT
Walk
Cycle

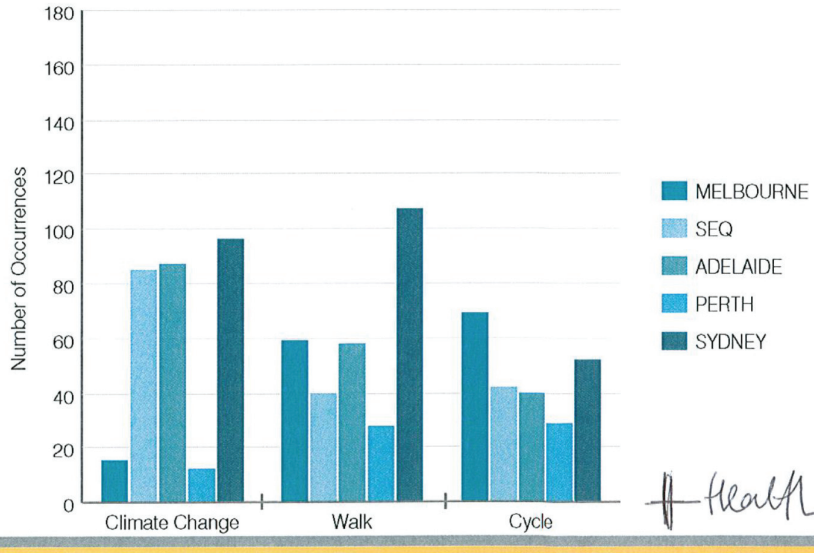

UNSW
The Research: Findings
Brisbane (SEQ)
Sydney
Number of Occurrences
180
160
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
Health
Wellbeing
Liveable
MELBOURNE
SEQ
ADELAIDE
PERTH
SYDNEY
UNSW

The Research: Findings



UNSW

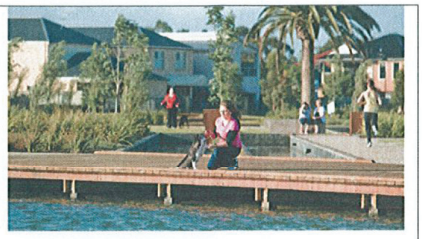
The Research: Findings



Health focus.

UNSW

Specific direction on health + liveable cities



Adelaide

Chapter 3 POLICIES AND TARGETS

Health and wellbeing

Rationale

The development of a new urban form for Greater Adelaide will support improvements in community health and wellbeing. There is growing evidence of a link between current health epidemics such as obesity and depression and the built environment. Development that supports healthy lifestyles can improve both physical health and mental wellbeing.[76]

In particular, the Plan sets out policies and targets aimed at reducing car use by promoting a more compact and diverse urban form with integrated public transport and pathways for walking and cycling. Reliance on car travel has been shown to be associated with overweight and obesity,[77] while physical inactivity is now second only to tobacco as the leading risk factor associated with ill health in Australia.[78]

The provision of open space and infrastructure for people to be physically active is critical to a healthy community. The

Designing Greater Adelaide to be a more walkable city will contribute to business activity, benefit the environment and improve access to services for people who cannot drive or access public transport. Evidence shows that accessible local facilities (when combined with a safe and attractive street system with an appropriate degree of connectivity) enhance social equity by reducing the need to own a car to get access to services. There is also increased social connection and interaction with benefits for both physical and

UNSW THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

6.3 Healthy and safe communities

Principle

Develop healthy and safe environments that encourage community activity, participation and healthy lifestyles, and prevent crime.

Policies

6.3.1 Integrate health and community safety considerations in the design and delivery of broadhectare development, Development Areas, activity centres and other urban areas identified to accommodate future growth.

6.3.2 Implement best practice urban design to create built environments that enable walking and cycling, support community safety and provide adequate shade.

6.3.3 Provide adequate and appropriate community greenspace for outdoor recreation, built spaces and facilities for recreation and sport, and community facilities and spaces to enable community activity and healthier lifestyles.

6.3.4 Plan for broadhectare development and development in established urban areas using the *Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Guidelines* for Queensland to optimise community safety.

6.3.5 Apply a health and social impact assessment framework to planning processes to identify and manage likely health and community wellbeing effects of development.

Programs

6.3.6 Research and monitor major broadhectare and redevelopment projects to evaluate the delivery of health and community wellbeing outcomes.

6.3.7 Develop an implementation guideline on the development of healthy communities in strategic and statutory land use planning processes.

6.3.8 Support initiatives that increase access to fresh food in urban environments, including provision of space for fresh food markets and community gardens.

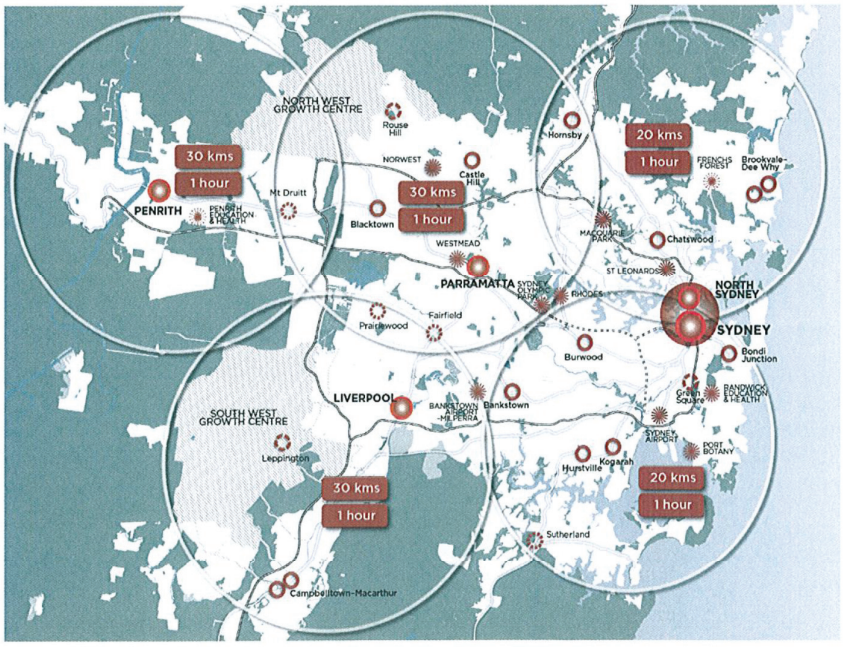
6.3.9 Prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases by identifying significant mosquito breeding sites, including temporary water pools, to inform planning and development processes.

Qld role

UNSW THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

PLAYGROUND
PARKS AND GREENERY
CYCLING AND WALKING
SHARED COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE INCLUDING FOOD GROWING
LOCAL SHOPS AND SERVICES
CYCLING AND WALKING
DAY CARE CENTRES AND SCHOOLS
LOCAL GATHERING PLACES
WORK HUBS
LOCAL BUS SERVICES
PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO KEY CENTRES
EMPLOYMENT CENTRES
COMMUNITY CENTRES
VARIETY OF HOUSING TYPES
THE 20 MINUTE NEIGHBOURHOOD

UNSW


NORTH WEST GROWTH CENTRE
Rouse Hill
Hornsby
30 kms
1 hour
20 kms
1 hour
NORWEST
Castle Hill
Mt Druitt
30 kms
1 hour
PENRITH
Blacktown
WESTMEAD
Chatswood
PARRAMATTA
ST LEONARDS
NORTH SYDNEY
Fairfield
Prairiewood
SYDNEY
Burwood
Bondi Junction
LIVERPOOL
Bankstown
SOUTH WEST GROWTH CENTRE
Leppington
Hurstville
Kogarah
30 kms
1 hour
20 kms
1 hour
Sutherland
Campbelltown-Macarthur

UNSW

Vision

A wider range of housing types will be available in the walking catchment of centres on the public transport network.

Strategic Directions

Locate at least 80% of all new homes within the walking catchments of existing and planned centres of all sizes with good public transport.

Improve local opportunities for walking, cycling and using public transport.

Actions

Aim to Locate 80 Per Cent of all New Housing Within the Walking Catchments of Existing and Planned Centres of all Sizes with Good Public Transport.

Develop Modal Strategies Including Rail, Bus, Walking and Roads to Respond to Growth in Demand.

Work with the *Premier's Council On Active Living* to Deliver a Walking Strategy.

Measuring Performance

Location of new housing: 80% of all new housing within the walking catchment (as defined in Appendix 4 of Metropolitan Plan) of an existing or planned centre.

Increase the proportion of social/recreational trips made by walking.

UNSW

Conclusion

- Metropolitan strategic plans – offer a **collective vision for the future** and potential policy foundation for more walkable and liveable neighbourhoods.
- **Health** and **liveability** must be present in the vision and reinforced specific policies and actions.
- Achieved through **collaboration** – inter-disciplinary ways of thinking working and thinking.
- Recognition of **all the 'environments'** that must be addressed, and also regularly monitored and evaluated.

UNSW

C11.8 Minutes of the Avalon to Palm Beach Floodplain Risk Management Study & Plan Working Group Meeting on 30 October 2014

Meeting: Leading and Learning Committee **Date:** 17 November 2014

STRATEGY: **Risk Management Co-ordination**

ACTION: Develop and implement a program to undertake natural hazard risk management studies in accordance with Risk Management Guidelines
Provide an appropriate set of development controls relating to mitigation and management of risks and hazards

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider the draft minutes of the Avalon to Palm Beach Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan Working Group meeting held at Avalon Recreation Centre (Avalon Annexe) on 30 October 2014 (refer **Attachment 1**).

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The Avalon to Palm Beach Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan (FRMS&P) Working Group is a forum that assists Pittwater Council in the preparation, development and implementation of floodplain management plans for all flood prone properties between Bilgola Beach to the South to Palm Beach in the North. The Working Group is administered by Pittwater Council.

1.2 The formation of the Floodplain Working group by Council is the first formal step in the Floodplain Management Process, as outlines in the NSW Governments Floodplain Development Manual.

1.3 The primary function of this working group is to be an advisory body to Council on matters concerning the development, implementation and review of the Avalon to Palm Beach Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan. The working group meetings provide a forum for the discussions between Council staff, local residents, interested groups and government authorities on technical, social, economic, environmental and cultural issues.

2.0 ISSUES

2.1 Pittwater Council is continuing the next stages of the Floodplain Management Process with the Avalon to Palm Beach Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan to identify possible flood mitigation and management options for the study area.

2.2 The study area covers the suburbs of Bilgola Beach, Bilgola Plateau, Clareville, Avalon Beach, Whale Beach and Palm Beach. This floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan will follow on from the 2013 Careel Creek Catchment Flood Study (WMA Water) and the 2013 Overland Flow Mapping and Flood Study (Cardno) for the study area.

NSW Public Works (Manly Hydraulics Laboratory), a company specialising in flooding and floodplain risk management, is currently undertaking the study.

2.3 Under the NSW Government Flood Prone Land Policy, management of flood prone land is primarily the responsibility of councils. The Floodplain Management Process that councils follow in order to identify, understand and manage flood risk is outlined below:

- The Flood Study (completed) defines the nature and extent of the flood problem.
- The Floodplain Risk Management Study (current stage) assesses management options with respect to existing and proposed development.
- The Floodplain Risk management Plan (current stage) provides Council with a management plan for the floodplain, and is often undertaken in conjunction with the Floodplain Risk Management Study.
- Implementation of the Plan involves enacting the recommendations of the Floodplain Risk Management Plan to mitigate flood risks to life and property.

2.4 Community consultation is an important component of the Avalon to Palm Beach Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan. The local knowledge of residents and business operators personal experiences of flooding are an important source of information.

There are a number of ways Council is engaging with the owners of flood prone land in the study area:

- Through an online questionnaire. The questionnaire greatly assists in collating people's knowledge and experience about previous flooding history and existing flood problem areas.
- A Community Working Group has been formed from self-nominated community representations.
- A website has been established to keep the community informed on the study progress.

2.5 Avalon to Palm Beach FRMS&P Update – A verbal update by Pittwater Council was provided on the progress (Draft Working Paper 1 – Data collection and review) of the Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

This report does not require a sustainability assessment.

4.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4.1 The Draft Working Paper 1 has been completed for the FMS&P

4.2 The Working Group has been formed to provide advice in the preparation of the Avalon to Palm Beach FRMS&P.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information provided in the report be noted.

Report prepared by
Melanie Schwecke, Project Leader: Water Management

Jennifer Pang
MANAGER, CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

DRAFT Minutes

Avalon to Palm Beach Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan Working Group

Held in Avalon Annexe, Avalon Recreation Centre,
Old Barrenjoey Road on

30 October 2014

Meeting commenced at 4:05 pm

AVALON TO PALM BEACH FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT STUDY AND PLAN COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP	
Established	5 May 2014
Function	To enable community participation during the preparation of the Avalon to Palm Beach Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan in accordance with the NSW Government's Floodplain Development Manual (2005).
Composition/Membership for each Community Working Group: Notes: Tenure of membership of community representatives is up to the completion of the Floodplain Risk Management Study & Plan.	One (1) Councillor (who shall be Chairperson of Community Working Group) plus one (1) alternative councillor. All Councillors are invited to attend. Up to five (5) community representatives who reside or work within the flood-affected areas identified by the Careel Creek Catchment Flood Study (WMAwater, July 2013) or the Pittwater Overland Flow Mapping and Flood Study (Cardno, October 2013). Up to four (4) stakeholder representatives including: • Up to three (3) representatives from Pittwater community groups, subject to the group's inclusion on Councils "Register of Community Groups"; • Local industry representatives; Interested observers are invited to attend.
Advisors:	State Government representatives as required, including: • Office of Environment and Heritage • State Emergency Service (representing State Headquarters, Region Controller and Local Controller) • Department of Primary Industries (Catchments & Lands) • Sydney Water • Department of Planning & Infrastructure.
Council Officers:	Manager, Catchment Management and Climate Change (or nominee) Manager, Urban Infrastructure (or nominee)
Quorum:	Five (5) members provided one is a Councillor, two Community representatives and one NSW Government representative.
Reporting Procedures:	To be reported to Council as required.
Responsible Business Unit:	Catchment Management and Climate Change
Meetings:	At least twice during the preparation of the Floodplain Risk Management Study & Plan.
Council Members Appointed:	Cr McTaggart (delegate) Cr Grace (alternative delegate)

Members of the Working Group namely

Pittwater Council Members

Cr Alex McTaggart (Chairperson)
Cr Bob Grace (Delegate)

Citizen Representatives

Mr Roger Alsop
Mr Allen Telling
Mr Stuart Davidson
Mr Vince Nicholson

Stakeholder Representatives

Mr John Warburton (Palm Beach – Whale Beach Residents Association)
Mr Stephen Branch (Avalon Beach Village Chamber of Commerce inc)
Ms Kerry Mc Ewan (Barrenjoey High School)
Mr Spiro Daher (Narrabeen Lagoon Floodplain Risk Management Working Group Member)

State Government Representatives

NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH)
State Emergency Service – Warringah/Pittwater Unit
State Emergency Service – Sydney Northern Region
Sydney Water
Roads and Maritime Services

and the following Council Advisors

Manager, Catchment Management and Climate Change
Principal Officer – Floodplain Management

are requested to be in attendance.

Copies to:

Director – Urban & Environment Assets – Mr Chris Hunt
Manager – Urban Infrastructure – Mr Mark Shaw
Risk Officer – Ms Mamie VanDyk
EA to General Manager - Ms Fiona Garrity
EA to Mayor and Councillors – Ms Kim Reading

All other Councillors are free to attend as Observers, and are invited to do so and to engage in discussion

Attendance:

Pittwater Council Members

Cr Alex McTaggart (Chair)
Cr Bob Grace

Citizen Representatives & Stakeholder Representatives

Mr Roger Alsop
Mr Allen Telling
Mr Stuart Davidson
Mr Vince Nicholson
Mr Stephen Branch
Mr Spiro Daher

State Government Representatives

Mr Greg Davis (Office of Environment and Heritage)
Mr Wayne Lyne (NSW SES – Warringah/Pittwater Unit)
Mrs Lynn Larri (NSW SES – Warringah/Pittwater Unit)
Mr Fernando Ortega (Sydney Water)

And the following Council Advisors

Ms Jennifer Pang (Manager, Catchment Management and Climate Change)
Dr Melanie Schwecke (Principal Officer – Floodplain Management)

In attendance

Mr Bronson McPherson – Consultant – MHL/ NSW Public Works

1.0 APOLOGIES

John Warburton (Palm Beach – Whale Beach Residents Association)
Mrs Alison Flaxman – NSW SES (Sydney Northern Region)
Stephen Brown (Roads and Maritime Services)

2.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

3.0 INDUCTION

A presentation was given by Jennifer Pang (Pittwater Council). This presentation is provided in Attachment 1.

[*Please note correction - the citizen membership composition is up to 5 representatives and not 6, as reported in Attachment 1*]

4.0 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

4.1 INTRODUCTION TO AVALON TO PALM BEACH FRMS&P

A verbal update along with presentation was given by Melanie Schwecke (Pittwater Council). This presentation is provided in Attachment 2.

Several questions were discussed, these included:

- Q: Will the FRMS&P look at the impact of intensification on the floodplain?

  A: The intensification/increase of impervious surfaces was undertaken as part of the Careel Creek Catchment 2013 flood study (Table 32 & 33 of the Careel Creek Catchment Flood Study Report) www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/careel_creek

- Q: Will climate change considerations be investigated as part of the FRMS&P?

  A: These are analysed as part of the flood studies. Updated climate change modelling of 30% Rainfall intensity and 0.9m Sea Level Rise will be investigated as part of this study as well.

Working group recommendation

- The working group note the information presented by Pittwater Council.

4.2 MANAGING FLOOD RISK – DVD

The working group were advised of the Managing Flood Risk DVD tool undertaken by the Floodplain Management Association and Gosford City Council

Working group recommendation

- That the committee members view the DVD as it relates to the flood study and the current stage – the Flood Risk Management Study and Plan.

5.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

The working group discussed the Draft Working Paper 1, and sought clarification on the following issues:

- Q: Appears the Draft Working Paper 1 is Careel Creek focussed and there is not much information provided on overland flow paths in Clareville and Bilgola Beach.
  A: This is due to the majority of the relevant information being on the larger more studies floodplain of Careel Creek, whilst very limited information is available for the overland flow paths in Pittwater

- Q: Doesn't appear that there was a large uptake in the completion of the survey
  A: Council sent letters to all property owners identified as being flood affected which highlighted the survey (which was available online to complete), the survey was also advertised through social media and through the Pittwater community noticeboard in the Manly Daily.

- Q: How is MHL (consultant undertaking the study) going to identify the small catchments?
  A: MHL will be expanding the Careel Creek Creek TUFLOW model into the Overland Flow SOBEK model zones to ensure the TUFLOW flood model covers the entire study area from Bilgola Beach in the South to Palm Beach in the North.

- Q: Will Bilgola Beach be included in the revised flood model?
  A: Yes

- Q: Why is the study called Avalon to Palm Beach? When it also includes Bilgola Beach?
  A: This was done in order to secure grant funding from the state government as a continuation of the NSW Governments Floodplain Management Process for the Careel Creek Catchment (Avalon).

- Q: Business survey will be distributed to local business owners within the study area – could this also include local landscapers and plumbers?
  A: Council will discuss this option with MHL on the feasibility of also including these trades in the business survey.

- Q: Have local schools in the study area been contacted?
  A: Yes – all schools have received both written correspondence through email with no responses received to date. Council will continue to work with the local SES to engage with the local schools as part of the Northern Beaches Flood and Coastal Education Strategy.

6. 0 NEXT MEETING

The Chair thanked everyone for their participation in this very effective forum and requested that the next meeting be scheduled for late February from 4pm to 6pm at Avalon Recreation Centre – Avalon Annexe (Old Avalon Scout Hall)

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 5.20pm.

PITTWATER COUNCIL
Induction Session
Avalon to Palm Beach Floodplain Risk Management Study & Plan Community Working Group
Thursday 30th October 2014

PITTWATER COUNCIL
Contents
– Floodplain Risk Management Committee
– Functions
– Relationship to other Committees
– Membership
– Responsibilities of Working Group Members
– Meeting Protocols
– Administration

PITTWATER COUNCIL

Floodplain Risk Management Committee

- The Working Group is a "Floodplain Risk Management Committee" as recognised in the ***Floodplain Development Manual: the management of flood liable land*** (NSW Government, 2005).
- Provision is made in the **NSW Government Flood Prone Land Policy** for Councils to establish these committees, "through which local community groups and individuals can effectively communicate their aspirations concerning the management of the flooding problem."

PITTWATER COUNCIL

Functions

- Advisory body to council on the draft Avalon to Palm Beach Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.
- Forum for discussions between Council, the community and stakeholder agencies on technical, social, economic, environmental and cultural issues.
- Working Group is a Council appointed Special Committee.

PITTWATER COUNCIL

Relationship to other Committees

- Careel Creek Catchment Flood Study Community Working Group (dissolved)
- Pittwater Overflow Risk Management Community Working Group (dissolved)
- Narrabeen Lagoon Floodplain Risk Management Working Group
- McCarrs Creek, Mona Vale and Bayview Flood Study Community Working Group
- Natural Environment Reference Group

PITTWATER COUNCIL

Membership

- Cr Alex McTaggart (Chairperson) & Cr Bob Grace (Alternative Delegate)
- Citizen Representatives (up to 6)
- Community group representatives (up to 4)

Advisors

- Agencies (eg. SES, OEH, Sydney Water, RMS)
- Council staff

PITTWATER COUNCIL

Membership

Terms of Appointment:

- Community members appointed up to the completion of the Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.

Quorum:

- Five members provided:
  - One (1) Councillor
  - Two (2) community representatives
  - One (1) NSW Government representative

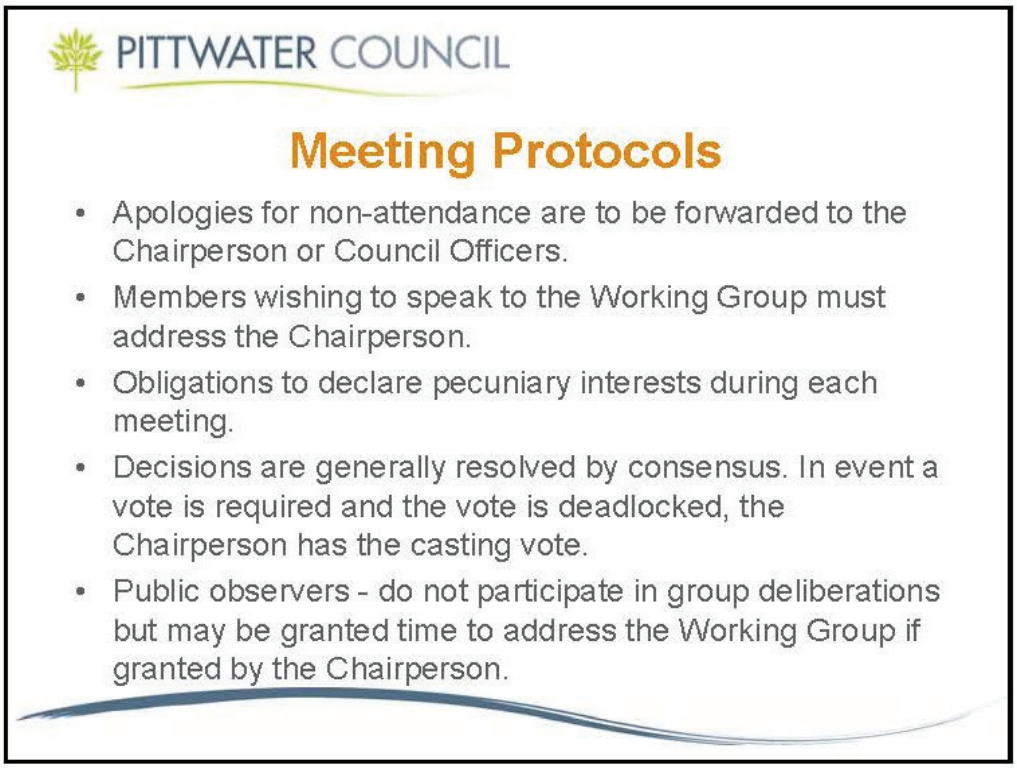
PITTWATER COUNCIL

Responsibilities of Working Group Members

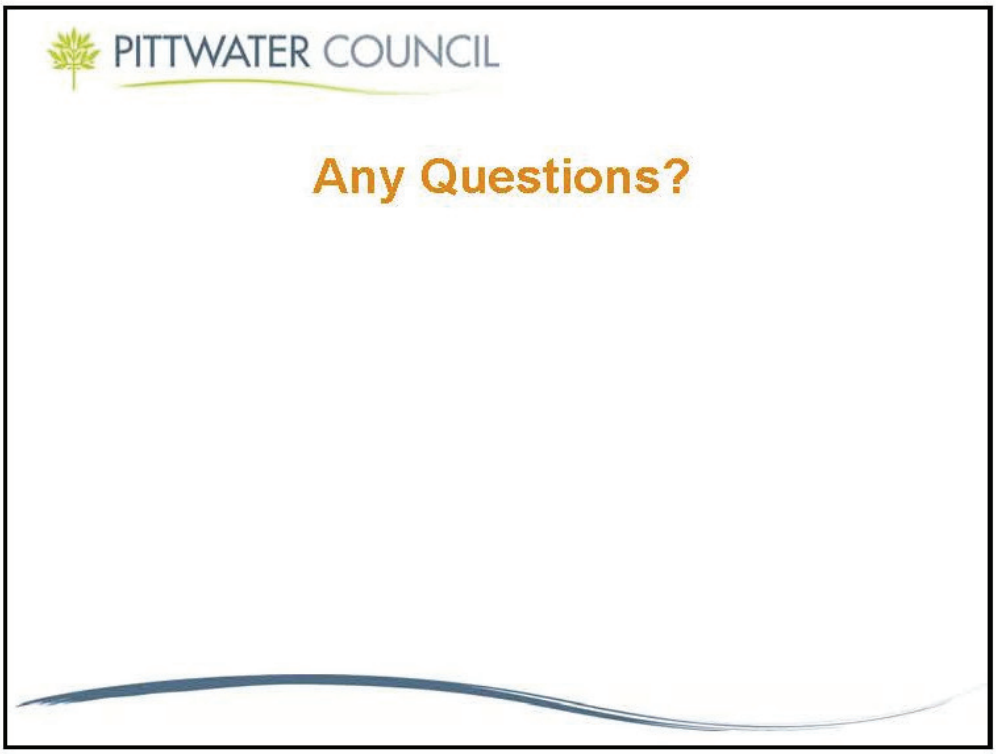
- Objectively consider and actively participate in group deliberations.
- Represent the views of residents/stakeholder interests and contribute on behalf of the ?mmunity.
- Actively engage members of the community about Group deliberations. Members do not have the authority to make representations to the media on behalf of either Council or the Working Group.
- Abide by Council's Core Values, Code of Conduct* and Terms of Reference for the Working Group.

*http://portal.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/Temp/ViewedDocs/19D_00423B21.007.pdf

PITTWATER COUNCIL
Council Core Values
Service
- achieve excellent customer service
- strive to exceed
Communication
- communicate openly and clearly
- listen to others
Respect
- respect and value others
- work as a team
Wellbeing
- seek wellbeing in both work and personal lives
Leadership
- learning, coaching, mentoring
- everyone as a leader - inspire others
Integrity
- act honestly and transparently
- maintain confidentiality


PITTWATER COUNCIL
Meeting Protocols
• Apologies for non-attendance are to be forwarded to the Chairperson or Council Officers.
• Members wishing to speak to the Working Group must address the Chairperson.
• Obligations to declare pecuniary interests during each meeting.
• Decisions are generally resolved by consensus. In event a vote is required and the vote is deadlocked, the Chairperson has the casting vote.
• Public observers - do not participate in group deliberations but may be granted time to address the Working Group if granted by the Chairperson.

PITTWATER COUNCIL
Administration
Dr Melanie Schwecke
A/Principal Officer – Floodplain Management
floodplain@pittwater.nsw.gov.au
Phone 9970 1111


PITTWATER COUNCIL
Any Questions?