Summary of Actions Arising (SOA) 2021 - Waverton Precinct

This document is North Sydney Council's response to actions arising from Precinct Committee Minutes. On receipt of the minutes, actions are numbered and allocated to relevant Council Officers for response.

To effectively manage and provide clarity, all actions are allocated a status when reporting to Precinct Committees in response to their minutes. There are three categories:

- Awaiting Response action allotted to Council Officer response awaited.
- Open/Ongoing action allocated to Council Officer, initial response provided. Matter ongoing and further response/update to be provided at later date.
- **Closed for Council** Council either completed related works/tasks or has taken all reasonable steps within its power to resolve issue (for example when matter is beyond its jurisdiction). If the Precinct Committee feels Council can take further steps, they can request Council reopen action.

Questions or concerns re content of this document should be directed precincts@northsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
December	4	 Shade at the Coal Loader: to thank the Council for installing shade cloth on the structures at the Coal Loader, offering shade in summer, to confirm that the appropriate way to provide shade is to establish rapidly-growing deciduous climbers, and to choose rapidly-growing deciduous climbers which (unlike grape vines) are unpalatable to possums, noting their prevalence in the area. 	Compliment noted. Suggestions allocated to Council's Landscape Architect.	Awaiting Response
	5	Overdevelopment We're Over It: With the rejection of the 60 storey tower at Crows Nest, the focus shifts to the Military Road corridor. Rumours were reported that secret negotiations between the Council (or its officers) and the	Council's Manager Strategic Planning has advised that Council staff meet with proponents of development on a wide range of matters. Often an element of commercial in confidence is present in such meetings which requires a level of confidentiality. Regardless, such meetings are	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		Crows Nest developer may still be taking place. Precinct will maintain a watching brief.	conducted in the context of Council adopted policy positions and are documented.	
	6	88/2021 20 Larkin Street Waverton - The Waverton Precinct RESOLVED to strongly recommend that any development on this site should strictly comply with all planning controls	Noted by Council's Senior Assessment Officer.	Closed for Council
		332/2021, 2 Ross Street Waverton - The Waverton Precinct RESOLVED to reinforce its resolution adopted at the previous meeting and to strongly recommend that any development on this site should strictly comply with all planning controls. In particular, Council is requested to ensure that existing viewscapes from the centre of Waverton on Balls Head Road to the harbour are not obscured.	Noted by Council's Team Leader Assessments.	Closed for Council
		Proposal for a footpath on the Waverton Park side of Larkin Street - The Waverton Precinct RESOLVED that a proposal to meet the needs of pedestrians (and cars on Larkin Street) should be prepared, circulated to interested stakeholders including the dog walkers of Waverton Park, and be considered at a future meeting.	Council's Assets Manager has advised that the request for a footpath adjacent to, and on the east of Larkin Street, next to Waverton Park has been investigated. There are several large fig trees also on the east side of Larkin Street. To install a footpath (as well as kerb and gutter) would require the removal of the significant tree roots which, in turn, would affect the health of these trees. Therefore, unfortunately it is not feasible to construct a footpath on the east side of Larkin Street. Fortunately, there is a footpath on the west side of Larkin Street which can be used as an alternative.	Closed for Council
	7	Subpoena relating to a native title claim - The Waverton Precinct RESOLVED to request the Council to provide	Council's Directors Open Space & Environmental Services has advised that there are two properties that are the	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		Precinct with full information on both of the native title claims in Waverton, including the status of community engagement in the process.	subject of native title claims, described as Waverton Bowling Club and Berrys Bay land (proposed WHT construction site).	
			Waverton Bowling Club - The claims (there are two) on Waverton Bowling Club are being defended by the Crown Lands Department. As the Waverton Precinct Committee knows, the Council has a 12-month lease (renewed a number of times) on this site whilst we were negotiating with the Crown for Care and Control of this land as public open space. This negotiation has been suspended by the Crown whilst the Aboriginal Land Claim is being considered by the Land and Environment Court. Submissions by the Council and others have been provided to the Crown and the Land & Environment Court that express the need for the land to be retained as public open space and Council's occupation and maintenance of the site since the time the Council negotiated the lease for the use of the site. It is understood the process could take until the middle of 2022 to be determined. Beyond asking the community to come forward and provide affidavits for the court in relation to witnessing the land being used for a community purpose since Council had leased the site, there is no other planned community engagement from a Council perspective.	
			Berrys Bay - The second site is the Berrys Bay Land and it's understood that there is one Aboriginal Land Claim current and will be proceeding to the Land and	

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
			Environment Court. Council has been asked and have provided information through the affidavit process to this claim mainly with regards to the existing lease the Council occupies for the community over this land on the foreshore that currently provides the at grade pedestrian foreshore link between Carradah Park and Balls Head. It's understood the determination of this claim could also take until the middle of 2022 to be determined. Council is unaware that there is any community engagement planned in this legal process.	
		Community values survey - The Waverton Precinct RESOLVED that the Council be advised that: i. the 'community values survey' addressed matters well beyond the land and scope of works related to the construction of the western harbour tunnel and use/reuse of the nominated lands; ii. the survey asked questions about the use of land for instance the Coal Loader, Carradah Park and Balls Head - where there are non-State statutory managers in charge of the land and the status of the land has been defined; and iii. the priority in Berrys Bay is clear, namely that the Woodleys site, being not essential for the construction of the western harbour tunnel, should be transferred to the Council as soon as possible, specifically in 2022, as laid out in resolutions already adopted by Council.	Noted by Council's Director Open Space & Environmental Services.	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		New permitted use in the R3 Zone - The Waverton Precinct RESOLVED: i. that the Council be advised that the Waverton Precinct had not been informed in a clear and transparent manner that a change was proposed that could fundamentally change the character of certain Waverton neighbourhoods as well as across the municipality; ii. that the Council be requested to rescind the provision in LEP Amendment 30 that allows 'residential flat buildings' the R3 zone; and iii. that the Council conduct genuine consultations with the affected areas before considering whether or not to permit multistorey blocks of apartments in the R3 zone	Council's Manager Strategic Planning has advised that an amendment to the North Sydney LEP in mid-2021 permitted residential flat buildings (RFB) within the R3 zone but only if they complied with the existing height limit (8.5m), setbacks and other envelope controls that already applied in the area. The outward appearing built form, height, setbacks etc, are the same as previous. The intent of the amendment was to overcome "existing use rights" legislation, which essentially loosened all controls if an older style flat building existed within an R3 zone. The amendment sought to impose all controls that apply to the R3 zone, which under the existing use rights regime, could effectively be ignored and lead to undesirable built form outcomes. The amendment was widely exhibited. This included sending notification letters to all property owners and resident occupiers within the North Sydney LGA (approximately 55,000) and the placing of a formal notice on Council's website. The matter will be reviewed June 2022. UPDATE (31 January 2022) At its meeting of 10 January 2022 Council resolved (Item 7.2 Matter of Urgency - Amendment of North Sydney LEP): 1. THAT Council urgently begins the appropriate process to amend the North Sydney LEP to remove the addition of residential flat buildings as a permissible use in the R3 Medium Density Zone in the land use table which came into force in Amendment 30 to the North Sydney LEP on 30 June 2021 by removing residential flat building from the R3 Land use table and updating the LEP as required to remove the residential flat buildings in the R3 Zone.	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
November	7	3 Ross Street Waverton - MOTION: The Waverton Precinct Committee: i. deplores the demolition of the house at 3 Ross Street, apparently without a DA or any public process including opportunity to object to loss of character continuity in the street; ii. requests that the Council review this case and advise the Precinct how this could have happened under existing planning regulations. UPDATE (14 December 2021) The Waverton Precinct request the Council to seek urgent changes to regulations that appear to allow a building to be demolished through a complying development certificate process.	Council's Manager Development Services has advised that this application is in its early stages of assessment. The applicant claims compliance with many of Council's primary controls. However, building height and setbacks are principle areas of concern. It is Council's practice to give the applicant one chance to modify the submitted plans which will be re-notified if required by Council's Community Engagement Protocol. No pre-application meeting appears to have been undertaken, however such meetings are not a compulsory part of the planning process. A private certifier has issued the approval for the demolition of the existing improvements on site under the provisions of the Exempt and Complying Development SEPP. Council has done a preliminary review of the basis for this approval and have found no fundamental fault in its issue. The building in question was not in a heritage conservation area nor is it a heritage item. Notification was given to the adjoining owners of the intent to issue the certificate in accordance with the SEPP, however, the certifier and owner are not required to make plans available or to consider submissions from neighbours. As part of the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's one size fits all policy, the same controls apply in North Sydney LGA as they do to any part of the state. It should also be noted a replacement dwelling can also be approved as a Complying Development. However, this usually does not occur as most future	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
			residents choose to make the most of a site and this usually mandates a DA. If a DA is received it will be notified in accordance with Council's policy and submissions considered appropriately.	
			UPDATE (15 December 2021) Council's Manager Development Services advises that Council did make representations at the time of the introduction of the one size fits all policy Exempt and Complying Development SEPP. Demolition can raise concerns, but refusal would be extremely difficult to justify if there was no underlying heritage or conservation concern previously identified by the LEP. It is highly unlikely that the State Government would introduce an exemption to this, or any provision contained within the SEPP for any LGA. However, the issue will be further examined if an opportunity arises.	
	9.1	Dangerous bicycle riding around Balls Head - Walkers in Balls Head have to contend with cyclists, sometimes in groups, using the circuit for training, and riding at speeds of 40 kph in an area where the posted maximum speed is 10 kph. MOTION: The Waverton Precinct Committee requests the Council to investigate amelioration of this situation, and to advise the Committee as to what mechanisms can control the speed of cyclists, including signage that informs cyclists that the speed limit applies to them.	Council's Traffic & Transport Engineer has requested the Precinct Committee provide further information regarding the location and specifics of the incidents e.g. cycling activities i.e. approximate time, date (weekend/weekdays) etc. This information will help the investigation.	Open/Ongoing

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
	9.3	Substandard footpath on the north side of the Waverton Station rail bridge - The meeting agreed that the footpath, which should be safe and convenient for children, pedestrians and wheelchairs, is dangerously narrow, and causes those with wheelchairs to cross Bay Road twice to avoid using it. MOTION: The Waverton Precinct Committee requests the Council to investigate ways to bring the footpath into conformity with standards and accessibility requirements and advise the Precinct accordingly.	Council's Assets Manager has advised that Council has contacted Sydney Trains on behalf of the Precinct Committee. Sydney Trains do not have any plans to upgrade the bridge.	Closed for Council
	9.6	Precinct minutes: names or initials - The meeting was asked why only initials are recorded in the minutes, reducing transparency. The Committee requested the Chair to see if the Council has a policy on the recording of names in the minutes.	Council's Community Engagement Coordinator has advised that in accordance with the current Precinct Guidelines we can only publish initials on Council's website, this is the standard for all Precinct Committees. One of the main reasons for the use of initials is due to privacy concerns expressed by Precinct members in the past, especially in relation to discussion of Development Applications. Council's Access to Information Policy has been updated this year and now favours the proactive release of information including publishing of names and addresses unless the submitter requests so and provides a reason. With this in mind, there may be scope to revisit the use of initials in Precinct Committee minutes. However, please note that this would put an onus on office bearers/minute takers to observe the privacy preferences of individuals. This will be considered when Council begins to review the Precinct System Guidelines, at which time we will consult with Precinct Committees.	Closed for Council
October	No act	ions arising requiring Council's response	1	<u> </u>

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
September		 Waverton Peninsula Working Group - Notice of Motion was insufficiently clear in relation to maximising the early return of lands to the community, the following motion was tabled: The Government has promised that the remaining public lands in Berrys Bay are to be transferred for community use in the revitalisation of the Bay. Waverton Precinct calls on Council to require the government when transferring the whole of those lands to Council:	Council's Director Open Space & Environmental Services had advised that the Precinct Committee's feedback is noted, and that Council staff are advocating this position in discussions with TfNSW staff.	Closed for Council
	4	Noakes/Floating Dry Dock - It is understood that Noakes have withdrawn their application in relation to a caretakers residence and further that an application to relocate another building has been rejected. There are also ongoing matters in relation to failure of Noakes to adhere to environmental standards on their site. There are rumours but no news in relation to the floating dry dock.	Noted by Council's Executive Assessment Planner.	Closed for Council
		Tree Removal - Corner of Balls Head Road and Wood Street: It was reported that despite NSC removing one tree from the corner, that sightlines remain problematic and that further pruning is requested to improve safety.	Council's Bushland Management Co-ordinator has advised that Council staff will inspect the corner of Wood St and Balls Head Rd. Should further pruning be deemed necessary it will be carried out.	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
August	6	North Sydney Development Control Plan - Council notice of public exhibition of amendments to North Sydney DCP re North Sydney CBD commercial tower setbacks and separation. These adjustments sound good in principle, but the devil in the detail needs to be addressed.	Comments noted by Council's Strategic Planner - Urban Design.	Closed for Council
	7	Waverton Peninsula Working Group - A meeting was held recently. It was reported that this group moved a motion urging the mayor and councillors to meet with the Premier and Transport Minister to press for political directives for the Berrys Bay lands to be transferred to Council, with any lands needed by the WHT contractors to be leased back. IG will follow up the possibility of meeting with the project manager of the WHT.	Council at its meeting of 23 August 2021 considered Notice of Motion 14/21 - Berrys Bay (Item 9.1) and resolved: 1. THAT Council resolves to constitute a delegation of three Councillors, headed by the Mayor, to meet with the Premier to seek to have the NSW Government as soon as possible and prior to the commencement of the proposed tunnel project to transfer the land on the Western side of Berrys Bay (being Lot 21 in DP 1048933 (inclusive of consolidating the adjacent reclaimed portion [6171112 approx.], Lots 101 and 102 in DP 1162896, Lot 104 in DP 1162898 and Lots 1, 2 and 3 in DP 181235) to Council.	Closed for Council
June	3	Floating Dry Dock - The Chair outlined the current situation, that Noakes have appealed their DA rejection. The Chair advised that the Waverton Public Lands and Waters Protection Association Inc would be pressing to be a party withstanding to any hearing and mediation. The recently formed Friends of Berrys Bay Inc, as it did not exist at the time of the DA, was considered as having difficulty in justifying a position at the table. In discussion it was reiterated that the position of the community is to support the current level of working waterfront (so long as compliant with its environmental obligations), but that it	Comments noted by Council's Executive Assessment Planner.	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		did not support a scaleup in this location, nor the risks associated with moving the industrial processes from land to water.		
	7	Streets Alive - Concern was raised that native grasses in Wakelin Reserve have been killed, either by deliberate or inadvertent overspray of poison. It is not known if this was by Council, Railways or an adjacent private property holder. Precinct requests Council to confirm that it has a policy of consultation prior to spraying areas where community gardeners put in time and effort, so that damage to natives can be avoided.	Council's Street Alive Project Officer has advised that the native grasses that was sprayed were full of weed, and that Council's Team Leader Horticulture will mulch and replant the areas that have been sprayed. A plan as to who will look after which part of the park was also agreed upon so there will be no issues in the future.	Closed for Council
	8	 Balls Head Night Access - NSC has tabled a position paper suggesting it will put boom gates at the bifurcation of the road around Balls Head, allowing officers to close road access from 10pm to 6am. This is in response to vandal damage and rubbish dumping which has cost Council hundreds of thousands of dollars over recent years. There was considerable discussion on various aspects of the proposal. The following are general comments/principles agreed by the meeting: The principle of keeping public spaces open to the public is important, and restrictions should be seen as a last resort. There was concern that with the road closed there would be no likelihood of nightly patrols by Police, so antisocial behaviour could get worse. There are regular fishermen who use Balls Head at all hours who would be inconvenienced by the 	Council's Engineering Project Manager has advised that the Precinct Committee's feedback will assist with preparation of the Council report.	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		 closure, and whose presence probably helps to avoid some antisocial behaviour. CCTV of sites used for rubbish dumping may be a more successful way of actually catching perpetrators, who, if there are gates, are likely to dump at the gates anyway. The Police have Safety in Design principles which should be consulted to help determine as good strategy. Bollards would be preferred to gates as this would allow cyclists to use the park overnight/early morning. If the road is to be closed, it would be better closed at the Coal Loader entrance where antisocial behaviour is unlikely due to better lighting 		
May	5	DA 88/21, 20 Larkin St - This new DA was the subject of considerable community input. The Chair mentioned that at least four residents had contacted him prior to the meeting voicing concerns regarding building height/bulk. The owner as well as adjoining property owners spoke. The following motion was put: Motion: "That the DA should comply with all current Council policies and planning controls".	Comments noted by Council's Senior Assessment Officer.	Closed for Council
	6ВН	Intersection of Wood ST and Balls Head Road - A resident reported an accident at this T intersection resulting from obstructed vision from Wood St to the left. Obstruction is in part caused by high grasses and partly by a warning	Council's Bushland Management Co-ordinator has advised that his staff will assess the plantings in this location and undertake whatever pruning is required to maintain sightlines for drivers.	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		arrow sign. Council is requested to inspect the site and make adjustments as necessary to improve sightlines.		
	6ES	Electric Skateboards and Bikes - The issue was raised regarding these devices using the roads and footpaths at unsafe speeds. It is suggested that Council should be prepared to take a position on these devices in the interests of public safety, given that their popularity is growing rapidly.	Council's Sustainable Transport Project Co-ordinator has advised that Council will include consideration of the matters raised by the Precinct Committee in their upcoming review of Council's <i>Integrated Cycling Strategy</i> .	Closed for Council
April	3	Noakes and Floating Dry Dock - That Precinct request NSC to advise, following lodgement of their submission, the position they will take at the appeal. Further, Precinct requests NSC to advise if they intend to submit evidence of objections already tabled by concerned residents such that community representatives will be able to appear and make representations to the hearing.	Council's Manager Development Services has advised that the formal management of this appeal rests with the Sydney North Planning Panel. Council requested delegation from the Panel to manage the appeal in its own right. The response from Panel Secretariat was effectively a direction to defend the appeal having regard to the reasons for refusal and to advise the Panel should Council's position change during the appeal. This stops short of a delegation to manage the appeal with significant developments being the subject of further direction from the Panel. The appeal process is effectively a review in "de novo", i.e. the assessment process effectively starts again. On that basis the facts and contentions of the matter may evolve. Council has written to submitters advising of the lodgement of the appeal. Council's solicitors will also be in contact will submitters over the course of the proceedings.	Closed for Council
	3	Speed Limit in Waverton Village - Council advised that implementation is subject first to installation of self-	Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that Council will obtain updated traffic counts for	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		enforcing speed humps. Precinct points out that such speed humps are already in place at each end of the village, and request that, on that basis, the speed signs be modified to reflect the speed already determined by Council (40kph).	the Waverton village area to confirm if the existing road environment is self-enforcing for the proposed 40km/h speed limit.	
	6	Treasurer role - KA volunteered for the role and was elected with acclamation.	Council will update its mailing list accordingly once further information about new treasurer is provided.	Closed for Council
March	3SL	Speed Limit in Waverton Village - Council advised that implementation is subject to TfNSW zone funding. That Precinct Committee request that the next Traffic Committee seeks concurrence for the proposal and for TfNSW to authorise funding for implementation.	Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that as part of any proposal for 40km/h speed limit Council is required to implement traffic calming to create a self-enforcing speed environment. Council has limited budget for the implementation of traffic facilities which are planned on an annual basis. The proposal for a 40km/h speed limit in Waverton Village is included in the 40km/h and 10km/h Shared Zone Masterplan. Projects within the Masterplan will be considered as funding opportunities arise and in accordance with the priorities therein. Design plans, community consultation and referral to the Traffic Committee would then occur following confirmation of funding.	Closed for Council
	4WP	Waverton Peninsula Working Group - The views of Precinct are to be fed back to Council, with a request that action should be undertaken urgently with a view to resolving land ownership issues before the area is passed to the WHT contractor for several years.	Comments noted by Council's Director Open Space & Environmental Services.	Closed for Council
February	3UN	Noakes and Floating Dry Dock - That Precinct Committee requests the following of Council:	Council's Team Leader - Building Compliance had advised that, staff are unable to provide a summary of talks held	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		 Provide a summary of outcomes of talks held between Council officers and Noakes That Noakes be required to comply with all aspects of DAs currently in force, including layout, occupancy, carparking, walkways and public jetty Precinct Committee further objects to: Location of a shed in an area allocated to water jetting where noise and fugitive losses are minimised A DA for a caretaker facility when one already exists Unapproved building(s) which clutter the site, increasing visual clutter and pressure for work to be done in inappropriate parts of the site. Precinct further resolved to write to the EPA regarding observed violations." 	between Council Officers and Noakes due to privacy reasons. Noakes Boatyard are required to operate in accordance with all aspects of the DA and the terms of the recent S34 agreement. Should the public note any potential breaches, they should notify Council for investigation. Regarding the public jetty, this is an ongoing matter and Council's legal services are working towards a resolution. Furthermore, the Precinct Committee objections to the "location of the shed, DA for caretaker's facility, and the clutter of buildings upon the site" have been noted by staff. Should the Precinct Committee have any further enquiries regarding the above should contact Council's Team Leader - Building Compliance on 9936 8100.	
	5SL	Speed Limit in Waverton Village - Council has approved but never implemented a 40 kph speed limit on Bay Road through the suburb centre. That Precinct request Council to implement its approved speed limits by installation of appropriate signage.	Council's Traffic & Transport Engineer had advised that the North Sydney40km/h and 10km/h Shared Zone Masterplan aims to identify opportunities to implement 40km/h speed limit zones within the North Sydney local government area. However, it should be noted that Council does not have the jurisdiction to approve these speed limit zones. The provision of a 40km/h speed limit zone is subject to approval by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and funding availabilities. A 40km/h speed limit zone is generally implemented through road safety funding grants such as 'TfNSW 40km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area (HPAA)', 'Walking	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
			Communities' programs and any other Local Government Road Safety Programs (LGRSP). Should these programs become available, Council will review all the proposed speed limits zones including Bay Road for nomination.	