

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 9 FEBRUARY 2017

Beginning at 5:00pm for the purpose of considering and determining matters included in this agenda.

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

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 9 February 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	
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5.0	STRATEGIC DISCUSSION TOPICS	
	Nil	
6.0	STRATEGIC WORKSHOPS	12
6.1	Natural Environment SRG Directions Paper - 40 mins	12
7.0	GENERAL BUSINESS	
	NEXT MEETING Thursday 13 April 2017	

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1	NOTES OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP HELD 27 OCTOBER 2016.....	1
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RECOMMENDATION

That the Notes of the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group held 27 October 2016, 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 27 OCTOBER 2016

**Notes of the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group Meeting
held on Thursday 27 October 2016
in the Flannel Flower Room, Civic Centre, Dee Why
Commencing at 5.00pm**

ATTENDANCE:

Members

Alex McTaggart (Chair)	Implementation Advisory Group
Phillip Colman	Resident – Narrabeen Ward
Roberta Conroy	Bayview Church Point Residents Association
Jacqueline French	Manly Community Forum
Tom Hazell	Resident – Curl Curl Ward
Edwina Laginestra	WIRES NB
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
Merinda Rose	Palm Beach & Whale Beach Association
David Thomas	ECO Divers

Council Officers

Beth Lawsen	Deputy General Manager Public Affairs
Todd Dickinson	Executive Manager Natural Environment & Climate Change
Ximena Von Oven	Administration Officer Governance (Minutes)
Louise Hardy	Research Officer

NOTE Alex Mc Taggart, Chairperson of the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group (SRG) provided the acknowledgement of country

NOTE: The order of business was changed so that Item 4.0 be discussed as the next Item on the Agenda.

4.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

DISCUSSION

Alex McTaggart, Chairperson of the Natural Environment SRG, introduced himself and Todd Dickinson, Executive Manager of Natural Environment & Climate Change (Operations) to the group and welcomed members to the meeting. SRG members were briefed on how the SRG meetings will be chaired and run. Members were also advised of the fire exits and facilities.

Hard copies of the SRG Protocols and Guidelines were distributed to the group. (*Attachment 1*)

1.0 APOLOGIES

DISCUSSION

That apologies from Jo Cooper, Kathryn Ridge, Paul Hackney, Rebecca Eddington and Wayne Gobert be noted.

Mover: Tom Hazell

Seconder: Whitney-May Lever

2.0 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

DISCUSSION

Nil

3.0 PRESENTATION – SETTING SCENE

3.1 OVERVIEW OF THE ROLES OF THE STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUPS

DISCUSSION

SRG members introduced themselves to the group.

Louise Hardy, Research Officer provided a presentation (*Attachment 2*) in relation to the roles of the SRG. The following points were highlighted:

- The role of the SRG is strategic and advisory and is not an operational committee.
- SRG members will be providing their input to develop the Corporate Strategic Plan (CSP).
- 3 meetings will be held in 2017 (February, April & July).
- Meetings will be held from 5-7pm. An extension of 30 minutes can be granted by request of the members.
- Agenda will be circulated 5 working days prior to the meeting.

- SRG members can provide agenda items, however items must be sent 10 working days prior to the meeting for the Chair to review and consider.
- SRG meeting notes will be taken at the meeting. Meeting notes will be presented at the Local Representation Committee (LRC) meetings for consideration.
- SRG recommendations which require allocation of Council resources will be presented at Council meetings for approval.
- Overview of the role of the Implementation Advisory Group (IAG) and Local Representation Committee (LRC)
- Definition of the parking lot

NOTE: *Members requested that their meeting dates schedule be organised taking in consideration other committee meetings to avoid any meeting day clashes, specifically with the Ingleside reference group meetings.*

3.2 PROFILE OF THE NORTHERN BEACHES AREA

DISCUSSION

Louise Hardy, provided a presentation in relation to the profile of the Northern Beaches Area the following points were highlighted:

- Local Demographics
- Context within the Greater Sydney Commission Planning Area
<http://www.greatersydneycommission.nsw.gov.au/>
- Housing Implications in the Northern Beaches Region
- Economic characteristics of the Northern Beaches Region

3.3 OVERVIEW OF THE CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP) AND INTEGRATED PLANNING & REPORTING (IP&R) PROCESS

DISCUSSION

Louise Hardy, provided a presentation in relation to the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) Process and the Integrated Planning & Reporting (IP &R) requirements

The following points were discussed:

- Outline of the Community Strategic Plan
 - a. Vision and Priorities – September/November 2016 (Issues Paper).
 - b. Strategies – March/April 2017 (Discussion Paper).
 - c. Public Exhibition Draft CSP – July/August 2017 (Community Engagement-feedback on Draft CSP).
 - d. Final CSP adopted – CSP will be adopted after the September 2017 elections by the newly elected Council.

- SRG members will have the opportunity to provide feedback in all the stages of engagement proposed for the preparation of the CSP.
- The Delivery Program sets the overall framework for how Council will endeavour and plans to meet the community's overall key aspirations and objectives. It will be prepared by the elected Council within 9 months of being elected (4 year program)
- Operational Plan will be adopted each financial year by Council however during Council's transitional arrangements; the operational plans reflect the former Council's Delivery Programs.
- Draft Implementation Plan Northern Beaches Council – The purpose of this Plan is to provide a clear framework for the implementation of the Northern Beaches Council to ensure that the process of building a brand new organisation is well organised and effectively communicated to staff and the community. This framework will ensure that the Northern Beaches Council will be a high performing organisation and a leader in local government.

Council Meeting – 13 September – Attachment Booklet - Item 6.2 Northern Beaches Draft Implementation Plan

<http://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/pdf/Attachment-Booklet-20160913.pdf>

4.0 INTRODUCTIONS & ASPIRATIONS

DISCUSSION

SRG members introduced themselves and highlighted their aspirations and goals for the Natural Environment SRG. The following topics were noted:

- Connectivity across the area
- Concerns about the marine world (mention of the marine biodiversity for example in Long Reef)
- Educate the community about the marine environment and biodiversity
- Weed control strategy
- Connectivity of bushland areas
- Bushland areas should be managed by staff with bush regeneration skills
- Education and value of bushland
- Conservation of bushland
- Water quality in the whole northern beaches (lakes, ocean etc.)
- Rehabilitation of creek lines
- Water sensitive urban design
- Best practice and consistent management of water across the region
- Flood mitigation
- Regular maintenance of drains and pollution traps

- Climate change mitigation
- Council should provide more interpretive signs
- Education for all the community with regards to biodiversity, protecting the environment
- Development should be built in a more sustainable, environmentally and responsible way
- Education for everyone in the community (from kids to parents)
- Innovation
- Application of technology when implementing signs (e.g QR codes)
- Sustainable living
- Plastic free society

NOTE: *Beth Lawsen joined the meeting at 6:13pm*

- No littering
- Plastic bags are a problem for the environment – should be banned in order to protect the environment
- No dogs on beaches
- More marine no take zones
- Enforce regulation with regards to protecting the marine environment and bush environment
- North Head treatment plan – ensure appropriate management and maintenance
- Planting of street trees
- Council should be reviewing every lease that is granted and do an environmental assessment to make sure environmental regulations are being followed for its leases
- Compliance with laws and individual responsibility for this
- Wildlife Corridors
- Animal crossings (overpasses underpasses)
- Preservation is better than restoration
- Maintenance of bushland areas
- Good public relations on environmental issues
- Inappropriate development should be banned
- Encourage community members to preserve the corridors but also to maintain and preserve the canopy
- Measure the canopy
- From a development point of view, green areas should be the dominating feature of the Northern Beaches area

- Measure the air quality of the area, provide the population with good quality air

5.0 REVIEW AND ISSUES PAPER

DISCUSSION

SRG members participated in a workshop to identify their priority issues that need to be addressed across the key themes: Social, Economic and Environment.

A summary of the workshop is attached (*Attachment 3*).

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

7.0 Parking Lot

- Measuring Outcomes
- Map the existing green space and canopy that exists
- Record existing water edge condition
- Record existing air quality of area
- Bush Regeneration (Manly) to keep the bushland healthy
- Vegetation offsets for development
- Erosion on Careel Bay Marina – needs sand to stop trees and edge of beach being lost
- Sharks are vital to the health of the oceans (no sharks should be killed)
- Ban Sharks Nets

The meeting concluded at 7:06pm

*This is the final page of the Notes comprising 7 pages
numbered 1 to 7 of the Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group
meeting held on 27 October 2016*

4.0 COUNCIL UPDATES

ITEM 4.1	COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP
REPORTING OFFICER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER CORPORATE STRATEGY & PLANNING
TRIM FILE REF	2017/030049
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

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

BACKGROUND

Council at its meeting on 13 December 2016 considered the results of Stage 1 of community engagement for the Community Strategic Plan and approved for exhibition a draft vision statement, aspirations and priorities. Links to the Council report and Engagement Report are attached for your information:

[View Council Report](#)

[View Engagement Report](#)

The workshop will focus on the development of the framework (outcomes and goals) in the Discussion Paper.

RECOMMENDATION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER CORPORATE STRATEGY & PLANNING

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

ITEM 4.2	GREATER SYDNEY COMMISSION DRAFT DISTRICT PLAN
REPORTING OFFICER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE
TRIM FILE REF	2017/026841
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

ISSUE

The Greater Sydney Commission has prepared a Draft District Plan for the North District, which includes the Northern Beaches Council. It is available to the public and submissions are being accepted until 31 March 2017.

A presentation on the Greater Sydney Commission Draft District Plan will be given to the SRG at its meeting on 9 February 2017.

Members wishing to familiarise themselves with the draft plan in advance of the meeting may access information via this link - <http://www.greater.sydney/north-district>

RECOMMENDATION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

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

ITEM 4.3	DRAFT STRUCTURE PLAN FOR INGLESIDE
REPORTING OFFICER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE
TRIM FILE REF	2017/026830
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

ISSUE

The Department of Planning and Environment (with UrbanGrowth NSW and Northern Beaches Council) has released a Draft Structure Plan for Ingleside. The plan is currently on exhibition and submissions are being accepted until 28 February 2017.

BACKGROUND

The Draft Structure Plan for the Ingleside Precinct, along with a number of technical studies which have informed it, was released to the public on 2 December 2016.

DISCUSSION

A presentation on the Draft Structure Plan will be given to the SRG at its meeting on 9 February 2017.

Members wishing to familiarise themselves with the project in advance of the meeting may access information via this link - <http://www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/ingleside>

RECOMMENDATION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

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

ITEM 4.4	CONNECTING THE NORTHERN BEACHES
REPORTING OFFICER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE
TRIM FILE REF	2017/026947
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

ISSUE

Council recently announced a project to connect the northern beaches for walking and cycling. The project will focus in integrating active walking paths and cycleways that link to B-Line transport hubs and services.

A brief presentation on the project will be given to the SRG at its meeting on 9 February 2017.

Members wishing to become familiar with this project prior to the meeting may do so via the following link - <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/council/connecting-northern-beaches>

RECOMMENDATION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

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

6.0 STRATEGIC WORKSHOPS

ITEM 6.1	NATURAL ENVIRONMENT SRG DIRECTIONS PAPER
REPORTING OFFICER	EXECUTIVE MANAGER NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE
TRIM FILE REF	2017/026796
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To commence preparation of a Directions Paper addressing the aspirations of the Strategic Reference Group (SRG) membership regarding environmental management undertaken by the Northern Beaches Council.

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 Natural Environment SRG member aspirations have been listed under headings which align with those of the Community Strategic Plan issues document. These are provided in the next section of this report.

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

1. What do we (Council and the community) do well in relation to this matter?
2. What is not being done well in relation to this matter?

The results of this exercise will enable the SRG and Council to review and discover the gaps in management of issues of importance to the SRG membership.

At the subsequent sessions, the SRG will work on formulation of priorities to meet the gaps. These will be prepared as a Directions Paper which will be made available to the incoming Council as a resource to inform the Council about methods recommended by the SRG membership to address their aspirations.

ASPIRATIONS AND GROUPINGS TO BE DISCUSSED

Catchment, Coast and Waterways

- 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

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

- 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

- Climate change mitigation

Floods, Bushfire and Coastal Erosion (Natural Hazard Management)

- Flood mitigation

Sustainable communities (Built Environment and Environmental Education)

- 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
- Concerns about the marine world (biodiversity at Long Reef)

- 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
- More marine no take zones
- Enforce regulations on protection of marine and bush environment
- Good public relations on environmental issues
- Sharks are vital to ocean health. Ban shark nets.

Ungrouped

- 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 to examine what things are working and those things that are not. At a subsequent session, the group will discuss how the gaps can be managed.

RECOMMENDATION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

That Natural Environment Strategic Reference Group review their aspirations list in preparation to commence work on the Directions Paper.
