

AGENDA

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group will be held in the Flannel Flower Room, Civic Centre, Dee Why on

THURSDAY 6 APRIL 2017

Beginning at 5.00pm for the purpose of considering and determining matters included in this agenda.

To Committee Members

Alex McTaggart (Chair)	Implementation Advisory Group
Wayne Gobert	Local Representative Committee - Social
Narelle Berry	Resident – Manly Ward
Phillip Colman	Resident – Narrabeen Ward
Roberta Conroy	Bayview Church Point Residents Association
Jo Cooper	North Steyne Surf Lifesaving Club
Rebecca Eddington	Resident – Curl Curl Ward
Jacqueline French	Manly Community Forum
Paul Hackney	Resident – Frenchs Forest Ward
Tom Hazell	Resident – Curl Curl Ward
Edwina Laginestra	WIRES Northern Beaches
Whitney-May Lever	Resident – Frenchs Forest Ward
Marita Macrae	Pittwater Natural Heritage Association
Jacqueline Marlow	Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment
Yvonne Pflieger	Resident – Curl Curl Ward
Kathryn Ridge	Resident – Manly Ward
Merinda Rose	Palm Beach & Whale Beach Association
David Thomas	ECO Divers

Council Officer Contacts

Todd Dickinson	Executive Manager Natural Environment & Climate Change
Ximena Von Oven	Administration Officer Governance

Quorum

Majority of members (excluding vacant positions)

**Agenda for a meeting of the Natural Environment Strategic Reference
Group**

to be held on Thursday 6 April 2017

in the Flannel Flower Room, Civic Centre, Dee Why

Commencing at 5.00pm

1.0	APOLOGIES	
2.0	DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	
3.0	REVIEW OF MEETING NOTES	
3.1	Minutes of Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group held 9 February 2017	1
4.0	COUNCIL UPDATES	
	Nil	
5.0	UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING	
	Nil	
6.0	STRATEGIC DISCUSSION TOPICS	
	Nil	
7.0	STRATEGIC WORKSHOPS	9
7.1	Natural Environment SRG Directions Paper	9
8.0	GENERAL BUSINESS	
	NEXT MEETING Thursday 15 June 2017	

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 MINUTES OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP HELD 9 FEBRUARY 2017.....1

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group held 9 February 2017, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

NOTES

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP MEETING

held in the Flannel Flower Room, Civic Centre, Dee Why on

THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2017

**Notes of the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group Meeting
held on Thursday 9 February 2017
in the Flannel Flower Room, Civic Centre, Dee Why
Commencing at 5:00pm**

ATTENDANCE:

To Committee Members

Alex McTaggart (Chair)	Social Local Representative Committee
Wayne Gobert	Social Local Representative Committee
Narelle Berry	Resident – Manly Ward
Phillip Colman	Resident – Narrabeen Ward
Roberta Conroy	Bayview Church Point Residents Association
Jo Cooper	North Steyne Surf Lifesaving Club
Rebecca Eddington	Resident – Curl Curl Ward
Jacqueline French	Manly Community Forum
Paul Hackney	Resident – Frenchs Forest Ward
Tom Hazell	Resident – Curl Curl Ward
Edwina Laginestra	WIRES Northern Beaches
Whitney-May Lever	Resident – Frenchs Forest Ward
Marita Macrae	Pittwater Natural Heritage Association
Jacqueline Marlow	Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment
Yvonne Pflieger	Resident – Curl Curl Ward
Kathryn Ridge	Resident – Manly Ward
Merinda Rose	Palm Beach & Whale Beach Association
David Thomas	ECO Divers

Council Officer Contacts

Louise Hardy	Research Officer
Todd Dickinson	Executive Manager Natural Environment & Climate Change
Melissa Lee	Governance Manager
Anne-Maree Newbury	Principal Officer Strategic Planning

Quorum

Majority of members (excluding vacant positions)

NOTE: Alex McTaggart Chairperson of the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group (SRG) welcomed the members to the meeting and gave an Acknowledgement of Country

1.0 APOLOGIES

DISCUSSION

That apologies from Rebecca Eddington (has advised of her resignation), Kathryn Ridge, Wayne Gobert, Jo Cooper, Yvonne Pfeiger, Sue Matthews (represented by Jacqueline French) and David Thomas be noted.

2.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

3.1 MINUTES OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP HELD 27 OCTOBER 2016

DECISION

That the Minutes of the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group held 27 October 2016, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, are hereby confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

4.0 COUNCIL UPDATES

4.1 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP - 40 MINS

DISCUSSION

L Hardy gave a presentation to the group advising that the Stage 1 report (Issues Paper) went to Council on 13 December 2016, and the organisation is now moving into Stage 2, comprising of a discussion paper, due to go out in March 2017. The team is now seeking input from the SRGs (around goals and aspirations). Stage 3 draft CSP is due in August 2017, with the final CSP to be presented to Council in September 2017, for the incoming council to adopt.

Stage 1 Outcomes:

Draft vision statement (for strategic plan)

Based on community feedback, the priority areas are:

- Environment (46% by theme)
- Social (20%)
- Economic (34%)

Stage 2:

L Hardy advised of the purpose and objectives of the discussion paper and workshop.

Themes and community aspirations were outlined, and SRG members were invited to provide feedback on, which themes/ aspirations people were supportive/ not supportive of (why) / and what's missing?

The group had several discussions around how strategic goals/strategies interact with, and influence the operations of Council. T Dickinson advised that Council's budgets are largely fixed by having to provide the regular services of Council (i.e. business as usual). The intention of the strategic work in the CSP is to provide direction so that Council can adjust its resourcing in its Operational Plans accordingly.

A McTaggart requested the following comment / discussion be noted:

- Within the Natural Environment SRG, we need a mechanism for the future to be able to bring significant environmental issues such as impending destruction of bushland due to redevelopment to Senior Management within the organisation as a matter of urgency as they arise. T Dickinson advised he would look into the most appropriate mechanism for this.

Following the workshop, M Lee to receive hard copy notes (where taken), scan and return to members as required.

NOTE: The presentation on this item is appended at Attachment 1.

DECISION

That the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group participate in a workshop assist in the development of the Community Strategic Plan.

That feedback from the workshop be used to refine Stage 2 discussions.

4.2 GREATER SYDNEY COMMISSION DRAFT DISTRICT PLAN - 20 MINS

DISCUSSION

AM Newbury gave a presentation to the group, advising that the District Plan and the amended Metropolitan Plan is out on exhibition at this time on the Greater Commission Sydney website.

She outlined that the District Plan divides Sydney into 6 districts (Northern Beaches Council resides in North District, comprising of 9 Local Government areas) containing a high percentage of National Parks and other open space reserves. North District is growing (9,800 people each year), with an ageing population in particular. We need more housing and diversification in housing, that supports an ageing population. We also have large growth in single person households, which requires greater housing choice, and how we cater for this shift. The District contains 20% of all jobs in greater Sydney.

The draft Plan on exhibition until late March 2017 and includes summary document, full document, background papers (available on dashboard on Greater Sydney website), maps and amendments to the Metropolitan Plan.

What does the plan mean for local government? It will inform the draft LEPs, inform planning proposals, guide strategic land use, transport and infrastructure planning and inform infrastructure planning and investment.

There are 5 sections to the Plan:

- (S1) Introduction / framework, how it relates to metropolitan plan (multiple CBDs in Sydney)

- (S2) Vision, how we achieve it
- Strategies and specific actions (S3-5)

Key priorities:

- Grow jobs in centres and in urban service land
- Use the Northern Beaches Hospital as a catalyst for a new urban centre at Frenchs Forest
- Leverage investment in transport infrastructure (the B line)
- Create affordable and diverse housing
- Manage natural hazards
- Protect heritage character and liveability of the area
- Plan for demographic change
- Protect the natural landscape

What targets have been set?

- Job targets
- Housing targets

Lastly, AM Newbury advised that the group could get involved in this process by lodging a submission.

There were a number of questions raised as follows:

- How do the Plans interact with State Acts and legislation?
- How much power does the Greater Sydney commission actually have?
- How do community members get the opportunity to object to something?
- Who is on the panel for North District (that individuals can make representations to)?

Action:

1. AM Newbury advised she would source this information and circulate it to the group

NOTE: The presentation on this item is appended at Attachment 2.

ACTION

A McTaggart requested that a copy of the plans put into each of the libraries. AM Newbury advised that the documents are all on-line, but that she would look into whether they could go into the libraries.

DECISION

That the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group note the information presented.

4.3 DRAFT STRUCTURE PLAN FOR INGLESIDE - 10 MINS

DISCUSSION

AM Newbury gave a presentation to the group, advising of background, plan highlights, the environmental emphasis and where to from here.

Background:

- Identified as early as 1960's as a key development site
- Council resolution in 2013 to plan for the release area
- Included in Metro Plan for Sydney in District Plan
- Listed as a priority growth area in the State Environment Planning Policy (2006)
- Vision – connected, liveable sustainable community that embraces and respects its landscape settings

AM Newbury discussed the structure plan, what the area will look like and discussed elements including environmental conservation, Aboriginal heritage, housing (types), playing fields, schools, etc.

Plan highlights:

- 700 hectares
- 40% development
- 30% conservation
- 30% remains in its current state
- 3400 new dwellings
- Affordable housing (10%)
- 6 sportsfields
- 1 primary school
- 2 community centres
- Neighbourhood centre with local shops
- Diverse mix of housing product

Strong environmental emphasis – green star building rating being sought which will aim for:

- 4 star rating
- Water target
- Beyond basix sustainability targets
- Bio-certification to reduce / offset net environmental impact
- Fauna connectivity

Where to from here?

- Currently on exhibition
- Drop in sessions – Feb 2017 (11, 16, 22)
- Post exhibition
 - Exhibition of zoning package (April 2017)
 - Adoption of S94 plan by council (before land is rezoned)
 - Adopted S94 to IPART
 - Land is formally rezoned (mid-late 2017)

J Marlow advised the group that there needed to be funding of corridors over road (wildlife), especially with the plan for widening of road (with no dedicated funds), and flagged her disappointment with some aspects of the planning done to date..

NOTE: The presentation on this item is appended at Attachment 3.

ACTION

The group asked if J Marlow could email the group about some of the points of concern that she raised within the discussion so they can include this information in their submissions?

J Marlow to email M Lee with the details who will forward this information on to group members.

DECISION

That the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group note the information presented.

4.4 CONNECTING THE NORTHERN BEACHES - 10 MINS

DISCUSSION

L Hardy advised the group that a discussion paper was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

By way of background, she advised the group that Council was given funding through the Stronger Communities Fund, and council officers looked at how best to spend the funds to make a much more connected Northern Beaches. The decision (ratified by Council at an extraordinary meeting on 16 December 2016) was to create an all weather, off / on road bike and walking trail from Palm Beach to Manly.

DECISION

That the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group note the information presented.

5.0 STRATEGIC DISCUSSION TOPICS

Nil

6.0 STRATEGIC WORKSHOPS

6.1 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT SRG DIRECTIONS PAPER - 40 MINS

DISCUSSION

Due to time constraints, this item was held over until the next meeting. T Dickinson advised, that he wants the group collectively over the next few months to come up with a directions paper that can guide the incoming Council on strategic environmental matters.

There was a question raised as to whether the group could meet between now and the next meeting? T Dickinson said that they could meet informally.

DECISION

That this item be deferred to the next meeting where the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group will review their aspirations list in preparation to commence work on the Directions Paper.

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

ACTION

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

A McTaggart requested that a copy of the Greater Sydney Commission draft District Plan be placed in all council libraries

Principal Officer Strategic Planning

AM Newbury advised she would source information around who is on the –North District Planning Panel and circulate it to the group.

Principal Officer Strategic Planning

For those that handwrote separate notes at Item 4.1, M Lee to receive hard copy notes, scan and return to members if required.

Governance Manager

J Marlow to email the group about some of the points of concern that she raised within the discussion so they can include this information in their submissions?

Governance Manager

J Marlow to email M Lee with the details who will forward this information on to group members.

The meeting concluded at 7.15pm

This is the final page of the Notes comprising 8 pages numbered 1 to 8 of the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group meeting held on Thursday 9 February 2017 and confirmed on Thursday 13 April 2017

7.0 STRATEGIC WORKSHOPS

ITEM 7.1	NATURAL ENVIRONMENT SRG DIRECTIONS PAPER
REPORTING OFFICER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE
TRIM FILE REF	2017/045490
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To commence preparation of a Directions Paper that summarises the Strategic Reference Group's environmental management priorities for the incoming Northern Beaches Council.

Please note – this activity has been carried over from the previous SRG meeting.

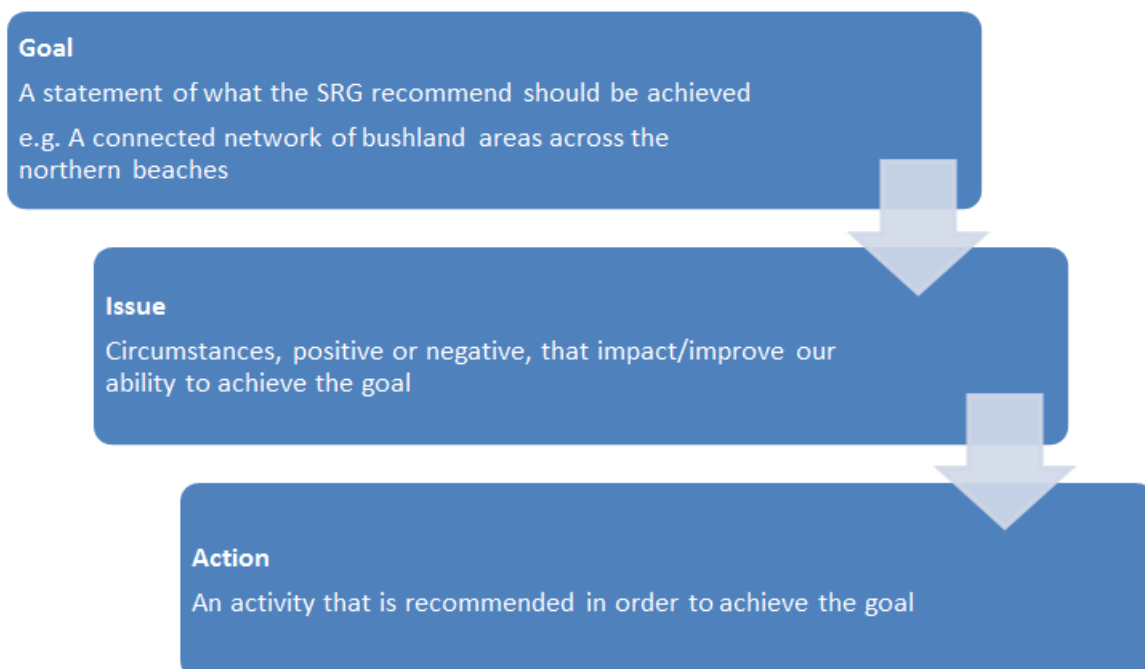
REPORT

At the Natural Environment SRG meeting of 27 October 2016, members were invited to bring their aspirations to the table and list the things that they would like to achieve as members of the SRG. As well as contributing these ideas to the development of the Community Strategic Plan, the Natural Environment SRG will be working together to develop a Directions Paper that will help guide environmental management across the Northern Beaches.

The Directions paper will be a key piece of information for the incoming Councillors to help set the agenda for environmental management for the new Council.

EXERCISE

At the meeting, the SRG membership will re-visit the aspirations and use them to develop the goals that will form the basis of the Directions Paper. This is the proposed structure of the work.



The Natural Environment SRG member aspirations have been tabulated (below) to assist in the development of goals. Staff had already grouped them to align with the CSP issues paper. The next step has nominated which of the listed aspirations was a goal, which was an issue and which was an action.

On the evening of the meeting, members will be asked to review the table and to consider the following questions:

1. Overall – is there anything missing?
2. Are the aspirations appropriately located in the table?
3. What are we (Council and the community) doing well?
4. What is not being done well?
5. What should be the recommended goals included in the Directions Paper?

WORKING TABLE

Catchment, Coast & Waterways

Goal	What are we doing well/not well	Action
Water quality on the whole northern beaches (lakes, ocean)		
Rehabilitation of creek lines		
Best management and consistent management of water across the region		
		Regular maintenance of drains and pollution traps
		Record existing water edge condition
	Erosion of Careel Bay Marina	
	Concerns about the marine world (biodiversity at Long Reef)	
		More marine no take zones
		Sharks are vital to ocean health. Ban shark nets.

Bushland, Threatened Species and Pests (Formerly Bushland and Biodiversity)

<i>Goal</i>	<i>What are we doing well/not well</i>	<i>Action</i>
		Weed control strategy
Connectivity of bushland areas		
	Bushland areas should be managed by staff with bush regeneration skills	
Conservation of bushland		
Wildlife corridors		
		Animal crossings
	Preservation is better than restoration	
		Maintenance of bushland areas
		Encourage community members to preserve the corridors but also to maintain and preserve the canopy
		Measure the canopy
		Map the green space and canopy that exists
Bush regeneration (Manly) to keep the bushland healthy		

Climate Change

<i>Goal</i>	<i>What are we doing well/not well</i>	<i>Action</i>
Climate change mitigation		

Floods, Bushfire and Coastal Erosion (Natural Hazard Management)

<i>Goal</i>	<i>What are we doing well/not well</i>	<i>Action</i>
Flood mitigation		

Sustainable communities (Built Environment and Environmental Education)

Goal	What are we doing well/not well	Action
Connectivity across the area		
		Water sensitive urban design
Development should be built in a more sustainable, environmentally responsible way		
		Planting of street trees
Inappropriate development should be banned		
Green areas should dominate		
		Vegetation offsets for development
		Educate the community about marine environment and biodiversity
		Education on value of bushland
		More interpretive signs
Education for the community with regards to biodiversity, protecting the environment		
Education for everyone in the community (from kids to parents)		
Sustainable living		
Plastic free society		
No littering		
		Ban plastic bags
		Enforce regulations on protection of marine and bush environment
Good public relations on environmental issues		

Ungrouped

Goal	What are we doing well/not well	Action
		Innovation
		Ensure appropriate management of North Head Sewage Treatment Plant
		Application of technology
		Ensuring environmental management considered in leases
		Compliance with laws and individual responsibility for this
Measure air quality and provide good air quality		
		Measuring outcomes

Members are encouraged to examine the list above and come to the meeting prepared to work together on the completion of the table which will form the main piece of advice in the Directions Paper.

RECOMMENDATION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

That Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group commences work on the Directions Paper.
