



northern  
beaches  
council

**Environment**  
Strategic Reference Group

# MINUTES

## **ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP**

held online via TEAMS on:

**THURSDAY 20 AUGUST 2020**

**Minutes of the Environment  
Strategic Reference Group  
held online via TEAMS on Thursday 20 August 2020  
Commencing at 6:02pm**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Committee Members**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Cr Natalie Warren (Chair) | Councillor                                 |
| Cr Alex McTaggart         | Councillor                                 |
| Sophie Scott              | Community Representative – Manly Ward      |
| Roberta Conroy            | Bayview Church Point Residents Association |
| Alan Jones                | Community Representative – Curl Curl Ward  |
| Tom Hazell                | Community Representative – Curl Curl Ward  |
| Nigel Howard              | Community Representative                   |
| Marita Macrae             | Pittwater Natural Heritage Association     |
| Jacqueline Marlow         | Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment      |
| Billy Bragg               | Community Representative – Pittwater Ward  |
| Scott Markich             | Community Representative                   |

**Council Officer Contacts**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Todd Dickinson  | Director Environment and Sustainability                               |
| Yianni Mentis   | Executive Manager Environment and Climate Change ( <i>item 6.4</i> )  |
| Natasha Shultz  | Executive Manager Waste Management and Cleansing ( <i>item 6.5</i> )  |
| Jacqui Grove    | Manager Environment Resilience and Climate Change ( <i>item 6.1</i> ) |
| Neil Cocks      | Manager Strategic and Place Planning ( <i>item 6.2</i> )              |
| James Leigh     | Manager Stormwater and Floodplain Engineering                         |
| Monique Nichols | Senior Sustainability Officer   |
| Ximena Von Oven | Governance Officer  |

## 1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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As a sign of respect, Northern Beaches Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and pays respect to Elders past and present.

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## 2.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors P Daley and S Sprott.

## 3.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflicts of interest.

## 4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

### 4.1 MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP MEETING HELD 21 MAY 2020

*R Conroy / S Markich*

That the Minutes of the Environment Strategic Reference Group meeting held 21 May 2020, copies of which were previously circulated to all members, are hereby confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

## 5.0 UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

Nil

*NOTE: The order of business be changed so the items were discussed in the following order: 6.5, 6.2, 6.1, 6.3 and 6.4.*

## 6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

### 6.5 NORTHERN BEACHES WASTE STRATEGY

#### OVERVIEW OF UPDATE

N Schultz, Executive Manager Waste Management and Cleansing provided an update on this item. Northern Beaches Council is developing a Waste Strategy acknowledging waste management is everyone's responsibility. The Strategy is also an opportunity to educate the community in the way we create and manage the waste. It will set the future direction for our waste and resource recovery systems.

#### DISCUSSION

The following points were discussed:

- NSW Government's 20 Year Waste Strategy for NSW
- Current and future NSW policies regarding waste

- Next steps.

SRG members raised the following comments:

- That Council deals with our waste and the need to reduce the necessity to transport the garbage as it is environmentally unfriendly
- Involvement of community members in compost programs.

## **6.2 NORTHERN BEACHES LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM**

### **OVERVIEW OF UPDATE**

N Cocks, Manager Strategic and Place Planning provided a presentation on this topic. Northern Beaches Council has developed a new land use planning framework for the Northern Beaches. The first stage of this process was completed in March 2020 with the adoption and commencement of Council's first Local Strategic Planning Statement – Towards 2040. The next stage of the process is to bring together the four current Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) and Development Control Plans (DCPs) into a single Northern Beaches LEP and DCP which reflects the priorities and implements the actions in Towards 2040 and is consistent with the regional directions set by the Greater Sydney Commission in the North District Plan.

A presentation on this topic was provided.

### **DISCUSSION**

- Reasons why Council needs to engage with community members
- Community engagement objectives
- Implementation timeline
- Draft engagement approach
- Next steps

SRG members raised comments about climate mitigation and adaptation, energy efficiency, water quality, threat of climate change to people and species, and biodiversity control.

## **6.1 SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT PROJECT**

### **OVERVIEW OF UPDATE**

J Grove, Manager Environment Resilience and Climate Change briefed the group on this item. Northern Beaches Council has commenced a project to implement sustainable procurement across the organisation. The project involves two stages. The first stage is a heat mapping process to analyse sustainability risks, opportunities and costs related to Council's procurement activity and supply chains. The second stage involves a gap analysis of Council's existing processes against the Sustainable Procurement International Standard ISO 20400:17.

A strategic based approach action plan will be identified to achieve best practice.

Council has engaged an external consultant, under the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and

Environment's Sustainability Advantage Program. Council is entitled to 30 hours consultancy.

A presentation on this topic was provided.

## **DISCUSSION**

The following points were discussed:

- Background
- Definition of sustainable procurement
- Objective of the project
- Sustainability focus areas with regards to opportunities and threats
- Next steps.

### **6.3 STAFF UPDATE TO SRG**

## **DECISION**

The Environment Strategic Reference Group noted the information in this report.

### **6.4 ZERO WASTE TO OCEAN CHARTER**

## **OVERVIEW OF UPDATE**

Y Mentis, Executive Manager Environment and Climate Change provided an update on this topic. The Charter has been developed as a result of the adoption of Notice of Motion No 44/2019 Zero Waste to our Waterways. SRG members participated in a workshop to develop the principles of and objectives of the Charter at the February 2020 Environment SRG meeting.

The draft Zero Waste to Ocean Charter (the Charter) will be presented to Council on 25 August for consideration and adoption.

A presentation was provided on this item.

## **DISCUSSION**

The following points were discussed:

- Background
- Consultation
- Charter guiding principles
- Further actions for Council
- Comments from the Environment SRG members and how they have been addressed
- Next steps.

Northern Beaches Council's aim is to share this great initiative across all other Councils in Australia. Once the Charter has been adopted at the August Council Meeting, a letter encouraging

councils to participate in the creation of a similar Charter will be sent to all coastal councils in Australia, including regional Australia.

## 7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

The following topics were raised:

- Protection of the Northern Beaches bushland areas, particularly Narrabeen Lagoon and Ingleside
- Enforcement of the Northern Beaches Council Tree Preservation Policy
- Recycling of Polystyrene – Kimbriki accepts one large bag per customer at no cost
- Potential opportunities for Council to work with the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust to work collaboratively in activating the North Head sanctuary buildings, which includes the former artillery building. This building could potentially be refitted to be used as an Environmental Sustainability Education Centre.

SRG members were invited to provide their feedback on this topic.

*The meeting concluded at 8:20pm*

This is the final page of the Minutes comprising 6 pages  
numbered 1 to 6 of the Environment Strategic Reference Group meeting  
held on Thursday 20 August 2020 and confirmed on Thursday 19 November 2020