

BUSINESS PAPER

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 17 September, 2013

Meeting commences at 6.30pm

**Council Chambers
Level 3, 2-14 Fisher Street
Petersham**

MARRICKVILLE COUNCIL

Administrative Centre
PETERSHAM













10 September 2013

Notice is given of the **COUNCIL MEETING**, to be held in the Council Chambers on Level 3 of the Administrative Centre, 2-14 Fisher Street, Petersham, on Tuesday, 17 September, 2013, commencing at 6.30pm.

Yours faithfully

Brian Barrett
General Manager

COUNCILLORS

	Chairperson Councillor Victor Macri (Mayor) Central Ward – Wirragga Ph: 0408 219 260 Fax: 9569 8750		Deputy Chairperson Councillor Emanuel Tsardoulis (Deputy Mayor) West Ward – Burraga Ph: 0432 684 120 Fax: 9335 2029
	Councillor Melissa Brooks West Ward – Burraga Ph: 0409 235 802 Fax: 9572 7982		Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore North Ward – Wali Ph: 0403 977 213 Fax: 9519 2973
	Councillor Mark Gardiner North Ward – Wali Ph: 0402 424 987 Fax: 9335 2029		Councillor Morris Hanna OAM South Ward – Magura Ph: 0417 660 997 Fax: 9349 5149
	Councillor Jo Haylen North Ward – Wali Ph: 0417 114 404 Fax: 9335 2029		Councillor Sam Iskandar Central Ward – Wirragga Ph: 0421 494 515 Fax: 9591 2201
	Councillor David Leary South Ward – Magura Ph: 0409 421 323 Fax: 9519 1425		Councillor Max Phillips Central Ward – Wirragga Ph: 0419 444 916 Fax: 9335 2029
	Councillor Rosana Tyler West Ward – Burraga Ph: 0414 859 630 Fax: 9335 2029		Councillor Chris Woods South Ward – Magura Ph: 0425 363 209 Fax: 9335 2029

Council and Committee Meetings

To enable Council to give consideration to items of business at each Meeting, a Business Paper, like this one, is prepared, containing reports by senior staff in relation to each item listed on the Agenda for the Meeting. The Business Paper for each Meeting is available for perusal by members of the public at Council's Libraries and Community Neighbourhood Centres on the Thursday prior to the Council/Committee Meeting.

Meetings are conducted in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice. The order of business is listed in the Agenda. That order will be followed unless a procedural motion is adopted to change the order of business at the meeting. This sometimes happens when members of the public request to address the Council on an item on the Agenda.

Some items are confidential in accordance with S10A(2) of the Local Government Act. This will be clearly stated in the Business Paper. These items may not be discussed in open Council and observers may be asked to leave the Council Chambers when they are discussed. The grounds on which a meeting is closed to the public must be specified in the decision to close the meeting and recorded in the minutes of the meeting. The number of items that are dealt with as confidential are kept to a minimum.

Each of Council's committees has delegated authority to make decisions subject to a number of limitations. Matters which cannot be decided by the committees are referred to the Ordinary Council Meeting for decision.

More Information

Please visit Marrickville Council's website at www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au for more information on the following:

- Committee Structure and Delegations
- meeting dates for the remainder of the year
- information on attending Council and committee meetings, and on applying to speak at meetings

Persons in the public gallery are advised that under the Local Government Act 1993, a person may NOT tape record a Council or Committee meeting without the authority of the Council or Committee.

Council grants authority to an accredited television or radio media representative to record by the use of audio or video recording equipment, the proceedings of a Council or Committee meeting upon production of suitable identification and evidence of employment.

Any persons found tape recording without authority will be expelled from the meeting.

"Tape record" includes the use of any form of audio, video and still camera equipment or mobile phone capable of recording speech.

An audio recording of this meeting will be taken for minute taking purposes and will be destroyed upon confirmation of the minutes.

SUMMARY OF ITEMS

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PRECIS

1	Acknowledgement of Country	
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C0913 Item 4	MARKET TESTING OF RESOURCE RECOVERY SERVICES	48

File Ref: 4778/67009.13

This report seeks Council's endorsement to undertake "market testing" of the collection of Greenwaste and Recycling services. Recent changes in the Resource Recovery unit, together with the imminent need to replace a number of the compactor trucks, now presents the opportunity to examine this cost saving option which will not impact on existing staff or entitlements as all jobs in both operations are vacant. Council is also asked to consider giving a commitment to maintaining an in-house garbage collection service for the foreseeable future.

Based on external investigation (including SSROC), it is considered that the provision of the services by an external service provider has the potential to provide significant cost savings. These savings can be utilised to minimise the ongoing cost increases in the Domestic Waste Management Charge to ratepayers.

RECOMMENDATION

53

THAT Council:

1. **endorse the market testing of the green waste collection service with a view to outsourcing, if financially beneficial to Council, and with the contract commencing from July 2014;**
2. **endorse the market testing of the recycling collection service with a view to outsourcing, if financially beneficial to Council, and with the contract commencing from July 2014; and**
3. **commit to operating an in-house garbage collection service until June 2019.**

C0913 Item 5

DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT AND MASTERPLAN FOR MARRICKVILLE PARK

54

File Ref: 4717/57497.13

Council's endorsement is sought to commence the public exhibition of the revised draft Plan of Management and Masterplan for Marrickville.

RECOMMENDATION

64

THAT:

1. **the report be received and noted;**
2. **the draft Plan of Management for Marrickville Park be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days;**
3. **submissions be received and noted for a further 14 days after the completion of the public exhibition period;**
4. **a public hearing is convened on the proposed re-categorisation of community land in accordance with the Local Government Act (1993); and**
5. **the results of the public exhibition will be presented to Council recommending further action.**

C0913 Item 6**GALLIPOLI 2015****237**

File Ref: 4717/67490.13

At its meeting on 7 August 2012, Council resolved to establish a Committee to consider commemoration projects for the Gallipoli Centenary. Consideration of the creation of a memorial to commemorate soldiers that died in World War II and subsequent conflicts was included in the responsibilities of this Committee. This report outlines proposed commemorative projects and strategies, together with the need to identify a suitable site to install a memorial to World War II and subsequent conflicts. It outlines staff and budget resources to implement the proposed projects required for the 2014/15 financial year, and requests Council to prioritise and vote money toward those projects deemed suitable.

RECOMMENDATION**246****THAT Council:**

1. receive and note the report;
2. endorse those projects to be completed with in existing budgets;
3. consider allocation of up to \$162,000 in the 2014/15 Operating Budget to fund the outlined Gallipoli Centenary Commemorative activities;
4. consider allocation of \$70,000 in the 2014/15 Operating Budget to fund installation of a memorial to soldiers who fought in World War II and subsequent conflicts; and
5. advise in order of preference which activities will be proceeded with as part of the Gallipoli Centenary Commemoration.

C0913 Item 7 FEES AND CHARGES FOR ANNETTE KELLERMAN AQUATIC CENTRE - INTRODUCTION OF PROGRAMS FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY 247

File Ref: 4717/65732.13

Proposed additions to Council's fees and charges schedule 2013/14 to enable the introduction of swimming and wellness programs for people with a disability at Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre.

RECOMMENDATION 249

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
2. Council advertise the proposed changes to the fees and charges schedule for the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre as detailed in ATTACHMENT 1 for a period of twenty-eight days in accordance with the provisions of Section 610F of the Local Government Act; and
3. following the public consultation period, a further report will be presented to Council.

C0913 Item 8 TOM FOSTER COMMUNITY CARE FEES AND CHARGES 251

File Ref: 4717/68264.13

At the July 2013 Council meeting, the Council approved a resolution to make Tom Foster Community Care (TFCC) available for medium to long term hire at \$15.00 per hour, if no fee is charged, then a reduced fee of \$10.00 per hour would be applicable. This change required the new fees to be advertised prior to adoption by Council. The proposed change was advertised in the Council column in the Inner West Courier and no objections were received. This report seeks approval for the fee change in the original motion above

RECOMMENDATION 252

THAT Council adopt the following usage fee for Tom Foster Community Care: for local community groups that charge a fee to participants for an activity the fee be set at \$15.00 per hour, if no fee is charged, then a reduced fee of \$10.00 per hour would be applicable.

C0913 Item 9 REQUEST FOR FEE WAIVER BY RANDWICK PETERSHAM CRICKET CLUB FOR THE HIRE OF PETERSHAM PARK OVAL FOR 2013/14 SUMMER SEASON 253

File Ref: 4717/65722.13

Randwick Petersham Cricket Club has written to Council requesting the waiver of hire fees for the use of Petersham Oval for the 2013/14 summer season.

RECOMMENDATION 255

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council waive the Petersham Oval hire fee for Randwick Petersham Cricket Club for the 2013/14 summer season.

C0913 Item 10 COMMUNITY GRANTS CONTINGENCY GRANTS FUND - REQUEST FOR FEE WAIVER BY GREEK WELFARE CENTRE FOR THE HIRE OF MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL 256

File Ref: 4717/65724.13

The Greek Welfare Centre has written to Council requesting the waiver of hire fees for the use of Marrickville Town Hall for Community Appeal / Charity Drive events.

RECOMMENDATION 257

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council provide \$1,000 from the Community Grants Program Part 2, Contingency Program to assist Greek Welfare Centre with the cost of venue hire for the use of Marrickville Town Hall on 25 September 2013, 11 December 2013 and 9 April 2014 for a Community Appeal/Charity Drive.

C0913 Item 11 OPEN MARRICKVILLE 2013 REPORT ON PROGRAM 258

File Ref: 4717/59877.13

Council's Open Marrickville Festival took place from 20 to 30 June 2013. Council provided grant funding and practical support to 21 community groups to assist individuals and community groups deliver events and activities that celebrated Marrickville's cultural diversity; encouraged the transfer of skills and traditions across generations; and targeted participants of all ages. Two extra events were also staged by Culture and Recreation; these included a Sister Cities event and a finale.

RECOMMENDATION 261**THAT:**

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council endorse the grant opening and closing dates and the Open Marrickville 2014 festival dates.

C0913 Item 12 MARRICKVILLE OPEN STUDIO TRAIL - RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2014 PROGRAM 262

File Ref: 4717/65084.13

The Marrickville Open Studio Trail (MOST) was first presented in 2005. MOST is established as a valued program on Council's events and cultural calendar and to date it has been held biannually. Following the success of the 2013 program and support by project partners, gallery operators, artists and audiences – it is recommended that funding be allocated so that MOST can become an annual event.

RECOMMENDATION 264**THAT:**

1. the report be received and noted;
2. Council approves a budget adjustment of \$10,000 to fund MOST 2014 in its September 2013 Quarterly Budget Review Statement and incorporates the Marrickville Open Studio Trail in its budget on an annual basis.

C0913 Item 13 STEEL PARK SOCIAL ENTERPRISE LICENSE 265

File Ref: 4717/66189.13

Following the Expression of Interest process that commenced on 31 July 2013 Council approval is now sought for offering a non – exclusive licence to operate a mobile coffee and refreshment vehicle at Steel Park to the Metro Migrant Resource Centre in partnership with The Flagstaff Group. The licence is based on social enterprise principles and will be for a trial term of two years commencing on a date before the end of the year which has yet to be agreed with them.

RECOMMENDATION 267

THAT Council agree to offer a non-exclusive Licence to operate a mobile coffee and refreshment social enterprise at Steel Park for a two year trial commencing late 2013.

C0913 Item 14 MOVIES IN THE PARK - EVENT PROPOSAL AND COSTING 268

File Ref: 4717/55897.13

A trial event, *Movies in the Park* has been proposed for Johnson Park, Dulwich Hill. The report details the considerations and costs associated with the delivery of the event.

RECOMMENDATION 270

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
2. Council endorse the trial *Movies in the Park* event for Saturday 12 April 2014; and
3. should the above be endorsed that a budget adjustment of \$21,600 be made for the delivery of the event.

C0913 Item 15 PERFORMANCE REVIEW PANEL FOR GENERAL MANAGER'S 271
PERFORMANCE

File Ref: 4717/68249.13

Council is required to sign a Performance Agreement with the General Manager and subsequently assess the General Manager's performance in an annual review. Guidelines issued by the Department of Local Government recommend the appointment of a Performance Review Panel to undertake these activities.

RECOMMENDATION 272

THAT:

- 1. Council nominate a General Manager Performance Review Panel comprising the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, one other Councillor and if the General Manager chooses, a Councillor nominated by the General Manager; and**
- 2. the Mayor, in consultation with the Panel, be authorised to finalise and sign the Performance Agreement with the General Manager for 2013/14 and conduct the annual review for 2012/13.**

C0913 Item 16 STATUS UPDATE - RESOLUTIONS OF COUNCIL 296

File Ref: 4717/66562.13

This report updates Councillors on the status of reports requested by Councillors; Questions on Notice and actions arising from Mayoral Minutes and Councillor Notice of Motions.

RECOMMENDATION 296

THAT the report be received and noted.

9 Questions From Councillors

C0913 Item 17 QUESTION ON NOTICE: REPORTS ABOUT AIR QUALITY 312

C0913 Item 18 QUESTION ON NOTICE: IMPACT OF PROPOSED 316
NEIGHBOURING DEVELOPMENT ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE
WORKS SCHEDULED FOR GROVE STREET, MARRICKVILLE

10 Reports with Confidential Information

Reports appearing in this section of the Business Paper are confidential in their entirety or contain confidential information in attachments.

The confidential information has been circulated to Councillors separately.

C0913 Item 19 ARLINGTON RESERVE SYNTHETIC TURF SURFACE - 318 **TENDER EVALUATION - TENDER NUMBER 36/13**

File Ref: 4920/61029.13

At its meeting of 19th February 2013, Council resolved to proceed with a synthetic turf surface at Arlington Reserve, Dulwich Hill. This report considers the outcomes from Tender No. 36/13 for the design and construction of a synthetic turf surface and other ancillary and optional works.

A report on the results of assessment of the received tenders by the Tender Review Panel can be found in **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1**.

Construction is planned to commence in late 2013.

RECOMMENDATION 323

THAT:

1. Council move into closed session to deal with this matter as information contained in **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1** of the Report is classified as confidential under the provisions of Section 10A (2)(c) and (d) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the following reasons:
 - a. the information within this report, if disclosed, could confer a commercial advantage on persons with whom the Council proposes to or may conduct business; and
 - b. it is not in the public interest to reveal all details of these tender submissions or the assessment process. Companies have provided sensitive information about their operations in the confidence that their details will not be made public by Council. The practice of publication of sensitive information provided by companies could result in the withholding of such information by companies and reduction in the provision of information relevant to Council's decision.

And in accordance with Sections 10A (4) of the Local Government Act 1993, that the Chairpersons allow members of the public to make representations as to whether this part of the meeting should be closed.

OR, WHERE THE MEETING IS NOT CLOSED:

- 1A. the Council resolve that CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential;
2. the report be received and noted; and
3. Council adopt the recommendation contained in the CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.

C0913 Item 20	PROPOSED EXPRESSION OF INTEREST PROCESS FOR THE TEMPE BOAT STORAGE FACILITY (PART OF LOT 2023/DP105984)	324
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File Ref: 4717/66037.13

The report outlines the proposed process for the Expression of Interest for the Tempe Boat Storage, Holbeach Avenue Tempe (Part of Lot 7023 in DP1059864).

RECOMMENDATION **329**

THAT Council:

1. move into closed session to deal with this matter as information contained in ATTACHMENT 4 of the report is classified as confidential under the provisions of Section 10A (2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the following reasons:
 - (a) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; and
 - (b) the disclosure of the independent valuation of the site contained in ATTACHMENT 4 would, on balance be contrary to the public interest because it may put Council at a competitive disadvantage in the Expression of Interest process, preventing it from achieving a 'best value' outcome for the community.

And in accordance with Sections 10A (4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, that the Chairperson allow members of the public to make representations as to whether this part of the meeting should be closed.

OR, WHERE THE MEETING IS NOT CLOSED:

- 1A. resolve that **ATTACHMENT 4** to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and as such is to be treated as confidential;
2. the report be received and noted;
3. the proposed Expression of Interest process for the Tempe Boat Storage, Holbeach Avenue Tempe (Part of LOT 7023/DP105984) be approved; and
4. Council advise whether both commercial and not-for-profit operators be permitted to submit an EOI.

C0913 Item 21**PLANNING PROPOSAL - 2-18 STATION STREET & 1
LEOFRENE AVENUE, MARRICKVILLE****344**

File Ref: 4920/58247.13

This report assesses a planning proposal request for 2-18 Station Street, 1 Leofrene Avenue, Marrickville and the Station Street road reserve (the subject site). The planning proposal request seeks to amend Marrickville Local Environmental Plan 2011 (MLEP 2011) to increase Height of Building and Floor Space Ratio controls for the subject site and alter the Zoning of 1 Leofrene Avenue, Marrickville. This is intended to allow for a 16-storey mixed-use development with 120 residential units and approximately 510 square metres of retail floorspace. The basement includes car parking for the public and for residents, visitors and retail uses, as well as bicycle and motorcycle parking.

A Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) has also been submitted which proposes public domain works that include a new elevated public space over Station Street. Based on the assessment of the planning proposal request in this report, it is apparent that whilst the proposal would bring a number of benefits to the Marrickville community, there are several areas of concern. Four issues in particular are considered critical and require resolution prior to the planning proposal proceeding. These relate to the building's excessive bulk, the impact of the building on the character of the streetscape and townscape, the building encroaching and dominating the public space and non-compliance with solar access provisions. Addressing these issues will have implications for the content of the VPA. This report recommends that Council commissions peer reviews of the proposed building envelope and public open space, following which, an officer's report on the findings of these reviews be considered by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

373

THAT Council:

1. receive and notes this report;
2. engage James Mather Delaney Design Pty Ltd, the consultants undertaking Council's Public Domain Study, to peer review the proposed public space design;
3. concurrent with 2 above, commissions a peer review of the proposed building envelope and relationship to the character of the Marrickville town centre by two suitably qualified consultants;
4. further considers the planning proposal request and Voluntary Planning Agreement once the peer review process has been completed;
5. write to the Minister for Transport and Transport for NSW to inform of the planning proposal request and to seek consultation concerning the co-ordination of planning processes for the public space associated with the proposed development and the proposed upgrade of Marrickville Railway Station; and
6. move into closed session to deal with this matter as information contained in CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 2 of the Report is classified as confidential under the provisions of Section 10A (2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the following reason:
 - (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.

And in accordance with Sections 10A (4) of the Local Government Act 1993, that the Chairpersons allow members of the public to make representations as to whether this part of the meeting should be closed.

OR, WHERE THE MEETING IS NOT CLOSED:

- 6A. resolve that CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 2 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential.

11 Notices of Motion

C0913 Item 22	Notice of Motion: Reinstating Bottled Water in Organisation	375
C0913 Item 23	Notice of Motion: Installation of Exercise Equipment at Johnson Park	376

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 20 August 2013**Meeting commenced at 6.35pm****ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY BY CHAIRPERSON**

We meet tonight on the traditional land of the Cadigal people of the Eora nation. I acknowledge the terrible wrongs committed against the Aboriginal peoples of this country and their care of the land over many generations. I celebrate their ongoing survival and achievements in today's society.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Macri (Mayor)	Brooks	Ellsmore	Gardiner	Haylen
Iskandar	Phillips	Tyler	Woods	

APOLOGIES:**Motion: (Macri/Brooks)**

THAT the apologies for Councillors Hanna, Leary and Tsardoulis be noted and leave of absence granted.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods

Against Motion: Nil

DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS:

Item 11: Councillor Haylen declared a significant conflict of interest in Item 11 (Council Submission on Sydney Airport's Preliminary Draft Master Plan) as she works for the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Councillor Haylen will absent herself from the Council Chamber and not take part in the debate or vote.

Item 39: Councillors Iskandar and Macri declared a significant conflict of interest in Item 39 (728-750 Princes Highway) as they are members of the Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP). Councillors Iskandar and Macri will absent themselves from the Council Chamber and not take part in the debate or vote.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**Motion: (Macri/Tyler)**

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 16 July 2013 be confirmed.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods

Against Motion: Nil

C0813 Item 1 MAYORAL MINUTE: OPERATIONAL BUDGET - CAPITAL PROJECTS**Motion:** (Macri)

THAT Council change its future Capital Budgets to provide a total budget allocation at the Activity level, supported by a list of projects to be undertaken in the Operational and Delivery Plan Budgets but with no individual project allocation for a twelve month trial period.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 2 MAYORAL MINUTE: SAVE OUR TREESCAPE AMENITY****Motion:** (Macri)

THAT Council write to Ausgrid seeking:

1. installation of Aerial Bundled Cable (ABC) to minimise the adverse impact of pruning on trees;
2. confirmation that pruning by contractors would be undertaken within acceptable standards that properly accounted for the potential adverse impacts of overpruning.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 3 REVIEW OF NSW GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR LONG DAY CARE SERVICES****Motion:** (Macri/Ellsmore)

THAT Council:

1. writes to the Minister for Education, The Hon. Adrian Piccoli, and to the General Manager of Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate at the NSW Department of Education and Communities to express its grave concerns regarding the impacts of proposed funding changes on access by Marrickville families to quality, affordable child care services; and seeks a commitment from the Minister that no services will receive less funding as a result of the proposed new funding models.
2. expresses its concerns regarding proposed changes to the funding models for NSW community-based and local government operated preschools and long day care services and supports participation in a campaign and Day of Action on 29 August that outlines the need for:
 - greater investment in NSW education and care services as recommended by the recent Brennan Review;
 - all 3 year old children to continue to be able to access funded early education; and
 - no funding cuts to any community-based preschool or long day care service.
3. consults with parent users and those on the early childhood wait list in regard to the possible impacts on affordability and access to Council's preschool and long day care services from 2014.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil

C0813 Item 4 REQUEST TO SUPPORT THE GREENWAY ART PRIZE 2013**Motion:** (Macri/Tyler)**THAT:**

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council provide \$1,500 financial support to the GreenWay Art Exhibition in October to support the continuation for the annual community and arts event.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 5 CHRISSIE COTTER GALLERY - WAIVER OF COMMISSION FOR THE GESTURE EXHIBITION****Motion:** (Brooks/Gardiner)**THAT:**

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council agree to subsidise up to \$1,000 from the Community Grants Program Part 2, Contingency Program, by waiving the 15% commission normally charged on any works sold from the *Gesture* exhibition at the Chrissie Cotter Gallery in October 2013.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 6 BAIRRO PORTUGUÊS PETERSHAM FOOD AND WINE FAIR 2014 - BUDGET ADJUSTMENT****Motion:** (Macri/Tyler)**THAT:**

1. that the report by received and noted; and
2. Council endorses a budget adjustment of \$8,500 to meet basic event infrastructure costs including engaging an independent traffic management consultant to deliver a report on the potential closure of New Canterbury Road for future event dates.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil

C0813 Item 7 FANNY DURACK AQUATIC CENTRE CAFE TENDER**Motion:** (Macri/Haylen)

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council resolves to negotiate directly with suitable operators for a lease for the management and operation of the Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre Café, due to the failure to attract any response to the tender process and enable direct consultation with prospective operators.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 8 WINGED VICTORY STATUE**

Public speakers: Chrys Meader, Louise Steer and Jeff Ostling

Motion: (Macri/Ellsmore)

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
2. Council keep the statue at the depot and resolve to store the statue indefinitely or until a suitable location within the LGA for display is found;
3. Council endorse the draft Expression of Interest that a representation be made of Winged Victory so that it can be cast in bronze and placed on a plinth outside Marrickville Town Hall and that attribution be given to Gilbert Doble and Dr Alex Kolozsy.
4. Council endorse a budget adjustment of \$35,000 for the restoration of War Memorial Base Pedestal and Column Remain.

Motion Carried**For Motion:**

Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods

Against Motion: Nil**C0813 Item 9 REVOTES OF UNEXPENDED 2013/13 BUDGETS ALLOCATIONS****Motion:** (Macri/Iskandar)

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council approves the revote projects in ATTACHMENT 1 for incorporation into the 2013/14 budget.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil

C0813 Item 10 ARLINGTON RESERVE WORKING GROUP UPDATE**Motion:** (Macri/Gardiner)

THAT Council:

1. put the following messages on the Council website:
 - Arlington Reserve Working Group in favour of the community playing formal and informal sport;
 - Arlington Reserve Working Group support the current Plan of Management;
 - Arlington Reserve Working Group agree on constraints provided by the current Development Consent;
 - the Arlington kiosk is open for residents and community use is welcomed; and
2. investigate the purchase and installation of a noticeboard displaying upcoming fixtures to be managed by the Clubs.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 11 COUNCIL SUBMISSION ON SYDNEY AIRPORT'S PRELIMINARY DRAFT MASTER PLAN****Motion:** (Macri/Iskandar)*Clr Haylen left the Chamber having declared a conflict of interest in this item.*

THAT Council:

1. receives and notes this report; and
2. makes a formal submission on Sydney Airport's Preliminary Draft Master Plan based on the contents of this report.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**Absent:** Councillor Haylen**C0813 Item 12 CLOSURE OF CALVERT STREET CAR PARK FOR TEMPORARY ONE DAY EVENT****Motion:** (Iskandar/Phillips)

THAT Council resolve to close the Calvert Street car park in Marrickville on Saturday 8 February 2014 until 6.00pm to enable the site to be used for a one day temporary Lunar New Year event.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Gardiner, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**Absent:** Councillors Ellsmore and Haylen

C0813 Item 13 SISTER CITY ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE**Motion:** (Macri/Iskandar)

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council nominates Councillors Woods and Iskandar to attend the Sister Cities Australia National Conference.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Councillor Phillips**Absent:** Councillor Ellsmore**C0813 Item 14 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE****Motion:** (Macri/Phillips)

THAT Council confirms:

1. it's existing four Directorate structure shown at ATTACHMENT 1; and
2. Senior Staff comprising the General Manager and the Directors of each Directorate.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**Absent:** Councillor Ellsmore**C0813 Item 15 CODE OF CONDUCT PANEL OF REVIEWERS****Motion:** (Macri/Woods)

THAT Council:

1. receive and note the report; and
2. adopt the Panel of Conduct Reviewers appointed by the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**Absent:** Councillor Ellsmore**C0813 Item 16 ADDITIONAL ACCESS COMMITTEE MEMBER****Motion:** (Macri/Brooks)

THAT Andrew Longhurst is endorsed as a member of Marrickville Council's Access Committee.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil

C0813 Item 17 CHILDCARE ACCESSIBILITY FUND GRANT APPLICATION**Motion: (Macri/Brooks)**

THAT the report be received and noted.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 18 FINANCIAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT****Motion: (Macri/Gardiner)**

THAT the report be received and noted.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 19 BI-ANNUAL REPORT ON PROGRESS AGAINST THE OPERATIONAL PLAN JANUARY - JUNE 2013 AND FULL YEAR****Motion: (Macri/Tyler)**

That the report be received and noted.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 20 STATUS UPDATE ON LEGAL PROCEEDINGS****Motion: (Macri/Tyler)**

THAT the report be received and noted.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 21 STATUS UPDATE - RESOLUTIONS OF COUNCIL****Motion: (Macri/Iskandar)**

THAT the report be received and noted.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil

C0813 Item 22 NOTICE OF MOTION: PUBLIC BIKE SHARE SCHEME**Motion:** (Brooks/Ellsmore)

THAT Council:

1. actively participate in conversations initiated by Leichhardt Council on the viability and desirability of a public bike share scheme in areas covered by Marrickville, Leichhardt, City of Sydney, Marrickville, Randwick and Waverley and the Universities of Sydney and New South Wales; and
2. engage other cycling and transport stakeholders in discussions about such a project.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 23 NOTICE OF MOTION: BICYCLE SHARE SCHEME****Motion:** (Haylen/Macri)

THAT Council conduct a feasibility study into the viability of a bicycle and helmet share scheme throughout the Marrickville LGA, with hubs near public transport, public housing, universities and other key residential areas in order to make cycling a more accessible form of transport.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 24 NOTICE OF MOTION: URGENT PROTECTION FOR FATIMA ISLAND****Motion:** (Ellsmore/Phillips)

THAT Council:

1. request a comprehensive report including a strategy for the improvements along with cost estimates for investigation design and works;
2. urgently investigate the erosion of Fatima Island in the Cooks River;
3. undertake any urgent, necessary remedial works identified, in order to protect the island against further erosion pending the development of the Cooks River Plan of Management;
4. liaise and consult with relevant agencies and community groups to ensure that any urgent works are identified and undertaken appropriately, including the Cooks River Valley Association, Canterbury Council, Sydney Water, Metro Local Aboriginal Land Council and the Marrickville Heritage Society;
5. include in the investigations consideration of whether nearby work on the banks of the Cooks River and/or people visiting the island are contributing to the erosion;
6. consider funding for any urgent works in the September budget revision; and
7. provide a report to Council of the investigations.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Haylen, Phillips and Woods**Against Motion:** Councillors Gardiner, Iskandar, Macri, and Tyler

**C0813 Item 25 NOTICE OF MOTION: MARRICKVILLE COUNCIL WELCOMES
REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS****Motion: (Ellsmore/Brooks)**

THAT Council:

1. recognises that the Marrickville area has long been a place that welcomes refugees and asylum seekers, providing a new home for people who have been forced by war, civil upheaval or natural disaster to flee their homes;
2. commits to continue to implement programs and policies which promote tolerance and multiculturalism, and which raise awareness of the journeys, experiences, culture and contributions of refugees and asylum seekers who have joined our Australian and Marrickville communities;
3. re-affirms its 2003 commitment that the Marrickville Local Government Area is a Refugee Welcome Zone; and
4. takes urgent action to show its public support for refugees and asylum seekers, including those who have arrived in Australia by boat, including through the implementation of signs at Council's main public buildings and public places which recognise the Marrickville area as place in which refugees and asylum seekers are welcome.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Phillips,
Tyler and Woods

Against Motion: Councillor Macri

Amendment: (Iskandar/Haylen)

THAT the following points be added:

5. Community Development engage with relevant stakeholder groups such as migrant support services, refugee advocacy and church groups to convene a consultative session to identify ways Council can provide practical support to refugees and asylum seekers in the Marrickville area;
6. the Motion in total be referred to the Community and Corporate Services Committee for advice on implementation and report back to Council.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Phillips,
Tyler and Woods

Against Motion: Councillor Macri

**C0813 Item 26 NOTICE OF MOTION: TRAFFIC CALMING AND PARKING FOR
DENISON STREET, DULWICH STREET, LEWISHAM STREET AND
SURROUNDING POCKET STREETS**

Public speakers: Brett Randall, Rita Derrick and Amelia Lawson

Motion: (Macri/Woods)

THAT Council:

1. allocate funds to review traffic situation in surrounding the precinct;
2. review all safety aspects of traffic and calming devices;
3. review current parking situation and come back to Council with a new parking strategy to increase parking for precinct which to include angle parking in streets and residential scheme parking;
4. review current traffic directive flow into streets and provide a visible alternative to current situation;
5. liaise with local police to enforce speed limits and traffic laws;
6. rangers monitor current parking issues as their current routine; and
7. review current infrastructure of the precinct and use funding from the new developments to fund the precinct e.g. new traffic devices, rerouting of traffic, new toilets for Hoxton Park, repair upgrades of footpaths and verge gardens.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods

Against Motion: Nil

**C0813 Item 27 NOTICE OF MOTION: REINSTATING BOTTLED WATER IN
ORGANISATION**

Due to Councillor Tsardoulas' absence, this item was deferred to the September Council Meeting.

**C0813 Item 28 NOTICE OF MOTION: REMOVAL OF TREE AT 16 TEMPLE STREET,
STANMORE**

Motion: (Macri/Tyler)

THAT:

1. the tree be removed;
2. a verge garden be installed and a appropriate tree be installed which doesn't effect the local residents amenities; and
3. the resident of 16 Temple street be notified.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Councillors Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Tyler and Woods

Against Motion: Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore and Phillips

C0813 Item 29 NOTICE OF MOTION: GROVE STREET DEVELOPMENT

Public speaker: Jo Blackman

Motion: (Macri/Haylen)

THAT Council:

1. contact Urbis to extend its consultation with all surrounding residents of the proposed development;
2. ask the developer to conduct a traffic and study to reduce the impact of increased traffic and parking constraints of the proposed development;
3. assess the proposed development through councils LEP and DCP guidelines and makes a submission to the JRPP; and
4. contact the Community group of the outcome.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 30 NOTICE OF MOTION: INSTALLATION OF EXERCISE EQUIPMENT AT JOHNSON PARK**

Due to Councillor Tsardoulas' absence, this item was deferred to the September Council Meeting.

C0813 Item 31 NOTICE OF MOTION: STREAMING COUNCIL MEETINGS ONLINE**Motion: (Phillips/Ellsmore)**

THAT an updated report on the feasibility and cost of streaming of Council meetings on the internet be provided.

Motion Lost**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner and Phillips**Against Motion:** Councillors Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Tyler and Woods

REPORTS WITH CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**C0813 Item 32 JACK SHANAHAN RESERVE UPGRADE - TENDER EVALUATION - TENDER NUMBER 35/13****Motion:** (Macri/Gardiner)

THAT:

1. the Council resolve that CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential;
2. the report be received and noted; and
3. Council adopt the recommendation contained in CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 33 TENDER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BIORETENTION BASIN ADJACENT TO BRUCE STREET, MARRICKVILLE****Motion:** (Macri/Gardiner)

THAT:

1. the Council resolve that CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENTS 1 and 2 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 and as such is to be treated as confidential.
2. the report be received and noted;
3. Council adopt the tender recommendation contained in CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENTS 1 and 2.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 34 TENDER FOR THE PUBLIC DOMAIN STUDY****Motion:** (Macri/Gardiner)

THAT Council:

1. resolve that ATTACHMENT 1 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and as such is to be treated as confidential; and
2. adopt Recommendation 1 in CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil

C0813 Item 35 TENDER NO 32/13: ROADSIDE SHELTERS SUPPLY AND MANAGEMENT SERVICE**Motion:** (Macri/Gardiner)

THAT:

1. the Council resolve that ATTACHMENT 1 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential;
2. the report be received and noted; and
3. Council adopt the recommendation contained in the CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 36 ADVERTISING BILLBOARDS AT TEMPE****Motion:** (Macri/Gardiner)

THAT:

1. Council resolve that CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 and as such is to be treated as confidential.
2. receive and note this report; and
3. Council officers prepare and lodge a Development Application to install advertising billboards on an area of Council land currently leased to Tyne Containers Pty Ltd.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil**C0813 Item 37 INTEGRATED LAND AND PROPERTY STRATEGY - CAR PARKS****Motion:** (Macri/Gardiner)

THAT:

1. Council resolve that CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 and as such is to be treated as confidential.
2. receive and note this report; and
3. adopt the recommendation in CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods**Against Motion:** Nil

C0813 Item 38 MAYORAL MINUTE: REMOVAL OF STREET TREE, 5 DAY STREET, MARRICKVILLE

Public speaker: Kate Prior

Motion: (Macri/Woods)

THAT the street tree fronting 5 Day Street be removed and replaced with a more suitable species for the location.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Councillors Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Tyler and Woods

Against Motion: Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore and Phillips

C0813 Item 39 728-750 PRINCES HIGHWAY, TEMPE**Motion: (Phillips/Brooks)**

Cllrs Iskandar and Macri left the Chamber having declared a conflict of interest in this item.

THAT Council make a submission to the JRPP supporting the officer's assessment report, including the suggested terms and conditions contained in that report.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Phillips, Tyler and Woods

Against Motion: Nil

Absent: Councillors Iskandar and Macri

C0813 Item 40 28 GIBBENS STREET, CAMPERDOWN**Motion: (Macri/Iskandar)**

THAT Council adopt the Motion carried by the Development Assessment Committee on 13 August 2013 as follows:

- a) the development application to demolish part of the premises and carry out ground, first, and second (attic) floor alterations and additions to a dwelling house and erect a two storey building at the rear of the site containing a double garage, rumpus, laundry and two bedrooms be approved and a Deferred Commencement Consent be issued subject to the terms and conditions commencing on Page 89 of the Supplementary Business Paper 1; and
- b) the Department of Planning and Infrastructure be advised, as part of the quarterly review of the monitoring of Clause 4.6 of Marrickville Local Environmental Plan 2011 – Exceptions to Development Standards, that Council has agreed to the variation of the development standards as outlined on Pages 99-100 of the Supplementary Business Paper 1.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods

Against Motion: Nil

C0813 Item 41 19 MARY STREET, NEWTOWN**Motion: (Macri/Iskandar)**

THAT Council adopt the Motion carried by the Development Assessment Committee on 13 August 2013 as follows:

- A. the Development Application to demolish part of the existing commercial premises and carry out alterations and additions to create a five (5) storey, over basement level, development containing a laundry and storage area within the basement, a ground floor containing a commercial tenancy, communal living area, waste storage areas and parking for four (4) vehicles, with the upper levels containing a 20 room boarding house be refused for the reasons commencing on Page 132 of Supplementary Business Paper 1;
- B. those persons and the head petitioner who lodged submissions in respect to the proposal be advised of the Council's determination of the application; and
- C. all residents who made objections or otherwise provided correspondence to Council in response to the DA (where we have their details) are; advised of the appeal; advised of the first call over scheduled for 22 August 2013 in the Land and Environment Court; provided contacts for the relevant officer at Council whom they can call to receive updates; and directed to where they can find information out about the process for participating or following the appeal case, as formal objectors or otherwise interested parties (e.g. LEC website).

Motion Carried

For Motion: Councillors Brooks, Ellsmore, Gardiner, Haylen, Iskandar, Macri, Phillips, Tyler and Woods

Against Motion: Nil

Meeting closed at 9.28pm.

CHAIRPERSON

Item No: C0913 Item 1

Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL SUBSIDIES TO
COMMUNITY AND SPORTING ORGANISATIONS

File Ref: 4717/67521.13

Councillors

Background

It has come to my attention that Council provides substantial subsidies to community and sporting organisations but that information about these subsidies is not publicly available.

The subsidies I am specifically referring to are in the form of heavily reduced lease and licence fees for the use of facilities and grounds.

Community facilities address community needs and fall under the Key Result Area in our Community Strategic Plan: A Diverse Community That is Socially Just, Educated, Safe and Healthy. The Community is Active and Healthy is an outcome that Council wants to achieve through the provision of community facilities.

However, these objectives are only possible if Council provides consistent, equitable and transparent processes in the management of community facilities in a sustainable fashion.

As I expect this project to provide transparency of Council subsidies to community and sporting organisations will require a substantial body of work, I am foreshadowing it as a project for the 2014/15 financial year.

MOTION:

THAT officers provide a report in the 2014/15 financial year to provide transparency of Council subsidies to community and sporting organisations.

Clr Victor Macri
Mayor of Marrickville

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 2
Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: COPTIC CHURCH
File Ref: 4674/66638.13

Councillors

Background

In 2001 the Commonwealth Government transferred the former Coptic Church property in Railway Parade, Sydenham, to Council on the condition that the land must remain classified as Community Land for 25 years. A further condition was imposed preventing Council from selling, exchanging or otherwise transferring the land. As community land, the property can be leased or licensed for a maximum of 21 years and must be advertised publicly and submitted to the relevant Government Minister if the proposed lease term exceeds 5 years.

During the past decade Council has explored various options to restore and reuse the former Coptic Church. Early attempts to lease the property for community purposes were not successful. Since 2004, there have been several reports commissioned by Council about the condition of the Church building, its heritage significance and the cost to refurbish it for various uses.

In 2007-08 a heritage architectural consultant prepared a report detailing required works and cost estimates to refurbish the Church for use as an artist's studio/gallery or a performance space or a general purpose community facility. This was in line with a Council decision in April 2007 (Item CF 2, Meeting No. 03/07). The report indicated that it would cost in the order of \$2.3million to refurbish the Church.

Council subsequently resolved at its December 2008 meeting (CF 10, Meeting No 10/08) to undertake an Expressions of Interest (EOI) process for leasing the Church to an eligible not for profit organisation for the purposes outlined above. As part of the EOI process, submissions were required to take into account the required works to refurbish the building to make it appropriate for the proposed use.

Council officers were unable to proceed with the EOI in 2009 as it became apparent that under the old LEP the zoning for the site would not allow for the Church to be used as Council had intended. Necessary changes have since been incorporated into the newly drafted LEP to allow for these uses.

In late 2010 Council called for an EOI to carry out repair works to the Church in return for a long term lease. In considering the ensuing EOI submissions Council resolved to enter into negotiations with a preferred proponent to establish whether that entity had the capacity to undertake its EOI proposal. Unfortunately, during subsequent talks the entity was unable to provide sufficient financial information to adequately address Council's requirements relating to this part of the EOI.

On 16 August 2011, Council considered a further report on the EOI and resolved to proceed with demolition of the Church. A copy of this report is provided as **ATTACHMENT 1**.

A Development Application (DA) was then lodged for the demolition of the Church and this was considered by Council at its meeting on 15 February 2012. In determining the DA, Council resolved to grant "Deferred Commencement" consent. The determined consent required Council or its delegate to satisfy a number of matters prior to proceeding with demolition. The most significant being an amendment to the Sydenham Green Plan of Management (PoM).

In 2012 Council's Culture & Recreation Section commenced a PoM process for Sydenham Green, with consultations taking place at the end of 2012. A draft Plan & Masterplan has been prepared and this is anticipated to go to Council in October 2013. The Draft Plan will allow for the demolition of the Church.

Recent Approach by the Coptic Church

On 3 May 2013 the Member for Oatley, Mark Coure MP, acting on behalf of the Coptic Community, wrote to me seeking a reversal of Council's decision to demolish the Church.

The Member for Oatley, along with representatives of the Coptic Orthodox Church, including Bishop Daniel, met with myself and Council Officers on 6 August 2013. At this meeting a number of issues were discussed, including limitations on the transfer and sale of the Church land and the previous EOI process where the preferred proponent was unable to provide sufficient evidence of financial capacity to undertake the estimated \$2million plus of repair works.

Following the meeting, Bishop Daniel wrote back to the Mayor on 14 August 2013 with an attached letter from the Commonwealth Bank confirming that the Coptic Orthodox Church (NSW) Property Trust has the financial capacity to meet all costs relating to the refurbishment of the Coptic Church in Railway Parade, Sydenham. A copy of this letter is provided as **ATTACHMENT 2**. A further letter was also received in response to my request for details of their expected timeframe for restoration. This is provided at **ATTACHMENT 3**.

MOTION:

THAT:

- 1 Council calls for Expressions of Interest (EOI) from parties willing to undertake necessary works on the Coptic Church to make it fit for purpose as an artist studio/gallery, performance space or general community facility, including a place of worship in return for a long term lease; and**
 - 2 in the event that Council does not receive any acceptable submissions, Council proceeds with demolition of the Church.**
-

Clr Victor Macri
Mayor of Marrickville

ATTACHMENTS

1. Council report relating to an EOI process undertaken in 2010/11
2. Letter from Coptic Orthodox Church
3. Second letter from Coptic Orthodox Church

Item 14

Report No: C0811 Item 14

Subject: COPTIC CHURCH - FURTHER REPORT RELATING TO THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

File Ref: P3920.910-02/45509.11

Prepared By: Justin Fitzpatrick-Barr - Manager, Property Services

SYNOPSIS

Council considered an Expression of Interest (EOI) report for the former Coptic Church at its meeting on 15 February 2011 (Report No. C0211 Item 23). Council resolved to adopt the recommendation contained in the confidential attachment of the report, which ultimately delegated authority to the General Manager to engage with the preferred EOI applicant to evaluate their financial capacity to undertake the required repair and upgrade works at the former Coptic Church and discuss the terms of a potential lease agreement, and following this meetings to prepare a further report to for Council's consideration, describing the terms and conditions of any proposed agreement.

A further report is provided.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council move into a closed session to deal with this matter as information contained in CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENTS 1, 2 & 3 of the Report is classified as confidential under the provision of Section 10A (2)(c) and (d) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the following reasons:
 - (a) the information within this report, if disclosed, could confer a commercial advantage on persons with whom the Councils proposes to or may conduct business; and
 - (b) it is not in the public interest to reveal all details of these EOIs of the assessment process. Companies have provided sensitive information about their operations in the confidence that their details will not be made public by Council. The practice of publication of sensitive information provided by companies could result in the withholding of such information by companies and reduction in the provision of information relevant to Council's decision.

OR, WHERE THE MEETING IS NOT CLOSED:

- 1A. The Council resolve that the CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENTS 1, 2 & 3 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential.
2. The Report be received and noted; and
3. Council adopt the recommendations contained in the CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.

BACKGROUND

During the last five to six years Council has considered a number of reports in relation to the former Coptic Church in Railway Parade, Sydenham. The following background attempts to summarise some of the key information relevant to this report.

The Commonwealth Government transferred the former Coptic Church property to Council in 2001, on the condition that the land must remain classified as Community Land for 25 years. A further condition is that Council can never sell, exchange or otherwise transfer the land. As community land, the property can be leased or licensed for a maximum of 21 years and must be advertised publicly and submitted to the relevant Government Minister if the proposed term exceeds 5 years.

The property can only be leased for passive or active recreation, cultural or social pursuits. It cannot be leased for commercial purposes. Under the previous Marrickville Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2001 the land was zoned as 6(a) Open Space and was controlled through the Plan of Management for Sydenham Green. It was also an item of environmental heritage, listed in Schedule 6 as Item No. 4.22.

Under the recently adopted LEP, the zoning for the site is RE1 – Public Recreation. The permissible uses under the new RE1 – Public Recreation zoning are discussed in more detail below:

Community facilities are permissible in the RE1 Zone and are defined as follows:

community facility means a building or place:

- (a) *owned or controlled by a public authority or not-for-profit community organisation, and*
- (b) *used for the physical, social, cultural or intellectual development or welfare of the community,*

but does not include an educational establishment, hospital, retail premises, place of public worship or residential accommodation.

This definition accommodates a broad range of potential uses that may include artist studios/galleries and performance spaces depending upon their characteristics.

In recognition of the site's former use and the loss of existing use rights, Schedule 1 – "Additional Permitted uses of the new LEP" specifically provides for the future use of the land as a place of public worship, as follows:

38 Use of certain land at Sydenham, Railway Road

- (1) *This clause applies to land at 24A Railway Road, Sydenham being Lots 82 – 84, DP 750 in Zone RE1 Public Recreation.*
- (2) *Development for the purpose of places of public worship is permitted with consent.*

Other land uses could be added to Schedule 1 of the draft LEP to broaden the range of permissible land uses should this be sought by Council.

Heritage Issues

The former Coptic Church was listed as an item of environmental heritage under the former Marrickville LEP 2001. Under the new LEP the property remains a heritage item.

In mid 2007, the former NSW Planning Minister, the Hon Frank Sartor, placed an interim heritage order on the Coptic Church building for a 12 month period. This order has since lapsed and it is understood that there is no current intention to revive this order.

Given the building is a heritage item, the property can benefit from the heritage incentives clause of the new LEP. Accordingly, should the building be retained it could be used for other uses not ordinarily permitted in the RE1 Zone such as artists studios and performance space that would ordinarily be defined as a light industry/business premises or entertainment facilities respectively, as follows:

(10) Conservation incentives

The consent authority may grant consent to development for any purpose of a building that is a heritage item, or of the land on which such a building is erected, even though development for that purpose would otherwise not be allowed by this Plan, if the consent authority is satisfied that:

- (a) the conservation of the heritage item is facilitated by the granting of consent;*
- (b) the proposed development is in accordance with a heritage conservation management plan that has been approved by the consent authority;*
- (c) the consent to the proposed development would require that all necessary conservation work identified in the heritage conservation management plan is carried out;*
- (d) the proposed development would not adversely affect the heritage significance of the heritage item, including its setting;*
- (e) the proposed development would not have any significant adverse effect on the amenity of the surrounding area.*

Recent Council Reports

At the Services Committee meeting on 11 May 2010, Council considered a recommendation to approve the demolition of the former Coptic Church building in Railway Parade, Sydenham, the incorporation of the site with Sydenham Green and the erection of a commemorative structure on the site.

In considering the report, Council resolved:

THAT:

- 1. a further report with a reduced scope of works to be used for an artist studios/gallery, performance space or general community facility, including places of worship;*
- 2. Council write to the State and Federal Governments in regard to funding opportunities; and*
- 3. The current planning and usage issues be reassessed to give Council greater flexibility for further use.*

A subsequent report was considered by Council at its Services Committee meeting on 13 July 2010 (Report No.S0710 Item 1). This report provided an estimated cost to carry out works deemed as being minimum 'base building' repairs. The Report also provided advice on current and proposed planning controls for the Coptic Church site.

At its meeting on 20 July 2010, Council considered a Rescission Motion to rescind an earlier resolution of 13 July 2010. The final Motion was carried and the final resolution to report S0710 Item 1 is as follows:

THAT:

1. *Council invites Expressions of Interest from parties willing to undertake works on the building necessary to make it fit for purpose as an artist studio/gallery, performance space or general community facility, including a place of worship in return for a long term lease;*
2. *A scoping document be prepared to accompany the expression of interest process outlining the known constraints and opportunities for this site and that a copy of the draft document be distributed to Councillors for comment prior to release; and*
3. *Council writes to the State and Federal Governments seeking funding assistance to support interested parties during or following the Expression of Interest process.*

Following the resolution, Council officers proceeded to call an EOI to undertake repair and upgrade works to the former Coptic Church in return for a long term lease. Advertisements for the EOI were placed in the Sydney Morning Herald on 7 and 21 December 2010 and the local news paper, Inner West Courier, on the 14 December 2010. The EOI closed on 11 January 2011.

Council considered an EOI report at its meeting on 15 February 2011 (Report No. C0211 Item 23) and resolved:

THAT:

- 1A. *The Council resolve that the ATTACHMENT 1 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential;*
2. *The Report be received and noted; and*
3. *Council adopt the recommendation contained in the CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.*

The recommendation contained in the confidential attachment to Report No.C0211 Item 23, basically delegated authority to the General Manager to engage with the preferred EOI applicant to evaluate their financial capacity to undertake the required repair and upgrade works at the former Coptic Church and discuss the terms of a potential lease agreement, and following this meeting to prepare a further report for Council's consideration, describing the terms and conditions of any proposed agreement.

Item 14

DISCUSSION

A meeting was held on 14 April 2011 between relevant Council officers and persons representing the preferred EOI to discuss their financial capacity to fund the EOI bid.

Based on Council's meeting notes, It is understood that the preferred applicant's proposal potentially relies on funding and support from a number of sources and/or service providers who plan to operate out of the refurbished former Coptic Church.

Given the complex structure of the preferred applicant's proposal, Council sent the applicant a letter on 23 May 2011 requesting further clarification on the financial capacity of the applicant to fully fund and support their proposal. In particular Council requested evidence of the applicant's current financial capacity to fully fund the capital works required, including audited financial statements, current bank records, loan agreements or other relevant information.

Council's letter also requested supporting documentation relating to any other legal entity that may potentially be underwriting the EOI proposal.

A copy of the Council letter is provided as **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 2.**

Council received a response letter from a representative acting on behalf of the preferred applicant on 15 June 2011. A copy of this letter is attached as **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 3.**

Council responded to the preferred party's representative in an email on 22 June 2011 to advise that their response letter did not adequately address the specific issues raised in Council's letter of 23 May 2011.

Council also sought clarification on the entity currently dealing with the EOI as this entity is different to the one that Council officers previously thought was putting forward the EOI. This point is discussed in more detail in **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.** Further, it was noted that two other parties potentially will be involved with the project. Council therefore sought further clarification on the structure of all entities involved with the proposal.

Council also re-emphasized the need to understand the financial capacity of the applicant to fully fund and support the proposal.

The applicant has since indicated verbally that the requested information is being collated. Council has not received anything further to date.

Relevant information relating to the entity putting forward the EOI is contained in **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.**

CONCLUSION

Council officers have reviewed the information currently provided by the preferred applicant and based on this information a recommendation is provided in **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.**

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If Council adopts the recommendation, Council would have to meet the cost of demolition of the building. This cost would be in the order of \$70,000 to \$120,000 but a final cost would only be established following quotations.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Nil

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council move into a closed session to deal with this matter as information contained in CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENTS 1, 2 & 3 of the Report is classified as confidential under the provision of Section 10A (2)(c) and (d) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the following reasons:
 - (a) the information within this report, if disclosed, could confer a commercial advantage on persons with whom the Councils proposes to or may conduct business; and
 - (b) it is not in the public interest to reveal all details of these EOIs of the assessment process. Companies have provided sensitive information about their operations in the confidence that their details will not be made public by Council. The practice of publication of sensitive information provided by companies could result in the withholding of such information by companies and reduction in the provision of information relevant to Council's decision.

OR, WHERE THE MEETING IS NOT CLOSED:

- 1A. The Council resolve that the CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENTS 1, 2 & 3 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential.
2. The Report be received and noted; and
3. Council adopt the recommendations contained in the CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.

Brian Barrett
Director, Corporate Services

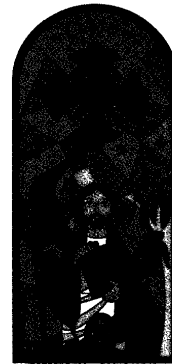
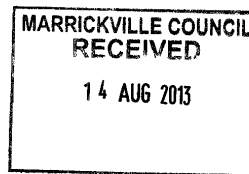
ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Report on the Financial Capacity of Coptic Care Ltd - *Confidential*
2. Council's letter to George Hanna re Expression of Interest - *Confidential*
3. Letter from George Hanna re Expression of Interest - *Confidential*

Clr Victor Macri
Marrickville City Council
55 Undercliffe Road
Earlwood NSW 2206

RECEIVED IN THE
MAYOR'S OFFICE
14 / 8 / 13

8 Misra, 1729 AM
Wednesday 14th of August, 2013
Our Ref: B.D.02.56.12.13
Your Ref:
No. of Pages: 2
No. of Attachments: 1
Bishop's Office



COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH
+ DIOCESE OF SYDNEY +
& AFFILIATED REGIONS
NSW • QLD • NT



**Re: St Mary Coptic Orthodox Church
24 A Railway Road, Sydenham**

Dear Mayor, Councillor Victor Macri,

The Coptic Orthodox Church in Australia started from very modest beginnings at the property 24A Railway Road Sydenham. Since the small group of parishioners and sole parish priest celebrated the first Coptic Eucharist on Australian soil in 1969, the Coptic Orthodox Church has flourished with 49 parishes and over one hundred parish priests serving approximately 80,000 Copts throughout Australia.

The Sydenham Church, as the birthplace of the Coptic Orthodox Church in Australia, and as the spiritual home of thousands of Coptic families, still to this day retains an immense historical, cultural and spiritual value to the Copts throughout Australia.

It is for this reason that I strongly advocate that the Sydenham Church be restored and preserved for future generations of Copts in Australia.

I have received an overwhelming level of community support for the preservation of the Sydenham Church, and the popular community sentiment is that the building be retained to mark the historical birthplace of the Copts in Australia.



Coptic Orthodox Church . Diocese of Sydney & Affiliated Regions

PO Box 171, Bexley NSW 2207 . Phone: +61 2 9150 8422 . Fax: +61 2 9150 8499 . Mob: +61 (0) 410 454 733
Email: bishop.daniel@coptic.org.au . Web: www.sydney.coptic.org.au

According to the request of your goodself during the Meeting which was held in Marrickville Council on 6th of August 2013 regarding the request of the Coptic Orthodox Church for the refurbishment of St Mary Coptic Orthodox Church in Sydenham – 24A Railway Parade, we are hereby submitting a letter from Commonwealth Bank (attached) dated 8th of August 2013 confirming that the Coptic Orthodox Church (NSW) Property Trust has the financial capacity to meet all costs relating to the Refurbishment of St Mary Coptic Orthodox Church in Sydenham, located 24A Railway Road – SYDENHAM to an amount of Two Million Dollars.

I strongly request your goodself and Marrickville Council, to allow the Coptic Orthodox Church to have possession of the Sydenham Church, so that it may remain as a witness to the pioneering spirit of our forefathers, as the Coptic Church continues to move forward and grow exponentially throughout Australia.

Yours in Christ,

 **Bishop Daniel**
Coptic Orthodox Church
Diocese of Sydney
& Affiliated Regions
23.06.2002

Bishop Daniel

With the Grace of God

Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox

Diocese of Sydney & Affiliated Regions

Corporate Financial Services

Determined to be offer

Level 1
430 Forest Road
HURSTVILLE
NSW 2220 Australia

PO Box 195
HURSTVILLE
NSW 2220 Australia

Telephone (02) 9722 9611
Facsimile (02) 9585 3715
DX 1020 Sydney (2853 001)
Internet: www.commbank.com.au

Marrickville Council
Clr V Macri
253 Marrickville Rd
Marrickville NSW 2204

8 August 2013

Dear Sir,

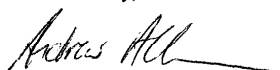
**RE: Refurbishment of St. Mary Coptic Orthodox Church
in Sydenham – 24 A Railway Road - SYDENHAM**

His Grace Bishop Daniel, Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Sydney and Affiliated Regions has requested that the Bank is to provide a letter confirming the capacity of the Coptic Orthodox Church (NSW) Property Trust Diocese of Sydney and Affiliated Regions to meet the financial obligations regarding a refurbishment of **St Mary Church located 24A Railway Road, SYDENHAM** to be suitable for the use of the Coptic Orthodox Congregation to pray in. The refurbishment will be according to the Council requirement.

I confirm that this Diocese of the Coptic Orthodox Church has been a valued client of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia for nearly 40 years and the Coptic Orthodox Church (NSW) Property Trust has the financial capacity to meet all costs relating to the Refurbishment of **St. Mary Coptic Orthodox Church in Sydenham located 24 A Railway Road – SYDENHAM** up to an amount of **Two Million Dollars**.

Please do not hesitate to contact the writer directly should you require any additional information regarding the above.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Allan
Corporate Relationship Executive

Disclaimer: The above is private and confidential and no responsibility to any person including the ultimate enquirer is accepted by the Bank or the writer.

Premium Business Services

Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124. AFSL 234945

Clr Victor Macri
Marrickville City Council
55 Undercliffe Road
Earlwood NSW 2206

RECEIVED IN THE
MAYOR'S OFFICE
16/8/13

9 Misra, 1729 AM
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Your Ref:
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Bishop's Office



COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH
+ DIOCESE OF SYDNEY +
& AFFILIATED REGIONS
NSW • QLD • NT



**Re: St Mary Coptic Orthodox Church
24 A Railway Road, Sydenham- NSW**

Dear Mayor, Councillor Victor Macri,


Firstly I wish to express to your goodself and the Council my sincere gratitude for accommodating the request of the Coptic Orthodox Church Diocese of Sydney to see this Church returned to the Coptic Community in Australia.

With reference to my letter dated Wednesday 14th of August 2013, we would like to add that the Project for refurbishment of the building of St Mary Coptic Orthodox Church in Sydenham – 24 Railway Parade will be completed within 2 years from receiving the building by the Coptic Orthodox Church.

The Coptic Orthodox Community is deeply appreciative for your kind understanding and support.

I would be glad if you wish to contact me to discuss this further . I look forward to working with you on this project

Yours Sincerely,

 **Bishop Daniel**
Coptic Orthodox Church
Diocese of Sydney
& Affiliated Regions
23.06.2012

Bishop Daniel
With the Grace of God
Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox
Diocese of Sydney & Affiliated Regions



Coptic Orthodox Church . Diocese of Sydney & Affiliated Regions

PO Box 171, Bexley NSW 2207 . Phone: +61 2 9150 8422 . Fax: +61 2 9150 8499 . Mob: +61 (0) 410 454 733
Email: bishop.daniel@coptic.org.au . Web: www.sydney.coptic.org.au

Item No: C0913 Item 3
Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: MARRICKVILLE COUNCIL PROPOSAL TO SYDNEY WATER FOR PROGRAM TO MONITOR ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS TO SEWERAGE SYSTEM
File Ref: 4778/53269.13

Councillors

Background

The Cooks River is one of the smallest rivers in NSW but has one of the highest population densities. Over 500,000 people live or work in the Cooks River catchment, which has over 130,000 dwellings and more than 100,000 commercial and industrial premises.

This high level of urbanisation and associated human activities continue to have a significant impact on the health of the River and its catchment. While the point source pollution has reduced significantly, widespread diffuse pollution from the catchment continues to be a major problem. A large proportion of the pollution entering the Cooks River from sewer overflows, stormwater and rainfall is through the urban stormwater system.

Swimming in the Cooks River was so popular in the 1930s that the Steel Park River Patrol lifeguards monitored the River. Over the last ten years, the call to improve the water quality of the Cooks River for primary contact (swimming) and secondary contact (boating and fishing) activities has grown considerably. Regional community groups, including the Cooks River Valley Association and Wolli Creek Preservation Society, have advocated that more needs to be done to return the River to a healthy state suitable for recreation.

Current Sydney Water Programs to Reduce Sewage Entering Waterways

The *Guidelines for Managing Risks in Recreational Waters* (National Health and Medical Research Council, 2008) includes the requirement to determine the microbial water quality for recreational waters. Among other things, this involves identifying potential sources of faecal contamination from stormwater drains, mainly caused by sewage entering the drains.

The Sydney Water Corporation has three programs to reduce sewage entering the stormwater system:

- Sewer Leakage Reduction Program.
- Wet Weather Overflow Reduction Program.
- Dry Weather Overflow Reduction Program.

Its *Sewer Leakage Reduction Program* finds private direct sewer connections to the stormwater system and refers the information to councils to act upon as Sydney Water does not have the environmental powers to compel property owners to remove the connection. The current status of this project in the inner west is unclear.

The *Wet Weather Overflow Reduction Program* aims to control the stormwater inflow to sewers that causes overflows during wet weather. This program is prioritised by risk so Sydney Water's abatement has focused on receiving waters of high recreational, ecosystem and iconic value, including ocean beaches, Sydney Harbour and the Blue Mountains National Park.

According to Sydney Water, it has undertaken a reasonable amount of stormwater inflow reduction across the inner west, including Marrickville. A Sydney Water spokesperson advised that it expects some property owners to have their stormwater connected to sewer. From about 1990 to 2002, Sydney Water spent about \$180 million dollars reducing stormwater inflow and achieved variable results. For the best project, it achieved a reduction in wet weather overflow of about 60%. In areas that require a high level of protection, this level of abatement alone is not enough.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority considers dry weather overflows to be an important issue for achieving recreational water quality. Concentrations of some pollutants in sewer overflows in dry weather are often higher than those in urban stormwater. The most common cause of dry-weather overflows is completely or partly blocked pipes. Sydney Water's *Dry Weather Overflow Reduction Program* aims to improve long-term system performance and reduce the volume of wastewater overflows. It inspects and repairs assets that could impact on waterways, such as the Cooks River. When a private sewer issue is identified that causes a choke or structural damage to Sydney Water sewers, such as tree roots that have entered through private wastewater pipes, property owners are asked to rectify the problem.

Possible Action to take

Improving the health and water quality of the Cooks River requires catchment-wide action. Marrickville Council has a history of working with regional councils and organisations towards achieving these goals. Between 1998 and 2011, a number of Cooks River Catchment councils collaborated on projects through the *Cooks River Foreshores Working Group* and its *OurRiver Cooks River Sustainability Initiative* (from 2007). The *Cooks River Alliance* of eight councils now builds on the combined objectives of these earlier activities and is in a good position to work with Sydney Water, Cooks River councils and their communities on a program to reduce sewage intrusion into the stormwater system from private properties.

MOTION:

THAT Marrickville Council proposes to the Cooks River Alliance Board that the Alliance enters into discussions with the Sydney Water Corporation to formally partner in a joint Cooks River Catchment program that will reduce sewage entering the Cooks River from private properties via stormwater systems.

Clr Victor Macri
Mayor of Marrickville

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 4**Subject:** MARKET TESTING OF RESOURCE RECOVERY SERVICES**File Ref:** 4778/67009.13**Prepared By:** Neil Strickland - Director, Infrastructure Services and Jeff Swilks - Manager, Infrastructure Works and Services

SYNOPSIS

This report seeks Council's endorsement to undertake "market testing" of the collection of Greenwaste and Recycling services. Recent changes in the Resource Recovery unit, together with the imminent need to replace a number of the compactor trucks, now presents the opportunity to examine this cost saving option which will not impact on existing staff or entitlements as all jobs in both operations are vacant. Council is also asked to consider giving a commitment to maintaining an in-house garbage collection service for the foreseeable future.

Based on external investigation (including SSROC), it is considered that the provision of the services by an external service provider has the potential to provide significant cost savings. These savings can be utilised to minimise the ongoing cost increases in the Domestic Waste Management Charge to ratepayers.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. endorse the market testing of the green waste collection service with a view to outsourcing, if financially beneficial to Council, and with the contract commencing from July 2014;
2. endorse the market testing of the recycling collection service with a view to outsourcing, if financially beneficial to Council, and with the contract commencing from July 2014; and
3. commit to operating an in-house garbage collection service until June 2019.

BACKGROUND

From mid 2003 to May 2013 Council's garbage collection service operated under an unregistered Agreement similar to an enterprise agreement. The Agreement covered the containerised garbage service and the clean up service and also included provision for the collection of a limited amount of green waste. Recycling and the bulk of the green waste collection services were not part of the Agreement. Council, staff and the USU were in negotiations for a protracted period for a new and flexible enterprise bargaining agreement that would meet the needs of Council to respond to industry changes and pressures.

Previous benchmarking of the cost of Waste Services undertaken by SSROC in 2010 and a subsequent industry comparison report commissioned by Council in 2011, confirm that there are significant potential savings to be made by outsourcing these services. However, whilst industry intelligence strongly supports this assumption, the exact extent of any potential savings can only be confirmed by going out to the market with an invitation for tenders.

The ongoing cost increases for Domestic Waste Services are very significant with Marrickville having the third highest Domestic Waste Management (DWM) service charge in Sydney. These costs are charged to our ratepayers through the Domestic Waste Charge portion of the annual rates. Whilst we have little control over cost increases associated with tipping; environmental levies and carbon tax; we can implement improved service delivery costs generated by the physical collection of Greenwaste and Recycling by utilising external service providers.

The following table indicates the level of Council's Domestic Waste Management Charge in comparison to that of other SSROC councils.

Table 2: comparison charges for SSROC councils

Council	08/09 DWC (\$)	09/10 DWC (\$)	10/11 DWC (\$)	11/12 DWC (\$)	12/13 DWC (\$)	Variance between 11/12 & 12/13
Rockdale	\$265.00	\$309.00	\$258.00	\$267.00	\$272.00	1.9%
Canterbury	\$226.00	\$276.00	\$291.00	\$307.00	\$300.00	-2.3%
Ashfield	\$191.26	\$204.60	\$222.50	\$272.50	\$312.29	14.6%
Hurstville	\$274.50	\$309.50	\$309.50	\$269.50	\$320.00	18.7%
Sutherland	\$266.00	\$274.00	\$282.25	\$293.30	\$321.40	9.6%
City of Sydney	\$277.00	\$301.00	\$310.00	\$325.00	\$341.25	5.0%
Bankstown	\$270.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$325.00	\$345.00	6.2%
Canada Bay	\$270.00	\$301.00	\$316.00	\$325.00	\$350.00	7.7%
Burwood	\$280.00	\$338.00	\$365.00	\$347.00	\$357.00	2.9%
Woollahra	\$281.35	\$304.50	\$316.90	\$340.65	\$373.95	9.8%
Botany	\$269.00	\$279.00	\$286.00	\$290.00	\$390.00	34.5%
Kogarah	\$297.44	\$345.20	\$334.88	\$344.25	\$390.52	13.4%
Waverley	\$339.00	\$345.00	\$380.00	\$380.00	\$420.00	10.5%
Marrickville	\$322.50	\$349.50	\$375.85	\$400.00	\$428.00	7.0%
Leichhardt	\$371.00	\$396.00	\$412.00	\$428.00	\$461.00	7.7%
Randwick	\$351.60	\$391.00	\$410.00	\$429.00	\$465.11	8.4%
Where there is more than one DWMC, the standard charge has been chosen for comparison. Comparisons made for garbage, recycling and green waste.						

Council management, staff and the USU had been meeting since 2012. Negotiations reached an impasse and the General Manager notified staff and the USU that the EBA would be terminated with three months notice. Consequently the affected staff reverted to Award conditions from 15 May 2013.

Currently the 15 staff positions in the garbage service are staffed by 12 permanent staff with the remainder being casual staff engaged through a labour hire agency. The recycling (9 positions) and green waste (3 positions) collections are currently staffed entirely using agency casuals. Further, of the eleven compactor trucks currently allocated to the containerised waste service, the entire fleet of three engaged in recycling collections and one of the two used for green waste collections are due for replacement.

The purchase or leasing of new compactor trucks commits Council to a large expenditure (typically \$250,000 per truck) by way of capital cost or lease payments for a period of at least five years and, consequently, there is an opportunity to market-test green waste and recycling with a view to outsourcing these services. It is recommended that Council commit to the garbage collection service continuing as an in-house operation for at least the next 5 years.

DISCUSSION

The three services that have been under review since 2012 are the regular “containerised” waste services of garbage (weekly), recycling (fortnightly) and green waste (fortnightly). These services have been provided using a mix of day labour staff and casual staff sourced through a labour hire agency. Following the termination of the former Agreement a number of staff opted to leave Council under voluntary redundancy provisions and twelve permanent staff remain as at the time of writing. Affected workers have returned to Award conditions but with their existing salary levels maintained. Recycling has always been undertaken by staff engaged on Award conditions and the permanent staff from this area have been allowed to transfer to the Garbage service and to have their wages increased in line with the other permanent staff from that area. The Monday to Friday green waste service was undertaken using casual staff through a labour hire agency, not Council employees.

Despite ongoing monitoring of the new service arrangements, there are clearly difficulties in meeting the estimated workload proposed by management. The former Agreement provided for a daily theoretical workload of 1158 bins per truck per day. Accounting for presentation rates, the actual number of bins collected by each truck was approximately 950 bins per day. Industry averages for a rear-load operation are of the order 1,200 to 1,250 bins per day using 3 person crews. Garbage from the entire Council area was formerly collected by 5 trucks each working 4.5 days per week; a total of 22.5 runs per week. The remaining 2.5 runs required to utilise the full capacity of 5 trucks was intended to be made by each of the 5 trucks working one half day per week collecting green waste, originally in bundles, but more recently in mobile garbage bins.

The former Agreement allowed a “job and finish” arrangement whereby the job was defined as completed once all the bins were collected and staff working in that area could go home. Typically the five garbage runs (each with an average of 1158 theoretical bins) were completed in 5.5 hours per day on average. Despite this short working day, the staff were paid for eight hours. The job and finish arrangement resulted in workers rushing to complete their daily workload in as short a time as possible so that they could go home. This resulted in workers injuring themselves through causes like slips and falls and from pulling bins the wrong way leading to repetitive strain on joints and muscles. While Council's main concern was, of course, for the welfare of its workers, the costs for workers compensation claims and associated premiums had become excessive and changes needed to be made.

In collaboration with staff Council developed a Safe Work Procedure to manage risks associated with the work. Procedures included walking briskly instead of running as well as safe methods of manual handling. Management fully understood that the ban on rushing to finish would impact on the speed of the work and that this, combined with the extra workload of around 140 bins per truck per day through reducing the number of trucks from 5 to 4, would mean a longer working day for staff although the work could still be comfortably completed within the normal spread of hours.

A number of work arrangements were trialled both in the lead up to and during the period following the termination of the former Agreement. Council sought an efficiency gain in the Resource Recovery Service through reducing the number of garbage trucks from 5 to 4. The recycling service was proposed to continue with 3 trucks and green waste, which is a highly seasonal service was proposed to operate with one or two trucks, as needed to meet the

demand, staffed by labour hire agency casual staff which was the former arrangement. During the first 4 weeks of the trial arrangements, with four trucks instead of five, none of the garbage runs were able to be completed within the spread of hours. During this period, collection of garbage bins was completed using casual staff and staff working overtime on a second shift. Following this period, Council used a fifth truck each day to collect bins from multi-unit dwellings and so remove part of the workload from the other four trucks. This resulted in an improvement to the collection rates but, still, not all of the garbage runs were able to be completed within the spread of hours.

During the trial staff proposed an alternative arrangement, still with five trucks, that they considered would result in all bins being collected, observed safe working procedures and utilised improvements to working procedures, including staff having their meal break in the field rather than at the Depot. This resulted in improved productivity with all bins being collected within the spread of hours. It is important to note that the workload will increase in the warmer months and over the Christmas holiday period. Staff and management have agreed to continue the current arrangements in order to assess the impact of this workload on finishing times. One outcome however is that the forecast savings for 2013/14 will not be entirely achieved as discussed below.

The reduction in productivity is thought to be largely due to the loss of the “job and finish” incentive for workers. The reduction in productivity means that the forecast savings of \$504,000 per annum in direct costs, which were used to strike Domestic Waste Service Charge of \$460.00 per residential property for 2013/14, will not eventuate. The fifth truck is still required, resulting in additional plant and staff costs of \$142,000 per annum and a further cost of \$210,000 per annum in additional agency casual staff. Thus the forecast savings will reduce to \$152,000 per annum. This can be offset by savings in on-costs of \$36,000 p.a. and \$350,000 p.a. respectively, for reduced sick leave backfilling and reduced workers compensation premiums, if the current trends can be maintained, which gives a net saving of \$538,000 p.a. If this is the case then Council will not need to adjust the budget.

As the service stabilises and Council employs permanent staff in the roles, there is a risk that the former culture will return and that sick leave and rushing to finish, resulting in injuries, will increase to former levels and the on-costs savings will dissipate. Accordingly, it is necessary to examine cost reduction options.

The lack of permanent staff in the green waste and recycling services presents the opportunity to market test these two services to determine if external companies can provide a comparable or better service for a lower price. The indications are that contractors can provide these services at considerably less cost than Council’s direct costs for the same services. Actual contractor rates will, of course, be subject to market conditions at the time of market testing. It is emphasized that, as there are no permanent staff employed in green waste and recycling, it will not require existing staff to lose their jobs or the payment of redundancies.

The service specification would be drafted to ensure the service provided is equal or better than that currently provided to the community and would be a seamless transition for them. It would also include provisions for workers currently working in the affected services to be given preference by the contractors when they employ staff to work on the Marrickville Council contract.

It is not intended to market test the Garbage service where we currently have permanent Council staff employed.

CONCLUSION

A workplace Agreement for the delivery of garbage collection was terminated on 15 May 2013. All workers in recycling and green waste are casual staff engaged through a labour hire agency which, together with the imminent need to decide on replacement of the compactor truck fleet in recycling and greenwaste, presents an opportunity to market test these services with the potential to make considerable cost savings.

Independent reports from both SSROC in 2010 and council's industry consultant in 2011 indicate significant savings can be achieved if these services are outsourced. Such cost savings would assist in reducing the ongoing increases to the Domestic Waste Charge for Marrickville residents, noting that Marrickville's DWM Service charge is the third highest of the 16 SSROC councils. Significant cost savings in the green waste and recycling collection services are anticipated, subject to market conditions.

It is recommended that Council market-test green waste and recycling with a view to outsourcing these services whilst giving a commitment to maintain an in-house garbage collection service for the foreseeable future.

Following termination of the former Workplace Agreement, eleven key outcomes were identified to measure the success of the new arrangements in Resource Recovery Services. These objectives included removal of the job and finish arrangement, payment of award rates for working on public holidays, bringing pay rates into line with the award, eliminating the need to employ permanent standby staff in addition to core numbers, improving absenteeism/ sick leave performance, reducing injuries, introducing a structure that facilitated rotating staff to lower impact jobs where necessary, introducing improved technology and improving recycling compaction rates to reduce contamination. These objectives were met or partially met. The objectives of improved productivity and having a unified service across each of the waste streams (garbage, recycling and green waste) were not met.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The forecast savings in direct costs of \$504,000 in 2013/14, which was used to strike the DWM service charge, will not be achieved. However, additional savings in on-costs for sick leave backfilling and workers compensation costs, if they can be maintained, will offset the additional costs. At this stage of the financial year, there is no need to increase the budget and costs will continue to be monitored to assess whether any increases will be needed. Significant savings can be made through outsourcing in the green waste and recycling service and, should Council agree to test the market and to outsource, any savings would be passed on to Council's residents by way of reduced charges for Domestic Waste Management.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Nil.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Outsourcing green waste and recycling services may result in changes to collection days and times and, if so, there will be a need for an education program for our residents. The costs of this will be once-off and will be delivered by existing staff from the operating budget for Resource Recovery Services.

RECOMMENDATION**THAT Council:**

1. endorse the market testing of the green waste collection service with a view to outsourcing, if financially beneficial to Council, and with the contract commencing from July 2014;
2. endorse the market testing of the recycling collection service with a view to outsourcing, if financially beneficial to Council, and with the contract commencing from July 2014; and
3. commit to operating an in-house garbage collection service until June 2019.

Neil Strickland
Director, Infrastructure Services

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 5

Subject: DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT AND MASTERPLAN FOR
MARRICKVILLE PARK

File Ref: 4717/57497.13

Prepared By: Peter Montague - Coordinator, Recreation Planning and Programs

SYNOPSIS

Council's endorsement is sought to commence the public exhibition of the revised draft Plan of Management and Masterplan for Marrickville.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
 2. the draft Plan of Management for Marrickville Park be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days;
 3. submissions be received and noted for a further 14 days after the completion of the public exhibition period;
 4. a public hearing is convened on the proposed re-categorisation of community land in accordance with the Local Government Act (1993); and
 5. the results of the public exhibition will be presented to Council recommending further action.
-

BACKGROUND

Council was approached in mid 2012 by Drummoyne Sports Club (DSC) to discuss the future use of Marrickville Park and explore the possibility of Marrickville Park becoming the Club's home ground and base. Council's Executive Management Team determined that a revised Plan of Management (PoM) and Masterplan should be pursued to capture the comprehensive nature of the proposed development and obtain community input to the longer term planning for the park.

Council commissioned the Miller Group to undertake community consultation to provide an evidence base to inform the development of a revised Plan of Management (**ATTACHMENT 1**) and Masterplan (**ATTACHMENT 2**) for Marrickville Park. A comprehensive community consultation process was completed in late 2012 resulting in the production of a Community Consultation Report (**ATTACHMENT 3**). Further consultation has occurred with relevant Council departments, key stakeholders and the commissioning of a Heritage Assessment and Study (**ATTACHMENT 4**).

To comply with the provisions of the Local Government Act (1993), a public exhibition period of 28 days is required plus a further 14 days during which submissions can be received. The draft PoM will have the effect of altering the categorisation of community land and, in accordance with the Act, a public hearing is required during the public exhibition.

At the end of this period the submissions and report from the public hearing will be reviewed. If the submissions are minor in nature then the draft PoM will be returned to Council for adoption. If substantial changes are proposed then the draft PoM must be re-exhibited in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act (1993).

DISCUSSION

This report provides the rationale behind the content and actions proposed in the draft PoM and Masterplan.

Management of the Park

Marrickville Park provides the community with a variety of active and passive recreation opportunities and is well used by the community. The consultation process has identified a number of functional issues within the Park. This report discusses the challenges, design issues, opportunities and constraints within the Park and how these have informed the draft Masterplan.

The draft Masterplan reviews the existing structure of the Park, the current location and provision of facilities, identifies and addresses future opportunities and provides a starting point for the implementation of the draft PoM. The PoM is consistent with the structure of Council's Recreation Policy and Strategy adopted in July 2013 (CC0713 Item 2) as follows:

- **Lifelong recreation** – inclusive access to best practice and innovative recreation opportunities for the Marrickville community;
- **Active in Marrickville** – enrichment of the health and well-being of the Marrickville community through participation in a diverse range of recreational activities; and
- **The recreation economy** – support for local recreation businesses and organisations that facilitate recreation in Marrickville and add economic value to the community.

Lifelong Recreation

Access

The community consultation highlighted access-related safety issues within Marrickville Park, most notably the access road. The road is used by Council maintenance staff, users of the tennis club and weekend users who access the park for parking. Residents were concerned about the safety issues related to the shared use of the road by vehicles, pedestrians and children on bikes and scooters. It was reported that vehicles occasionally enter the park after dark resulting in excessive noise and anti-social behaviour.

The majority of local residents expressed a desire for the road to be closed to all vehicles other than for Council maintenance, deliveries or emergency services. The tennis club members indicated this would not create any major issues provided they had delivery access.

Proposed Management Strategies

- The use of vehicles within areas populated by pedestrians and other park users is not recommended practice. The existing access road should be closed to vehicles other than for maintenance, deliveries and emergency purposes and any future vehicular access and parking must ensure that park user safety is not compromised.
- Investigate the possibility of vehicular access from Livingstone Road rather than the western side of the park.
- Ensure that all future upgrades to buildings, park furniture and other infrastructure are fully accessible.
- Consideration is given to a suitably flat area to facilitate viewing of activities on the oval for people with prams and people in a wheelchair.

Culture and Heritage

Following feedback on the potential re-configuration of areas of the park, an independent Heritage Study was commissioned to provide clarification on existing features and certainty for any future development. The full Heritage Assessment is attached to this report (**Attachment 4**). The Assessment makes a number of recommendations on pages 57 and 58 which have informed the items proposed.

Proposed Management Strategies

- The Sports Oval be retained as a significant feature and visual focus of the park.
- To retain the historic significance and original fabric, retention of the configuration of the original 1921 lawn tennis courts should be considered in the Masterplan.
- Although membership to the croquet club is small, it has historic significance. While the facilities are underutilised, there is some potential for alternative compatible uses of the facilities.
- There is an opportunity to remove the existing grandstand and amenities without impacting on the historic significance of the Oval.
- Ensure any future development maintains the existing ratio of built structures to open recreational space.
- Conserve the heritage significance, visual character and linear quality of the three row plantings at Marrickville Park. Consideration should be given to preparing a tree replacement policy for Marrickville Park, particularly in relation to the row of palms.
- Ensure recreation at Marrickville Park is inclusive and able to be adapted so as to embrace the needs of the wider local community.
- Provide opportunities to interpret the historic and social significance of the place.

People with Pets in Parks

There is a demonstrated need for an off-leash facility within the Park. Off-leash facilities are currently not evenly distributed across the Marrickville local government area leading to unauthorised dogs off-leash in local parks. Marrickville Park is identified in the *Recreation Needs Research* and in the *Recreation Policy and Strategy* as a site for the development of a formalised off-leash facility. This is consistent with the findings from the community consultation where walking the dog was ranked as the second most popular use of the park. The 'informal' off-leash in the east of the park is the most highly used area of the park. A 12 month trial off-leash area has recently been implemented.

Proposed Management Strategies

Manage the use of pets in parks in conjunction with other park users consistent with the Companion Animals Act and the Marrickville Recreation Policy and Strategy including:

- the development of a 12 month trial off-leash area;
- consider the development of a permanent formal off leash area subject to the results of the trial;
- minimise the need for fencing where possible through considered selection of off-leash areas and employment of other management techniques such as time share use, clear signage and monitoring. If fencing is required, consider using this as a barrier rather than an enclosure; and
- engaging with the local community during the trial period for the off-leash facility.

Play Facilities

The existing play equipment is generally considered old and in need of improvement. The consultation results indicated that a larger, improved playground ranked 6th in the improvements requested at the park. The community felt that a broader range of equipment would better engage and meet the play needs of children. The drainage within the park was also identified as an issue as the bark soft-fall holds water, becoming 'like a bog' in wet weather. Older members of the community recalled that the playground offered a greater variety of equipment in the past. Parents with older children felt that there were very few play options for 8-12 year olds and youth. A popular suggestion made during the consultation for older children and youth were for half basketball court(s).

Proposed Management Strategies

- Improve existing equipment and provide additional play opportunities to better engage with young children and to cater for the needs of older children and youth.

Signage

The signage at Marrickville Park is varied and inconsistent and does not present Council's brand in a consistent manner, provide parks users with information on the facilities in the park and their location, or easily identify walking and cycling trails which run through the park.

Interpretive signage should also be considered to engage the community and provide information on cultural, environmental or historical elements of the park.

Proposed Management Strategies

A review of all signage in Marrickville Park should be conducted to ensure:

- consistency of signage with Council's corporate branding;
- relevant regulatory signage is in place and appropriately located;
- sufficient way finding signage is in place; and
- consider the introduction of interpretive signage.

Active In Marrickville

Amenities and Grandstand

The current amenities in the park are located in the south-western corner of the park and provide toilets and storage facilities. The grandstand is located adjacent to the amenities and contains change rooms and canteen facility.

The grandstand is constructed with concrete steps and has no roof providing protection from the elements, in particular from the sun. The grandstand blocks the sight lines from the park to the toilets behind it. This is inconsistent with best practice Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles and many members of the community reported that they and their children did not use the toilets as they did not feel safe and the site is often used for illegal dumping. Sixty percent of respondents in the community consultation indicated that the amenities in the park needed improvement (the highest ranking improvement) and the toilets were the worst rated facility in the park. The consultation also highlighted that the grandstand is not greatly used.

Proposed Management Strategies

- be consistent with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles
- consider the relocation of the amenities as a 'hub' and maximise integration with the rest of the Park;
- remove the current grandstand;
- provide sufficient public toilets;
- provide space for ground maintenance material storage;
- provide storage for sporting users;
- consider a canteen for sports users;
- provide change facilities for sports users;
- provide amenable opportunities to view the activities taking place on the oval; and
- incorporate sustainable design features (water sensitive design, renewable energy, renewable and recyclable materials, stormwater detention etc).

Informal / Passive Recreation

The use of the park for passive recreation is highly valued by the community and there is potential for a number of facility upgrades to further improve the informal / passive recreation experience. A well received suggestion in the community consultation was for a multi-use cycle path / walking track which could be used safely by children (with scooters and bikes), parents (including with prams) and other park users. A large number of parents who visit the park with their children suggested that a café would be a very popular addition to the park.

Proposed Management Strategies

- ensure the provision of sufficient shade opportunities;
- provide adequate accessible and appropriately located seating throughout the park;
- develop a multi-use loop pathway in the park;
- provide appropriately located bbqs to integrate with other passive recreation facilities; and
- consider the development of a café in the park.

Lighting

Lighting increases opportunities for the community to actively participate in recreation outside of daylight hours whether it is along footpaths or in the form of sports lighting. The community felt strongly that the existing park lighting needed to improve with 42 per cent of respondents selecting this option. Concern was expressed about the lack of lighting, particularly adjacent to the amenities building. It was reported that people did not feel safe in this area after dark and that this encouraged anti-social behaviour.

Proposed Management Strategies

- With any proposed upgrades and development (e.g. pathways, amenities etc), consideration should be given to the inclusion of lighting to facilitate both improved usability and safety.

The sports ground is floodlit for use after dark and used regularly during the winter months for training by sporting clubs. The current floodlighting does not comply with the Australian Standard for amateur training for football codes. Good quality sports lighting will improve the capacity and usability of the oval by concentrating lighting in a more uniform manner and therefore avoiding the overuse of specific areas which are better lit than others. Uniform light and compliance with relevant standards will improve safety and reduce Council's risk.

Proposed Management Strategies

- The sports lighting should be upgraded to meet the minimum compliance level under relevant standards.

Maintenance

Marrickville Council currently undertakes the majority of regular park maintenance including:

- croquet lawn maintenance;
- gardening;
- grass maintenance – (mowing, edge trimming etc);
- inspection and repairs to fixtures and furniture;
- pathways and road inspections and repairs;
- repairs to built structures including amenities, cricket nets and lights;
- signage;
- sports oval maintenance;
- toilet cleaning;
- tree maintenance; and
- turf wicket maintenance (September to March only).

Proposed Management Strategies

- It is proposed that maintenance continues with the possible exception of croquet lawn maintenance, the responsibility for which will be reviewed as part of the proposed lease agreement with Marrickville Croquet Club (consistent with Council's Leasing of Community Facilities Policy (2007)).

Sports Oval

The oval currently operates as a district level sports facility. The Recreation Needs Research (RNR) cites Marrickville Park as an oval that has potential to increase capacity through an upgrade to the playing surface. The cricket nets have a large area of concrete covered in synthetic grass which extends into the playing area. This does not currently present an issue, but may impact on future uses with sports such as AFL. In order to maximise the available playing area on the field, this area will need to be returned to natural grass and may necessitate the relocation of the current cricket nets.

Proposed Management Strategies

- Upgrade the oval to increase the capacity considering as a minimum the reconstruction of the playing surface, drainage and returfing.
- Consider the relocation of the cricket nets to maximise the multipurpose capacity of the oval.

Water Management

Marrickville Park has been identified as a site with potential to reduce reliance on potable water through stormwater harvesting for irrigation purposes.

The oval at Marrickville Park forms part of a detention basin for the local area which slows the flow of floodwater downstream in the event of a Probable Maximum Flood (PMF). A masonry retaining wall is built along the south / south-eastern sides of the oval, which is required to be to a standard for a 1 in 10,000 year PMF. This has significantly influenced elements of the Masterplan notably the circulation path, the design of the proposed building in the south-eastern corner and the bleachers proposed in the mounding surrounding the oval. This also has implications for the management of trees on the mounding surrounding the oval which are not to be replaced in the event of failure and any new plantings to be a minimum distance from the base level of the mounding.

Proposed Management Strategies

- Integrate capital works identified in Subcatchment Management Plans and Sustainable Irrigation Plan with the actions in the Plan of Management and Masterplan.
- Ensure the effective operation of the park as a flood mitigation facility.
- Ensure the effective maintenance of stormwater infrastructure.
- In the event of tree failure on the mounding around the oval, these trees are not to be replaced.

The Recreation Economy

Categorisation

The draft PoM proposes the re-categorisation of Marrickville Park to two categories as follows:

Land Category	Core Objectives
Sportsground (LGA 1993, Section 36F)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and ▪ to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.
General Community Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and (b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

The oval is proposed to be categorised as 'Sportsground' and the remainder of the Park as 'General Community Use'. This will provide greater flexibility and allow more of a variety of activities, leases and licences. Marrickville Park contains two current leases which are authorised under the existing plan of management for sport and recreation organisations, namely the croquet facility, leased to Marrickville Croquet Club and the tennis courts and clubhouse leased to Marrickville and District Lawn Tennis Club. The proposed re-categorisation allows the continuation of the leased areas and the potential development of a community club at the site.

Croquet

The croquet facility has considerable history at Marrickville Park, however it is evident that the use of the area has decreased over time. The *Recreation Needs Research – Strategic Directions for Marrickville* (RNR) recommends that Council 'review the requirement for two croquet clubs in the LGA given the small user numbers for the sport and the scarcity of open space in parks for multi-use.' A number of submissions were received in response to this recommendation. Many submissions refuted that Croquet is a declining sport and provided evidence to support this. Croquet NSW (who operate a facility at Mackey Park) referred to the differing roles of the two croquet facilities – one as the headquarters of a state sporting body and a base for state and national competition (Mackey Park) and the other (Marrickville Park) providing a club based service for the community at large.

The consultation for the draft PoM did not provide a large number of responses related to croquet. The responses received indicated mixed views with some valuing the history and charm of the facility while others indicating that they seldom see the facility in use.

While acknowledging the significance of the croquet facility at Marrickville Park, Council has a responsibility to ensure that the community receives value (in terms of use) in return for the alienation of an area of community land. To realise this value to the community, an increase in the current level of use is required. In accordance with the Local Government Act (1993), the draft PoM proposes Council undertake the required public process for the granting of a 3 + 2 year option for the croquet facility and closely monitor usage and membership levels. Council staff will encourage Marrickville Croquet Club to seek support and build capacity through Council's Recreation Grants Program and through Croquet NSW to increase use of the facility and demonstrate the ongoing viability of the facility. The PoM also proposes the re-categorisation of the area to General Community Use which will provide flexibility for alternate uses in the event that the croquet facility is not sustainable.

The croquet facility includes a small toilet and the Masterplan proposes that this is investigated with a view to making this accessible to the public in order to service the adjacent playground facility.

Proposed Management Strategies

- Provide an opportunity for the viability of the croquet lawn and clubhouse facility to be proven.
- Re-categorise the existing leased area appropriately to cater for a broadening of use in the event that use as a croquet facility does not prove viable.
- Investigate the provision of publicly accessible toilets utilising the existing facility adjacent to the croquet facility.

Tennis

The tennis clubhouse, adjoining grass and synthetic grass courts and the Pile Street courts are currently leased to the Marrickville District Lawn Tennis Club (MDLTC). The clubhouse building is in poor condition and works are required to be undertaken on the roof which contains asbestos. MDLTC has indicated that they are struggling to manage the current leased area and their primary interest is with the six natural grass tennis courts with particular focus on the four courts which run east-west and are consistent with the original configuration of grass tennis at the Park and have been identified as having exceptional/high heritage significance. MDLTC has indicated that a minimum of four grass courts are necessary for the club to compete in their current metropolitan grass court competition. The Pile Street courts (four under-sized hard courts) have not been effectively managed for some time, are currently left open and are in poor condition. The two floodlit, synthetic grass courts are hired to the public and sublet for professional coaching. The local area is well served for tennis facilities as the 7 court synthetic grass facility at Henson Park is within a short walking distance.

Council was approached in 2012 by Drummoyne Sports Club (DSC), (whose AFL team currently uses the adjacent Henson Park) as they are looking to relocate their Club to the Marrickville area. They are proposing to contribute to a facility upgrade in order to develop a grass roots junior AFL club and provide a community facility on the site that is currently leased to MDLTC. DSC has indicated their intent to work in with all park users and the local community to create a community based club with a local identity. For a community club to be successful at Marrickville Park, DSC has indicated the need for parking. The proposal was highlighted during the community consultation and was positively received by the majority, provided there would be opportunity for further input during the planning process.

The DSC proposal potentially provides Council with an opportunity to make improvements to Marrickville Park to the benefit of the local community. MDLTC are supportive of the proposal provided they retain access to the natural grass courts. There is potential for the area surrounding the Pile Street courts area to be used for alternative activities in the future. In the interim period, a 12 month temporary agreement is being put in place enabling the use of the current building and facilities by both MDLTC and DSC.

Proposed Management Strategies

- Re-categorise the area currently leased to MDLTC to provide flexibility for future leasing purposes consistent with the Local Government Act.
- Retain at least four natural grass tennis courts provided there is an ongoing demand for these facilities.
- Conduct an EOI process for the granting of a lease for the area consisting of the clubhouse, existing natural and synthetic grass tennis courts. This would include the demolition of the existing building and the development of an amenities building / community facility and café which maximises integration with park users and the local community; accommodates participation in natural grass court tennis subject to ongoing demand for these facilities; and includes the provision of formal parking subject to there being no significant loss of open space.
- Allow the re-use of the Pile Street tennis courts for alternative activities. Any future development would be subject to the relevant planning controls to consider the impact on adjacent properties.

CONCLUSION

The draft Marrickville Park Plan of Management has followed the required process to establish the values of the park consistent with the views of the local community and stakeholders. It is appropriate for the wider community to have the opportunity for input through the public exhibition process.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Extensive consultation has been undertaken with multiple areas within Council in developing the draft PoM including:

- Community Development
- Corporate Strategy and Communications
- Culture and Recreation
- Customer Services
- Environmental Services
- Infrastructure Planning
- Infrastructure Works and Services
- Investigation and Design
- Legal Services
- Library and History Services
- Monitoring Services
- Planning Services

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Extensive public consultation has formed the evidence base for many of the proposed actions in the draft Plan of Management resulting in the production of a Community Consultation Report (**ATTACHMENT 3**). Further consultation has taken place with relevant Council departments as well with specific stakeholders as well the commissioning of a Heritage Study in June 2013.

RECOMMENDATION**THAT:**

1. the report be received and noted;
2. the draft Plan of Management for Marrickville Park be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days;
3. submissions be received and noted for a further 14 days after the completion of the public exhibition period;
4. a public hearing is convened on the proposed re-categorisation of community land in accordance with the Local Government Act (1993); and
5. the results of the public exhibition will be presented to Council recommending further action.

Caroline McLeod
A/Manager, Culture and Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

1. Marrickville Park Draft Plan of Management September 2013
2. Marrickville Masterplan - September 2013
3. Community Consultation Report for the Marrickville Park Plan of Management
4. Heritage Assessment Marrickville Park

Marrickville Park

- DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

August 2013



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INTRODUCTION

1.1 What is a Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management (PoM) is a strategic document providing a planning and management framework for the future use, development and maintenance of multiple or individual areas of community land in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993. While a PoM is a requirement for all community land owned by Council, it also presents an opportunity to engage with the community and create a vision and values that are consistent with the needs of the current population and establishes how the park can be used in the future.

PoMs may also include other land and open space under Council's management, care and control such as Crown Land.

There are 106 parks and reserves including 55 playgrounds and 10 sportsgrounds in the Marrickville Local Government Area (LGA) and plans of management are required that apply to all community land. In 2012, Council completed the *Recreation Needs Research – Strategic Directions for Marrickville* (RNR) which identifies that the majority of plans of management are in need of review to reflect the current recreation needs of the Marrickville community and to ensure consistency with the Marrickville LEP 2011 and other Council plans and policies. The RNR recommends the review and revision of Community and Crown Land Plans of Management including Marrickville Park.

1.2 Vision Statement

The ongoing management of Marrickville Park is based on a vision statement that is shared by Council and the wider community and is consistent with the Marrickville Community Strategic Plan. The vision establishes the big picture for the park and provides a focus for all management plans and actions.

Marrickville Park will provide inclusive passive and active recreational opportunities through the provision of parkland, sports grounds and associated facilities for the continued enjoyment of the local community and recreational organisations. The Park will maintain and enhance the diverse recreation needs while preserving the cultural, heritage and environmental values of the Park and the amenity of the surrounding residential community.

1.3 Objectives of this Plan of Management

The objectives of this Plan of Management are:

- To ensure the continued enjoyment by all the community and recreational and sporting organisations within the district while protecting and enhancing the cultural, heritage and environmental values of Marrickville Park and the amenity of the surrounding residential community; and
- To provide a framework for the sustainable management of Marrickville Park and its surrounds for the next 10 years consistent with Council's legal obligations under the Local Government Act 1993.

1.4 Land covered under this Plan of Management

Marrickville Park is located in the suburb of Marrickville, close to the centre of the Marrickville Local Government Area (see Figure 1). The Park is bound by Frazer Street to the north and Livingstone Road to the east and is 45,000m² (see Figure 2). The Park is zoned RE1 Public Recreation in Marrickville Council LEP 2011 and is classified as community land.

Surrounded largely by residential properties, the park lies midway between the retail centres of Petersham and Marrickville. Wilkins Public School is located to the east of the Park and it is a short walk from Marrickville High School.

Figure 1 – Location of Marrickville Park



Figure 2 – The area covered by this Plan of Management



2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PARK




2.1 Legal Description

Land title and Ownership

Land	Marrickville Park
Title information (see Figure 2.1)	Lot 101 in DP 870783; and Lot 2 in DP 526881
Ownership	Marrickville Council
Location (see Figures 2.2 and 2.3)	Marrickville Park is bounded by Frazer Street on the north, Livingstone Road on the east, residential properties fronting Pile Street on the south and Porter Avenue and Lawson Street on the west.
Total area	4.355Ha. approx.
Zoning	Open Space 6(A)
Classification	Community Land

2.2 Physical description

The following table provides a description of the elements of Marrickville Park, their current condition and use in accordance with the requirements of clause 36 (3A) (a) (i) and 36 (3A) (a) (ii) of the Local Government Act.

Item	Description	Condition	Current Use
	Access road	Fair	Vehicular access
	Amenities block with toilets and storage facilities	Fair	Public toilets and storage of grounds maintenance items and equipment
	BBQ	Good	Passive recreation

	Children's playground	Fair	Children's play
	Cricket Nets	Good	Active recreation
	Croquet lawn and clubhouse	Good	Active and passive recreation
	Formal garden	Good	Landscape feature
	Light poles located throughout the park	Good	Pedestrian – general purpose lighting
	Mounding around the northern side of the oval protected by shade trees	Good	Passive recreation – watching sports activities
	Open grandstand, change rooms and canteen	Fair	Watching sports activities, amenities for active recreation






Item 5

Attachment 1

Item 5

	Park furniture	Good	Passive recreation
	Pathway network	Good	Active recreation / transport
	Public art on the corner of Livingstone and Frazer St	Good	Cultural & heritage value
	Retaining wall	Good	Flood mitigation
	Rose garden	Good	Cultural & heritage value and landscaping feature
	Sports lighting	Good	Active recreation
	Sports oval	Good	Active recreation

Attachment 1

	Tennis clubhouse	Fair	Amenities and rooms for passive active recreation
	Tennis courts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ hard court x4 ▪ natural grass x6 ▪ synthetic grass x2 (floodlit) 	Poor Good Good	Active recreation
 	The park contains 84 trees as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 52 Lophostemon confertus (Brushbox) ▪ 1 Cedrus deodara (Deodar Cedar) ▪ 1 Ficus rubiginosa (Port Jackson Fig) ▪ 1 Livistonia australis (Cabbage Tree Palm) ▪ 1 Arbutus unedo (Irish Strawberry Tree) ▪ 11 Pyrus sp. (Pear) ▪ 2 Pittosporum rhombifolium (Queensland Pittosporum) ▪ 3 Syagrus romanzoffianum (Cocos Palm) ▪ 1 Plumeria Acutifolia. (Frangipani) ▪ 2 Casuarina glauca Swamp (She-oak) ▪ 1 Schinus molle car. areira (Peppercorn Tree) ▪ 8 Phoenix canariensis (Canary Island Date Palm) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 45 Good, 6 Fair, 4 Poor ▪ Good ▪ Good ▪ Poor ▪ Poor ▪ 3 Fair, 8 Poor ▪ 1 Fair, 1 Poor ▪ 1 Good, 1 Fair ▪ Fair ▪ Good ▪ Fair ▪ 7 Good, 1 Fair 	Biodiversity, cultural and heritage and landscaping values
	World War II memorial with the dedication "IN MEMORY OF THE MEN OF SPARROW FORCE AND PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR WHO DIED IN TIMOR 1942-1945 DURING WORLD WAR 2".	Good	Cultural & heritage value and landscaping feature

2.3 Access

Marrickville Park is well served by a number of bus routes and is within a relatively short walk of a number of rail stations. It should be noted that not all bus routes provide low floor accessible services and frequency of accessible buses is limited.

The park has an access road for vehicles which runs off Porter Avenue but the park does not contain any formal parking. There is a pathway network which is considered to be in fair condition and combines shared use for pedestrians and cyclists. There is a short section of a identified off road cycle route and shared pathway in the north-western corner of the park which provides a link between two sections of on road cycle path connecting Miller Lane to the north and Porter Avenue to the west.

Many of the buildings in the park do not provide easy access for people with a disability. This presents a barrier to participation in recreational pursuits and related family and other social activities.

2.4 Culture and Heritage

Public Art

Council recognises that the integration of public art into public places provides arts experiences to the whole community and promotes cultural and heritage significance. This contributes to Marrickville's unique culture, acknowledges community values, fosters local identity and pride, and contributes to a sense of place. The public art installation at Marrickville Park is a mosaic of a cluster of birds inspired by magpies by Jane Cavenough and creates a corner entry focus for the park.

Heritage

A Heritage Assessment was completed to identify heritage values associated with the Park and to determine the potential for redevelopment of the site (see Appendix 2). The Heritage Assessment contains a detailed and interesting history of the Park and its development. The Assessment identifies three items of exceptional heritage value, namely the Oval, the 4 Lawn Tennis Courts running east-west on the southern boundary of the park and the Croquet Lawn and Clubhouse.

2.5 Maintenance

Marrickville Council currently undertakes the majority of regular maintenance of the park including:

- Croquet lawn maintenance
- Gardening
- Grass maintenance – (mowing, edge trimming etc)
- Inspection and repairs to fixtures and furniture Toilet cleaning
- Pathways and road inspections and repairs
- Repairs to built structures including amenities, cricket nets and lights
- Signage
- Sports oval maintenance
- Toilet cleaning
- Tree maintenance
- Turf wicket maintenance (September to March only)

2.6 Natural

Biodiversity

Marrickville Park is part of the Urban Habitat Mosaic Priority Biodiversity Area (UHMPBA) as identified in Council's Biodiversity Strategy 2011-21. The UHMPBA comprises all the parks, reserves, streets, road verges, schools, church grounds and back yards and is important for providing local and regional connectivity and habitat. A mixture of native and exotic vegetation gives structural habitat for a range of identified biodiversity values including Long-nosed Bandicoots, Grey-headed Flying Fox, frogs, rock/crevice dependant reptiles, moisture dependent reptiles, nocturnal birds, small granivorous birds, small nectarivorous and insectivorous birds, mega bats and micro bats.

Trees

There are a number of trees in the park that help define the character of the park. Avenues of brushbox trees along the periphery of the northern and eastern sides of the park are a defining feature as are the avenue of palm trees running from the north-eastern corner. These features are evident in historical images of the site and potentially contribute to the heritage values of the site.

Water Management

Council is encouraging everyone in the community to get involved in creating a water-sensitive community by managing water sustainably. To achieve this, Council is making long-term Subcatchment Management Plans for each of the 21 subcatchments (local watersheds) in Marrickville where all the rain falling into that local area flows to the same waterway, namely the Cooks River or Port Jackson. The plans are designed to target the specific needs of each community with its unique land use, demographic and environmental issues. Marrickville Park is located in the Malakoff Street Subcatchment, the Subcatchment Management Plan for which is yet to be developed.

Marrickville Park has been identified as a site with potential to reduce reliance on potable water through stormwater harvesting for irrigation purposes.

The oval at Marrickville Park forms part of a detention basin for the local area which slows the flow of floodwater downstream in the event of a Probable Maximum Flood (PMF). A masonry retaining wall is built along the south / south-eastern sides of the oval, which is required to be to a standard for a 1 in 10,000 year PMF.

2.6 Recreation

As the demographic make up of the local population changes, there is increasing demand placed on public open space for recreation purposes in terms of both the quantity and diversity of recreation activities. Marrickville Park is popular with the local community for a range of organised and informal, active and passive activities. Currently the northern aspect of the park caters predominantly for informal recreation whereas the southern aspect contains more facilities for active and organised recreation.

The most highly used areas of the park are:

- The open non oval grassy areas for general recreation, walking, dog walking and informal off leash dog area
- The children's playground
- The oval
- The tennis courts

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The most popular uses of the Park are:

- Attractive place to walk (83: 47 %)
- Walking the dog or off leash area (68: 39%)
- Children's play (67: 38%)
- Relaxation (64: 36%)

Other uses included social and competitive sport and personal training. The park is used for organised active recreation for the following activities:

- Cricket
- Croquet
- Rugby League
- Rugby Union
- School Sport
- Tennis

Attachment 1

3. Categorisation and Planning Context

3.1 Categorisation

This plan of management is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993. It provides a strategic framework for the future management and use of Marrickville Park.

Public Land under the control of Council must be classified as either “community” or “operational” land. Land classified as “community” reflects the importance to the community in that the land is for use by the general public. All community land requires a plan of management to govern and manage the use of the land. The plan of management must include the following:

- the category of the land;
- objectives and performance targets of the plan with respect to the land;
- the means by which Council proposed to achieve the plan’s objectives and performance targets;
- the manner in which council proposes to assess its performance with respect to the plan’s objectives and performance targets;
- the condition of the land and of any buildings or other improvements on the land;
- the use of the land and of any buildings or improvements as at the date of adoption;
- specify the purposes for which the land and any buildings or improvements will be permitted to be used;
- specify the purposes for which any further development of the land will be permitted, whether under lease or licence or otherwise; and
- describe the scale and intensity of any such permitted use or development.

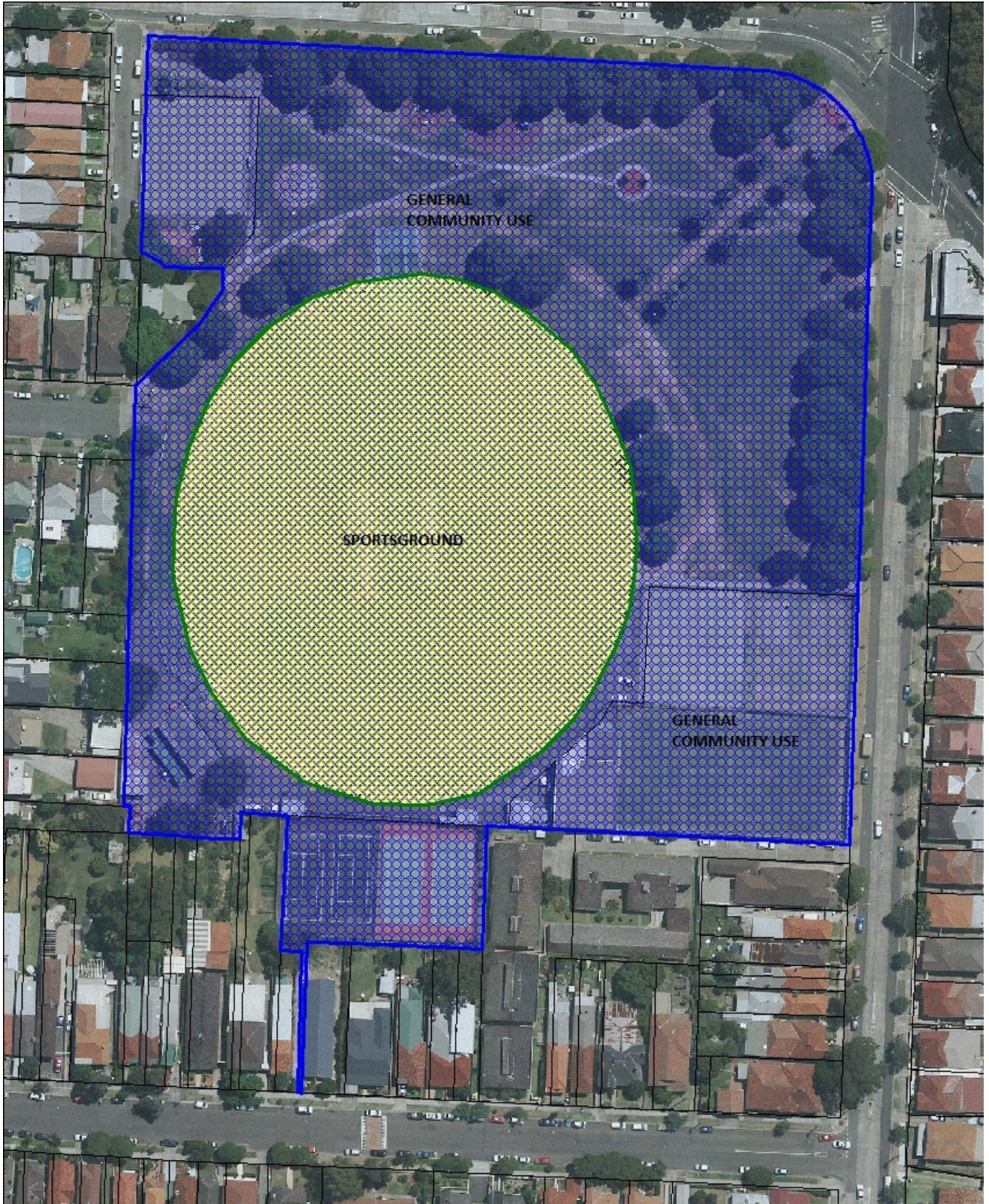
The land must be categorised as one of more of the following:

- a natural area
- a sportsground
- a park
- an area of cultural significance
- general community use

This Plan of Management categorises the community land in Marrickville Park as follows:

Land Category	Core Objectives
Sportsground (LGA 1993, Section 36F)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and ▪ To ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.
General Community Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land. and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and (b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

Marrickville Park - Categorisation Map



Item 5

Attachment 1

3.2 Other relevant legislation

- Companion Animals Act
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992

3.3 Local planning context

Relevant Marrickville Council strategies and policies are:

- Asset Management Strategy and Asset Management Plans
- Biodiversity Strategy
- Community Strategic Plan
- Companion Animals Management Plan
- DDA Access Policy and Access Action Plan 2004
- Marrickville LEP 2011
- Recreation Needs Research – Strategic Directions for Marrickville 2012
- Recreation Strategy and Policy 2013
- Strategy for a Water Sensitive Community
- Urban Forest Strategy

4.0 Values, Roles and Objectives

4.1 Values and Role of the Park

District parks are reserves which due to their size, natural attributes and/or facilities have a catchment area that encompasses the whole, or a large part, of the LGA. While the majority of users are local residents, Marrickville Park attracts community members from further afield and therefore the Park will be managed for local and district catchments.

Relevant outcomes stated in the *Marrickville Community Strategic Plan* that are consistent with the role of Marrickville Park are:

- The community is active and healthy
- More of the community walk, ride bikes and use public transport
- Marrickville's parks and open spaces provide diverse opportunities for recreation and enjoyment

Council's commitment to recreation facilities and services is further articulated through the Recreation Policy and Strategy:

- **Lifelong Recreation** – inclusive access to best practice and innovative recreation opportunities for the Marrickville community;
- **Active In Marrickville** – enrichment of the health and well-being of the Marrickville community through participation in a diverse range of recreational activities; and
- **The Recreation Economy** – support for local recreation businesses and organisations that facilitate recreation in Marrickville and add economic value to the community.

Consistent with the Recreation Policy and Strategy, the desired roles of Marrickville Park are defined in the table below:

VALUE	ROLE
Lifelong Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An accessible park for people of all abilities ▪ A place for children and young people to play ▪ A place for informal recreation including safe walking paths and ancillary facilities such as shade and seating for all ages ▪ Engagement of the local community through the inclusion of public art ▪ A public place to exercise pets
Active in Marrickville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A park that is well connected to local residential areas, schools and community hubs. ▪ An opportunity to engage in informal active recreation activities ▪ An opportunity for leisure time - to escape the urban environment or engage in social gatherings such as a picnics or bbq ▪ A district level sports facility for organised sports organisations and associations ▪ Protection and preservation of significant plantings within the Park ▪ Sustainable management of recreation and community facilities ▪ Enhancement of biodiversity within the Urban Habitat Mosaic ▪ Flood mitigation
The Recreation Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop key plans to guide Council in the provision of recreation facilities for future incoming populations ▪ Maintain existing and actively seek new partnerships to support the effective management and delivery of recreation facilities and services ▪ Recreation facilities are safe, equitable, inclusive and affordable

4.2 Management Objectives

Lifelong Recreation Objectives

1. Provide opportunities for people of all abilities to participate in recreation activities.
2. Provide a user friendly outdoor space for older residents.
3. Provide a range of engaging and safe play opportunities for children.
4. Provide a range of engaging and safe play opportunities for young people.
5. Provide a safe and shared open space to use to meet the needs of residents and their pets.
6. Engage the local community through the inclusion of public art.

Active In Marrickville

1. Enhance connectivity to surrounding residential areas, schools and community hubs adjacent to Marrickville Park.
2. Encourage a range of organised and informal active recreation activities through the provision of high quality open space and recreation facilities.
3. Provide opportunities for passive recreation – a place for quiet contemplation, to escape the urban environment or social gatherings such as a picnics or bbq.
4. Maintain the use of the park as a district level sports facility.
5. Minimise any intensification of use which will have a detrimental impact on other park users or local residents.
6. Provide a park and open space with well maintained recreation and community facilities.
7. Ensure the sustainable management of the Park as a valued recreational and community asset.
8. Enhance the biodiversity of Marrickville Park.
9. Reduce the use of potable water in the park.
10. Effective management of stormwater and flood mitigation infrastructure.

The Recreation Economy

1. Catered for incoming populations through the development of key plans to guide Council in the provision of recreation facilities.
2. Maintain existing and actively seek new partnerships to support the effective management and delivery of recreation facilities and services.
3. Provide safe, equitable and affordable access to recreation facilities and programs.

5.0 Management of the Park

Marrickville Park provides the community with a variety of active and passive recreation opportunities. The Park is well used by the community nonetheless there are a number of functional issues which have been highlighted. This section of the Plan of Management outlines the challenges and design issues within the Park as well as the opportunities and constraints which have informed the development of a Masterplan. The Masterplan reviews the existing structure of the Park including the current location and provision of facilities. The Masterplan also considers future opportunities and provides a vision for the implementation of the development of the park. The Masterplan is a concept plan and elements are subject to change to accommodate detailed design constraints and other unforeseen changes provided the overall objectives of the PoM remain unchanged.

5.1 Lifelong Recreation

5.1.1 Access

- The use of vehicles within areas populated by pedestrians and other users of the park is not recommended practice. It is preferable to minimise vehicular access through the park to ensure that park user safety is not compromised.
- Ensure that all infrastructure upgrades are designed to be fully accessible to accommodate shared use by multiple users.
- Consideration is given to a suitably flat area to facilitate viewing of activities on the oval for people with prams and people with a disability.

5.1.2 Culture and Heritage

Following feedback on the potential re-configuration of areas of the park, an independent Heritage Study was commissioned to provide clarification on existing features and certainty for any future development. The Assessment identifies Marrickville Park as a place of cultural significance. The Assessment makes a number of recommendations which have informed the items in the draft PoM.

- Marrickville Park, as a place of recreation, is conserved as a place of cultural significance.
- The Sports Oval is retained as a significant feature and visual focus of the park.
- To retain the historic significance and original fabric, retention of the configuration of the original 1921 lawn tennis courts should be considered in the Masterplan.
- Although membership to the croquet club is small, it has historic significance. While the facilities are underutilised, there is some potential for alternative compatible uses of the facilities.
- There is an opportunity to remove the existing grandstand and amenities without impacting on the historic significance of the Oval.
- Ensure any future development maintains the existing ratio of built structures to open recreational space.
- Conserve the heritage significance, visual character and linear quality of the three row plantings at Marrickville Park. Consideration should be given to preparing a tree replacement policy for Marrickville Park, particularly in relation to the row of palms.
- Ensure recreation at Marrickville Park is inclusive and able to be adapted so as to embrace the needs of the wider local community.
- Provide opportunities to interpret the historic and social significance of the place.

5.1.3 People with Pets in Parks

Manage the use of pets in parks in conjunction with other park users and consistent with the Companion Animals Act, the Companion Animals Management Plan and the Marrickville Recreation Policy and Strategy. This will include the development of an off leash area and:

- investigation of the introduction of consistent time-share periods;
- minimising the need for fencing where possible through considered selection of off-leash areas and employment of other management techniques such as time share use, clear signage and monitoring. If fencing is required, consider using this as a barrier rather than an enclosure; and
- engaging with the local community on the implementation of the proposed off-leash facility.

5.1.4 Play Facilities

- Improve current and provide additional inclusive play opportunities to better engage with young children.
- Provide inclusive play opportunities to cater for the needs of older children and youth.

5.1.5 Signage

A review of all signage in Marrickville Park should be conducted to ensure:

- consistency of signage with Council's corporate branding;
- relevant regulatory signage is in place and appropriately located;
- sufficient way finding signage is in place; and
- consider the introduction of interpretive signage

5.2 Active In Marrickville

5.2.1 Amenities and Grandstand

- Be consistent with Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles
- Consider the relocation of the amenities as a 'hub' and maximise integration with the rest of the Park
- Remove the current grandstand
- Provide sufficient public toilets
- Provide space for ground maintenance material storage
- Provide facilities for on site ground staff (lunch room)
- Provide some storage for sporting users
- Consider a canteen for sports users
- Provide change facilities for sports users
- Provide amenable opportunities to view the activities taking place on the oval
- Incorporate sustainable design features (water sensitive urban design, renewable energy, renewable and recyclable materials, stormwater detention etc) into all infrastructure upgrades.

5.2.2 Biodiversity

The park provides opportunities to enhance habitat provision and biodiversity for a wider range of fauna species through connected and stepping stone formal (planter beds) or informal areas around some of the mature trees using local native shrubs, grasses and ground covers as well as investigating opportunities for created habitat provision (e.g. nest boxes and sandstone rock shelters).

- Investigate opportunities to provide increased habitat and protect and enhance biodiversity within the park.
- Consider opportunities for installing created habitat solutions (e.g. nest boxes, sandstone rock shelters etc) that will protect and enhance biodiversity within the park.

5.2.3. Informal Recreation

- Develop a multi-use loop pathway in the park
- Ensure the provision of sufficient shade opportunities
- Provide adequate accessible and appropriately located seating throughout the park
- Consider the installation of bbqs appropriately located to integrate with other passive recreation facilities

- Investigate options for the development of a café or kiosk to service the park

5.2.4 Lighting

- With any proposed upgrades (e.g. pathways, amenities etc), give consideration to the inclusion of lighting to facilitate improved usability as well as improved safety while minimising impact on biodiversity values.
- Upgrade sports lighting to meet the minimum compliance level under relevant standards to facilitate amateur training.

5.2.5 Maintenance

- Maintain Marrickville Park to provide a safe and clean park for the community.
- All maintenance activities should be programmed to minimise impacts on informal and organised users of the facilities.
- Maintenance staff should be consulted to ensure recurrent maintenance costs are considered in the design of all future facilities.

5.2.6 Sports Oval

- Increase the capacity of the oval through an upgrade considering as a minimum the reconstruction of the playing surface, drainage and returfing.
- Consider the relocation of the cricket nets to maximise the capacity of the oval.

5.2.7 Waste Management

- Work with all park users to increase the recovery of recyclable materials and reduce waste leaving the site.

5.2.8 Water Management

- Integrate capital works identified in Subcatchment Management Plans and Sustainable Irrigation Plan with the actions in this Plan of Management and Masterplan.
- Ensure the effective operation of the park as a flood mitigation facility.
- Ensure the effective maintenance of stormwater infrastructure.

5.3 The Recreation Economy

5.3.1 Leases and Licences

- Provide an opportunity for croquet to operate as a viable and sustainable activity consistent with Council's Community Facilities Leasing Policy.
- Provide long-term flexibility for any future use of the area currently used for croquet.
- Consider the development of publicly accessible toilet facilities using / adjoining the building currently used for croquet.
- Demolish the current tennis clubhouse due to asbestos issues.
- Continue to provide sufficient natural grass tennis courts for the MDLTC to continue to participate in grass court competition subject to ongoing demand for these facilities.
- Consider the development of a new building and associated facilities (including potential location for formal parking) for a community facility which maximises integration with the rest of the park and users.
- Allow the re-use of the Pile St tennis courts for alternative activities – any future development to be subject to relevant planning controls to consider the impact on adjacent properties.

5.3.2 Equitable and Affordable Access

- Ensure consistency with Council's adopted Pricing Policy and Fees and Charges as applicable for the use of park facilities.
- Ensure consistency with relevant Council Policy governing the leasing of community facilities.
- Ensure consistency with other relevant policies governing the use of parks and open space facilities.

6.0 Leases and Licences

6.1 Existing Leases and Licences

Marrickville Park currently contains two leases which are authorised under this plan of management for sport and recreation organisations, namely the croquet facility, leased to and the tennis courts and clubhouse leased to Marrickville and District Lawn Tennis Club.

This plan of management authorises the existing leases which have been granted by Marrickville Council over Marrickville Park as follows:

Land Categorisation	Lot / DP	Agreement authorised
General Community Use	Lot 3 DP 862211	Lease with Marrickville District Lawn Tennis Club
General Community Use	Lot 2 DP 526881	Lease with Marrickville District Lawn Tennis Club
General Community Use	Lot 2 DP 862211	Lease with Marrickville Croquet Club



Land Title Information (plan of sub-division for lease purposes)

6.2 Future Leases and Licences

Future lease and licences will be allowable for any part of the Park for uses consistent with the PoM, the Marrickville Local Environment Plan and any other applicable legislation.

7.0 Action Plan

This section of the Plan of Management outlines the proposed actions to realise the desired outcomes as articulated in the Masterplan. The Masterplan is a concept aspiration and elements within this (and consequently the Action Plan) are subject to change to accommodate detailed design constraints and other unforeseen changes provided the overall objectives of the PoM remain unchanged.

Item	Action	Priority	Performance Measure	Park Value
Access	The existing access road is closed to vehicles other than for maintenance, delivery and emergency purposes.	1	Improved safety of park users	Lifelong Recreation
Access	Investigate the possibility of vehicular access from Livingstone Road.	2	Option investigated and actions identified.	
Access	Ensure that all upgrades to buildings, park furniture and other infrastructure are fully accessible.	Ongoing	Improved access to all park facilities	Lifelong Recreation
Access	Consideration is given to a suitably flat area to facilitate viewing of activities on the oval for people with prams and people in a wheelchair.	2	People in a wheelchair and with prams have an opportunity to view activities on the oval.	Lifelong Recreation
Culture and Heritage	Marrickville Park, as a place of recreation, is conserved as a place of cultural significance.	Ongoing	Future development / upgrades are informed by the Heritage Assessment	Lifelong Recreation
Culture and Heritage	The Sports Oval is retained as a significant feature and visual focus of the park.	Ongoing	Sports Oval continues to operate	Lifelong Recreation
Culture and Heritage	To retain the historic significance and original fabric, retention of the configuration of the original 1921 lawn tennis courts should be considered in the Masterplan.	Ongoing	Identified tennis courts are retained subject to ongoing demand for these facilities	Lifelong Recreation
Culture and Heritage	Although membership to the croquet club is small, it has historic significance. While the facilities are underutilised, there is some potential for alternative compatible uses of the facilities.	2	Development of additional use and activities	Lifelong Recreation
Culture and Heritage	Ensure any future development maintains the existing ratio of built structures to open recreational space.	Ongoing	Ratio of open space to buildings is maintained	Lifelong Recreation
Culture and Heritage	Conserve the heritage significance, visual character and linear quality of the brushbox plantings at Marrickville Park.	Ongoing	Existing rows of brushbox are maintained	Lifelong Recreation
Culture and Heritage	Prepare a tree replacement policy for Marrickville Park, particularly in relation to the row of palms.	2	Tree replacement policy completed	Lifelong Recreation

Item	Action	Priority	Performance Measure	Park Value
People with Pets in Parks	The development of a 12 month trial off-leash area including engagement with the local community during the trial period.	1	Feedback obtained during the trial period	Lifelong Recreation
People with Pets in Parks	Subject to the results of the trial, consider the development of a permanent formal off leash area consistent with the guidelines outlined in the Recreation Policy and Strategy.	1	To be determined consistent with the results of the trial.	Lifelong Recreation
Play Facilities	Improve current and provide additional inclusive play opportunities to better engage with young children.	2	Upgrade to the existing playground facility.	Lifelong Recreation
Play Facilities	Provide inclusive play opportunities to cater for the needs of older children and youth. Allow the re-use of the Pile St tennis courts (Lot 2 DP 526881) for such a purpose – any future development to consider the impact on adjacent properties.	2	Provision of new youth play opportunities	Lifelong Recreation
Signage	A review of the consistency of signage with Council's corporate branding	2	Review completed	Lifelong Recreation
Signage	Ensure relevant regulatory signage is in place and appropriately located.	2	Appropriate signage in place.	Lifelong Recreation
Signage	Sufficient way finding signage is in place.	2	Signage in place	Lifelong Recreation
Signage	Consider the introduction of interpretive signage	3	Signage in place	Lifelong Recreation
Amenities	Relocate the amenities as a 'hub' and maximise integration with the rest of the Park	1	Amenities constructed	Active in Marrickville
Amenities	Demolish the existing grandstand	1	Grandstand removed	Active in Marrickville
Amenities	Provide sufficient and safe public toilets	1	Toilets relocated	Active in Marrickville
Amenities	Provide space for ground maintenance material storage	Ongoing	Storage facilities provided	Active in Marrickville
Amenities	Provide facilities for on site ground staff (lunch room)	Ongoing	Facilities provided	Active in Marrickville
Amenities	Provide some storage for sporting users	Ongoing	Storage facilities provided	Active in Marrickville
Amenities	Consider a canteen for sports users	1	Liaise with users re canteen usage	Active in Marrickville
Amenities	Provide change facilities for sports users	1	Change facilities provided	Active in Marrickville
Amenities	Consider amenable opportunities to view the activities taking place on the oval	1	Consideration in design of infrastructure	Active in Marrickville

Item	Action	Priority	Performance Measure	Park Value
Biodiversity	Investigate opportunities and establish informal and formal native garden beds with mid and ground layer structures, around existing mature trees in appropriate and strategic locations within the park	1	Number of areas established >3	Active in Marrickville
Biodiversity	Consider and investigate opportunities for installing created habitat solutions (e.g. nest boxes, sandstone rock shelters etc).	2	Number of habitat installed >1	Active in Marrickville
Informal Recreation	Develop a multi-use loop pathway in the park	2	Pathway constructed	Active in Marrickville
Informal Recreation	Ensure the provision of sufficient shade opportunities	3	Shade opportunities provided	Active in Marrickville
Informal Recreation	Provide adequate accessible and appropriately located seating throughout the park	2	Seating opportunities provided	Active in Marrickville
Informal Recreation	Consider the installation of bbqs appropriately located to integrate with other passive recreation facilities	3	Bbq facilities provided	Active in Marrickville
Informal Recreation	Investigate options for the development of a café or kiosk to service the park	1	Options investigated	Active in Marrickville
Lighting	With any proposed upgrades (e.g. pathways, amenities etc), give consideration to the inclusion of lighting to facilitate improved usability as well as improved safety	Ongoing	Consideration of lighting during design of facilities	Active in Marrickville
Lighting	Upgrade sports lighting to meet the minimum compliance level under relevant standards to facilitate amateur training	3	Sports lighting complies with the minimum standard for training	Active in Marrickville
Maintenance	Maintain Marrickville Park to provide a safe and clean park for the community.	Ongoing	Park facilities are functional, clean and safe for the intended use.	Active in Marrickville
Maintenance	All maintenance activities are programmed to minimise impacts on informal and organised users of the facilities.	Ongoing	Maintenance activities do not impact on users of the park.	Active in Marrickville
Maintenance	Maintenance staff be consulted to ensure recurrent maintenance costs are considered in the design of all future facilities.	Ongoing	New facilities are financially sustainable.	Active in Marrickville
Sports Oval	Increase the capacity of the oval through an upgrade considering as a minimum the reconstruction of the playing surface, drainage and turfing	3	Increased sustainable use of the oval.	Active in Marrickville

Item	Action	Priority	Performance Measure	Park Value
Waste Management	Work with all park users to increase the recovery of recyclable materials and reduce waste leaving the site	Ongoing	Increased recovery of recyclable waste	Active in Marrickville
Water Management	Integrate capital works identified in Subcatchment Management Plans and Sustainable Irrigation Plan with the actions in this Plan of Management and Masterplan.	Ongoing	Reduction in use of potable mains water for park facilities.	Active in Marrickville
Water Management	Ensure the effective operation of the park as a flood mitigation facility	Ongoing	Ongoing compliance with flood management legislation.	Active in Marrickville
Water Management	Ensure the effective maintenance of stormwater infrastructure.	Ongoing	Reduce the impacts of stormwater flows including flooding.	Active in Marrickville
Leases and Licences	Undertake the required public process for the granting of a 3 + 2 year option for the croquet facility (Lot 2 DP 862211) consistent with Council's Community Facilities Leasing Policy and monitor usage and membership levels.	1	Establishment of a new lease agreement.	The Recreation Economy
Leases and Licences	Consider alternative uses of the area leased for the croquet facility in the event that the activity does not prove viable in the long-term.	2	Alternative uses identified	The Recreation Economy
Leases and Licences	Consider the creation of publicly accessible toilet facilities in the building currently used for croquet.	3	Conduct design feasibility in conjunction with relevant stakeholders	The Recreation Economy
Leases and Licences	Conduct an Expression of Interest process for the granting of a lease of Lot 3 DP 862211 (the area of consisting of the clubhouse, existing natural and synthetic grass tennis courts) including the demolition of the existing building and the development of an amenities building / community facility and café which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> maximises integration with park users and the local community; accommodates participation in natural grass court tennis subject to ongoing demand for these facilities; includes provision for formal parking 	1	Completion of EOI process	The Recreation Economy
Leases and Licences	In the event that a suitable lessee (see above) cannot be identified, the demolition the current tennis clubhouse to proceed due to issues with asbestos in the roof.	1	Facility demolished	The Recreation Economy

Item	Action	Priority	Performance Measure	Park Value
Leases and Licences	In the event that a suitable lessee (see above) cannot be identified then undertake the required public process for the granting of a lease for the natural and synthetic grass tennis courts.	Ongoing	Status quo maintained and establishment of a new lease agreement	The Recreation Economy
Equitable and Affordable Access	Ensure consistency with Council's adopted Pricing Policy and Fees and Charges as applicable for the use of park facilities.	Ongoing	Compliance with relevant governance documents	The Recreation Economy
Equitable and Affordable Access	Ensure consistency with other relevant Council policies governing the use of parks and open space facilities.	Ongoing	Compliance with relevant governance documents	The Recreation Economy

Marrickville Park Masterplan

Introduction

ASPECT Studios were commissioned by Marrickville Council in collaboration with The Miller Group to prepare a Master Plan for Marrickville Park. The scope included consultation with the local community as well as relevant stakeholders to gain an understanding of the site's current issues and to unlock potential future upgrades and new uses. The Master Plan scope consists of an approximately 2.2 hectare site on the corner of Livingstone Road and Frazer Street including the parcel of land known as the Piles Street site.

The proposed Master Plan for Marrickville Park provides a vision for the future upgrade of the park based on Community and stakeholder feedback and the outcomes of Council's Plan of Management for the site. A new purpose built clubhouse will replace the existing building and accommodate Marrickville District Lawn Tennis Club and the incoming Drummoyne Sports Club as well as community facilities, a cafe and toilets. Upgrades to existing park amenities together with new facilities will enliven the park, increasing activation and create a community focal point for the area.

Community Consultation

Marrickville Council commissioned the Miller Group to undertake community consultation research to provide an evidence base to underpin the development of the new Masterplan and Plan of Management for Marrickville Park. This included three community consultation sessions and two online surveys which aimed to gather both community and various stakeholder opinions on the current use and future aspirations for the site.

Key comments raised by the community included:

- Mixed use nature of Marrickville Park is highly valued by community
- Unstructured informal open space is desirable
- Increase passive and social uses without over intensification of organised sports
- Remove pedestrian / vehicular conflict within the park
- Improve amenities including playground and toilets
- Enhance walk-ability of the site
- Formalise dog off leash area

Design principles

The ASPECT Studios has developed a number of overarching design principles to guide the evolution of the master plan. These principles have been developed following an analysis of the current conditions and use of the site and community consultation feedback.

These design principles are outlined below:

1. Access

- Provide clear circulation paths throughout the site focusing on a central circular loop connection all park uses
- Complete the 'missing pieces' in the circulation network
- Provide all abilities access throughout the site
- Allow for a range of users including pedestrians, cyclists and pets

2. Programme

- Enhance existing park uses through improved amenities
- Introduce new uses / building programme compatible with community and stakeholder aspirations

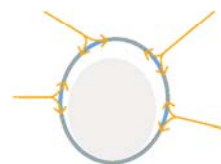
3. Stormwater

- Retain and enhance existing flood retarding basin infrastructure in-line with hydraulic engineering studies
- Apply water sensitive urban design principles such as drainage swales and the use of permeable paving where possible
- Collect excess stormwater for irrigation purposes

4. Vegetation

- Retain all existing trees of cultural, heritage and ecological value
- Introduce new iconic 'inner ring' flowering trees for increased shade and seasonal colour
- Introduce a predominantly native understory planting layer in appropriate locations to buffer park boundaries
- Create planting diversity and wildlife habitat

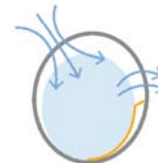
1. Access



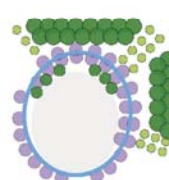
2. Programme



3. Stormwater



4. Vegetation



Precedent Images

Running Track



Parade North Park, St Leonards, NSW, Australia
www.slc.nsw.gov.au

Paving



Parade North Park, St Leonards, NSW, Australia
www.slc.nsw.gov.au

Furniture



Parade North Park, St Leonards, NSW, Australia
www.slc.nsw.gov.au

Shade



Parade North Park, St Leonards, NSW, Australia
www.slc.nsw.gov.au

Fences



Parade North Park, St Leonards, NSW, Australia
www.slc.nsw.gov.au

Dining deck



Parade North Park, St Leonards, NSW, Australia
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Planting



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Parade North Park, St Leonards, NSW, Australia
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Play



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Parade North Park, St Leonards, NSW, Australia
www.slc.nsw.gov.au

Fitness



Parade North Park, St Leonards, NSW, Australia
www.slc.nsw.gov.au

Multi-purpose Courts



Parade North Park, St Leonards, NSW, Australia
www.slc.nsw.gov.au

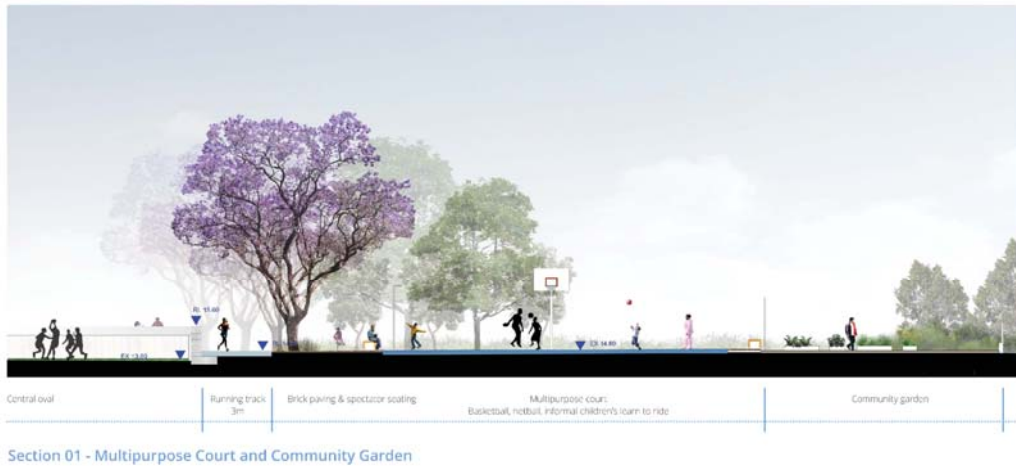
Marrickville Park Master Plan



KEY

1. Existing sports oval with upgraded lighting
 2. Dam wall retained with wall buttressing work to Hydraulic Engineers requirements and stairs provided for access to oval
 3. Retained turf embankment with existing shade trees - *Lophostemon confertus*
 4. Proposed informal spectator seating on embankments - pending future detailed study
 5. Existing tiered spectator seating retained with new timber batten seats and shade sail
 6. Cricket nets replaced with new turf planting
 7. Retained timber picket fence to be repaired where required and repainted
 8. 'The Loop' exercise track with impact attenuating coloured latex surface
 9. Proposed iconic flowering feature tree such as - *Jacaranda mimosifolia*
 10. Rest points along track with seats and bins
 11. Existing water fountains retained with new brick paving and bike racks
 12. New Clubhouse accommodating club meeting rooms, cafe, restaurant, community function areas and toilets. Proposed building to be raised to allow overland flow to occur under during flooding
 13. Raised timber deck supported by steel structure providing outdoor spill out for internal cafe overlooking the oval. Timber deck to be raised to allow overland flow to occur under during flooding
 14. On-grade carpark with driveway access from Livingstone Road. Planted drainage swales on North and southern boundaries collect and filter carpark runoff
 15. 4 x existing grass tennis courts retained with new fencing
 16. 1 x proposed synthetic fenced tennis court with lighting
 17. Brick circulation paths surrounding tennis courts with opportunities for spectator seating
 18. Outdoor fitness zone with exercise equipment on coloured rubber softfall surfacing with bench seating and a bubbler
 19. Proposed shade tree - *Eucalyptus citriodora*
 20. Dog off leash area with 1.2m high palisade fence to south and western edges to buffer adjacent pedestrian / cycle paths. Seats and dog waste bins also provided
 21. Mass planting of shade tolerant understory plants, providing a green buffer from surrounding street with informal access paths through planting
 22. Unprogrammed open lawn
 23. Avenue of Palms. Cocos Palms removed and replaced with *Phoenix canariensis*
 24. Existing garden beds to be replanted with native decorative understory planting
 25. Existing benches to be retained and repaired where necessary including repainting
 26. Existing rows of Brushbox trees (*Lophostemon confertus*) to be retained
 27. Proposed brick circulation paths
 28. Proposed children's playground with new play equipment on coloured rubber soft fall, parental supervision seating throughout, bbq facilities, bins and shade structures with periphery low level mass planting
 29. Decorative flowering feature tree *Corymbia 'Summer Red'* around playground
 30. Proposed 200KL Stormwater harvesting storage tank for park irrigation. Bioretention planting to be located on top of the tank to filter incoming stormwater
 31. Redeveloped croquet clubhouse to include new public toilet facilities
 32. Existing croquet lawn retained
 33. 2m wide brick paved pedestrian / cycle shared way path
 34. Existing rose garden retained
 35. Porter street entry with brick paved vehicular driveway and removable bollards restricting access to maintenance and emergency vehicles only
 36. Existing Ornamental Pears trees to be removed and new native boundary trees and understorey to be installed along western boundary of park
 37. Existing Pepper tree retained (*Schinus molle var. areira*)
 38. Grandstand demolished and replaced with relocated cricket nets. Synthetic run up surface and new netting provided to prevent conflict with pedestrians
 39. Proposed maintenance storage and staff room building with brick paved driveway access
 40. Multi use courts accommodating informal basketball, netball and children's learn to ride areas with spectator seating and bike racks at edges
 41. Proposed buffer planting, possible bush regeneration zone to edges of multipurpose courts
- * Note proposed lighting is indicative only and is to be developed in conjunction with a lighting engineer

Site Sections





COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT

for the

Masterplan &
Draft Plan of Management
for Marrickville Park



THE MILLER GROUP
social policy & management consultants

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background to the study

Marrickville Council commissioned the Miller Group to undertake community consultation research to provide an evidence base to underpin the development of the new Masterplan and Plan of Management for Marrickville Park.

Study Area

Marrickville Park was developed from a former brick pit 'Miller's Tip' in the early 1900's and has been a site for community recreation since that time. The Park is located close to the centre of the Marrickville Local Government Area. The Park is bound by Frazer Street to the north and Livingstone Road to the east and covers an area of 45,000m². The Park is zoned RE1 Public Recreation in Marrickville Council LEP 2011 and is classified as community land.

It contains a variety of features and facilities which cater for a mix of passive and active recreation activities.

The active recreation features of the park include:

- Sports oval with an open grandstand, change rooms, canteen, picket fence, cricket nets, floodlighting, toilets and storage areas
- Croquet lawn and clubhouse currently leased to Marrickville Croquet Club
- Tennis courts and clubhouse – 4 hard courts, 6 natural grass courts and 2 artificial grass courts (floodlit) currently leased to Marrickville Tennis Club
- Storage facilities.

The passive recreation features of the park include:

- Barbecue
- Children's playground
- Pathway network
- Mature trees in the northern and eastern perimeter of the park
- Avenue of palm trees
- Rose garden
- World War II memorial
- Mounding around the northern side of the oval protected by shade trees
- Public art on the corner of Livingstone and Frazer St
- Light poles located throughout the park
- Park furniture.

Project Aims

The project aim is to develop a new Plan of Management (PoM) for Marrickville Park that will facilitate contemporary uses and address local needs. The consultation process will inform the new draft PoM, and in turn, the draft PoM will inform the development of the Masterplan. The Masterplan will provide a framework for the future use of the park and its surrounds, and provide a tool that will be used to guide future development and prioritise capital works and maintenance projects for the next 10 years.

The Miller Group is working in partnership with ASPECT Design Studio to deliver the full service for this Project. In addition to this report on community feedback on Marrickville

Park ASPECT will develop the Masterplan documentation based on the results of this research as incorporated into the PoM.

Project Objectives

The **consultative objectives** of the project are:

1. Development and implementation of a community consultation plan to identify the feedback and needs of all stakeholders in Marrickville Park focussing on:
 - Existing use of facilities;
 - Location of facilities and amenities and potential for multipurpose;
 - Access;
 - Connectivity; and
 - Development opportunities for active and passive recreation.
2. Development of a report analysing the data and results from the community consultation process which will inform the development of the draft Plan of Management. *Note the development of the draft Plan of Management will be completed by Council.*

The scope of the project

Central to the work of the Study's research team is the understanding that Council, given its finite resources, is, and will in the future, be unable to provide facilities which meet the requirements of all members of the community. Council must therefore align service and provision to the key strategic policies and directions of Council reflected through corporate strategic planning policies, primarily the Marrickville Community Strategic Plan. Council will also need to determine its priorities for the provision of Park facilities and the replacement or embellishment of current facilities in the context of the needs expressed by the community.

The Study uses the condition and usage of existing facilities in Marrickville Park as its main benchmark. It considers who, and how, the community uses the Park to determine current unmet need and demand.

Summary of major findings

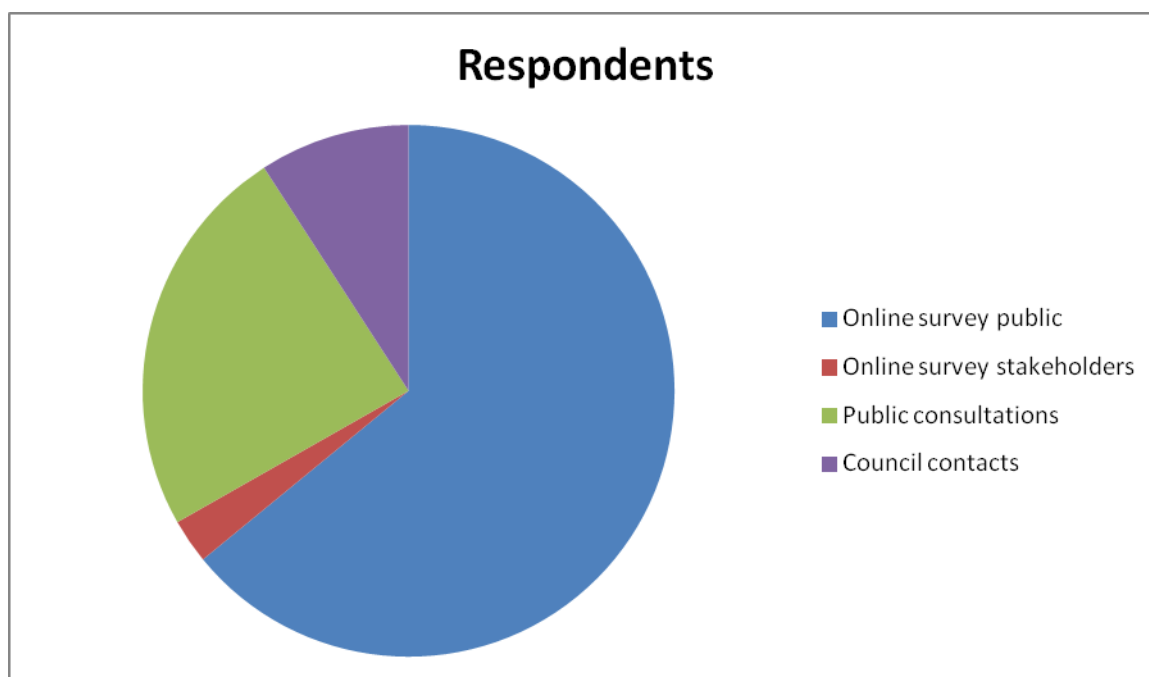
The following section gives a brief overview of the highlights of the body of the Report.

Community input

Over a four week period in November and early December the Miller Group managed a community consultation process that included three face-to-face public consultations in Marrickville Park, the deployment of two online surveys (one for the general public and one for specific stakeholders who currently lease, hire or access the park on a regular basis including sporting clubs and local schools) and several interviews and groups meetings with Council staff and key Council stakeholders. This included Interviews with Managers and staff in the areas of Parks and reserves, Infrastructure Works and Services, Environmental Services and Culture and Recreation, and consultations with outdoor staff and sports stakeholders. The Miller Group also received four written submissions via email.

299 individual were engaged in this process including 260 directly from the community.

This is a high response rate for consultation on a local park and indicative of the value with which the community generally hold Marrickville Park.



Proximity to the Park

Eighty one per cent of the respondents to the online survey live within a kilometre of the park and the majority of the participants in the public consultations lived local to the park within 500 metres.

People's proximity to the park aligns to its classification as a significant park in the LGA. It is a park that provides for mixed use and where the majority of users are within walking distance. It also provides much needed sporting facilities in an LGA with the third lowest open space ratio in the Sydney metropolitan area.¹

The increase in population and the gentrification of the area have led to increased demand for passive recreation for families and older residents and sporting opportunities for children and young people whose families live locally.

Usage

The most highly used areas of the park are:

- The open non oval grassy areas for general recreation, walking, dog walking and informal off leash dog area
- The children's playground
- The oval
- The tennis courts

This is reflected in the most popular usage of the Park - in response to the question asking respondents why they used the Park:

- Attractive place to walk (83: 47 %)
- Walking the dog or off leash area (68: 39%)
- Children's play (67: 38%)

¹ Please refer to the Recreation Need Research Strategic Directions for Marrickville.

- Relaxation (64: 36%)

Less popular uses included social sport, competitive sport, and personal training.

Improvements

In general the community would like to see more usage of the Park for passive and social recreation, with no over intensification of active sporting use. Most respondents indicated that they were happy with the current balance of mixed use and would like to see this balance continue. They were strongly in favour of a relaxed and informal space that was – in the words of one respondent - 'easy going'.

There is strong demand for:

- Improved toilet facilities –that are safe, clean and accessible.
- More shade areas, improved landscaping and a general improvement to the aesthetic environment of the Park.
- Improvement to the children's playground - in terms of safety, the range of equipment available, adequate shade, better drainage, a more effective and extensive soft fall area and a fence or natural buffer to increase safety and offset the proximity to Frazer Street
- A reduction in the hazards posed by vehicular access to the Park.
- Enhanced play areas/activities for children such as a (safe) bike or scooter trail in other parts of the park
- Facilities for older children and youth including one or two half basketball courts (in the corner of Frazer St. and Livingstone Rd.) and outdoor gym equipment
- Maintenance of the passive open space with some appropriate enhancements such as simple outdoor gym or stretching benches
- Formalisation of the off leash dog area in the large triangular area between the oval and Livingstone Road - supported by dog bag dispensers and dog waste bins.
- Improvement to the general amenity of the park including better seating, better BBQ facilities, outdoor tables and seating with adequate shade.

There was general support from most, but not all, community members about an improvement to the Tennis Club clubhouse and the proposal put forward by Drummoyne AFL to relocate their junior club and clubhouse to Marrickville Park. This was subject to the following caveats;

That:

- The land was not overdeveloped – either in terms of building height or footprint
- Any new building remains accessible by the whole community and that the club not have exclusive rights to the oval or encroach on other passive areas of the Park
- The building be in keeping with the overall aesthetic of the park and be built in such a way as to maintain and or improve existing usage
- The relocation of the club would not lead to an over intensification of the oval by active sport or impact negatively with parking, and
- that the building of a new club house open up a range of potential uses to the community including an all access coffee shop, community access rooms and storage for a range of current and future users.

There is also a need for improved accessibility in to and throughout the park for people with mobility issues and enhanced amenities that are accessible would improve the outcomes not just for this group but for the community as a whole. The current sporting uses are well supported, in general, by the community except for some concern about vehicular access, safety and parking in the park. The access of the park for school use is important for these users and valued by the community.

The Consultation Process

Introduction

An important part of the methodology for this research was talking to, and listening to, the community and other stakeholders to find out:

- What Park facilities people are currently using and why,
- Whether they are satisfied with the quality of the facilities and Park environment they use, and,
- What their expectations are for the future of Marrickville Park
- Any ideas and suggestions they have for improvements to the Park
- Any unmet needs they feel need to be addressed.

The goals, objectives, actions and priorities described in this Report incorporate the views and issues expressed through the various consultations, as well as the collective knowledge and expertise of the Council staff and the consultants.

Stakeholders from whom information was sought regarding the needs and concerns included:

- Councillors
- Council officers
- Residents of Marrickville and the general public
- Individuals and organisations such as schools and sporting clubs, who regularly use Park facilities.

The consultation participation process engaged a total of 297 members of the Marrickville community and included the following methods:

- two online surveys
 - online general public survey
 - online stakeholder survey
- face to face meetings and telephone interviews with key Council stakeholders
- written submissions including email submissions
- consultations with Council staff
- Three public consultation forums (two at Marrickville Park and one evening forum at Marrickville Tennis Club)
- One sports stakeholder forum.

Table 1 below shows the full breakdown of contacts across the various forms of consultation.

The general public survey was administered online for one month (between 1 November and 2 December 2012) and was linked from the Marrickville Council website.

The stakeholder survey was emailed to 14 schools and sporting clubs that had been identified by Council as frequent and significant users of Marrickville Park and its sporting facilities. Two follow up email reminders were also sent to the stakeholders requesting their participation.

Table 1: All consultation contacts

Type of contact	Number
Online general public survey	189
Online stakeholder survey	8
Stakeholder forum (sports clubs and XX)	15
Council - group consultations	8
Council - individual consultations	4
Public consultation 1 - Marrickville Tennis Club 15 Nov (PM)	42
Public consultation 2 - Marrickville Park 17 Nov (AM)	9
Public consultation 3 - Marrickville Park 24 Nov (AM)	20
Submissions (email and mail)	4
Total contacts	299

The general public survey engaged 189 individuals. Just over 90 per cent of these were Marrickville LGA residents. The other 9.7 per cent of respondents, while living in surrounding suburbs and other areas of Sydney, had an interest in the Study due to their use of Marrickville Park and its facilities. The research team also received and reviewed feedback from two written submissions and two emails. These submissions have been integrated in to the general findings in the section that relates to their concerns and/or suggestions.

The community and other stakeholder responses to the surveys, forums, telephone interviews and face-to-face consultations provide an important evidence base to assist Council in its understanding and evaluation of current Park successes, issues and future possibilities and provide a guide for the development of the new Plan of Management (PoM) and the Masterplan for Marrickville Park.

General public survey completion profile

A total of 188 people participated in the online general public survey. Table 2 shows the breakdown of survey participation and indicates that a small number of respondents chose to complete only parts of the survey or completed the whole survey but skipped particular questions – thus creating partial completion.

This is not an uncommon phenomenon as often respondents have specific views about particular issues and choose not to respond to those issues/questions which are of little interest to them.²

Table 2: General public survey completion

Survey type	Started survey	Finished survey	Percentage completions
Online general public survey	189	156	82.5%

Partial completions to the online survey (33) have been included in the analysis where relevant and are given weighting in the final numbers as most of the partial responses completed the majority of the survey questions.

² It is possible to create surveys where the next question can only be answered if the previous one has also been answered. Consideration was given to this type of survey format, however the researchers, based on previous experience over many years have found that this is likely to lead to a higher rate of incompletes and deprives the client of valuable data.

It is important to keep in mind, when reviewing the findings of the survey that the actual number of respondents for each question varies significantly depending on the relevance of the question to the respondent. Each table in this Profile section and in the Findings section indicates the number of respondents who answered the question and the number who skipped the question.

Survey respondents were asked a range of questions about their use of Marrickville Park and their opinions about the Park environment – natural and built – including its specific facilities. They were also asked to provide demographic and socio-economic information relevant to the Study, such as their proximity to the Park and the composition of their households. These characteristics have been combined in a survey profile to assist Council to understand who was responding to the surveys and their usage patterns of the Park and its facilities.

Living and working in Marrickville

Respondents were asked to indicate whether they live or work or both in the Marrickville LGA. A large majority (88.9 per cent) of respondents live in Marrickville with two thirds of respondents (66.0 per cent) living in Marrickville and working outside the LGA and another quarter (22.9 per cent) who both live and work in Marrickville (see Table 3).

Table 3: Living and work location of respondents

Location	Per cent	Number
Live only	66.0%	124
Work only	3.2%	6
Both live and work	22.9%	43
Neither live nor work	8.0%	15
Total - answered question	100%	188
Skipped question		1

Proximity to Park

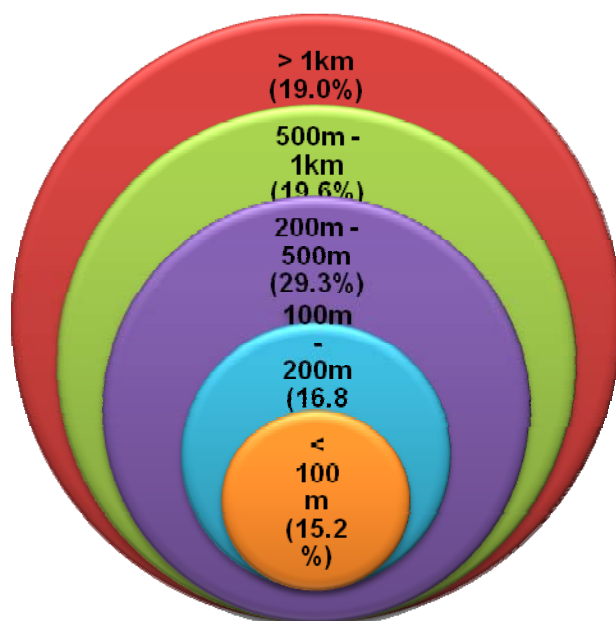
Respondents also indicated their homes' proximity to Marrickville Park with most (81.0 per cent) living within 1km of the Park (see Table 4). Almost one third of respondents (32.0 per cent) live within 200m of the Park with 15.2 per cent living within 100m of the Park and another 16.8 per cent living 100m to 200m from the Park.

Another half of respondents (48.9 per cent) live between 200m and 1km from the Park with 29.3 per cent living 200m to 500m from the Park and 19.6 per cent living 500m to 1km from the Park. Less than one fifth, only 19.0 per cent of respondents live more than 1km from Marrickville Park.

Table 4: Proximity to Marrickville Park

Distance from Park	Per cent	Number
less than 100m	15.2%	28
100m to 200m	16.8%	31
200m to 500m	29.3%	54
500m to 1km	19.6%	36
more than 1km away	19.0%	35
Total - answered question	100%	184
Skipped question		5

Figure 1: Proximity to Marrickville Park



Where Are People From?

Respondents to the online general public survey came from all suburbs in the LGA with the largest group and just over half (50.5 per cent) being from the suburb of Marrickville (see Table 5 below).

The second and third most represented suburbs within the LGA were Petersham and Dulwich Hill with 16.7 per cent and 15.6 per cent of respondents living there respectively.

maps the distribution of survey respondents across the LGA. Less than one tenth (9.7 per cent) of respondents live outside the LGA and these people live in a range of neighbouring suburbs (see Table 6).

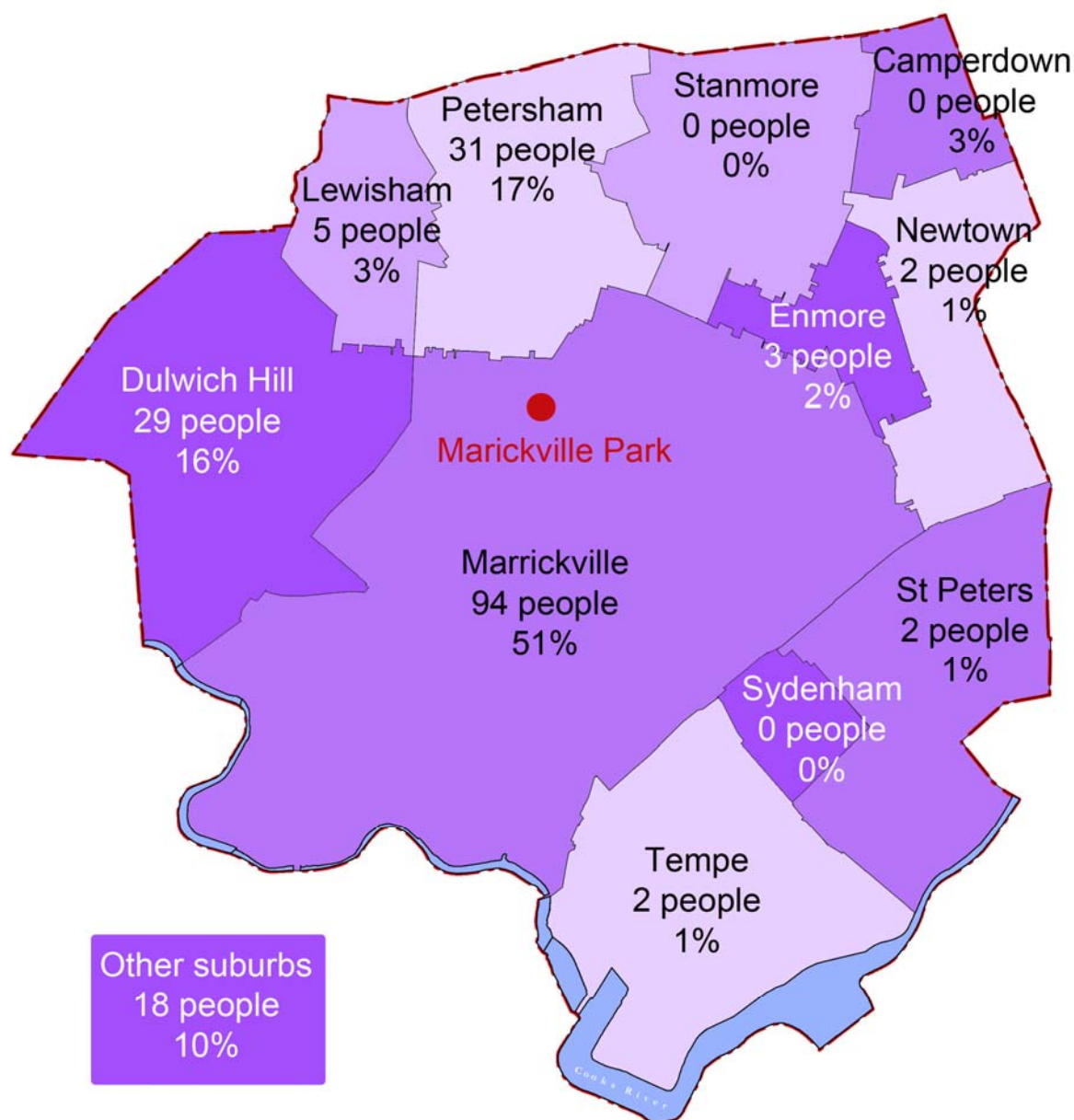
Table 5: Home suburb of respondents

Location – home suburb	Per cent	Number
Marrickville	50.5%	94
Petersham	16.7%	31
Dulwich Hill	15.6%	29
Other	9.7%	18
Lewisham	2.7%	5
Enmore	1.6%	3
Newtown	1.1%	2
St Peters	1.1%	2
Tempe	1.1%	2
Camperdown	0.0%	0
Stanmore	0.0%	0
Sydenham	0.0%	0
Total - answered question	100%	186
Skipped question		3

Table 6: Home suburb of respondents living outside the Marrickville LGA

Suburb	Number
Ashfield	1
Balmain	1
Bass hill	1
Burwood Hts	1
Chifley	1
Coogee	1
Croydon Park	2
Earlwood	1
Five Dock	1
Glebe	1
Hurlstone park	1
Maroubra	1
Pagewood	1
Riverwood	1
Roselands	1
Summer Hill	2
Total	18

Figure 2: Home suburb of public survey respondents



The high survey response rate from local Marrickville residents, including the large majority who live within 1km of the Park, indicates that the findings of the consultations are relevant and robust and indicates that local residents are engaged and concerned about the Park's future.

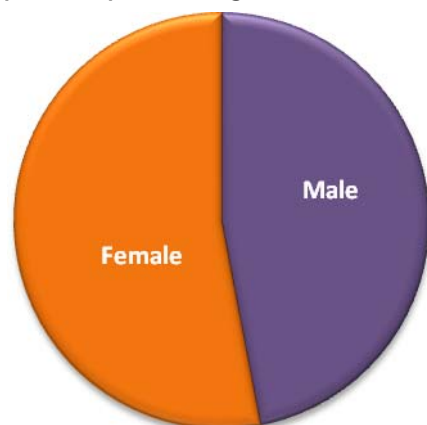
Gender

A total of 151 respondents indicated their gender. The gender-based response rates were very similar at almost half each. Eighty survey respondents (53.0 per cent) were by women and 71 (47.0 per cent) were from men.

Table 7: Gender of respondents

Gender	Per cent	Number
Male	47.0%	71
Female	53.0%	80
Total - answered question		151
Skipped question		38

Graph 1: Respondents' gender



Age

A total of 148 survey respondents reported their age. Although the online survey was set up so that young people could complete it, the majority of respondents to the survey were people in the 40 to 54 year old age group with 70 (47.3 per cent) responding (see Table 8 below).

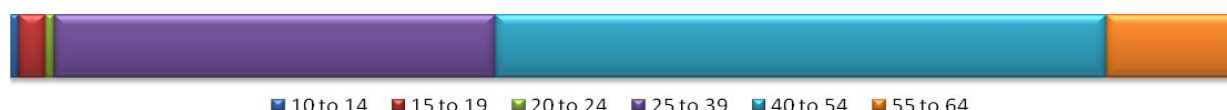
The second and third highest response rates for age groups were the 25 to 39 year old and 55 to 64 year old groups, with 50 (33.8 per cent) and 15 (10.1 per cent) respectively. Older people (65+) and younger people (10 to 24) participated in the online survey at much lower rates at 8 (5.4 per cent) and 5 (3.4 per cent) respectively.

While young people did not complete the survey in large numbers over half of survey respondents were from couple families with dependent children (82 or 53.9 per cent) (see Table 12). Many of these respondents spoke passionately about the needs of their dependent children and these results have been represented in this sample and integrated into the overall study findings.

Table 8: Age of respondents

Age group	Per cent	Number
10-14	0.7	1
15-19	2.0%	3
20-24	0.7%	1
25-39	33.8%	50
40-54	47.3%	70
55-64	10.1%	15
65+	5.4%	8
Total - answered question	100%	148
Skipped question		41

Graph 2: Respondents' age

**Cultural diversity**

Respondents were surveyed about their cultural background by asking about the main language spoken at home. Overall, 5 (3.3 per cent) of respondents reported that they speak a language other than English at home (see Table 9 below).

Table 9: Language spoken at home

English spoken at home	Per cent	Number
Yes	96.7%	148
No	3.3%	5
Total - answered question	100%	153
Skipped question		36

Of the 5 respondents who speak a language other than English at home, the most reported language was Greek with 2 respondents (33.3 per cent) speaking this at home. Other languages spoken at home were Portuguese, Japanese, French and Spanish (see Table 10 below).

Table 10: Name of language spoken at home

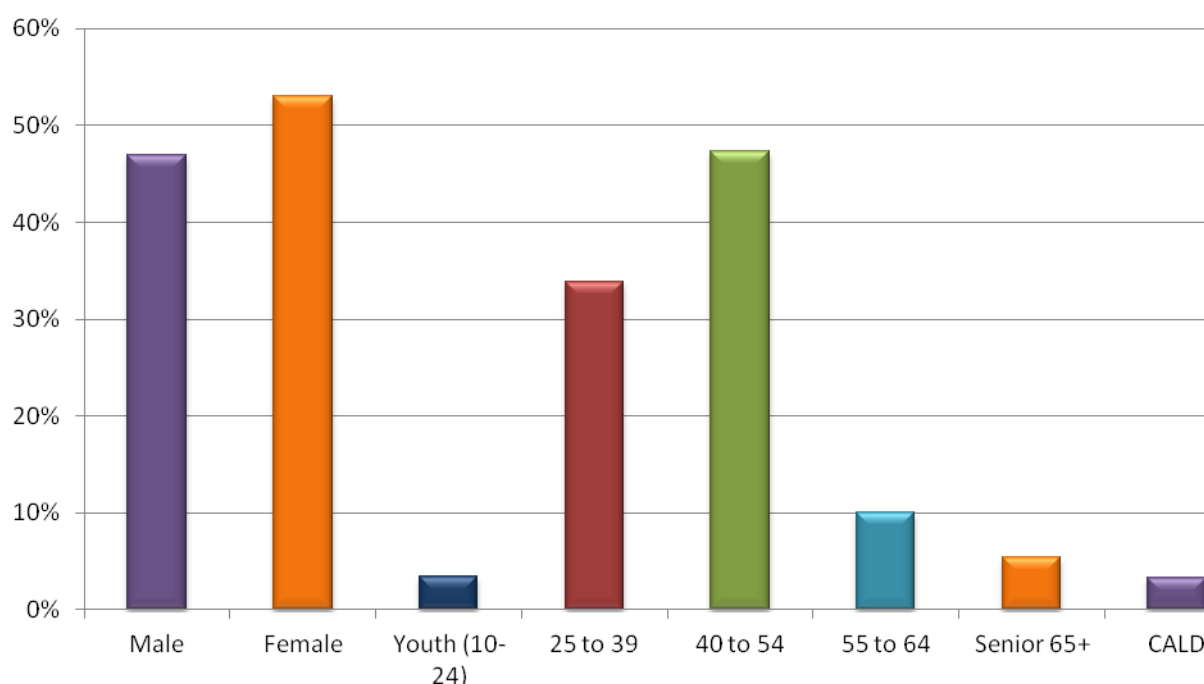
Language	Per cent	Number
Arabic	0.0%	0
Chinese (Mandarin or Cantonese)	0.0%	0
Greek	33.3%	2
Italian	0.0%	0
Portuguese	16.7%	1
Vietnamese	0.0%	0
Other: Japanese, French, Spanish	50.0%	3
Total - answered question		6
Skipped question		183

These demographic and cultural characteristics of respondents have been combined in a survey profile in Table 11 and in Graph 3, below.

Table 11: Overall profile of respondents

Group	Per cent	Number
Male	47.0%	71
Female	53.0%	80
Youth (10-24)	3.4%	5
25 to 39	33.8%	50
40 to 54	47.3%	70
55 to 64	10.1%	15
Senior 65+	5.4%	8
CALD	3.3%	5

Graph 3: Profile of respondents



Households

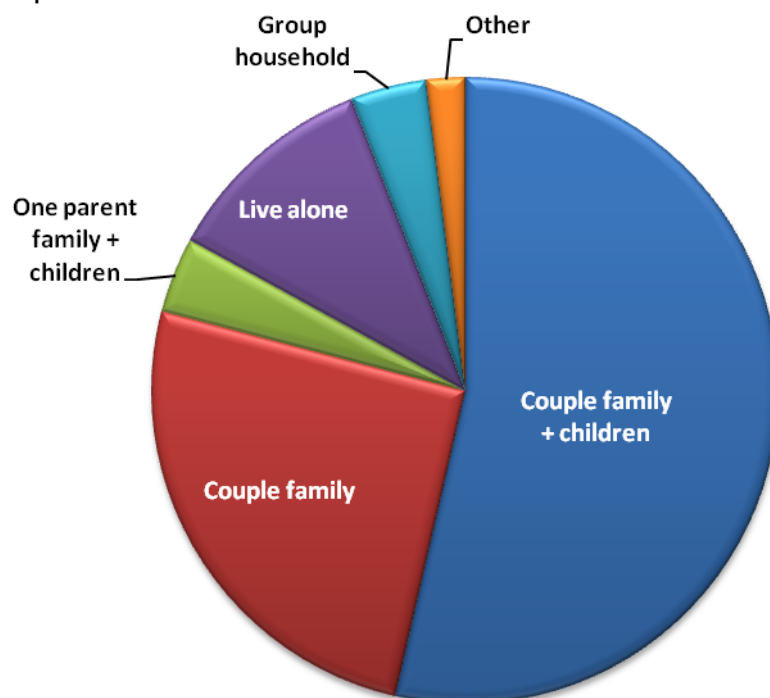
Survey respondents were asked to complete information about the characteristics of their households to assist Council to understand who was responding to the surveys and the usage patterns of the Park and its facilities. These questions asked them for information about their household type, employment status, language spoken at home and income.

The majority of respondents were couple families with or without dependent children (53.6 per cent and 25.5 per cent respectively), employed either full time or part time (64.1 per cent and 19.0 per cent respectively), from English speaking backgrounds (96.7 per cent) and who mostly earned incomes across the ranges from \$50, 000 to over \$150, 000/year (see Table 12, Table 13, Table 14). The largest group of respondents reporting household income (almost one third or 31.4 per cent) reported a household income of over \$150, 000 per year.

Table 12: Household type of respondents

Household type	Per cent	Number
Couple family with dependent children	53.6%	82
Couple family without dependent children	25.5%	39
One parent family with dependent children	3.9%	6
Live alone	11.1%	17
Group household (e.g. flatmates)	3.9%	6
Other	2.0%	3
Total - answered question		153
Skipped question		36

Graph 4: Households



The three respondents selecting the "other" option describe their living situations as:

- parent with adult children living at home
- couple family with adult offspring; caring for young pre-school grandchild during the week
- teenager.

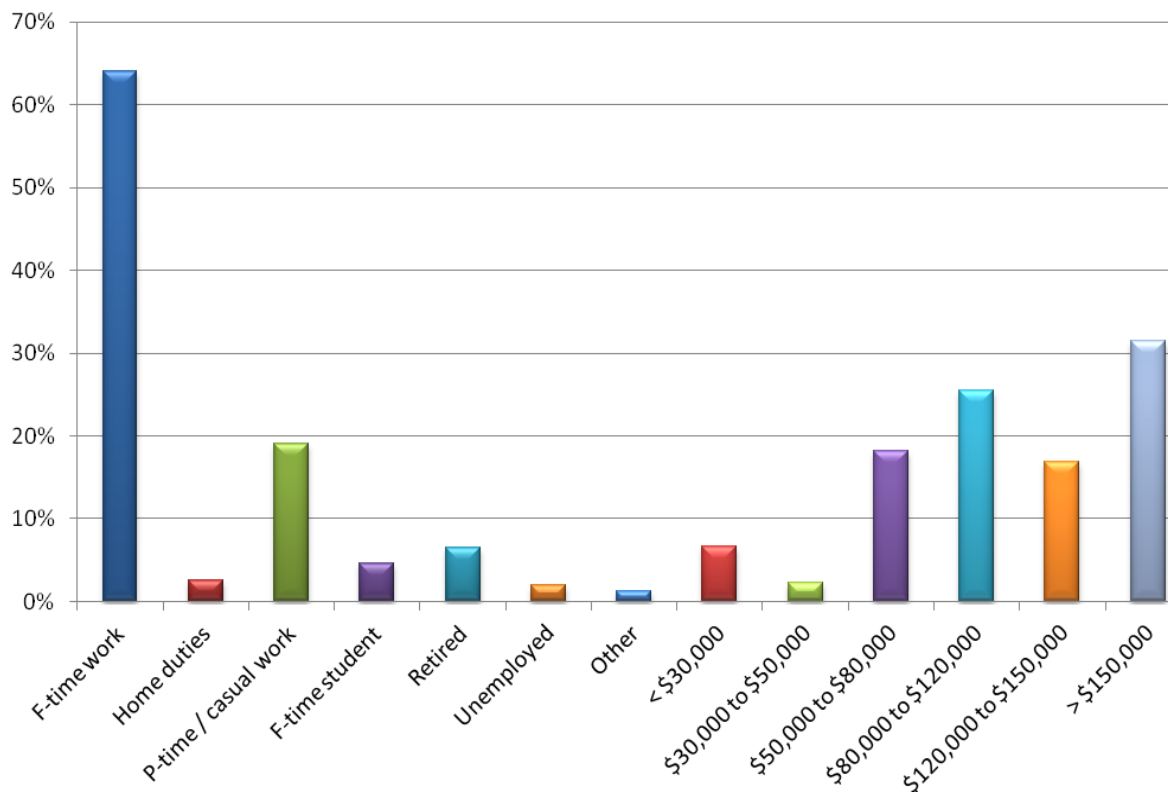
Table 13: Employment status of respondents

Employment status	Per cent	Number
Full-time work	64.1%	98
Home or family duties	2.6%	4
Part-time / casual work	19.0%	29
Full-time student	4.6%	7
Retired or not looking for work	6.5%	10
Unemployed, looking for work	2.0%	3
Other	1.3%	2
Total - answered question		153
Skipped question		36

Table 14: Household income of respondents

Income range	Per cent	Number
Less than \$30,000	6.6%	9
Between \$30,000 and \$50,000	2.2%	3
Between \$50,000 and \$80,000	18.2%	25
Between \$80,000 and \$120,000	25.5%	35
Between \$120,000 and \$150,000	16.8%	23
Over \$150,000	31.4%	43
Total - answered question		136
Skipped question		52

Graph 5: Employment status and household income



Profile of the participants of the public consultations

While no demographic data is collected at public consultations the 71 people who attended the public consultations were, based on observation, a heterogeneous group. While the majority appeared to be between the ages of 30 – 55 years of age, the group included some older residents (65+), a small number of young people (15-24) and some children who attended with their parents. The participants represented families, professional couples without children, single people and elderly couples. Across the three groups there was a balance of men and women and also a number of different cultural groups represented including Greek and German.

Participants were asked to complete an attendance sheet which included details of their name, address, email for follow up information and proximity to the park. Many of the participants at the consultations lived within easy walking distance (up to 500 metres) of the park. No less than 20 people indicated that they lived adjacent or over the road from the Park, could see the Park from windows of their home and walked through or recreated in the Park on a daily basis. These people were particularly concerned to ensure that the Park retained its balance of open space to active sport and also had some specific concerns about safety, noise and accessibility, and the potential impact of intensification of Park use on their homes and amenities.

Children, young adults and older people attended the public consultations, although, as reported above, their attendance rates were lower than those of other groups. However their views and needs were well represented and raised often by their family members/parents, relatives and friends.

Consultation Findings

The results of all forms of the consultation process (online public survey, online stakeholder survey, public and stakeholder forums, written submissions, telephone interviews and face-to-face consultations) have been collated and aggregated in specific categories such as Park facility use and individual Park elements. Facilities such as the grandstand, grass tennis courts etc. are discussed separately.

Integrated survey and general feedback

Park facility use

The grassy areas (that are separate from and surround the oval) are by far the most popular part of Marrickville Park with over half (55.2 per cent) of respondents using these areas *at least* once a week, 38.2 per cent using them *more than* once a week, and 17.0 per cent using them *once* a week. The grassy areas also are the least never used facility with only 6.1 per cent of respondents never using these areas (see Table 15) below.

In the public consultations these grassy 'passive-to-active' recreation areas were also highly ranked in terms of both their importance and their use. Usage included, walking, personal training, picnicking, dog walking (both on and off leash) and as a thoroughfare to get to and from home, into town via public transport or to go to the main shopping area.

There was considerable discussion about these areas, especially the area between the oval and Livingstone Road as a good location for an off leash dog area (see discussion below).

The next single most popular facility used by one quarter (25.8 per cent) of respondents at least once a week, is the children's playground with 12.9 per cent using it more than once a week and 17.1 per cent using it once a week.

Parents at the public consultations were very happy to have access to a much-valued play area however there was concern about the lack of equipment and also the use of bark chip for ground cover, as it caused a drainage problem after a strong rain and did not adhere to current soft landing requirements. This area of the Park is close to a reasonably busy street; however, while this was a concern for some parents, there was not a great deal of support for fencing off this area as this would reduce the connection to the Park as a whole. (See below for further discussion regarding options for improvement below of the playground area below).

The third and fourth most popular facilities are the playing field/oval and the non-grass tennis courts with 18.6 per cent and 16.0 per cent using these facilities at least once a week respectively. The grass tennis courts are slightly less popular than the non-grass courts with 13.0 per cent of respondents using these at least once a week.

Members of the tennis court were well represented at the public consultations and were very strongly in favour of the retention of grass courts at Marrickville Park. In general the local residents were happy with the level of shared access to the Park by passive and active sport and recreation groups (see discussion below).

The cricket training nets, the grandstand and the croquet lawn are the least used Park facilities with 5.4 per cent, 2.8 per cent and 1.4 per cent of respondents using them at least once a week. These three facilities also have the highest rates of never being used at 77.2 per cent, 66.2 per cent and 84.1 per cent respectively.

The general response in the public consultations reflected these findings; however a number of parents were strongly in favour of retaining the cricket training nets and reported that there was a high usage of the nets by parents and their children after school and on the weekends, especially in spring and summer. Only one person said that they used the grandstand, and this was for exercise rather than sitting (running up and down the stairs). Another respondent also person reported that they had seen the grandstand this used in this way. The lack of shade, aesthetic appeal and general condition were given as the main reasons for underutilisation.

'If I watch the game [on the oval] I sit on the bank under one of the trees. Why would I sit there [the grandstand]? Have you seen it? There is no shade. It is baking hot in summer.'

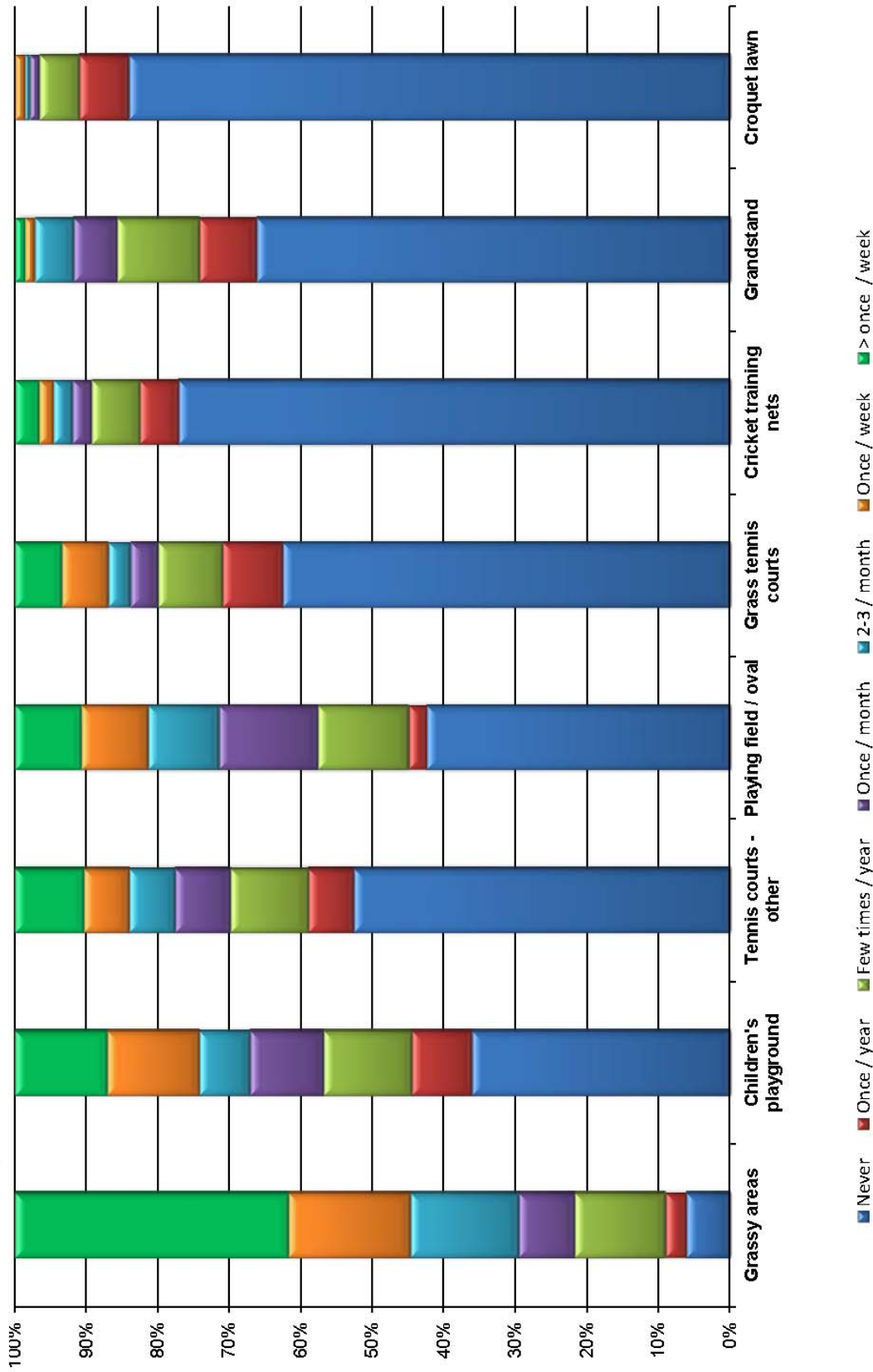
Very few people at the public consultations reported that they had seen or participated in any activity at the Croquet club however there have been submissions from members and feedback from several neighbours who use or like the usage of the area for croquet (see discussion below).

Almost one third (27.3 %) of respondents reported using "Other" facilities at least one a week and the large majority of these are using paths for: walking; running; jogging; dog walking; and riding bicycles, scooters and tricycles. They are also using picnic facilities, the tennis clubhouse and the public toilets more than once a week.

Table 15: Frequency of facility use

Facility	Never		Once a year		A few times a year		Once a month		2 to 3 times a month		Once a week		More than once a week		Total	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Grassy areas (not oval)	10	6.1%	5	3.0%	21	12.7%	13	7.9%	25	15.2%	28	17.0%	63	38.2%	165	100.0%
Other	29	52.7%	0	0.0%	1	1.8%	3	5.5%	4	7.3%	3	5.5%	15	27.3%	55	100.0%
Children's playground	56	36.1%	13	8.4%	19	12.3%	16	10.3%	11	7.1%	20	12.9%	20	12.9%	155	100.0%
Playing field / oval	64	42.4%	4	2.6%	19	12.6%	21	13.9%	15	9.9%	14	9.3%	14	9.3%	151	100.0%
Tennis courts (other surfaces)	82	52.6%	10	6.4%	17	10.9%	12	7.7%	10	6.4%	10	6.4%	15	9.6%	156	100.0%
Grass tennis courts	97	62.6%	13	8.4%	14	9.0%	6	3.9%	5	3.2%	10	6.5%	10	6.5%	155	100.0%
Cricknet training nets	115	77.2%	8	5.4%	10	6.7%	4	2.7%	4	2.7%	3	2.0%	5	3.4%	149	100.0%
Grandstand	98	66.2%	12	8.1%	17	11.5%	9	6.1%	8	5.4%	2	1.4%	2	1.4%	148	100.0%
Croquet lawn	122	84.1%	10	6.9%	8	5.5%	2	1.4%	1	0.7%	2	1.4%	0	0.0%	145	100.0%
Total - answered question	178															
Skipped question	11															

Graph 6: Park facilities - frequency of use



21

Why do people visit or use Marrickville Park?

Respondents were asked for the two main reasons they visit or use Marrickville Park. They were provided with a range of options from which to select and were also provided with the opportunity to add reasons that was not included in the available options.

That the Park is an attractive place to walk was the single most frequent reason for using or visiting the Park with almost half (47.2 per cent) respondents selecting this response (see Table 16 below).

Walking the dog or off leash area was the next most popular reason for visiting Marrickville Park with well over one third (38.6 per cent) of respondents visiting for this reason.

The third most popular reason for visiting was children's play with over one third (38.1 per cent) of respondents doing this which is most likely indicates the large number of respondents in couple families with dependent children using the playground.

Relaxation closely follows as a popular reason for using the Park with one third (36.6 per cent) of respondents visiting for this reason.

The least popular reasons for visiting the Park were school sport (3.4 per cent) and Tai Chi or other class (0.0 per cent).

Eighteen (10.2 per cent) respondents indicated they visit or use the Park for other activities including:

- running by myself / jogging
- exercise
- play
- cycling
- tennis coaching
- route to bus stop
- children's cricket training.

Table 16: Reason for park visit or use

Activity	Per cent	Number
Attractive place to walk	47.2%	83
Walking the dog or off leash area	38.6%	68
Children's play	38.1%	67
Relaxation	36.4%	64
Social sport	21.0%	37
Competitive sport	17.0%	30
Weekend sport	14.2%	25
Personal training	10.2%	18
Other	10.2%	18
Picnic	9.1%	16
School sport	3.4%	6
Tai Chi or other class	0.0%	0
Total - answered question		176
Skipped question		13

Graph 7: Reason for Park visit or use



Why do people do these activities at Marrickville Park?

Respondents were asked for the two main reasons they undertake their most popular activities at Marrickville Park. Again they were provided with a range of options from which to select and were also provided with the opportunity to add reasons that was not included in the available options.

Over half (52.3 per cent) of respondents cited fun, as the main reason for doing activities at the Park (see Table 17 below).

Fitness and relaxation are also highly popular at the Park with almost half of respondents indicating these reasons (48.9 per cent and 45.4 per cent) respectively.

Health and being social were popular reasons for being at the Park with both being selected by around one third of respondents at 33.3 per cent and 31.0 percent respectively.

The least popular reasons for doing an activity at the Park were competition (16.7 per cent), support my dependant / partner / local team (2.3 per cent) and personal development (1.7 per cent).

27 (15.5 per cent) respondents indicated they have other reasons for doing activities at Marrickville Park including:

- close to home / our closest park
- not walking on concrete
- being part of dog walking community/ safety
- convenience / walking distance from home

- it is the nearest public outdoor space for grandchild to socialise with children his age
- It's potentially a great park
- variety of play activities
- walking the dog.

Table 17: Reason for doing activity at Marrickville Park

Reason for doing activity	Per cent	Number
Fun	52.3%	91
Fitness	48.9%	85
Relaxation	45.4%	79
Health	33.3%	58
Social	31.0%	54
Competition	16.7%	29
Other	15.5%	27
Support my dependant / partner / local team	2.3%	4
Personal development	1.7%	3
Total - answered question		174
Skipped question		15

Graph 8: Reason for doing activity at Marrickville Park



Facilities that are need but not provided

Respondents were asked if they need any facilities at Marrickville Park that are not currently provided. Two thirds (66.5 per cent) of respondents indicated that more, and other, facilities are needed.

Table 18: The need for other facilities

Need other facilities	Per cent	Number
Yes	66.5%	109
No	33.5%	55
Total - answered question	100%	164
Skipped question		25

One hundred and fifteen respondents made over 130 suggestions for facilities they think are needed in the Park. These suggestions have been listed in the table below and again in Table 21 by keyword and category.

Table 19: Categories of suggested facilities

Category / key word	Sub-category /Key word	Number of mentions	Per cent	Comments
Dogs	Leash	22	16%	All 22 want an area 'designated' for off leash walking 2 want designated hours 1 fenced dog area – 1
	Lead	4	3%	All want a dog area 1 fenced area 1 seating next to dog area
	Dog tidy bags	5	4%	All want dog tidy bags to be provide
Subtotal		31		
Playground	Play Area	16	12%	1 make better for younger children 4 make playground better / upgrade play equipment 1 safety 2 fenced/gated 2 shade 2 1 shelter 1 1 playground for older children 2 seats near play area 2 toilets near play area
	Playground	9	7%	3 make better for younger children 3 make playground better / upgrade play facilities 1 danger 1 fenced 3 shade 1 <adventure> playground for older kids (like Vic Park) 2 seats near playground 1 toilets & bubbler near 1 waterplay park
Subtotal		25		
Cafe	Cafe	7	5%	All want a café
	Coffee Shop	3	2%	All want a café
Subtotal		10		
Park		14	10%	
Tennis Courts		7	5%	
Club		7	5%	

Community		6	4%	
Seats		6	4%	
Public Toilets		4	3%	4 want more and better toilets 1 toilets are disgusting
Nice		4	3%	
Tables		4	3%	
Lighting		3	2%	
Shelter		3	2%	
BBQ Area		2	1%	
Local Residents		2	1%	
Street		2	1%	
Benches		2	1%	
Bubblers		2	1%	
Exercise		2	1%	
Receptacle		2	1%	
Total keywords		138	100%	

A sample of indicative comments using the keywords above includes:

Children's Playground and Youth Recreation

- *Play equipment that is safe and not stuck in the 1980's*
- *Better children's playground*
- *Bike/scooter paths integrated with new/updated play equipment would make park more attractive for young families like my own*
- *Fenced children play areas*
- *The children's area should have a safety fence separating it from Frazer Street and the traffic*
- *Some facilities for teenagers would be good - particularly an area incorporating netball or basketball hoops*

Adult Exercise

- *Outdoor Exercise Equipment*
- *Stretching stations*
- *I am a social tennis player who is most upset that the club has been neglected. There is nowhere for us to go after competition*

Dog off-leash area and dogs generally

- *Dog [tidy] bags and bins*
- *Fenced area for dogs to be walked*
- *Dog waste bags but have to say vast majority of dog owners bring their own and park very well taken care of*

Public Toilets

- *Clean/safe bathrooms.*
- *Clean safe public toilets*

Outdoor eating, cafe and other amenities

- *BBQ area, more places to sit, more tables*
- *Picnic areas amenities for social gatherings*
- *Picnic tables and seats*
- *Picnic Facilities*
- *Updated drinking bubblers at grandstand and near children's play area*
- *The park would benefit from some good BBQs (like the ones in Steel Park – coin operated is fine) and some nice shaded picnic tables near the BBQ.*

- BBQs would be nice!
- Updated park benches in place of the sad and dreary ones currently in place; a picnic shelter for protection from rain with attractive tables and benches, taps and bubblers and barbeques
- If you could annex a little coffee shop of the croquet field I think that would really work there!
- Would be nice to have a place to visit that had restaurants or cafes or outdoor areas to just sit and enjoy
- A modern state of the art club for the community as well as perhaps a cafe for the local residents. Great location

Access issues

- [I would like to see a] Pedestrian crossing for Frazer Street
- It would be good if the roadway to the tennis club could be closed or traffic restricted.
- We would love to see the road closed into the park other than for council vehicles - as this would enable children to cycle around the path in the park without having to worry about traffic going into the tennis/karate club

Trees and landscaping

- Shady trees away from the road.
- More Trees (currently concentrated around perimeter)
- More nature force provided by more trees, shrubs & a screen from the traffic for instance with thick hedges). This would allow me to relax in this park & then consider any other recreational activities.
- More attractive deciduous trees like jacarandas and medium-sized trees like crepe myrtle, which will liven up the park, bring a smile to park users, provide shade in summer and light in winter. At the moment the monotonous, dark green of the box trees and palms as well as the sad-looking, struggling old camellia shrubs, is depressing. The exception is the rose bed, which is a joy, when in bloom. A few more flower beds with hardy plants would be appreciated, bearing in mind the uplifting effects of bright, colourful flowers.

Ranking the condition of the facilities at Marrickville Park

Respondents to the survey were asked to rate the quality of the facilities at Marrickville Park.

Generally the Park's facilities rated well across several services and features. However, the toilets rated very poorly with almost two thirds (60.4 per cent) of respondents rating them as poor or very poor (30.6 per cent and 29.8 per cent respectively). This rating is double the second worst rating which was for fencing. Only 7.3 per cent of respondents rated the toilets as good or excellent (see Table 20 below).

As mentioned above, fencing received the second worst rating with almost one third (30.0 per cent) of respondents rating the Park's fencing as poor or very poor (22.2 per cent and 6.8 per cent respectively).

The three features which received the next lowest ratings (poor and very poor combined) were the grandstand (28.0 per cent), children's playground (25.4 per cent) and the tennis courts (other surfaces) (22.8 per cent).

Grassy areas (apart from the oval) received the highest ratings with a total of 83.6 per cent of respondents rating them as good or very good (70.4 per cent and 13.2 per cent

respectively). No-one rated the grassy areas as very poor and only 3.9 per cent rated them as poor.

The other two highly rated features were the playing field/oval surface and the grass tennis courts (64.5 per cent and 52.7 per cent rated good or very good respectively. No-one rated the oval surface or grass tennis courts as very poor and only 1.8 per cent and 0.9 per cent of respondents rated them as poor respectively.

While the fencing received little attention in the public consultations the grandstand, the current state of the children's playground and the Pile Street courts were all discussed in great detail.

Many participants indicated that they would be happy to see the removal of the grandstand as long as it was not replaced with a larger structure or asphalt. Residents were keen to see an increase, not a decrease, in passive open space. The possibility expansion of open space and/or picnic BBQ areas in this location was positively received.

Survey respondents included "other" features in their ratings. A sample of these features includes:

- *Pedestrian access [needs improving]*
- *Some work needed on ramp to croquet lawn and retaining walls*
- *Stables are poorly kept. BBQ area poorly kept. Bubblers could be better*
- *Bicycle path through the park is poor - too narrow*
- *Open area between mound & Livingstone Rd perfect for dogs off lead*
- *Half the hard tennis court surfaces are good but half desperately need repainting/resurfacing*
- *Grand Stand area and bitumen area leading to tennis courts [in poor condition]*

Children's Play

- *Re the current children's playground: it's dismal & uninviting and some equipment is unsafe. e.g. the smaller slide (on the western side of the area) has climbing steps whose two side railings have nothing to prevent a small toddler from falling from under the railings. This slide also ends at too great/unsafe a height from the ground for a young child. Nearly all the play equipment are tired-looking as well as not stimulating and in need of replacing with a variety of colourful, inviting and stimulating new ones like those in Steele Park and Enmore Park.*
- *The present 'under floor' of mulch gets muddy and soggy in wet weather. New safe and cushiony 'flooring' needed. A sandpit would be a welcome addition. If a low attractive fence were installed on the Fraser St. side of this area to protect young children from the traffic,*
- *The Magic Yellow bus could provide its excellent service for pre-school kids in the nearby area.*
- *The leaning tree between croquet and playground is iconic and beloved of children*

Only two respondents were negative about the Park:

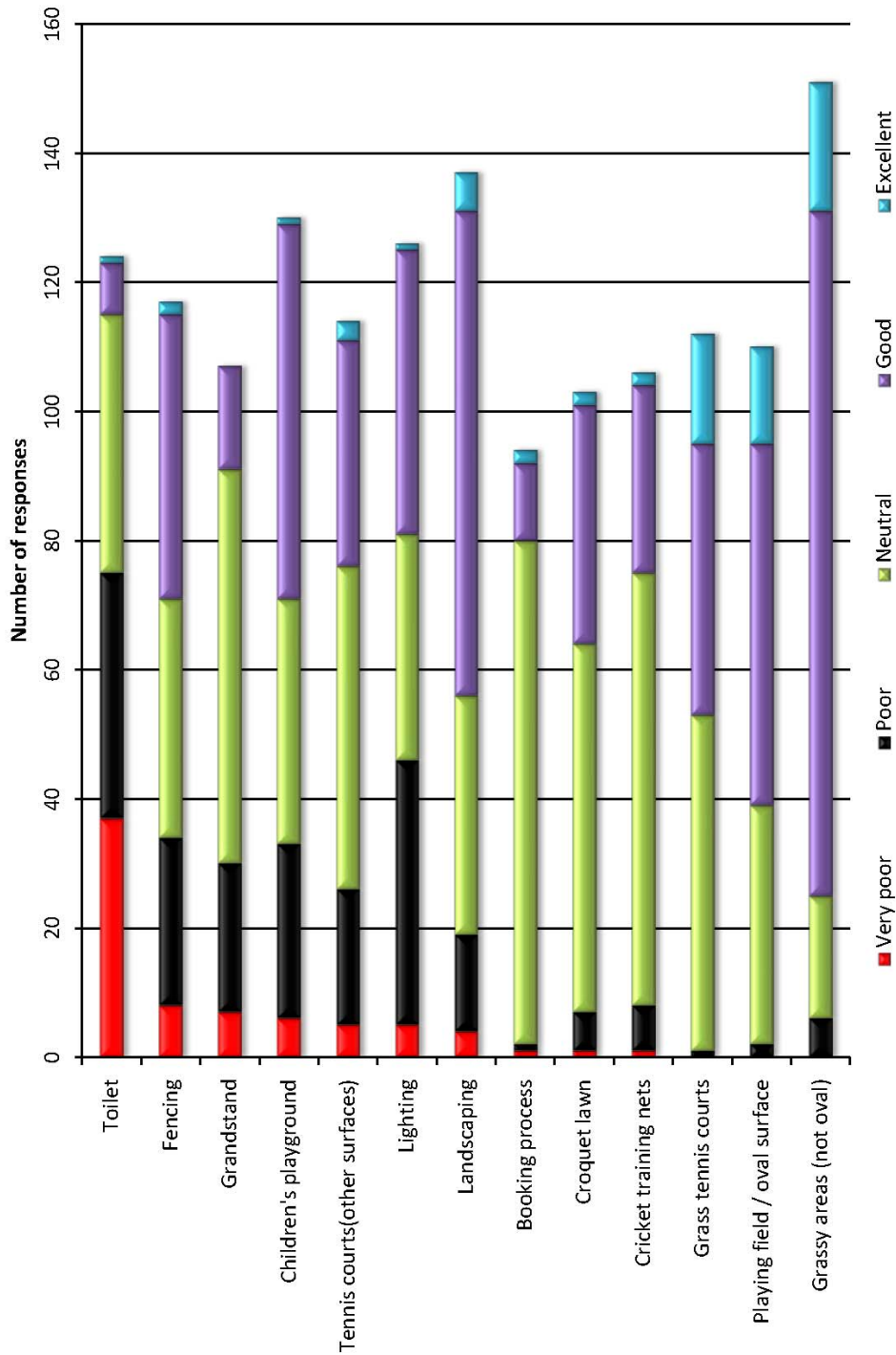
- *It is a lousy park. No reason for anyone to go there.*
- *Seats are appalling better seating provided in 3rd world countries*

Most respondents to the survey and participants in the consultations were positive in their responses and desirous of improvements to what they consider to be a valued natural asset.

Table 20: Rating the quality of the condition of park facilities

Park facility	Very poor Number	Very poor Per cent	Poor Number	Poor Per cent	Neutral Number	Neutral Per cent	Good Number	Good Per cent	Excellent Number	Excellent Per cent	Total Number	Total Per cent
Other	7	33.3%	0	0.0%	12	57.1%	0	0.0%	2	9.5%	21	100.0%
Toilet	37	29.8%	38	30.6%	40	32.3%	8	6.5%	1	0.8%	124	100.0%
Fencing	8	6.8%	26	22.2%	37	31.6%	44	37.6%	2	1.7%	117	100.0%
Grandstand	7	6.5%	23	21.5%	61	57.0%	16	15.0%	0	0.0%	107	100.0%
Children's playground	6	4.6%	27	20.8%	38	29.2%	58	44.6%	1	0.8%	130	100.0%
Tennis courts (other surfaces)	5	4.4%	21	18.4%	50	43.9%	35	30.7%	3	2.6%	114	100.0%
Lighting	5	4.0%	41	32.5%	35	27.8%	44	34.9%	1	0.8%	126	100.0%
Landscaping	4	2.9%	15	10.9%	37	27.0%	75	54.7%	6	4.4%	137	100.0%
Booking process	1	1.1%	1	1.1%	78	83.0%	12	12.8%	2	2.1%	94	100.0%
Croquet lawn	1	1.0%	6	5.8%	57	55.3%	37	35.9%	2	1.9%	103	100.0%
Cricket training nets	1	0.9%	7	6.6%	67	63.2%	29	27.4%	2	1.9%	106	100.0%
Grassy areas (not oval)	0	0.0%	6	3.9%	19	12.5%	107	70.4%	20	13.2%	152	100.0%
Playing field / oval surface	0	0.0%	2	1.8%	37	33.6%	56	50.9%	15	13.6%	110	100.0%
Grass tennis courts	0	0.0%	1	0.9%	52	46.4%	42	37.5%	17	15.2%	112	100.0%
Total - answered question											165	
Skipped question											24	

Graph 9: Ranking facilities at Marrickville Park



Respondents were asked to explain the above ratings they gave for the Park facilities. A total of 123 respondents provided an explanation and overall comments were generally a mixture of positive and negative responses and many offered suggestions for improvements. Most individual respondents also commented on multiple issues in their explanations. Two respondents summed up many of the general concerns in their comments:

'I would use the park more often if the facilities, lights, paths, toilets were better. BBQ would be great for family gatherings as I live in a unit and don't have room to have people over. Have seen people doing tai chi in the mornings and would like to try it one day. Hope Council can improve it.'

'I play tennis once a week and find the courts to be in good condition. The courts that are not part of the tennis club are not a great surface to play on and I do not use them for than once or twice a year. The toilets behind the grandstand need to be improved poor lightening and not always clean.'

All other explanations have been summarised and categorised below by feature (from worst rated to best rated), followed by indicative quotes.

Toilets

The toilets were the most commented upon feature of the Park and most respondents had similar concerns about them. A summary of these includes:

- More toilet facilities are needed in other areas of the Park, particular near the playground to make them for accessible for parents and children
- The current toilets need major repair and updating
- The current toilets are unsafe
- All toilets (current and new) need better maintenance.

Many respondents were very clear regarding their opinion of the poor quality of the current toilet facilities. An indicative sample of these includes:

- *Toilets are creepy*
- *Toilets are not always clean*
- *Toilets are old, but clean*
- *Poor bathroom facilities*
- *Lack of toilet facilities within close proximity to the northern end of the park, which is most heavily used is a problem (e.g. kids playing in park have a long way to go and if they go alone are out of sight of their parents)*
- *Toilet facilities are not safe and attract undesirables from time to time which make it scary as no one around sometimes to patrol area*
- *Toilets need upgrading and regular maintaining. In fact it would be of benefit to demolish the existing toilets and re-build them someplace safer.*
- *The toilets area a disgrace; they're filthy and disgusting and miles away i.e. behind the grandstand.*

Fencing

Respondents had concerns about fencing in different areas of the Park and a summary of these includes:

- *The Park needs a perimeter fence because of busy surrounding roads*
- *Some residents suggested a fence around playground*
- *The tennis court fence needs repair*
- *Using landscaping to act as a natural fence*
- *Using fences to separate children and dogs.*

Some indicative comments about fencing:

- *Pickets are off the oval fence*
- *Playground could use a fence*
- *There needs to be more trees along the roadsides to prevent the view of the streets and enclose the park more*
- *Fence on oval has a few gaps*
- *It would be great to have a fence around the kids area for the proximity to the road and the number of dogs that are off leash in the park*
- *Fence posts have been kicked off the fence. Nails are often facing up for people to step on. I regularly have been turning these over to prevent others stepping on them.*

Grandstand

Explanations about the grandstand area were more of a mix of positive and negative comments with most concerns being about the location and quality of the toilets under the grandstand. A summary of comments includes:

- *The toilets are dirty, ill lit and dangerous*
- *The grandstand is under-utilised*
- *The grandstand needs more shade.*

Some indicative comments about the grandstand:

- *The toilets are in a poor condition and dangerously located behind the grandstand where you feel unsafe as it is out of sight.*
- *The grandstand and ground level benches should be shaded for sun protection.*
- *Grandstand could use a roof, and nobody uses it, citizen doesn't know why it is still there, toilets are pretty poor - just old*
- *I would love to see the toilets and grandstand area upgraded*
- *Sporting groups, particularly league supporters leave a lot of rubbish around the grandstand. The park is popular place for locals and the facilities and function of the park need to be advanced to meet demand and expectations.*

Children's playground

The children's playground was also an important topic with many respondents providing a range of mostly negative comments, with a few neutral and positive comments. A summary of issues around the playground includes:

- *The playground equipment needs urgent updating*
- *There needs to be more play equipment for young children*
- *There needs to be more equipment and activities for older children and teenagers*
- *There needs to be a clean and safe toilet near the playground*
- *The surface of the playground needs updating*
- *The playground area could be fenced, particularly to keep children in and dogs out of the playground.*

Some indicative comments about the playground include:

- *A soft fall rubber floor and updated play equipment in the park would make it a lot more appealing*
- *I'm not aware of a toilet in the park? The swings are generally in ok condition but are quite old*
- *Children's play area on busy road and not fenced. no off lead dog section. cars driving over 10km/hr inside park to gym/tennis*
- *The playground is too spread out and very dated. The bark is not a nice surface to play on. There is limited seating for adults and it is not close the equipment which*

is handy when you have small babies and older children. The playground is not gated which is not safe so close to the road and again not helpful when you have multiple children to supervise. We would hold parties and social gatherings there if there were tables and better toilets

- Grass is often very long, playground needs upgrading and bark chips are dirty and messy. Have not used the toilet as I didn't know there was one. Maybe some signage would be useful. Dogs are sometimes off leash.
- The children's play equipment could do with being updated and also it would be good if there were some facilities for teenage children - such as a basketball hoop or flying fox. The toilets are in a poor condition and dangerously located behind the grandstand where you feel unsafe as it is out of sight
- We have small children and a dog so play equipment, toilets, off leash area and especially a cafe are important.
- The area under the swings should not be bark but be fixed as with any wet weather these swings can't be used, it's a huge puddle. playground equipment needs refresh
- Playground equipment gets no sunlight in winter and can be a cold foreboding place for kids to play at that time of year. Moved into sunlight with a little modernisation would lift the look and feel enormously. All facilities at the park look old and forgotten, if not completely revamped then some love would be advisable. I love the rose garden and it should become a public project, I would love to care for a part of it.
- The park has too many dogs [defecating] near where kids play. Unhygienic. Council rangers need to patrol this. Give us things to do... basketball a club?

Tennis courts (other surfaces)

The non-grass tennis courts are popular with some respondents who provided a fairly even mix of positive and negative comments about the courts. A summary of their comments includes:

- Some of the courts are in good condition
- Some courts need urgent resurfacing
- The hard courts' surfaces are in worse condition than the grass courts
- There are too many cars around the courts
- The fencing needs upgrading.

Some indicative comments about the non-grass tennis courts:

- Play on the synthetic grass courts and they are in good condition. Not sure that the hard courts are very good
- Courts need re-surfacing
- Tennis courts rough
- The park is a great place. There always people using it. I think the proposed development of the tennis clubhouse would spoil the park
- Old tennis courts look and feel very run down, surface is old, rough and uneven.
- I play tennis once a week and find the courts to be in good condition. The courts that are not part of the tennis club are not a great surface to play on and I do not use them more than once or twice a year.
- I use the other surface tennis courts, but surface is in need of an upgrade
- I think the park basically works well but the facilities in the south west corner around the tennis could be improved e.g. a 25 metre pool and get rid of the car park
- Fencing around the tennis courts, especially the artificial grass courts, is in need of repair. vandals are a problem with both gaining illegal entry to the courts and to the tennis club premises

- *I am referring to the hard court tennis courts to the back of the club house - there are four courts and two are good but two are in a pretty dire state. There are often people using all the courts but those two really need repainting or resurfacing.*
- *Pile Street tennis courts could be upgraded to synthetic grass*
- *Reduce the car access to the tennis courts or the speed the cars travel through this area.*

Lighting

Comments about the lighting were mostly negative with many respondents concerned about safety in the Park due to poor lighting, especially near the toilets. A summary of their comments includes:

- *Lighting throughout the park needs improvement*
- *Lighting is poor*
- *Better lighting will improve safety*
- *Walking at night is dangerous*
- *Toilets must be better lit.*

Some indicative comments about lighting:

- *Little or no renovation has occurred in years...Lights are below standard and so too are public toilets. Nowhere to eat or drink in a park of this size is hard to believe*
- *Overall the park facilities are good, however improved lighting would be beneficial to the community*
- *Lighting in the park is poor - I would not walk through the park at night, I'd walk around the edge (Frazer St), but even that is dark too but safer by the road*
- *Doesn't think lighting would improve undesirable night activities*
- *Lighting was initially bad but now is well maintained*
- *Lighting could be much better*
- *It is difficult to see and frightening when walking through the park at night*
- *Fencing, landscaping and children's playground a bit old and dated, could be done up. Better signed toilet facilities and lighting in the public area would be great.*

Landscaping

Many respondents provided a fairly even mix of positive and negative comments about the Park's landscaping. A summary of their comments includes:

- *People enjoy sitting and relaxing amongst the landscaped areas*
- *The Park needs improved landscaping such as more trees and gardens*
- *The landscaping could be freshened up and modernised*
- *The current landscaping is boring*
- *The GyMEA lilies are well liked and require more attention*
- *Landscaping can be used to act as a barrier to the busy surrounding roads.*

Some indicative comments about the Parks landscaping:

- *The rose bed is beautiful and well kept, and the palm trees suit the situation - I just think the GyMEA lilies could be supported by better landscaping*
- *As I only walk/sit in this park I commented on the lawn & landscaping. It is good, but there is too much contact with busy roads*
- *Fencing, landscaping and children's playground a bit old and dated, could be done up*
- *Landscaping could be freshened up - a bit more interesting. Grassy areas are extensive with nice shade*

- The two Gynea lilies are nice, but there could be more in the bed that they're in than just them
- The rose bed is beautiful and well kept, and the palm trees suit the situation -I just think the Gynea lilies could be supported by better landscaping.
- I answered in this way because with all the many parks in this LGA, the element of providing spaces of nature for the many, many benefits it holds for health & well-being - is not actually provided in this LGA. Most of the parks that I see are open to traffic, have few trees, lots of woodchip & no places where you can relax with a book, or enjoy the nature scape for contemplation, or walk on natural ground cover. Pretty much 100% of side branches are taken off trees, and there are no spaces created by flowers & bushes that gives different sections in parks where people can enjoy a picnic or gathering. Yes, people can gather & picnic but it is all open! There are many benefits to be had from creating sections in parks via bushes & flower beds & trees of different sizes. The large park near the bottom of Norton St Leichhardt is an excellent example where this is created.
- It does not take much to create gardens & parks in this way. But it is a much better use of park space than the somewhat boring landscapes that we currently have. I have also answered in this way because I think the way most of our large parks are open to traffic completely takes away any opportunity to relax in these settings.

The point was made by one resident that the maintenance of the sports facilities is perceived to be more frequent than the maintenance of the general park and that this disproportionate allocation of resource is not in keeping with the park usage.

- Sporting facilities in excellent condition and dominate park yet only serve small % of population. More investment required in passive recreational facilities and landscaping that serve greater % of community

Booking process

No respondents mentioned concerns with the booking process.

Croquet lawn

Few respondents made comments about the croquet lawn and those that did were mostly positive. They mentioned that:

- The fence needs replacing
- The area is under used
- The croquet lawn is a loved historical facility.

The comments about the croquet lawn are:

- The fencing around the Croquet Club is ugly and in places bent
- Other facilities are adequate - of course we could do with more play equipment and better seats, but we make do with what we have and enjoy their charm!
- We also love to see that the croquet lawn is still there as it gives a unique charm to the park. I hope it is there when my daughter is older as it a great birthday party venue for croquet themed party and gives a sense of history to the park.
- Croquet area doesn't seem to be used much.

Cricket training nets

Few respondents also made comments about the cricket training nets and those that did were mostly negative. They mentioned that:

- The nets need improving or replacing
- The numbers of nets could be increased as they are popular.

The comments about the cricket nets are:

- *Cricket nets are rusty and need resurfacing. Also needs some benches nearby to store kit*
- *Cricket nets can be a bit random but they are very well utilised (perhaps there needs to be more)*
- *More policing of dogs. policing of cricket sight screen used a soccer kick-wall.*

Grass tennis courts

Few respondents made comments about the grass tennis courts and those that did were gave mix of positive and negative concerns. This aligns with the findings that the grass tennis courts received the third best ranking in terms of quality. A summary of their comments includes:

- *The courts' surfaces are uneven*
- *The clubhouse needs renovation*
- *The courts need open toilets close by*
- *The courts are unique.*

Some indicative comments about the grass tennis courts:

- *The grass tennis courts are unique in Sydney*
- *The tennis courts are a fantastic addition to the area, and the grass courts should be maintained to allow the tradition of the tennis club to continue*
- *Due to no club [not being a member] we are forced to use outdated smelly toilets. Nowhere to eat or drink whilst being at the tennis due to club closed*
- *Referring to Lawn Tennis Club which badly requires renovating*
- *Re Marrickville Lawn Tennis Club which requires major renovations to update Club premises and help attract new members.*

More in-depth commentary was made on the grass courts by people attending the evening consultation on 15 November and is discussed below.

Playing field / oval surface

Several respondents commented upon the playing field / oval with a mix of positive and negative concerns. A summary of their comments includes:

- *The oval surface is uneven*
- *The oval is underutilised*
- *The fence needs repairs and frequent maintenance*
- *More landscaping and gardens around the oval.*

Some indicative comments about the playing field / oval:

- *I notice sometimes that the pickets are removed by bored losers around the oval sometimes - which is a shame, it is nice fence*
- *Oval underutilised*
- *The Oval should be replaced with Artificial Turf to permit its use when wet. Sporting Facilities in excellent condition and dominate park yet only serve small % of population. More investment required in passive recreational facilities and landscaping that serve greater % of community*
- *Also the picket fence around the oval is in need of repair and replacement; surely it's a hazard and could be replaced by simpler and safer fencing*
- *Next, so much time and energy is wasted on mowing lawns, why not increase the amount of native gardens within the oval's surrounds*
- *I have to dodge large holes when running on the oval.*

Grassy areas (not oval)

Several respondents commented upon the grassy areas and most were positive which aligns with the findings that grassy areas are the most popular part of the Park and that they received the best ranking in terms of quality. A summary of their comments includes:

- *Drainage for the grassy areas needs improvements*
- *The areas could use more shade*
- *The areas could use more seating*
- *The surfaces are uneven*
- *The areas need more maintenance and mowing.*

Some indicative comments about the grassy areas:

- *During rain mowing is inadequate*
- *Grassy area sometimes floods when it has been raining*
- *Grass area is uneven with ditches*
- *There's too much grassed area around that could better be used as gardens*
- *The playground could be more interesting, but I think the large grassy area is great for children and dogs*
- *Grassy areas are extensive with nice shade*
- *The grass is well maintained but there is not enough seating and existing seating is badly placed*
- *Grass is often very long.... dogs are sometimes off leash.*

General comments about the quality of the Park

Some respondents took the opportunity to comment upon more general aspects of the Park which do not relate to the specific features or facilities listed above. Many of these were about the need for a separate dog walking area.

A sample of indicative general comments about the Park includes:

- *Most facilities good, could be better*
- *Park just needs upgrade*
- *Park has lots of potential*
- *It does not take much to create gardens & parks in this way. But it is a much better use of park space than the somewhat boring landscapes that we currently have. I have also answered in this way because I think the way most of our large parks are open to traffic completely takes away any opportunity to relax in these settings*
- *There needs to be more trees along the roadsides to prevent the view of the streets and enclose the park more. Plant more trees, need better drinking fountains, need Council Rangers to stop dog owners allowing their dogs to [defecate] everywhere, the children's play area is obsolete and pathetic; it should have much better play equipment, be fenced off from dogs, have shaded areas and BBQ and seating for families. Every time I go I see families with young kids struggling to use the old equipment which is often vandalised. Why not upgrade it, enlarge it, fence it off (to keep the dogs out and kids in) and make it more of an attraction? Also the picket fence around the oval is in need of repair and replacement; surely it's a hazard and could be replaced by simpler and safer fencing?*
- *Finally, can more be done to separate dogs and the other park users? Can they have their own separate dog area?*

Improvements for Marrickville Park

Respondents were asked if there is anything else that would improve their experiences at Marrickville Park and were given a series of options to select. A total of 152 respondents answered this question (see Table 21 below) and their selections for improvements closely align with their quality rankings above.

Well over half (59.9 per cent) of respondents indicated that amenities (such as toilets and canteens) need improving and this response rate is 14.5 per cent higher than any other facility requiring improvement. This response very closely aligns with the toilets being the worst rated facility in the Park and as the facility which drew most negative comments.

The need for an off-leash dog area (or areas) received the second highest rating as a Park improvement with almost half (45.4 per cent) of respondents wanting this improvement.

Improved Park lighting was also a very popular needed improvement with 42.1 per cent of respondents selecting this option. Again, this response rate very closely aligns with (lack of) lighting, drawing many negative comments in the facility rating section.

Four suggested improvements were each selected by around one third of respondents. They included:

- More park based events and festivals (38.2 per cent)
- More shaded areas (35.5 per cent)
- More aesthetic environment (34.2 per cent) and,
- A larger playground (34.2 per cent).

The least popular improvement was improved public transport access with only two per cent of respondents selecting this option.

One quarter (25.0 percent) of respondents suggested "other" improvements. A sample of these includes:

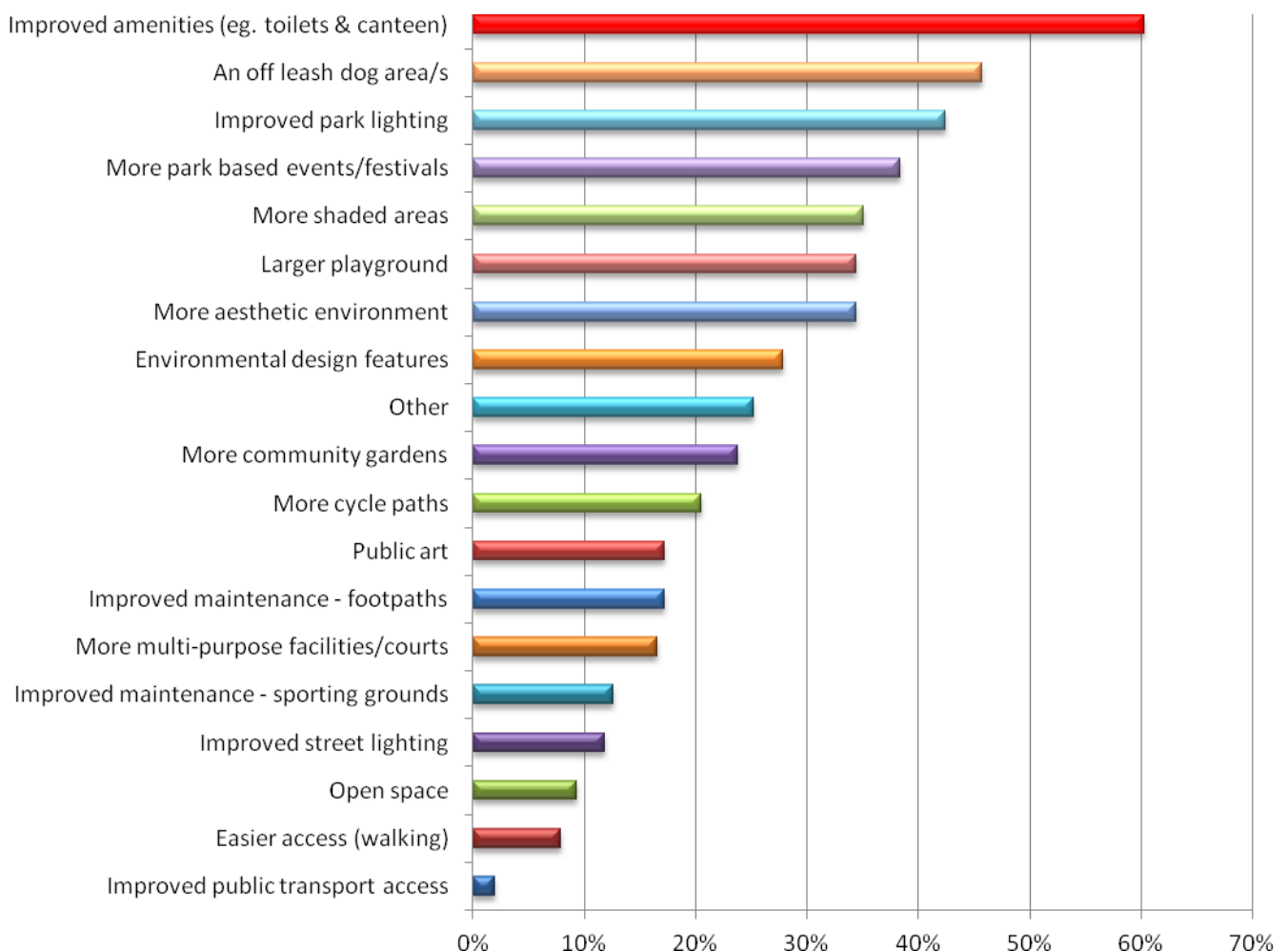
- A pedestrian crossing on Frazer St
- Fenced playground
- Tables and seats
- A decent BBQ area
- Screens from traffic via hedges, bushes & trees with side branches intact
- More flowers for beauty and relaxation
- Cafe or shop as there are no shops close by
- Removing private cars on the driveway / excluding cars
- Better parking
- Better seating
- More policing of dogs.

Table 21: Improvements at Marrickville Park

Facility needing improvement	Per cent	Number
Improved amenities (i.e. public toilets and canteens)	59.9%	91
An off leash dog area/s	45.4%	69
Improved park lighting	42.1%	64
More park based events and festivals	38.2%	58
More shaded areas	35.5%	54
More aesthetic environment (e.g. trees/landscaping of streetscape and laneways)	34.2%	52
Larger playground	34.2%	52

Environmental design features e.g. recycled irrigation, solar path lighting	27.6%	42
Other	25.0%	38
More community gardens	23.7%	36
More cycle paths	20.4%	31
Improved maintenance of footpaths	17.1%	26
Public art	17.1%	26
More multi-purpose facilities or courts	16.4%	25
Improved maintenance of sporting grounds	12.5%	19
Improved street lighting	11.8%	18
Open space	9.2%	14
Easier access (e.g. walking access to park/facility)	7.9%	12
Improved public transport access	2.0%	3
Total - answered question		152
Skipped question		37

Graph 10: Improvements at Marrickville Park



Final suggestions for Marrickville Park

Respondents were asked if there was anything else that they could suggest to assist Council to better provide for the leisure and recreation needs of residents at Marrickville Park.

Eighty-three respondents took the opportunity make suggestions. An indicative sample of their comments is quoted below. Most of the comments are reiterations of early comments or observations about improvements, enhancements or maintenance that have been discussed earlier in the Report.

A number of the comments raise multiple issues or concerns and have not been separated. For this reason it is has not been possible to group them easily into themes.

- *My main reasons for replying are to express my opposition to any building projects in Marrickville Park. Maybe they are not legally possible, I hope so. Although at 83 I don't use the Park actively I enjoy the look of it as I drive past and I enjoy seeing younger people make use of it. So please KEEP IT!*
- *Don't allow proposed development of the tennis clubhouse. The current use of the park is well balanced.*
- *Parks are not just for sporting activities. They are places to walk, picnic, sit, read a book, watch nature etc. This park, while it does have wonderful trees and an historic feel, needs less lawn & more trees. There needs to be a buffer from the road so that we don't have to see traffic. We need more natural areas and more that feeds wildlife.*
- *More garden beds and feature plants, local natives*
- *New playground with shade cloth. No cars. At night many cars are in the park at all hours. Improve hard court tennis courts*
- *Fenced children's play area. Off lead dog walking area. no cars.*
- *Wider paths would allow kids, walkers, dogs on leads and cyclists to co-exist with less danger of collision - I have had a lot of near misses cycling through the park because the path is too narrow.*
- *Would be nice if park could be used as a picnic area. Also croquet lawn doesn't seem to be utilised - area could be used to hold functions or build a nice shaded/garden area.*
- *Improved pedestrian access to Marrickville Park and maintain the charm of the Croquet Club please.*
- *the park needs general repair and upgrade. Much of the space is wasted*
- *Next, so much time and energy is wasted on mowing lawns, why not increase the amount of native gardens within the oval's surrounds? Finally, can more be done to separate dogs and the other park users? Can they have their own separate dog area?"*
- *The absolute minimum we would expect is dogs allowed off the lead before 8am and after 6pm. We are major users of the park. It's only fair our dogs are allowed off the lead to play.*
- *More youth activities through a club.... playground good for kids... what about teenagers?*
- *Keep it beautiful, love the art installation, add water bowl for dogs so they don't have to use the same facility as the humans*
- *There should be a limit to the "boot camp" style commercial fitness activities that use the site or some contribution by these commercial fitness services for using the park. I don't object to them being there at all, but there should be reasonable commercial arrangements made for their usage as a public space.*
- *A draw card like an improved playground for a wide age range with water play.*
- *not at the moment*
- *Maintain and upgrade Croquet area as unique facility not commonly available*
- *Outdoor cafe/club playground near the club for parents*
- *tennis club needs an upgrade*
- *They are doing great job....A perfect chance for the community to upgrade this derelict club that currently exists...*

Summary of Feedback from Community Consultation Meetings

Seventy-one people attended the public consultations which were held in mid-November at Marrickville Park. There were two day time consultations (10am to 12pm) on Saturday 17 November and Saturday 24 November and one evening consultation held at the Marrickville Tennis Club on Thursday 15 November.

In general the feedback from the community at the public meetings reflected the responses to the online survey. The community generally holds the park in high positive regard. It is a valued community asset with a good balance of passive and active recreation options. Local community members valued the unstructured open space and range of options from walking, picnicking, playing with children in the playground through to more active recreation such as using the cricket practice nets, playing organised sport or tennis.

Mixed use

The most common message from the community through the face to face consultations and this was reflected generally in the survey responses is that Marrickville Park is much loved, well used and that residents value highly the current mixed use of the park. Residents liked the balance of use but wanted to see enhancements to the general environment and amenities. There was little interest in increasing sport usage however there was little dissent to the idea of changed usage. Local residents were supportive of sporting usages however not where this impacted negatively on safety, noise and parking.

Rubbish being left in the park after games was an issue that detracted from this positive shared usage. It is something that needs to be reinforced with the sports clubs and hirers of the park. Residents said that this was an issue with the Cricket Club in particular. The Coordinator of Recreation suggested that residents should phone Council and let them know the problem - the day and time is important so that this can be raised with the hirer of the ground. This is part of their agreement between Council and the Club and they need to be made more accountable. It was suggested that announcements should be made at the games to get people to clear up their rubbish at the time.

One submission suggested that a 'community an outdoor cinema would be a crowd pleaser.'

Safety

Many of the local residents were concerned about vehicles driving in the park and wanted to see traffic calming measures incorporated or only necessary vehicles allowed entry. Parents and local residents were concerned about the safety of the access road from Porter Street and would like to see it closed or made less accessible due to conflict between pedestrians and cars. There was particular concern about the safety of children on scooters and bikes and drivers not 'sticking to the speed limit'. As one woman said - and many concurred - 'It is an accident waiting to happen'.

The gates used to be locked and the majority of local residents would like to see this reinstated and vehicular access restricted.

The Tennis Club said that it was open to the loss of 'in park' parking for members but would require the maintenance of several parking spaces for delivery vehicles.

The issue of cars coming in at night causing excessive noise and resulting in anti-social behaviour was raised by several different members of the community across the three meetings. Locking the gated or reconfiguring the park to reduce the need for vehicular access would also reduce this form of anti-social behaviour.

Re-surfacing that area to remove the bitumen and use it for a softer surface (unit paved) cycle track was suggested and was quite well received (see discussion about Children's Play below).

A question raised at one consultation was:

'If the oval is maintained by Council could Council help with funding for the maintenance of the tennis facilities?'

It was explained this depends on the licence arrangements with Council – clubs, schools etc. hiring the grounds are not in a licence or lease arrangement with Council and only use at certain times of the week or year. The oval is for general community use.

Council rates should cover hiring the grounds by schools and sports clubs – hiring covers around 20% of the cost of maintenance.

Children's Play

It was generally agreed that the children's playground should be improved. The natural shading from trees was regarded as good in the morning and in summer, but inadequate in the middle of the day, afternoon and in the winter.

The play equipment was generally regarded as old and in disrepair. There was also the view expressed that the equipment could better meet the needs of a broader range of children. The current equipment is too limited.

Community members identified drainage issue with the mulch under the swings which turns in to a bog when it rains. Water build-up in playground is generally an issue when it rains. It was agreed that soft fall rather than mulch would be good.

While a number of people in the survey indicated the need for a fence for the playground primarily for road safety, at the consultations there was less demand for a fence around the playground but rather a low wall or landscaping could be just as effective.

There seemed were more respondents – including parents of young children in favour of maintaining an open area between dogs off leash and playground rather than fencing around either areas. This means there would need to be at least 10 meters between the two locations to comply with regulations.

Some local community members observed that in the past the Park had lots of play equipment but it had been removed or simply neglected. One resident reported that in the past *'People would come from all around to use the playground - but not anymore'*.

A cycle path and walking track around the oval were identified as positive additions to the Park – particularly by parents with children. There was support for a multi use pathway that could be used by parents (or other adults) with prams, young people and children on bikes and scooters. However it was also emphasised that if this was to be done it should use a safer, more environmentally friendly or aesthetically pleasing surface than asphalt. It was agreed that a soft fall surface would be good for young cyclists in particular.

Many parents felt that access to a café would be a welcome addition to the Park!

People with older children emphasised that there were few, if any, Park facilities for this age group (8-12years) and argued for appropriate solutions such as a half size basketball court and/or netball hoop - as long as it was located in an area where noise was not a problem. Another suggestion for young people was the inclusion of a low key skate area. There was also some support for the maintenance of the informal use of the Pile Street courts which it was felt was for young people because they don't have to book and could therefore be used spontaneously.

Other specific suggestions included in the written submissions included:

- A proper bike track
- Little Athletics (although this could be incorporated at Henson Park)
- Turn some of tennis court into basketball/netball courts
- Organised activities such as Archery, volleyball

Dogs off leash

There was an acknowledgement from many people that the open space area on the eastern side of the Park adjoining Livingstone Road was already used informally as a dog off leash area. This was generally considered as a positive addition to the park. Many of these attending the consultations wanted this to become a formalised dog off leash area.

People walked their dogs regularly and said that they found this space large enough to ensure so that they could walk their dog off leash, and yet be well away from other Park users and, more importantly from the children's playground.

There was a general discussion about what form the development of a formal dog off leash area should or could take. For example whether it should be time-share or general all day off leash, or fenced or unfenced. There was no clear consensus regarding timed usage, however, perhaps not unexpectedly, a number of dog owners felt that this was too limiting as people walking dogs did so throughout the day. There was no desire to have a fenced area for dogs as it was felt that this was not in keeping with the open, walkable aesthetic of the Park.

Several parents were in favour of a fence around the children's playground but this was more for safety (see discussion below) rather than dogs. The majority of parents were not in favour of a fence.

There was a small number of dissenting voices regarding the potential dog off leash area. One woman felt the Park was better as a family park and that 'dogs and children did not mix'. She argued that it would be difficult to spread out a picnic rug with friends and food if you had to be constantly dealing with dogs. The issue of safety was also raised as a concern, and also the danger of dogs chasing children on bikes and scooters.

On the positive side there were several parents who regularly use the playground who found the dogs in the park a pleasant addition to the environment and, as long as dog owners behaved responsibly. They found that petting the dogs was something both they and their children enjoyed.

Two people indicated that they thought that Marrickville LGA was well supplied with off leash areas and that there were many options for off leash dog walking. Several of the locations they mentioned, including the Cooks River, are not currently off leash and several, Sydney Park and a park in Canterbury were outside the LGA.

One dog owner said they would not support a formally designated off leash as they would be concerned about large dogs and dogs that were aggressive being free to roam, and possibly attack their dog that they always walked on leash.

There was a more general concern about dog waste – expressed by a range of community members both those in favour of off leash and those against. It was suggested that more bins and dog bag dispensers be added at several of the park entries.

There was confusion from some members of the community about where in the LGA other dog off leash areas were located and also confusion as to what was and was not possible with regard to off-leash areas. One resident was regularly walking their dog on the fenced oval area not knowing that this was not off leash. One resident also commented that some people use the Croquet Club as a dog off leash area for small dogs and that this should be addressed by Council.

Relocation of Drummoyne AFL to Marrickville Park

There was a general discussion of the proposal being put forward by Drummoyne AFL Club to relocate to Marrickville Park for team training and junior competition the possible upgrade to the Clubhouse for both the community and AFL club members. The majority of residents were not opposed to the idea in principle, subject to the opportunity to consider a more detailed proposal of what the Club would look like and how accessible it would be to the community.

There was uncertainty about where the AFL proposal ‘sat’ within Council planning processes several residents felt that the proposal required a better and more detailed explanation. It was explained at the consultations by the Coordinator of Recreation that the PoM will determine the future and usage of the Park – i.e. what is allowable and what is not - within the Park area. It was explained that if the AFL proposal fits within the scope of the PoM – to be drafted based on the responses from the community consultations – the proposal will be considered and will need to go through the standard planning approval processes, including public exhibition.

Several community members sounded a note of caution however, and were very clear that they would need to see the details of any plan/proposal as they would not like to see a club house for people who did not live locally that was inaccessible to local residents and only focusing on one sport exclusively. This was a general concern from some residents – that the facility would be exclusive rather than inclusive and that the park generally worked because it was inclusive of all users.

There was concern about a large club that would not be ‘branded’ as Marrickville, and that this might mean increased use of the Park, a decrease in parking facilities and also an increase in poker machines. These issues were clarified by the representative from the AFL (who attended the consultation for the purpose of responding to community questions) and who explained that the proposal involved a small, boutique club which would be an integral part of the community, that the club would re-branded to be a Marrickville club, and that any facility would certainly not be a ‘poker machine palace’.

In response to the discussion about parking at Marrickville Park, and specifically, and potential for increased parking with the advent a new club, however the council representative and the consultants explained that parking was an issue for the Park generally would be carefully and thoroughly addressed within the context of the development of the PoM and the Masterplan.

There was general opposition from community members to anything that would decrease open space, decrease community access, or reduce the overall aesthetic of the park.

The idea of renovating the current Tennis Club was positively received – even more so when participants were made aware of the existence of asbestos in the roof and the potential cost of repair.

The quote below that was included in a written submission from a resident is typical of the general response:

I have no objection to the AFL club relocating to Marrickville Park, nor do I object an upgrade to the tennis club house.

I like the idea of a cafe on the premises as long as they do decent coffee and are pram friendly!! Perhaps Double Roasters, Coffee Alchemy or the Coffee Roastery (all local businesses) could be approached to open a secondary outlet at the tennis clubhouse, if a cafe is included in the upgrade.

One member of the community was unclear why the AFL was not building their club at Henson Park as this is already the location of their Senior AFL and competition games. The AFL representative informed participants that there had been consideration given to this option, however the Tennis Club at Henson was not seeking a partner and there were no other options at that location.

Another club-related concern raised by community representatives was the need for a roof that did not cast shadows that would impair or the growth of grass on the tennis courts in winter. The location of the current clubhouse and design of the roofline of that building currently ensures that the grass courts get maximum sun exposure in winter months. Shadow diagrams and sensitive sighting and design would be important to ensure that this was not a problem.

Tennis

The Tennis Club wanted it be placed on public record that they want to preserve the six (6) grass tennis courts at Marrickville Park. The Tennis Club has a long association with the Park and the club participates in a Grass Court Tournament that is only possible due to the grass surface being available to members. A considerable number of the people attending the evening consultation at the Tennis clubhouse were club members and had family members who played on, or were coached at the courts. The upstairs area was used by a martial arts group and the facility could be used for functions.

Several non-members raised problems they had experienced accessing tennis lessons for children and booking courts and explained that and said they had had to go elsewhere to obtain both access and lessons for their children. Several people commented that they had never used the facility (club house) for any social event and did not feel that, as non-members, they were welcome.

The majority of people were in favour of retaining the grass courts however there was concern about the use of the Pile Street tennis courts. The courts are in disrepair and anti-social activity goes on in, and around, the toilet/change block area. Drug use in the toilets block was a concern. There is no lighting and this tends to both encourage and hide anti-social behaviour.

It was generally agreed that better lighting in this area was needed – especially with respect to the tennis courts, but that modern court lighting was very ‘directional’ and would not cause problems for local residents – especially if there was 9pm curfew.

Several residents asked about the budget for upgrades from Council – specifically the budget that would be allocated for Marrickville Park. The Coordinator of Recreation explained that there was no actual allocation of dollars to the project at this stage, but that it would depend on what comes out of the consultation process and what is resolved in the PoM and the Master Plan for the park - subject to Council approval, public exhibition and integration of the priorities in the Council’s Long Term Financial Plan. There was no money specifically earmarked by Council for the general upgrade or maintenance of the grass Tennis Courts at this stage.

Given the difficulty associated with the cost of maintenance of the Pile Street courts, the suggestion was made that the Pile Street courts could be upgraded via a grant available before the end of the financial year through Tennis Australia. There is a member looking in to this option and will make the results of these findings available to the Coordinator of Recreation.

The women from the Aged Care facility indicated that they have no problem in general with the tennis noise; however some young people who use the courts on the weekend were discourteous and used ‘bad’ language which they found upsetting and offensive. They also show the residents little respect and the handicapped men living next to the courts are expected to retrieve balls. It was this behaviour that the Aged Care facility would like to see stop.

Parking

While the majority of local residents indicated that they would prefer to see no cars in the park, and a closure of the access road at Porter Street there was concern expressed by sports club members about the lack of parking for sporting clubs within the park. It should be noted that the Tennis club did not have an issue with not being able to drive in to the Park or losing the car parking spaces, but felt that there would need to be an access way and parking for deliveries etc.

The expansion of clearways outside the park (Frazer and Morgan Streets) is impacting on the ability of residents and visitors to Park and use the Park.

One living adjacent to the Park expressed concern about a sports club locking of the gate for sport competition, which meant that spectators would park in an irresponsible manner and block the driveways of local residents.

General park open space, amenity and landscaping issues

Residents do not want to see a reduction in green open space at the cost of upgrading the amenities. Shaded seating and eating areas was seen as a priority as were landscaping solutions where the park meets busy roads. Landscaping was also seen as a possible solution for child safety where playground abuts Fraser Street.

All agreed that the toilets must be fixed and/or relocated to be more proximate to the children's play area. So obscured from view are the toilets that some of those attending the public consultations were not aware of the location of the existing toilet block – even though they regularly used the Park. Those that did know about the location of the toilet tended not to use them. Parents of children are concerned about the safety, cleanliness and hygiene of the toilets and had to ensure that if their children must use the toilets they did so in the company of an adult

The lack of planting on the nature strips around the park was mentioned as a concern by residents as was the lack of general plantings and the need to enhance the garden and restful aesthetic environments. The feedback on the rose garden was positive and it is a highly valued area in the park that could be expanded in some way. The suggestion was made that the community could be more involved in the maintenance of rose garden.

Let's not tamper with the natural beauty – more green.

A number of community members expressed the desire to see some outdoor exercise equipment in the Park but felt this would need to be selective, not too intrusive and easy to maintain.

Lighting was mentioned in both the survey responses and throughout the public consultations. The lighting throughout the Park was considered to be of poor quality and/or insufficient –leading to safety issues and anti-social behaviour. The Park was perceived as being generally unsafe after dark; people who walk through the Park to get from bus to home find it very unsafe in the winter months in particular when it gets dark later. There was general demand for more lights in the park – especially solar lighting which would be cost effective and in line with Council's focus on environmental sustainability.

The BBQ area was in bad repair and there was not adjacent seating that had sufficiently high appeal to use.

The fig trees and to a lesser extent were seen by many as part of the appeal of the Park, providing it with a sense of history. Because some of the trees were considered to be very old, the comment was made that Council needed to think about succession planning for the future.

Fencing

Fences, while mentioned relatively often in the survey responses, fencing was not as commonly mentioned in the public consultations. There was the suggestion that the white picket oval fence could have several more access points, for example, there should be one in line with the entrance point at Porter Avenue where a lot of people enter the park from the south and west.

It was also felt that fences should not be dominant in the Park. Some people felt that if a fence was 'absolutely necessary' then, and only then should fences be erected. The Park didn't have fences in the past and some people expressed the opinion that fences might break up the openness and 'easy going' nature of the Park.

Several community members suggested the possibility of a long fence (not necessarily very high) along Frazer Street to protect children (especially toddlers) from running on to the road. A typical comment from one parent was *'This would be just enough to 'give me a bit of extra time to grab them if they run off'.*

Drainage

There are drainage issues with the Park, in particular in the area between the hill and the Croquet Club building, where there is run off from the hill in strong rain. The pooling of water in this area makes access difficult and debris when water recedes an issue.

Some parts of the surrounding street (Lawson Avenue) become flooded 'up to your knees' in strong rain and this floods back in to the Park. Being clay, water doesn't infiltrate into the soil well.

Drainage from the changing room gutters floods properties that back on to the building. Gutters are insufficient on this building and in poor repair.

Croquet Club

The croquet club did not receive a high level of attention in the public consultations, however people were divided between those who thought it was a 'charming part of the Park' and its local history, and that there was sufficient activity for retention and those who said that they had 'never' or 'hardly ever' seen people using the grounds.

Some people indicated that they had been to social activities at the club but most had never accessed the grass court or the building. One person suggested that consideration be given to a more multipurpose use for Croquet Club, possibly a coffee shop in the side if the fencing was changed slightly. Other suggestions were that grounds could be moved to another area in the Park, the children's playground area extended and the building be converted into an artist's centre.

Maintenance

There was some concern expressed by a few residents that the Park was poorly maintained and that the community were not seeing good value for their rates. The Park was seen as significant by some residents because it was *the* Marrickville Park and should be maintained and upgrade in a way befitting its flagship status.

Written submissions

While not giving written submissions undue weight it is important to include their feedback in the consultation process. The feedback from written submissions has been included where relevant to the general discussion however written submissions included specific initiatives and arguments that need to be considered by Council in determining future usage of the park. Residents who have supplied written submissions will not see their submission reproduced verbatim in the Report if – as is generally the case - their comments have already been integrated in to the general discussion of the Report:

Comments from the four written submissions included:

The Croquet Club

The preservation of the Marrickville Croquet Club (MCC) in its current state (notwithstanding improvements such as a new fence around the club) is extremely important to the amenity and enjoyment of residents of Lawson Avenue, such as me. It provides a beautiful view across the road from our homes and provides a buffer that we would not otherwise have from the general use of the rest of the park. Seeing the players out on the lawn dressed in their whites and others using the club for croquet parties is a very positive experience for us as residents. I am a member of the Marrickville Croquet Club and enjoy playing croquet there when I have the opportunity. I have also held birthday parties for

my daughters at the club several times and we have a great attachment to the space.

The MCC is almost 100 years old and was established in 1926. As such it is of enormous historical value to the area.

In response to the suggestion that the LGA is over serviced with croquet lawns the argument has been put as follows:

...Marrickville Croquet Club at Marrickville Park is the only dedicated croquet club in Marrickville. The other lawn, which is located on the far side of the suburb (Marrickville is a very large suburb by Inner West standards) is not a dedicated croquet club, but in fact a croquet lawn that forms part of the Concordia Club. It is a multi-use space and is not comparable with the MCC.

The club would benefit from an upgrade. The fence along the Lawson Avenue edge of the lawn is in poor repair and could be replaced. Also, the facilities within the clubhouse would benefit from a renovation.

Children's Playground

The location of the playground means that is in full sun during hotter periods of the day and in almost full shade in the cooler afternoons. The playground could be moved and/or shade sails installed.

The playgrounds at Tillman Park, Steel Park and Jarvie Park are very good as they provide enough variety of play equipment for children of different ages, such as bigger and smaller slides.

Safety

There is plenty of parking on Livingstone Road for vehicles that need to make deliveries to the tennis club house. There is also plenty of street parking around Marrickville Park on Livingstone Road, Frazer Street and Porter Avenue and no parking is actually necessary inside the park.

The area in the south west corner of the park near the grandstand appears to be poorly lit and unsafe

The roadway from Porter Avenue to the Tennis Club should be closed / or access restricted. People (including small children on bikes, scooters, etc.) often walk around the park and are at constant risk from drivers using the roadway.

Tennis clubhouse/AFL proposal

I am definitely opposed to the tennis club being redeveloped by the Drummoyne AFL club. The current balance of activity and ambience of the park is very good. Myself and many of my neighbours do not want the clubhouse to become a hub of activity. Certainly, a small cafe in the park might be nice - but not the proposal as currently understood.

Organised v unorganised park/oval use

Currently, there is a reasonable balance between organised (club game/training) use of the oval and unorganised free use by residents. We would not want any additional organised (club game/training) use of the oval - if anything, we would

like less organised use. It is wonderful that the oval is often free for families and other users.

The needs of young people aged 10-16.

This is a much neglected area within Marrickville. Facilities for young kids are generally excellent across the LGA, but where are the facilities for older kids. At present there is a skateboard park in an inaccessible area behind Dulwich Hill Station, that does not feel particularly safe for most kids to go to on their own, and is only catering for skateboarding. The PCYC in Steel Park is only accessed by kids involved in more formal activities. I feel there is a real need to have facilities for older kids to use, that are fun, stimulating, challenging, within a safe environment. Marrickville Park would be a good spot to have something that older kids can do e.g. an adventure playground aimed at their aged group. I believe a small investment would have broad reaching benefits for the community, including a reduction in anti-social behaviour.

Staffed Playgrounds or PlayYards

I would like Marrickville to consider the terrific work recently undertaken by Tanya Vincent as part of her Churchill Fellowship (Tanya lives in the Inner West of Sydney). I have enclosed a number of pages from her final report, and would invite you to look at the whole report: <http://churchilltrust.com.au/iffell/m/sidetail/3566/tanya+vincent>

Tai Chi and gentle exercise

I would love to see the establishment of a local tai chi exercise group in the park.

Labyrinth

One submission requested the consideration of the inclusion of a labyrinth garden in the park. The suggestion was made that the park size lends itself to this form of usage. A labyrinth was promoted as being a creative formal landscaping with spiritual and cultural underpinnings. More details on the design and relevance of a labyrinth can be given to readers on request.

Stakeholder survey

The stakeholder survey was emailed to 14 schools and sporting clubs who had been identified by Council as frequent and significant users of Marrickville Park and its sporting facilities. Two email reminders were also sent to the stakeholders requesting their participation.

A total of eight people participated in and finished the stakeholder survey which is a response rate of 57.1 per cent.

Stakeholders were asked to provide the name of their organisation or service and all eight respondents gave their names. The stakeholder feedback has been summarised by organisation type in Table 22 below.

The organisations which participated in the stakeholder survey are:

- Newington College
- Newtown Jets Rugby League Football Club
- South Sydney District Junior Rugby Football League Limited
- Balmain Dockers
- Christian Brothers High School (CBHS) Lewisham
- Marrickville Croquet Club
- Wilkins Public School
- Marrickville Lawn Tennis.

Table 22 below summarises the stakeholders' use of Marrickville Park across a range of aspects and issues including:

- The type of facility used
- The frequency of facility use
- The reason for use of each facility
- The number of students or club members using the facility/ies
- Facilities needed that are not currently provided
- Needed improvements
- Suggestions for better Council provision to clubs or schools at the Park.

Table 22: Summary of stakeholder survey

Organisation type	Facility/ies used	Frequency of use (days/week)	Reason for use	Number students/ members using facility/ies	Facilities needed not currently provided	Improvements	Suggestions for better Council provision to clubs or schools at the Park
School 1	Grandstand	1	Club comp/ matches	50+	Yes Cafe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park lighting Amenities Maintenance of footpaths Maintenance of sporting grounds Public transport access More aesthetic environment More multi-purpose facilities/courts Open space Public art Environmental design features More shaded areas 	Encourage capital investment in return for longer tenure for sporting organisations
	Oval	5	Club comp/ matches PE/School sport/training				
	Grass tennis courts	2	PE/School sport/training				
	Other tennis courts	4	Club comp/ matches PE/School sport/training				
School 2	Cricket nets	5	PE/School sport/training	50+	No	Maintenance of sporting grounds	We have only just begun using for sport weekly however with the local Public Schools (PSSA) commencing weekly sport 2013 and a growing school population we intend to book next year for a regular time (of course vacating for special booked events)
	Oval	5	PE/School sport/training				
	Grass tennis courts	5					
	Other tennis courts	5					
School 3	Grandstand	1	PE/School sport/training	20 to 49	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amenities (toilets/canteen) Maintenance of sporting grounds More multi-purpose facilities/courts More shaded areas 	
	Grassy areas	1	PE/School sport/training				
	Oval	1	PE/School sport/training				
	Other tennis courts	1	PE/School sport/training				
	Cricket nets		PE/School sport/training				
Sport club 1	Grass tennis courts	7	Club comp/ matches Social sport Club training	20 to 49	No	-	
	Other tennis courts	5	PE/School sport/training Club training				
Sport club 2	Croquet lawn	4	Club comp/ matches	10 to 19	No	Park lighting	We are generally very

Organisation type	Facility/ies used	Frequency of use (days/week)	Reason for use	Number students/ members using facility/ies	Facilities needed not currently provided	Improvements	Suggestions for better Council provision to clubs or schools at the Park
Sport club 3			Social sport Club training				pleased with the way Council staff maintain the lawn.
	Grandsand	1	Club comp/ matches	50+	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park lighting Amenities Maintenance of sporting grounds 	
	Grassy areas	4	Club training				
Sport club 4	Oval	4	Club comp/ matches	20 to 49	Yes Better change rooms & social club to gather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park lighting Amenities Maintenance of footpaths Easier access More multi-purpose facilities/courts Environmental design features 	
	Grandsand	2	Club training				
	Oval	2	Social sport				
Sport club 5	Oval	2	Social sport	20 to 49	Yes Showers (or access if they already exist)	Amenities	Access to showers
			Club training				

- Five stakeholders took the opportunity to explain their improvement responses and their comments are quoted below.
- Improvements would assist in encouraging more people to use the facilities not only for sports but as a place to relax with friends and family
 - None of the above impact on our current usage of the venue but it would be good to have showers at the ground
 - Our observations whilst using the facility
 - It would make facility better
 - Running tracks marked out may allow for athletics carnival which we are currently travelling to Canterbury for.

Stakeholders were also asked to rank the quality of the facilities they use. Their responses are included in separately in Table 23 below.

Generally many Park facilities rated neutrally well with stakeholders. However toilets rated very badly with two respondents (50 per cent) rating them as very poor, one rates as poor and the other one as neutral.

Fencing, the grandstand, lighting and the non-grass tennis courts also received some negative ratings with one rating of poor for fencing and two ratings of poor for each of the others.

The booking process and oval surface received the highest ratings with three stakeholders indicating the bookings process as good and two as excellent. Four stakeholders indicated the oval surface is good.

Table 23: Rating the quality of the condition of park facilities

Facility / service	Very poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Excellent	Total
Booking process	0	0	1	3	2	6
Children's playground	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cricket training nets	0	0	1	1	0	2
Croquet lawn	0	0	0	1	0	1
Fencing	0	1	2	0	0	3
Grandstand	0	2	1	1	0	4
Grassy areas(not oval)	0	0	1	1	0	2
Landscaping	0	0	1	0	0	1
Lighting	0	2	0	1	0	3
Playing field / oval surface	0	0	2	4	0	6
Grass tennis courts	0	0	1	1	0	2
Tennis courts(other surfaces)	0	2	1	0	0	3
Toilet	2	1	1	0	0	4
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Please describe:						0
Total answered question						8
skipped question						0

Some Stakeholders took up the opportunity to explain their rankings and their comments are quoted below.

- *General conditions are workable but need updating, refurbishing*
- *Not really as we only use the ground for pre-season training in November & December whilst Henson Park's surface is undergoing restoration works. I have not used the toilets but they look as though they have not been upgraded for some time (?)*
- *Surface of the field is understandable due to the cricket pitch*
- *Due to situation the council, groundsmen, and cricket club all have a say and often checks have to be made among all groups*

Young people

Marrickville Council has a commitment to provide for the area's youth. This is clearly reflected in Council's *Community Strategic Plan* and *Delivery Plan* 2011-2013. In order to achieve Council's desired outcome of providing access to a range of services for people of all ages and abilities, one of the Plan's strategies is to 'engage young people in the community through relevant services and events'. Council's *Youth Strategy 2009-2011* sets further goals for the provision of youth services; these include:

- To encourage and enable young people to engage in positive artistic, cultural and recreational activities.
- To support programs addressing the physical, emotional and mental wellbeing of young people.

While the number of young people responding to the survey or attending the consultations was relatively small (a guestimate of under 10) the previous work undertaken by the Miller Group for the Recreation Strategic Framework and the Facilities Audit indicate clearly a need to improve access to facilities and services for young people.

The location of the Marrickville Youth Resource Centre reasonably close to the park is positive in providing recreational opportunities for young people however parents of older children and youth who attended the consultations or responded to the survey were concerned about the lack of options for this group at Marrickville Park.

Options raised by community

The demand for future youth recreation at Marrickville Park could be met in a number of ways including:

- The inclusion of a half size basketball court and/or netball hoop in the Park
- Wi-Fi hotspot in the park to encourage outdoor access for young people
- Expansion of the oval area for social Oztag or Touch Football which are both popular with young people
- Inclusion of access options for young people to any new clubhouse built on the site by Drummoyne AFL

Access

Marrickville Council is strongly committed to meeting the access issues for people with a disability who are members of the local community. Council has an ACCESS Committee that includes representatives from the community with a disability and is a forum to support the integration of their needs in to overall Council planning and development.

While nothing specific arose from the consultations about the park feedback was requested from the Access Officer in relation to access at Marrickville Park.

Not surprisingly the issue of maintenance of footpaths, pathway, access to the park (catchment), the height and condition of curbs and connectivity of the pathways and the footpaths is very important to people with mobility issues (and here we can generalise to elderly people and people with babies and children in prams). There are a number of access issues related to the tennis club entry, toilet, internal paths and

facilities. The toilets at the park are not accessible and this is an ongoing need across the LGA.

As discussed in the Recreation Needs Research - Strategic Directions for Recreation in Marrickville 'the Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan has been Council's key vehicle in improving the walk ability of Marrickville. Its objectives have been to improve pedestrian access and priority in high pedestrian areas³; optimising continuity and removing and/or minimising barriers. Council consults specifically with key members of the community who have a disability or access and mobility concerns to ensure that access issues are integrated in to these plans and Councils maps include highlighted accessible walking routes that are regularly audited.

Any new Masterplan for Marrickville Park will need to ensure that it reflects this focus and the objectives of the PAMP.

In addition, seats at accessible heights, with proper shade and back rests are also important for people with a disability and/or people rehabilitating from illness or injury. The availability of fresh accessible water bubblers is also very important for people with health, well-being and disability issues, as they are for the general population.

Anywhere Council has leased premises there are specific access issues with the building and or the inclusiveness of the service and programs/activities it operates. These would need to be properly addressed in any new or ongoing licensing agreement with sporting clubs.

Any upgrade of Marrickville Park or the club facility or new lease/licence arrangements would need to take these issues in to consideration.

Environmental initiatives

Council has developed a proposal for storm water retention and reuse at Marrickville Park. This proposal/project was developed in consultation with the community and would lead, if funded, to significant water recycling and re use at the park for irrigation of grassed areas including the oval and grass courts – currently a significant environmental drain on resources.

The retention storage area would be located in the area between the oval and Livingstone Road and so needs to be carefully considered in the development of the Plan of Management and Masterplan should funding be secured.

There is considerable support for this proposal and it clearly aligns with Council's environmental policies and programs and also accords with community views. The cost of the project at approximately \$400,000 is significant but funding will continue to be sought from State and Commonwealth sources as these become available.

Generally the park would benefit from increased native landscaping to reduce maintenance costs and watering, decrease the need to mowing ands increase the native small birds and animals and reduce the more aggressive larger species such as Currawong and Miner Birds.

³ Marrickville, Enmore, Dulwich Hill, Petersham and Newtown shops; parts of Parramatta, Livingstone, Sydenham, Victoria and Addison Roads

Conclusion

The community cares greatly about this Park as evidenced by both the number and quality of the community responses during the consultation process.

There is a desire to see the Park upgraded in a way provide even better than is now the case for a range of passive and social recreational uses, but would not result in overuse- especially an intensification of sporting activity. The majority of residents who participated in the consultation process are happy with the current balance of community and sporting use and would like to see this balance maintained.

There is strong demand for improved toilet facilities – it is imperative that a new toilet facility that is safe, clean and accessible to be located in the Park.

There is also strong demand for, more shade areas - as a result of both man made and natural initiatives - for improved landscaping and a general improvement to the aesthetic environment of the Park.

There is a strong desire for an upgraded and improved children's playground both in the safety and range of equipment available; the lack of adequate shade; the drainage problems with the bark chip; and the proximity to Frazer Street. There was strong demand by local residents and, in particular, but not exclusively, those with children, to reduce the hazard posed by vehicular access to the Park. There is also demand for enhanced play activities for children such as a (safe) bike or scooter trail in other parts of the Park, and development of facilities for older children and young people, such as a half size basketball courts, and/or outdoor gym equipment.

The community is keen for the passive open spaces to be maintained and enhanced by simple outdoor gym or stretching benches (fitness stations) and formalisation of the off leash dog area supported by dog bag dispensers and dog-waste bins. The area of the Park considered most appropriate by community members for those activities is the large triangular area between the oval and the corners of and Livingstone Road and Frazer St.

There was general 'in principle' support from most, but not all, people about an improvement to the Tennis Club clubhouse, and the proposal put forward by Drummoyne AFL to relocate their junior club and club house to Marrickville Park. Several people at the consultations (and in one written response) opposition to this proposal was expressed on the basis of potential overuse of the Park.

The positive responses to the AFL proposal were in the majority but were subject to a number of caveats raised by the community – including that:

- The land was not overdeveloped,
- Any building was accessible by the whole community,
- Any building be in keeping with the overall aesthetic of the park and be built in such a way as to maintain existing usage including the need of the grass courts for shade,
- Parking be clearly detailed,
- The relocation of the club would not lead to an over intensification of the oval by active sports,

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- The AFL club not have exclusive rights to the oval or encroach on other passive areas of the park and that the building of a new club house open up a range of potential uses to the community including an all access coffee shop, community access rooms and storage for a range of current and future users.

Many people were keen to see improvement to the general amenity of the Park including better seating, better BBQ facilities, outdoor tables and seating - with adequate shade. There was also a request for improved access generally, enhanced walkability working bubblers and bicycle racks.

There is a need for improved accessibility in to and throughout the Park for people with mobility issues and enhanced amenities that are accessible would improve the outcomes not just for this group, but also for the community as a whole.

The current sporting uses are well supported, in general, by the community except for some concern about vehicular access, safety and parking in the park. The access of the Park for school use is important for these users and valued by the community. That said the membership numbers for the clubs is fairly low and efforts should be made through licence of lease arrangements to expand the social aspects or offerings of the clubs (Tennis and Croquet) to include usage by the broader community. Much loved facilities on public land need to be open and inclusive and offer people in the community access to a range of programs, social activities and options.

The turnaround in membership seen in lawn bowling clubs (although these are generally commercial enterprises) is a good example of how clubs can reach out to the community with initiative like bare foot bowls and youth events.

Attachment 3

Appendix 1 - Marrickville demographic

Population Growth

The estimated resident population of Marrickville declined from 79,900 in 1996 to 75,500 in 2006, a reduction of 4,400 residents or 6.0 per cent. The declining trend changed around 2004 with the population growing since that time and projected to continue. The most recent estimates available from the ABS place the LGA's population at 79,215 in 2010, an increase over the 2006 census population of 75,500 of some 5 per cent.

The ABS estimated resident population and census dwelling counts and occupancy rates are presented in Table 24.

Table 24 – Past Population Change

Year	Population	Dwellings	Occupancy Rate	Median age
1996	79,900	31801	2.51	33
2001	76,700	32105	2.39	34
2006	75,500	33053	2.28	35
2010	79,215	-	-	-

Projections of population growth at the local government area level have been made by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DoPI) taking into account findings from the 2006 Census and the available data and expertise on fertility, mortality and migration (Table 25).

Table 25 – Department of Planning Population Projections (2010)

Year	Total
2006	75,500
2011	79,000
2016	81,700
2021	83,500
2026	84,800
2031	86,300

These projections were released in April 2010 and are based on 2008 State and regional projections, breaking these down to the local level, along with projecting demographic changes in areas covered by regional or sub regional strategies.

It is noted that the DoPI projection of population in Marrickville in 2011 is lower than the more recent ABS estimated resident population for 2010 of 79,215 suggesting that the projections are in the lower range with the next round of revisions likely to revise projections upwards.

Table 26 – Marrickville Population Projections⁴

Year	Population	Population increase from 2010
2006	75,500	
2010	79,215	
2011	79,000	
2021	87,054	10.1%

⁴ The 2021 figures are based on the assumption of a linear rate of new dwelling development

2031	89,974	13.9%
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Table 27 – Projected Population Growth by Suburb

Suburb	2011		2021		2031		Change 2011-2031	
Camperdown	2826	3.6%	3275	3.8%	3417	3.8%	592	20.9%
Dulwich Hill	13519	17.1%	15015	17.2%	15626	17.4%	2107	15.6%
Enmore	3716	4.7%	4159	4.8%	4222	4.7%	506	13.6%
Lewisham	3100	3.9%	3506	4.0%	3710	4.1%	609	19.6%
Marrickville	15854	20.1%	17304	19.9%	17809	19.8%	1955	12.3%
Newtown	7072	9.0%	7641	8.8%	7792	8.7%	720	10.2%
Petersham	7333	9.3%	7790	8.9%	7789	8.7%	456	6.2%
South Marrickville	10041	12.7%	10755	12.4%	10974	12.2%	933	9.3%
St Peters	2973	3.8%	3494	4.0%	3731	4.1%	758	25.5%
Stanmore	7721	9.8%	8230	9.5%	8360	9.3%	639	8.3%
Sydenham	1272	1.6%	1818	2.1%	2174	2.4%	902	71.0%
Tempe	3574	4.5%	4069	4.7%	4369	4.9%	795	22.3%
Total	79000		87054		89974		10974	13.9%

The proportion of the LGA that resides in each area is set to change slightly, although this change is not likely to have any significant effects; the major changes are Sydenham's population increasing by almost 70 per cent, and its proportion of total LGA population increasing by 0.8 per cent, and Tempe's share of total LGA population increasing by 0.4 per cent.

Major potential estimated dwelling sites include:

- St Peters Urban Design Study Masterplan (450 potential dwellings);
- Old Canterbury Road area, Lewisham (300 potential dwellings);
- Old Marrickville Hospital Site (150 potential dwellings);
- Alice Street, Newtown (130 potential dwellings).

Age and Life Stages

An understanding of changes in the age of the population and various age groups is important for community planning. Trends in population in various life stages are discussed below.

The age trends of the population of Marrickville are expected to differ significantly from those of the broader population. In contrast to the generally aging population of wider Sydney, the median age of the Marrickville LGA's population is expected to remain unchanged at 36. This is a result of inward- and outward-migration, likely caused by constraints on family size and lifestyle caused by the dwelling stock in the LGA. Detailed age-structure breakdowns are available in the Department of Planning's population projections for the Marrickville LGA. These are shown in Figure 3 and Appendix 4 as applied to the population projections presented in Section 5.2.2; key groups are shown below in Table 28.

Figure 3 – Predicted current and future population by age group

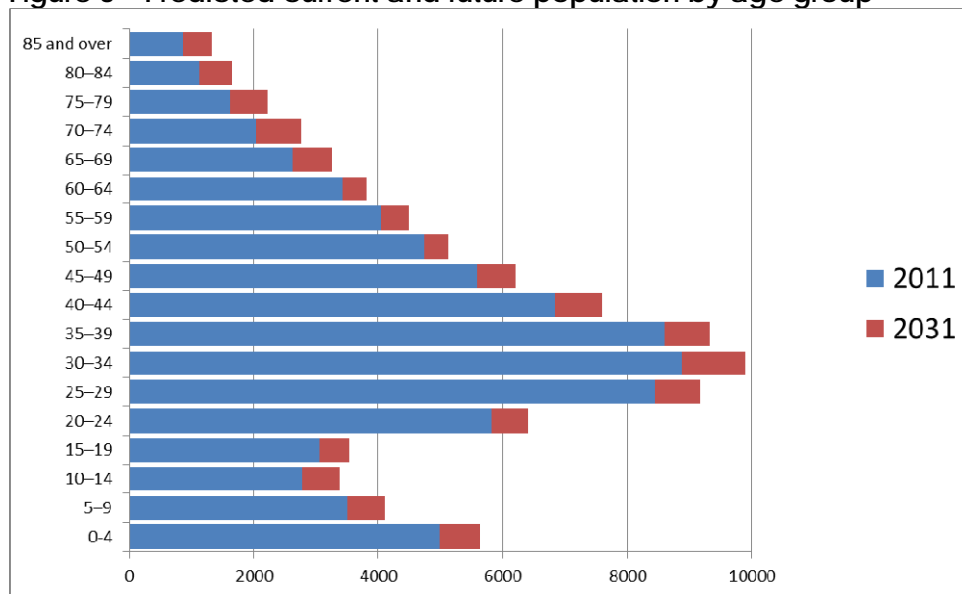


Table 28 – Key age group projections

	Marrickville LGA						Sydney SD					
	2011		2031		Change		2011		2031		Change	
0-4	4990	6.3%	5640	6.3%	650	13.0%	301,120	6.6%	357,570	6.3%	56,450	18.7%
5-9	3500	4.4%	4097	4.6%	597	17.1%	281,560	6.2%	345,890	6.1%	64,330	22.8%
10-14	2780	3.5%	3388	3.8%	608	21.9%	278,800	6.1%	340,380	6.0%	61,580	22.1%
School age (5-14)	6280	7.9%	7485	8.3%	1205	19.2%	861,480	18.9%	1,043,840	18.4%	125,910	14.6%
15-19	3060	3.9%	3524	3.9%	464	15.2%	295,590	6.5%	350,400	6.2%	54,810	18.5%
Over 65	8250	10.4%	11228	12.5%	2978	36.1%	577,380	12.7%	976,050	17.2%	398,670	69.0%
Total pop.	79,000	-	89,974	-	10974	13.9%	4,550,300	-	5,688,600	-	1,138,300	20.0%

Pre-school

Marrickville is experiencing a baby boom. Between 2006 and 2010, the ABS estimate that the number of children aged 0-4 increased by 18.6 per cent or 823, the highest of any age cohort and higher than the increase in the number of people over 65 over that period (619 persons).

In 2011, Marrickville had the same proportion of pre-schoolers (6.6 per cent) as Sydney as a whole which is a change since the 2006 Census.

Since 2005 there has been a steady and consistent increase in births. In 2010, Marrickville had the fourth highest number of births per head of population of all Councils in NSW. Other nearby LGAs such as Canterbury and Leichhardt also experienced high birth rates, indicative of a general trend in inner west areas for increasing births.

Over the next 20 years, available population projections suggest the number of children between the ages of 0-4 will increase by 650, which is significantly below the growth experienced between 2006 and 2010. This may change if projections are revised after the 2011 census results are available.

The increase in births and young children has implications for the demand for child care services including long day care centres, pre-schools and before and after school care as children move through the age cohorts.

School Aged Children

Population projections are only available on specific age cohorts that do not align totally with primary and secondary school ages. As can be seen from Table 12, the number of children aged 5-9 increased by 5 per cent between 2006 and 2010 and is projected to increase by 17 per cent between 2011 and 2031 largely as a result of the recent increase in births passing through the age groups. Strong growth is also expected in the 10-14 year and 15-19 year age groups. The demand for before and after school care will continue to grow as a consequence.

In 2010, Marrickville had a lower proportion of school aged population (7.5 per cent) than Sydney as a whole (12.3 per cent) although this is expected to change as the increase in babies move through the age cohorts.

Youth and Young Adults

Between 2006 and 2010, youth in Marrickville remained relatively stable in numbers with a slight decline in the 15-19 yr. age group. Young people are expected to increase in the future with an increase of about 600 persons between the ages of 10 and 14 and 1,050 persons between the ages of 15 and 24, due mainly to the progression of children through the age groups as discussed above.

Young adults (19-25 year age group) will also grow although at a rate lower than the LGA average of 13.9 per cent between 2011 and 2031.

Working Age Groups

Adults between the ages of 25 and 39 (generally birthing age) are expected to experience moderate growth between 2011 and 2031 (between 4 per cent and 7 per cent), less than the LGA wide level. The absolute number of residents in the age group remains strong representing about 31 per cent of the total population in 2031 indicating that the number of births will remain strong.

In 2010, Marrickville had a higher percentage of population in this age group than Sydney as a whole again indicating that the number of births will remain strong.

Older people

Consistent with Australia wide trends, there will be growth in older people in Marrickville with the population aged 65 and over increasing by 619 or 7.9 per cent between 2006 and 2010. It is expected that the number of persons over 65 will increase by nearly 3,000 or 36 per cent between 2011 and 2031. About one third of these will be 80 and over indicating a significant increase in the need for frail aged services in Marrickville.

The proportion of Marrickville population aged 65 and over is similar to Sydney as a whole. However the rate at which its population will age is predicted to be significantly lower – Sydney SD is expecting an increase in people over 65 of almost 70 per cent between 2011 and 2031.

Other Relevant Characteristics

Several other characteristics of the LGA's population are the CALD population, ATSI residents, income levels and home ownership rates. These characteristics are based on 2006 Census data, with updated information noted where available.

Cultural Diversity

Marrickville's population comes from a diverse cultural and linguistic background with 26.1 per cent of residents having been born in a country where English is not the primary language, close to double the State average. The two most common CALD backgrounds at the time of the 2006 census were Greek (3.1 per cent of residents) and Vietnamese (2.0 per cent). 32.7 per cent of the LGA either answered that they spoke a language other than English at home (either in addition to English, or exclusively), or did not specify any language spoken at home.

However the non-English speaking proportion of Marrickville's population has been declining in relative size over the past decade and there is a possibility that this trend will continue into the future; earlier generations of immigrants are aging and first generational cultural diversity is decreasing. It is considered that these trends will continue.

Aboriginal Australians

The LGA's indigenous population at 2006 (1.5 per cent) is slightly lower than the State as a whole (2.1 per cent), but slightly higher than Sydney as a whole (1.1 per cent); between 2001 and 2006 it increased very slightly (from 1.4 per cent to 1.5 per cent).

Household Income

The mean individual and household incomes in the Marrickville LGA in 2006 (\$595 and \$1,160 respectively) were slightly higher than the Sydney average (\$518 and \$1,154) and significantly higher than that of the state as a whole (\$461 and \$1,036). Rising house prices in Marrickville and anecdotal evidence of gentrification suggest the parts of Marrickville are becoming increasingly affluent, albeit with significant mortgages. However there are significant disadvantaged sections of the community, particularly in the suburb of Marrickville. The average individual income in Marrickville Suburb, at \$463, is just above the NSW average and significantly lower than the LGA as a whole.

Vehicle ownership

Vehicle ownership is lower in Marrickville than the Sydney SD. At the time of the 2006 census twenty three per cent of households in Marrickville had no car, compared to only 13 per cent in Sydney; only 24 per cent of households owned two or more vehicles, against a Sydney average of 44 per cent. It is expected that public transport usage is higher compared to Sydney as a whole.

People living with a disability

The *Marrickville Council Stocktake Report - Stage 1 – Review of 2004 DDA Action Plan and Access Policy* presents a demographic summary of people living with a disability in the Marrickville LGA. The report notes that an accurate profile is difficult given sensitivities involved, but identifies that it is generally accepted around 20% of any population is likely to be living with a disability.

Independent estimates commissioned by Council suggest that approximately 11,516 LGA residents (16.04%) live with some form of disability. 3,661 (5.10%) have a mild disability, 1,907 (2.66%) have a moderate disability, and 2,898 (5.04%) of the LGA's residents live with a profound/severe disability. The Marrickville Suburb was notably overrepresented in terms of the distribution of people with a disability – 47.13% of LGA residents with a disability live in the suburb, although the suburb made up only 32.25% of the LGA's population.

An estimated 686 LGA residents (0.95%) identified as having communication difficulties, 2,898 (4.03%) as having self-care difficulties which may include difficulties showering or bathing, dressing, or eating, and 3,889 (5.4%) identified as having mobility restrictions.

Home Ownership

Levels of home ownership in the Marrickville LGA were considerably lower in the 2006 Census than elsewhere. 53.1 per cent of LGA residents either owned or were in the process of buying their home, compared to 65.0 per cent in Sydney as a whole and 66.7 per cent in the State. This may reflect the area's status as a temporary base for students or young professionals at the beginning of their career, who are more likely to rent a property before moving out of the area at a later time. The rental profile of the Marrickville suburb is again different, with higher proportion of residents in public housing – 5.1 per cent of all dwellings, as opposed to 2.9 per cent for the LGA and 4.7 per cent of the state.

Dwelling Occupancy

The average occupancy rate of the LGA is lower than both the Sydney as a whole and State averages (2.39 in 2006 as opposed to 2.7 for both larger areas), likely caused in part by the size of dwelling stock available in the LGA. There are also several possible demographic explanations for this smaller household size – there may be a higher proportion of students or elderly in the neighbourhood, or more couples with no children. The Public Practice has predicted a slight increase in the average occupancy rate by 2031, increasing to 2.4.

Spatial Distribution of Disadvantage

The Marrickville LGA contains significant variances between levels of advantage and disadvantage, as would be expected in a previously working-class area undergoing processes of gentrification. Some parts of the LGA have a higher proportion of young professional families, while other areas are home to relatively disadvantaged sections of the community.

The ABS has developed a set of indices to identify relative levels of advantage and disadvantage called the Socio-economic Indexes for Areas. Each indicator is developed around a mean of 1,000; importantly, SEIFA scores do not indicate an area's absolute advantage or disadvantage but rather measures it against other areas. As such the decile into which an area falls is a useful indicator of its position.

Median household incomes and SEIFA scores and deciles for each suburb in the Marrickville LGA are indicated in Table 29. Two SEIFA scores are displayed – socio-economic advantage/disadvantage, and socio-economic disadvantage. The index of socio-economic disadvantage considers only the sources of disadvantage in an area, while the advantage/disadvantage indicator also considers sources of advantage. Both these indicators should be considered when assessing an area. A low disadvantage score but an average or high advantage/disadvantage score may indicate a mixed area, with significant disadvantage offset by a better-off section of the population, or alternatively can indicate a relatively homogenous population that contains characteristics representing both advantage and disadvantage.

Table 29 – Indicators of disadvantage by suburb

Suburb	Seifa – A / D	Advantage- disadvantage decile (state)	Seifa - disadvantage	Disadvantage decile (state)	Median household income
Stanmore	1124	10	1068	8	1442
Marrickville	1016	7	952	3	1,048
Lewisham	1072	9	1004	6	1138
Petersham	1091	9	1035	7	1269
Dulwich Hill	1053	8	1002	5	1121
St Peters	1090	9	1033	6	1316
Tempe	1041	8	993	5	1157
Sydenham	1029	7	1016	4	1153
Enmore	1094	9	1036	7	1158
Marrickville LGA	1065	9	1007	8	1160

These figures should be interpreted with caution. The data employed to construct the SEIFA scores above is from the 2006 census, and it is likely the area has undergone significant change since this time.

The information suggests that the Marrickville LGA is generally fairly well off, being in within the top 10% of LGAs on the advantage/disadvantage index, and the top 20% on the disadvantage index. However within the LGA some suburbs are more disadvantaged than others. The Marrickville suburb in particular has a low Index of Disadvantage score, suggesting there are significant pockets of deprivation within the area; several census collection districts (CD; the smallest statistical unit available for the SEIFA index) within South Marrickville are within the worst 20% of CDs in the state. This supports comments from Council officers that South Marrickville has a significant disadvantaged population, in part due to the presence of social housing. Other suburbs performing poorly on the index of deprivation are Sydenham and Tempe.

Workforce Projections

Marrickville LGA is expected to see a small increase in the number of jobs located within the LGA between 2011 and 2031, although as with residential dwellings there is a significant disparity between different methods of calculating the future working population. Two data sources have predicted the LGA's future workforce; the first, has been prepared by Council and includes several large developments likely to provide a number of ongoing jobs in the area.

At the time of the 2006 Census, Journey to Work data indicates a total of 23,082 people worked in the Marrickville LGA. 5,371 (23.3 per cent) of these workers were also resident in the Marrickville LGA, with 17,711 (76.7 per cent) workers non-resident. Other LGAs whose residents made up a significant proportion of Marrickville's workforce include Canterbury (11.0 per cent), Rockdale (5.1 per cent), Sydney City (5.1 per cent), Bankstown (4.8 per cent) and Sutherland (4.7 per cent).

Council has predicted a total 1,871 additional jobs within the LGA from 2011 levels, including a loss of 186 jobs in the Lewisham and Stanmore area. The predicted number of workers in the Marrickville LGA in 2031 is 29,907. A predicted 1200 new workers will be employed at a large development in the St Peters Station area, and a further 450 at the

east end of Marrickville Road. 164 additional jobs are predicted in the South Marrickville area. Estimates are not available for the resident and non-resident working population.

The Bureau of Transport Statistics issues forecasts detailing the total number employed, by travel zone. These figures suggest an increase in workers of 1,920 by 2031, to 29,957. Full employment forecasts by travel zone are shown in Appendix 5 and also Figure 4 over page. The travel zones with the highest proportions of jobs in 2011 are generally located around train stations, and include:

- Stanmore - Northumberland Av & Great Western Hwy (5.2 per cent of total jobs in the LGA);
- Petersham Station (South) (4.4 per cent);
- Sydney Steel (15.4 per cent);
- Marrickville Metro (4.8 per cent);
- Marrickville Station (North) (5.1 per cent);
- Sydenham Station (West) (6.0 per cent);
- St Peters Station (South) (7.3 per cent).

Using data from 2006 JTW, approximately 23.3% of additional jobs would be taken by residents with the remaining 1,435 travelling from outside the LGA. By 2031, new jobs will comprise some 6.3% of the workforce.

Some minor changes in the location of employment are predicted. In particular Sydenham Station area is predicted to fall from 6.0 per cent of jobs to 5.3 per cent and St Peters Station (South) from 7.3 per cent to 6.8 per cent. Minor relative increases are predicted in the areas around Lewisham Station.

SGS Economic and Planning⁵ noted that falling jobs affected by the decline in manufacturing sectors with traditional industries relocating through decentralisation and industry restructuring. Airport and port related industries are growing as are retail and commercial sectors with increased office and business use of industrial lands.

The increase and change in the Marrickville LGA's working population is relatively small when compared to the likely residential population increase. Unless there is a significant shift in the patterns of resident- and non-resident workers, approximately one quarter of these workers will also live within the LGA. Nonetheless, the additional working population will impact on resource recovery and are relevant for assessing waste needs into the future.

⁵ SGS Economics and Planning (2008) *Marrickville Employment Land Study Final Report April 2008* for Marrickville Council

NBRS+PARTNERS
ARCHITECTURE·HERITAGE·INTERIORS·PLANNING



HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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3 September 2013
FINAL

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This report has been prepared under the guidance of the Expert Witness Code of Conduct in the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules and the provisions relating to expert evidence. The opinions in the report represent the professional opinions of the author based on an assessment of the available information cited in the report.

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Draft HA	8 August 2013
Revised Draft HA	14 August 2013
Final HA	3 September 2013

1.0 INTRODUCTION**1.1 Introduction**

Marrickville Council, owners and managers of Marrickville Park, Marrickville, engaged NBRS+PARTNERS to prepare this Heritage Assessment. The aim of the heritage assessment is to determine whether elements within the park have heritage significance and provide heritage input into the Masterplan and Plan of Management for Marrickville Park, Marrickville.

1.2 Definition of the Study Area

Marrickville Park is located at the corner of Livingston Road and Frazer Street. The site is located within a suburban block bounded by Frazer Street to the north, Livingstone Road to the east, Pile Street to the south and Wardell Road to the west (see Figure 1). The site covers an area of 45,000m² (4.5 hectares). Marrickville Park is zoned RE1 Public Recreation in *Marrickville Council Local Environmental Plan 2011* and is classified as community land.

1.3 Study Objectives

This Heritage Assessment is intended to identify any heritage values associated with the site in accordance with the standard assessment criteria and to determine the potential for redevelopment of the site.

1.4 Methodology

This report generally follows the format set out in the document entitled *Assessing Heritage Significance (2001)* published by the NSW Heritage Office. The terms *fabric*, *place*, *preservation*, *reconstruction*, *restoration*, *adaptation* and *conservation* used throughout this report have the meaning given them in *Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter) 1999*.

1.5 Limitations

The report is a result of analysis of available research material combined with a physical assessment of the existing building fabric and a streetscape analysis.

1.6 Identification of Author

This report was researched and prepared by Lynette Gurr, Senior Heritage Consultant of NBRS+PARTNERS. Leonie Masson, Historian, prepared the historic overview and Robert Staas, Heritage Consultant / Director, provided project direction.

1.7 Sources

The main documentary sources consulted in the research for this report are listed below:

- Mitchell Library: State Library of NSW – Maps, Plans and Small Pictures File;
- NSW Lands and Property Information;
- Sydney Water Plan Room;
- Marrickville Council Archives; and
- National Library of Australia – Trove database.

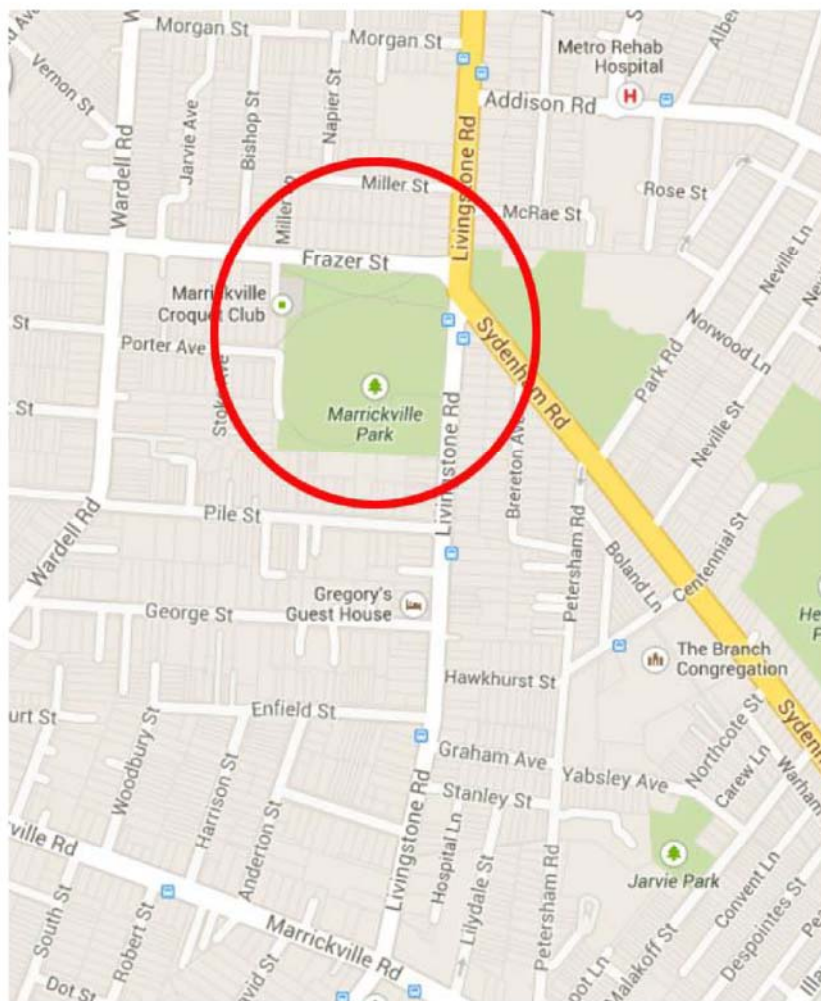


Figure 1 – Location of the Marrickville Park shown circled (Source: Google Maps)



Figure 2 – Aerial view of Marrickville Park, showing the Study Area outlined in red. Marrickville Park is approximately 2.2 hectares on the corner of Livingstone Road and Frazer Street and including a parcel of land known as the Piles Street Site (Source: Marrickville Council)

2.0 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE**2.1 Aboriginal Occupation**

Archaeological evidence found in Shea's Creek (Botany Bay) indicates Aboriginal occupation dating from over 5,000 years ago, and possibly over 7,000 years ago. At the time of European settlement, there were two main tribes based on linguistic groups. The coastal Aborigines were known as the Guringai, and an inland group, the Dharug.

Although it was estimated that there were some 1,500 Aboriginals living in the vicinity of Port Jackson in 1788, by 1830 the numbers had fallen dramatically. Limited evidence of Aboriginal occupation has survived the intense development within the Marrickville council area since the 1790s. No evidence of Aboriginal occupation is evident within the boundaries of the Marrickville Park.

2.2 Early European Settlement

Maps prepared in 1796 by Captain John Hunter and C Grimes, Deputy Surveyor General, show cultivated farm areas in the vicinity of modern Petersham. Lieutenant Collins wrote *"The soil was much better for agriculture than that immediately adjacent to the town of Sydney, and the ground lay well for cultivation, but it had hitherto been neglected from being deficient in that great essential, water"*.

Early land grants in the district were made to about thirty individuals and formed part of a *"chain of farms"* along the length of Parramatta Road. Although most of the grants were 30 acres (12 hectares) or less, by the early 1800s four landholders held 65% of the land in the area, they were Thomas Moore, Thomas Smyth, Thomas Rowley and George Johnston.

During the first decade of the nineteenth century a number of the land holdings had changed hands. By 1830, several substantial country estates had been created including George Johnston at Annandale House, Robert Wardell at Petersham House, Alexander Sparke at Tempe and Captain Browne at Enmore House.

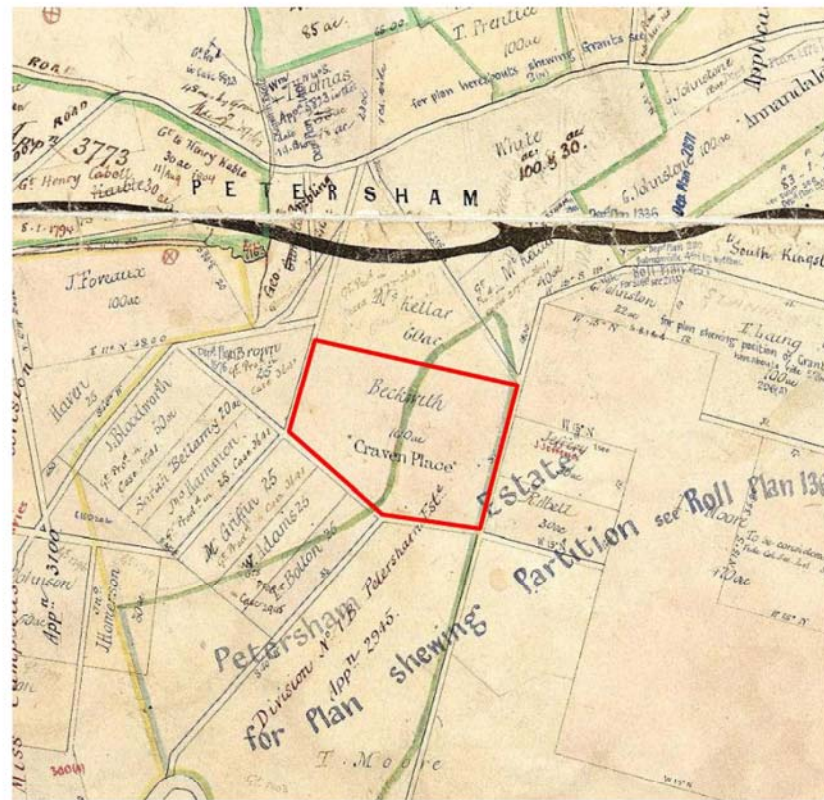


Figure 3 — Extract from Parish of Petersham, County of Cumberland (undated) shows 100 acre land grant to William Beckwith named 'Craven Place' (outlined in red). Note that the eastern boundary of his grant lies along a roadway (now Livingstone Road). (Source: NSW Land & Property Information, HLRV, PMapMN04)



Figure 4 — Petersham: Burrows survey, 1840. (Source: State Library of New South Wales, M2 811.182/1840/1)

3.2.3 William Charles Wentworth

William Charles Wentworth was born to Catherine Crowley, a convict, on board the ship, *Neptune*, during a voyage to Sydney. Dr D'Arcy Wentworth acknowledged the child as his son. After living with his parents on Norfolk Island, William accompanied them to Sydney in 1796. On the death of his mother in 1803, he and his brother, D'Arcy Jnr, were sent to England to be educated.

William returned to Sydney in 1810. By 1811, Macquarie appointed Wentworth Provost-Marshall of the Colony and was granted 1750 acres of land on the Nepean. Following the crossing of the Blue Mountains, with Gregory Blaxland and William Lawson, Wentworth was granted another 1000 acres.

In 1816, Wentworth travelled to London to pursue a career in law, returning to Sydney in 1824, determined "to hold no situation under government...as a mere private person I might lead the colony, but as a servant of the Governor I could only conform to his whims, which would neither suit my tastes nor principles".

On his return Wentworth began to consolidate his already extensive landholdings. On 27th September 1826, *The Sydney Gazette* reported that Mr WC Wentworth had purchased "Petersham" as his country-seat for £1,500. The property had been part of the estate of Dr Robert Wardell. The relative isolation of the area at that time is highlighted by a story that appeared in a later issue of *The Sydney Gazette*:

A desperado lurking in a ditch by the side of the road snapped a loaded piece at Mr Wentworth...providentially the dreadful instrument miss fired and the favourite Barrister of Australia escaped being laid, by the hands of a base assassin, a breathless corpse on his native soil. Mr Wentworth being quite defenceless, remained not to discover the wretch, but was glad to escape so horrible a fate.

Wentworth left New South Wales in 1854, and remained in England, save for a brief visit to Sydney in 1861-62. He died in Dorset, England, on 20 March 1872 leaving an estate in Sydney valued at £96,000 (and £70,000 in London). His body was brought to Sydney where he was given a State funeral on 6 May 1873, and he was laid to rest in a vault at his Vaucluse estate.

2.3 Brickmaking in the Marrickville District

In the 1840s John Goodsell began brickmaking in Newtown. During the 1860s, he was joined by his son Frederick and they began operating brickworks in St Peters. The family continued in brick making up until 1891 when the business was sold and became Speare's Brickworks.

In the 1870s and 1880s, market gardens gave way to brick pits, and brickmaking became a major industry in the Marrickville district. The loamy clay soil once used as market gardens to grow vegetables was converted to brick production. At first the bricks were made by hand, but changed to steam-made and machine-made bricks. Marrickville took on a semi-industrial character. The

area became home to the largest brickmaking businesses in Sydney. In 1888, Johnston Brothers was producing up to 300,000 bricks per week.

Another brick making entrepreneur was Thomas Daley, who established the Standsure Brick Company in 1886 on Sydenham Road and operated until 1923. The brickworks was sold to Marrickville Municipal Council and became the site of Henson Park.¹



Figure 5 — Brickwork employees, probably Speare's Brickworks, St Peters, undated (Source: Marrickville Council Image Library, 000\000195)

There were several brickworks and clay pits in the vicinity of Cooks River New Road (Livingstone Road), and Sydenham and Wardell Roads. A notable Marrickville brickmaker was Robert Porter who established a yard in Wardell Road in 1871. He operated on this site until 1876 when the business failed as a result of a dishonest book-keeper.² According to Chrys Meader and Richard Cashman, in *Marrickville: Rural Outpost to Inner City*, "when the grandstand in Marrickville Park was demolished in 1986, many of the bricks used in its construction bore the Porter mark".

2.4 Establishment of Marrickville Park

The subject site comprises Lots 15-21 Section A of Macarthur and Priddle's subdivision of part of Division 1B of the Petersham Estate, and also part of Lot 13 of DP 4522 (Williamstown Estate), being originally located on part of 100

¹ Chrys Meader, 'Marrickville', Dictionary of Sydney, 2008, <http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/entry/marrickville>, viewed 07 August 2013

² Gemmell, Warwick, *And So We Graft from Six to Six: the Brickmakers of New South Wales*, p10.

acres granted to William Beckwith on 3 October 1794 and part of 30 acres granted to Robert Abell on 20 February 1794.

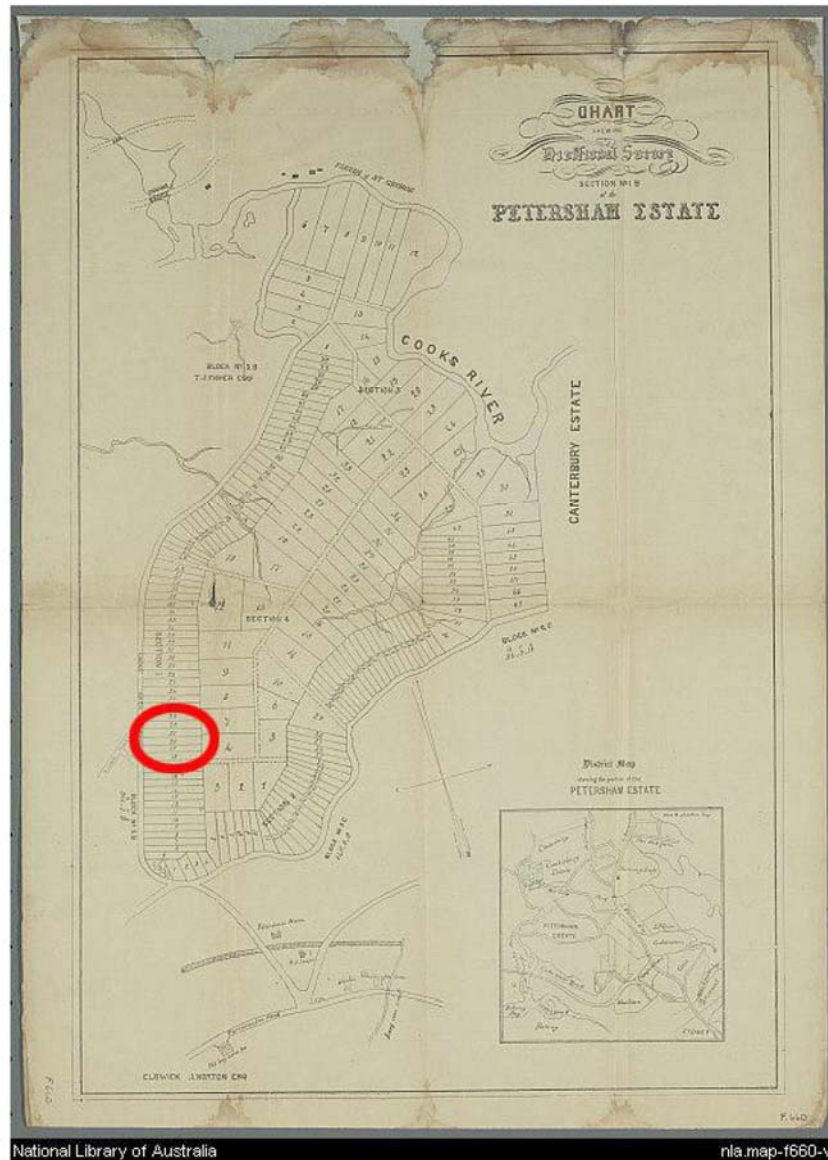


Figure 6 — Chart shewing divisional survey Section No. 1 B of the Petersham Estate, 1840-59 (north located at bottom of plan) (Source: National Library of Australia, MAP F 660)

Robert Wardell purchased Thomas Moore's 700 acre land grant and amassed a 2,000 acre property based on Petersham House and Sara Dell, and including Beckwith's "Craven Place" and Abell's grant. Following Wardell's murder in 1834, his estate, administered by Wentworth, was divided among his sisters, Anne Fisher, Margaret Fraser and Jane Isabella Priddle. Part of Division 1B of the Petersham Estate was subdivided by Charles Frederick Priddle and George Fairfold Macarthur (see Figure 6).

2.4.1 Lots 18-21 Section A

Lots 18-21 of Section A of Priddle and Macarthur's subdivision was purchased by William Shortus, a brickmaker of Marrickville. He established brickworks on the site at then named New Cooks River Road (now Livingstone Road) in 1868 and conducted the brick pit until his death in 1875. Shortus is listed as a brickmaker in the Sands Directory in this street until his death. He and his wife occupied a cottage located at Frazer Street. Following William's death, the property passed by transmission to his widow, Susannah, in 1876 and she lodged a primary application to convert the land to Torrens title.³ Susannah conveyed 22 perches of land each to her sons Matthew Henry Shortus and Charles Shortus, being respectively part of Lots 20 and 21, and part of Lots 19 and 20.⁴ Susannah retained the balance of the land in Lots 18-21. Matthew and Charles Shortus were also brickmakers in the district.

In 1881 and 1882, Susannah, Charles and Matthew collectively sold the former brickworks land to Duncan McRae of Sydney.⁵ The site at this date comprised six acres and twelve perches of land. The following year, he conveyed same to Robert Miller, the well-known wholesale grocer of Sydney and local landholder who lived nearby in 'Rathlin', Livingstone Road.

Robert Miller's property, at the corner of Livingstone Road and Frazer Street, was the subject of numerous complaints from local residents. The earliest complaint was recorded in 1888 when Fisher, Baife and Salway, solicitors, wrote to Council on behalf of Robert Porter of Frazer Road, threatening legal action if the alleged nuisance at the corner of Livingstone Road were not abated. The matter was promptly referred to the Works Committee but the outcome of the complaint is not known.⁶ In June 1893, in response to further complaints from local residents, Robert Hardy, agent to Robert Miller, in response to Council, denied responsibility for the "alleged nuisances from vacant land at the junction of Frazer and Livingstone roads":

The bad smell he declared, was caused by the council sending drainage through the adjoining land.⁷

Later the same year Council held a special meeting to consider acquiring the land at the corner of Livingstone Street and Frazer Road. This meeting was in response to a letter from Robert Miller offering to lease the Council that same land at an annual rental of £100 for a period of 15 years, on the proviso that "Council perform all the work required for transforming the land into a public

³ Primary Application 2945, NSW Land & Property Information.

⁴ Certificates of Title Vol 354 Fols 99 and 100, NSW Land & Property Information.

⁵ Certificates of Title Vol 354 Fols 99, 100 and 101, NSW Land & Property Information.

⁶ "Marrickville", *Evening News*, 23 November 1888, p7.

⁷ "Marrickville", *Evening News*, 20 June 1893, p3.

park". Furthermore, Robert Miller would be relieved of "all present municipal taxes or those which might be hereafter imposed during tenancy" and lastly, "upon the termination of the lease the owner to grant the council the right to purchase the land for the sum of £3,500". The offer lapsed as the Council did not receive a further details of the offer from Robert Miller.⁸

The situation had not improved by 1899, as the land, known locally as Miller's Tip, had been used by Council for the dumping of house-refuse and street-sweepings. Following an inquiry by the Board of Health, an order was made under the Public Health Act, 1896, "that it would be prejudicial to health if...that area of 9 acres 12 perches, situated at the corner of Livingstone-road and Frazer-street were built upon in its present condition". The article went on to explain the reasons for the Board's decision and recommended that the land not be built upon until the putrescent and decomposing house-refuse and street-sweepings was dug up and removed⁹. Following Miller's death in 1902, the property was conveyed by transmission in 1902 to Robert Christy Miller and the transfer was formalised in March 1907.

2.4.2 Lot 17 Section A

In 1873, Nathan Chalis of Marrickville, variously described as a landowner and brickmaker, purchased Lot 17 Section A (comprising one acre two roods and one perches of land). He subsequently subdivided the land and sold two parts to George Hews of Marrickville, brickmaker, and Charlotte Jane McRae respectively in 1882.¹⁰

Chalis retained ownership of one rood and 22 ½ perches of Lots 16 and 17 Section A and conveyed same in 1890 to Daniel Allen of Sydney, Baptist minister.¹¹ The mortgagee exercised power of sale of the property in 1902 to Hephzibah Allen. She sold the property in October 1909 to the Council of Municipality of Marrickville.

George Hews is listed in New Cooks River Road in the 1880s and probably operated a brick pit on this portion of the allotment as it is identified as part of the 'unhealthy lands' gazetted in 1903. It is likely that he had an arrangement with Council to utilise the former pit as a garbage tip in connection with the adjoining land owned from 1883 by Robert Miller. Hews owned the land until 1909 when he sold it to the Council of the Municipality of Marrickville.¹² At the time of his death he was living in Tiley Street and was a Council employee.

2.4.3 Lot 16 Section A

Charles Reynolds of City of Sydney, purchased Lot 16 Section A in 1873. The following year he sold same to Anthony Blamire, gardener, of Petersham. The property changed hands again in 1880 to Eliza Hicks who sold part thereof to Charlotte Jane McRae in 1882.¹³

⁸ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 12 October 1893, p4.

⁹ "Unhealthy Land", *Evening News*, 19 April 1899, p6.

¹⁰ Certificate of Title Vol 165 Fol 104, NSW Land & Property Information.

¹¹ Certificate of Title Vol 618 Fol 223, NSW Land & Property Information.

¹² Certificate of Title Vol 618 Fol 127, NSW Land & Property Information.

¹³ Certificate of Title Vol 167 Fol 119, NSW Land & Property Information.

2.4.4 Lot 15 Section A

John Williams of City of Sydney purchased one acre two roods of land, being originally part of Thomas Moore's 700 acre land grant in 1852. He subsequently converted same to Torrens title by Primary Application 7714. Following Williams' death the property passed by transmission to Francis Augustus Wright, William Houston and James Dryhurst in 1900. Three years later, they conveyed the land to William George Shuttle, restaurant keeper of Marrickville. Alfred James Gastor, state servant of Marrickville, purchased the property in 1913. He promptly sold Lot 15 to the Council of the Municipality of Marrickville in August the same year.¹⁴

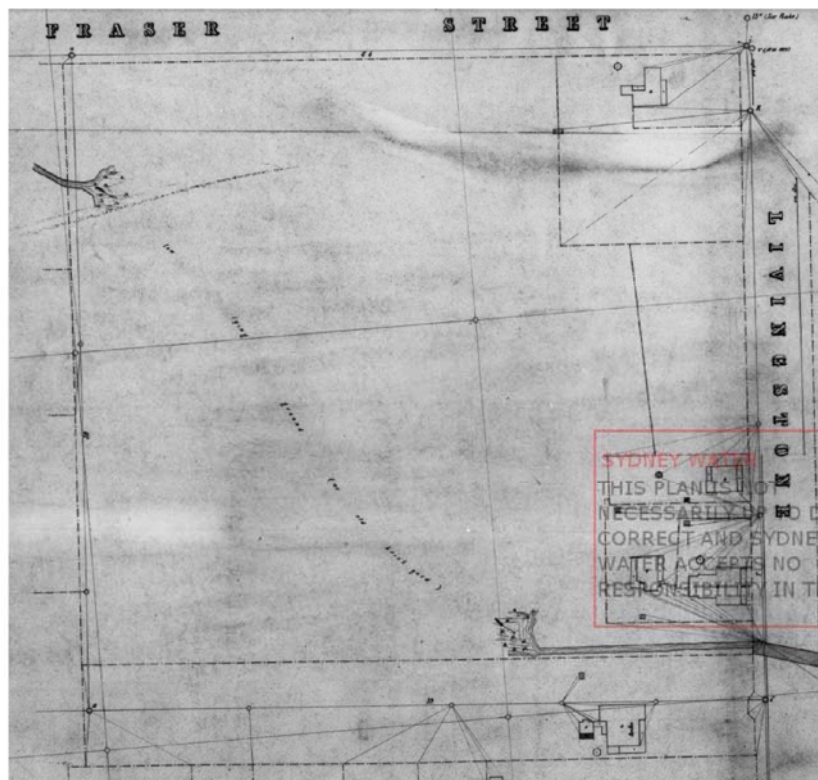


Figure 7 — Extract from Parramatta Sheet 17, 1889 showing land prior to acquisition and development of Marrickville Park. Indicates low lying ground (on old brick yard) diagonally traversing block, and the footprint of the various buildings on site. (Source: Sydney Water Plan Room)

¹⁴ Certificate of Title Vol 944 Fol 187, NSW Land & Property Information.

2.5 The Beginnings of Marrickville Park

Robert Christy Miller and James Gregg sold Lots 18-21 Section A to the Minister for Lands in September 1907 for a Public Park (see Figure 8). Crown Plan 1594-3000 shows that part of the land proclaimed 'unhealthy lands' in 1900 shaded pink.

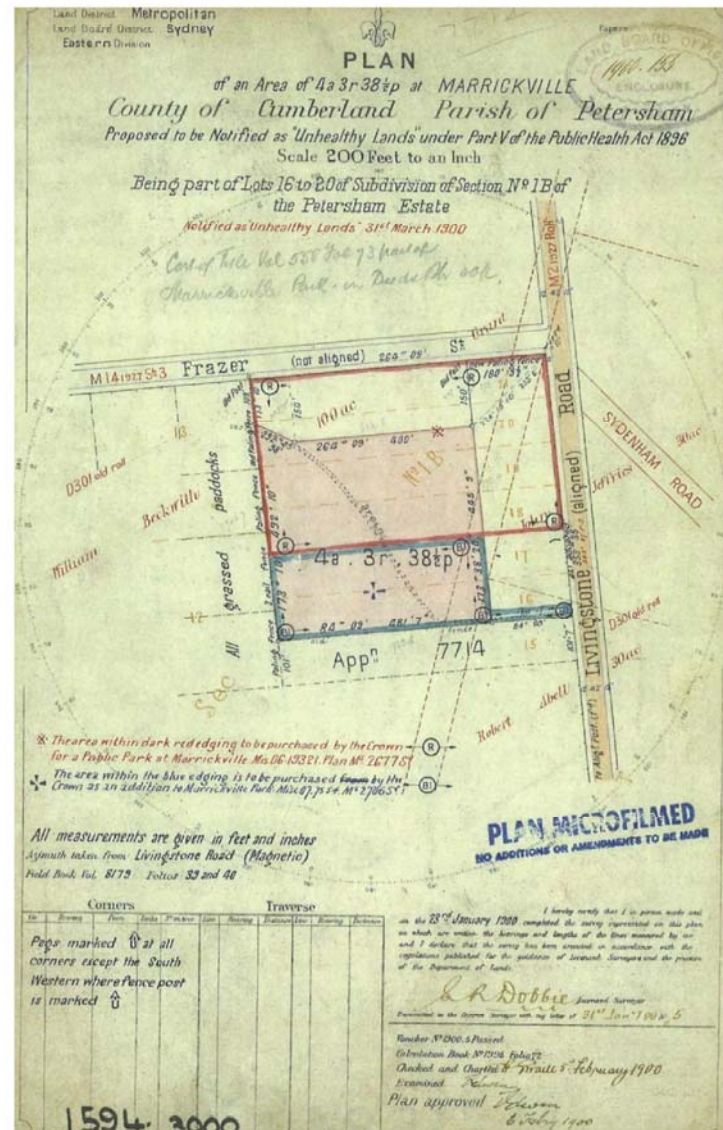


Figure 8— Plan of an Area of 4a 3r 38 1/2 p at Marrickville...proposed to be Notified as 'Unhealthy Lands' under Part V of the Public Health Act 1896. (Source: NSW Land & Property Information)

Crown Plan 2677-3000 (Figure 9), which supersedes Crown Plan 1594-3000, shows Lots 18-21, locally known as "Millers Paddock", comprising 6 acres and 12 3/4 perches of land, upon which is located a pair of buildings in far the north-eastern corner on a partitioned portion of Lots 20 and 21. This is the land formally purchased for Public Park and proclaimed in the Government Gazette on 5 February 1908.

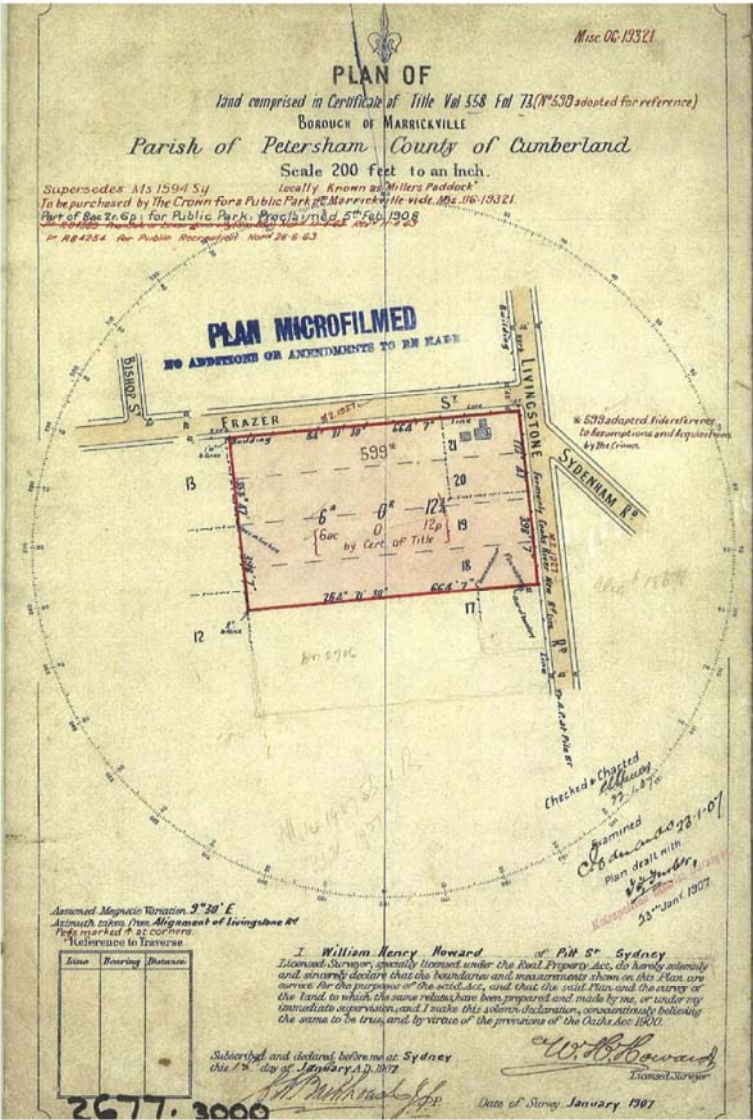


Figure 9 — Plan of land comprised in Certificate of Title Vol 558 Fol 73 Borough of Marrickville. (Source: NSW Land & Property Information)

Crown Plan 2706-3000 (Figure 10), also dated 1907, shows part of Lots 16 and 17, to be acquired to enlarge the Public Park by an additional 2 acres 1 rood and 34 perches. This land was at this date in the ownership of George Hews and was eventually sold to the Minister for Lands in September 1909. Note the annotation "Purch^d" on the adjoining parts of Lots 16 and 17 comprising two brick cottages owned by Hephzibah Allen and purchased by Marrickville Council in October 1909.

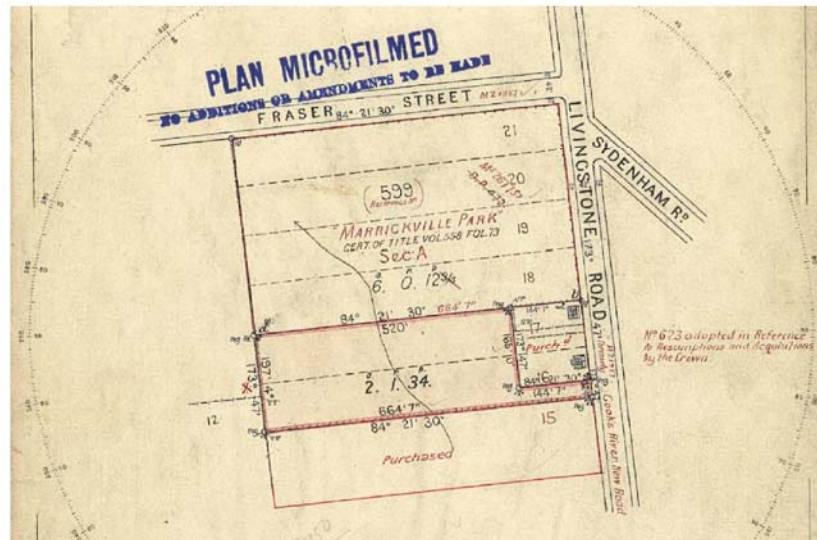


Figure 10 — Plan of 2ac 1r 34p of land comprised in Certificate of Title Vol 618 Fol 173, being part of lots 16 and 17 in the Petersham Estate County of Cumberland Parish of Petersham Borough of Marrickville, 1907. Land outlined in red to be purchased by the Crown as an addition to the Public Park at Marrickville. (Source: NSW Land & Property Information, Crown Plan 2706-3000)

In 1908, by Proclamation in the Government Gazette on 5 February, the control and management of the land purchased by the Crown as a Public Park, was conferred upon Marrickville Council.¹⁵ Two months later Alderman Blackwood brought to the attention of the Council that he had noticed football being played in the new park on Sunday¹⁶ though no work had as yet been undertaken to prepare the ground as a public park. In August, the park remained in a "rough condition, and without a name". The Council, however, proposed to prepare the park "for cricket, football and other manly exercises"¹⁷ and approached the Government for a grant of £825.¹⁸ Prior to commencement of works, the Council requested the Minister for Works cover the drain and lay drain pipes in

¹⁵ *Minutes of the Marrickville Council*, 17 February 1908, Correspondence Item 1 – The Under Secretary Department of Public Works.

¹⁶ "Sunday Football at Marrickville", *Evening News*, 29 April 1908, p9.

¹⁷ "Marrickville Park", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 August 1908, p9.

¹⁸ "Marrickville Park and Aldermanic Vagaries", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 September 1908, p3, "The Marrickville Park", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 February 1909, p8.

the new park.¹⁹ The Council eventually settled upon the name "Marrickville Park" in September 1908, duplicating a name already in use for the Trustee-managed Park at Enmore.²⁰ Marrickville Council's 1909-10 Annual Report stated:

The Park site...is fast assuming shape; heavy work has been necessary to put these grounds into order, and the ratepayers and residents can now form an idea of the Council's ultimate intentions.

In the same report, Council foreshadowed the purchase of the four adjoining properties to extend the park area, pending finance. In April 1910, Council did receive a grant of £412 10s from the Minister for Lands for improvements to the Marrickville Park.²¹ Simultaneously R. Shute, architect, advertised tenders for the erection of a pavilion on Marrickville Oval.²²

In September 1910, Marrickville Park was officially opened with a cricket match on Livingstone Oval. The account of the event in the *Evening News* notes that Council outlaid £2,366 for the purchase of additional property to increase the area and provide a caretaker's cottage, £1,804 for improvements, and £100 of the £600 for construction of the pavilion.²³ In the 1910-11 Annual Report, Council boasted that the "Marrickville Cricket Oval and Sports Area is at last an accomplished fact, and a most creditable and suitable site for our popular pastimes, school functions, public demonstrations and playgrounds for children".

A photograph showing a cricket match on the Marrickville Oval is included in the 1911 "Souvenir to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Municipality of Marrickville" (Figure 11).



Figure 11 — Livingstone Oval, Marrickville Park, 1911 (Source: Souvenir to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Municipality of Marrickville 1861-1911, p53)

EA Harris of the Public Works Department carried out a survey of the district in 1911 to update the Blackwattle Series Marrickville Sheet 17 (MWSDB). Pages 8, 27-28 and 29 of the field book are shown in Figure 12, Figure 13 and Figure 14.

¹⁹ "Enmore Park, The Council and the Trustees", *Evening News*, 24 August 1908, p9.

²⁰ It should be noted that "Marrickville Park" is referred to in historic documents by various names, including "Livingstone Park" and "Livingstone Oval".

²¹ "Park Grants", *Evening News*, 26 April 1910, p4.

²² "Tenders", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 19 April 1910, p4.

²³ "New Sports Area at Marrickville opened with a cricket match", *Evening News*, 17 September 1910, p9.

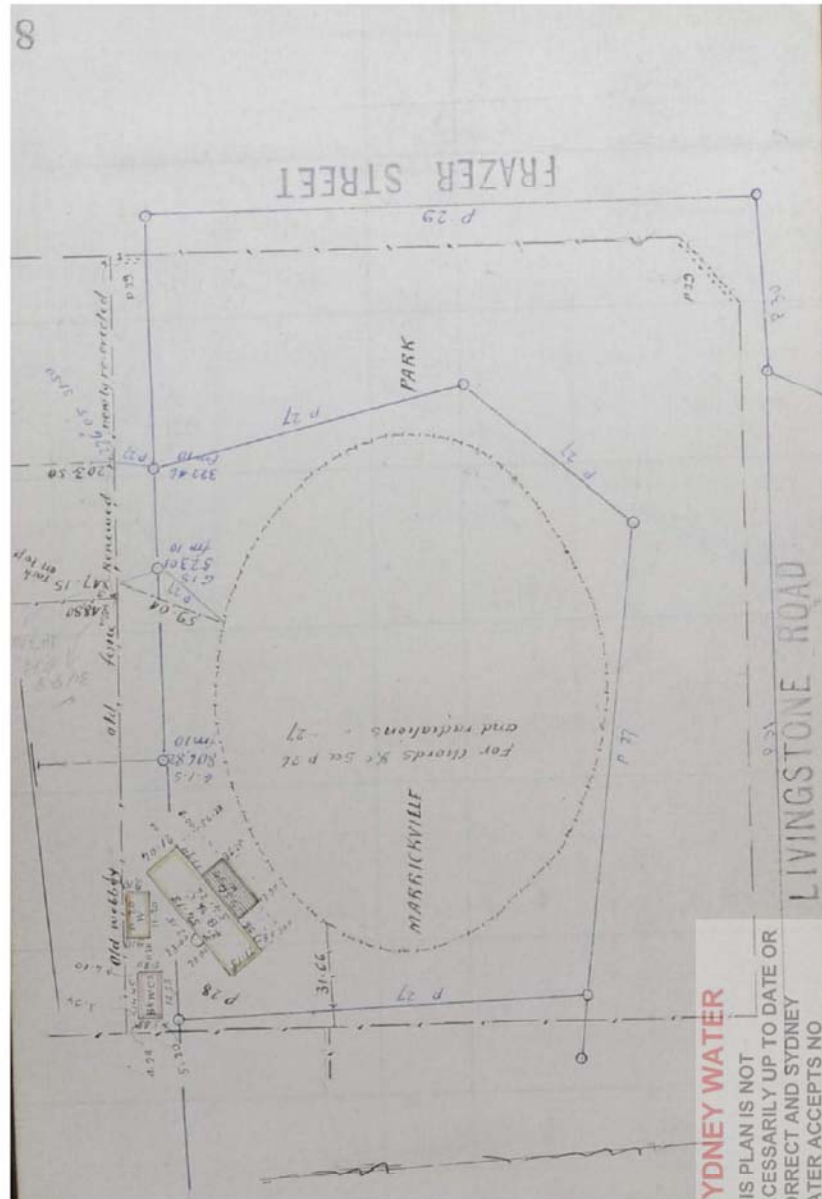


Figure 12 — Extract from Field Book No 356, Marrickville Sheet 17, E.A. Harris (surveyor), 13 July 1917, page 8. (Source: Sydney Water Plan Room)

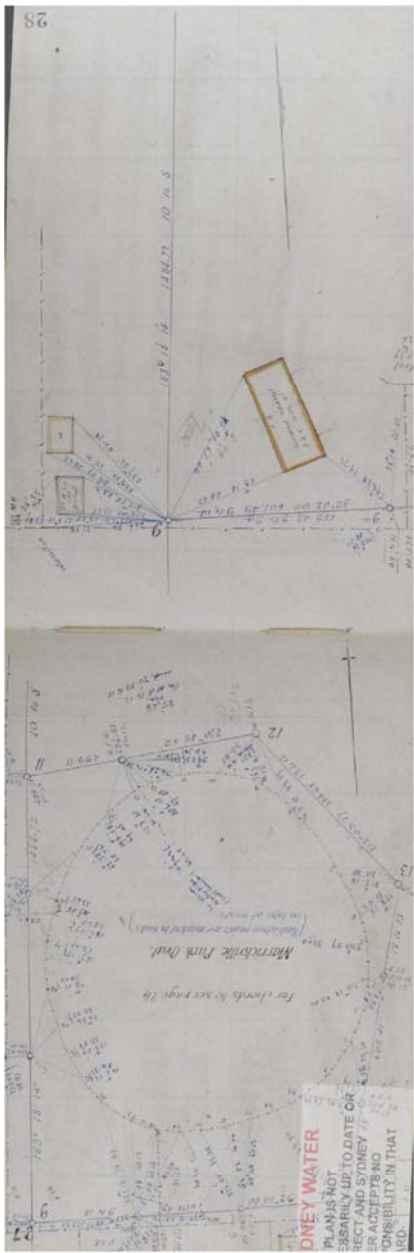


Figure 13 — Extract from Field Book No 356, Marrickville Sheet 17, E.A. Harris (surveyor), 13 July 1917, pages 27-28. (Source: Sydney Water Plan Room)

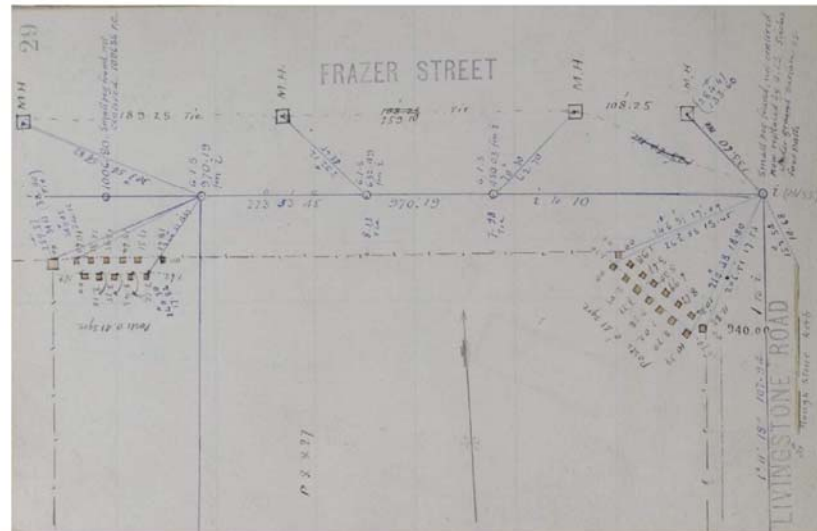


Figure 14 — Extract from Field Book No 356, Marrickville Sheet 17, E.A. Harris (surveyor), 13 July 1917, pages 29. (Source: Sydney Water Plan Room)

The following more detailed account of the history and development of the park is recounted in the 1922 souvenir celebrating the opening of the new Town Hall and industrial exhibition:

The rapidly growing population has demanded that further facilities should be provided, and the Government with the assistance of the Council, purchased two other fine sites, one at the intersection of Livingstone and Frazer Street, which was known as Miller's Tip, which was an eyesore to the Municipality. This 8½ acres has now been transformed into an admirable park, and the site, by its unique position, tends to become one of the finest sports grounds in the Western Suburbs. Since taking over this area the Council have spent a fair amount of money on its improvement; yet they have been more than recompensed by the fact that it contains a cricket pitch second to none in the metropolitan area, as well as several tennis courts, on which first-class tennis is played. In studying the requirements of the sporting fraternity of the Municipality, the Council did not overlook the wants of the children, for there were several swings, etc., erected for their amusement.

From the outset, Marrickville Park was conceived and designed as a sports field, with the primary use given over to cricket. Council advertised annually for applications from sporting groups, schools and social organisations, tendering for use of Livingstone Oval. Surviving Council files in the period 1918-48 contain applications from a myriad of cricket, football (rugby league and rugby union), baseball, lacrosse, athletics and hockey clubs.

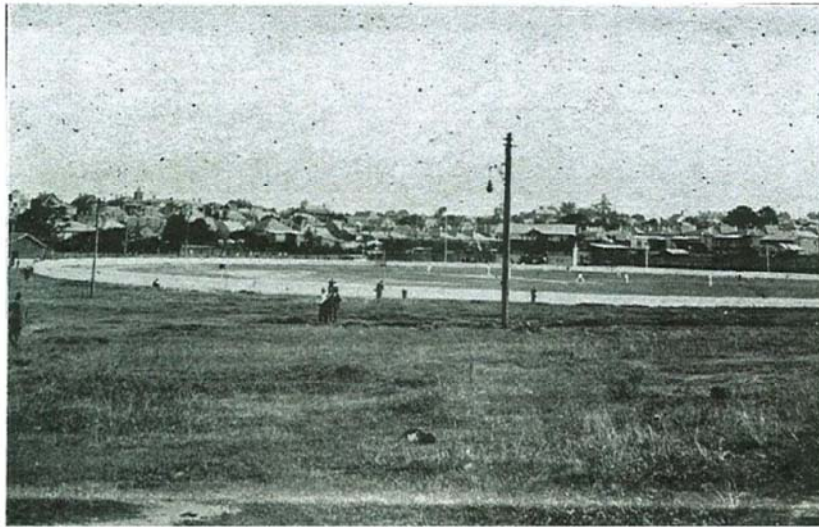


Figure 15 — Livingstone Oval, Marrickville Park, 1922. (Source: JG Henderson, 'Official souvenir, Marrickville Municipality: diamond jubilee, opening of new Town Hall and industrial exhibition', Marrickville Municipal Council, Marrickville NSW, 1922, p83)

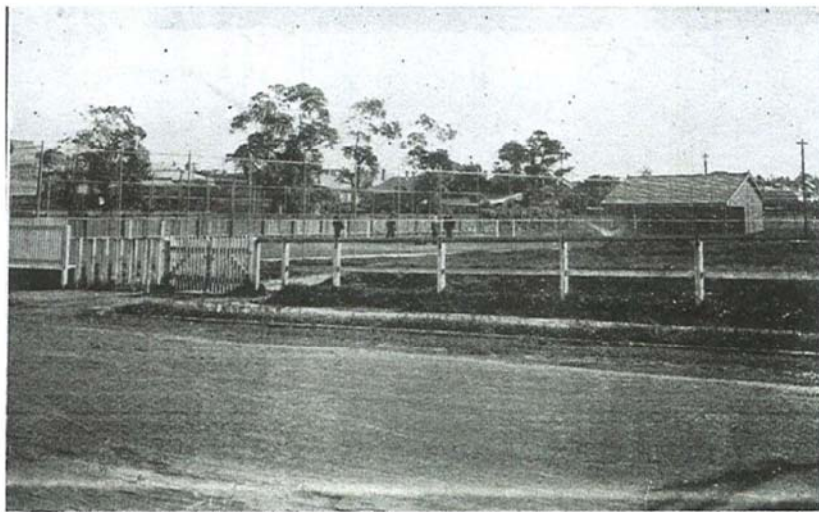


Figure 16 — Lawn Tennis Courts, Marrickville Park, 1922. Photo showing the original tennis club house and the configuration of the original lawn courts (Source: JG Henderson, 'Official souvenir, Marrickville Municipality: diamond jubilee, opening of new Town Hall and industrial exhibition', Marrickville Municipal Council, Marrickville NSW, 1922, p83)



Figure 17 — Livingstone Oval, Marrickville Park, 1936. Photo taken from the corner of Livingstone Road and Frazer Street and shows the path that led into Marrickville Park (Source: Marrickville Council Image Library, 002\002628)



Figure 18 — View looking south along Livingstone Road with Marrickville Park at right, 1936 (Source: Marrickville Council Image Library, 002\002640)



Figure 19 — Livingstone Oval, Marrickville Park, 1936 (Source: Reproduced in *A History of the Municipality of Marrickville to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary 1861-1936*)

2.6 Maintenance and Additions to Marrickville Park

In 1917, Council advertised for tenders for levelling and grading Livingstone Oval.²⁴ New sporting facilities were erected in Marrickville Park in the 1920s, namely four lawn tennis courts and clubhouse (1921) and a croquet lawn and pavilion (1925/26).

In a 1927 article in the *Evening News*, Marrickville Council was praised for its management of the hazards posed by the many former clay pits and disused brickwork sites in the district, following a spate of drownings and accidents at such sites across the state. Marrickville Park was cited as a successful example of a rehabilitated brick pit and the Councils' plans for other sites:

Livingstone Park, at Marrickville, for example – one of the finest playing ovals in the metropolitan area, and used today for first grade cricket – hides beneath its firm, velvety surface, old brick pits which the local council took over. It removed a menace and made of the site a beauty spot.

It is said that if you care to dig down deep enough at Livingstone Park you will come upon a wonderful collection of old bedsteads, tins and garbage of all kind.

*The Marrickville Council is filling up similarly other nasty danger spots.*²⁵

Periodic maintenance of park facilities continued through the 1930s. William J Allison wrote to Council in May 1933 complaining of the "dangerous practice of cars driving up [the lane...[as it is] the practice of children to rush down Porter Avenue into the said lane". Council promptly order the installation of posts at the head of the land to prevent motor car ingress to the park via this route.

²⁴ "Tenders", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 May 1917, p6.

²⁵ "Spurred to Action", *Evening News*, 26 February 1927, p1.

However not all residents were pleased with the state of the park. Mr EH Moir, of 95 Frazer Street, wrote to the Council on 30 August 1934:

I wish to refer to the disgraceful state of Livingstone Park [as it is] at least 6 months since the grass was cut, and I venture to say the grass is 12 inches high over the majority of the area, especially fronting Frazer Street. It is impossible to cross the park without being wet to the knees, other than by the pathways, and these, after rain are also impossible.

In their reply to Mr Moir, the Council promised that the matter would be referred to the Engineer for immediate attention.



Figure 20 — Extract from Marrickville Sheet 17, 8 March 1929 (revised 18 April 1932) showing Marrickville Park (Source: Sydney Water Plan Room)

The Oval grandstand came under scrutiny in 1937 when extensive white ant damage to the timber was found, necessitating urgent repairs. A number of improvements were undertaken in Marrickville Park during 1937/38 including further stone borders to gardens and paving, gravelling of main drive, croquet lawn verandah, alterations to the tennis club premises, and installation of a 60-watt lights the public convenience. The following year (1939), the Council acknowledged the urgent need for a new grandstand at Livingstone Oval due to its dilapidated condition.²⁶ No further progress was made, although, in 1946 the Mayor of Marrickville, speaking at the annual general meeting of the Marrickville District Cricket Club, foreshadowed the demolition of the old stand and construction of a new one with adequate seating accommodation and a new scoreboard.²⁷ Plans for a new grandstand were not realised at this date.



Figure 21 — Extract from 1943 aerial survey of Sydney showing Marrickville Park.
(Source: NSW Land & Property Information, SIX Maps)

²⁶ Council of the Municipality of Marrickville *Minute Book*, 2. Improvements, May 1939.

²⁷ "Marrickville Oval Changes", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 10 July 1946, p8.

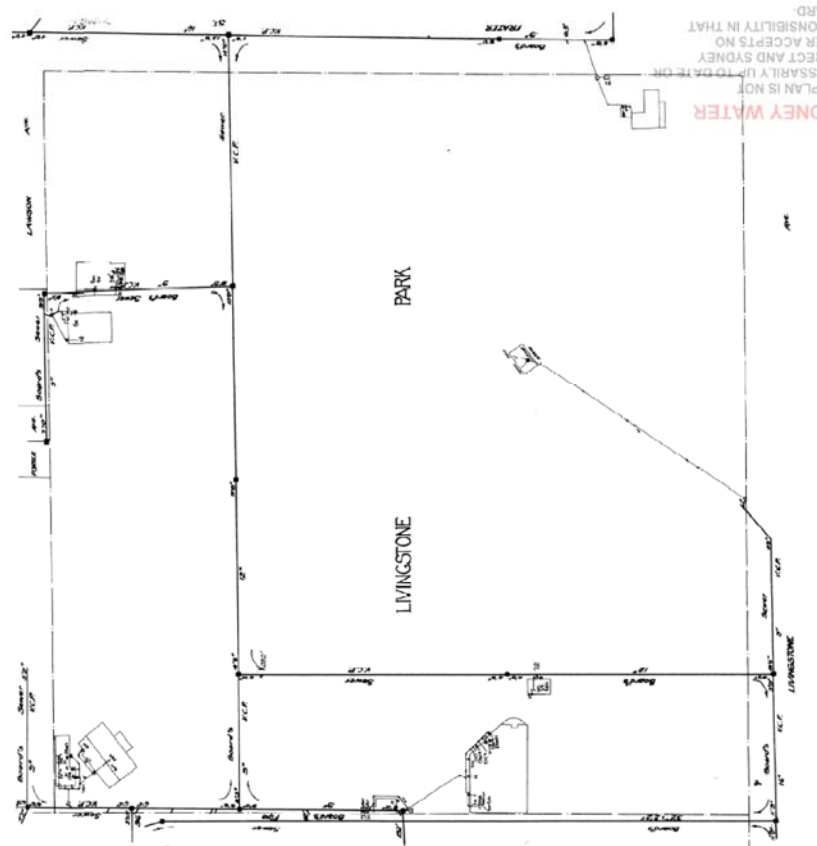


Figure 22 — Sydney Sewerage Service Diagram 478876, undated (pre-1950s)
(Source: Sydney Water Plan Room)

In 1986, Council promised to rebuild the grandstand at a cost of \$200,000, as part of the 1986-87 budget. The old pavilion was demolished and a new brick and concrete grandstand was erected in its place and completed in 1988.

The Oval underwent additional maintenance the following year with the installation of a synthetic cricket wicket and repairs and painting of fences and other structures. During 1990, Council spent \$35,000 on improvements to Marrickville Park which included installation of new playground equipment, construction of all-weather paths, and a walkway installed between the rose garden and date palms. Floodlighting was installed at the tennis courts in 1991 to facilitate night-time use.

A decade later, minor building repairs were carried out at the oval, comprising structure replacement and refurbishment to the value of \$5,500. The 2000/01 Annual Report outlined expenditure and future costs of maintenance or

replacement of the various structures and facilities in Marrickville Park including:

- Refurbishment of cricket nets \$25,000;
- Croquet Clubhouse refurbished/replaced for \$113,500;
- Marrickville Park fencing \$43,000;
- Marrickville Park floodlights \$42,000;
- Marrickville Park grandstand, kiosk, dressing shed complex \$265,000
- Marrickville park groundsman shed \$56,500;
- Marrickville Park Lawn Tennis floodlights \$80,000;
- Marrickville Park Lawn Tennis Club \$567,000;
- Marrickville Park soil shed \$27,000;
- Marrickville Park toilet block \$142,500.

In 2010, Randwick Petersham Cricket Club, Cricketer's Club of NSW and South Sydney Cricket Club banded together as the West Cricket Group, to save the turf wicket at several sportsgrounds in the inner west, including Marrickville Oval. The West Cricket Group (WCG) agreed to pay Marrickville Council \$20,000 under the agreement which stipulated that Council staff would continue to maintain the turf wickets at Marrickville and Camperdown Ovals, while the WCG would look after Petersham Oval.²⁸

2.7 Marrickville District Cricket Club

Marrickville District Cricket Club was founded in 1910, and won the 2nd Grade premiership in its first season in the Sydney Grade Cricket Competition. Along with Randwick, St George and Mosman it was admitted to 1st Grade in 1921-22. The Club won its only 1st Grade premiership in 1943-44 when 8,355 people attended Marrickville Oval to witness the team beat St George on the last ball of the match. Bernard Russell was the club's first NSW representative in 1921-22, while fellow fast bowler, John Scott, who was previously with Petersham, played for the state from 1921 to 1925. Scott made a century on the first day of Marrickville's entry into 1st Grade as part of his side's 312 against Glebe at Wentworth Park Oval.

Marrickville's first Test cricketer was the legendary Bill Brown who made his debut in 1934-35. He was followed by Ernie Toshack, Ron Saggars and Jack Moroney. Brown, Toshack and Saggars were members of Sir Donald Bradman's 1948 "Invincibles".

In its 30 years in 1st Grade, the club had two Hon. Secretaries, the second being Bert Bicknell who served for 29 years. He was elected a Life Member of the NSW Cricket Association in 1943 and of the club in 1951, its final year. In its 41 seasons, Marrickville won a 1st Grade premiership, three 2nd Grade premierships, two 3rd Grade titles, a 4th Grade premiership and the Poidevin Gray Shield three times. It also won the Club Championship in 1922-23. The

²⁸ "Don's Oval Survives", *The Glebe*, 29 April 2010, p5.

club's grounds were Marrickville Oval, Wentworth Park Oval, Wolli Oval and Belmore Oval. The Marrickville District Cricket Club has now been absorbed into the Randwick Petersham Cricket Club which was formed in 2000.



Figure 23 — Marrickville District Cricket Club – 1st Grade Team 1921-1922, in the centre of Livingstone Oval, Marrickville Park with the grandstand in the background. (Source: Marrickville Council Image Library, 001\001169)



Figure 24 — Crowd at cricket match at Livingstone Oval, Marrickville Park, January 1944. Photographer: Sam Hood. (Source: State Library of NSW, Home and Away - 10712)



Figure 25 — Crowd at cricket match at Livingstone Oval, Marrickville Park, January 1944. Photographer: Sam Hood. (Source: State Library of NSW, Home and Away - 10713)



Figure 26 — Crowd at cricket match at Livingstone Oval, Marrickville Park, January 1944. Photographer: Sam Hood. (Source: State Library of NSW, Home and Away - 10717)

2.8 Marrickville District Lawn Tennis Association (1921-present)

The Marrickville District Lawn Tennis Club (MDLTC) was formed in 1921 following a public meeting at the Town Hall in Illawarra Road. The Council actively supported this venture by laying four turf courts and constructing a Club House in Marrickville Park. The courts were officially opened for play on 26 November 1921 on which occasion "exhibition matches will be played by leading exponents of the game, including JO Anderson and N Peach, members of the Australasian Davis Cup team of this year, RV Thomas, former champion of the world in doubles with P O'Hara Wood, and MH Walsh"²⁹.

The Club took over the maintenance of the courts in 1925 but continued to lease the property from the Council. In the same year, with the approval and financial support of the Council, and in conjunction with additions to the Club House, two additional lawn courts were laid out in the Park, north of the original courts.

The Club relinquished their leasehold of the courts and equipment in 1942 for the duration of World War II. The Club re-formed at the end of hostilities.

MDLTC participates in Badge, the well-known Sydney tennis competition. Club members have achieved great results since its inception in 1923. A number of the Club's men's and women's teams participate in Badge.

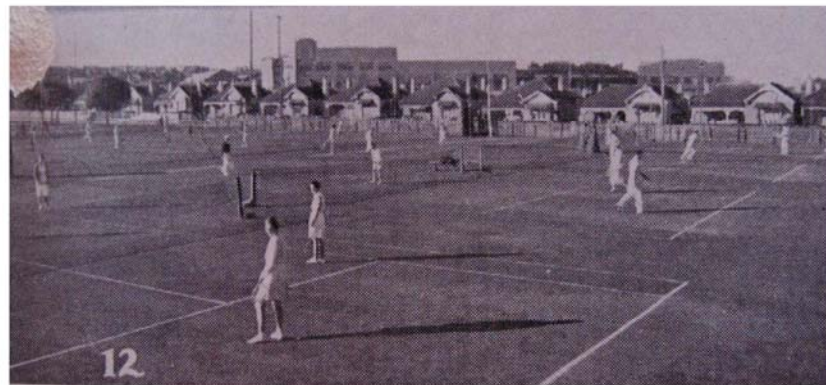


Figure 27 — Livingstone Park Lawn Tennis Courts. (Source: Marrickville Municipal Council, 'A History of the Municipality of Marrickville to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary, 1861–1936', Harbour Newspaper and Publishing Co, Sydney, 1936)

2.9 Newtown District Rugby Football League Club (1910-1936)

The inaugural meeting of the Newtown Club was held at the Newtown Town Hall on 8 January 1908 at which meeting JJ Giltinan was elected first Hon. Secretary. Newtown was one of the founding members of the New South Wales Rugby Football League (NSWRFL). They competed continuously in the

²⁹ "Lawn Tennis, Marrickville Courts", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 26 November 1921, p14.

NSWRFL premiership until their departure in 1983, the first reduction in the League since 1937. Over this period they won the competition three times.³⁰

Following the construction of Livingstone Oval, the Club established their headquarters here in 1910. By 1936, the Club comprised three grades, First, Reserve and Third, and each grade has met with some success on the football field. The First Grade won the Premiership in 1910 and in 1933. It was runner-up in 1913, 1914 and 1920. Newtown also won the City Cup in 1918.

In the period from its inception to 1936, the Club has produced a number of players who have gained International and Interstate honours. On one occasion no less than seven players (the greatest number from any one club) were members of the Australasian team which toured England in 1910-11. Other players of the Club had also represented Australia against England either abroad or at home and thirty-seven players represented the State against Queensland or New Zealand.³¹ In 1936, the Club transferred its headquarters to Henson Park Oval.

The Newtown District Junior Rugby League (NDJRL) competition ended after the ejection of the Newtown club from the NSWRL premiership in 1983. The NDJRL was absorbed mainly into the South Sydney District Junior Rugby Football League and also a small part into the St George and Canterbury-Bankstown districts.

2.10 Marrickville Croquet Club (1926-present)

The Marrickville Croquet Club was formed in 1926. Despite opposition from the Marrickville branch of the ALP, the Council provided £410 for the construction of a croquet lawn and pavilion on the north-western corner of the Marrickville Park. The Club agreed to lease the lawn from the Council for £40 a year and also undertook to bear the expense of the upkeep of the ground.³² At the June meeting of the Council, the ALP attempted to overturn the previous decision which was rejected.³³ By December that year, the cost of the croquet lawns had risen to £508, "and was not finished"³⁴.

³⁰ Newtown Jets, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newtown_Jets, accessed 2 August 2013.

³¹ History of Marrickville, p91.

³² "Croquet lawn stirs ALP, Council undeterred", *Evening News*, 18 May 1926, p5.

³³ "Another Danger to Democracy, Labour and Croquet", *Evening News*, 10 June 1926, p5.

³⁴ "Fists clenched, Mayor's outburst, Marrickville storm", *Evening News*, 7 December 1926, p6.



Figure 28 — Marrickville Croquet Club, c1926 (Source: Marrickville Croquet Club Inc website)



Figure 29 — Marrickville Croquet Club players, 1936 (Source: Reproduced in A History of the Municipality of Marrickville to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary 1861-1936)



Figure 30 — Marrickville Croquet Club, playing ground (upper) and Executive (lower), c1936. (Source: Reproduced in *A History of the Municipality of Marrickville to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary 1861-1936*)

Croquet NSW is the State organisation responsible for promoting, organising and developing the sport of Croquet in NSW. Croquet NSW is headquartered at Mackay Park, Tempe. As at September 2011, there were 68 affiliated croquet clubs throughout the state with just under 3,000 members in total. The following are croquet clubs in the Metropolitan Sydney that form part of Croquet NSW.

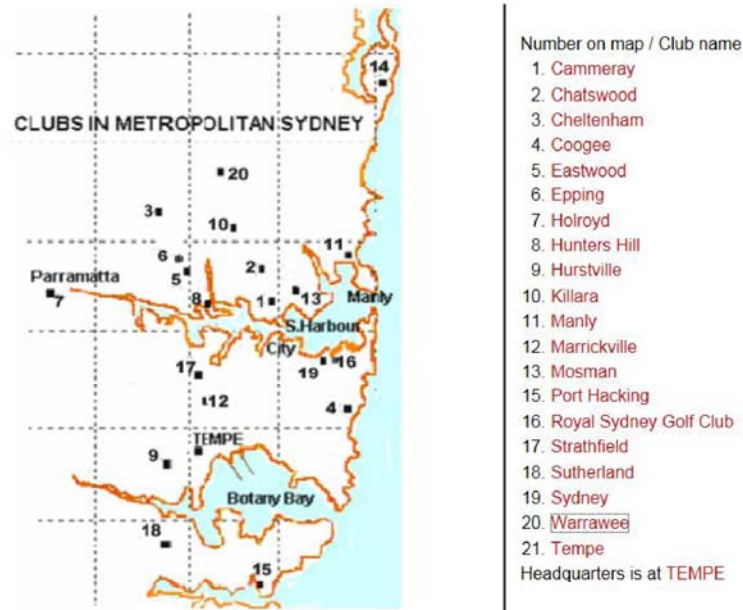


Figure 31 — Croquet clubs located across metropolitan Sydney (Source: Croquet NSW website)

2.11 East Timor Memorial

In 1994, Marrickville Council placed a memorial in Marrickville Park to the people of East Timor acknowledging the support they gave to Australian soldiers during World War II. According to former parliamentary representative for Marrickville, Carmel Tebbutt, "Marrickville is a multicultural society and the council was able to acknowledge those East Timor people who live in the area and the support given in the past by the people of East Timor to Australian soldiers".

Named on the memorial, Sparrow Force was a detachment based on the 2/40th Australian Infantry Battalion and other British and Australian 8th Division units during World War II. The force was formed to defend the island of Timor from invasion by the Empire of Japan. It formed the main part of the Allied units in the Battle of Timor (1942–43).³⁵

³⁵ "Sparrow Force", Wikipedia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sparrow_Force, accessed 5 August 2013.

2.12 Site Chronology

Date	Event
1883	McRae sells Lots 18-21 Section A of Priddle and Macarthurs Subdivision of part of Division 1B of the Petersham Estate to Robert Miller
1883	Council receives letter of complaint about Miller's land
1893	Council receives response from Miller's agent re state of land
31 March 1900	Part of Lots 16-20 Section A of Priddle and Macarthurs Subdivision of part of Division 1B of the Petersham Estate declared 'unhealthy lands' under Part V of the Public Health Act 1896
1902	Death of Robert Miller; Lots 18-21 Section A of Priddle and Macarthurs Subdivision of part of Division 1B of the Petersham Estate pass by transmission to Robert Christy Miller
1903	Deposited Plan 4522, being subdivision of Lots 7, 8 and part of Lot 6 in DP 120
1907	Robert Christy Miller and James Gregg sell lots 18-21 Section A of Priddle and Macarthurs Subdivision of part of Division 1B of the Petersham Estate to the Minister for Lands
5 February 1908	Lots 18-21 Section A of Priddle and Macarthurs Subdivision of part of Division 1B of the Petersham Estate proclaimed public park
1909	Part of Lots 16 and 17 Section A of Priddle and Macarthurs Subdivision of part of Division 1B of the Petersham Estate sold to Marrickville Council
1909	Council names new park "Marrickville Park"
1910	Tender for erection of a pavilion on oval, R Shute architect. Council receives grant of £412 10s for improvements to new park. Official opening of Marrickville Park held on 17 September with a cricket match on oval. Completed oval leased to Marrickville District Cricket Club (summer) and Newtown District Rugby Football Club (winter)
1913	Alfred James Gastor sells Lot 15 Section A of Priddle and Macarthurs Subdivision of part of Division 1B of the Petersham Estate to Marrickville Council
1917	Tender advertisement for levelling and grading Livingstone Park

Date	Event
1921	Marrickville District Lawn Tennis Club formed. Tennis courts constructed in park
1924	MDLTC arranged for construction of two additional courts to be ready for 1 March 1925
1925	MDLTC took over maintenance of tennis courts. Council votes £256 towards cost of erecting turnstiles. Council sets land for croquet lawns in park
1926	Council votes £410 towards construction of croquet lawn and clubhouse. Council votes £225 for providing new water supply scheme to oval
1927	Part of Lot 13 DP 4522 sold to Marrickville Council
1929	Two men injured when fight in grandstand caused a railing to break Two extra grass tennis courts constructed
1932	Increased lighting of oval for night-time training
1933	Turnstile registers repaired
1937	MDLTC complains to Council about dividing fence built midway across the courts only – ask Council to extend fence. Council accedes to club suggestion to erect a retaining wall and a timber fence and small chain wire fence atop wall. Oval grandstand inspection uncovers white ant damage and recommends immediate repairs to defective parts. 60 watt light to be provided on street lighting system to light public toilets. Gravelling of main drive. Additional stone border to gardens and paving at seats completed
1939	Council notes dilapidated state of grandstand and need for a new pavilion
1942	MDLTC goes into recess during World War II
1946	Mayor speaks at Marrickville District Cricket Club AGM, foreshadows building a new grandstand and erect a scoreboard
1982	Four loan courts resurfaced with “colourcort”, construction of retaining wall and drainage system and new fencing installed

Date	Event
1985	\$50,000 to be spent on building two synthetic grass tennis courts
1986	New all-weather artificial grass tennis courts under construction adjoining existing club lawn courts
1987	Tennis courts completed (total of 8 in Marrickville Park). Grandstand under construction
1988	General face-lift to Marrickville Park at Porter Avenue. Timber grandstand replaced with a fire-proof brick and concrete structure
1988/89	New synthetic surface wicket to be installed at oval during the summer.
1989	Fences and other structures repaired and spruce up with new paint. Synthetic cricket wicket has been installed
1990	Improvements were made at Marrickville Park (details not specified). Installation of new playground equipment nearing completion (June). New all-weather paths built, walkway created between the rose garden and date palms. Improvements to the park to cost \$35,000
1991	Floodlights installed at Marrickville Park tennis courts
1994	East Timor Memorial installed near Frazer Street
2000	Park building repairs at Marrickville Oval; structure replacement and refurbishment valued at \$5,500.
2000/01	List of structures and estimated costs to refurbish or replace according to 2000/01 Annual Report: Refurbishment of cricket nets \$25,000; Croquet Clubhouse refurbished/replaced for \$113,500; Marrickville Park fencing \$43,000; Marrickville Park floodlights \$42,000; Marrickville Park grandstand, kiosk, dressing shed complex \$265,000; Marrickville park groundsman shed \$56,500; Marrickville Park Lawn Tennis floodlights \$80,000; Marrickville Park Lawn Tennis Club \$567,000; Marrickville Park soil shed \$27,000; Marrickville Park toilet block \$142,500
2010	Local cricket clubs band together to save turf wicket on oval

3.0 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

3.1 Setting and Physical Context

Marrickville Park is located at the centre of the Marrickville local government area. The park is zoned "RE1 Public Recreation" in Marrickville Council LEP 2011 and is classified as community land. Marrickville Park is surrounded largely by residential properties with the retail centres of Petersham and Marrickville located some blocks to the north and south of the park. Wilkins Public School, at 31 Park Road, Marrickville, is located east of the park. Marrickville High School, Northcote Street, Marrickville, is located southeast of the park.

"Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area" (HCA 24) is located adjacent to and west of the park. The Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area is located between Wardell Road and Marrickville Park and between Frazer and Pile Streets, Marrickville (see Figure 33 and Appendix B). The summary of heritage values for the conservation area is taken from the inventory sheet and is described as follows:

Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area is of historical significance as an area developed from the 1928 subdivision of a portion of what had been Porter's Brickworks. By this time virtually all vacant land in the area had been subdivided and the area is representative of the final period of major residential development in Marrickville between 1928 and 1935.

The Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area is of aesthetic significance for its good quality individual examples and small groups of Post Federation and Inter-War period bungalows that retain original timber joinery, window hoods and detailing to gables and verandas. Its streetscape is of significance for the surviving camellia street plantings which are rare in the Marrickville area.

Houses within the "Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area" are shown in Figure 32. They form part of the setting and visual curtilage of Marrickville Park. An access road into Marrickville Park extends east from Porter Avenue.



Figure 32 – Porter Avenue, Marrickville, located to the west of Marrickville Park provides the only vehicular access route into Marrickville Park. No 1 Porter Avenue (left) and No 2 Porter Avenue (right) are single-store Inter-War period bungalows that adjoin the park (Source: NBRS+PARTNERS, July 2013)



Figure 33 – Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area (Marrickville) – HCA 24 outlined in red is located to the west of Marrickville Park (Source: Marrickville Council)

A Federation house, located on the perimeter of the park at 18 Lawson Avenue, is identified as a heritage item. This house forms is located on the western perimeter of the park.

3.2 Sporting Facilities

Marrickville Park comprises a variety of passive and active recreational precincts within the parklands and includes the following active recreational features:

- Sports Oval (Cricket Ground) surrounded by picket fence with an open grandstand, change rooms, cricket nets, bleacher seating, floodlight, toilets, storage areas and;
- Croquet Lawn and Clubhouse currently leased by Marrickville Croquet Club;
- Marrickville District Lawn Tennis Club - Courts and Clubhouse; and
- Storage facilities.

All of the sporting areas are fenced. The sports oval is fenced with masonry block work and a timber picket fence. The tennis courts are enclosed with

chain-wire fencing and hedging. The croquet lawns are enclosed with chain-wire fence and tubular steel frame.

3.3 Marrickville Park as Recreational Space

Marrickville Park provides mixed use with the majority of users being within walking distance of the park and provides the local community with much needed sporting facilities³⁶. Community consultation, conducted in November-December 2012, identified the most highly used areas of the park were as follows:

- open non oval grassy areas for general recreation , walking, dog walking and informal off-leash dog area;
- children's playground;
- oval; and
- tennis courts.

The community consultation process also identified the reasons people use Marrickville Park³⁷:

- Attractive places to walk (83:47%);
- Walking the dog or off-leash area (68:39%);
- Children's play (67:38%);
- Relaxation (64:36%).

Less popular uses include social sport, competitive sport and personal training.

3.3.1 Sports Oval

The sports oval is laid out to provide cricket facilities in summer and configured in winter for junior grade NRL (National Rugby League) and AFL (Australian Football League). Cricket nets are located at the northern end of the oval.



Figure 34 – View west from the perimeter of Marrickville Park showing a later addition masonry wall around the southern and western perimeter of the sports oval (left). A grandstand dating to 1988 is located at the western perimeter of the oval (right)
(Source: NBRS+PARTNERS, July 2013)

³⁶ "Community Consultation Report for the Masterplan and Draft Plan of Management for Marrickville Park", prepared by The Miller Group, 2013, p4

³⁷ "Community Consultation Report for the Masterplan and Draft Plan of Management for Marrickville Park", prepared by The Miller Group, 2013, p5



Figure 35 – Maintenance and storage shed is located in the south-western corner of Marrickville behind the grandstand (left). A single-storey amenities block is located north of the storage shed (right) (Source: NBRS+PARTNERS, July 2013)

3.3.2 Marrickville District Lawn Tennis Club

Lawn tennis courts are located at the south-eastern corner of Marrickville Park and are managed by Marrickville District Lawn Tennis Club (MDLTC). The tennis club comprises six (6) natural lawn/grass tennis courts, two (2) synthetic-grass, flood-lit tennis courts and four (4) hard court tennis courts. The lawn tennis courts are reserved for members and their guests. The synthetic and hard courts are available for hire year round.



Figure 36 – View east across lawn courts with Livingston Road in the distance (Source: NBRS+PARTNERS, July 2013)



Figure 37 – View east the west elevation of the tennis clubhouse with a second storey (Source: NBRS+PARTNERS, July 2013)



Figure 38 – Tennis clubhouse interior, ground floor, southern wall showing interpretative display of tennis racquets (left) and looking north to amenities and change rooms (right) (Source: NBRSPARTNERS, July 2013)



Figure 39 – Tennis clubhouse interior, ground floor, western wall showing club bar with honour board (left) and WC (right) (Source: NBRSPARTNERS, July 2013)



Figure 40 – Tennis clubhouse interior, ground floor, western wall showing Marrickville Lawn Tennis Club Honour Board dating from 1946 (Source: NBRSPARTNERS, July 2013)



Figure 41 – Four hard courts located on the south-western perimeter of Marrickville Park (Source: NBRSPARTNERS, July 2013)

3.3.3 Marrickville Croquet Club

The Marrickville Croquet clubhouse and lawn are located on the north-western corner of Marrickville Park. The croquet lawns have a perimeter chain wire fence that replaces a former timber picket fence (see Figure 30). The verandah of the timber framed clubhouse has been partially infilled possibly part of 1980s' works. A brick amenities block to the east is a later addition.



Figure 42 – View south to the croquet lawns with single-storey timber-framed clubhouse located at the far end of the lawns. A brick amenities block adjoins the clubhouse to the east (Source: NBRSPARTNERS, July 2013)

3.4 Tree Plantings, Garden Beds and Passive Recreational Features

There are eighty-four (84) trees within the Marrickville Park. The following list is taken from the Marrickville Park – Draft Plan of Management:

- 52 x Brushbox (*Lophostemon confertus*) – 45 in good condition, 6 in fair and 4 in poor condition;
- 1 x Deodar Cedar (*Cedrus deodara*) – good condition;
- 1 x Port Jackson Fig (*Ficus rubiginosa*) - good condition;
- 1 x Cabbage Tree Palm (*Livistonia australis*) – poor condition;
- 1 x Irish Strawberry Tree (*Arbutus unedo*) – poor condition;
- 11 Pear Tree (*Pyrus sp*) – 3 in fair condition and 8 in poor condition;
- 2 x Queensland Pittosporum (*Pittosporum rhombifolium*) - 1 in fair condition and 1 in poor condition;
- 3 x Cocus Palm (*Syragus romanzoffianum*) - 1 in good condition and 1 in fair condition;
- 1 x Frangipani (*Plumeria Acutifolia*) - in fair condition;
- 2 x She-oak (*Casuarina glauca Swamp*) – in good condition;
- 1 x Peppercorn Tree (*Schinus molle carreira*) - - in fair condition; and
- 8 x Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) - 7 in good condition and 1 in fair condition.

There are three principal tree plantings at Marrickville Park and include:

- Two linear rows of tree plantings to Livingstone Road (eastern perimeter);
- Two linear rows of tree plantings to Frazer Street (northern perimeter); and
- Avenue of Palm tree (diagonal planting from street intersection).

Historic photographs show two rows of Brushbox tree plantings along Livingstone Road and Frazer Street established by the mid-1930s (see Figure 17). These tree plantings were not evident in photographs from 1911 (see Figure 11 and Figure 15), suggesting they were planted in the late 1920s. The avenue of palm trees from the corner of Livingstone Road and Frazer Street appear to have been planted between 1936 (see Figure 17) and 1943 (see Figure 21) and were located alongside a path that led from the principal entry to the park from the corner.

Passive recreational facilities are located across Marrickville Park and include the following:

- Children's play area;
- Cedar specimen planting;
- Rose Garden (with rock beds dating to 1938);
- World War 2 Memorial;
- Public Art on the corner of Livingston Road and Frazer Street;
- Light poles located across the parkland;
- Network of paths; and
- Park furniture.



Figure 43 – View southwest along the avenue of various palm species, towards the playing field. Palms were evident in the 1943 aerial photograph, suggesting they were planted in the 1930s, after 1936. A pathway, previously located between the rows, has been removed (Source: NBRS+PARTNERS, July 2013)



Figure 44 – View south along the Livingstone Road showing two linear rows of native tree plantings (Brushbox). Historic photographs suggest they date to the late 1920s (Source: NBRS+PARTNERS, July 2013)



Figure 45 – View east along northern extent of Marrickville Park showing two rows of Brushbox along the Frazer Street perimeter of the park, specimen cedar tree planted beside the concrete path, and children's play area in the background (left). Example of drinking fountain located within the park, possibly dating to the 1960s (Source: NBRS+PARTNERS)



Figure 46 - Garden bed contains a memorial tablet with the inscription: "In Memory of the Men of Sparrow Force and People of East Timor who died in East Timor 1942-1945 during World War 2" (Source: NBRS+PARTNERS)



Figure 47 - Garden bed located on the north-western corner of the park, at the corner of Frazer Street and Lawson Avenue. The garden beds are constructed using stone borders that date to 1937 (Source: NBRS+PARTNERS)

3.5 Public Art

The sculptures, entitled *The Magpies*, are located in Marrickville Park at the corner of Frazer Street and Livingstone Road. The public art is the design of artist, Jane Cavanough, and was installed in 2009.



Figure 48 – “Magpies”, sculptural public art, located at the corner of the park of Frazer Street and Livingstone Road, with Marrickville Park identifying signage (Source: NBRS+PARTNERS)

3.6 Comparative Analysis

There are a number of urban parks located in the Marrickville local government area that are identified as heritage items:

- Camperdown Park, Australia Street, Camperdown (dedicated 1882);
- Enmore Park, Enmore Road, Enmore (dedicated 1880s);
- Henson Park, Centennial Street, Marrickville (dedicated 1937);
- Hoskins Park, Davis and Piggott St, Dulwich Hill (dedicated 1915);
- Kendrick Park, View Street, Tempe (formerly Tempe Park) (dedicated 1912);
- Maundrell Park, Stanmore Road, Marrickville; and
- Petersham Park, West Street, Petersham (dedicated 1887).

The following are statements of significance for some of the heritage listed parks within the Marrickville local government area.

Camperdown Park

The following statement of significance is taken from the Heritage Branch Inventory Sheet for Enmore Park (Database No: 2030070):

An important area of open space within a closely settled residential area. The bandstand, war memorial, low stone walling and large trees are important elements of the site.

Camperdown Park is a highly significant nineteenth century park, associated with a number of prominent people. The park has exceptional historic significance as part of the 1000 acres reserved on 20 August 1789 by Governor Phillip. Camperdown Park is one of a group of parks resumed under the Lands for Public Purposes Act 1880, and set aside specifically for recreation

purposes. The Bandstand is a reminder that the Park was once under the control of Sydney City Council.

Camperdown Park is a landmark within the suburb of Camperdown, providing an open landscaped area within a densely populated area. It is held in high esteem by residents, workers and sports people as a place for active community use.

The inclusion of Camperdown Park as a heritage item on the Marrickville LEP underscores its acceptance as an important heritage item and public amenity. The Park is important for exhibiting a richness of cultural features as follows: remnants of stone plinth associated with the original iron palisade fence, stone steps; bandstand; War Memorial; Morton Bay and Port Jackson fig trees, other early plantings; pattern of early paths; and Camperdown Park Oval.

Enmore Park

The following statement of significance is taken from the Heritage Branch Inventory Sheet for Enmore Park (Database No: 2030136):

Enmore Park is of high local significance as the first public park established within Marrickville Municipality and helps demonstrate the historical development of Marrickville LGA and the surrounding pattern of residential subdivision. The park still provides the same area of municipal open space as it did when dedicated in the 1880s, and is of social significance for its use as a recreational facility.

It is associated with local alderman, DV Cochrane, after whom it was named for a brief time.

The park was established to provide and continues to provide public amenities and opportunities for passive recreation. The surviving nineteenth century and early twentieth century features of the park demonstrate the continuing municipal concern with public amenity and a regular program of municipal works. In its current form the park retains and evidences its historic layout and structure.

The park includes a small number of individual plantings, structures and monuments, which have particular landscape significance or social value to sections of the community.

Henson Park

Henson Park, including oval and tennis courts, located at Centennial Street, Marrickville, was dedicated in 1937. The following statement of significance is taken from the Heritage Branch Inventory Sheet for Henson Park (Database No: 2030141):

This is the only one of the many parks formed on the sites of former brickpits which has retained evidence of its former use in its shape. The shallow hollow is an attractive and historically significant feature of the site.

Kendrick Park

The following statement of significance is taken from the Heritage Branch Inventory Sheet for Kendrick Park (Database No: 2030392):

Kendrick Park is of historical significance as one of the earliest parks in the area (established as Tempe Park by the former St. Peters Council in 1912) and renamed in 1958 to commemorate William Edgar Kendrick, who was Mayor of St Peters in 1944. Kendrick Park is also of historical significance as a viewing point for 19th century painters, evidenced by Conrad Martens 1845 painting of Tempe House and its setting from the vantage point of the Park's environs, and other 19th century paintings from similar vantage points within the park.

Kendrick Park is of aesthetic significance as part of the extensive views along the river from the Princes Highway and from the Illawarra Railway line, and as an important part of the wider visual curtilage of Tempe House. The park affords views of the Princes Highway road bridge, the Illawarra railway line bridge, Fatima Island, and Tempe House.

Kendrick Park is of social significance as an important location for active and passive recreational space with an attractive setting within an urban area. The Park is an important link between the adjacent residential area and the Cooks River, which is a regional open space corridor. Kendrick Park is an important component of the Cooks River corridor, with formal pedestrian/cyclist access through the Park.

Petersham Park, West Street

The following statement of significance is taken from the Heritage Branch Inventory Sheet for Petersham Park (Database No: 2030006):

Petersham Park is largely intact and provides active and passive recreational space within an attractive setting, which includes many important design features.

The following Statement of Significance is taken from Register of the National Estate listing sheet:

Petersham Park is an urban municipal park commenced in 1887. It is important for exhibiting a richness of cultural features as follows: a band rotunda; a giant draughts board; the TJ Andrews scoring board; sandstone seating; pergolas as entry arches; a palm arbour with mature specimens of Canary Islands palms; and a carefully pruned Brush Box and Camphor Laurel avenues.

The park is important for demonstrating a distinctive way of life and custom as follows: the establishment of the oval demonstrates the importance of sport at the end of the 19th century; the erection of the scoring pavilion demonstrates the importance of cricket and the style demonstrates architecture of the 1930s; the gates and memorial plaque demonstrate the importance of commemorating soldiers from World War I; the Brush Box/Camphor Laurel avenues demonstrate successful use of a native and exotic tree combination and skilful coppicing for form effect.

The park is valued by the community because many features have commemorative importance.

4.0 ANALYSIS OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

4.1 Basis of Cultural Heritage Assessment

This assessment of heritage is based on the methodology and guidelines set down by the NSW Heritage Office and considers the standard values or criteria which arise from the history, construction and use of the building and its site as well as any levels of esteem by recognised groups for the site.

Evaluation Criteria

Heritage significance, cultural significance and cultural value are all terms used to describe an item's value or importance to our own society. This value may be contained in the fabric of an item, its setting and its relationship to other items, the response that the item stimulates to those who value it now and in the historical record that allow us to understand it in its own context

The historical analysis provides the context for assessing significance, which is made by applying standard evaluation criteria to the development and associations of an item. The NSW Heritage Manual has produced standard evaluation criteria that are compatible those included in *The Burra Charter*.

4.2 Assessment of Cultural Significance

4.2.1 Criterion (a) Historical Evolution

An item is important in the course, or pattern of the Local areas cultural or natural history.

- The establishment of Marrickville Park has historic associations with a period of residential growth within the suburb of Marrickville. It marks a period of urban renewal when the area evolved from semi-industrial to residential. The growth of the suburb of Marrickville, comprising cottages and terraces, resulted in the need for open recreational areas.
- Marrickville Park has historic associations with brickwork manufacturing that operated in the Marrickville area in the late nineteenth century. The subject site has direct associations with a brickmaking business that operated on the site from 1868 to 1876, and was run by the Shortus family. A brickmaking establishment, run by the Porter family, operated from 1871 to 1876 on the adjoining site to the west.
- Marrickville Park, officially opened in September 1910, has historic associations with the increase in popularity of organised sports clubs in Sydney. Sports clubs that played at Marrickville Park included cricket, lawn tennis, croquet and rugby football league. In addition, a large number of other sporting clubs have used the facilities since the park was dedicated as a place of public recreation.
- The Marrickville Lawn Tennis Clubs has historic significance for having operated continuously at Marrickville Park since 1921. It is one of only eight lawn tennis clubs that continue to operate in the Sydney region. Other lawn tennis clubs in metropolitan Sydney include Hunters Hill, Killara, Manly, Moore Park, Mosman, Sydney University and Western Suburbs (Ashfield).

- The Marrickville Croquet Club has operated continuously from Marrickville Park since 1926. The Marrickville Croquet Club is one of twenty-one clubs in the Sydney metropolitan area and one of two in the Marrickville local government area. The other croquet club within the Marrickville local government area is located at Mackay Park, Tempe and is the Head Office for the sport. With just under 3,000 members in NSW there are 68 croquet clubs state-wide.
- Marrickville Park has been used continuously as a place of passive recreation by the local community of Marrickville for over one hundred years, from 1910 to the present.
- For over one hundred years, numerous sporting events of local importance have taken place at the oval, lawn tennis courts and croquet lawns at Marrickville Park.
- Marrickville Park has historical associations related to the commitment by Marrickville Council, owners and managers of the park, who provide a place and facilities for the local community to take part in passive and active recreational.
- Marrickville Park has provided public open space that provides the surrounding suburban area with a healthy lifestyle through sport and recreation.
- Although the topography has been changed when adapted as Marrickville Park, a creek line originally ran diagonally across the land that has been. This water source provided clay soils that were used for brickmaking. The water source continues to have an impact on the park. This water source forms part of the natural features associated with the landform and there is the opportunity to interpret this feature.

4.2.2 Criterion (b) Historical Associations

An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in the cultural or natural history of the Local area

- Marrickville Park has associations with sporting personalities who have used the place to train both individually and with their teams in the various sports.

4.2.3 Criterion (c) Aesthetic Values

An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in the Local area.

- The design of the Marrickville Park is the result of the collective work of numerous Council gardeners whose contributions are reflected in the overall landscape character of municipal parkland with sporting facilities. The various landscape elements and sporting features of Marrickville Park, including cricket oval, tennis courts and croquet lawn provides an early twentieth century landscape character to the local area.
- The design of Marrickville Park has been modified by Council gardeners and overseers and has resulted in change, alterations and additions,

while still maintaining the overall appearance of the park and the significant sporting areas.

- The picket fence around Marrickville Park oval is a significant feature within the landscape and contributes to the oval's history, character and configuration.

4.2.4 Criterion (d) Social Value

An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

- Marrickville Park is a place where the local community gathers for passive and active recreation. It is also a place where the community has been drawn into debate on the management of the park as a community resource.
- For more than one hundred years, Marrickville Park is associated with informal recreation and sport. The park provides a wide variety of informal and organised recreational opportunities such as walking, children's play, picnicking, jogging, dog walking, relaxing, scenic viewing and amateur and elite sports.
- Marrickville Park has a high level of social significance from a leisure and sport perspective. Established in 1910, with the aim to cater for leisure and sport, Marrickville Park has provided a social and activity resource for more than 100 years. The park is held with a high degree of social esteem across the local area.

4.2.5 Criterion (e) Technical / Research Value

An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history.

- Marrickville Park does not fulfil this significance criterion. The Marrickville Park site was used briefly as a brickpit and garbage refuse depot and infilled and levelled when converted for use as a park. The site may contain some archaeological artefacts. However, it is likely this would only contain information that is readily available from other resources or archaeological sites.

4.2.6 Criterion (f) Rarity

An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history.

- Marrickville Park is the only public park in the local area that provides recreational facilities for lawn tennis, croquet and cricket within the same grounds.

4.2.7 Criterion (g) Representativeness

An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's

- Cultural or natural places
 - Cultural or natural environments
- Marrickville Park is one of a number of Sydney metropolitan parks converted following use as a brickpit and for brick-making.
 - Marrickville Park is one of numerous public parks in the Marrickville local government area owned and managed by Council for passive and recreational pursuits of local residents.

Item	Element	Level of Significance
1	Marrickville Park - place of recreation (1910)	High
2	Cricket / Sports Oval (1910)	Exceptional / High
3	Grandstand (1987/88)	Little
4	Amenities Block and Storage Shed	Little
5	Tennis Club House (1970s)	Moderate
6	Lawn Tennis / 4 x Tennis - Lawn Courts (1921)	Exceptional / High
7	2 x Tennis - Lawn Courts (1925)	High
8	4 x Tennis - Hard Courts	Little
9	2 x Tennis - Synthetic Courts	Little
10	Croquet / Lawn and Club House (1926)	Exceptional / High
11	Croquet Amenities Addition	Little
12	Children's Playground / Equipment	Moderate / Little
13	Row Plantings (Livingston Rd / Frazer St (1920s)	High
14	Palm Tree Row plantings	Moderate
15	Garden Bed with East Timor Memorial	Moderate / Little
16	Rose Garden	High
17	Cedar – Specimen planting	High

4.3 Statement of Cultural Heritage Significance

Marrickville Park, located at the corner of Livingstone Road and Frazer Street, Marrickville, has historic and social significance as a place dedicated to active and passive recreational pursuits by the local and community. Previously a place for brickwork manufacturing operated by the Shortus family, the site was purchased by Marrickville Council and converted to public open space. Dedicated in 1910 and designed by council gardeners, Marrickville Park has provided facilities for sporting clubs, in particular cricket, lawn tennis and croquet. While providing a variety of sporting facilities, the landscaped park provides the local community with a place of enjoyment for a wide-range of passive recreation.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

Marrickville Council has requested a heritage assessment to guide future development at Marrickville Park. Heritage recommendations were required to guide the Marrickville Park Masterplan and Plan of Management. In the light of this, we have recommended the following to assist in conserving the heritage significance.

5.2 Recommendations

5.2.1 Recommendation 1 – Conserve Marrickville Park as a place of cultural significance

Since 1910, Marrickville Park has been a place in which the local community have engaged in passive and active recreational pursuits. From the early twentieth century to the present, Marrickville Park has provided the local government area with an eclectic group of sporting facilities for middle-class recreational pursuits - lawn tennis, croquet and cricket. Marrickville Park, as a place of recreation, should be conserved as a place of cultural significance. This Heritage Assessment should inform the Plan of Management and Masterplan for Marrickville Park.

5.2.2 Recommendation 2 – Sports Oval

The Sports Oval forms part of the original 1910 configuration and design of Marrickville Park. The Sports Oval has exceptional significance and been used for a variety of sports, including cricket. The Sports Oval should be retained as a significant feature and visual focus of the park. Ensure views to the Sports Oval are maintained from public roadways - Livingstone Road, Frazer Street, Sydenham Road, Porter Avenue and Lawson Avenue. Ensure no structures are built around the perimeter of Marrickville Park that will block views to the Sports Oval.

5.2.3 Recommendation 3 - Marrickville Lawn Tennis Club

Marrickville Lawn Tennis Club has occupied Marrickville Park since 1921 and is the only lawn tennis club within the local government area. Since the mid-1900s, lawn tennis courts have become less popular, with tennis players preferring artificial turf as a court surface. While still retaining the lawn courts at Marrickville Park, there is the potential to reduce the number of grass courts. To retain the historic significance and original fabric, retention of the configuration of the original 1921 lawn tennis courts should be considered in the Masterplan.

5.2.4 Recommendation 4 - Marrickville Croquet Club

The Marrickville Croquet Club, including croquet lawn and clubhouse, has occupied Marrickville Park since 1926 with minor alterations. It is one of only a few Croquet lawns in the Sydney metropolitan region. Although membership to the croquet club is small, it has historic significance. While the facilities are underutilised, there is some potential for alternative compatible uses of the facilities.

5.2.5 Recommendation 5 – Grandstand and Ancillary Structures

A grandstand and associated structures originally formed part of the Sports Oval. Over time, structures have been altered, added and removed to keep pace with requirement by team sports playing at the oval. The existing grandstand, built in 1988, replaced an original timber structure. The existing amenities block is in poor condition. There is an opportunity to remove the existing grandstand and amenities without impacting on the historic significance of the Oval.

5.2.6 Recommendation 6 – Retain Open Space

Marrickville Park has exceptional significance at local level as an open space that provides active and passive recreational facilities surrounded by suburban residential development. Ensure any future development maintains the existing ratio of built structures to open recreational space.

5.2.7 Recommendation 7 – Roadside and Palm Tree Row Plantings

It is necessary to conserve the heritage significance, visual character and linear quality of the three row plantings at Marrickville Park. Consideration should be given to preparing a tree replacement policy for Marrickville Park, particularly in relation to the row of palms. Where there are gaps in formal planting, it may be possible to obtain mature specimens of certain species. However, mature replacement trees may have a limited life. To reinvigorate the landscape and extend its life, consideration could be given to replacing the palm tree row plantings with young ones. While this may have a visual impact, the end result will be better than piecemeal replacement.

5.2.8 Recommendation 8 – Recreational Diversity

Marrickville Park was established to provide the local community with open space to participate in a variety of active and passive recreational pursuits. Ensure recreation at Marrickville Park is inclusive and able to be adapted so as to embrace the needs of the wider local community.

5.2.9 Recommendation 9 – Interpretation

To ensure the public has a greater understanding of the cultural significance of Marrickville Park, there is an opportunity to interpret the historic and social significance of the place.

6.0 APPENDIX A

Peter Chinn, "My Memories of Livingstone Park" from *Marrickville: a past worth preserving. a collection of articles submitted to an essay competition organised by the Marrickville Heritage Society.*

My memories of Livingstone Park

Peter Chinn *A whimsical reflection on the author's childhood playground of Livingstone Park and Oval, Marrickville. When he returns to the park his childhood memories and associations are rekindled.*



Record crowd at cricket, January 1944
(Sam Hood, courtesy State Library of New South Wales)

I was born in Marrickville and spent the first 27 years of my life at our home in Stoke Avenue. While Marrickville was our postal address our life was centred on Dulwich Hill and Petersham where we shopped and where I attended school and Sunday school. The shops and streets of Dulwich Hill and Petersham from my boyhood days are deeply impressed in my memory. It is quite an indulgence in nostalgia when I return to those places every year or so to observe the changes, yet be amazed that some things have not changed though I left to live in the Blue Mountains in 1964. Because of our proximity to Dulwich Hill and Petersham we rarely visited Marrickville, and apart from the Town Hall, Fire Station, St Clements and Seymour's Corner*, that shopping centre is a stranger to me.

Our house backed onto Livingstone Oval (which name I shall prefer as it wasn't renamed Marrickville Park/Oval until the early 1950s as I recall). Our house was elevated at the rear and we

* This refers to the corner of Marrickville and Victoria Roads. The original Seymour's Corner shops burnt down in 1940, but unofficially the name has remained (Eds)

enjoyed an uninterrupted view of the parkland with its adjoining tennis courts. Visitors would sometimes envy our view of the sporting activities – the cricket, baseball and rugby league – but because these were part of the scenery, as it were, we tended to take them for granted.

Livingstone Park was wonderful for us kids. Of course we played on the playground equipment (as they now call it) – the swings, slippery dip and razzle-dazzle now replaced in these times of hyper-safety by much less exciting items. Our main enjoyment was in exploring the oval – in particular the grandstand and sheds, chasing the sheep kept in the enclosure surrounding the oval and I think enjoying the challenge (and terror!) of being chased out by the curator, Mr Crawford, who lived in a little cottage adjoining the park near Lawson Avenue. He only ever had one thing to say to us (with livid face): 'Get out of there!'

The backdrop to Livingstone Park was the grey eminence of the Australian Woollen Mills in Sydenham Road with its two chimneys – one black steel and the other white brick with black bands. And beyond that, on the horizon, the distinctive tower of Newington College.

My earliest memories of Livingstone Park were of newly recruited soldiers, marched down from the Addison Road Leave and Transit Depot, drilling on the oval with a military band. This was probably 1940.

One impact of the war was the construction of an air raid shelter in the park on the Livingstone Road side. This was about 100 metres long, zigzagged to minimise the effect of bomb blast. There were small ventilators at intervals in the roof, which let in a small amount of light. We children found them a challenge: to accept dares to run through them, fearful of what 'nasty men' (as we were warned by our parents) might be loitering there.

Another childhood amusement for us eight-year olds was to climb down into the stormwater drains beneath the oval despite warnings from the old men (who regularly played draughts at the nearby park table) that 'You'll get washed away to Botany Bay!' Even to young ears this sounded poetic and unreal and of course was ignored.

Early in the war a large garage was built adjacent to the oval beside the tennis courts to house three or four ambulances for use in case of bombing. These were ordinary motor cars that had been donated to civil defence by public-spirited citizens 'for the duration'. Our local MP, Carlo Lazzarini, who lived next door, had loaned his Dodge sedan. The bodies of these cars had been rebuilt in ambulance format to accommodate four stretchers. They were painted khaki and bore large red crosses in white circles. Needless to say they were an attraction to children until spied by the ever-vigilant Mr Crawford.

Sunday afternoons during the war were big baseball days at the oval especially for teams from the American forces – navy, army and air force. We kids would climb up on our back fence to gawk at the uniformed men and the big trucks that they came in. Another attraction was the chewing gum that the



1948 Baseball charity day
(Donated by R Coghill)

92

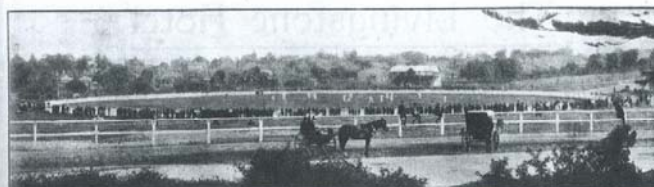
servicemen would often give us.

One Sunday there was an important match between the US Army and Air Force – memorable because a couple of Bell Airacobra fighters flew over at what seemed like rooftop height. In those days we knew all about warplanes – ‘ours’ and ‘theirs’ (Japanese of course; fortunately we were never to identify any of the latter in reality).

In those distant days before television, sporting events at the oval attracted big crowds. Especially cricket. There were three turnstile sheds at Livingstone Oval – one at the bottom of Porter Avenue, one directly below the intersection of Frazer Street and Livingstone Road and the third near the lawn tennis courts. Visibility of the playing area was restricted by the large earth mounds (‘the hills’ we called them) adjacent to the park but in two gaps, hessian screens, strung from wire, were drawn out by the curator to prevent cheapskates standing at the wire fence and observing matches without paying admission fees.

I recall my father telling me in the late 1940s that 10,000 had turned up for one big cricket match. The Catholic Youth Organisation league games on Sunday afternoons were packed events.

Tennis was another sport prominent in the park and surrounds. There was the lawn tennis club facing Livingstone Road with its then small wooden clubhouse, so popular of a weekend. Then there were the half dozen or so clay courts on the Pile Street side of the oval where night games were also played.



Marrickville Park c. 1911
(Marrickville Municipal Jubilee Souvenir 1911)

A curious activity associated with the park is one of my very earliest memories: the Thursday lunchtime meeting of Arnotts van drivers. As many as 15 immaculate red vans would be parked along Livingstone Road beside the park for about an hour. No doubt a business meeting over a lunch of their famous biscuits. There were no hotels in the vicinity!

Whenever I revisit my old park I find it somehow comforting to see that the old croquet lawn and clubhouse are still there and unchanged from my childhood days. A genteel and gentle sport that I recall being played by old ladies (all younger than I am now!), dressed in white, pitting their skills on the green or enjoying tea in the shade of the verandah – in such contrast to the rough and tumble of the league players on the nearby oval.

Alas, the old grandstand is no longer grand, having been stripped of its roof and significantly altered in the 1980s. In the cool depths of the dressing rooms beneath (accessed via doors bearing the notice ‘Players and Officials Only’) I can still recall dampness from the showers and the smells of disinfectant that was generously applied in those areas.

Strange how smells can evoke deeply buried memories. Whenever I smell methylated spirits I am reminded of the diphtheria immunisation program run by Marrickville Council early in the War years. The needles were administered to screaming children in the grandstand dressing rooms.

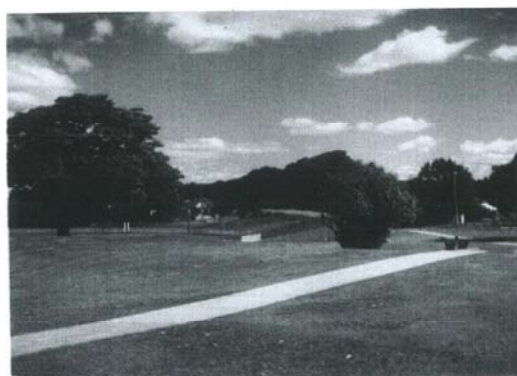
I remember so well the trees and gardens of the park – the majestic avenue of palms leading down from the corner of Livingstone Road and Frazer Street, the trees along the perimeter of the park and a magnificent rose garden near the croquet lawn where a sad person ended his life with a bullet to the head. On hot summer days my friends and I would enjoy a cool drink from the bubbler beneath a big peppercorn tree (which still stands) beside the grandstand – without hindrance from Mr Crawford.

Livingstone Park was not just the place we played in or explored. It was the place I walked through every weekday on my way to school at Fort Street High and later on my way to Petersham station to catch the train to work. Many people used the network of paths through the park as a short cut to their destinations. It seemed there were always people walking them. In the early morning and late afternoon they would be trod by the workers at the Australian Woollen Mills. I remember so well the mournful siren from the mill, especially on a cold, grey winter morning announcing starting time.

I believe the Australian Woollen Mills had brought a lot of their workers, experienced in wool weaving, out from Yorkshire. Whether there was ever 'Trooble at mill' I cannot say, but one day I had trouble when, in all innocence, I addressed the young son of one of the workers, dressed strangely (for those days) in long corduroy pants, as 'Pommy'. He took great offence, and gave me, the smaller boy, quite a thumping.

On summer nights lovers could always be found sitting on the seats beneath the trees. In the 1950s I would walk through the park late at night after Citizen Military Force training with a feeling of complete safety as undesirables to my knowledge never frequented the place. Albeit, I was carrying a rifle with a bayonet!

From the perspective of our back verandah, Livingstone Park was my window on the world as a very young child, broadening as I grew older to a place in which I derived much enjoyment, and when I passed beyond that stage, to an environment pleasant to the eye and rich in wonderful memories.



*Livingstone Park looking south-west with Porter Avenue in the distance
(R Blair c. 2000)*

7.0 APPENDIX B

“Porter’s Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area” (HCA 24)

24.1

HCA 24 Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area (Marrickville)

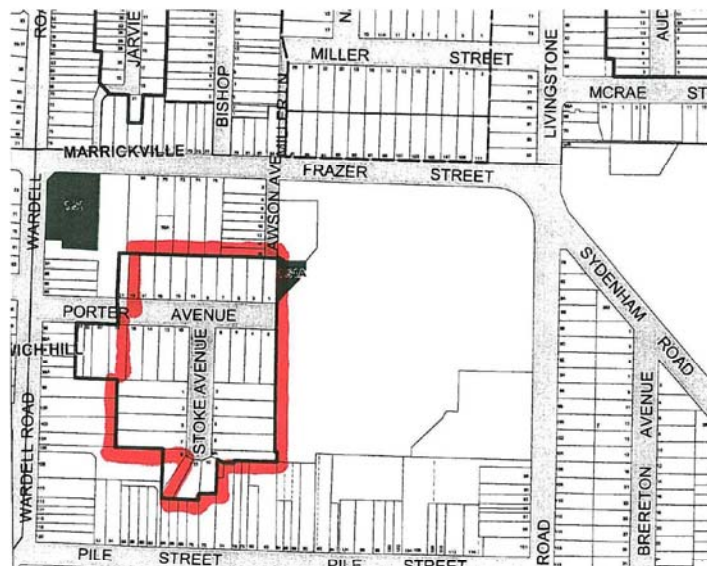


Figure 24.1 HCA 24 – Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area. The Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area was developed on the site of the former Porter's Brickworks and is significant for its cohesive streetscape of late Federation and Inter-War Californian Bungalows

24.1 LOCATION

The Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area is located between Wardell Road and Marrickville Park; and between Frazer and Pile Streets, Marrickville.



Figure 24.2 The Area in 1943 and 2009 (source: NSW Lands Department SIX Viewer)

24.2 DESCRIPTION

The prevailing character of the Porter's Brickworks Heritage Conservation Area is suburban. It was formerly part of the brickworks site that extended into the area now occupied by Marrickville Park and Oval, and was subdivided from the brickworks in 1928. The built forms are therefore Inter-War in construction, although many display forms and detailing more characteristic of the earlier Federation bungalow.

The area demonstrates Marrickville's mature 20th Century suburban cultural landscape, with detached, single storey bungalows set on low-density lots with setbacks and space for front and rear gardens and side driveways. The streetscape rhythms are well expressed and are enhanced by the gentle fall from Wardell Road to the west towards the Oval.

The streetscape has an open, suburban quality due to the low density and single storey of development, and in the case of Porter Avenue, the lack of tall plantings to give a verticality to the view along the street.

Examination of the 1943 aerial photography reveals that many of the houses within this area were built as identical groups, or 'runs' of detached cottages, each off-set on its block of land to accommodate a driveway beside the house. Many of these have survived substantially intact and contribute to a strong and rhythmical streetscape today.

Almost all houses have retained their original roof forms and building footprints, resulting in a streetscape that remains highly coherent. Many have also retained their original slate roofs and chimney detailing which adds significantly to the integrity and aesthetic quality of the streetscape. One has been 'scalped', whereby the original roof has been removed and a new, lower pitched hip roof constructed over the original breakfront footprint below, and two significantly altered by the addition of a partial second storey. Change of this scale and form are effectively irreversible in terms of their impact on the original fabric.

One property has been replaced by an infill development that has respected the forms and proportions of the built forms in the streetscape whilst using contemporary detailing, and although the footprint has been substantially increased through the inclusion of a dual-occupancy, the impact on the integrity of the group is low. Another property (in Stokes Avenue) was a burnt-out shell at the time of inspection.

Many houses have undergone alterations and additions particularly in the migrant style. Most of these have been made to the rear of properties and are not highly visible elements in the local streetscape. Some of the non-structural alterations have resulted in the loss of significant fabric such as timber windows and face brickwork, and these have had an adverse impact on the ability of the property to 'read' as original. Others have introduced colour schemes and applied decorative elements that are visually prominent and intrusive in the streetscape views, although their impact could be reversed.

Street plantings in Porter Avenue are Camellia bushes, an atypical choice for a street planting. The 1943 aerial photographs show that they were planted at regular intervals along both sides of the street. Planting in Stoke Avenue includes maturing Eucalypts (Ironbarks?) which contribute to the cohesiveness of its streetscape. Verges are wide and grassed. Kerbs and gutters are concrete.

All houses in the group were originally constructed of face brick, some demonstrating the now rare blue-black Sydney brick. Most have retained this finish and have not been rendered or painted, which adds to the cohesiveness and integrity of the streetscape.

Fences are mainly low brick walls in face brick to match the house. Many have been altered through the addition of decorative panels etc, although an originally detailed fence (with wire mesh panels and wrought ribbon gates) has survived at 1 Porter Avenue. The 'driveway' side setback to this property is too narrow to allow a modern car to pass and access is provided from Lawson Avenue.

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24-4

The low height has allowed the fences in the area to remain reasonably neutral elements in oblique views along the streetscapes of the area. Verges are wide, and include street planting in a grassed strip between the footpath and carriageway. Kerbs are sandstone block.

The following figures illustrate the main elements and characteristics of the Porters Brickworks Heritage Conservation Area.



Figure 24.3. The streetscape of Porter Avenue is suburban in character.



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Figure 24.4 to 24.7 Porter Avenue



Figure 24.10 and 24.11. Although the extension to the rear has been set well back and the volume of the original roof is intact, the view of the skyline along the ridge of the original house is obscured by the new roof.

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Figure 24.8 to 24.13 Porter Avenue



Figure 24.14 and 24.15. The infill development at the corner of Porter and Stokes Avenues has matched the form and proportions of the other houses in the group with the use of contemporary materials.



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Figures 24.16 to 24.19 are of houses in Stoke Avenue. Their earlier construction and slate roofs with banded brickwork important contributors to the significance of the Area. The brickwork includes both combinations of duochrome banding, with red on black brickwork as well as the more common black banding on red brickwork.

24.3 SUMMARY OF HERITAGE VALUES

Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area is of historical significance as an area developed from the 1928 subdivision of a portion of what had been Porter's Brickworks. By this time virtually all vacant land in the area had been subdivided and the area is representative of the final period of major residential development in Marrickville between 1928 and 1935.

The Porter's Brickworks Estate Heritage Conservation Area is of aesthetic significance for its good quality individual examples and small groups of Post Federation and Inter-War period bungalows that retain original timber joinery, window hoods and detailing to gables and verandas. Its streetscape is of significance for the surviving camellia street plantings which are rare in the Marrickville area.

KEY PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1928-1935

The Porter's Brickworks Heritage Conservation Area demonstrates heritage values that satisfy the NSW Heritage Council's Criteria for listing as a locally significant heritage conservation area. These values can be seen in the area in many ways, including:

Heritage Council Guideline for Inclusion satisfied	Crit.	Heritage value	How the value can be seen in the area today
The Area demonstrates culturally and socially important philosophies	A	The demonstration of the growth of the Suburban Ideal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The principles of the growing Australian suburban ideal in the Post-Federation period are expressed through the patterns of subdivision, the architectural form and finely grained detailing of the original Federation and Inter-War bungalows.
The area maintains and shows the continuity of a historical process or activity	A	The pattern of development in the area provides evidence of the historical process of small-scale speculative development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The speculative nature of suburban development is demonstrated by the groups of houses built to a pattern; the subtleties of design and detailing within each group differing from the others in the area. - The development occurring as a result of this process includes good

Paul Davies Pty Ltd Architects Heritage Consultants

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Heritage Council Guideline for Inclusion satisfied	Crit.	Heritage value	How the value can be seen in the area today
		The Area provides evidence of the maturing suburban form of development in the Council area.	<p>individual and group examples of late Federation and Inter-War (Californian/Sydney) bungalow architecture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through the consistency of subdivision pattern and built forms characteristic of this area and which demonstrate the process of re-subdivision of former industrial sites for residential development. - Through the simple subdivision pattern and street layout, emphasised by consistent setbacks and built forms throughout the area. - The asymmetrical placement of houses on their lots allowed for access to the rear of the property by the motor car demonstrates the increasing importance and aspirational power of the motor car in the early years of the 20th Century. - The spatial planning and layout of lots demonstrates the community's interpretation of the ideals of the suburban movement.
The area demonstrates the principal characteristics of a class of the Marrickville areas's cultural places (residential)	G	It demonstrates the principal characteristics of the development of the Marrickville Council area from a rural Estate to residential area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through the built forms representative of the cultural needs and aspirations of the community that built and occupied them; including: - Development representing the Key Period of the Area's development (1909-1919): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detached late Federation and Inter-War (Californian/Sydney bungalows) • Wide lots allowing asymmetrical siting of houses on properties to provide for a side driveway <p>Later infill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dual occupancy dwelling in scale and form to reflect key period, with contemporary detailing. <p>Cultural layering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-War migration –examples include removal of roof framing and construction of low pitched, hipped roof; timber windows and replacement by aluminium,

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Heritage Council Guideline for Inclusion satisfied	Crit.	Heritage value	How the value can be seen in the area today
			installation of roller style window shutters, removal and replacement of front fences
<p>The area demonstrates the principal characteristics of a class of Marrickville's cultural places (public domain)</p> <p>The area demonstrates attributes typical of the particular philosophy and design of Marrickville Council (and its predecessors)</p>	G	It demonstrates the principal characteristics of the development of Marrickville from a rural Estate to a suburban cultural landscape and contains streetscapes and public domain elements representative of civic management and improvement programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Street tree planting of Camellias in verge of Porter Street. - Street tree planting of the late 20th Century in Stoke Avenue – evidence of Environmental movement in local government public domain policies.
Is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/ or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in the Marrickville area.	C	It contains many buildings and elements of individual and group aesthetic value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The area includes many good quality individual examples and small groups of the Federation bungalow, including original timber joinery, window hoods and detailing to gables and verandas which is rare in the Council area and contributes significantly to the aesthetic values of the streetscape. - The importance of asymmetry as a principle in domestic Federation design was facilitated by the provision of side driveways to houses. - The area includes streetscapes of a high quality. This quality is derived from the consistency of subdivision pattern, setbacks, built forms, roofscapes, materials, detailing, and garden spaces of the elements of the group. - The public domain of the streetscape is simply designed and detailed. Marrickville Oval adjoins the area and terminates views to the east from Porter Avenue, which enhances the aesthetic qualities of the streetscape.
The area contains groups and streetscapes which collectively illustrate representative types of the Marrickville area's cultural landscape.	G	The form and detailing of the original houses in the area demonstrate the tastes and aesthetic values of the community at Federation	

24.4 DEFINING THE EXTENT OF THE HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREA

The boundaries of the heritage conservation area reflect the identified heritage values of the area and the ability of the fabric of the houses and streetscapes to demonstrate these values. They recognise the impact that the changing role and character of the land uses and buildings have had on the layer of development from the significant era of development (1909-1920).

The boundary follows the edge of the subdivision of the Porter's brickworks. It also includes the adjacent properties that contribute to the integrity and consistency of the streetscape, but excludes those on the edges that would introduce unsympathetic forms to the heritage conservation area. The areas beyond this boundary demonstrated noticeably different or lesser heritage values and/or were of a scale or form that intrudes on the integrity of the heritage conservation area.

24.5 ELEMENTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AREA

The table above outlined the ways in which the heritage significance of the Porter's Brickworks Heritage Conservation Area are expressed through the contemporary cultural landscape.

The relevant Heritage Typological Control to conserve the evidence of the area's heritage significance is the 20th Century detached suburban residential streetscapes DCP (see the DCP for details).

The Porter's Brickworks Heritage Conservation Area also contains many details, or fine-grained elements that are found throughout the area on buildings of different styles and types that contribute to the integrity and heritage significance of the area. The elements are not found on all buildings; but if they are present they need to be retained in any new development. Further details about how to protect these details and incorporate them in new development can be found in the detailed DCP sheets.

SUBDIVISION AND PUBLIC DOMAIN ELEMENTS:

- Street layout
- Street tree plantings (Camellias and Eucalypts)
- Setbacks from the street alignment are consistent and sufficient to allow a small front garden to be planted
- Low density suburban character of streetscape due to street widths, wide verges, setbacks and single storey built forms

ELEMENTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONSISTENCY OF THE STREETScape (VISIBLE FROM THE PUBLIC DOMAIN)

- Residential character demonstrated through the consistency of the bungalow typology (Federation and Californian (Sydney) variants)
- Building typologies reinforce the suburban grain.
 - Houses demonstrate strong streetscape qualities through cohesiveness of built form, scale, rhythm and materials.
 - High quality detailing to front elevation of intact and substantially intact houses appropriate to the period and style of the dwelling
 - Increasing simplification of scale and detailing towards rear – including window size, bulk and visual prominence in view from street
- Roof forms appropriate to typology and period of construction
 - Slate roofs
 - Primary plane of roofs are aligned parallel to the street (Federation)
 - Primary plane of roofs aligned parallel to the side boundary with prominent multi-gable elevation to street
 - Roof forms of groups or runs of buildings demonstrating consistent pitch and rhythm
 - Lack of major alterations to roof form and volumes
 - Original chimneys contribute to the quality and visual interest of roofscapes
- Intact or substantially intact built elements

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- Consistency of form and detailing to intact and substantially intact original dwellings and streetscapes
 - Any additions visible from the public domain that are of a minor scale, respect original built form and are unobtrusive in the context of the streetscape
- Building heights appropriate to typology and period of construction
- Detailing and finishes appropriate to typology and period of construction
 - Window openings appropriate for architectural type
 - Timber framed windows
 - Complex timber framed windows to main bay of front elevation (Federation)
 - Groups of timber casement windows to front elevation and main room visible on side elevation (Californian/Sydney)
 - Paired double-hung timber sash windows to Inter-War
 - Use of appropriate colour schemes for detailing
- Fences appropriate to typology and period of construction
 - Original low face-brick (not rendered or painted) walls

ELEMENTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE INTEGRITY OF THE OVERALL PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA (NOT NECESSARILY VISIBLE FROM THE STREET)

- Footprints of additions to the rear respect the traditional pattern of development (including service wing/pavilion/recessive scale)

24.6 ELEMENTS THAT DETRACT FROM THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AREA

The Porter's Brickworks Heritage Conservation Area has undergone many layers of change and alteration over the years since it was first developed. Some of these contribute to the cumulative heritage significance of the area but others do not because they are of an irreversible nature or result in a visual fabric that destroys, overwrites or otherwise confuses the identified values of the area. These include:

- Overscaled and poorly proportioned additions
- Alterations to roof forms and volumes visible from the street, including poorly sited and proportioned dormer windows and lifted ridgelines.
- Garages and carports forward of the building line
- Dormer windows (contrary to typology)
- Application of conjectural detailing to new work
- Concrete tiles or inappropriate use of metal panels to roof.
- Painting and rendering etc (including to original face brick)
- Removal of original detailing
- Alteration to fenestration patterns (including reconfiguration/re-orientation of vertical openings to horizontal)
- Removal/replacement of timber windows with aluminium-framed windows
- Roller shutters to windows
- Historically inappropriate fence design and details not relevant to building typology and/or incongruous/visually intrusive in streetscape views

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- Visually intrusive security measures (eg security bars painted a light colour, roller shutters and enclosing grilles to verandahs)
- Replacement fences of type or form inappropriate to building typology and/or intrusive on aesthetic qualities of the streetscape
- High/solid front fences and walls
- Infilled verandahs

Item No: C0913 Item 6
Subject: GALLIPOLI 2015
File Ref: 4717/67490.13

Prepared By: Clinton Johnston - Coordinator, History Services

SYNOPSIS

At its meeting on 7 August 2012, Council resolved to establish a Committee to consider commemoration projects for the Gallipoli Centenary. Consideration of the creation of a memorial to commemorate soldiers that died in World War II and subsequent conflicts was included in the responsibilities of this Committee. This report outlines proposed commemorative projects and strategies, together with the need to identify a suitable site to install a memorial to World War II and subsequent conflicts. It outlines staff and budget resources to implement the proposed projects required for the 2014/15 financial year, and requests Council to prioritise and vote money toward those projects deemed suitable.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. receive and notes the report;
2. endorse those projects to be completed with in existing budgets;
3. consider allocation of up to \$162,000 in the 2014/15 Operating Budget to fund the outlined Gallipoli Centenary Commemorative activities;
4. consider allocation of \$70,000 in the 2014/15 Operating Budget to fund installation of a memorial to soldiers who fought in World War II and subsequent conflicts; and
5. advise in order of preference which activities will be proceeded with as part of the Gallipoli Centenary Commemoration.

BACKGROUND

At its Meeting on 19 June 2012 (C0612(2) Item 14), Council resolved to establish a Committee to plan and organise the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli. The Committee was endorsed by Council at its meeting 7 August 2012 (C0812(1) Item 10), including the nomination of Councilor Victor Macri as Chair of the Committee.

At this meeting, Council also endorsed the incorporation of planning for the establishment of a memorial to soldiers from the Marrickville local government area who died in World War II and subsequent conflicts. This endorsement was reconfirmed at the 16 October 2012 (C1012(2) Item 7) meeting.

DISCUSSION

This report outlines proposed projects and activities identified by the Committee to commemorate the centenary of Australian troops landing on Gallipoli, as well as the creation of a memorial to soldiers who fought in World War II and subsequent conflicts. It also identifies the costs to carry out these projects, and requests that Council nominate projects to be allocated these funds in the 2014/2015 Operating Budget.

The NSW Centenary of Anzac Commemoration Committee, appointed by the NSW Government, has recommended the following initiatives to the NSW Government:

- Educational program to build on the knowledge and legacy of the First World War;
- Organise key events distinctive to NSW;
- Develop a major exhibition and touring display from the State Library of NSW collection;
- Establish a capital works program for key physical monuments;
- Specific events to commemorate the service of NSW Indigenous community; and
- Establish a grants program for community projects.

The Australian Government has established an Anzac Centenary Advisory Board to advise on a range of activities for the Anzac Centenary. The Federal government aims to achieve four main objectives:

- “ensure that the Anzac Centenary is commemorated in a very special way and the community reflect on the values and qualities of those Australians linked inextricably to the name, ‘Anzac’;
- Recognise a century of service by Australian serviceman and servicewomen, in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations in which Australia has, and continues, to participate;
- Bring the Anzac Centenary to the Australian community, wherever they live, whatever their backgrounds or age;
- Give appropriate attention to facets of service that have been underplayed in the past; such as the impacts of service on those returning from war, the contributions of those on the Home front and lesser known campaigns.”

The Federal program will fall under three categories:

- Education and research;
- Commemoration; and
- Artistic and cultural.

Based on the above recommendations, it is suggested that Council’s activities follow the same program themes as the Federal Anzac Centenary Advisory Board in order to link to reinforce the messages.

The Marrickville Anzac Centenary Committee has identified and prioritised a number of projects, activities and programs that may be conducted to commemorate the Anzac Centenary. These projects, together with their outcomes, location, dates, audience and required budget adjustment are listed in the table below. A fuller description of each project, each project’s relationship to Marrickville Council’s Key Results Areas, and the strengths and weaknesses of each project follow the table. The Anzac Centenary Committee considers the Street March and associated public activities to be the highest priority item. It considers a limited exhibition in Marrickville Town Hall during the week surrounding the March and Anzac Day to be a high priority to facilitate an outside/inside event.

It also sets as the second highest priority the establishment of a War Memorial to commemorate World War II and subsequent conflicts. Proposed activities and events are listed in priority order within this report. A number of programs and projects to be subsumed within existing budgets have also been outlined.

Marrickville Council will also apply for funding through the Federal Government's Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program for three projects identified by the Anzac Centenary Committee. This funding will seek to either recoup funds allocated by Council to these two identified projects, or to fund these projects in the event that Council elects not to allocate funds to these projects in the 2014/15 Operational Budget. It will also seek funding to expand the proposed exhibition, to include audio visual components and to be held over an extended period. Details of this are provided at the conclusion of the report. Additional sponsorship from relevant bodies will also be sought to recoup costs to Council involved in this events.

This information is provided to allow Council to make an informed decision with regards to prioritising the projects, and allocating appropriate funding for the Anzac Centenary Commemoration within the 2014/15 Operational Budget.

Project/ Program	Outcome	Location/Date(s)	Type	Audience	Section Responsible	Budget Adjustment 2014/15
Marrickville Road Street Parade	A street parade consisting of service personnel and other service arms. Community activities to occur outside Marrickville Town Hall	18 April 2015	Commemorative	General public, Returned servicemen	Culture and Recreation	\$106,284
War Memorial: World War II and subsequent conflicts	Establishment of a memorial to commemorate Servicemen who have died in World War II and subsequent conflicts	November 2015	Commemorative	General public, returned service personnel	Culture and Recreation	\$70,000
Marrickville Soldiers	Exhibition in Marrickville Town Hall, as part of Marrickville Street Parade	1.5 weeks from 17 April	Educational/ research	General Public Schools	Library and History Services	\$20,000
War Film Festival	A film festival. It would be recommended that a well known film critic assist with the curation.	Petersham Town Hall, Marrickville Town Hall, Petersham RSL or the Dendy	Art and culture	General public	- Cultural and Recreation - Library and History Services	\$20,000
Anzac Storytelling event	Production of a performance illustrating the experience of Marrickville soldiers	During 2015	Art and culture	General public	- Culture and Recreation - Library and History Services	\$15,000
Winged Victory Restoration of Stonework & Gilding	Restoration of the stonework, and gilded lettering on the Marrickville War Memorial	Completed November 2014	Commemorative	General public, returned service personnel	Culture and Recreation	\$35,000 (funds have already been allocated to this project) (possible grant funding)
Unveiling Ceremony for New Winged Victory Memorial	A ceremony to unveil the newly constructed Winged Victory statue	11 November 2014	Commemorative	General public, returned service personnel	Culture and Recreation	TBC
World War I and Marrickville	A community engagement day and program to uncover stories from the community	April/May 2014 (to tie to Marrickville Soldiers)	Education/ research	General public	Library and History Services	Within existing budgets

Project/ Program	Outcome	Location/Date(s)	Type	Audience	Section Responsible	Budget Adjustment 2014/15
War Stories	An ongoing series of talks and activities to commemorate the First World War	Ongoing from 2014-2018. Aim at 3 to 4 events per year.	Education/ research	General public	Library and History Services	Within existing budgets

Projects requiring 2014/15 Budget allocation

Projects listed in priority order given by the Gallipoli Centenary Committee

1. Street Parade and Civic Reception at Marrickville Town Hall

Detail: A street march on Saturday 18 April 2015 or Sunday 19 April 2015 (the RSL advised against holding the street march on Anzac Day as marchers and their family would be attending the main celebrations in the City). The march would proceed down Marrickville Road from Victoria Road and finish in front of the Marrickville Town Hall. Reserve units, community groups, veterans and allied service personnel will be invited to be part of this march. Costs outlined in following table.

KRA 2.3 The community understands and has a strong sense of its history
2.3.2 Engender a sense of community pride in and respect for the area's diverse history

Timing 18 or 19 April 2015

Budget Production cost, including WH&S equipment (toilets, security, stages, infrastructure etc) \$42,325

Staff costs, includes a part time staff member to work on the event leading up to the parade to liaise with and recruit participants.

This style of event requires a lot of on the ground staff to organise parade participants.* \$12,570

Infrastructure Works and Services, including road closures \$16,368

Entertainment \$13,900

Marketing and publicity \$17,961

Miscellaneous costs \$3,160

TOTAL EXPENDITURE \$106,284.00

*the staff costs would be dependent on the scale of the event and the level of participation that Council would be seeking from community groups. It would be anticipated that a staff member would need to be recruited to liaise with, and generate community support, to ensure the success of the event.

Location Street Parade from Victoria Street to Marrickville Town Hall, cnr Marrickville and Petersham Roads, Marrickville.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Strength | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will be a large event that can attract the community • An opportunity for Council to recognise the armed and other community services such as the Police, SES, etc • Recreate the historical photograph taken at Marrickville Town Hall |
| Weaknesses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs • Anzac Day Parades in the Sydney CBD (the following week) will be in direct competition for attracting participants and an audience to this event • Appeal to the general community versus the budget • Time required to recruit participants and organise the parade (this would require an additional part-time staff member to liaise with schools, community organisations etc as well as existing event staff. |

2. War Memorial: World War II and subsequent conflicts

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Detail: | Establishment of a memorial to commemorate Serviceman who have died in World War II and subsequent conflicts. A possible location for this memorial may be within the Addison Road Community Centre, given this site's strong connection to the history of defence forces in Marrickville. |
| KRA | <p>2.3 The community understands and has a strong sense of its history</p> <p>2.3.2 Engender a sense of community pride in and respect for the area's diverse history</p> |
| Timing | Remembrance Day 2015 |
| Budget | \$70,000 |
| Location | Tba |
| Strength | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is currently no war memorial in the LGA that recognises the serviceman and women of any war since World War II. There is no memorial that contains the names of soldiers from World War II • A permanent memorial • An addition to the public art collection |
| Weaknesses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs |

3. Marrickville Soldiers: Exhibition

Detail: Exhibition titled “Marrickville Soldiers” exploring Marrickville soldiers that served during World War I. It will draw together the history soldiers from the Marrickville area through diaries, letters, photographs and items, and include items for the Marrickville Library and History Services collection. This exhibition will complement the Street Parade and Civic reception.

KRA: 2.3 The community understands and has a strong sense of its history

2.3.1 Record and promote the area’s diverse cultural history for current and future generations

2.3.2 Engender a sense of community pride in and respect for the area’s diverse

Budget: Costs outlined in following table

Expenditure item	Estimate 2015
Graphic design and printing	\$12,000
Exhibition construction and internal hire costs	\$8,000
Total expenditure	\$20,000

Location: Marrickville Town Hall from 17 April, 2015 to 27 April.

Strength

- Research outcomes can be preserved for the communities posterity
- Some opportunity for school groups tie in, addressing elements of the NSW syllabus
- Will pull together a large body of knowledge and research about Marrickville soldiers
- Will create an educative dimension to the Street Parade event

Weaknesses

- Costs
- Impacts on the use of Marrickville Town Hall for other events. However, given the forecast dimensions of the exhibition, impact on the use of the central hall space will be minimal.
- Attendance figures outside the key dates (18 and 25 April, 2015) difficult to gauge

4. Centenary War Film Festival

Detail: Engage a film critic to select a series of war films (ranging from WW1 – current) that highlights the effects of war on communities. The film festival would be free and could be held in the Petersham RSL or Petersham or Marrickville Town Halls, or The Dendy Cinema, Newtown. In addition to movies, footage from WW1 could be shown to provide the community with the historic perspective.

KRA: 1.7.2 Ensure the community has access to a range of learning resources and activities

2.3 The community understands and has a strong sense of its history

2.3.1 Record and promote the area’s diverse cultural history for current and future generations

2.3.2 Engender a sense of community pride in and respect for the area’s diverse

Budget: \$20,000

Location: Marrickville Town Hall, Petersham Town Hall, Petersham RSL or the Dendy, Newtown

Strength

- Material already exists
- Will appeal to a range of community members
- Bring people to the Town Halls or RSL
- Ties to education and research activities
- Partnership opportunity with the Petersham RSL, therefore sharing of costs

Weaknesses Competition from similar events in Sydney and surrounding LGAs

5. Anzac Story Telling Event

Detail: Engage producers, actors or storytellers to deliver and present a storytelling event that draws on the writings of Marrickville soldiers. Grant funding will be sought for this project. If grant funding is successful, any funds over the total project budget in the Operational Budget will be returned to Council's budget.

KRA: 1.7.2 Ensure the community has access to a range of learning resources and activities
2.3 The community understands and has a strong sense of its history
2.3.1 Record and promote the area's diverse cultural history for current and future generations
2.3.2 Engender a sense of community pride in and respect for the area's diverse

Budget: \$15,000

Location: Marrickville Library and other Council venues

Strength

- Can involve the community in delivering programs
- Ties to education and research activities
- An intimate, meaningful event
- Can be held over a number of nights in a smaller location
- Could travel to schools

Weaknesses

- Competition from similar events in Sydney and surrounding LGAs
- Would require an external producer

Gallipoli Centenary Programs and Activities identified with existing budgets

War Stories: Program

Detail: A series of talks and displays to uncover the history of the First World War. This will include talks led by the History Team that highlight service personnel from Marrickville, as well as a selection of talks by authors and local historians.

KRA: 1.7.2 Ensure the community has access to a range of learning resources and activities
2.3 The community understands and has a strong sense of its history
2.3.1 Record and promote the area's diverse cultural history for current and future generations
2.3.2 Engender a sense of community pride in and respect for the area's diverse

Budget: Carried out within existing budgets

Location: Marrickville Library and other Council venues

- Strength**
- No additional costs to Council
 - Can involve the community in delivering programs
- Weaknesses**
- Competition from similar events in Sydney and surrounding LGAs

World War I and Marrickville: Event

Detail: An active forum to uncover stories from the community about Marrickville's involvement in the First World War. Members of the community would be invited to attend and share their stories of their family and friends relevant to World War 1.

This information will be captured (recorded, scanned etc) and incorporated in Marrickville's history collection. It would also facilitate the creation of the Marrickville Soldiers exhibition by being conducted in April/May 2014.

KRA:

- 2.3 The community understands and has a strong sense of its history
- 2.3.1 Record and promote the area's diverse cultural history for current and future generations
- 2.3.2 Engender a sense of community pride in and respect for the area's diverse
- 4.6.2 Build partnerships and facilitate informed and inclusive community involvement in planning Marrickville's future

Budget: Carried out within existing budgets

Location: Marrickville Town Hall

- Strength**
- No additional costs to Council
 - Direct collaboration from the community
 - Develops content for Marrickville Soldiers exhibition
 - Adds to the Marrickville History Collection
- Weaknesses**
- Restricted staff resources to digitise and receive historic material
 - Competition from other collection agencies, particularly State Library NSW
 - Can not guarantee that all information collected will be specifically relevant to Marrickville

Winged Victory Restoration of Stonework & Gilding

Detail: Project to restore the stonework, gilded lettering and metal work of the Winged Victory Statue and Capital. If grant funding is successful, any funds over the total project budget in the Operational Budget will be returned to Council's budget

KRA

- 2.3 The community understands and has a strong sense of its history
- 2.3.2 Engender a sense of community pride in and respect for the area's diverse history

Timing Completion date November 2014

Budget \$35,000

Location Marrickville Town Hall forecourt

- Strength**
- Restoration of memorial will improve aesthetic appearance
 - Treatment will have a positive benefit for the maintenance

Anzac Centenary Local Grants

A Federal Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program has been set up to encourage communities to undertake their own projects that commemorate the Australian servicemen and women in the First World War.

Up to \$100,000 has been made available for each Federal Member of Parliament to support projects commemorating the First World War.

This concept should be done in conjunction with the local MP, so it recommended that a suitable Council officer liaise with the member for Grayndler as soon as possible (after election). Marrickville Council Officers will seek funding support for \$75,000 through this program for the following three projects:

Project	Description	Time	Grant amount sought
Winged Victory Restoration of Stonework & Gilding	Restoration of the stonework, and gilded lettering on the Marrickville War Memorial	Completed November 2014	\$35,000
Anzac Storytelling event	Production of a performance illustrating the experience of Marrickville soldiers	During 2015	\$15,000
Marrickville Soldiers	Marrickville Town Hall, to incorporate audio-visual displays and extend display period for Marrickville Soldiers	April – May 2015 (3-6 weeks). Alternating locations throughout 2015	\$30,000

If successful in receiving grant funding this money will be used to recoup funds allocated by Council to these three identified projects, or to fund these projects in the event that Council elects to not allocate funds to these project in the 2014/15 Operational Budget.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council's decisions will need to be considered in the context of the overall 2014/15 Operating Budget.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Nil.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION**THAT Council:**

1. receive and notes the report;
2. endorse those projects to be completed in existing budgets
3. consider allocation of up to \$162,000 in the 2014/15 Operating Budget to fund the outlined Gallipoli Centenary Commemorative activities
4. consider allocation of \$70,000 in the 2014/15 Operating Budget to fund installation of a memorial to soldiers who fought in World War II and subsequent conflicts; and
5. advise in order of preference which activities will be proceeded with as part of the Gallipoli Centenary Commemoration

Simone Schwarz
Director, Community Services

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 7

Subject: FEES AND CHARGES FOR ANNETTE KELLERMAN AQUATIC CENTRE -
INTRODUCTION OF PROGRAMS FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

File Ref: 4717/65732.13

Prepared By: Brooke Atkins - Team Leader, Recreation and Facilities

SYNOPSIS

Proposed additions to Council's fees and charges schedule 2013/14 to enable the introduction of swimming and wellness programs for people with a disability at Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
2. Council advertise the proposed changes to the fees and charges schedule for the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre as detailed in ATTACHMENT 1 for a period of twenty-eight days in accordance with the provisions of Section 610F of the Local Government Act; and
3. following the public consultation period, a further report will be presented to Council.

BACKGROUND

The Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre (AKAC) provides a range of aquatic and wellness programs in both the wet and dry areas of the centre, including hydrotherapy, swimming squads, learn to swim and personal training. The fees for all programs are as per Council's fees and charges schedule.

Council has worked with Belgravia Leisure as the service provider to introduce a range of targeted programs at the centre for various sectors of the community. These include seniors programs such as aqua aerobics and the 'Go for Fun' children's program which is a health and well being program for children and parents.

Council has recently received feedback from a number of AKAC users about the limitations of the current fee structure for people with a disability engaging in programs at the centre. This structure does not adequately cater for these groups and as a result, many parents are paying for one to one personal training (\$41.40 for 30 minutes) or private swimming lessons (\$38.70 for 30 minutes or \$25.40 concession). These costs are not sustainable for the users and/or their carers.

DISCUSSION

A range of new programs and appropriate fee structures are proposed for people with a disability in the swimming pool and wellness centre. The objectives of the programs proposed are:

- to provide a range of introductory programs to support local families and carers in building new networks;
- to provide accessible, cost effective aquatic programs; and
- to encourage people with a disability to utilise the AKAC on an ongoing basis.

There are 5 and 10 week structured programs proposed for swimming. The proposed fees outlined below provide an affordable service with the intention of retaining existing participants and enabling the AKAC to raise awareness of the programs and increase the number of people with a disability using the centre.

Swimming Programs

Activity	Program	Proposed fee
Champions Program	10 week program of 9 x 30 minute one to one lessons for children and adults with a disability and 1 x 30 minute social activity during the program to encourage social interaction and support between participants and carers	\$120
	5 week program consisting of 4 x 30 minute one to one lesson for children and adults with a disability and 1 x 30 minute social activity during the program to encourage social interaction and support between participants and carers	\$60
Little Champions Program	10 week program of 10 x 30 minute sessions of up to 5 babies (1-3 years old), mums with bubs	\$50
	5 week program of 5 x 30 minute sessions of up to 5 babies (1-3 year old), mums with bubs	\$25
Private swim for people with a disability	Introduction of an ongoing fee for a 30 minute private swimming lessons	\$13.50

Wellness Centre

There are currently no applicable fees for people with a disability to participate in a one to one session in the wellness centre. Given the need for supervision and specialised programs, particularly if the individual participating is under 16 years, a personal training session is often required in the introductory stage. An additional fee is proposed as follows:

Activity	Program	Proposed fee
Personal training for people with a disability	A thirty minute one to one with a personal trainer	\$15.50

The fee applicable for people with a disability where personal training is not sought is the existing concession rate for casual gym users, which is \$9.00 per hour. The schedule of proposed fees and fee descriptions are included in **ATTACHMENT 1**.

CONCLUSION

The proposed addition of these programs and inclusion of the associated fees in Council's Pricing Policy and fees and charges increases the capacity of the AKAC to offer programs that are inclusive, accessible to all members of the community and encourage community connection and support through local networks.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All fees proposed are based on cost recovery of promoting and delivering the programs. There will be no net impact on Council's budget.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Community Development staff have been consulted in preparation of this report.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Council staff have worked with the Service Provider at the AKAC to develop the proposed programs and fees. If the proposed changes to the fees and charges are endorsed by Council they will be put on public exhibition for a period of 28 days for comment.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
2. Council advertise the proposed changes to the fees and charges schedule for the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre as detailed in **ATTACHMENT 1** for a period of twenty-eight days in accordance with the provisions of Section 610F of the Local Government Act; and
3. following the public consultation period, a further report will be presented to Council.

Simone Schwarz
Director, Community Services

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Fee Changes - AKAC

Attachment 1: Proposed Fee Changes

Fee Description	Fee
Champions Program – 10 weeks	\$120
Champions Program – 5 weeks	\$60
Little Champions Program – 10 weeks	\$50
Little Champions Program – 5 weeks	\$25
Private Swim for People with a Disability – 1 x 30 min	\$13.50
Personal Training for People with a Disability – 1 x 30 min	\$15.50

Item No: C0913 Item 8**Subject:** TOM FOSTER COMMUNITY CARE FEES AND CHARGES**File Ref:** 4717/68264.13**Prepared By:** Stella Ford - Manager, Community Development**SYNOPSIS**

At the July 2013 Council meeting, the Council approved a resolution to make Tom Foster Community Care (TFCC) available for medium to long term hire at \$15.00 per hour, if no fee is charged, then a reduced fee of \$10.00 per hour would be applicable. This change required the new fees to be advertised prior to adoption by Council. The proposed change was advertised in the Council column in the Inner West Courier and no objections were received. This report seeks approval for the fee change in the original motion above

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council adopt the following usage fee for Tom Foster Community Care: for local community groups that charge a fee to participants for an activity the fee be set at \$15.00 per hour, if no fee is charged, then a reduced fee of \$10.00 per hour would be applicable.

BACKGROUND

TFCC has space available for hire after hours. The high demand for affordable rehearsal space and meeting space for small community groups provides opportunity to generate a small revenue stream to help support the activities of the Tom Foster Community Care Centre.

DISCUSSION

At the July 2013 Council meeting the Council was asked to approve an EOI process for proposals for medium to long term rental agreements by small, local, not for profit or community groups whose activities are run on a regular basis and that contribute to the achievement of KRA 1 of the Community Strategic Plan. As TFCC is a small facility and long term rental was sought to ensure the facility was kept in a clean condition, it was proposed that a new charge was agreed for the centre.

At the July meeting the Council passed the following resolution:

THAT:

1. Council approve an EOI process which calls for proposals for medium to long term rental agreements for the use of Tom Foster Community Care by small, local, not for profit or community groups whose activities are run on a regular basis and that contribute to the achievement of KRA 1 of the Community Strategic Plan.
2. The proposed usage fee for Tom Foster Community Care for local community groups that charge a fee to participants for an activity be set at \$15.00 per hour, if no fee is charged, then a reduced fee of \$10.00 per hour would be applicable.

The fee change required the new fees to be advertised prior to adoption by Council. The proposed change was advertised in the Council column in the Inner West Courier and no objections were received. This report seeks approval for the fee change in the original motion above.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Nil.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The proposed fee change was advertised in the Council column of the Inner West Courier. No objections were received.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council adopt the following usage fee for Tom Foster Community Care: for local community groups that charge a fee to participants for an activity the fee be set at \$15.00 per hour, if no fee is charged, then a reduced fee of \$10.00 per hour would be applicable.

Simone Schwarz
Director, Community Services

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 9

Subject: REQUEST FOR FEE WAIVER BY RANDWICK PETERSHAM CRICKET CLUB FOR THE HIRE OF PETERSHAM PARK OVAL FOR 2013/14 SUMMER SEASON

File Ref: 4717/65722.13

Prepared By: Brooke Atkins - Team Leader, Recreation and Facilities

SYNOPSIS

Randwick Petersham Cricket Club has written to Council requesting the waiver of hire fees for the use of Petersham Oval for the 2013/14 summer season.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council waive the Petersham Oval hire fee for Randwick Petersham Cricket Club for the 2013/14 summer season.

BACKGROUND

Randwick Petersham Cricket Club (RPCC) submitted a proposal to Council at the conclusion of the 2012/13 summer season to return Petersham Oval to a first grade facility and level of competition for the 2013/14 summer season.

Petersham Oval has previously been used as a first grade facility, however in the 2010/11 summer season a reduction in funds allocated to maintaining turf wickets resulted in Council funding the maintenance of two out of the three turf wickets in the Marrickville LGA. Council continued to maintain the outfield at Petersham Oval and RPCC took over the maintenance of the wicket while Council continued maintaining the turf wickets at Marrickville and Camperdown Ovals. Due to the costs involved in maintaining a first grade wicket, the club withdrew the ground from this level of competition and has continued to maintain the wicket for the past three seasons.

RPCC has proposed to select a suitable contractor to provide ongoing maintenance of the wicket and the outfield for the 2013/14 summer season with a specialist program to ensure the ground meets the standards required for first grade competition. In order to assist the club with the costs associated with this, estimated at \$47,500, the club has requested their hire fee of \$12,774.20 for use of the ground for the summer season 2013/14 at Petersham Oval be waived.

DISCUSSION

RPCC has been a regular hirer of Petersham Oval during past summer seasons. The club has worked with Council over a number of years making a financial contribution to a range of improvements to the facility including:

- renovations to the scoreboard;
- replacement of the wicket square;
- painting and renovation of the pavilion; and
- the maintenance of the wicket at Petersham Oval during the summer season.

The above works have contributed to the quality of the ground for all users. Specialist ground staff are required to provide maintenance to enable first grade cricket to be re-established at the ground.

RPCC has proposed that first grade cricket will:

- enhance the profile of the facility;
- increase the number of local residents participating in cricket; and
- increase the number of spectators visiting the Oval given the higher level of performance and profile of the players, some of which include past and aspiring national cricketers.

Council will not be responsible for any ground maintenance of Petersham Park Oval for the summer period, September 2013 to March 2014.

CONCLUSION

RPCC's maintenance contribution will improve the condition of Petersham Oval and enable first grade competition to be played. Council recognises the positive impact this may have on participation and spectators of the sport by residents in the Marrickville area.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

RPCC were previously part of the Inner West Cricket Group (IWCG) who held a licence with Council for Petersham, Marrickville and Camperdown Ovals for the 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13 summer seasons. The licence fee for the three grounds to IWCG in 2012/13 was \$21,096 and reflected the maintenance contribution at Petersham Oval. A similar figure has been budgeted as income in the current financial year.

As the IWCG no longer exists, individual licence agreements will be entered into for each ground. The licence fees for Camperdown and Marrickville Parks for the 2013/14 season will amount to \$23,232 where the license fee for Petersham Oval is proposed to be waived in lieu of RPCC maintaining Petersham Oval turf wicket for the 2013/14 season. The income is consistent with that of previous years for the three parks and so there will be no impact to the 2013/14 operational budget.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Infrastructure Works and Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION**THAT:**

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council waive the Petersham Oval hire fee for Randwick Petersham Cricket Club for the 2013/14 summer season.

Simone Schwarz
Director, Community Services

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 10

Subject: COMMUNITY GRANTS CONTINGENCY GRANTS FUND - REQUEST FOR FEE WAIVER BY GREEK WELFARE CENTRE FOR THE HIRE OF MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL

File Ref: 4717/65724.13

Prepared By: Brooke Atkins - Team Leader, Recreation and Facilities

SYNOPSIS

The Greek Welfare Centre has written to Council requesting the waiver of hire fees for the use of Marrickville Town Hall for Community Appeal / Charity Drive events.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council provide \$1,000 from the Community Grants Program Part 2, Contingency Program to assist Greek Welfare Centre with the cost of venue hire for the use of Marrickville Town Hall on 25 September 2013, 11 December 2013 and 9 April 2014 for a Community Appeal/Charity Drive.

BACKGROUND

The Community Grants Policy, which was endorsed by Council at the Community Services Committee meeting of 13 September, 2005 (Item CD 20, Meeting No. 08/05), provides a coherent policy framework for Council to consider all donations for cash or in-kind support. This includes requests under (Part 1) the Community Grants Program, (Part 2) the Contingency Program and (Part 3) Notices of Motion. Organisations requesting consideration for Community Grants are required to apply in writing, outlining the need or issue and may, for Parts 2 and 3, request funding up to \$1,000. A report is then submitted for Council's consideration. In 2013/2014, \$5,000 was set aside for cash or in kind contributions that are submitted to Council as applications under Part 2, Contingency Program.

Based in King Street Newtown, the Greek Welfare Centre (GWC) is an incorporated not-for-profit organisation. For the past 20 years the GWC has been coordinating community appeals four times a year. The appeals involve donations of clothing and pre-packaged food for distribution to people in need in the community. The proposed hire of Marrickville Town Hall for this purpose would be from 9am to 5pm on 25 September 2013, 11 December 2013 and 9 April 2014. Under Council's current Fees and Charges there is no fee for the first five hours of hire and thereafter a commercial fee of \$114.70 per hour applies, making a total hire cost of \$344.10 per hire.

DISCUSSION

The Greek community is the largest culturally and linguistically diverse community, notably for older residents, in the Marrickville Local Government Area. The proposed hire clashes with a regular not-for-profit hirer (seniors exercise class). As with past events, both organisations have confirmed that they can co-use the facility on the proposed dates with the seniors exercise group using the stage for their activity. These dates would not displace any commercial hirers.

The Greek Welfare Centre's request for a fee waiver for the use of Marrickville Town Hall meets the Eligibility Criteria under the Community Grants Policy.

CONCLUSION

While Council recognises the financial limitations of not-for-profit local organisations through the provision of a concession hire fee within the Fees and Charges, it is noted that the charitable nature of this event would provide support to many people in need in the Marrickville area.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council's adopted fee for a not-for-profit local organisation would be \$344.10 for the proposed hire of eight hours per event. The total grant request from GWC is \$1032.30. The proposed donation of \$1,000 is provided for within the Community Grants Program Part 2 Contingencies 2013/2014 budget. The organisation will be asked to pay the residual \$32.30 remaining for the total cost of hire, for the three dates. Any further costs as a result of the hire would be covered in the bond fee listed in the Fees and Charges.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Council's Strategic Community Projects Officer - Ageing was consulted in the preparation of this report.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council provide \$1,000 from the Community Grants Program Part 2, Contingency Program to assist Greek Welfare Centre with the cost of venue hire for the use of Marrickville Town Hall on 25 September 2013, 11 December 2013 and 9 April 2014 for a Community Appeal/Charity Drive.

Simone Schwarz
Director, Community Services

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 11**Subject: OPEN MARRICKVILLE 2013 REPORT ON PROGRAM****File Ref: 4717/59877.13****Prepared By:** Raffaella Cavadini - Community Cultural Development Officer**SYNOPSIS**

Council's Open Marrickville Festival took place from 20 to 30 June 2013. Council provided grant funding and practical support to 21 community groups to assist individuals and community groups deliver events and activities that celebrated Marrickville's cultural diversity; encouraged the transfer of skills and traditions across generations; and targeted participants of all ages. Two extra events were also staged by Culture and Recreation; these included a Sister Cities event and a finale.

RECOMMENDATION**THAT:**

1. the report be received and noted; and
 2. Council endorse the grant opening and closing dates and the Open Marrickville 2014 festival dates.
-

BACKGROUND**Council Resolution**

Council received 38 applications through the 2013 Open Marrickville grant round, of which 21 were recommended and approved for funding totalling \$61,388 at the Council meeting, dated 4 December 2012 (C1212(1) Item 7).

Open Marrickville Program 2013

The Festival culminated in 23 activities, of which 21 were funded by Council under the Open Marrickville Grants Program. The activities included cooking demonstrations, mini cultural festivals, exhibitions, school productions, educational talks, a book launch, public art, workshops, free professional photography, sports, children's activities and storytelling. These activities were held in Petersham, Marrickville, South Marrickville, Newtown, Sydenham, Camperdown and St Peters.

The assessment of the grants was undertaken via a discussion panel made up of local community members, professionals and cultural representatives. This panel consisted of people that understood the community needs, issues and demographics. Members of the panel had not applied for the grants and all panel members were asked to identify any conflicts of interest prior to assessment.

Additions to the program for 2013 included a longer festival running time and an increase in the number of groups and events funded.

Council also held its own closing activity, a storytelling event in collaboration with Tell Me a Story; and under the Sister Cities Program - a lecture held at the University of Sydney's Nicholson Museum about the archaeological features relevant to Council's sister cities.

All grant recipients were invited to attend workshops on risk management, event management, food safety and media and publicity. The workshops were offered during the day and evening in response to a survey regarding what days suited the grant recipients.

Grant recipients were offered and provided with extensive one-on-one assistance by Council's Community Cultural Development Officer. The assistance ranged from helping recipients locate suitable venues and decorations, preparing marketing materials, sourcing entertainment and catering, distributing expressions of interest information and providing advice and assistance regarding general event management operations such as submitting development assessments and managing power and waste.

A distinctive program was designed and distributed to 5,000 homes, libraries, children's centres, local cafes and community areas. Culture and Recreation paid for 8 ¼ page advertisements in local papers. Editorial features, based on Council's media releases were listed in the Sydney Morning Herald's *The Shortlist*.

A number of applicants paid for their own advertising and distributed their own media releases extensively which resulted in further articles or mentions in local papers. One large banner was printed and placed on the Newington Overpass Bridge. There was extensive internet coverage and some radio coverage. Open Marrickville also featured in the Council column, Marrickville Matters, Council's webpage, Art Post, the Council e-newsletter and ½ page advertisements were placed in school newsletters.

The 2013 event saw an increase in the community awareness of and attendance at the festival (despite the non-stop raining over the 11 days), it is believed this is because of the increased efforts of the media team, the quality of events offered and the fact that the festival was in its second year.

DISCUSSION

Open Marrickville 2013 Evaluation

Two applicants are yet to acquit their grants and so the below information is based on the responses received from the remaining 19 grant recipients. Two events were Council run and the results from these two events are included below also.

Community Participation

Open Marrickville enabled the staging of 23 events that reached approximately 6,000 participants. The highest reported attendance was at the *Festa Junina* event with 1,500 attendees, followed by the *ASYIK Indonesian Arts & Culture Bazaar 2013* with a reported 900 attendees. While some of the events reported a smaller number of attendees, this was to be expected given the nature of the event and the specific target audience. Some events focused on a richer cultural experience catering to a smaller group while others a larger audience with a more general cultural experience.

It is estimated that over 1,000 people, the majority of which were local, actively participated in an Open Marrickville event either through performing, attending workshops, providing catering, equipment and services, managing an event or as an associated partner. Most of the audiences at the events were described by the recipients as mixed generational, multicultural, adults, children, families, seniors or young people.

Community Representation

The cultural groups represented at the Open Marrickville Festival included Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Pacific Islander, African, Vietnamese, Lebanese, Sri Lankan, Mongolian, Egyptian, Indonesian, Anglo-Australian, Greek, Italian, Brazilian, Lebanese, Palestinian, Arabic, Eastern European, Chinese, Portuguese, Cypriot, South American, (there were many other cultural groups who were represented as performers or entertainers at the festival). There were a variety of postcodes, age and gender ranges at the events.

Capacity Building

Open Marrickville workshop attendees (34) reported they received practical information on running a cultural event; a gain in a range of knowledge and skills; and the confidence to run their own event in the future. Applicants reported they were satisfied or extremely satisfied with their events. Two applicants reported they were not satisfied with their events, one was rained out (free outdoor Tai Chi) and the other felt they had to reduce the quality of performers as they were given a reduced budget.

Cultural Understanding and connection to Open Marrickville Objectives

19 event organisers reported their event encouraged community participation; 18 connecting with own and others cultures; 17 transfer of cultural knowledge; and 15 cross-generational connections.

Open Marrickville 2014

All event organisers reported Open Marrickville should be continued into the future, some of reasons they provided were:

"It is a great opportunity for the Council and the community to work together to develop better shared understandings about our cultural community and heritage."

"Open Marrickville generates lots of local support for dinner businesses and organisations. It brings the community closer together and gets people involved."

"Because it has already become part of the community, it's a show case of what Marrickville has to offer and what makes this area so unique and distinct."

"OM highlights the immensity and variety of creativity, cultural knowledge and cultural asset of people living locally within the Municipality. The intensity of the festival being across 11 days with such a wide variety of events at different times of the day, varying locations and targeting different ages makes for a varied festival. A good way to showcase cultural values and celebrate the community's vibrant diversity."

"Defiantly should continue because it's good for community and council to help build strong multicultural community."

Sixteen of the event organisers are considering applying to hold the same or a similar event for Open Marrickville 2014.

Open Marrickville 2014 proposed dates

Open grant round:	23 September 2013
Close grant round:	21 October 2013
Information Sessions:	26 September 2013
Open Marrickville 2014:	20 - 29 June 2014

It is proposed that Open Marrickville 2013 take place between Refugee Week (15 to 21 June) and NAIDOC Week (6 to 13 July). It is expected that some community groups may apply for funding to hold either of these cultural events which falls in line with the Open Marrickville 2013 aims and criteria. School Holidays commence 27 June 2014 which enables schools to be involved in the program again. Two schools held extremely successful NAIDOC Week events as part of the Open Marrickville Program 2013.

CONCLUSION

Open Marrickville 2013 represented excellent value for money in achieving beneficial social impacts and Marrickville Council's Key Result Area 1: A diverse community that is happy, healthy and fair. According to Marrickville's Strategic Plan, this will be achieved when (1.2) Marrickville communities value and celebrate their cultural diversity and (b) Engender understanding and respect amongst the diverse cultural communities of Marrickville.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are sufficient funds in the Arts and Cultural Development Operating budget for Open Marrickville 2013.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Nil.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Open Marrickville Working Party Assessment Panel (made up of local community members, professionals from youth, creative, community and migrant services) were consulted regarding many aspects of the Open Marrickville 2013 program. The general public has been extensively engaged through enquiries and marketing for Open Marrickville.

Grant recipients were provided with extensive one-on-one support and assisted with specific needs. Recipients were required to provide Council with a comprehensive evaluation and acquittal report at the completion of the program. Event attendees provided feedback at some of the events.

RECOMMENDATION**THAT:**

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council endorse the grant opening and closing dates and the Open Marrickville 2014 festival dates.

Caroline McLeod
A/Manager, Culture and Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 12**Subject:** MARRICKVILLE OPEN STUDIO TRAIL - RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2014 PROGRAM**File Ref:** 4717/65084.13**Prepared By:** Victoria Johnstone - Arts and Culture Development Coordinator**SYNOPSIS**

The Marrickville Open Studio Trail (MOST) was first presented in 2005. MOST is established as a valued program on Council's events and cultural calendar and to date it has been held biannually. Following the success of the 2013 program and support by project partners, gallery operators, artists and audiences – it is recommended that funding be allocated so that MOST can become an annual event.

RECOMMENDATION**THAT:**

1. the report be received and noted; and
 2. Council approves a budget adjustment of \$10,000 to fund MOST 2014 in its September 2013 Quarterly Budget Review Statement and incorporates the Marrickville Open Studio Trail in its budget on an annual basis.
-

BACKGROUND

The inaugural Marrickville Open Studio Trail (MOST 2005) was part of the Newtown Arts Development Project, a Marrickville Council initiative designed to increase opportunities for visual artists, promote and sell work, develop professional skills and enhance artist's ability to obtain commissions, network, participate in collaborative works and develop new audiences (Item CC12, 0705).

Eight years on, MOST is an extremely successful and significant component of Council's cultural and events programs. The event is a strong showcase of the artistic and cultural richness of the Marrickville area and the LGA's growing popularity as a unique destination with a thriving and dynamic visual arts scene.

MOST13 was presented Saturday 9 March and Sunday 10 March 2013, 11am to 4pm. The program included:

- a promotional tagline for MOST13, "*two days, 200 artists, forty two art spaces*" to reflect the scale and breadth of the program;
- a launch event at Zanzibar on King Street, followed by a two day program encompassing open studios, gallery tours, an artist talk series, street art tours, MOST Art Bicycle Tours and a "Hop On–Hop Off" bus tour;
- new guidelines and an information session at Tom Foster Centre providing advice on how to participate in the program;

- production of 10,000 MOST maps and exhibition programs, plus posters distributed extensively through local galleries, businesses and venues;
- a communications campaign, including a media partnership with the *Inner West Courier*, features in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the Art Month program and feature articles and coverage in local press and community radio;

A survey of MOST 2013 participants indicated:

- 88.9% of participants reported they were either “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with MOST13;
- full attendance at the Street Art Walking Tours, the Matchbox Walking Tour and Art Cycle tours;
- 30% of participating galleries / ARI / or independent studios reported they had more than 100 visitors over the two day program; and
- 63% said that MOST13 resulted in art sales.

On 23 July 2013, at a meeting of Cultural and Recreation staff with local gallery and studio representatives, there was overwhelming support and demand for Council to present MOST on an annual basis. Stakeholders were keen to input to planning towards MOST 2014.

Due to the success of the event, other Councils, such as Leichhardt, have started similar events.

DISCUSSION

The current budget allocation allows for the MOST event to be held biannually, with the next event proposed to take place in 2015. Due to the success of the event and the demonstrated participation by local artists, galleries and artists run initiatives it is recommended that a budget adjustment be made to allow the event to be held annually.

Should there be a budget adjustment to provide annual funding, it is proposed that MOST14 be presented the weekend 1 and 2 March 2014. The Leichhardt equivalent, LOST, is scheduled to take place the following weekend.

Council officers will investigate opportunities to further strengthen the MOST14 program, such as:

- establish the MOST Steering Committee, comprised of Council staff, MOST partners, NPBA members, local galleries, ARI and studio representatives to input to program development and delivery;
- build on the program of hosted gallery tours, the artist talk series, street art tours, MOST Art Bicycle Tours, Gallery Tours and Hop on Hop Off bus tours;
- incorporate the Newtown Art Seat and a complimentary artist talk in Newtown Square;
- investigate inclusion of works by Arts and Cultural and Independent Artist Grant recipients in the MOST14 program;
- include workshops and project outcomes developed through the “Live to Create” program (previously called *Create Not Destroy*) in MOST14;
- investigate options for a children’s art program to complement the event (eg art exhibitions at Dulwich High and/or Newington College Galleries);

- revamp the MOST launch event which in 2013 featured an art debate followed by a poorly attended function at Zanzibar. It is recommended that MOST be launched in conjunction with a gallery opening (as per previous years);
- develop partnerships with media partners. For example, a photography or “mystery art trail” competition encouraging audiences to participate and document the event; and
- investigate options to cross promote with Leichhardt Council’s Open Studio program which is scheduled for the following weekend of Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 March 2013. Note that Leichhardt Council present their Open Studio program annually.

CONCLUSION

MOST has become an established and well received component of Council’s arts and cultural development program. The event reinforces Marrickville’s position as the centre of independent arts in Sydney. Based on this, it is recommended that MOST be held as an annual event as part of Art Month Sydney on 1 and 2 March 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Acting Chief Financial Officer comments:

It is recommended that a budget adjustment for \$10,000 be made for MOST14 for the 2013/14 financial year. A funding source will be allocated in the September 2013 Quarterly Budget Review Statement. Council’s Long Term Financial Plan will be updated to reflect the change in frequency of the MOST cycle from biennially to annually.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Nil

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

A visual arts forum was held with visual artists, gallery owners and artist run initiatives on 23 July 2013. All attendees reiterated their support for the MOST event.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council approves a budget adjustment of \$10,000 to fund MOST 2014 in its September 2013 Quarterly Budget Review Statement and incorporates the Marrickville Open Studio Trail in its budget on an annual basis.

Simone Schwarz
Director, Community Services

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 13**Subject:** STEEL PARK SOCIAL ENTERPRISE LICENCE**File Ref:** 4717/66189.13**Prepared By:** Stella Ford - Manager, Community Development

SYNOPSIS

Following the Expression of Interest process that commenced on 31 July 2013 Council approval is now sought for offering a non – exclusive licence to operate a mobile coffee and refreshment vehicle at Steel Park to the Metro Migrant Resource Centre in partnership with The Flagstaff Group. The licence is based on social enterprise principles and will be for a trial term of two years commencing on a date before the end of the year which has yet to be agreed with them.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council agree to offer a non-exclusive Licence to operate a mobile coffee and refreshment social enterprise at Steel Park for a two year trial commencing late 2013.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 3 July 2012 C0712 (1) Item 2, Council resolved to approve a social enterprise operating in Steel Park for a 24 month trial period.

It was anticipated that a social enterprise (coffee and refreshment vehicle) would be on site at Steel Park ready to commence operations in time for the opening of the Waterplay Park in October as that is when the area receives its greatest patronage and would most likely provide the most advantageous opportunities for a new enterprise to establish business. The anticipated social benefit is for the enterprise to employ and train local unemployed youth.

In the ensuing four months to November 2012, Community Development completed all necessary Development Assessment (DA) documentation; an Expression of Interest, the associated assessment process and a marketing and advertising strategy and a successful applicant, *Just Great Coffee Pty Ltd*, was identified in December 2012. However as the DA was not approved until the Development Assessment Committee meeting on 13 February 2013, the timing of this approval meant that the social enterprise missed out on the Waterplay park season. The much lower demand for coffee and refreshment during the cold and wet autumn and winter meant that the venture did not have the business needed to build a new enterprise and *Just Great Coffee Pty Ltd* notified Council that they are seeking opportunities elsewhere.

DISCUSSION

A second EOI process has now been held, which closed on 29 July 2013. While a number of enterprises were encouraged to submit an EOI, only two EOI's were received. One application did not comply with the EOI requirements and so was not evaluated. The other one was from the Metro Migrant Resource Centre (Metro MRC), in partnership with the Flagstaff Group. This EOI has been evaluated by the Manager Community Development and Manager Economic Development and meets the criteria outlined in the EOI as follows:

Social Enterprise Assessment Criteria

- 1 A social purpose core to focus, business and structure
 - a. Key activities and income source of your organisation through trading, with a significant portion of income coming from enterprising and business activities
 - b. Participatory Governance model
 - c. Demonstration of how profit is reinvesting into social value
 - d. Who will be the beneficiaries of the social enterprise
- 2 Mobile Coffee and Refreshment Vehicle
 - a. Description of vehicle
 - b. Relevant experience in managing and operating food services
 - c. Organisational structure
 - d. Details of references
 - e. Income sources of organisation through trading
 - f. Range of refreshments and products to be offered
 - g. Training, employment and other community outcomes to be achieved
 - h. Capacity to set up and be operational by the 2013 summer season
 - i. Potential to expand the social enterprise model
 - j. Potential to source locally
- 3 General Assessment
 - a. Provision of a suitable mobile coffee vehicle ready to commence operation
 - b. Ability to move the vehicle from the designated site easily and safely on a daily basis
 - c. Provision of all information requested in the document
 - d. Demonstrated relevant skills and ability to undertake the specified social enterprise
 - e. Experience engaging and working with the community
 - f. EPA approved mobile coffee/refreshment vehicle
 - g. Health Department Regulations
 - h. Food Act Regulations
 - i. Itinerant Trader Permit
 - j. Insurances

Metro MRC is a Not for Profit which has been operating in Marrickville since 1986, offering a range of services to CALD communities, newly arrived migrants, refugees, humanitarian entrants and Aboriginal Communities. The Flagstaff Group was established in 1966 and is an Australian Disability Enterprise. It is also a Not for Profit operating in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven area creating employment for people with a disability. It has evolved to become a Social Enterprise – operating six sustainable commercial businesses that work to provide opportunities for people with disabilities to learn new skills and participate in the community. Metro MRC will own the business and manage the operation, logistics, compliance and employment, while Flagstaff will support the barista and business development training through its registered training organisation, as well as providing back end business development support.

The adopted Plan of Management for Steel Park authorises Council to grant a licence to allow a mobile coffee cart to occupy that part of Steel Park identified in DA 201200399, being the area to the south-east of the amenities block, adjacent to the Water play Park shade structure. The main conditions of the licence will be:

- a term of two years
- permitted use – mobile coffee and refreshment vehicle;
- Operating hours – Summer Season 1 October to 31 March 6am - 9pm and Winter Season 1 April to 30 September 6am -7pm
- Public Liability Insurance - \$20M;
- Must train and employ persons within the LGA who are unemployed, with a focus on disadvantaged youth;
- Comply with conditions of consent in DA 201200399.

- Licence Fee - Nil

Prior to the entering into the licence, Council must give public notification of the proposed licence for a period of 28 days. If no submissions are received then the licence can proceed to be entered into by the parties. It is anticipated the licence will commence after the expiration of the notification period, around 18 October 2013.

CONCLUSION

Following the Expression of Interest process that commenced on 31 July 2013 Council approval is now sought for offering a non – exclusive licence to operate a mobile coffee and refreshment vehicle at Steel Park to the Metro Migrant Resource Centre in partnership with The Flagstaff Group. The licence is based on social enterprise principles and will be for a trial term of two years commencing on a yet to be agreed date towards the end of 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Nil.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Development Assessment (DA) for the establishment of a Social Enterprise coffee vehicle was advertised externally and submissions were considered by Council when granting the DA.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council agree to offer a non-exclusive Licence to operate a mobile coffee and refreshment social enterprise at Steel Park for a two year trial commencing late 2013.

Simone Schwarz
Director, Community Services

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 14
Subject: MOVIES IN THE PARK - EVENT PROPOSAL AND COSTING
File Ref: 4717/55897.13

Prepared By: Simone Parrott - Events Coordinator

SYNOPSIS

A trial event, *Movies in the Park* has been proposed for Johnson Park, Dulwich Hill. The report details the considerations and costs associated with the delivery of the event.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
2. Council endorse the trial *Movies in the Park* event for Saturday 12 April 2014; and
3. should the above be endorsed that a budget adjustment of \$21,600 be made for the delivery of the event.

BACKGROUND

The trend in outdoor movie screenings can be seen across major capital cities and regional centres from November to March each year and these events provide great opportunities for communities to come together. The Major Community Events Program does not currently contain a film event.

In April 2013, a Notice of Motion (C0413 Item 18) was adopted requesting that Council:

1. prepare a report for the establishment of a trial "Movie in the Park" at Johnson Park with a food market night theme;
2. allocate a Sunday afternoon in February 2014; and
3. invite expressions of interest from commercial movie operators with experience in operating outdoor movie festivals in similar venues.

DISCUSSION

Council Officers have researched options regarding the suitability of Johnson Park, the required infrastructure, staff resources etc for the delivery of an outdoor movie event. Below outlines a range of areas for consideration:

Budget

Council Officers have contacted three commercial movie operators who have provided quotations for the delivery of the movie component of the event. Officers would work with other suppliers to provide stalls, seating, security, portaloos etc.

The costs to deliver *Movies in the Park*, based on the draft event plan and budget are as follows:

Expenditure item	Estimate Cost
Production costs (Screen, projector, sound, security, etc)	\$10,200
Staff costs (Additional staff would be required as the events team are working at capacity on the delivery of the Australia Day, International Women's Day and Bairro Português events)	\$4,650
Infrastructure Works and Services Including road closures and waste	\$TBC*
Entertainment (This is the cost of movie license and hire)	\$1,150
Marketing and publicity Local newspaper advertising, flyers, printing etc	\$4,000
Miscellaneous costs DA, catering for SES, Welcome to Country	\$1,600
Total Expenditure	\$21,600

Timing

The Notice of Motion recommends that Council allocate a Sunday afternoon in February 2014 for the event. It should be noted that in February day light saving time is still in place and the film screening would not be able to begin until 8.45pm. It is unlikely that families with school aged children would attend an event that finishes after 10pm on a Sunday evening. Based on this, it is recommended that the event be held the week after daylight saving has ended on Saturday 12 April. The event will start at 5pm with food stalls and light entertainment, the screening of a family movie (G rated) at 7pm, followed by a classic or contemporary movie for teenagers and adults from approximately 8.30pm. The event will need to conclude by 11pm as Johnson Park is located in a residential area.

Movie Selection

The allocated budget of \$1,150 is sufficient to cover the license costs of screening two movies that have been released on DVD, to cater to family and teenage/adult audiences.

Attendance

Given that the proposed event is a new event, and the capacity of Johnson Park is limited, it could be expected that a maximum of 300 people may attend the event (weather permitting).

Stalls and Food

Based on 300 people attending the event, and to ensure the event remains financially viable for stallholders; it is recommended that no more than seven food stalls be invited to participate in the event.

CONCLUSION

The trial *Movies in the Park* event proposed for Saturday 12 April 2014 will give locals an opportunity to engage in different cultural cuisine and enjoy an evening and movie in the park with families and friends, hosted by Marrickville Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Should the event be recommended, a budget adjustment of \$21,600 would be required for the delivery of *Movies in the Park 2014*.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Chief Financial Officer Comments: Unless further funds or savings are identified, the staging of this event will cause Council to move from a budget surplus of \$11,219 to a budget deficit of \$10,381.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Nil

RECOMMENDATION**THAT:**

1. the report be received and noted;
2. Council endorse the trial *Movies in the Park* event for Saturday 12 April 2014; and
3. should the above be endorsed that a budget adjustment of \$21,600 be made for the delivery of the event.

Simone Schwarz
Director, Community Services

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 15

Subject: PERFORMANCE REVIEW PANEL FOR GENERAL MANAGER'S
PERFORMANCE

File Ref: 4717/68249.13

Prepared By: Brian Barrett - General Manager

SYNOPSIS

Council is required to sign a Performance Agreement with the General Manager and subsequently assess the General Manager's performance in an annual review. Guidelines issued by the Department of Local Government recommend the appointment of a Performance Review Panel to undertake these activities.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council nominate a General Manager Performance Review Panel comprising the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, one other Councillor and if the General Manager chooses, a Councillor nominated by the General Manager; and
2. the Mayor, in consultation with the Panel, be authorised to finalise and sign the Performance Agreement with the General Manager for 2013/14 and conduct the annual review for 2012/13.

BACKGROUND

Since mid 2006, all contracts of employment signed by Councils in NSW with their General Managers have been required to be standard contracts issued by the Department of Local Government.

Marrickville Council signed a contract with Brian Barrett, the General Manager, which commenced on 8 May 2013. Under the terms of the standard contract, a performance agreement would normally be signed between Council and the General Manager within 3 months of commencement of the contract and would relate to the financial year in which the appointment was made. As the agreement is to relate to the 2013/14 financial year, it is intended to finalise it before the end of September 2013, i.e.: within 3 months of the commencement of the review period.

A performance agreement must set out the expectations of the General Manager and the means by which performance will be measured.

In July 2011, the Department of Local Government via Circular 11-14 issued Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers. These guidelines are at **ATTACHMENT 1**. The guidelines outline a timetable and process for the review of the General Manager's performance.

CONCLUSION

It is proposed that Council establish a Performance Review Panel as suggested in the guidelines to:

- review the General Manager's performance in 2012/13; and
- finalise the Performance Agreement for 2013/14.

The guidelines suggest that the Panel comprise the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, one Councillor nominated by Council and one Councillor nominated by the General Manager. All Councillors not on the Panel should be given the opportunity to provide feedback to the Mayor on these matters.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Nil.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Nil

RECOMMENDATION**THAT:**

1. Council nominate a General Manager Performance Review Panel comprising the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, one other Councillor and if the General Manager chooses, a Councillor nominated by the General Manager; and
2. the Mayor, in consultation with the Panel, be authorised to finalise and sign the Performance Agreement with the General Manager for 2013/14 and conduct the annual review for 2012/13.

Brian Barrett
General Manager

ATTACHMENTS

1. Circular to Councils 11-14 Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers



Premier & Cabinet
Division of Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular No. 11-14
Date 8 July 2011
Doc ID: A246643

Contact Alice Leslie
02 4428 4222
alice.leslie@dlg.nsw.gov.au

GUIDELINES FOR THE APPOINTMENT AND OVERSIGHT OF GENERAL MANAGERS

The Division of Local Government has issued Guidelines under section 23A of the *Local Government Act 1993* to assist councillors to be aware of their obligations under the Local Government Act, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and the Standard Contract of Employment for General Managers when recruiting, appointing, reappointing and managing the performance of general managers.

The Guidelines, which are designed to provide a summary of essential matters that must be addressed by councils when engaging in these processes, were developed in consultation with the Local Government and Shires Associations, Local Government Managers Australia (NSW) and NSW councils.

As the Guidelines have been issued under section 23A of the Local Government Act, councils must take the Guidelines into consideration when exercising functions related to the recruitment, oversight and performance management of general managers.

The Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers are available on the 'Publications' page of the Division's website at www.dlg.nsw.gov.au.

Ross Woodward
Chief Executive, Local Government
A Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet

Division of Local Government
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GUIDELINES FOR THE APPOINTMENT & OVERSIGHT OF GENERAL MANAGERS

July 2011

These are Director General's Guidelines issued pursuant to section 23A of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

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DEFINITIONS

Code of Meeting Practice means a code of meeting procedure complying with requirements set out in the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*

GIPA means the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*

Integrated Planning and Reporting:

Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines means the Guidelines issued by the Division of Local Government in 2009

Community Strategic Plan as prescribed under the *Local Government Act 1993*

Delivery Program as prescribed under the *Local Government Act 1993*

Operational Plan as prescribed under the *Local Government Act 1993*

Resourcing Strategy as prescribed under the *Local Government Act 1993*

LGSA means the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW

LGMA means Local Government Managers Australia (NSW)

Model Code of Conduct means the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW prescribed by the *Local Government Act 1993*

Ministerial Investment Order means any investment order approved by the Minister for Local Government under the *Local Government Act 1993*

Quarterly Budget Review Statements means the draft Guidelines issued by the Division of Local Government in October 2010

Senior Staff means senior staff as defined by the *Local Government Act 1993*

Standard Contract means the standard form of contract for the employment of the general manager approved by the Director General (or delegate) pursuant to section 338(4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*

Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Tribunal means the Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Tribunal (SOORT) as constituted under the *Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Act 1975*

The Act means the *Local Government Act 1993*

The Regulation means the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*

PURPOSE

The purpose of these Guidelines is to assist councillors to be aware of their obligations under the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (the Regulation) when recruiting, appointing, reappointing and overseeing general managers. It provides a summary of the essential matters that must be addressed by councils when engaging in these processes.

These Guidelines are issued under section 23A of the *Local Government Act 1993* and must be taken into consideration by council's governing body when exercising council functions related to the recruitment, oversight and performance management of general managers.

These Guidelines should be read in conjunction with the following:

- Provisions of the Act and the Regulation 2005
- Local Government General Managers Performance Management Guidelines – LGSA & LGMA
- Practice Note 5: Recruitment of General Managers and Senior Staff – DLG
- The standard form of contract for the employment of the general manager

Any references to sections are references to sections of the Act. Where there are any inconsistencies between these Guidelines and the documents above (with the exception of the Act and Regulation 2005), the Guidelines prevail.

INTRODUCTION

The position of general manager is pivotal in a council. It is the interface between the governing body comprised of elected councillors, which sets the strategy and monitors the performance of the council, and the administrative body of the council, headed by the general manager, which implements the decisions of the governing body. The relationship between the general manager and the councillors is of utmost importance for good governance and a well functioning council.

The Act requires all councils' governing bodies to appoint a person to be general manager (section 334). The Guidelines provide a guide and checklist for councillors to refer to when considering:

- the recruitment and appointment of general managers
- re-appointment of general managers or ending contracts
- conducting performance reviews of general managers, and
- engaging in the day to day oversight of general managers.

They are designed to promote a consistent approach across NSW councils to the recruitment, appointment, and oversight of general managers.

There are appendices to the Guidelines which do not form part of the Guidelines.

These Guidelines were prepared with the assistance of the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW (LGSA) and the Local Government Managers Association (NSW) (LGMA).

A. STAFFING OF COUNCIL

1. Organisation structure

A council should have sufficient and appropriately qualified staff for the efficient and effective delivery of its functions.

The Act requires the governing body of council to determine an organisation structure, the senior staff positions within that structure and the resources to be allocated towards the employment of staff (s332).

When considering the most appropriate organisation structure for council to adopt, the governing body of council needs to consider what human resources are necessary to successfully achieve the goals articulated in the council's Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Resourcing Strategy. For this reason, a Workforce Strategy is an essential component of a council's Resourcing Strategy. A council's organisation structure should align with its Workforce Strategy and be designed to support its Delivery Program and the achievement of its Community Strategic Plan.

The governing body of council must approve and adopt their organisation structure by council resolution. Councils must review and re-determine the council's organisation structure within 12 months of an ordinary election.

Councils may review and re-determine the council's organisation structure at any other time. Generally a council should consider reviewing its organisation structure in the event of a significant change to its Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program or Resourcing Strategy.

Councillors are entitled to access the council's organisation structure when required and upon request to the general manager.

2. Appointment of Staff

The only staff position that is appointed by the governing body of council is that of the general manager. The position of general manager is a senior staff position (s334).

The general manager is responsible for the appointment of all other staff (including senior staff) in accordance with the organisation structure and resources approved by the council's governing body (s335(2)).

However, the general manager may only appoint or dismiss senior staff after consultation with the governing body of council (s337).

B. RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION

1. *Requirements of the Local Government Act 1993*

As with the appointment of all council staff, the council must ensure that the appointment of the general manager is made using merit selection principles (section 349).

Recruitment using merit selection is a competitive process where the applicant who demonstrates that they have the best qualifications and experience relevant to the position is appointed.

Equal Employment Opportunity principles also apply to the recruitment of general managers (sections 349 and 344).

The recruitment process must be open and transparent, but the confidentiality of individual applicants must be maintained. A failure to maintain appropriate confidentiality may constitute a breach of the Act and/or Privacy legislation.

2. *The pre-interview phase*

The council's governing body is responsible for recruiting the general manager.

The governing body of council should delegate the task of recruitment to a selection panel and approve the recruitment process. The panel will report back to the governing body of council on the process and recommend the most meritorious applicant for appointment by the council.

The selection panel should consist of at least the mayor, the deputy mayor, another councillor and, ideally, a suitably qualified person independent of the council. The LGSA and the LGMA can be contacted for assistance to identify suitable independent recruitment committee members and recruitment consultants. The selection panel membership should remain the same throughout the entire recruitment process.

Selection panels must have at least one male and one female member (other than in exceptional circumstances).

The council's governing body should delegate to one person (generally the mayor) the task of ensuring:

- the selection panel is established
- the general manager position description is current and evaluated in terms of salary to reflect the responsibilities of the position
- the proposed salary range reflects the responsibilities and duties of the position
- the position is advertised according to the requirements of the Act
- information packages are prepared
- applicants selected for interview are notified.

The mayor, or another person independent of council staff, should be the contact person for the position and should maintain confidentiality with respect to contact by potential applicants.

3. Interview Phase

Interviews should be held as soon as possible after candidates are short listed.

Questions should be designed to reflect the selection criteria of the position and elicit the suitability of the candidate for the position.

Interviews should be kept confidential.

All written references must be checked.

A selection panel must delegate the task of contacting referees to one panel member. Other panel members should not contact referees.

If contact with someone other than a nominated referee is required, the applicant's permission is to be sought.

At least 2 referees must be contacted and asked questions about the candidate relevant to the selection criteria.

Where tertiary qualifications are relied on they should be produced for inspection and if necessary for verification.

Appropriate background checks must be undertaken, for example bankruptcy checks. For more guidance on better practice recruitment background checks, councils are referred to the Australian Standard AS 4811-2006 *Employment Screening* and ICAC publications, which can be found on the ICAC website at <http://www.icac.nsw.gov.au>.

4. Selection Panel Report

The selection panel is responsible for preparing a report to the council's governing body that:

- outlines the selection process
- recommends the most meritorious applicant with reasons
- recommends an eligibility list if appropriate
- recommends that no appointment is made if the outcome of interviews is that there are no suitable applicants.

This report should be confidential and reported to a closed meeting of council.

The council's governing body must by resolution approve the position of the general manager being offered to the successful candidate before that position is actually offered to that candidate.

5. Finalising the appointment

The mayor makes the offer of employment after the governing body of council has resolved to appoint the successful candidate. The initial offer can be made by telephone.

Conditions such as term of the contract (1-5 years) and remuneration package (within the range approved by the governing body of council) can be discussed by phone, but must be confirmed in writing.

The Standard Contract for the Employment of General Managers as approved by the Chief Executive of the Division of Local Government must be used. The Standard Contract (Annexure 3 of these Guidelines) is available in the 'Information for Councils', 'Directory of Policy Advice for Councils' section of the Division's website at <http://www.dlg.nsw.gov.au>.

The terms of the Standard Contract must not be varied. Only the term and the schedules to the Standard Contract can be individualised.

General managers must be employed for 1 – 5 years.

The contract governs:

- the duties and functions of general managers
- performance agreements
- the process for renewal of employment contracts
- termination of employment and termination payments
- salary increases
- leave entitlements.

It should be noted that the Chief Executive of the Division of Local Government cannot approve individual variations to the standard terms of the contract.

Those candidates who are placed on the eligibility list and unsuccessful applicants should be advised of the outcome of the recruitment process before the successful applicant's details are made public.

6. Record keeping

Councils should keep and store all records created as part of the recruitment process including the advertisement, position description, selection criteria, questions asked at interview, interview panel notes, selection panel reports and notes of any discussions with the selected candidate. These records are required to be stored and disposed of in accordance with the *State Records Act 1998*.

C. ROLE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

Councillors comprise the governing body of a council and make decisions by passing resolutions. It is the general manager's role to implement council decisions and carry out functions imposed by legislation. A council's governing body monitors the implementation of its decisions via reports by the general manager to council meetings.

1. *Key duties of all general managers*

The general manager is generally responsible for the effective and efficient operation of the council's organisation and for ensuring the implementation of the council's decisions without undue delay. The general manager carries out all their functions within the guidelines and policy framework approved by the council.

The general manager also has a role to play in assisting the governing body of council develop its strategic direction. The general manager is responsible for guiding the preparation of the Community Strategic Plan and the council's response to it via the Delivery Program. The general manager is responsible for implementing the Delivery Program and will report to the governing body of council on its progress and conduct regular updates and reviews.

The general manager is responsible for recruiting and appointing staff within the organisation structure determined by the governing body of council. This must be in accordance with the budget approved by the council's governing body and be for the purpose of carrying out the council's statutory functions and implementing council's Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

The general manager must consult with the governing body of council before appointing or dismissing senior staff. The general manager must report to the council at least annually on the contractual conditions of senior staff (cl.217 of the Regulation).

The general manager is responsible for performance management of staff, including staff discipline and dismissal.

The general manager is also responsible for ensuring councillors are provided with information and the advice they require in order to make informed decisions and to carry out their civic duties.

The governing body of council may direct the general manager to provide councillors with advice or a recommendation, but cannot direct as to the content of that advice or recommendation.

Generally, requests by councillors for assistance or information should go through the general manager, except where he or she has authorised another council officer to undertake this role. The Guidelines for the Model Code of Conduct contemplate that a council should develop a policy to provide guidance on interactions between council officials. This policy should be agreed to by both the council's governing body and the general manager.

Councillors could reasonably expect general managers will report routinely on significant industrial issues and/or litigation affecting the council, particularly those that impact on the council's budget or organisation structure.

The general manager should ensure that the council meeting business papers are sufficient to enable the council to make informed decisions, as well as to allow councillors to properly monitor and review the operations of the council. This will assist councils in ensuring that they are complying with any relevant statutory obligations, keeping within the budget approved by the council and achieving the strategic goals set by the council in its Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

Councillors should receive a number of financial reports during the year, including the Quarterly Budget Review Statements included in the Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting and which are referred to in the draft Quarterly Budget Review Statements Guidelines, reports required by the Regulation and any legislation. In addition, the council should receive at least quarterly a report about any significant litigation affecting the council.

Councillors should also receive reports, at least half yearly, on progress towards implementation of the Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program (see clause 203 of the Regulation or page 20 of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines).

Clause 10 of the Model Code of Conduct sets out the obligations on general managers and council staff to provide councillors with information in order for councillors to carry out their civic functions.

Councillors have a right to sufficient information to make informed decisions. Applications for information under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act* 2009 (GIPAA) are available to everyone including councillors.

2. Duties delegated to general managers

A governing body of council may delegate certain functions to the general manager. A delegation of a council function must be made by a council resolution (Chapter 12 Part 3 ss 377-381 of the Act).

A governing body of council cannot delegate the functions set out in section 377(1) of the Act.

A council's governing body may not delegate the adoption of a Code of Meeting Practice, a Code of Conduct, or the endorsement of Community Strategic Plans, Resourcing Strategies, Delivery Programs and Operational Plans.

Each governing body of council must review its delegation of functions during the first 12 months of each term of office (s.380). To assist with this review, it is recommended that, within the first 6 months of the new term, the governing body of council reviews what functions have been delegated and to whom they have been delegated to determine if the delegation and the policies guiding those delegated decisions have been working effectively.

It should be noted that the general manager may sub-delegate a function delegated to him/her by the governing body of council (s378). However, the general manager still retains responsibility to ensure that any sub-delegated function is carried out appropriately.

Where functions are delegated to the general manager to perform on behalf of a governing body of council, it is important for the governing body of council to ensure there are policies in place to guide the decision making. The governing body of council should keep policies guiding the delegated decisions under regular review.

For example, where media liaison is delegated to the general manager, the governing body of council should adopt a media policy to guide statements to the media.

It is important that council's governing body ensure that proper records are kept of applications that are determined under delegation and that there is regular reporting on the implementation of delegated functions. This is essential so that council's governing body can be provided with assurance that the delegated function is being undertaken in accordance with any relevant council policies and regulatory framework, eg, development application decisions.

The council's internal audit function is another important internal control to ensure that delegated functions are complying with relevant policy and legislation. A well designed internal audit program should give council independent assurance that council's internal controls are working effectively.

Where authority to make a decision is delegated this does not remove a council's authority to make a decision.

Matters that fall outside the terms of a council policy, delegation, or day to day management (section 335), should be referred to the governing body of council for a decision.

D. DAY-TO-DAY OVERSIGHT AND LIAISON WITH THE GENERAL MANAGER

Council's governing body is required to monitor and review the performance of the general manager as discussed in Section C, above. However, a council's governing body should delegate to the mayor the role of day-to-day oversight of and liaison with the general manager.

The mayor's role in the day-to-day management of the general manager should include:

- approving leave
- approving expenses incurred
- managing complaints about the general manager.

The council's governing body should ensure there are adequate and appropriate policies in place to guide the mayor in the day-to-day oversight of and liaison with the general manager and keep those policies under regular review.

Some of the key policies the governing body of council should have in place relate to:

- leave
- travel
- credit cards
- purchasing and procurement
- expenses and facilities
- petty cash
- financial and non-financial delegations of authority.

The governing body of council should also ensure there are adequate policies in place with respect to expenditure of council funds, as well as adequate reporting requirements in relation to that expenditure.

The council's governing body should satisfy itself that any policy governing the conferral of a benefit on the general manager, such as use of a motor vehicle, allows the actual dollar value of that benefit to be quantified so it can be accurately reflected in the general manager's salary package in Schedule C to the Standard Contract.

Within 6 months of the date of these Guidelines, council's governing body should check to ensure these key policies are in place. They should then be kept under regular review.

E. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

1. General manager performance management framework

The general manager is made accountable to their council principally through their contract of employment.

The role of the governing body is to oversee the general manager's performance in accordance with the Standard Contract.

The performance of the general manager must be reviewed at least annually against the agreed performance criteria for the position. Council may also choose to undertake more frequent interim reviews of the general manager's performance.

The agreed performance criteria are set out in an agreement that is signed within three months of the commencement of the contract. Development of the performance agreement is discussed below.

2. Establishing the framework for performance management

The council's governing body is to establish a performance review panel and delegate the task of performance reviews of the general manager to this panel. The extent of the delegation should be clear.

It is recommended that the whole process of performance management be delegated to the performance review panel, including discussions about performance, any actions that should be taken and the determination of the new performance agreement.

Performance review panels should comprise the mayor, the deputy mayor, another councillor nominated by council and a councillor nominated by the general manager. The council's governing body may also consider including an independent observer on the panel. Panel members should be trained in the performance management of general managers.

The role of the review panel includes:

- conducting performance reviews
- reporting the findings and recommendations of those reviews to council
- development of the performance agreement.

The governing body of council and the general manager may agree on the involvement of an external facilitator to assist with the process of performance appraisal and the development of new performance plans. This person should be selected by the governing body of council or the performance review panel. The LGSA and the LGMA can be contacted for assistance to identify suitable independent facilitators to assist in the performance management process.

All councillors not on the panel can contribute to the process by providing feedback to the mayor on the general manager's performance.

All councillors should be notified of relevant dates in the performance review cycle and be kept advised of the panel's findings and recommendations.

The panel should report back to the governing body of council in a closed session the findings and recommendations of its performance review as soon as practicable following any performance review. This should not be an opportunity to debate the results or re-enact the performance review of the general manager. The general manager should not be present when the matter is considered.

The performance management report of any council staff member, including the general manager, should not be released to the public and should be retained on the appropriate confidential council employment file. Release of such personal information to other than the Performance Review Panel, the general manager and the councillors in confidence may be a breach of privacy legislation.

3. *Establishing the performance agreement*

The performance agreement is the most important component of successful performance management. The performance agreement should include clearly defined and measurable performance indicators against which the general manager's performance can be measured.

As one of the general manager's key responsibilities is to oversee the implementation of council's strategic direction, it is important to align the general manager's performance criteria to the goals contained in the council's Community Strategic Plan, Resourcing Strategy, Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

The performance agreement should also include the general manager's personal contribution to the council's key achievements and the general manager's core capabilities, including leadership qualities.

The performance agreement should contain but not be limited to key indicators that measure how well the general manager has met the council's expectations with respect to:

- service delivery targets from the council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan;
- budget compliance;
- organisational capability;
- timeliness and accuracy of information and advice to councillors;
- timely implementation of council resolutions;
- management of organisational risks;
- leadership etc.

4. *Performance Review Process*

The Standard Contract requires that the performance of the general manager must be formally reviewed at least annually. The governing body of council may also undertake interim performance reviews as appropriate.

The assessment should include:

- self assessment by the general manager
- assessment by the review panel of the general manager's performance against the performance agreement.

The performance review meeting should be scheduled with sufficient notice to all parties and in accordance with clauses 7.6 and 7.7 of the Standard Contract.

The meeting should concentrate on constructive dialogue about the general manager's performance against all sections of the agreed performance plan.

The meeting should identify any areas of concern and agree actions to address those concerns.

In undertaking any performance review, care must be taken to ensure that the review is conducted fairly and in accordance with the principles of natural justice and that the laws and principles of anti-discrimination are complied with. The

appointment by a council, in agreement with the general manager, of an external facilitator (see above) to advise on the process should assist council in complying with these laws and principles.

The council's governing body must advise the general manager, in writing, in clear terms, the outcome of any performance review.

The new performance agreement for the next period should be prepared as soon as possible after the completion of the previous period. The agreement should be presented to the governing body of council for discussion in a closed meeting together with the outcomes of the previous review period.

5. Contract Renewal or Separation

It is important that any decision by the governing body of council to renew a contract for the general manager and the term of that contract be reported back to an open meeting of council, together with the total amount of any salary package agreed to.

Termination of a contract on the basis of poor performance can only occur where there has been a formal review undertaken against the signed performance agreement where performance difficulties were identified and have not subsequently been remedied. For further discussion on separation or renewal of general managers' contracts, see section F, below.

6. Reward and Remuneration

An annual increase in the salary package, equivalent to the latest percentage increase in remuneration for senior executive office holders as determined by the Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Tribunal, is available to the general manager under the Standard Contract on each anniversary of the contract.

Discretionary increases to the general manager's total remuneration package under the provisions of the Standard Contract may only occur after a formal review of the general manager's performance has been undertaken by the governing body of council and the governing body of council resolves to grant such a discretionary increase because of better than satisfactory performance.

Discretionary increases are intended to be an incentive for general managers to perform at their maximum throughout the life of the contract. Discretionary increases are also intended to encourage contracts of the maximum duration.

Any discretionary increases should be modest and in line with community expectations.

All discretionary increases in remuneration, together with the reasons for the increase, must be reported to an open meeting of council.

F. SEPARATION OR RENEWAL

1. *Termination of a general manager's employment*

The Standard Contract for general managers sets out how a general manager's contract can be terminated before its expiry date by either the governing body of council or the general manager (clause 10 of the Standard Contract).

Termination can be by agreement of both parties. The general manager may terminate the contract by giving 4 weeks written notice to the governing body of council.

A governing body of council may terminate the contract by giving 4 weeks written notice where the general manager has become incapacitated for 12 weeks or more, has exhausted their sick leave and the duration of the incapacity is either indefinite or for a period that would make it unreasonable for the contract to be continued.

Termination of a contract on the basis of poor performance may only occur where there has been a formal review undertaken against the signed performance agreement, where performance difficulties have been identified and have not been remedied as agreed. In these instances, the council must give the general manager either 13 weeks written notice of termination or termination payment in lieu of notice calculated in accordance with Schedule C of the Standard Contract.

A governing body of council may terminate the general manager's contract at any time by giving the general manager 38 weeks written notice or pay the general manager a lump sum of 38 weeks remuneration in accordance with Schedule C of the Standard Contract. If there are less than 38 weeks left to run in the term of the general manager's contract, a council can pay out the balance of the contract in lieu of notice.

In the circumstances set out at 10.4 of the Standard Contract, a council may summarily dismiss a general manager. The remuneration arrangements under these circumstances are set out in clause 11.4 of the Standard Contract.

Section 336 (2) of the Act sets out other circumstances where a general manager's appointment is automatically terminated.

2. *Suspension of General Manager*

The governing body of council may suspend the general manager. However, great caution should be exercised when considering such a course of action and it would be appropriate for a governing body of council to seek and be guided by expert advice from a person or organisation that is suitably qualified and experienced in such matters. The governing body may authorise the Mayor to obtain such expert advice.

Suspension should be on full pay for a clearly defined period.

Any decision to suspend a general manager should be taken by a governing body of council at a closed council meeting, having first carefully considered any independent expert advice obtained on the specific matter.

It would not be appropriate to seek advice from council human resources staff on the issue of suspending the general manager.

The principals of natural justice and procedural fairness apply to any decision to suspend a general manager, ie, the general manager must be advised of the circumstances leading to the suspension, the reasons for the suspension, the period of the suspension and be given a right to respond to the decision to suspend.

3. *Dispute resolution*

The Standard Contract contains a dispute resolution clause at clause 17.

These provisions are designed to encourage councils and general managers to attempt to negotiate agreement on disputes where they arise.

The governing body of council should ideally resolve to delegate this function to the mayor or a panel of 3 councillors including the mayor.

If the dispute involves the mayor then the deputy mayor should take the mayor's place. If there is no deputy mayor then the governing body should resolve to appoint another councillor to take the mayor's place.

The governing body of council and general manager should agree on an independent mediator to mediate the dispute. The LGSA and LGMA can provide assistance to their members to identify a suitable mediator.

The Standard Contract allows the Chief Executive of the Division of Local Government to appoint a mediator where the parties cannot agree on one.

4. *Renewing a general manager's contract*

Clause 5 of the Standard Contract describes how a general manager's appointment may be renewed.

The terms of the new contract, and in particular the schedules to the new contract, should be set out in the letter of offer. Before offering a new contract, the council should carefully review the terms of the schedules to the new contract.

The governing body of council should ensure that the performance management terms of the new contract adequately reflect its expectations as to the general manager's performance.

The governing body of council should also have regard to the previous performance reviews conducted under previous contracts.

The process of deciding whether or not to offer a general manager a new contract should be that:

- a performance review is conducted
- findings and recommendations are reported to a closed council meeting in the absence of the general manager
- the closed meeting considers and decides whether or not to offer a new contract and on what terms as set out in the schedules to the contract
- the general manager is then advised of the governing body of council's decision in confidence by the mayor.

Details of the decision to offer a new contract and a salary package should be reported to an open council meeting.

Appendix 1 - Performance Management Timelines

Timeline	Activity	Responsibility
At commencement of each new council	Provide induction training on performance management of the general manager	Council
Within 3 months of the commencement date of the contract	A performance agreement setting out agreed performance criteria must be signed between the general manager and the council	Council or council panel General Manager
Within 2 months of the signing of the performance agreement	The general manager must prepare and submit to council an action plan which sets out how the performance criteria are to be met	General Manager
21 days notice (before annual review)	The general manager gives the council written notice that an annual performance review is due	General Manager
At least 10 days notice	The council must give the general manager written notice that any performance review is to be conducted	Council or council panel
After 6 months	The council may also decide, with the agreement of the general manager, to provide interim feedback to the general manager midway through the annual review period	Council or council panel General Manager
Prior to the annual review	Ensure all councillors on the Review Panel have been trained in performance management of general managers	Council
Prior to the annual performance review	The general manager may submit to council a self assessment of his/her performance	General Manager
Annually	The general manager's performance must be reviewed having regard to the performance criteria in the agreement	Council or council panel General Manager
Annually	The performance agreement must be reviewed and varied by agreement	Council or council panel General Manager
Within 6 weeks of the conclusion of the performance review	Council will prepare and send to the general manager a written statement with council's conclusions on the general manager's performance during the performance review period	Council or council panel
As soon as possible after receipt of the statement	The general manager and the council will agree on any variation to the performance agreement for the next period of review	Council or council panel General Manager

Appendix 2 - Stages of performance management

STAGE	ACTION	PROCESS
1. Developing performance agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the position description and contract List all position responsibilities from the position description Identify stakeholder expectations List the key strategic objectives from the Service Delivery and Operational Plans Develop performance measures (identify indicators - set standards) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good planning Direct and effective communication Open negotiation Joint goal setting
2. Action planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop specific strategies to meet strategic objectives Identify resources Delegate tasks (eg, put these delegated tasks into the performance agreements for other senior staff) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed analysis Two way communication Detailed documentation
3. Monitoring progress (feedback half way through the review period)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess performance Give constructive feedback Adjust priorities and reset performance measures if appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication Avoid bias Counselling Coaching Joint problem solving
4. Annual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess performance against measures Give constructive feedback Identify poor performance and necessary corrective action Identify outstanding performance and show appreciation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation of the reasons behind performance being as assessed Open, straightforward communication (as bias free as possible) negotiation Counselling, support, training Documenting Decision making
5. Developing revised agreement	See stage 1	See Stage 1

Item No: C0913 Item 16
Subject: STATUS UPDATE - RESOLUTIONS OF COUNCIL
File Ref: 4717/66562.13

Prepared By: Asher Richardson - Business Paper Coordinator

SYNOPSIS

This report updates Councillors on the status of reports requested by Councillors; Questions on Notice and actions arising from Mayoral Minutes and Councillor Notice of Motions.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received and noted.

DISCUSSION

This report updates Councillors on the status of reports requested by Councillors; Questions on Notice and actions arising from Mayoral Minutes and Councillor Notice of Motions (refer to **ATTACHMENT 1**).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Relevant officers have provided status updates for items within their responsibility.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received and noted.

Justin Fitzpatrick-Barr
A/Director, Corporate Services

ATTACHMENTS

1. Status Updates - Resolutions of Council - September Update

STATUS UPDATES - RESOLUTIONS OF COUNCIL 2013 – Updated 4 September 2013

Status of Reports Presented to Council:

Item Number	Action	Responsibility	Status	Comments
C0213 Item 4 Marrickville Community Fund – Sub fund of the Sydney Community Foundation	THAT this item be deferred to enable the Marrickville Community Fund to continue the relevant conversations with Councillors and Council officers and provide a report to Council.	Community Development	Ongoing	Meeting held on 14 June 2013. Cheque issued for 2012/13 year for \$5,000. No further update to date.
C0213 Item 6 Jack Shanahan Reserve Upgrade Concept Plan	THAT Council: 1. endorse the Jack Shanahan Reserve Upgrade Concept Plan as the basis for detailed design and tender; and 2. undertake further community engagement regarding possible conversion of the tennis court to a multiuse court for tennis, basketball and other uses; and 3. continues to strongly pursue the incorporation of the disused rail corridor into Jack Shanahan Reserve, due to this corridor's importance as the designated southern starting point of the Cooks River to Sydney Harbour GreenWay off-road trail.	Investigation and Design	Ongoing	1. Negotiations with preferred tenderer to be undertaken as per Council resolution 2. Community engagement completed; 3. Discussions are planned to take place with RailCorp, as owners of the corridor, and land occupied by JSR, regarding lease of JSR land to Council. The matter of incorporating land within the disused railway corridor into this lease to Council will be discussed initially at this time.

C0313 Item 4 Code of Conduct Complaint – Councillor Phillips – Report from Single Reviewer	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. receives and notes the report from Ms Kathy Thane attached at ATTACHMENT 1; 2. makes findings of misconduct against Councillor Max Phillips for the breach of clauses 6.1, 6.8, 10.9(d), 10.10 and 10.11 (a), (b), (c), (e) and (g) of the Code of Conduct for Councillors for the reasons outlined in the report of the Conduct reviewer Ms Kathy Thane; 3. require Councillor Phillips to apologise to Council and Meriton unreservedly for his actions; 4. proposes to pass a motion that Councillor Phillips be censured for misconduct at the next meeting of Council, pursuant to the requisite notice being provided under the Code of Meeting Practice; 5. officers prepare policies and procedures for conveying and dealing with information that is intended to be confidential; 6. officers facilitate Code of Conduct refresher training for Councillors; and 7. resolves to refer Council's findings of misconduct by Councillor Phillips to the Director General of the Division of Local Government. 	Governance and Risk	Ongoing	<p>The motion to censure Cllr Phillips was passed at the Council Meeting 16 April 2013.</p> <p>Procedures for conveying and dealing with confidential information have been prepared incorporating the guidelines issued by the DLG. A report on the guidelines was considered at the May Council Meeting.</p> <p>Code of Conduct refresher training was scheduled for Councillors on Tuesday 28 May 2013. The Code of Conduct training is still to be rescheduled.</p> <p>Council's findings of misconduct have been referred to the DLG. At the time of writing, a response had not yet been received.</p>
C0313 Item 9 Children and Family Services Management Review and Recommendations	<p>THAT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the Council resolves that ATTACHMENTS 2 and 3 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential; 2. Council adopts the recommendations contained in <u>CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENTS 2 and 3</u> with the following amendments: <p>remove points 7 and 8 contained in the <u>CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENTS 2 and 3</u> and replace with the following:</p> <p>THAT the option of any changes or proposals of the Camdenville Vacation Care service be investigated and a detailed report be provided to the Council that includes utilisation data, findings, financial assessment and parent consultation outcomes, for a Council decision.</p>	Children and Family Services	Ongoing	<p>Recruitment continuing. Deferred report on Camdenville Vacation Care pending review of utilisation data and outcomes of summer vacation care parent survey to be undertaken in September 2013.</p>

Recommendation as recorded in Minutes of the meeting.	Planning Services	Ongoing	Planning Proposal being prepared for submission to Department of Planning & Infrastructure. Awaiting gazettal of Amendment No.1 prior to submission for administrative reasons.
C0413 Item 3 Draft Amendment No. 2 – Marrickville LEP 2011 and Marrickville DCP 2011	Property Services	Complete	EOI 502/13 is currently being advertised, closing 18 September 2013
C0413 Item 8 Chester Street Car Park, Petersham	Community Development	Ongoing	Community Development is liaising with other relevant sections of Council to progress this smoothly. An interim web page has been set up in 'Get Involved' for residents to register interest. Currently there are ten registrations of interest. IT are progressing the development of the online form. This is due to be available at the end of September.
C0413 Item 10 Marrickville Street Parties	Finance	Ongoing	An investigation will be conducted to determine how Council can proceed to sell the Edwin Street and Anderton Street properties. Investigations may be lengthy as the owners of the properties have been deceased for a long period of time.

C0513 Item 5 Affordable Housing Committee – of Terms Reference	<p>THAT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the Affordable Housing Committee minutes and papers be adopted; the revised Terms of Reference be adopted; Council accepts the following as interim members of the Affordable Housing Committee: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jon Atkins; Trina Day; Dr Hazel Blunden; Julia Murray; Julie Harrison; and Laurie Besant. Council considers the Affordable Housing Committee recommendations in relation to use of the old Marrickville Hospital site: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> that community consultation regarding the use of the site be undertaken; that community consultation be undertaken regarding the inclusion of affordable housing in plans for the site; and that the resolutions of Council in relation to this matter should be addressed first and foremost. Council considers the recommendation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> that a working group be set up to organise a workshop for housing providers and other interested parties and establish criteria for Affordable Housing in the Marrickville Hospital Site EOI; and that the Committee meet again in four weeks and hold a workshop on the Marrickville Hospital Site EOI in 6 weeks for housing providers and other interested parties; and seek changes to state planning legislation to permit the incorporation of affordable housing provisions in Council's planning strategies through a standard provision for affordable housing included in the Standard Instrument LEP. 	Community Development	Ongoing	<p>The Affordable Housing Committee met for a third and fourth time on 1 July 2013 and 27 August 2013.</p> <p>The Committee have made recommendations in regards to the criteria to be included in the EIO for the Marrickville Hospital Site – these were adopted by Council at its meeting on 16 July 2013. Criteria are based on consideration of other affordable housing projects and the Phibbs/Lawler report on the concepts of community land trusts and shared equity that might assist in achieving a higher level of affordable housing on the site.</p> <p>The committee is continuing to consider ways of communicating the need for affordable housing in Marrickville, and ways of communicating with community housing providers in regard to the Marrickville Hospital Site.</p>
C0513 Item 6 Camdenville Park BMX Track	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> receive and note the report; allocate \$50,000 in a future Capital Budget for the design and construction of Option 2 in the report of the BMX 'pump' track at Camdenville Park and note that this estimate is preliminary, it excludes remediation costs if found to be necessary, and does not allow for any ancillary facilities; and note the need to increase the Parks Maintenance budget by \$5,000 p.a. to provide for mowing and maintenance of the BMX track. <p>THAT Council recommit Item 6 to enable consideration of the preferred option for construction of the BMX track as follows: 'Option 2' – Expedite BMX track to be incorporated into the resolution.</p>	Investigation and Design	Ongoing	Project being developed as part of 2013/14 program

EC0613 Item 3 Marrickville SES Budget Review	<p>THAT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Council reconsider the method of disposal of SES vehicles and offer all three vehicles as gifts to NSW SES at no cost; 2 Council contribute \$30,000 p.a. indexed, to the local Marrickville SES to fund additional expenditure as outlined on page 3 of its draft 2013/2014 Operating Budget; and 3 Council make an annual allocation into a reserve account of \$69,976 p.a. for the provision of building maintenance for the proposed new SES building. 	Infrastructure Planning	Complete	<p>SES Advised of resolution. Roads & Maritime Services advised that ownership of the 3 SES trucks (BP76BA, AH91MM & AH94MM) has been transferred to the SES on 1st September 2013 and the fuel cards cancelled.</p> <p>Payment of Council's contribution to the local Marrickville SES to fund additional expenditure currently being arranged.</p>
C0713 Item 4 Affordable Housing Committee	Recommendation as recorded in Minutes of the meeting.	Community Development	Ongoing	<p>Council Officers are progressing with this action.</p>
C0713 Item 22 Marrickville Hospital Site redevelopment and Community Hub – Progress report	Recommendation as recorded in Minutes of the meeting.	Major Projects	Ongoing	<p>No further update to date.</p> <p>Council at its meeting of 4 December 2012 directed that Expressions of Interest (EOI) from the development industry be obtained to “unlock” the value of the site to assist with funding of the Community Hub. A further report was provided to the July 2013 meeting of Council. It is expected that the EOIs will be obtained before the end of 2013</p>

IP0713 Item 3 Marrickville Cooks River Committee recommendatio n that Kendrick Park be nominated a potential safe swimming site	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. note the minutes of the 27 May 2013 MCRC meeting; 2. gives in principle support to the nomination of Kendrick Park as a potential, future safe swimming site on the Cooks River; and 3. requests that officers prepare a report on the necessary steps and associated costs of progressing this option. 	Environmental Services	Ongoing	Meeting held with NSW Health Water Unit on 31 July. Report is being prepared with input from officers across Council and relevant agencies. Awaiting advice from Beachwatch on water quality issues.
C0813 Item 3 Review of NSW Government Funding for Long Day Care Services	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. writes to the Minister for Education, The Hon. Adrian Piccoli, and to the General Manager of Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate at the NSW Department of Education and Communities to express its grave concerns regarding the impacts of proposed funding changes on access by Marrickville families to quality, affordable child care services; and seeks a commitment from the Minister that no services will receive less funding as a result of the proposed new funding models. 2. expresses its concerns regarding proposed changes to the funding models for NSW community-based and local government operated preschools and long day care services and supports participation in a campaign and Day of Action on 29 August that outlines the need for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • greater investment in NSW education and care services as recommended by the recent Brennan Review; • all 3 year old children to continue to be able to access funded early education; and • no funding cuts to any community-based preschool or long day care service. 3. consults with parent users and those on the early childhood wait list in regard to the possible impacts on affordability and access to Council's preschool and long day care services from 2014. 	Children and Family Services	Ongoing	<p>Council officers are progressing this action.</p> <p>No further update to date.</p>

C0813 Item 7 Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre Café Tender	<p>THAT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the report be received and noted; and Council resolves to negotiate directly with suitable operators for a lease for the management and operation of the Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre Café, due to the failure to attract any response to the tender process and enable direct consultation with prospective operators. 	Culture and Recreations Services	Ongoing	Negotiations with suitable operators have commenced.
C0813 Item 8 Winged Victory Statue	<p>THAT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the report be received and noted; Council keep the statue at the depot and resolve to store the statue indefinitely or until a suitable location within the LGA for display is found; Council endorse the draft Expression of Interest that a representation be made of Winged Victory so that it can be cast in bronze and placed on a plinth outside Marrickville Town Hall and that attribution be given to Gilbert Doble and Dr Alex Kolozsy. Council endorse a budget adjustment of \$35,000 for the restoration of War Memorial Base Pedestal and Column Remain. 	Culture and Recreations Services	Ongoing	The Expression of Interest for a new Winged Victory will open at the end of September.
C0813 Item 10 Arlington Reserve Working Group Update	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> put the following messages on the Council website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arlington Reserve Working Group in favour of the community playing formal and informal sport; Arlington Reserve Working Group support the current Plan of Management; Arlington Reserve Working Group agree on constraints provided by the current Development Consent; the Arlington kiosk is open for residents and community use is welcomed; and investigate the purchase and installation of a noticeboard displaying upcoming fixtures to be managed by the Clubs. 	Culture and Recreations Services	Ongoing	<p>Messages are on Council's website.</p> <p>Noticeboard purchase is being investigated.</p>
C0813 Item 36 Advertising Billboards at Tempe	Council officers prepare and lodge a Development Application to install advertising billboards on an area of Council land currently leased to Tyne Containers Pty Ltd	Property Services	Ongoing	Council officers are progressing this action.
C0813 Item 37 Integrated Land and Property Strategy Car Parks	Adopt the recommendations contained in <u>CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1</u>	Major Projects	Ongoing	<p>No further update to date.</p> <p>Confidential resolution is being actioned.</p>

Status of Implementation of Actions Arising from Mayoral Minutes:

Item Number	Action	Responsibility	Status	Comments
C0213 Item 29 Recreation Facilities for Older Youth	THAT Council officers prepare a report on the options to develop cultural and sporting facilities for older youth, in line with the adopted recommendations in the Recreation Needs Research – Strategic Directions for Marrickville report.	Culture and Recreation Services	Ongoing	Actions for the implementation of the findings of the Recreation Needs Research (including youth needs) are contained in the draft Recreation Policy and Strategy which recently came off public exhibition and was approved at the Community Services meeting 2 July 2013. The implementation plan is currently under development and relevant items will be reported back to council.
C0413 Item 1 Mayoral Minute: Parks Toilets Strategy	THAT Officers develop a Public Toilets Strategy for Council's Open Space in time for the findings to be considered as part of the development of the 2014/15 Budget.	Culture and Recreation Services	Ongoing	Strategy to be commenced in new financial year with the appointment of new Recreation Planner. Currently in process of recruiting for the recreation planner.
C0513 Item 28 Mayoral Minute Revisit Options for a Child Care Centre at Debbie and Abbey Borgia Community Recreation Centre	THAT Council: 1. request a further report on the option of co-locating a child care facility at the Debbie and Abbey Borgia Community Recreation Centre, including budget implications; and 2. revisit the option of co-locating a child care facility at the Debbie and Abbey Borgia Community Recreation Centre.	Major Projects	Ongoing	Initial site visit planned to identify possible location and size of suitable site. Revisit and review any previous plans for a child care centre at the DAB and if not previously done then develop concept plans for a centre on site. Report providing progress on this proposal will be submitted to August Council meeting. Quotations are being obtained to appoint consultants to prepare an Accommodation Schedule and a plan of the preferred Centre with the aim of providing a report to Council in October 2013.

C0813 Item 1 Mayoral Minute: Operational Budget – Capital Projects	THAT Council change its future Capital Budgets to provide a total budget allocation at the Activity level, supported by a list of projects to be undertaken in the Operational and Delivery Plan Budgets but with no individual project allocation for a twelve month trial period.	Finance	Complete	To be incorporated into 2014/15 Budget.
C0813 Item 2 Mayoral Minute: Save our Treescape Amenity	THAT Council write to Ausgrid seeking: 1. installation of Aerial Bundled Cable (ABC) to minimise the adverse impact of pruning on trees; 2. confirmation that pruning by contractors would be undertaken within acceptable standards that properly accounted for the potential adverse impacts of overpruning.	Investigation & Design	Ongoing	Submission to Ausgrid is currently being prepared.
C0813 Item 38 Mayoral Minute: Removal of Street Tree, 5 Day Street, Marrickville	THAT the street tree fronting 5 Day Street be removed and replaced with a more suitable species for the location.	Investigation & Design	Ongoing	Work is currently being programmed.

Status of Implementation of Actions Arising from Councillor Notice of Motions:

Item Number	Action	Community Development	Status	Comments
C0213 Item 15 Community Transport for Elderly Residents	<p>THAT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council's Strategic Transport Planner, in consultation with the Seniors Reference Group, prepare a report with data to support the case for the re-routing of the 418 or 348 bus route to provide direct access to Marrickville metro for residents of Sydenham, Tempe and St Peters. 2. The report shall cover, inter alia, gaps in coverage of existing services, possible routes, frequency and other appropriate issues to support the case for a proposed re-routing of the 418 or 348 bus routes. 3. Council's strategic Transport Planner, in consultation with the Seniors Reference Group, use the report to lobby Sydney buses to achieve a suitable re-routing. 4. Funding to implement this motion (if required) be sourced from within existing budget allocations. 	Community Development	Ongoing	<p>Initial discussions with TfNSW (Buses) have taken place and a further meeting has been requested. This is still to occur.</p> <p>It should be noted that there may be alternative routes to the 418/348 that could be rerouted – all options will be considered as part of this investigation.</p> <p>Leichhardt Community Transport are operating a weekly service for eligible seniors to Marrickville Metro, they are currently transporting about 8 on the non pension week and about 12 on the pension week and have capacity for more.</p>
C0213 Item 16 Planned Works for the Administration Centre Upgrade	THAT the refurbishment of the Information and Communications Technology Section be completed as a matter of priority.	Major Projects	Ongoing	IT is currently requesting quotations for the supply and installation of new server equipment. When the type of equipment is confirmed, the new server room will be constructed which will free up additional space that will be refurbished to provide an expanded area for IT. Construction work for the new server room has commenced.

Item Number	Action	Culture Recreation Services	Status	Comments
C0313 Item 5 Supporting Live Music	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> reiterates its commitment to the local live music industry, to music venue operators, performers and entrepreneurs and to community music groups, and notes the contribution they make to keeping our community lively and diverse; recognises that a diversity of venues, performance and rehearsal spaces is vital to support new artists and art forms; nominates a member of staff and Councillor Haylen to the City of Sydney Live Music Taskforce and notes the key role this taskforce plays in the development of uniform live music friendly policies across the inner city; officers prepare a report for the next Council meeting proposing measures for supporting the growth and diversity of live music and small bars and restaurants, underage live music venues and facilities for rehearsal purposes which can be incorporated into Council's development controls, community and cultural plan and events program; and publicises its commitment to convene a consultation meeting of local music venue operators, performers, entrepreneurs involved in the live music industry and non-profit community music ventures request their input into the taskforce. 	Culture Recreation Services	Ongoing	<p>Council officers provided feedback to the City of Sydney's Confidential Draft Report at the end of August. Officers currently awaiting further draft report for comment.</p> <p>Council Officer's requested that Marrickville be represented by the City when making representation to appropriate industry bodies.</p>
C0413 Item 14 Community Request for Park – High Street and Ruby Street, Marrickville	<p>THAT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Council endorse the removal of the road reservation from land at the southern end of High Street linking to Ruby Street, Marrickville and directs council's officers to take all necessary steps including consultation with local residents to bring this decision into effect; with the lifting of the road reservation the land be declared Community Land in terms of the Local Government Act and managed as a park in consultation with local residents to enhance the amenity of the local area; and consultation is undertaken with residents of Ruby, High, Junction and Ivanhoe Streets for an appropriate name for the new park and development of a Plan of Management. 	Infrastructure Planning	Ongoing	<p>A road closure process has been commenced for that portion of High Street adjacent to Ruby Street.</p> <p>A report was presented to the Infrastructure, Planning and Environmental Services Committee Meeting on 3 September 2013</p>

Item Number	Action	Responsibility	Status	Comments
C0413 Item 15 Dulwich Hill Train Station Precinct	<p>THAT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council Officers prepare a report on revitalising the Dulwich Hill Train Station Precinct; 2. the revitalisation include replacing cement footpath with paving, new garden beds and a sign posting similar to the entrance to Norton Street, Leichhardt from Parramatta Road; 3. Council write to the Minister for Transport asking for a lift to be built to allow disabled access to Dulwich Hill Station. This will compliment the disabled access currently being built for the Light Rail Interchange; 4. the footpath and fence between Riverside Crescent and the Cooks River Bridge on Wardell Road be cleaned up to allow greater access to pedestrians as the vine on the fence is overgrown; 5. Council report back with a time frame of the project completion, cost, and funding options for the 2014/2015 budget allocation; 6. Council consult with local main street and surrounding residents on design upgrade; and 7. on-street access to the light rail stop with regard to the gradient in the hill be considered in any streetscape improvement. 	Infrastructure Planning	Complete	The report was presented at the Infrastructure, Planning and Environmental Services Committee Meeting on 3 September 2013
C0413 Item 18 Movies in the Park with a Food Festival Twist	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. prepare a report for the establishment of a trial 'Movie in the Park' at Johnson Park with a food market night theme; 2. allocate a Sunday afternoon in February 2014; and 3. invite expressions of interest from commercial movie operators with experience in operating outdoor movie festivals in similar venues. 	Culture and Recreation	Ongoing	<p>A report detailing considerations and costs is on the agenda for the September Council Meeting.</p> <p>Meeting scheduled for beginning of September to discuss with Cllr Tsardoulas.</p>

Item Number	Action	Responsibility	Status	Comments
C0613 Item 12 Tree Removal at 18 Cardigan St, Stanmore	THAT Council removes the current tree and replaces it with a verge garden and an appropriate non-invasive tree to prevent any further damage to the resident's property.	Investigation and Design	Ongoing	Tree Removal Completed. Replacement planting to be programmed
C0613 Item 13 Dulwich Hill Main Street	THAT Council installs a rail fence outside the Hub House Cafe on Canterbury Road Dulwich Hill and across the road across LJ Hooker strip in Dulwich Hill and incorporates flower planter boxes as well.	Investigation and Design	Complete	Design completed and issued for construction
C0613 Item 14 Review of Traffic Safety and Parking Station St West, Tempe	THAT: 1. the matter be referred to the Pedestrian, Cyclist and Traffic Calming Advisory Committee, to prepare a report (drawing on existing data and previous studies) examining the feasibility of further revising traffic management in Station Street (West), Tempe; and 2. the report shall cover, inter alia, the possibility of re-instating the prohibition on traffic turning left from the Princes Highway into Station Street (West) and the restoration of parking on both sides of Station Street (West), and any other traffic management measures which might be appropriate to restore traffic safety and improve parking in Station Street (West), Tempe.	Investigation and Design	Ongoing	Traffic Survey completed. Report to be submitted to traffic committee
C0713 Item 27 Notice of Motion: Affordable Housing	THAT Council: 1. contact the local Community Housing Providers and invite them to consider redeveloping their existing housing stock to maximise affordable housing in the Marrickville local government area; and 2. endorse in principle higher densities on sites owned by Community Housing Providers to enable provision of additional affordable housing subject to submissions from relevant groups demonstrating acceptable planning impacts.	Community Development	Ongoing	Council Officers are progressing this action. No further update to date.
C0813 Item 22 Notice of Motion: Public Bike Share Scheme	THAT Council: 1. actively participate in conversations initiated by Leichhardt Council on the viability and desirability of a public bike share scheme in areas covered by Marrickville, Leichhardt, City of Sydney, Marrickville, Randwick and Waverley and the Universities of Sydney and New South Wales; and 2. engage other cycling and transport stakeholders in discussions about such a project.	Planning Services	Ongoing	Initial contact has been made with Leichhardt Council regarding the feasibility and desirability of a public bike share scheme.
C0813 Item 23 Notice of Motion: Bicycle Share Scheme	THAT Council conduct a feasibility study into the viability of a bicycle and helmet share scheme throughout the Marrickville LGA, with hubs near public transport, public housing, universities and other key residential areas in order to make cycling a more accessible form of transport.	Planning Services	Ongoing	Initial contact has been made with Leichhardt Council regarding the feasibility and desirability of a public bike share scheme.

<p>C0813 Item 24</p> <p>Notice of Motion: Urgent Protection for Fatima Island</p>	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> request a comprehensive report including a strategy for the improvements along with cost estimates for investigation design and works; urgently investigate the erosion of Fatima Island in the Cooks River; undertake any urgent, necessary remedial works identified, in order to protect the island against further erosion pending the development of the Cooks River Plan of Management; liaise and consult with relevant agencies and community groups to ensure that any urgent works are identified and undertaken appropriately, including the Cooks River Valley Association, Canterbury Council, Sydney Water, Metro Local Aboriginal Land Council and the Marrickville Heritage Society; include in the investigations consideration of whether nearby work on the banks of the Cooks River and/or people visiting the island are contributing to the erosion; consider funding for any urgent works in the September budget revision; and provide a report to Council of the investigations. 	<p>Environmental Services</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Project team has been formed which includes representation from Design & Investigation, Environmental Services, and Culture & Recreation. First meeting held on 28/8 to discuss the preparation of a consultant brief to source specialist expertise including that of a fluvial Geomorphologist. The brief has been developed and quotations for the work are expected back by the end of September. Council is liaising with relevant agencies including Sydney Water, Canterbury and Rockdale councils, and have approached the Marrickville Heritage Society and Marrickville Aboriginal Consultative Committee for information on Fatima.</p>
<p>C0813 Item 25</p> <p>Notice of Motion: Marrickville Council Welcomes Refugees and Asylum Seekers</p>	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> recognises that the Marrickville area has long been a place that welcomes refugees and asylum seekers, providing a new home for people who have been forced by war, civil upheaval or natural disaster to flee their homes; commits to continue to implement programs and policies which promote tolerance and multiculturalism, and which raise awareness of the journeys, experiences, culture and contributions of refugees and asylum seekers who have joined our Australian and Marrickville communities; re-affirms its 2003 commitment that the Marrickville Local Government Area is a Refugee Welcome Zone; and takes urgent action to show its public support for refugees and asylum seekers, including those who have arrived in Australia by boat, including through the implementation of signs at Council's main public buildings and public places which recognise the Marrickville area as place in which refugees and asylum seekers are welcome. 	<p>Community Development</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Work is underway to plan a forum to discuss how Council can support refugees and asylum seekers. Posters are being developed for Council buildings and public places. The Community Development team are continuing to support organisations and projects that deliver services to refugees and asylum seekers.</p>

C0813 Item 26 Notice of Motion: Traffic Calming and Parking for Denison Street, Dulwich Street, Lewisham Street and Surrounding Pocket Streets	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. allocate funds to review traffic situation in surrounding the precinct; 2. review all safety aspects of traffic and calming devices; 3. review current parking situation and come back to Council with a new parking strategy to increase parking for precinct which to include angle parking in streets and residential scheme parking; 4. review current traffic directive flow into streets and provide a visible alternative to current situation; 5. liaise with local police to enforce speed limits and traffic laws; 6. rangers monitor current parking issues as their current routine; and 7. review current infrastructure of the precinct and use funding from the new developments to fund the precinct e.g. new traffic devices, rerouting of traffic, new toilets for Hoxton Park, repair upgrades of footpaths and verge gardens. 	Infrastructure Planning	Ongoing	Council is currently investigating resource requirements.
C0813 Item 28 Notice of Motion: Removal of Tree at 16 Temple Street, Stanmore	<p>THAT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the tree be removed; 2. a verge garden be installed and a appropriate tree be installed which doesn't effect the local residents amenities; and 3. the resident of 16 Temple street be notified. 	Investigation & Design	Ongoing	Works currently being programmed.
C0813 Item 29 Notice of Motion: Grove Street Development	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. contact Urbis to extend its consultation with all surrounding residents of the proposed development; 2. ask the developer to conduct a traffic and study to reduce the impact of increased traffic and parking constraints of the proposed development; 3. assess the proposed development through councils LEP and DCP guidelines and makes a submission to the JRPP; and 4. contact the Community group of the outcome. 	Planning Services	Complete	A development application for the subject land has been lodged with Council. As part of the assessment of the application the matters raised in Council's resolution will be addressed.

Item No: C0913 Item 17

Subject: QUESTION ON NOTICE: REPORTS ABOUT AIR QUALITY

File Ref: 4717/57882.13

From Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore

Councillor Ellsmore lodged the following Questions on Notice: Reports About Air Quality on 8 August 2013. Due to resource constraints prior to publication of the August Council Meeting business papers, the publication of Cllr Ellsmore's Question on Notice: Reports about Air Quality was deferred to the Council Meeting on 17 September 2013.

MARRICKVILLE COUNCIL CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE - JUNE 2010

Questions may be put to Councillors and Council Employees

- 28 (1) **[Questions by a Councillor]** A Councillor:
- (a) may, through the chairperson, put a question to another Councillor; and
 - (b) may, through the General Manager, put a question to a Council employee. [Regulation – clause 249]
- (2) **[Reasonable notice]** However, a Councillor or Council employee to whom a question is put is entitled to be given reasonable notice of the question and, in particular, sufficient notice to enable reference to be made to other persons or to documents. [Regulation – clause 249]
- (3) **[Question to be put directly and without argument]** The Councillor must put every such question directly, succinctly and without argument. [Regulation – clause 249]
- (4) **[Discussion not permitted]** The chairperson must not permit discussion on any reply or refusal to reply to a question put to a Councillor or Council employee under this clause. [Regulation - clause 249]
- (5) **[Questions on notice]** *A Councillor may ask a Question on Notice of the General Manager or a Director in relation to matters other than those included on the Business Paper of the Council or relevant Committee. The Question on Notice may be lodged at any time and put to the next available appropriate meeting. Where a Councillor requires further information in relation to the answer provided, it is to be sought after the meeting.* [Policy]

Questions

1. Does Council have any policies relating to air quality in the Marrickville Local Government Area? Please provide details.
2. What studies or reports has the Council commissioned about air quality in the Local Government Area over the last 20 years? Include details for each report:
 - a. Name of the reports
 - b. Author/s
 - c. Years reports published

3. Are any of these reports publicly available? If yes, how can members of the public access them? (provide details)
4. Is Council currently aware of any reports being developed, or is Council undertaking any research, about air quality in relation to:
 - a. Aircraft movements over the Marrickville Local Government Area and surrounds;
 - b. The movement of trucks through the Local Government Area; or
 - c. General traffic movements through the Local Government Area.

Include details of any reports about health statistics, relating to air quality, dust or common toxins created by commercial industries operating in the LGA.

5. Has Council undertaken any modeling or commissioned any research about the cumulative impacts of development approvals for commercial industries operating in or near the Local Government Area, which:
 - a. Undertake activities which may impact on air quality, such as concrete recycling; and/ or
 - b. Encourage regular truck movements through the Local Government Area?

If yes, please provide details.

6. What conditions of consent relating to air quality is Council aware of, for the developments and activities mentioned in (5)?
7. Which particular sections of the LGA:
 - a. Are the site of a significant number of commercial industries which have the potential to impact on local air quality; and/ or
 - b. Are subject to a large number of truck movements; and/or
 - c. Are under flight paths to Sydney airport?
8. Does Council have any particular policies about health and air quality for the sections of the LGA mentioned in (7)? If yes, provide details.
9. Which agencies are responsible for monitoring air quality and/ or the health impacts from aircraft, truck or general traffic in the Local Government Area?
10. Is Council aware of any mitigation strategies by the Council, State Government or other organisations in place to improve air quality in the LGA? Is yes please provide details.
11. If residents have concerns about air quality what avenues do they have to:
 - a. Investigate the health related impacts; or
 - b. Take action to improve their air quality?

Answers

1. No. The Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act) provides the statutory framework for managing air emissions in NSW. The Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2010 provides regulatory measures to control emissions from wood heaters, open burning, motor vehicles and fuels and industry.
2. Council has not commissioned any studies over the past 20 years. Until the introduction of integrated reporting in 2011/12, Council reported on regional air quality data provided by the Office of Environment and Heritage through the annual State of the Environment Reports. Council also participated in the development of the *M5 East Freeway: sub-regional air quality management plan* prepared by Sinclair Knight Merz on behalf of the Roads and Traffic Authority and published in 2002.
3. Council's State of the Environment Reports can be accessed online at: <http://www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/council/plans/environmental.html>
4. No. The Community Strategic Plan *KRA 3.4 Marrickville's roads are safer and less congested* directs Council to develop options to reduce regional truck and car movements through the local area. This will be undertaken through providing advocacy and advice on transport, traffic and land use issues associated with proposed developments at and operation of Sydney Airport and Port Botany.
5. No.
6. Consent conditions are specific to the proposed commercial activity and are regulated through the POEO Act. Examples include the design and construction of air venting systems for spray booths conforming to Australian standards, WorkCover NSW and EPA guidelines. Conditions also specify measures to be undertaken during construction works e.g. for dust suppression.
7.
 - a. Marrickville does not have any large air pollution intense commercial industries.
 - b. Parramatta Road, Sydenham Road, the Princes Highway, Railway Road and Campbell Street/Road
 - c. The Australian Noise Exposure Forecast (ANEF) Maps highlight areas affected under the flight path
https://www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/marrwr/assets/main/lib65085/anef_2033_a1l.pdf
8. No.
9. The NSW Office of Environment & Heritage operates a comprehensive air quality monitoring network using state-of-art instrumentation to provide the community with accurate and up-to-date information about air quality - <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/AQMS/aboutaqi.htm>

NSW Health convenes a NSW Air Pollution Expert Advisory Committee to link the current scientific evidence relating to air pollution and public health, which complements the ongoing policy and research work already undertaken by the NSW Health. In 2006, there was a Parliamentary enquiry into the health impacts of air pollution in the Sydney Basin. NSW Government response can be found: <http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parlament/committee.nsf/0/3ECF8ABFA09039A6CA257187000D2442>

10. Council has run programs for local businesses since 1994 which address air pollution. This includes an air assessment program in 2002/03 for businesses with spray booths and a charcoal chicken shop smoke reduction program in 2004. Council continues to partner with local industry through the *target sustainability@marrickville* program - raising awareness of air pollution and greenhouse gas reductions through energy efficiency measures.

Council has an ongoing vehicle/plant maintenance and replacement strategy to ensure all vehicles are in good working order. All new Council trucks are fitted with particulate filters to improve air quality.

The NSW EPA offers a number of initiatives to improve regional air quality including the wood smoke program, smoky vehicle program, service station vapour recovery program, and the cleaner non-road diesel plant and equipment program. The EPA has also produced an air quality toolkit for local government which can be found online.

- 11.
- a. Residents can contact the NSW Department of Health or visit the website which offers information on health protection from air pollution:
<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/air/Pages/default.aspx>
 - b. Residents wishing to report or enquire about air pollution should contact the organisation responsible as set out on the EPA website:
<http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/pollution/air.htm>
Air pollution from a premises operated by private industry and for which there is no environment protection licence should be reported to Council on 9335 2222 for investigation by a Council ranger.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 18
Subject: QUESTION ON NOTICE: IMPACT OF PROPOSED NEIGHBOURING DEVELOPMENT ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS SCHEDULED FOR GROVE STREET, MARRICKVILLE
File Ref: 4675/67801.13

From Councillor David Leary

Councillor Ellsmore lodged the following Questions on Notice: Reports About Air Quality on 8 August 2013. Due to resource constraints prior to publication of the August Council Meeting Business papers, the publication of Cllr Ellsmore's Question on Notice: Reports About Air Quality was deferred to the Council Meeting on 17 September 2013.

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- (5) **[Questions on notice]** *A Councillor may ask a Question on Notice of the General Manager or a Director in relation to matters other than those included on the Business Paper of the Council or relevant Committee. The Question on Notice may be lodged at any time and put to the next available appropriate meeting. Where a Councillor requires further information in relation to the answer provided, it is to be sought after the meeting.* [Policy]

Question

Can Council confirm that the infrastructure works scheduled for Grove Street, Marrickville will not be impacted by the development proposed within the vicinity?

Answer

The works identified as Grove St pipe replacement between pits STS12813 and STS 12812 is located in Denison Rd Dulwich Hill running across the roadway adjacent house numbers 228 and 203 and is part of the Grove Street catchment. There is no impact on these programmed works from the proposed development.

Brian Barrett
General Manager

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 19

Subject: ARLINGTON RESERVE SYNTHETIC TURF SURFACE - TENDER
EVALUATION - TENDER NUMBER 36/13

File Ref: 4920/61029.13

Prepared By: Sarah Christie - Landscape Architect and Wal Petschler - Manager,
Investigation and Design

SYNOPSIS

At its meeting of 19th February 2013, Council resolved to proceed with a synthetic turf surface at Arlington Reserve, Dulwich Hill. This report considers the outcomes from Tender No. 36/13 for the design and construction of a synthetic turf surface and other ancillary and optional works.

A report on the results of assessment of the received tenders by the Tender Review Panel can be found in **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1**.

Construction is planned to commence in late 2013.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council move into closed session to deal with this matter as information contained in **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1** of the Report is classified as confidential under the provisions of Section 10A (2)(c) and (d) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the following reasons:
 - a. the information within this report, if disclosed, could confer a commercial advantage on persons with whom the Council proposes to or may conduct business; and
 - b. it is not in the public interest to reveal all details of these tender submissions or the assessment process. Companies have provided sensitive information about their operations in the confidence that their details will not be made public by Council. The practice of publication of sensitive information provided by companies could result in the withholding of such information by companies and reduction in the provision of information relevant to Council's decision.

And in accordance with Sections 10A (4) of the Local Government Act 1993, that the Chairpersons allow members of the public to make representations as to whether this part of the meeting should be closed.

OR, WHERE THE MEETING IS NOT CLOSED:

- 1A. the Council resolve that **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1** to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential;
2. the report be received and noted; and
3. Council adopt the recommendation contained in the **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1**.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 19th February 2013, Council resolved to proceed with a synthetic turf surface at Arlington Reserve. Following completion of preliminary site investigations including geotechnical investigations and review of environmental factors, public tenders were called for the design and construction of a synthetic surface suitable for soccer.

Tenders closed on 17 July 2013. Tenders were received from the following:

1. HG Sports Turf Pty Ltd
2. McMahon's Pty Ltd
3. Sports Technology International
4. Team Sports (Sharcave Pty Ltd)
5. Turf One Pty Ltd

DISCUSSION

Scope of Works

The primary scope of work considered essential for the project includes the following:

- Synthetic turf surface to the playing field suitable for soccer
- Associated excavation and base pavement construction
- Field subsoil drainage
- Concrete edging to the synthetic turf pitch
- Linemarking for the full sized playing field
- Goal posts, corner flags
- Rectification of drainage low points in the field surrounds.

In addition to the above, optional or discretionary works were also priced by the tenderers. Whilst not essential to the primary synthetic turf project, these supplementary works would further improve the facility's operation as a sportsground. These include:

- Releveling and natural returfing of the adjacent 'Warm-up' area to match new surface levels associated with the synthetic surface or
- Extending the synthetic surface to the 'warm-up' area
- Use of an alternate infill material for the synthetic turf
- Additional linemarking for small field soccer and training purposes
- Separation fencing or curtain/net system between the playing field and warm up area.
- Retractable curtain/net system to separate the small fields
- Relocation of the existing coach boxes & technical area to meet FNSW location and layout dimensions
- Provision of a drinking water fountain at the entrance to the playing field.
- Lighting upgrade

Tenderers have also provided alternative synthetic turf systems having varying performance characteristics for consideration.

Although not part of the capital works project, tenderers were also requested to provide a price to undertake the maintenance of the completed synthetic surface for a period of up to two years after its completion. This would ensure correct maintenance practices are employed during the early life of the surface and during the contractual defects liability period and would enable a skill transfer to council staff who would take over this role at the end of the contracted maintenance term.

In the report to the Council meeting of 19th February 2013, it was indicated that the indicative costs for the construction of a synthetic turf playing surface at Arlington Reserve was in the order of \$1 million. This was based on preliminary information provided by suppliers and experiences at other synthetic turf installations in Sydney. Actual costs would be dependent on the outcome of site investigations and detailed design and project scoping. This preliminary costing does not allow for any ancillary works, lighting upgrade nor treatment of contaminated materials.

Subsequent to Council's decision to proceed with the project, site and geotechnical investigations were undertaken to provide sufficient information to tenderers to price their bids. The results of the geotechnical investigations identified the deep uncontrolled fill characteristics of the site and identified poor subgrade conditions having relatively weak bearing capacity. The relatively deep pavement designs and associated costs contained in the tender submissions reflect this subgrade deficiency. Near surface materials include imported topsoil containing organic matter which is unsuitable for the construction of an engineered base and synthetic surface. These materials will need to be removed, potentially up to depths of 500mm.

The existing topsoil overlays deep fill in excess of 3 metres. Given the nature of imported fill materials and because their compaction is largely unknown, there is a potential risk of settlement of the subgrade over time. Future settlement can potentially result in level deviations across the synthetic turf surface. Given the site has been filled since the 1930's it is reasonable to expect that natural consolidation of the fill since that time will mitigate the risks of any future settlement but this cannot be guaranteed. The compaction of the subgrade, removal of any soft spots and construction of a thick base pavement under the synthetic turf to provide a level base of high bearing capacity is needed to minimise such risks.

Waste Classification

Given the potential depth of excavation required tenderers were asked to provide a provisional rate for the additional cost associated with disposal of '*restricted solid waste*' should progressive contamination testing of the excavated soil during site works identify a significant level of soil contamination. This has the potential to significantly escalate project costs should significant quantities of excavation fall within this category.

Some 21 boreholes across the site have now been sampled and tested to assess potential waste classification of excavated material against the EPA Guidelines. Half of these samples indicated suitability to be classified as 'Excavated Natural Material' (ENM) allowing the material to be reused/recycled. The balance of samples indicated a level of contaminants which may make those locations unsuitable for an ENM classification. Additional testing is being undertaken in order to classify this material. It is evident that the depth of excavation will have a bearing on the classification of excavated material. An allowance needs to be provided in the project budget should the need arise to dispose of excavated material which becomes classified as 'general solid waste' or 'restricted solid waste'. There is a risk that additional funds may be required if the 'restricted solid waste' component exceeds the allowance or if other hazardous contaminants are encountered in significant quantities.

Lighting Upgrade

Dulwich Hill Football Club approached Council in mid 2012 to propose an upgrade of the existing field lighting following advice from Football NSW that lighting requirements for night matches in the Super League Competition, in which they play, were being enforced to a semi-professional competition level of 200 lux. The current lighting level is 100 lux which allows for club level competition and match practice.

Dulwich Hill Football Club has been successful in obtaining a grant of \$15,000 under the "NSW Government Community Building Partnership" as a contribution towards the lighting upgrade works. The lighting upgrade must be completed by 31 March 2014 or project grant funding may be withdrawn.

A lighting design and specification was prepared to enable prices for the lighting upgrade to be obtained in conjunction with the tender for the synthetic turf surface. The increase in the lighting capacity from 100 to 200 lux requires new head-frames to be attached to the existing light poles, replacement of all existing light fittings as well as an additional light fitting to each pole plus associated switching, cabling and electrical works. Switching incorporated into the design will enable 100 lux level lighting to be used for training and 200 lux for competition matches.

Given the earthworks and likely depth of excavation required for the construction of the synthetic turf surface, the existing electrical conduits which run within the existing turf area will need to be replaced at a lower level to ensure adequate depth of cover is achieved in accordance with Australian Standards. It is appropriate therefore that these works be undertaken as part of the synthetic turf project.

It is clear however that based on tender prices received that the grant available is significantly less than the cost of the lighting upgrade and this component cannot proceed unless additional funds are made available.

Land Ownership

Running across Arlington Reserve and the playing field is a major stormwater pipeline owned by Sydney Water. Whilst the pipeline is at a sufficient depth not to be a constraint for construction works, it is contained within a strip of land, approximately 6 metres wide owned by Railcorp.

Railcorp's concurrence to the proposed works was sought in April 2013. Whilst no written concurrence has been forthcoming, Railcorp indicated a preference to consider a sale of the strip of land to Council at market rates but advised that their processes would take many months to complete so as to be well outside the projects proposed timeframe. In response Railcorp has been advised that, whilst Council would consider any reasonable proposal to amalgamate Railcorp's strip of land with Council's surrounding land, in the interim, there appeared no practical reason preventing Council undertaking the proposed improvement to the existing playing surface whilst such land transfer is being negotiated. The site has been continually utilised as a sporting field since the 1930's, has been maintained by Council and the current works proposed would not change its use.

Tender Assessment

Tenders were assessed by the Tender Review Panel in accordance with the adopted assessment method and criteria. A report outlining the tender assessment results was prepared by the Tender Review Panel. The report can be found in **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1** and includes details of all Tenders and evaluation results.

The adopted tender assessment criteria and weighting attached to each criterion are as follows:

FIFA Preferred Producer Status	Mandatory
Tender Price	35%
Expertise and Experience	20%
Project Plan	20%
Synthetic Turf System and Performance	20%
Accurate and complete return of all	5%
Tender schedules	

FIFA Preferred Producer Status: FIFA preferred producers have in-depth experience in the delivery of synthetic turf projects covering all aspects from planning and design to completion, and regular maintenance and care.

Price: The Tender documents required the work to be priced as a lump sum based on a schedule of works and prices for the various components of the works. A schedule of discretionary items for additional portions of work was also required to be priced. Price is considered of highest importance within the Tender criteria.

Expertise and Experience: The expertise and experience of companies in completing similar works was assessed and is considered important to ensure that a quality installation can be delivered in accordance with FIFA standards and specification requirements.

Project Plan: Contractors were required to provide a detailed project plan which includes a construction program and works methodology. The project plan is considered important to ensure the project is delivered in a timely and efficient manner and to ensure site management, resourcing, quality and Work Health & Safety requirements are met.

Synthetic Turf System and Performance: The proposed synthetic turf system and its performance is important to ensure a quality synthetic turf outcome is achieved. Contractor submissions were assessed on a number of criteria in this regard including conformance with FIFA 1 Star requirements, guarantees and warranties offered and ongoing maintenance requirements.

Contract Program

Following award of a contract, construction on site is anticipated to commence in late 2013.

CONCLUSION

The Tender Review Panel has undertaken an assessment and has made recommendations for the Arlington Reserve Synthetic Turf Surface Tender (Tender No. 36/13).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A budget of \$950,000 (excluding GST) has been allocated in Council's 2013/14 Capital Budget. Additional funding is required to deliver the project as outlined in **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1**.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

The Tender assessment and recommendations have been endorsed by members of the Tender Review Panel.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

As this report is confidential no public consultation has been undertaken.

Community notification of the construction will be completed prior to commencement of works on site. It is proposed that the reserve will be closed during the construction period.

The Arlington Reserve Working Group has been convened and meets on a monthly basis to discuss issues surrounding the use and ongoing operational management of the reserve.

RECOMMENDATION**THAT:**

1. Council move into closed session to deal with this matter as information contained in CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1 of the Report is classified as confidential under the provisions of Section 10A (2)(c) and (d) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the following reasons:
 - a. the information within this report, if disclosed, could confer a commercial advantage on persons with whom the Council proposes to or may conduct business; and
 - b. it is not in the public interest to reveal all details of these tender submissions or the assessment process. Companies have provided sensitive information about their operations in the confidence that their details will not be made public by Council. The practice of publication of sensitive information provided by companies could result in the withholding of such information by companies and reduction in the provision of information relevant to Council's decision.

And in accordance with Sections 10A (4) of the Local Government Act 1993, that the Chairpersons allow members of the public to make representations as to whether this part of the meeting should be closed.

OR, WHERE THE MEETING IS NOT CLOSED:

- 1A. the Council resolve that CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential;
2. the report be received and noted; and
3. Council adopt the recommendation contained in the CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1.

Neil Strickland
Director, Infrastructure Services

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Report - Tender Review Panel - Tender Assessment - *Confidential*

Item No: C0913 Item 20
Subject: PROPOSED EXPRESSION OF INTEREST PROCESS FOR THE TEMPE BOAT STORAGE FACILITY (PART OF LOT 2023/DP105984)
File Ref: 4717/66037.13

Prepared By: Caroline McLeod - A/Manager, Culture and Recreation

SYNOPSIS

The report outlines the proposed process for the Expression of Interest for the Tempe Boat Storage, Holbeach Avenue Tempe (Part of Lot 7023 in DP1059864).

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council:

1. move into closed session to deal with this matter as information contained in **ATTACHMENT 4** of the report is classified as confidential under the provisions of Section 10A (2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the following reasons:
 - (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; and
 - (d) the disclosure of the independent valuation of the site contained in **ATTACHMENT 4** would, on balance be contrary to the public interest because it may put Council at a competitive disadvantage in the Expression of Interest process, preventing it from achieving a 'best value' outcome for the community.

And in accordance with Sections 10A (4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, that the Chairperson allow members of the public to make representations as to whether this part of the meeting should be closed.

OR, WHERE THE MEETING IS NOT CLOSED:

- 1A. resolve that **ATTACHMENT 4** to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and as such is to be treated as confidential;
2. the report be received and noted;
3. the proposed Expression of Interest process for the Tempe Boat Storage, Holbeach Avenue Tempe (Part of LOT 7023/DP105984) be approved; and
4. Council advise whether both commercial and not-for-profit operators be permitted to submit an EOI.

BACKGROUND

Part of Lot 7023 in DP1059864

Tempe Recreation Reserve is Crown Land and Council has been appointed the manager of Tempe Recreation Reserve Trust ("Council"). The purpose for which Tempe Recreation Reserve was created was for public recreation and land uses must be consistent with the purpose.

The Cooks River Motor Boat Club Ltd, now in liquidation, ("CRMBC Ltd") had leased for many years a facility that is referred to as the "dry dock" which allows for the storage and repair of recreational motor boats on part of Lot 7023 DP 105984, Tempe Recreation Reserve.

The CRMBC Ltd advised that, from old photos of the area, the site has been used as a boat yard since about 1917.

A search of Marrickville Council's electronic records, TRIM, has leases between Council and the CRMBC Ltd dating back to 1 January 1985. The leases were usually for two years. The last lease was for 12 months expiring on 30 June 2004.

The CRMBC Ltd owned 18-20 Holbeach Avenue Tempe, a commercial site adjacent to the dry dock which it used for the purposes of a licenced club.

Since 2004, there have been a range of interrelated, complex issues and circumstances that have affected the status of the licencing agreements and management of the facility.

Attachment 1 provides a timeline from 1999 – 2013 that describes the activities relating to the facility. To summarise, the main reasons why a Licence has not been executed since 2004 are:

1. *Voluntary Administration could have resulted in significant costs for Council due to the contamination of the site and the removal and disposal of the boats and sheds*

The Cooks River Motor Boat Club went into voluntary administration, this forced Council to offer a temporary 12 month licence to the Tempe Motor Boat Association because Council could have been liable for the significant costs associated with cleaning-up the contamination caused by the tenancy and costs relating to the removal and disposal of the boats and sheds on-site (many of which would have had little or no value due to their derelict condition). As a result, a temporary licence was offered.

2. *Delays in correspondence from The Crown / CRMBA & TBMA*

There were delays and complications with the lessees and The Crown returning signed documents, licence agreements and replying to general correspondence.

3. *Appropriate use / classification of the site as deemed by The Crown*

The Department of Lands had expressed the view to Council that the dry dock in its present form was not an appropriate use of the site and was contrary to the purpose of the reserve for public recreation. They advised Council that in its current form (i.e. the types of boats being stored and the activities being conducted on site), it considered the site to be commercial use and therefore, subject to a Section 34A Lease.

4. *Council processes and lack of guidelines in relation to the leasing of Crown Land*

There were issues relating to Council's procedures and lack of an internal policy for the licensing of the site. An internal auditor identified that there was a lack of internal policy and procedure for licensing Crown Land, a lack of clearly defined criteria for the expression of interest process and no process for the receipting of submissions for the licensing of lands. Since this issue was identified, the relevant procedures have been put in place to prevent this from occurring again.

5. Council Motion not to conduct an expression of interest for the site

A business paper was presented to Council on 16 March 2010 (C0310 Item 4) **(ATTACHMENT 2)** recommending that Council consider the request from the Cooks River Motor Boat Association for the grant of a temporary 12 month license. The first business paper did not include information relating to two additional organisations, Botany Bay Boat Owners Club Inc and Camperdown Bowling Club which had submitted proposals registering their interest in the site. A further supplementary business paper was issued that recommended Council note, not consider, the submissions received from Botany Bay Boat Owners Club Inc and Camperdown Bowling Club. (The submissions were of a poor quality and did not include information regarding the financial viability of the proposals, the available funds etc).

A representative from the Botany Bay Boat Owners Club Inc raised concerns regarding the process for the licensing of the site and as a result, a range of motions were proposed that recommended an expression of interest process be conducted for the use of the site. This motion was lost (5 for and 6 against) and a 12 month licence was issued **(ATTACHMENT 3)**.

Slipway

A Slipway currently runs from 18-20 Holbeach Avenue Tempe to the boat ramp for entry into the Cooks River. The TBMBA does not have direct access to this slipway and boats enter and exit the dry dock on trailers via an entrance that faces the playing fields.

The Department is responsible for the lease of the boat ramp and TBMBA will need to negotiate directly with the Department for a lease.

DISCUSSION

History of the Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association

TBMBA has provided Council with the following information:

The TBMBA is an incorporated Association formed in 2010 and is a not for profit association that is run by volunteers.

The TBMBA took over from the Cooks River Motor Boat Club. The CRMBC was formed in 1917. Until it went into liquidation it was the oldest Motor Boat Club in Australia. It has operated from or near this site since its creation. The boatyard has operated initially informally and later on leases and licenses from Marrickville Council and the NSW Government. The Association provides an affordable and safe environment for the following:

1. *To promote safe boating.*
2. *A facility for the maintenance and upkeep of boats and trailers.*
3. *A facility for the restoration of historic timber boats.*
4. *A place to share knowledge between members interested in boating.*

The Association is the boating version of a "men's shed" where people interested in all aspects of boating can come and share their knowledge and experience.

Once yard works are completed we will resume conducting open days where members of the public can come and see the work involved in restoration of timber boats. We quite often get passers by asking to come in and have a look.

Some of the boats date back to the 1920's and have a grand history about them.

The boatyard is licensed by Council to have up to 20 boats on cradles and hard stand and five trailer boats. At present there are 13 boats on cradles and 5 trailer boats in the yard.

The yard is at about 2/3 capacity to allow some upgrading work to be completed. Boats are brought into the yard on registered trailers and then transferred on to cradles or hard stand. Larger boats are brought into the yard by crane. Maximum boat length is approximately 12 meters in length. Yard operations are between 5am and 6pm with no noise outside of 7am and 5 pm. The Association has \$20,000,000 Dollars of public liability insurance cover.

The Association has removed three hulks and more than 20 cubic meters of rubbish as outlined in the original interim license (2010.) We are still waiting approval to remove the old boundary sheds.

Membership is open to all. Most membership enquiries come from interested persons dropping down to the boat yard. Membership is \$50 the first year and \$20 each year after. At present there are approximately 50 members but this will increase once a long term lease is established. There is no waiting list for membership but there is a waiting list for slipping of boats while upgrading works are being carried out. You must be a member to bring a boat into the yard. Approximately 30% of our membership lives in the Marrickville LGA though most live close in surrounding areas.

The Association owns a work boat which is used for assisting with slipping. It is also used to participate in the "clean up Australia campaign" helping remove rubbish from the Basin and river.

We have a good relationship with our neighbours and to my knowledge have never had a complaint from anyone who lives close by.

The Yard has an amenities block, lunch room and first aid facilities.

We are in the process of erecting a new fence of which 30 Meters has been completed. We are waiting on approvals to continue. We will also seal the yard surface and install a water runoff filtration system once a longer term lease is established.

The above is an outline of the Associations operation. We are now into our fourth year of negotiations for a longer term lease. We are ready to do upgrading works on the yard as soon as a lease can be established.

Expression of Interest Process

It is proposed that Council conduct an EOI process for the lease of the Dry Dock, Holbeach Avenue Tempe (part of Lot 7023 in DP1059864) offering a 10 year lease with a 10 year option. Below outlines the proposed process and timing:

Action	Timing
Independent valuation of potential proposed rent based on the rental (and potential income) of similar dry dock storage.	Complete
Council approval to conduct an EOI process	September 2013
Seek approval from The Department of Primary Industries, Crown Lands division to conduct an EOI*	September 2013

Action	Timing
Prepare EOI Documentation	September 2013
Advertise EOI (open 3 weeks)	October 2013
EOI closes	October 2013
Assessment of Expression of Interest*	November 2013
Report to Council	November 2013

*the timing of the above is based on a prompt approval from the Dept of Lands.

Should Council receive a number of competitive EOI submissions, it is proposed that suitable applicants be invited to Tender.

It is proposed that the EOI include:

- details regarding the inferred contamination or the likelihood of contamination;
- requirements that fences be installed along the boundary facing the playing fields;
- submission of proposed plans regarding upgrading of the facilities;
- a business plan and budget outlining the proposed fees for users of the facility, boat storage etc;
- details regarding accessing the Slipway; and
- that both commercial and not-for-profit operators be permitted to submit an EOI.

An alternative option is for Council to offer the existing operators a five year lease, in which Council could liaise with them directly. If Council were to consider this option, it must be noted, that the Lease would still be subject to the Minister's approval and could therefore potentially be rejected as it may not meet the purpose of public recreation. Should the Minister deem this to be a commercial activity, then any activity would be subject to Council's planning regime (i.e. a Development Application may be required because it may be considered a change of use).

Council has received email correspondence from neighbouring properties supporting the activities of the Tempe Motor Boat Association. Council has received correspondence from the lessor of 18-20 Holbeach Avenue, expressing an interest in the property.

(Note: Council Officers recognise that there are references to the term Dry Dock, when in fact, it should be referred to as a Dry Boat Storage Area. This reflects the language that was used in previous Business Papers.)

Independent valuation

An independent valuation of the site has been conducted. **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 4** provides information relating to the site.

CONCLUSION

The proposed process for the Expression of Interest for the Tempe Boat Storage Area, Holbeach Avenue Tempe (part of Lot 7023 in DP1059864) will ensure a fair and equitable process for any interested parties.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There may be financial implications relating to the site, should Council wish to act upon the advice as per **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 4**.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Nil.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Consultation has occurred with the Tempe Motor Boat Association.

Council has received email correspondence from neighbouring properties supporting the activities of the Tempe Motor Boat Association.

Council has received correspondence from the lessor of 18-20 Holbeach Avenue, expressing an informal interest in leasing the property for a potential car park and / or playground.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. move into closed session to deal with this matter as information contained in **ATTACHMENT 4** of the report is classified as confidential under the provisions of Section 10A (2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the following reasons:
 - (e) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; and
 - (f) the disclosure of the independent valuation of the site contained in **ATTACHMENT 4** would, on balance be contrary to the public interest because it may put Council at a competitive disadvantage in the Expression of Interest process, preventing it from achieving a 'best value' outcome for the community.

And in accordance with Sections 10A (4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, that the Chairperson allow members of the public to make representations as to whether this part of the meeting should be closed.

OR, WHERE THE MEETING IS NOT CLOSED:

- 1A. resolve that **ATTACHMENT 4** to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and as such is to be treated as confidential;
2. the report be received and noted;
3. the proposed Expression of Interest process for the Tempe Boat Storage, Holbeach Avenue Tempe (Part of LOT 7023/DP105984) be approved; and
4. Council advise whether both commercial and not-for-profit operators be permitted to submit an EOI.

Simone Schwarz
Director, Community Services

ATTACHMENTS

1. Time Line for Tempe Dry Dock 2013
2. C0310 Item 2 Tempe Reserve - Lease to Cooks River Motor Boat Club - Report to Council Meeting - 16 March 2010
3. C0310 Item 4 - TEMPE RESERVE - LEASE TO COOKS RIVER MOTOR BOAT CLUB - Minute Action Sheet - Council Meeting - 16 March 2010
4. Valuation Tempe Dry Dock 7 August 2013 - *Confidential*

ATTACHMENT 1

Timeline for the Licensing for the Tempe Boat Storage Facility

Year	Who / Organisation	Action
1999-2002	Council / Crown	Negotiation of a temporary 12 month licence for the repair and maintenance of recreational motor boats to the Cooks River Motor Boat Club. Indication that Club is having some financial difficulties. The rent is reduced from a commercial rate to a community rate.
July 2003	Council / CRMBC	Council / CRMBC enter into a Licence agreement for 12 months.
June 2004	Council / CRMBC	Lease expires.
May 2006	Council / CRMBC	CRMBC in arrears of \$6,659 rent. Council requests confirmation that they want to continue with the Licence.
October 2007	Council / CRMBC	Marrickville Council and CRMBC enter Deed of Agreement for use and maintenance of the pontoon and jetty.
June 2008	Council / CRMBC	CRMBC in arrears \$4,865 rent. Council requests payment.
July 2008	Council / CRMBC	Council writes to CRMBC asking for confirmation they would like to continue the Licence.
September 2008	Council / CRMBC	Council seeks a response re the continuation of Licence within 28 days, otherwise Council will take necessary steps to obtain vacant possession. The club is in arrears \$5,337.61
January 2009	CRMBC / Council	Club advises they would like a Temporary Licence for 12 months. Two copies are sent in January 2009. Signed documents are not returned.
27 August 2009	CRMBC	CRMBC enters into voluntary administration and appoints Russell Corporate Advisory as the Administrators.
8 August 2009	CRMBC / Russell Corporate Advisory (RCA)	First Creditors meeting
18 September 2009	Council / RCA	Council writes to Russell Corporate Advisory seeking immediate public liability insurance and indicated that subject to the resolution of the Reserve Trust a temporary licence of two months be offered until a determination of the Club's future is made.

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Attachment 1

Year	Who / Organisation	Action
22 September 2009	RCA / Council	Administrators advise they are not intending to enter into a new licence with Council but they will meet the payments that fall under the licence agreement until further notice.
28 September 2009	RCA / Council	Administrators meet with Council to discuss options.
17 December 2009 (around)	RCA / Council	<p>RCA advises that the registered Club (food & drink component) has ceased trading and that the operation of the boat yard continues.</p> <p>RCA advises they want each occupant of the dry dock to enter into an individual agreement. RCA advises they are having difficulty obtaining responses from occupants.</p>
22 December 2009	CRMBC	CRMBC goes into Liquidation.
1 February 2010	RCA / Council	<p>RCA advises that there are no appropriate offers of amalgamations and that the freehold property is to be sold. There are issues relating to accessing the tracks as these are located on the land that is to be sold. RCA advises they will be sending notice to boat owners to remove boats from the yard. Council had indicated that if they were going to do this, the yard would need to be reinstated back to its original condition. (See discussion re Remediation of site).</p> <p>Mr Cotter verbally advises Council that a new Association (the Tempe Motor Boat Association TMBA) is being formed and that the Jets Sports Club is also interested in the site. Council is advised that the new organisation is researching alternative options for moving the boats in and out of the water and addressing any contamination issues.</p>
3 February 2010	Council / RCA / TMBA	Meeting held to inspect the condition of the site and the sheds. All boat owners notified of inspection. There is a modest turn-out, with many of the sheds being locked and access not available. Another meeting is planned for one week later.
10 February 2010	RCA / Council	<p>RCA advises Council that they have lodged a Notice to disclaim onerous property with ASIC for the pontoon and the jetty.</p> <p>Council representatives meet with Mr Cotter and the Mayor.</p>

Year	Who / Organisation	Action
11 February 2011	RCA / Boat Owners	RCA advises Boat Owners they have 2-3 months to remove the boats and sheds off the site and vacate the property.
15 February	Cooks River Motor Boat Association	<p>Cooks River Motor Boat Association advises Council they are in the process of seeking incorporation and they have sought affiliation with the Jets Club. The Association asks that Council consider transferring the Licence for the Boatyard to them. They recognise the contamination issues relating to the site and that consent would be required from the Department of Lands.</p> <p>CRMBA propose a short term licence of 12 months be given so they can continue operations while the various issues can be solved.</p> <p>The Association advises they would be willing to commit to new fencing, sheds, hazardous materials storage etc.</p>
16 February 2010	Botany Bay Boat Owners Club (BBBOC) / Council	Botany Bay Boat Owners Club submits proposal (with little details) to Council wanting to lease or license a boat repair and storage yard. They request vacant possession.
23 February 2010		Mr Cotter meets with Mayor of Marrickville and Council officers to discuss proposal.
Early March	Camperdown Bowling Club	Camperdown Bowling Club submits an un-dated proposal advising Council that they are considering purchasing at auction 18–20 Holbeach Avenue and they intend to develop the site as an all weather outdoor sporting field in conjunction with the Junior Jets Rugby League Football Club. They request vacant possession.
March 2010	The Crown / Council	A representative from the Department of Lands indicates that the dry dock in its present form is not an appropriate use and is contrary to the purpose of the reserve for public recreation. If the facility was to continue in its current form, the Department considers it to be a commercial use and subject to a section 34A Lease with the Department under the Crowns Lands Act. (There is no written evidence to support this, but it is included in the business papers and may have been verbally indicated.)

Year	Who / Organisation	Action
	Council	<p>Business Paper presented to Council recommending that Council consider the request from the Cooks River Motor Boat Association for the grant of a temporary 12 month licence. This report to Council on the basis that only one proposal was available for Council to consider i.e. from the TBMBA.</p> <p>Further Supplementary Business Paper issued that recommends Council note, not consider, the submissions received from Botany Bay Boat Owners Club Inc and Camperdown Bowling Club.</p> <p>As there was no official Expression of Interest process or official document requesting specific information, the submissions for the licence of the Club from the Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association, the Botany Bay Boat Owners Association and the Camperdown Bowling Club were not considered. The submissions were of a poor quality and did not include information regarding the potential management structure or financial capacity of the organisations, details regarding the membership process etc.</p> <p>The submission stated that the Botany Bay Boat Owners Association was a not-for-profit organisation and suggested they would offer weekly cruises on Botany Bay to individuals being supported by the Children's Cancer Association, Variety Club Children's Programs and Senior Citizens. It was unclear how the organisation proposed to generate revenue to support its operations.</p> <p>At the meeting, representation was made from the Botany Bay Boat Owners Club indicating they did not feel the process for the Licensing of the site had been transparent i.e. there had been no Expression of Interest Process.</p> <p>As a result, a Motion was proposed that the TBMBA be issued a 3 month lease and an expression of interest process for the suitable use of the site be conducted. This motion was lost (5 for and 6 against). (C0310 Item 4)</p> <p>Council resolved to issue a temporary 12 month licence to the Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association.</p>

Year	Who / Organisation	Action
25 March 2010	RCA	18-20 Holbeach Avenue is sold.
22 March 2010	Council	Council organises an independent valuation. A market rent of \$400 pa was recommended due to the condition of the land.
29 March 2010	Botany Bay Boat Owners Club / Council	Botany Bay Boat Owners Club writes to Council objecting to the process that took place for the licence. Concerns included that their proposal was considered as a supplementary item, not in the main businesses paper, that they had issues with Council Officers not considering their proposal and that Mr Cotter was able to liaise with Councillors prior to the meeting.
6 April 2010	Council / CRMBC (In Liquidation)	Council issues a prevention notice to CRMBC (in Liquidation) taking preventative action advising they must immediately cease boat maintenance and repair and submit a site investigation report by a suitably qualified environment scientist about the contamination and remediation works.
9 April 2010	RCA / Council	<p>RCA requests Council withdraw the preventative action notice.</p> <p>RCA serve Council with a Notice of Disclaimer on Council's property i.e. the arrangement has been terminated. As a result of this notice, Council is now responsible for the Dry Dock, the occupiers, the sheds, the possible contamination and the rubbish. (See Issues relating to the Notice of Disclaimer).</p> <p>This places pressures on Council to resolve licensing issues quickly given that Council would have been responsible for having the owners remove the boats, sheds etc, which had the potential for significant costs if the owners did not comply or abandoned their property and the associated legal ramifications.</p>
April 2010	Council / TMBA	Draft Licence forwarded to TMBA for comment.
23 April 2010	RCA	18-20 Holbeach Avenue settles.
28 April 2010	TMBA / Council	TMBA respond to Council advising that several of the licence conditions were onerous including geotechnical testing and potential site remediation.

Year	Who / Organisation	Action
21 June 2010	Council	<p>Council resolves what the core conditions of the licence agreements are going to be, incorporating the comments from the TMBA. (C0610 Item 3)</p> <p>At this meeting, Councillors raised concern about the process, especially given that the spokesperson for the Cooks River Motor Boat Club was a former Mayor of Marrickville. Councillors also raised concerns over the lack of an Expression of Interest Process and the recommendation to set the market rental for the property at \$400 pa. (See determination of annual rent discussion).</p>
7 July 2010	Council	<p>Following the concerns raised by Council regarding the allocation of the licence, Council's internal auditor was appointed to review the documentation, determine whether it should be referred to ICAC and make recommendations for the improvement of the process.</p>
20 July 2010	Council / Crown	<p>Officers forward a duly executed Licence for the Minister's approval.</p>
26 August 2010	Council	<p>Internal Auditor finds that there were several shortcomings in the internal process including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the lack of internal policy or procedure for the receipts of applications, • that there was no internal process for staff being on annual leave or sick and handing over items, • that Council did not inform applicants re how and when the application would be assessed, • there was no clearly defined documented criteria for consideration, • that the former Mayor that was involved in the TBMA was familiar with Council processes, • that the Botany Boat Owners Club and Camperdown Bowling Club submissions were only considered as a supplementary report (even though they were received on the same day), • that the two additional submissions were only asked to be noted, and not considered. <p>The report concluded that there were notable shortcomings in the internal processes and that recommendations that address these processes be addressed.</p> <p>The report found that the Council staff did not deliberately withhold relevant information.</p>

Year	Who / Organisation	Action
1 December 2010	Council	Auditor's report considered at the Audit Committee Meeting.
2 March 2011	Council	Response to the Auditor's Report regarding the handling of the matter.
	Council	In response to the Auditor's report, Council officers develop an internal policy for the leasing and licensing of internal land.
11 July 2011	Council / The Crown	Council writes to The Crown following up on a temporary licence that was sent to the Crown in 2010 for TBMBA to use the dry dock facility for 12 months as there had been no response. Council requests meeting with the Crown to discuss future use of the site.
6 September 2011	Lands/ Council	Communication from Lands advising that they would not sign the licence agreement because the term had expired.
24 May 2012	Council / The Crown	Officers attend a meeting and follow-up letter sent to The Crown requesting that the Department taking over the administration of the site and the issuing of a 34A Licence with the TBMBA.
18 October 2012	Council/ Lands	Council writes to the Department of Primary Industry asking that the Minister undertake the Lease under section 34A of the Crown lands Act 1989 to remove any potential conflict of interest associated with the lease given that persons associated with the TBMBA have links to Council.
23 November 2012	Crown Lands/ Council	In response to 18 October 2012 letter, the Crown advises that the site has deteriorated under Council's management with contamination that poses a safety risk. Remediation of the contamination would need to be done before a long term management plan is started. They raised concerns about the unsightly presentation along the fence line that takes away from the reserve. The Crown does not support a direct lease with the Minister under provisions of section 34A of the Crown Lands Act 1989 and advises that Council should be able to deal with actual or perceived conflicts of interest in accordance with Council's policy.

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Year	Who / Organisation	Action
June 2013	Council / TBMBA	Council officers meet with the TBMBA on-site to review the property and discuss the EOI process. TBMBA advises they are interested in long term lease and understands that an EOI Process will take place.
July 2013	Council	Council defers recommendation regarding the EOI process and requests further information.
July 2013	Council	Via research, Council determines that Botany Bay Boat Owners Club is deregistered. Camperdown Bowling Club are under administration. Jetss Sports Club has ceased trading.
July – August 2013	Council	<p>Council receives verbal notice that the Lessee of 18-20 Holbeach Avenue is interested in obtaining the site.</p> <p>Council receives emails of support for the operation of the TBMBA from neighbouring properties.</p>

Attachment 1

Report No: C0310 Item 2
Subject: TEMPE RESERVE - LEASE TO COOKS RIVER MOTOR BOAT CLUB
File Ref: 803-01/16575.10
Prepared By: Richard Sage - Manager, Parks and Reserves

Item 20

SYNOPSIS

Further information has been received by Council that materially changes Report No: C0310 Item 4 in this business paper. A revised recommendation for that report is proposed.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council, in its capacity as Reserve Trust Manager of the Tempe Recreation Reserve and subject to the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and Crown Lands Act 1989:

1. **note the submissions received from Botany Bay Boat Owners Club Inc. and Camperdown Bowling Club;**
2. **consider the request from the Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association for the grant of a temporary 12 month licence to it for the area of land at Tempe Recreation Reserve licensed to the former Cooks River Motor Boat Club Ltd; and**
3. **determine its preference for the future use of the site, noting that any lease of the site will need to be in accordance with the recreational purposes of the Tempe Recreation Reserve and have the concurrence of the Department of Lands.**

BACKGROUND

Council has received further information that the Registry of Co-operatives has advised that they cannot register **Cooks River Motor Boat Association** due to the licensed Club not having been deregistered. The alternative name **Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association** has been accepted and registered.

In addition to the request by Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association for a 12 month license over the dry dock, Council has received two other proposals for use of the land:

1. A submission by Botany Bay Boat Owners Club Inc. seeks a lease or license for the land to operate a boat repair and storage yard. This consists of a letter (**ATTACHMENT 1**) and 16 pages of a template document 'Model rules for incorporated associations' produced by Fair Trading NSW not reproduced here.
2. A submission from Camperdown Bowling Club seeks to use the land for synthetic sports courts predominantly for 5-a-side soccer (**ATTACHMENT 2**).

DISCUSSION

Where C0310 Item 4 - TEMPE RESERVE - LEASE TO COOKS RIVER MOTOR BOAT CLUB report in this Business Paper refers to Cooks River Motor Boat Association it should now refer to Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association. **That report should be read in conjunction with this report.**

Attachment 2

The two other proposals for use of the land received by Council would require vacant possession of the dry dock site. This raises issues identified in the initial report regarding Council's potential liability for demolition and clean up of the site if Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association were unable to secure a license and walked away from the site.

The submission by Botany Bay Boat Owners Club Inc. to operate a boat repair and storage yard would require discussion with the Department of Lands and the proponents to ensure that the use of the land was consistent with the purpose of the reserve and that proposed improvements and rental were acceptable. These discussions have not taken place as at the time of writing this report.

The submission by Camperdown Bowling Club seeks an entirely new use of the land that in general terms appears to be consistent with the Reserve purpose, however there is not sufficient information provided to consider the proposal in detail. It is noted that the site is proposed to be used 7 days a week from 10.00am until 10.00pm and is in close proximity to several residential dwellings. It is considered that this proposal will also require discussions with the Department of Lands. These discussions have not taken place as at the time of writing this report.

Council should also note that the land is affected by RTA proposals for future use for arterial road and detailed examination of this issue by the proponents may lead them to determine that the alternative proposals are financially unviable.

CONCLUSION

The recommendation of Report No: C0310 Item 4 requires a change as a result of late information received by Council, in that the proposed Cooks River Motor Boat Association name has not been accepted by the Registry of Co-operatives. However the alternative name, Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association, has been accepted.

The two other submissions for use of the land received by Council do not give sufficient detail of their proposals to allow for a considered response at this time. As they require vacant possession of the dry dock site Council must consider its potential liability for demolition and clean up of the site if the current occupant cannot be compelled to undertake the works and if Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association walks away from the site.

A temporary 12 month lease to the Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association would provide 'breathing space' for Council in which to invite expressions of interest for alternative uses of the site which are consistent with the purposes of the Tempe Recreation Reserve and which are acceptable to the Department of Lands. A temporary lease to other applicants would require substantial site works and lead-time in order to provide vacant possession. The cost or removal of improvements in order to provide vacant possession would need to be met by Council. A claim on the Liquidator for the recovery of such costs will have the status of an unsecured claim on the Motor Boat Club under liquidation. Any costs of remediation, if required, would be in a similar category. The auction of the Cooks River Motor Boat Club Ltd building is set for 24 March 2010. A temporary 12 month lease to the Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association would at least defer the need for such expenditure.

Alternatively, Council could defer any decision, pending an expression of interest process for the suitable use of the site. In this case, the site will continue to be occupied for the time being by the property of the former lessee, the Cooks River Motor Boat Club Ltd (in liquidation), and Council should note that the Liquidator has served notice on the Club members to remove their boats and sheds from the site. Council may be in a position where the existing physical improvements on the site and the boats and sheds have to be removed and Council will need

to make a claim on the Liquidator to recover such costs. As previously advised, such a claim would be unsecured. Any costs of remediation, if required, would be in a similar category.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

Nil.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

There has not been community consultation at the time of writing this report.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council, in its capacity as Reserve Trust Manager of the Tempe Recreation Reserve and subject to the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and Crown Lands Act 1989:

1. **note the submissions received from Botany Bay Boat Owners Club Inc. and Camperdown Bowling Club;**
2. **consider the request from the Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association for the grant of a temporary 12 month licence to it for the area of land at Tempe Recreation Reserve licensed to the former Cooks River Motor Boat Club Ltd; and**
3. **determine its preference for the future use of the site, noting that any lease of the site will need to be in accordance with the recreational purposes of the Tempe Recreation Reserve and have the concurrence of the Department of Lands.**

Neil Strickland
Director, Infrastructure Services

ATTACHMENTS

1. Submission by Botany Bay Boat Owners Club Inc.
2. Submission from Camperdown Bowling Club

C0310 Item 4 TEMPE RESERVE - LEASE TO COOKS RIVER MOTOR BOAT CLUB

File Ref: 2629/13870.10

The following persons addressed the meeting:

- Barry Cotter
- Jim MacDonald
- Albert Wilson
- Paul Sheil

Motion: (Byrne / Olive)

That the item be deferred for an expression of interest process for suitable use of the site and that a further report clarifies Council's liabilities with regard to the site.

Foreshadowed Motion: (Wright / O'Sullivan)

That Council, in its capacity as Reserve Trust Manager of the Tempe Recreation Reserve and subject to the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and Crown Lands Act 1989 approve the request for the Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association for the grant of a temporary 12 month licence to it for the area of land at Tempe Recreation Reserve licensed to the former Cooks River Motor Boat Club Ltd.

Amendment: (Olive / Peters)

That Council grant a lease to the Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association until the conclusion of the expression of interest process.

Clr Byrne incorporated the amendment into the motion.

Motion Lost

For Motion: Councillors Byrne, Phillips, Peters, Olive and Kontellis

Against Motion: Councillors Tsardoulis, Macri, Wright, Thanos, O'Sullivan and Hanna

Foreshadowed Motion Carried

For Motion: Councillors Tsardoulis, Macri, Wright, Thanos, O'Sullivan and Hanna

Against Motion: Councillors Byrne, Phillips, Peters, Olive and Kontellis

The Chairperson received a Rescission Motion signed by Councillors Phillips, Kontellis and Peters for Item 4 Tempe Reserve - Lease to Cooks River Motor Boat Club. The Chairperson ruled the Rescission Motion a matter of urgent business.

Rescission Motion**Item C0310 Item 4 TEMPE RESERVE - LEASE TO COOKS RIVER MOTOR BOAT CLUB****Motion: (Phillips / Kontellis)**

That the resolution for Item No C0310 Item 4 be rescinded and the following alternate motion be adopted:

1. that a three month lease be issued to the Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association; and
2. an expression of interest process be implemented for the lands to be decided within three months.

Motion Lost**For Motion:**

Councillors Byrne, Phillips, Olive, Peters and Kontellis

Against Motion:

Councillors Tsardoulas, Macri, Wright, Thanos, O'Sullivan and Hanna

Item No: C0913 Item 21
Subject: PLANNING PROPOSAL - 2-18 STATION STREET & 1 LEOFRENE AVENUE, MARRICKVILLE
File Ref: 4920/58247.13
Prepared By: Peter Failes - Urban Design Planner and Kendall Banfield - Team Leader, Planning Services

SYNOPSIS

This report assesses a planning proposal request for 2-18 Station Street, 1 Leofrene Avenue, Marrickville and the Station Street road reserve (the subject site). The planning proposal request seeks to amend Marrickville Local Environmental Plan 2011 (MLEP 2011) to increase Height of Building and Floor Space Ratio controls for the subject site and alter the Zoning of 1 Leofrene Avenue, Marrickville. This is intended to allow for a 16-storey mixed-use development with 120 residential units and approximately 510 square metres of retail floorspace. The basement includes car parking for the public and for residents, visitors and retail uses, as well as bicycle and motorcycle parking. A Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) has also been submitted which proposes public domain works that include a new elevated public space over Station Street. Based on the assessment of the planning proposal request in this report, it is apparent that whilst the proposal would bring a number of benefits to the Marrickville community, there are several areas of concern. Four issues in particular are considered critical and require resolution prior to the planning proposal proceeding. These relate to the building's excessive bulk, the impact of the building on the character of the streetscape and townscape, the building encroaching and dominating the public space and non-compliance with solar access provisions. Addressing these issues will have implications for the content of the VPA. This report recommends that Council commissions peer reviews of the proposed building envelope and public open space, following which, an officer's report on the findings of these reviews be considered by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. receive and note the report;
2. engage James Mather Delaney Design Pty Ltd, the consultants undertaking Council's Public Domain Study, to peer review the proposed public space design;
3. concurrent with 2 above, commissions a peer review of the proposed building envelope and relationship to the character of the Marrickville town centre by two suitably qualified consultants;
4. further consider the planning proposal request and Voluntary Planning Agreement once the peer review process has been completed;
5. write to the Minister for Transport and Transport for NSW to inform of the planning proposal request and to seek consultation concerning the co-ordination of planning processes for the public space associated with the proposed development and the proposed upgrade of Marrickville Railway Station; and
6. move into closed session to deal with this matter as information contained in CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 2 of the Report is classified as confidential under the provisions of Section 10A (2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the following reason:

- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.

And in accordance with Sections 10A (4) of the Local Government Act 1993, that the Chairpersons allow members of the public to make representations as to whether this part of the meeting should be closed.

OR, WHERE THE MEETING IS NOT CLOSED:

- 6A. resolve that CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 2 to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential.

BACKGROUND

Introduction

On 24 June 2013, Council received a planning proposal request and Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) from Emag Apartments Pty Ltd (the proponent) for a mixed residential/commercial development and associated public domain works at 2-18 Station Street and 1 Leofrene Avenue, Marrickville, and the Council-owned Station Street road reserve (the subject site).

The subject site is located directly adjacent to Marrickville Railway Station on the southern side and is nominated as a Master Plan site under the Marrickville Development Control Plan 2011 (MDCP 2011), within section 9.40 Strategic Context: Marrickville Town Centre (Commercial) (Masterplan Area 40.7).

The proponent has met with Council officers on a number of occasions to discuss the proposal. An initial meeting was held on 29 March 2012 in which it was confirmed that the proponent had acquired the subject site. At its meeting of 17 April 2012, Council resolved to defer the commencement of proposed streetscape upgrade works at Station Street Marrickville to allow for alternatives for the redevelopment of the precinct to be explored as part of the proposed redevelopment of the subject site. A Councillor Briefing was held on 26 February 2013, where the proponent indicated a preferred option for a 16 storey development.

Summary of planning proposal request

The planning proposal request seeks to amend Marrickville Local Environmental Plan 2011 (MLEP 2011) as follows:

- increased Floor Space Ratio (FSR) for the entire subject site (being 2–18 Station Street, 1 Leofrene Avenue and the Station Street road reserve, Marrickville) to 5.0:1;
(NB: to provide a comparison between the existing and proposed FSR for the developer-owned component of the subject site, it has been calculated that the FSR for Nos. 2-18 Station Street, Marrickville will change from 3.0:1 to approximately 8.3:1 and the FSR for No. 1 Leofrene Avenue, Marrickville will change from 0.6:1 to approximately 4.0:1);
- increased Height of Building (HoB) control for the entire subject site from currently permitted maximum of 26 metres to 59 metres; and

- rezoning of 1 Leofrene Avenue, Marrickville from R2 Low Density Residential to B2 Local Centre to enable this site to form part of the consolidated site and to permit 'shop top housing' as a permissible use with consent.

Any amendments to MLEP 2011 will also necessitate associated amendments to MDCP 2011. These amendments could be prepared and exhibited concurrently with amendments to MLEP 2011.

These amendments are intended to allow for a development comprising:

- a 16-storey building with retail uses on the ground floor and residential uses (120 apartments) above;
- a public space on a deck to be constructed by the proponent above the Station Street road reserve;
- a car park below the building and public space providing a total of 116 car parking spaces – 15 public spaces and 101 private spaces, as well as parking for bicycles and motorcycles and a publicly accessible lift access from public car parking spaces to the public open space above;
- modifications to public transport facilities (such as the bus stop) to improve the visual amenity and functionality of transport interchange functions; and
- potential for 2 Leofrene Avenue to be used as a public park, to be purchased by Council (not part of this planning proposal, but may be part of a future planning proposal and VPA).

A description of the 16-storey building, summarised from the planning proposal request, is as follows:

- basement level 2 - residential parking for 44 vehicles, 4 motorcycles and 32 bicycles;
- basement level 1 - residential parking for 40 vehicles, 33 bicycles and 8 motorcycles;
- ground level - private residential visitors parking for 11 vehicles and 47 bicycles; public parking for 15 vehicles, 7 motorcycles and 8 bicycles to be retained in ownership by Marrickville Council; and 6 retail spaces, 1 private loading space, access stairs, lift, garbage rooms, plant room;
- tower (podium level) - retail space 510 sqm internal with 150sqm of external private space and 1,327 sqm of external public space area (of which Council currently owns 1,121 sqm).
- tower (lower level) - 7 x 2 bedroom units (92.5 sqm per unit);
- tower (mid-access level) - 6 x 1 bed (50 sqm per unit), 4 x 2 bed (76 sqm per unit); and
- tower (upper level) - 7 x 2 bed (92.5 sqm per unit).

It is noted that the 15 residential floors consists of five groups of the three-level design, with each group having a lower, mid-access and upper level. The access to all dwellings within each group is only from the mid-access level, such that the mid-access level has single access apartments on either side of the corridor but the lower and upper levels have dual aspect. The residential component comprises a total of 120 apartments, with a mix of 30 one bedroom apartments and 90 two bedroom apartments. The elevations and sections indicate a mezzanine is also proposed, however, there are no floor plans, descriptions or areas given for this within the planning proposal request documentation. It is unsure if this is an error or a mezzanine is intended but not documented.

Planning proposal process

To amend an LEP, a planning proposal is required under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act). This is an explanatory document accompanying a proposed LEP which sets out its intended effect and the justification for making that plan. The EP&A Act does not dictate who prepares the planning proposal, however it is the role of the relevant planning authority (RPA) (in most cases local councils) to ensure the planning proposal provides accurate and sufficient information. The level and detail of information required will be dependent upon the complexity of the proposal.

Guided by an assessment and recommendation from the LEP Review Panel, the Minister may determine whether the planning proposal should proceed in its current form, be amended or resubmitted for any reason. Should the Minister determine the planning proposal should proceed, a Gateway determination would be issued which includes information requirements, community consultation requirements and the timeframe in which the required steps are to be undertaken.

A planning proposal may undergo further amendment following community consultation, with the Minister to determine whether further consultation is required. The drafting of the LEP to give effect to the planning proposal will then be undertaken by the DP&I, with the final plan made by the Minister and effective from its date of publication in the NSW Government Gazette.

Under the EP&A Act, Council has 90 days to determine whether or not to proceed with a planning proposal. Should Council resolve not to proceed, or not make a decision within this timeframe, the proponent may request the Minister to nominate an alternative Relevant Planning Authority to assess the planning proposal. At the time of Council's consideration of this report on 17 September 2013, approximately seven days of the 90-day period remains.

Information within planning proposal request

The following documents have been submitted to support the planning proposal request:

- Survey Plans by ATS Land and Engineering Surveyors Pty Ltd Sheets 1 to 6 dated 7.2.2012;
- Site Analysis, photomontages and Architectural Plans prepared by Cracknell and Lonergan Architects;
- Quantity Surveyors report prepared by BDA Consultants Pty Ltd dated 29th May 2013;
- Land Valuation report prepared by Alexander Catania;
- Traffic and Parking Report prepared by Traffix;
- Noise and Vibration Intrusion Assessment prepared by Acoustic Dynamics dated 3 May 2013;
- Accessibility report prepared by Design Confidence dated 19th June 2013;
- Drainage and infrastructure design prepared by John Romanous and Associates dated 18th June 2013;
- Urban design assessment prepared by Jones Sonter Architects dated 17th June 2013;
- Solar Access analysis prepared by Steven King, consultant architect dated 6 June 2013;
- Geotechnical Report prepared by Environmental Investigations dated 21 June 2012;
- Stage 1 Site Assessment Report prepared by Environmental Investigations dated 20th July 2012 Report No. E1629.1AA;
- Heritage Report prepared by Cracknell and Lonergan Architects;
- Preliminary Aeronautical Impact Assessment: Doc v0.9.1, 4.6.2013 by Strategic Air Space; and

- Landscape plan prepared by Denis Chan dated 19.6.2013.

Extracts attached to this report

The following extracts from the proponent's reports that make up the planning proposal request have been attached to this report for information as **ATTACHMENT 1**:

- Location Plan;
- Public Space Site Plan;
- Lot Plan;
- Landscape Plan;
- Illawarra Road Section;
- Photomontages;
- Floor Plans and Elevations;
- Shadow Diagrams (midwinter, conventional);
- Shadow Diagrams (midwinter, view from sun); and
- Public Space Site Plan highlighting access issues.

Voluntary Planning Agreement

Accompanying the planning proposal request is a VPA which relates to the construction of the raised public space area mostly within the Council-owned Station Street road reserve. The space has been designed to integrate with the proposed upgrade of Marrickville Railway Station, discussed below. Within the planning proposal request, the proponent describes the merits of the VPA as follows:

From an economic perspective the current FSR and height provided under MLEP 2011 are not sufficient to offset the cost of the public domain works and will not achieve a viable development that is capable of delivering significant public benefit. The cost of the public domain works far outweigh the contributions that will be derived from a resulting development at 26 metres in height. Therefore, in order to reduce the cost of the public domain works to Council, the proponent proposes to increase the height and density of the site.

In order to achieve the required public benefits, Council would need to allocate a minimum of \$4.5M to construct the public domain works. Council has indicated that it cannot financially fund the entire cost of the public domain works. Accordingly, the proposal includes a draft VPA providing the mechanism by which Council can achieve a built outcome in the public domain that is intrinsically linked to the future mixed use development on the subject sites.

A status update in relation to evaluation of the VPA is provided as a confidential attachment to this report as at **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 2**. In accordance with Council's VPA Policy, the assessment of the VPA is being reviewed by Council's General Counsel and will be the subject of separate reporting to the planning proposal request.

Proponent's justification for proposal

The proponent provides the following justification for the proposed development in the planning proposal request:

- *achieves the objectives and outcomes of the Draft Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney to 2031 by utilising existing infrastructure to provide new housing within existing urban environment to achieve growth and investment for Sydney;*
- *located at a major transport node, the development can provide density close to transport and employment, accessibility and affordability in a more effective way than traditional suburban/detached housing, and deliver genuine public transport orientated development;*
- *locating housing within a quality environment, close to work, transport links and established social facilities and retail outlets;*

- *housing choice to service increased numbers of working couples, single occupancy households and couples with no children;*
- *the development can boost the economic viability of Marrickville shopping strip and additional local population will support local services;*
- *high density in this location accords with TOD principles;*
- *the development incorporates improvements to public domain, parking and provides a high quality urban design;*
- *additional housing will provide a residential presence, increase diversity and safety and reduce journey to work times which in turn improves quality of life;*
- *the proposal represents the efficient use of available land, sustainable and energy efficient development and has the effect of relieving land pressure in outer areas in keeping with local and state consolidation objectives;*
- *best use of land in proximity to major transport infrastructure; and*
- *ability to identify the transport nodes by a physical structure encapsulating urban domain improvement that increase accessibility of Marrickville Station.*

Marrickville Station upgrade

There is an overlap between this proposal and the proposed upgrade of Marrickville Railway Station under the Transport Access Program. In this regard, the proponent met with Transport for NSW (TfNSW) on 6 September 2012 and 8 February 2013 to discuss the station upgrade. TfNSW confirmed that preliminary plans were in progress for a new station access to Marrickville Station, including new stairs, elevator and Station concourse. At the meetings, the proponent confirmed that they were proceeding with a development proposal on the subject site which involved a public space over Station Street. Both the proponent and Council officers were of the view that the public space should connect to the new station concourse to maximise access.

The proposed Marrickville Station upgrade was publicly exhibited by TfNSW between 29 April and 20 May 2013. The exhibition informed that Marrickville Station is planned to be upgraded with improved accessibility to the station by providing ramp and lift access for all commuters to both station platforms. The station upgrade would improve customer access and safety through the provision of shelter on the stairs, providing a family accessible toilet, as well as enhancing the overall identity and accessibility of the station. Key features of the station upgrade are: a new raised concourse and booking office on Illawarra Road at the apex of the road bridge; two new lifts providing access between the new raised concourse and Platforms 1 and 2; a ramp providing access between Illawarra Road and the new raised concourse; taxi, kiss-and-ride, car parking and bicycle parking facilities.

DISCUSSION

Scope of Council officers' assessment

This section of the report provides an evaluation of the following key aspects of the planning proposal request:

- strategic context;
- urban design;
- solar access & ventilation;
- infrastructure & civil works;
- traffic & transport;
- equity of access;

- community safety;
- privacy;
- noise and vibration;
- heritage;
- public & social impact;
- culture & recreation;
- economic considerations;
- contamination; and
- aeronautical considerations.

The assessment below is based on the proponent's reports for the planning proposal request and advice from Council specialists. Where relevant, the proponent and Council staff have been quoted. Each of the above matters has been assessed by Council officers and a conclusion reached as to whether critical issues have been raised and whether issues can be resolved at a later stage. From this assessment, it is apparent the proposal would bring benefits to the Marrickville community, but several significant issues of concern are also raised which require resolution prior to the planning proposal request proceeding.

Strategic context

The principle of increasing the density of development in and around railway stations and commercial centres is encouraged by key NSW Government planning policies, including the 2008 draft South Subregional Strategy, 2010 Sydney Metropolitan Strategy update and draft 2013 Sydney Metropolitan Strategy. It is also supported by key Council planning policies such as the 2007 Marrickville Urban Strategy, the 2007 Marrickville Integrated Transport Strategy, MLEP 2011 and MDCP 2011. It is also directly supported by MLEP 2011 Objective 2(b), which is *to increase residential and employment densities in appropriate locations near public transport while protecting residential amenity*, and is generally reflected in the Zoning, Floor Space Ratio, Height of Building controls within MLEP 2011. This is in turn reflected in controls within MDCP 2011. Increasing density is necessary for Marrickville Council, along with all other Sydney councils, to meet dwelling and employment targets prescribed by the NSW Government.

When MLEP 2011 was adopted in 2011, it was envisaged that future urban strategies and LEPs would facilitate redevelopment and increased densities in areas adjacent to the core commercial areas. The interface issues between the proposed development and single-story detached dwellings along Leofrene Avenue (discussed elsewhere in this report) will need to be considered as part of this proposal.

Under MDCP 2011 Section 9.40, the subject site is within the Marrickville Town Centre (Commercial Precinct 40). This precinct encompasses commercial development along Marrickville Road and Illawarra Road, Marrickville. The subject site falls within the Masterplan Area (MA) 40.7, which proposes envelope controls for Nos. 2-18 Station Street, but does not include controls for No. 1 Leofrene Avenue. The Masterplan includes the conversion of the Station Street road reserve into an upper square on an elevated deck, which the raised commercial floor of No. 2-18 Station Street would relate to on the western and northern side, and a lower square, to which the existing commercial properties at Nos. 20-24 Station Street would relate. It also includes the opportunity for new commercial space or some other use under the deck facing the lower square.

The restructuring of Station Street and raising of the commercial frontage for Nos. 2-18 Station Street under the Masterplan arose in response to concept designs prepared by TfNSW in 2008 for a proposed Easy Access upgrade of Marrickville Railway Station. The concept designs showed access to both the northern and southern platforms from a concourse off Illawarra Road at the top of the bridge, and removed the access from the southern platform off Station Street. It was considered that the change to the station access fundamentally changed the primary function of Station Street. It was considered this would result in Station Street having limited activation and commercial viability if it no longer had pedestrians accessing the station, and the area would be likely to further deteriorate. Accordingly, the Masterplan sought to restructure Station Street to better integrate with the new Marrickville Station configuration. At this stage, the Marrickville Station upgrade publicly exhibited by TfNSW, which has been based on the status quo of Station Street, still includes a secondary access from Station Street. This challenges the premise of the Masterplan structure. It is unknown if TfNSW will maintain the secondary access from Station Street if the raised deck approach was to proceed.

MDCP 2011 describes a number of elements of the desired future character for this precinct. Elements relevant to the proposal are:

- *to allow and encourage a greater scale of development within the commercial centre, including the provision of new dwellings near local shops, services and public transport to meet market demand, create the opportunity for high access housing choice and support sustainable living;*
- *to support excellence in contemporary design;*
- *where required, to ensure there are active commercial fronts to new buildings facing onto streets to create a vibrant and safe streetscape;*
- *to support pedestrian access, activity and amenity including maintenance and enhancing the public domain quality;*
- *to ensure higher density development enables sustainable building design and provides adequate amenity for residents;*
- *to ensure the design of higher density development protects the residential amenity of adjoining and surrounding properties; and*
- *to facilitate efficient parking, loading and access for vehicles that minimises impact to streetscape appearance, commercial viability and vitality and pedestrian safety and amenity.*

The consistency of the proposal with these matters is addressed within the urban design assessment section below and in other sections of this report.

Urban design

Council's Urban Design Planner has assessed the planning proposal request against the following 12 urban design principles within MDCP 2011 Section 2.1 *Urban Design*:

- *Principle 1 - Structure and connections - organise places that are consistent with, or improve, the urban structure and are well connected;*
- *Principle 2 - Accessibility - provide ease, safety and choice of access for all people;*
- *Principle 3 - Complementary mix of uses and types - maintain and create a complementary mix of uses and types of buildings and spaces;*
- *Principle 4 - Appropriate density - provide appropriate density, with the highest density focused on commercial centres and public transport nodes where accessibility is the greatest;*

- *Principle 5 - Urban form - manipulate urban form to clearly define public and private space and create spaces that are appropriate to the hierarchy, function and character of places;*
- *Principle 6 - Legibility - help people to understand how places work and to find their way around;*
- *Principle 7 - Activation - stimulate activity and a sense of vitality in public places;*
- *Principle 8 - Fit and adaptable public space - support the intended use of spaces while also allowing for adaptability;*
- *Principle 9 - Sense of place and character in streetscapes and townscape - recognise, preserve and enhance the characteristics that give places a valued identity and create high quality and distinctive streetscapes and townscape;*
- *Principle 10 - Consistency and diversity - balance design consistency and diversity to create order and interest;*
- *Principle 11 - Continuity and change - enhance the sense of place and time by embracing change yet respecting heritage values; and*
- *Principle 12 - Sensory pleasure - create places that engage the senses and delight the mind.*

The assessment against each of these principles is as follows.

Structure & connections

At this location, Illawarra Road rises up to the bridge over the railway barrier, which is located in the natural valley, linking the northern and southern parts of Illawarra Road. Station Street, running parallel to Illawarra Road, follows the natural topography down to access the south side of Marrickville Station, with the adjoining retail stepping down the street. This creates a divergence between the paths. With the proposed Marrickville Station upgrade defining the primary entry to be from the top of the Illawarra Road bridge, providing stairs and lifts to the north and south platforms, the role of Station Street is diminished.

This creates an opportunity to restructure the Station Street space to relate more to the Illawarra Road alignment, while still having to maintain the downward alignment fronting the mixed use buildings at Nos. 20-22 and 24 Station Street. This is also complicated by the need to create adequate height for service vehicles to access the vehicle entry on the eastern side, from the end of Leofrene Street. This requires the public space surface to also rise towards the eastern side, contrary to the Station Street cross-section which naturally falls towards the east. Resolving these diverging levels is critical to successfully restructuring Station Street into a functional and attractive new public space.

The location also provides a break-out space from the strongly contained linear structure of the Marrickville Town Centre of Marrickville Road, and immediate context of Illawarra Road. It currently provides some views of the railway tracks, Marrickville Station and rail land to the east, although is partially contained and restricted by the brick wall edges to the Illawarra Road bridge. Opportunity exists for a redevelopment to enhance this break out space and views of the railway areas. The proposal achieves this, having significantly improved from the earlier concepts, including setting back of the interior and exterior retail space to widen the area of public space on the northern side, making it a useable size.

The proposal is integrated with the Illawarra Road footpath grade to the north as it rises up. It attempts to resolve the conflicting slopes by introducing an extensive system of tiered steps that joins into the sloped walkway. However, this causes access issues and while providing a linkage between levels, it dominates and renders useless large areas of the western public space, which could be put to better use.

Tiered seating can create attractive public space where they can be used for informal seating and facilitate outlook to views and onto pop-up performance spaces. However, in this instance the seating mostly faces towards the closely located building edge, and is unlikely to be utilised. Also the extent of steps maximises the open connection to the new retail space at the upper level to the detriment of the existing commercial space, by narrowing the footpath down to an unacceptable 1.5m width.

The negative aspect of integrating into the Illawarra Road slope and general proposed sloping structure is that there are minimal level areas in the square, especially along the western side having 1:20 slope. This contrasts with the DCP master plan and concept plans generated in the Public Domain Concept Designs project, which proposed a retaining wall between a lower downward sloping square but a level upper square, links to Illawarra Road where the levels coincided and opportunity for a use under the deck facing the lower square (such as retail or public toilets).

There are other options that could be explored. For instance, one option would be to double the width of the Illawarra Road footpath and provide a levelled lower square. Another option would be to maintain Station Street in its current structure, restrict the development to 2-18 Station Street; narrow rear part of Station Street and 1 Leofrene Avenue, restrict the envelope to be consistent with current allowed height and FSR, and transform Station Street into a pedestrian square with levelled areas for outdoor dining and general use; and incorporate a major stair / tiered seating feature coming down from the new upgraded Station concourse.

While there are advantages and disadvantages of each approach, the proposed approach that effectively widens the footpath, improves accessibility, provides at-grade links with Illawarra Road and creates an even plane across the square is considered an acceptable approach. However, this approach requires significant refinement to minimise and rationalise the level changes as outlined above, maintain an adequate footpath space for the lower retail level and incorporate more areas for place functions, especially along the western side.

Accessibility

It is agreed that the concept plan, with a seamless public space integrated into the Illawarra Road alignment and ramp access up to the concourse, maximises accessibility. The optional proposal to link via a staircase down to the proposed relocated station access and pathway running adjacent to the railway corridor and staircase linking to Leofrene Avenue creates a physically and visually direct path of access, improves permeability, offers a choice of routes and facilitates vitality and retail viability in the northern part of the square from pedestrian movements. However, as discussed in the access section of this report, accessibility implications need to be further considered.

The existing Illawarra Road bridge wall currently restricts the views out (as has been raised in Principle 1 above). While having some heritage value, given the significant space created it is considered appropriate to demolish the parts of wall that are required to facilitate physical and visual access. This is recommended by Council's Transport Planner, who sees that *the brick wall currently on top of the Illawarra Road bridge should not be seen as an impediment to design excellence*, and is supported by Council Heritage and Urban Design Advisor, as discussed in the heritage section.

Complementary mix of uses

It is agreed that the appropriate mix for this site is predominantly residential development with well designed retail spaces on the ground floor, which could include cafés, restaurants, small bars, etc. Ideally, the development would also incorporate a component of office space or be designed to accommodate flexibility for use as office space in the future if the demanded by the market.

As discussed in the Public and Social Impact section of the report, it is imperative the public space is inclusive for all in the community and creates a mix of spaces, i.e. movement and place based spaces, spaces connected to transit activity and intimate quieter spaces. This also includes a mix of landscaping, outdoor dining, public seating, public art and space for pop-up activities. It is considered the proposal could be refined to achieve this, but this may impact on other aspects of the design, e.g. potentially removing parking to create adequately sized deep soil volumes for provision of substantial trees.

The other issue is the mix of unit types. Officers do not support the contention that only one and two bedrooms are demanded by the market. This issue is discussed in the Public and Social Impact section of the report, where it is argued that it will be beneficial to provide a mix of both very small studio dwellings as well as larger three bedroom units to accommodate all parts of demography of the Local Government Area (LGA).

Appropriate density

The subject site, being in Marrickville LGA's largest centre, adjacent to the Marrickville Station transit node and a new public space, is an appropriate place for the highest levels of density as a transit oriented development. It is also agreed that providing density in this location reduces the pressure for achieving dwelling densities elsewhere. While there is no issue with high density in principle, the issue is whether the resultant building form is appropriate.

Urban form

According to the proponent, in order to achieve a viable development, with a quantum of saleable floor area that makes it possible to fund the proposed public infrastructure, given the small area of the site, the building is required to extend out over the public space as a 'modernist' form of tower. The proposed tower form is a tall and bulky building in its context, with sheer walls, sitting on ground floor columns on an open public space underneath. While the retail level edge appropriately relates to the retail edge of Nos. 20-24 Station Street, defining the private and adjoining public space, the form of the building makes part of the 'public space', especially on the western side, function as a less than desirable undercroft space. Despite the first floor being raised between 5-7m above the public space ground plane, the boundaries between private and public space are blurred and the public space is 'privatised'.

The sheer wall landing onto the public space does not create a human scaled building edge to assist in defining a comfortable and attractive public space and will discourage lingering in this space, especially on the western side that strongly emphasises only movement through. The form of the public space detail being sparse and having significant slope exacerbates this. This form of tower with ground level columns would not mitigate potential wind impacts within the public space.

The proposed high and bulky building form will also have visual bulk impacts on the streetscapes of surrounding side streets, especially Leofrene Street and Schwebel Street. It will also impact on surrounding dwellings, especially dwelling houses on Leofrene Street, exacerbated by the limited setback of the tower element on the eastern side.

The issue with building form is not due to height in isolation, it is the combination of height, extensive width and bulk that creates a building with considerable visual bulk. A more slender building would be a more appropriate way to landmark higher density on the site.

Legibility

The proposed concept plan has been analysed in terms of the urban design language of the locality, being paths, nodes, landmarks, edges and districts.

- **Paths:** There are strongly defined paths in Illawarra Road; other cross paths linking along Schwebel, Warburton Streets (with links between future Carrington Road redevelopment through to McNeilly Park); links to the new Marrickville Station concourse; and other minor links such as Leofrene Avenue; the pedestrian/cycle path next to the rail corridor; and the secondary relocated Marrickville Station access. All these paths run adjacent to or through the site. The proposal integrates and enhances all these paths.
- **Nodes:** As raised previously, there is opportunity for a new public space at the node where the identified paths intersect, as a break-out from the strongly enclosed linear shopping spaces of the Marrickville town centre, which can serve transit movement and congregating functions. However, significant refinement is needed to create comfortable spaces that encourage congregation, and are not dominated or 'privatised' by any proposed building.

The appropriateness of converting No. 2 Leofrene Avenue into a memorial park is questionable, especially as the public space would be fully overshadowed in mid winter from midday onwards by the proposed tower. Also it would be a very small parcel of public space with limited potential. While its location is along the cross-link between McNeilly Park and a potential major redevelopment of the Carrington Road Precinct, it is not an obvious location for new public space. Instead, it is recommended that resources should be directed towards the proposed Station Street public space and embellishment of existing McNeilly Park, as contrasting forms of public space.

- **Landmarks:** As noted above the site is suitable for a landmark to identify the Marrickville Station location but the form of the proposed tower is not appropriate.
- **Edges:** The site bounds a significant railway corridor edge that forms a major barrier and concentrates movement though the crossing point of the Illawarra Road bridge. The site is effectively a gateway between the north and south part of the Marrickville town centre, and is a transit gateway. While poorly assisted by the Marrickville Station upgrade, the proposed development will enhance this constricted crossing point, highlighting the importance of the opportunity, and need to gain the best outcome possible to achieve this.
- **Districts:** As the site is located in the Marrickville district and town centre precinct at the transit gateway, the significance of the redevelopment supports the town centre being revitalised and reimaged.

Activation

The retail space is suited to food-and-drink type uses, and the public square located in a highly trafficked pedestrian transit area adjacent to Marrickville Station. There are multiple paths through the site with outdoor dining areas, places for general public use and space for temporary events. These are generally the attributes necessary to generate activity. However, as outlined above, significant refinement of the building and public space design are required to create comfortable spaces that encourage congregation and activation.

Fit & adaptable public space

As noted previously, while the space generally has the attributes to support the desired activity there are issues with the current design achieving this. The most critical issues are resolving the difficulty of the slope to integrate with Illawarra Road, the Marrickville Station upgrade and head height for service vehicle access. Also critical is adequate width to facilitate the movement functions, but this must be balanced against the need to create level, protected areas that are comfortable for sitting.

The proposed public open space, with a single ground plane for the majority of the space and sparse landscaping, has too much emphasis on flowing movement function. This has the benefit of creating an uncluttered space that provides potential for temporary activities such as festivals, street performance and other events, but lacks 'texture' and 'intimacy' to create protected spaces for people to linger. Other key public space issues (discussed later in this report) are the limited provision of large trees due to insufficient soil volumes and the need for further soft landscaping.

It is critical that the building, other structures and landscaping are designed to optimise environment elements, such as ventilation, strong winds, warming winter sun, hot summer midday and low western sun and noise that can destroy attractiveness of the space and keep people away. The final design needs to find the right balance to create an attractive space suitable for the greatest variety of functions.

Sense of place & character in streetscapes & townscape

The Marrickville town centre is designated as the largest centre in the Marrickville LGA under the draft South Subregional Strategy, Marrickville Urban Strategy and MDCP 2011. It is a traditional linear centre, with existing buildings being predominantly two to three storey shop-top street fronts along Marrickville and Illawarra Road, with many of the original buildings making a positive contribution to the streetscape and broader townscape character. The linear town centre is surrounded by a mix of low-scale dwelling houses and mid-scale residential flat buildings. The existing streetscape in the context of the subject site, while set back from the main street alignment due to the extra street width of the parallel Station Street, is consistent with this tradition two to three storey street front form.

Given the constraints of the existing streetscape and townscape character and surrounding residential development, under MLEP 2011 and MDCP 2011 the controls for the Marrickville town centre generally allow development to have a three storey street front form stepped up to five storeys behind. Six to seven storeys is permitted on key sites, including six storeys to the street front, such as gateway sites at the corner of Marrickville and Victoria Road and landmark and transit-oriented-development focused sites around Marrickville Station, including the subject site, where increased scale is appropriate and will not cause undue impacts on surrounding residential areas. Two to nine storey development is permitted on the site of the former Marrickville Hospital on the corner of Marrickville and Livingstone Road, with greater height suitable given the large site area, gateway location, potential civic use, and position opposite the open St Brigid's church grounds.

The restructuring of the Station Street precinct has the potential to enhance the 'break out' node as a unique place providing a contrast from the tightly contained Illawarra Road lineal commercial strip between Schwebel Street and the station entry. Ideally this would be expanded over the rail line with an open concourse to the widened footpath of the "Revolution" development (former Marrickville RSL) to Byrne Street as one continuous flowing widened space – but this is not supported by the Marrickville Station upgrade design.

In terms of the building envelope form, the proposal departs from the envelope approach applying to the Marrickville town centre described above. The approach of the proposal is to emphasise the significance of the location by incorporating a tall landmark building extending into the public space as a contrasting element to the street front building edge scale of the town centre. While different urban design approaches may be appropriate for the site in the context of the Marrickville town centre, it is considered the proposed 'boxy' and bulky design of the building dominates the Illawarra Road streetscape.

From a streetscape and townscape perspective, it is considered the most appropriate response is an envelope that addresses the street with a human-scaled building edge to assist in the forming a positive open space, with any taller elements being visually recessive. If a tower element is incorporated it needs to be a slimmer, more expressive form on the western street side, and be set back and/or stepped down on the eastern side.

The character of the streetscape in Leofrene Street, which is a low density low scale interwar housing subdivision, will also be impacted by the large scale of the building, which will be highly visible at the western end of the street. Given the proximity of Leofrene Street to the heart of the Marrickville town centre and Marrickville Station, it is inevitable that redevelopment of the subject site will change the character of the area. This would be the case to a certain extent even with the permitted development standards and envelope controls under MLEP 2011 and MDCP 2011, but will be further intensified by a larger scale of the proposal.

Consistency & diversity

It is appropriate in this unique Station Street precinct to create a contrasting space and building scale and form to stimulate interest and highlight the difference from the consistent Illawarra Road streetscape form. While the proposal achieves a contrasting scale, a more expressive, less bulky, slimmer, landmark form would be more appropriate to achieve this outcome in this location.

Continuity & change

The development restructures the Station Street precinct but retains its historical function of accessing the Station, which will become less relevant on the south side when the primary station access is from the concourse at the top of Illawarra Road. However, it is still beneficial to maintain a secondary link from the south-side station access (located adjacent to the relocated historic timber ticket building) via the stairs up to the square, to maintain the historical connection.

The proposal also retains at the retail level, a connection to the existing building front alignment. However, the break in scale and design form from the large overhanging of the sheer tower wall over Station Street will dominate and alter the sense of continuity of the public space, not respect it. It is considered the appropriate massing approach would be to address the street with a human-scaled building edge on the existing building front alignment, combined with a generous awning structure.

Sensory pleasure

The design requires resolution of the substantial issues identified, before it would be considered to achieve this principle. It is critical that Council ensures attention to detail is maintained to ensure a high quality outcome is attained for the public space and tower building.

Urban design summary

Due to the significance of the site adjacent to Marrickville Station, the inclusion of significant public open space and the major departure from the MLEP 2011 and MDCP 2011 controls, proposing a tall landmark building extending into the public space as a contrasting element, instead of the continuous human-scaled street-front building edge approach adopted for the Marrickville townscape, it is appropriate that a further design review of the planning proposal request be undertaken. To achieve this, it is recommended that a peer review of the overall urban design structure, the building form and design and the landscape design of the proposed public space be carried out.

As is evident from the recommendations of this report, the peer review should be in two parts. The first part, to be undertaken by two suitably qualified consultants, should review the proposed building envelope and relationship to the character of the Marrickville town centre. The second part, to be undertaken by James Mather Delaney Design Pty Ltd, the consultants undertaking Council's Public Domain Study, should review the proposed public space design.

If a planning proposal progresses to Gateway, appropriate development and envelope controls have been established and the scale of the development is similar to that currently proposed, it would be appropriate that the proposal undergo a competitive design process. This would require inclusion of a provision in MLEP 2011 requiring a design competition process to be undertaken at the development application (DA) stage. This is consistent with the approach taken by the City of Sydney that requires a design competition process for development greater than 55 metres on land in the Sydney CBD or 25 metres on any other part of the City of Sydney LGA.

Solar access & ventilation

Solar access & shading to public space

Within the planning proposal request, the proponent submits that the public space provides excellent outdoor solar access and shading amenity. It is agreed the proposed public open space will receive good winter solar access, and the colonnade will provide summer shading. However, it is noted that the model does not include the large roof form for the Marrickville Station upgrade, which will shade adjacent areas of the proposed public open space.

As is discussed elsewhere in this report, the public space will need to be shaded against the afternoon sun in the hotter months. The design of the public space area will need to accommodate deep soil planting areas so that larger trees can be installed in appropriate locations to provide this shade.

Solar access compliance

The planning proposal request states that 87.5 per cent of dwellings will receive a minimum 3 hours solar access to private open space and living areas in between 9am and 3pm in winter. Further, that the majority of apartments will receive winter sun for the entire day.

It is agreed that the proposed apartment design, comprising an elongated north face and a high proportion of dwellings having dual aspect, will have good solar access and natural ventilation for building occupants. However, it is considered the building design prioritises solar access for the dwellings over other aspects, such as visual bulk and overshadowing impacts on nearby dwellings, as is discussed elsewhere in this report.

The methodology used to assess the solar access impact of the proposed tower on surrounding dwellings is to create a 3D computer model of the existing and proposed buildings and then show 3D images every half hour from the view point of the sun at that time and date. Only the buildings which remain visible would receive solar access as a result of the proposed building. The planning proposal request only includes sites it deems the worst affected, being the principle living room windows and open spaces to the front of the residential flat building at No. 2-6 Schwebel Street. It concludes that these dwellings would receive solar access at 21 June from 9-10am and from 1-3pm, i.e. three hours, which exceeds the minimum two hours required under MDCP 2011.

The accuracy of this methodology is limited by the accuracy of the resulting 3D model. Complete land survey information has not been submitted, therefore it is unclear what information the 3D model has been built from. Regardless, this cannot be assessed without undertaking a detailed computer analysis. Plan shadow drawings have also been submitted but are not to scale and also cannot be assessed without access to survey information.

Notwithstanding, the solar model images have been analysed in this report with the assumption the modelling is correct.

The approach of only considering the worst affected dwellings is flawed, because the MDCP has controls that seek to retain sun to more than just the worst affected dwellings. From the information available it appears that some apartments at No. 2-6 Schwebel Street, will not receive the minimum 2 hours of solar access because the horizontal sun angle is less than the Land and Environment Court's accepted standards

Similarly living room windows on the northern side of No. 2 Leofrene Avenue may receive less than two hours and the western windows would only receive solar access from 2 and 2.15 to 3pm, therefore solar access would be received for only 45min to one hour at most. Despite the proposed conversion of this site to a park, this shadow impact is a relevant consideration.

It is possible that windows on the western side of Nos. 4, 6, 8 and 10 Leofrene Avenue relate to principal living areas and currently receive two hours solar access after 12pm until 3pm. These dwellings have not been considered in the report submitted by the proponent. Additionally, the western facing balconies at No. 8 Schwebel Street are likely to have windows to principal living areas on the lowest level. These currently only receive solar access from 10.30am to 12.30pm, achieving two hours. As a result of the proposed development these windows would be overshadowed from 11-11.30am, and would therefore only receive solar access for 1.5 hours.

Consequently, it is likely that the proposed development is non-compliant with the solar access controls. Regardless, there is a lack of information to assess the impacts on the windows of some potentially affected dwellings as well as the accuracy of the solar access modelling.

Given the scale of the proposed development and potential impacts, it is considered these solar access implications are fundamental issues that need to be resolved prior to a planning proposal progressing to public exhibition or Gateway.

Infrastructure & civil works

Scope of assessment

Following is discussion of Council land and asset management, general civil works, stormwater management and tree management, raised by the proposal. This discussion is based on comments from staff from Council's Design and Investigation and Development Assessment sections.

Ownership & maintenance of public areas

Council's Coordinator Asset Planning has raised issues in relation to Council's responsibility to maintain all public areas and has provided the following comments on the asset implications of the proposal:

The proposed public square, memorial park, urban renewal and public parking will provide an increased level of service for Council to maintain for the benefit of the local community. The costs associated with maintaining these new infrastructure assets must be considered for the whole of lifecycle. Some areas of the concept design that should be reviewed in order to provide for more cost effective long term maintenance include the steps to the public square (steps have an increased liability for maintenance, less steps or ramp is preferred), decorative paving material, pit and pipe design, light poles and LED lighting. Operational costs will be created upon handover of the assets requiring increased annual spending on activities including maintaining turf, trees and other soft landscaping, cleaning of the square including litter and washing of pavers, pit and pipe cleaning, lighting, security and monitoring of parking.

Maintenance and renewal programs will be increased in the future for pavers, concrete, lighting, balustrade replacements.

Public area facilities

Council's Coordinator Asset Planning has also suggested that the public areas include facilities such as public toilets, seating and shaded meeting spaces, as recommended by Council's Recreation Needs Strategy.

Stormwater management

Stormwater management is an important consideration in the creation of the deck as it will alter the current overland flow of stormwater in Station Street. Notwithstanding, the altered stormwater regime can be managed through appropriate design, so this is not a critical issue. Council's Design Engineer has provided detailed advice on stormwater management, but has not raised critical issues. Note that these details will be provided to the proponent for the detailed design stage.

Illawarra Road retaining wall

Council's Design Engineer has required an assessment of condition of the Illawarra Road retaining wall (bridge abutment) be assessed for existing condition to ensure 100% structural integrity. This is to ensure that Council has no liability or need to maintain it into the future.

Process for assessing public space design

Council's Coordinator Landscape Design & Project Management has suggested that the public space be assessed as part of the Public Domain Study. This suggestion is a recommendation of this report - that the recently-appointed study consultant will undertake an assessment of the proposed Station Street public space as an initial task.

Tree issues

Council's Tree Management Coordinator has provided detailed advice on tree issues. The main concern raised is that there is not sufficient soil in the planter box landscaped areas for larger trees to form a wide canopy and provide necessary shade. This issue has also been raised by other staff and is discussed elsewhere in this report. The Tree Co-ordinator's detailed comments will be provided for the peer review and to the proponent. It is important that this issue be considered early in the design process, as the location of deep-soil planting areas has implications for the design of the public space and basement parking area.

Traffic & transport

Transit-oriented development

Council's Transport Planner has advised that *this is a transit-oriented development adjacent to Marrickville Station offering substantial opportunities for reduced dependency on private cars and a more sustainable lifestyle.* This type of development is supported by key NSW Government and Council plans and policies, as described in the strategic context section of this report.

Train & bus services

It is agreed with the proponent's traffic/transport report the subject site is (by Sydney standards) well served by public transport, i.e. trains and buses. Marrickville Railway Station (on the Bankstown Line) interchanges with Route 423 bus service (Kingsgrove to City) along Illawarra Road. Other bus services, such as the 426 (Dulwich Hill to City), 418 (Tempe to Burwood) and Metro 30 (Sydenham to Mosman) along Marrickville Road are within reasonable walking distance.

The existing bus stop adjacent to Marrickville Station has traditionally provided for a modest bus-train interchange as well as general access to the commercial centre. The proposal will retain the bus stop in its current location and provide a new shelter in a more open and aesthetically improved design. Council's Heritage Advisor has advised that the existing bus stop has no heritage status and does not need to be retained. As discussed elsewhere, the proposed Easy Access upgrade of Marrickville Station will further improve the look, functionality and ease of access of the station and precinct.

Pedestrian access

The Station Street precinct is a vibrant, culturally important and well-used pedestrian precinct around a significant public transport node. It is thus appropriate that pedestrians be assigned highest priority in the redesign of this space and pedestrian spaces be given a high quality of treatment. As indicated by the proponent, the precinct provides 'gateway' access to and from Marrickville Railway Station, the commercial centre and surrounding streets and laneways.

The proposal offers an opportunity to build on the precinct's positive features by further improving pedestrian access and the 'look and feel' of the space. In this regard, Council's Transport Planner considers that *the creation of a new public square, which is to be integrated with the development of a new station concourse, will create a new focus for Illawarra Road, enabling seamless access throughout the plaza whilst augmenting the focus on the (new) station and increasing its appeal to customers.*

Council's Transport Planner considers that the main features of the public domain design should be supported from a pedestrian access perspective – *footpath widening along Illawarra Road, the removal of vehicle access from Station Street, improved connectivity to Leofrene Street, a potential new bus stop layout and relocated kiss & ride facilities all enhance the immediate pedestrian environment.*

Given the location and nature of Marrickville Station, access is primarily by walking, and the proposal will play an important role in improving walking access to and from the station before and after the station is upgraded. It is agreed with Council's Transport Planner that it is important to *ensure the pedestrian connections with the new station concourse are of a high quality with regard to urban design, transparency and equal access. In this regard, much collaboration with TfNSW will be required should the development progress.* Council staff have been involved in several meetings in 2012/13 with the proponent and TfNSW staff with the aim of ensuring the designs for this proposal and the station upgrade are well co-ordinated. This report recommends that Council writes to the Minister for Transport to inform of the planning proposal request and to seek consultation over interface issues between the proposed development and the proposed upgrade of Marrickville Station.

As well as improving access to the station, the proposal also provides an opportunity to improve pedestrian access generally in streets immediately surrounding the precinct. In particular, Council's Transport Planner and Design Engineer have identified the need to retain and reinforce the existing zebra crossings on Schwebel Street and Illawarra Road by placing them on a platform. This is strongly supported. In the longer term, there may be preferable alternative pedestrian treatments, but whatever treatments are ultimately adopted, they must be of high quality to ensure pedestrians are given the highest priority of access.

A final important pedestrian access consideration is the relationship of the proposal to the pedestrian-only laneway that runs from the western end of Station Street adjacent to Marrickville Station through to Myrtle Street. This valuable pedestrian short-cut should be well integrated into the design, and the proposal provides an opportunity to fund a modest upgrade of the entire length of this laneway – a distance of around 250 metres.

The proposed “optional” stair access from the raised public space to this laneway, between the development and station, is supported. Also supported is the proposed stairway access from Leofrene Street to the raised public space and the ground level pedestrian laneway that connects the abovementioned laneway to Leofrene Street. These laneways and stairways provide multiple access points (for pedestrians and cyclists), increasing the permeability of the precinct and enhancing surveillance/security.

Though supported, these stairways are not universally accessible, and it is noted that this issue has been raised by Council’s Access Officer in the ‘equity of access’ section of this report. Universal access could be provided by a lift located at the north-east corner of the site.

Vehicular access

The planning proposal request now incorporates 1 Leofrene Avenue as part of the vehicle access design. This is much improved from earlier versions of the design from the perspective of motor vehicle access and traffic management. Earlier schemes proposed a combination of access via the current narrow ‘rear lane’ part of Station Street and also via Station Street adjacent to the public square and remaining shop fronts, which caused significant vehicle/pedestrian conflict and reduced the amenity and aesthetics of the square. Under the current proposal, the widened access from the rear allows for access away from the main public face of the development.

The proponent’s traffic study has determined that the increase in traffic associated with the proposal will not significantly affect the critical intersection of Illawarra Road, Schwebel Street and Warburton Street. The overall increase in traffic from the proposal is considered by the traffic study to be acceptable, and this increase can be accommodated by the existing road network without alteration.

Notwithstanding, the study states that signalisation of the abovementioned intersection would further improve this intersection’s performance. This conclusion is generally supported, subject to additional updated traffic information being provided in accordance with the Council’s Design Engineer’s requirements below.

The following comments on motor vehicle traffic and access from Council’s Design Engineer and Traffic Planner have been provided:

- *Traffic generation rates should be updated with regard to the RMS Technical Direction (TDT 2013/04) - Guide to Traffic Generating Developments - updated traffic surveys (Regional Average).*
- *The analysis for the intersection of Schwebel Street and Illawarra Road is acceptable if using the current RMS guidelines for traffic generating developments. The consultant should use updated traffic generation rates (refer to Point 1). In this regard, Council’s Design Engineer has advised that the possibility of signalising the intersection will need to be reviewed once an updated traffic analysis is undertaken and a full assessment as part of any future DA is undertaken.*
- *The proposed roundabout is not required as generated volumes are not high and traffic in Schwebel Street is relatively low.*
- *Traffic count data and analysis, taking into account traffic generation and impact on intersections around the development needs to be provided with any future DA.*

Concerns have also been raised about:

- circulation for proposed visitor and public space area;
- the loading area on site being increased to accommodate a medium rigid vehicle (MRV) on the site instead, not just a small rigid vehicle (SRV);
- a loading zone (suitable for a MRV) within the proposed kiss-and-ride area on Schwebel Street outside the peak commuter times; and

- Schwebel Street is not wide enough to cater for on-street parking, a traffic lane (either direction), bicycle lane and a median island.

Car parking

120 units are proposed in total, and of these 24 are required to be adaptable. These 24 units generate a requirement for 24 mobility parking spaces for residents and 6 mobility spaces for visitors. The remaining 96 non-adaptable units generate a requirement for 67 spaces for residents and seven spaces for visitors. This results in a total of 30 mobility spaces and 74 conventional spaces (104 spaces in total) for the residential component of the development. As 96 spaces are proposed, the proposal is deficient eight spaces if it is to strictly comply with DCP Amendment 1 for the residential component.

Nine mobility spaces are proposed for the residential component, whilst above it is explained that Council's DCP Amendment 1 requires a total of 30 mobility spaces (24 for residents and 6 for visitors) – hence the proposal is deficient by 21 mobility spaces. No issues are raised in relation to proposed mobility parking for the retail component. As mobility parking spaces are wider than standard spaces, provision of mobility parking has important implications for the size, design and cost of the basement car park.

Despite non-compliance, it could be argued that all types of parking for this proposal be provided at lower rate than required by Council's DCP Amendment 1, by virtue of the site's high level of access to trains, buses, shops and other services. It is universally recognised that this development can be seen as an example of transit-orientated-development, and Council's DCP includes a general aim to constrain parking in accessible areas.

Further, MDCP Section 2.10 Parking also includes a number of criteria that could be used to justify car parking at a lower than required by the DCP. Potentially relevant criteria for this site are:

- *located adjacent to high-frequency public transport services and/or urban services;*
- *existing site and building constraints make provision of car parking impractical;*
- *includes management regimes to minimise car use, such as workplace travel plans or on-site carshare schemes;*
- *provides a business or social service that benefits the local community and contributes to the vitality of the area;*
- *development targeted to demographic sector with low car use/ownership;*
- *safety of motorists, pedestrians and cyclists is unduly compromised by provision of parking; and*
- *parking for the development is consistent with the aims and objectives of this section of MDCP 2011."*

Several of these criteria could apply to the proposal, particularly– *location adjacent to public transport and/or urban services*. *Site and building constraints* could also be relevant if the additional 8 spaces resulted in the need to create an additional level of basement parking. These additional spaces would therefore come at a high marginal cost. Carshare is likely to be viable in this accessible location, and provision of a small number of carshare parking spaces within the proposed car park may alleviate the need for some of the residents and shopkeepers within the proposed development to own a car (or second car). This would further assist in reducing parking demand.

The additional resident spaces required by DCP Amendment 1 could be provided if the number of public spaces (not required by Council's DCP) was reduced or waived altogether. Waiving the public spaces may be appropriate given the site's transit-orientation, the cost saving to council, the benefits redirecting these finances towards the pedestrian space and the fact that Council would not have to deal with the logistical and security issues associated with managing public spaces within a private building. This needs to be balanced against the wider access benefits of this kind of parking, including commuter parking for seniors and people with mobility issues, as noted by Council's Coordinator Social Planning Policy. The realisation of this benefit can be decided as part of any DA, depending on how these spaces are regulated.

No issues are raised in relation to the proposed six retail spaces. Although only four are required according to the DCP, the additional two spaces are considered a minor variation. Waiving these additional two spaces may be warranted if it can help prevent the need to create an additional level of basement parking. As these are not 'public' spaces, they will be managed by the building owner/manager without Council's involvement.

The information submitted demonstrates that the site is capable of accommodating an appropriate amount of parking to service any redevelopment consistent with the proposed LEP amendments. Parking provision would be fully assessed with any future DA.

Bicycle access

Bicycle access is also an important consideration in and around this precinct. According to the 2007 Marrickville Bicycle Strategy, the proposal is located adjacent to Regional Route 4, which runs north-south along Illawarra Road, and Local Routes 5 and 19, which run east-west from Schwebel to Warburton Street. As such, bicycle treatments should be considered as part of this proposal on all roads surrounding the precinct. Council's Design Engineer has advised the proposal should *extend the cycleway connection to Schwebel Street by removing the existing blister at the laneway and Schwebel Street and widening the footpath between Leofrene Street and Schwebel Street.*

Bicycle parking

For the residential component of the proposal, Council's DCP requires 1 resident bicycle parking space per two units and 1 resident visitor space per 10 units, regardless of size. This results in a total of 72 spaces. For the retail component, 2 spaces are required. Although 74 spaces are required, 109 are proposed to be provided. This higher level of provision is supported, provided the facilities are appropriate and well located. Racks are preferred in most instances – for ease of use and cost effectiveness. The proponent and Council's Design Engineer have recommended bicycle parking also be provided in the public space for use by visitors to units, shoppers and commuters. The Marrickville Bicycle Strategy identifies Marrickville Station as having medium-priority in provision of commuter bicycle parking (Sydenham Station has highest priority), and TfNSW should be consulted in locating/implementing commuter bicycle parking. In all instances, location is critical, racks are preferred, and weather protection is desirable. The final number and location of bicycle spaces (mostly racks) should be a key consideration in the ongoing discussions with TfNSW and be determined at the DA stage, with reference to DCP requirements. Provision rates should be refined at that time to avoid gross under provision or over provision.

Equity of access

'Internal' & 'external' access issues

The planning proposal request raises 'external' and 'internal' access issues. External issues include access to, from and across the public open space, whilst 'internal' issues include access within car parks, lobbies, retail uses and dwellings. The proponent's access report has determined that the proposal is able to comply with relevant access standards for all areas - external and internal. Relevant standards are given as BCA 2013, Council's DCP Section 2.5 *Equity of Access and Mobility* and AS1428.1-2009.

Public space & car park access

With regard to 'external' areas, the proponent's access report assesses the six pedestrian entries to the public square and car park. Of these, four are proposed to be designed to be accessible in accordance with AS1428.1-2009.

The proponent's report states that a detailed access review of the proposal will be undertaken at the DA stage. This review will refine pedestrian entry designs and will include information treatments such as way-finding signage and kerb ramps complying at road/footway intersections in accordance with AS1428.1-2009. Importantly, the review will also assess options for providing a passenger lift from the public carpark (if provided) to the upper-level public open space.

Council's Social Planning Policy Coordinator has noted the opportunity brought about by the proposal to *improve the amenity and accessibility of the public space and connectivity to and from the station and broader social space for interaction ...* but has raised many detailed access issues in relation to the design of the public open space. Whilst important, most are at a level of detail not relevant to the assessment of this planning proposal request, and the full account of these issues will be appropriately considered at the DA stage.

Three 'external' access issues that have been raised by Council's Social Planning Policy Coordinator and Council's Strategic Community Project Officer (Access and Inclusion) merits discussion.

The first of these issues is concern about whether the proposed public open space, which provides a one in 20 continuous grade surface, creates an accessible connection between the southern and northern part of Illawarra Road over the bridge. To achieve accessible status, the critical links between the public space and Illawarra Road must be accessible and seamless. Further, the raising of the angle of the deck against the natural cross section fall of Station Street and fall of this part of Schwebel Street could compromise the accessible pathway from Schwebel Street into the public open space.

The second issue is the need to resolve the detailed design of the interface between the Illawarra Road bridge footway, the public space, the proposed station entrance and the access ramp leading to the proposed station entrance. Careful design of this area is critical to the effective functioning of the public space and upgraded station from an access perspective. As such, resolution of the detailed design of this area should be undertaken at the earliest opportunity with input and agreement from all relevant stakeholders.

The third issue is the desire for retention of the existing at-grade (accessible) entry from Station Street to the out-bound platform of Marrickville Station and other public connections beyond, in the context of the proposed raised public space. Although it is a matter for any DA, a lift would most likely be required in this location to ensure equitability.

Adaptable dwellings

With regard to 'internal' access issues, Council's Strategic Community Project Officer (Access and Inclusion) has noted that the proposal provides an opportunity to increase the supply of adaptable units, as is proposed. It also provides an opportunity to apply 'livable' or 'universal' housing design principles. Under the agreed national program to reach supply benchmarks, a series of design principles detailing the key 'easy living' features could be readily applied to this development.

Although Council's DCP already requires provision of one adaptable dwelling per five dwellings, there is increasing support for promotion of livability above ideas of adaptability. Approaches reliant on AS4299 to address changing housing needs over a person's lifetime don't necessarily address contemporary problems. These include adequate supply, effective distribution of this type of housing and added costs for residents who may need to further modify AS2899 designs to incorporate livable housing parameters. Council's Strategic Community Project Officer (Access and Inclusion) suggests the application of 'gold level' livable/universal design principles to all. Application of these principles is not critical to this planning proposal request but could be considered at the DA stage.

Council's Building Team Leader has assessed the proposed building access arrangements against the Building Code of Australia, which requires "*access to be provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants and includes any level of the building containing accessible car parking spaces*" and has raised no access issues in relation to the common curtilage areas of the building and the public car park.

Community safety

Community safety principles

The public space and below surface public car park have been assessed against principles of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPED). This assessment raises the proposed public car parking as a potentially critical issue that will require resolution prior to a planning proposal proceeding. The remaining issues are not critical and can be further assessed at later stages of the planning process.

Surveillance

The proposal is generally consistent with this principle, as it will create a public space incorporating permeable links through the public space with retail uses with open glass walls facing towards this space. Residential uses above would add to active and passive surveillance. The western area adjacent to Illawarra Road will have high levels of surveillance given the location and passing vehicular traffic. It is expected the northern area of public open space will have reasonable surveillance in the early night-time period from passers-by using the ramp to the station concourse, and staircase connecting with the secondary station access and path adjacent to the railway corridor.

The eastern areas of public open space, including the minor connection through to Leofrene Street, will have the least surveillance. The extent of surveillance in the early night-time period will be dependent on the type of commercial use and hours of operation. Appropriate commercial uses that operate later into the night should be encouraged in the interests of surveillance. As discussed elsewhere in this report, the 'isolated' public car park is likely to be problematic at times when there is limited use, and would require additional security measures.

Access control

The proposal generally defines public and private space clearly. However, given the low level of natural surveillance of the eastern area of public space (discussed above), it may be preferable for this area to be privately managed, possibly with private security arrangements, when the retail space is not operating. As discussed above, if public parking is provided, it would be necessary for it to be secured for a period in the late night and early morning period, as 24-hour access may lead to security issues.

Territorial reinforcement

Given the proposed raised deck is public space, some residents of the proposed apartments may not feel a strong sense of ownership of the space, but this sense of ownership could be enhanced by quality design and the operation of the proposed ground-level commercial uses, including night-time uses.

Space management & maintenance

Council's Coordinator Social Planning Policy has made the following comments about community safety of the proposed public car park:

This area already has a reputation for "theft from person" incidents close to the station and other anti social behaviour. An underground car park would lack natural surveillance, possibly creating an environment where such incidents or behaviour could grow. It is highly recommended that such a car park be closed from 10pm through to 5am, have surveillance cameras and very good lighting. Marrickville Local Area Command's Crime Prevention Officer can provide detail as to suitable conditions to be put in place to limit crime incidents within such a facility.

This comment highlights the importance of good-practice space management and maintenance for the public open space and public parking (if provided) and these can be further assessed and impacts mitigated as par of any future DA.

Privacy

The concept plan submitted with the planning proposal request shows balconies and windows, especially on the eastern and western side, that may cause visual and acoustic privacy impacts for surrounding dwellings. This can be addressed at the DA stage.

Noise & vibration

The proponent has submitted a report on rail and aircraft noise and vibration intrusion that includes suggested measures that can be adopted at the detailed design and construction stage that will enable compliance with relevant standards. The proponent's report concludes that *the incorporation of the recommendations of this report into the design and construction of the proposed development will achieve compliance with the relevant acoustic design requirements of Marrickville Council and the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure.*

It is agreed with the proponent that no critical noise and vibration issues are raised by this planning proposal request. A more detailed assessment of noise and vibration issues will be undertaken at the DA stage, and it is anticipated that the proposal will be able to comply with all relevant standards.

Heritage

Council's Heritage and Urban Design Advisor has provided the following comments on the planning proposal request:

The Heritage Impact Statement is acceptable. There are no noteworthy impacts to heritage significance brought about by the proposal:

- *The scale of the development is evidently significantly higher than everything else around it. This however does not pose a negative heritage impact in itself. The nearest Heritage Conservation Area (HCA) is the Civic Precinct HCA located along the commercial precinct of Marrickville Road and is not impacted by this proposal.*
- *Marrickville Railway Station is the only heritage item in the vicinity and this will not be impacted by the development. The raised podium at this interface will not detract from the station itself. The optional stairs to the platform would be a positive in increasing connectivity between the two sites.*
- *The wall [on the edge of Illawarra Road] may be considered to have some significance due to its connection to the overbridge which is included as a significant component of the Item, although the boundaries may indicate that this significance halts at the end of the bridge. Having said that, if the wall is considered to have significance, it is low, and therefore its alteration will not detract from the item. Any alterations to it would be weighed up in light of the overall planning benefit.*
- *The shelter is probably 1980s in age and has no heritage value.*
- *The site of the proposal (2-18 Station Street) is currently a cluster of altered shops from the Federation and Interwar eras, little original detail remains. None of the buildings contribute in a significant way to the history or heritage of the area, therefore their retention is not deemed necessary.*
- *Likewise the demolitions required of houses at 1 and 2 Leofrene Ave would not have a significant impact on the streetscape because the demolitions would occur at the end of the street and therefore do not upset the character of the rest of the street. No. 2 Leofrene is an intact period building and therefore its conservation is preferred, however a pocket park would certainly be a positive urban design result in that location and improve the vista from Illawarra Road down Schwebel Street.*
- *The adjoining site at 20-22 Station Street has no heritage value.*

In summary the site is underutilised. Because it is in a key strategic location, intensification of use and improved public spaces will be positive for the area. The design does not generate negative heritage impacts.

Public & social impact

Scope of assessment

Council's Manager Community Development has provided comments relating to perceived public and social impacts of the proposal. Social benefits of the residential component of the proposal are identified, such as the provisions of additional housing within the LGA and its proximity to public transport and other services. The provision of two adaptable units on each mid level is identified as beneficial, particularly for an aging population. However, Community Development questions the ability of a building of this scale to align with perceived community values and standards.

Public space & new park

The public space in the planning proposal request is considered to have some positive aspects by Community Development, including the ability to assist pedestrian and commuter accessibility and safety, as well as providing meeting spaces for residents. However, the quality of the public space is considered potentially compromised due to the high volume of pedestrians and commuters moving through the space. It is considered that the proposed configuration and size of the public spaces within the proposal may not suit all members of the community, particularly young people, seniors and mothers.

Community Development has also expressed support for the new green space within the planning proposal request, whilst noting that Council needs to consider impacts on other areas of open space located near the subject site as a result of the development.

Dwelling mix

In terms of dwelling mix, Section 5.1.5.2 of MDCP 2011 requires a new residential developments with six or more dwellings to provide a mix of dwelling types to meet the different accommodation needs of society (5-20% being Studio, 10-40% being 1 bedroom, 40-75% being 2 bedroom and 10-45% being 3 bedroom or bigger). Having a diversity of household size supports social diversity of the community.

The planning proposal request proposes 1 and 2 bedroom dwellings for the residential component of the development (30 x 1 bedroom dwellings and 90 x 2 bedroom dwellings). The planning report included within the concept plan submits that:

A residential building in this location according to the Draft Sydney Metropolitan Strategy (the "Draft Strategy") does not require 3 bedroom units. Larger units will attract higher prices particularly where district views are provided. The intent is to provide more affordable housing options for the community and in this instance, it is appropriate that the SEPP 65 apartment mix rule of thumb is set aside. Council's community plan identifies a need at a local level to provide more affordable housing and new 3 bedroom dwellings in excess of \$750,000 are not required in this particular location according to initial market response. The proponent must deliver a development the market is willing to accept not because it is designed to comply with a planning rule of thumb.

The proponent's position is not supported, as it is considered important for such a significantly sized transit-oriented development to accommodate a range of household sizes. The development should include the studio apartments for single-person households. It should also include larger apartments for families, which would be more affordable than comparable new dwelling houses and ensure diversity of housing stock that would become relatively more affordable as the building ages.

Council's Social Planner has provided the following data and comment about relative affordability of apartments over dwelling houses and demand for family sized dwellings:

- *At the December quarter 2012 median sales prices in Marrickville South for single dwellings was \$722k and for units \$459k – while there are no figures for size of dwelling there is a significant difference between house and unit prices and this would make a unit more affordable to some families.*
- *Rental prices for two bedrooms give another indication of the difference – median rent for a two bedroom single dwelling was \$570/week while median rent for a two bedroom unit was \$430/week.*

- *At the 2011 census about 20% of couples with children households and 33% of single parent households lived in units. About 38% of couples without children households lived in units. In accordance with current trends some of these couples are expected to have children and stay in unit accommodation so the proportion of households with children living in units is expected to increase. Larger units will make it easier for them.*

In conclusion, a development proposal, following any amendment to the LEP will need to demonstrate a better mix of dwelling size.

Culture & recreation

Council's Acting Manager of Culture and Recreation has raised similar concerns to those discussed previously, that the quality of the public open space should be improved to make it more usable and have greater overall appeal. The question has also been raised about the potential to integrate public art into the design, including the treatment of the north facing blank wall fronting the southern platform of Marrickville Station and the east wall facing the bike/pedestrian laneway. Treatments could include public art and/or creation of 'green walls'. The issue of the quality of the public space within the proposal is discussed in detail in the *Urban Design* section of this report. The issue of including public art within the proposal can be further discussed at the DA stage.

Economic considerations

Council's Economic Development Advisor has considered the proposal and considers that from an economic perspective, the proposed development would assist in maintaining vibrancy in the Marrickville central business district. The benefit of connecting this section of Marrickville to the commercial sections along Marrickville Road and other parts of Illawarra Road is also noted and identified as highly desirable for long term sustainability of local businesses. Council's Community Development section has noted that local businesses should benefit from increased residents, which would contribute to the revitalisation of the business area.

It is agreed that the proposed development will assist the revitalisation of the Marrickville area, particularly between the subject site and Marrickville Road. The subject site has been identified within the MDCP 2011 as a potential development site, along with other sites along Illawarra Road and Marrickville Road. The redevelopment of these sites aims to support existing services and business in the area, whilst also encouraging the development of new commercial enterprises.

Contamination

No critical contamination issues are raised by the proposal at this stage. However, the proponent's contamination report requires a field-based investigation for 2-18 Station Street.

The planning proposal request includes an initial (Stage 1) Environmental Site Assessment report for 2-18 Station Street. The report states: *given that no evident sources of mobile contamination could be visually identified on site, it is considered that contaminants associated with past land uses, even if present, would be confined to the upper surface material and the associated impact would be minimal. Furthermore, it is considered that there would be no major difficulties in remediating the site, should it be required.*

The report recommends a field-based investigation be conducted after demolition of all the structures and prior to any excavation or construction works. The investigation would include laboratory analysis of site fill soils and natural soils for the identified chemicals of concern. The results of this testing would be interpreted in relation to the soil criteria appropriate for the intended land use.

The proponent's Stage 1 contamination study did not investigate the Station Street road reserve, No. 1 Leofrene Avenue and the site identified for a public park at No. 2 Leofrene Avenue. Council requires that as these sites also be investigated for contamination to ensure compliance with Contaminated Lands Management Act.

Aeronautical considerations

Whilst the proposal penetrates the Obstacle Limitation Surface (OLS) for Sydney Airport, this is not considered to be a critical issue at this stage. The proponent has submitted a Preliminary Aeronautical Impact Assessment for the proposal, which notes that the proposed height of the development (66.8m) would breach the OLS by 15.8m. The proposal is thus subject to the Airports (Protection of Airspace) Regulations 1996. The proponent's aeronautical assessment states that the proponent will lodge an application to the Federal Development of Transport & Infrastructure and Transport via Sydney Airports Corporation Ltd for approval to penetrate the OLS under the Airports (Protection of Airspace) Regulations 1996.

CONCLUSION

The evaluation of the planning proposal request indicates that whilst a redevelopment consistent with the proposed LEP amendments could bring significant benefits to the Marrickville community, there are several significant issues of concern which require resolution prior to a planning proposal proceeding to Gateway determination.

The key benefits identified are:

- creation of a new public space, which is to be integrated with the development of a new station concourse, creating a new focus for Illawarra Road, enabling seamless pedestrian access throughout the public space whilst augmenting the focus on the (new) station and increasing its appeal to customers;
- a high density of development in an appropriate location - within a commercial centre directly adjacent to Marrickville Railway Station, consistent with transit-oriented development (TOD) principles;
- creation of a 'landmark' building, which will enhance the legibility of the Marrickville Town Centre;
- increasing the supply of housing (including adaptable housing) in an appropriate location, which will ease demand pressures for housing in the area and reduce the pressure for dwelling densities elsewhere at inappropriate locations;
- revitalisation and reimagining of the Marrickville Town Centre, with associated economic benefits, including increased custom for local retailing due to increased residential demand;
- new and embellished public infrastructure; and
- improved traffic and transport facilities, including public car parking, bicycle parking, kiss-and-ride spaces and an improved bus stop.

The key concerns are as follows.

- Excessive building bulk of the tower from the combination of height, width and depth of the built form that will dominate the Illawarra Road streetscape. A more slender, expressive, landmark form would likely achieve a better contextual fit.

- Overshadowing of surrounding residential properties as a result of the proposed height and bulk and a lack of detailed and accurate information to properly understand the full extent and impact of overshadowing.
- Visual dominance of the building within the public space, particularly on the western side where it encroaches deep into the public space, undermining the public qualities of this space and presenting a sheer wall rather than a more human-scaled edge to define the space.
- Potential wind impacts resulting from the sheer walls rising directly from the public space with no design element to mitigate.
- Public space design issues, particularly:
 - the proposed approach to resolving the change in level between the retained shop-fronts at 20 & 24 Station Street and the wide public open space, creating unacceptable footpath amenity in front of the retained shop-fronts;
 - excessive area of tiered steps, bringing little benefit and limiting other use of the space;
 - dominance of movement function over place function, leading to an excessively open layout lacking intimate spaces for pedestrians to congregate;
 - lack of level areas; and
 - poorly considered seating design.
- Access issues, in particular:
 - stair links on the eastern side and the tiered step design may not providing equitable access;
 - lack of detail demonstrating that an accessible transition will be achieved between the Illawarra Road footpath toward the station entry and the northern reaches of the proposed deck to ensure an accessible connection between the southern and northern part of Illawarra Road over the bridge;
 - the raising of the public space plane against the natural cross section fall of Station Street and fall of this part of Schwebel Street, minimising the accessible pathway crossing Schwebel Street into the new public open space; and
 - inadequate width of ramp up to new Marrickville Station concourse.
- lack of unit mix to support social diversity;
- car parking provision that may not meet the higher rates within MDCP 2011 Amendment 1 and implications of this additional parking on the proposed public parking area, car park design and excavation;
- public car park issues related to management, security and costs to offer 15 public car parking spaces. The limited benefit such a small number of public car parking spaces to be weighed against a similar additional investment in the public space.
- Council cost and maintenance issues associated with the additional public infrastructure created by the proposal.

Whilst most of the abovementioned issues could be addressed at a later stage in the planning process, the following four issues are considered critical and will require resolution prior to a planning proposal proceeding to Gateway determination:

- the building's height and excessive bulk;
- the impact of the building on the character of the streetscape and townscape;
- the building encroaching and dominating the public space; and
- non-compliance with solar access provisions.

This report recommends that Council commissions peer reviews of the proposed building envelope and public open space, and subsequently considers an officer's report on the findings of these reviews with a view to making a resolution on the preferred building envelope and public space design.

As discussed in the background section of this report, the 90-day period prescribed for Council to make a decision whether or not to support this planning proposal request will expire approximately one week after the 17 September 2013 Council meeting. Whilst the recommended peer reviews can be undertaken quickly, they will take longer than one week. After this one week period, the proponent will have the right to request that the Minister for Planning nominate an alternative Relevant Planning Authority. It is not expected the proponent will take this course of action or that the Minister would support another RPA given the significance of the development, the appropriateness of the recommended peer review process and the ability for these to be undertaken in a timely fashion.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial aspects of the planning proposal request are considered within the attached confidential Memorandum on the VPA by Council's General Counsel. The recommended two peer reviews of the proposed building are estimated to cost \$2-3,000 each, whilst the peer review of the public space will be undertaken as a variation of the brief for the Public Domain Study. The total cost of all peer reviews costs is likely to be of the order of \$6-9,000.

OTHER STAFF COMMENTS

The planning proposal request was forwarded to all relevant staff for comment, and all staff comments received have been quoted or paraphrased in the discussion section of this report.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The EP&A Act sets out community consultation requirements for planning proposals, which are further determined and/or confirmed via the Gateway determination process. Generally, community consultation on planning proposals does not occur prior to the issuing of a Gateway determination. It is considered that, due to the scale of the works proposed, the significance of the public space and other public benefits provided and the inclusion of public land, it is appropriate that the community be consulted on this proposal prior to its lodgement with the DP&I for Gateway determination.

However, in view of the issues identified in this report and the resultant modifications that will be required to the proposal, it is premature to make any decision on the consultation process until such time as Council considers the planning proposal request and VPA are broadly acceptable.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. **receive and note the report;**
2. **engage James Mather Delaney Design Pty Ltd, the consultants undertaking Council's Public Domain Study, to peer review the proposed public space design;**

3. concurrent with 2 above, commissions a peer review of the proposed building envelope and relationship to the character of the Marrickville town centre by two suitably qualified consultants;
4. further consider the planning proposal request and Voluntary Planning Agreement once the peer review process has been completed;
5. write to the Minister for Transport and Transport for NSW to inform of the planning proposal request and to seek consultation concerning the co-ordination of planning processes for the public space associated with the proposed development and the proposed upgrade of Marrickville Railway Station; and
6. move into closed session to deal with this matter as information contained in **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 2** of the Report is classified as confidential under the provisions of Section 10A (2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the following reason:
 - (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.

And in accordance with Sections 10A (4) of the Local Government Act 1993, that the Chairpersons allow members of the public to make representations as to whether this part of the meeting should be closed.

OR, WHERE THE MEETING IS NOT CLOSED:

- 6A. resolve that **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 2** to the report be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it relates to a matter specified in Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, and as such is to be treated as confidential.

Tim Moore
Director, Planning and Environmental Services

ATTACHMENTS

1. Extracts from planning proposal request for 2-18 Station Street & 1 Leofrene Avenue, Marrickville. The **ATTACHMENT** includes the following extracts from the proponent's reports that make up the planning proposal:
 - Location Plan;
 - Public Space Site Plan;
 - Lot Plan;
 - Landscape Plan;
 - Illawarra Road Section;
 - Photomontages;
 - Floor Plans and Elevations;
 - Shadow Diagrams (midwinter, conventional);
 - Shadow Diagrams (midwinter, view from sun); and
 - Public Space Site Plan highlighting access issues.

ATTACHMENT 1 is being circulated as a separate document

2. Memorandum of Advice from General Counsel regarding Station Street VPA - *Confidential*

Item No: C0913 Item 22

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: REINSTATING BOTTLED WATER IN ORGANISATION

File Ref: 4675/57855.13

From Councillor Emanuel Tsardoulis

MOTION:

THAT Council reinstate bottle water for all meetings, events and throughout the organisation.

Background

In 2006 a notice of motion from Greens Councillor Sam Byrne had moved to ban bottle water from council meetings.

Since then, Council has been consuming mineral water from glass bottles.
This would be a healthier option for all the organisation.

Comments from A/Manager Environmental Services:

A Notice of Motion considered by Council at its meeting of 11 December 2007 (Item NM 46, Meeting No. 11/07) resulted in Council ceasing the purchase of bottled water for outdoor staff by providing alternative drinking water containers and use of an ice/chilled water cooler. This action resulted in an overall cost saving to Council.

A Notice of Motion considered by Council at its meeting of 21 July 2009 (Item NM 30, Meeting No. 06/09) resulted in Council adopting the position "where practicable, look to reducing the use of bottled water in Council facilities and at Council events".

Council's Sustainable Event and Meeting Management Policy was adopted in June 2011 and applies to all events and meetings delivered by Council or involving people acting on behalf of Council, and includes major events, public meetings and exhibitions, civic events and internal staff meetings and training.

As part of this initiative, Council has adopted a plastic bottle free position for its large festivals (started in 2011) and provides refillable mobile water stations.

Resource Implications:

Purchase of bottled water involves a higher cost than the use of tap water. In the time available to respond to this Notice of Motion the additional cost is unable to be quantified.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0913 Item 23
Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: INSTALLATION OF EXERCISE EQUIPMENT AT JOHNSON PARK
File Ref: 4674/57877.13
From Councillor Emanuel Tsardoulis

MOTION:

THAT:

1. Council install outdoor exercise equipment at Johnson Park Dulwich Hill as per the Camperdown Oval equipment; and
2. the installation and equipment be endorsed for next year's budget.

Background

Nil.

Comment from Acting Manager, Culture and Recreation Services:

Section 3.2.2 of the Recreation Policy and Strategy 2013 recommends that Council "Provide outdoor exercise stations in 2-3 larger parks".

The outdoor exercise equipment was installed at Camperdown Oval in 2012 as part of Council's Alternative Approaches to Graffiti Management Program. The exercise equipment was installed, alongside alterations to the toilet facilities, a lighting study and changes to the plantings as one of three projects that was funded via the NSW Department of Attorney General & Justice Department Graffiti Hotspot Grants Program based on the premise that creating more opportunities for park users leads to increased community surveillance, which has been shown to reduce unwanted tagging.

The exercise equipment caters for stretching, aerobic exercises and weight based exercise for a wide range of fitness levels. The equipment has been installed with rubber soft-fall.

The cost for the soft-fall, site preparation, exercise equipment and installation of the exercise equipment at Camperdown Oval was \$90,000.

The exercise equipment is well utilised by the community and has reduced the level of anti-social activity near the Stadium at Camperdown Oval.

Recent community consultation for draft Plans of Management (PoMs) at Marrickville Park and Sydenham Green have identified the need for outdoor exercise equipment and it is anticipated that both of these draft PoMs will recommend the installation of such equipment. It is envisaged that future installations of similar equipment will be informed by the strategic planning process. The funding of exercise equipment at Johnson Park will likely result in the deferral of the inclusion of such an installation at Marrickville Park or Sydenham Green in the 2014/15 budget.

Comment from Acting Manager, Infrastructure Planning:

A program for installation of exercise equipment as recommended by the Recreation Strategy is in the 4 year delivery program commencing in 2014/2015 at \$40,000 for one park per year. An increase in this budget to \$90,000 is recommended to match the level of service at Camperdown Oval. A strategy for installation of exercise equipment is being developed by Culture and Recreation based on Plan of Management engagement. The draft strategy feeding from the Plan of Management engagement is to upgrade either Marrickville Park or Sydenham Green with exercise equipment in next year's program.

Resource Implications:

See above comments.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.