

8.13. Shoreshocked Youth Festival 2022

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ATTACHMENTS: Nil

PURPOSE:

To brief Council on its flagship annual youth event, Shoreshocked Youth Festival, which was held at The Concourse – Civic Pavilion in Chatswood on Saturday 6 August 2022.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

North Sydney Council has been celebrating Youthweek in St. Leonards Park through its flagship youth event, Shoreshocked, since 1996.

It is the only free, large scale, all ages youth festival in Northern Sydney and it provides multiple opportunities for young people to be involved in the planning, in celebrating youth culture and to showcase their creativity and skills to their peers and to the wider community.

The music concert, initially scheduled for Saturday, 9 April was postponed due to the inclement weather making the grounds at St. Leonards Park unusable.

The grounds remained unsafe again in August resulting in the event being moved indoors to the Civic Pavilion in Chatswood.

The event was organised in collaboration with 6 Northern Sydney area Councils. The participating Councils included Lane Cove, Mosman, North Sydney, Ku-ring-gai, Ryde, and Willoughby.

There were six bands that took to the stage to showcase their talents and entertain the crowd. Community stalls engaged the young people on the day and the outdoor area was activated with activities and decorations where Youth Workers and young volunteers interacted with young people and the community in general.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Funding is provided by each Council which incorporates Youthweek financial contributions from the State Government.

North Sydney Council contributed \$20,636 to Shoreshocked and this included a \$3,181.20 grant income from NSW Youthweek.

Contributions from partner Councils were:

- City of Ryde \$6,300.00
- Ku-ring-gai Council \$9,000.00
- Lane Cove \$6,000.00
- Mosman Council \$5,000.00
- Willoughby Council \$4,000

Total contributions from partners: \$30,300

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report be received.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

4. Our Social Vitality

4.1 North Sydney is connected, inclusive, healthy and safe

BACKGROUND

North Sydney Council has been celebrating Youthweek in St. Leonards Park through its flagship youth event, Shoreshocked, since 1996.

In 2022 Youthweek ran from 16-24 April with the theme “It’s up to YOU’th” and Shoreshocked was scheduled to take place on Sat, 9 April.

Due to the heavy rain since the beginning of the year the grounds at St. Leonards Park were not safe to access in April resulting in the event being postponed and held indoors on Saturday, 6th August.

Shoreshocked is a collaborative project between Councils, Youth Health Promotion (NSW Health) and community organisations from the Northern Sydney district.

Funding is provided by each Council which incorporates Youthweek financial contributions from the State Government.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement is not required.

DETAIL

Shoreshocked is a major event that involves considerable time to plan and is dependent on multiple stakeholders and partners to ensure its success.

The participating Councils in 2022 included Lane Cove, Mosman, North Sydney, Ku-ring-gai, Ryde, and Willoughby.

Due to the then ongoing uncertainty of Covid-19 planning for the event began later than usual in late November.

The planning was proceeding to schedule but unfortunately due to the heavy rains the event had to be postponed one week out from the then scheduled date of 9th April.

Following discussions with the State Government, the bands, agents, and stakeholders it was agreed to reschedule the event to the new date of Saturday, 6th August.

As the date approached the grounds were once again deemed unsuitable due to the persistent rain and alternative indoor options were then explored.

The Civic Pavilion in The Concourse in Chatswood was determined to be the most suitable venue for the event.

The Pavilion is purpose built for live events with all the required infrastructure as well as a large outdoor screen that was used to live stream the event.

The only limitation of the venue was that capacity is restricted to 500 people due to licensing and fire safety requirements.

The event was quickly adapted to the indoor requirements with the organising committee ensuring that the community spirit of Shoreshocked would remain.

There were eight Community stalls that engaged the young people on the day and the outdoor area was activated with activities and decorations where Youth Workers and young volunteers interacted with young people and the community in general.

The community services that attended were:

- Youth Health Promotion
- Clinic 16 – Sexual Health Clinic
- Phoenix House Youth Services
- Streetworks
- Taldumande Youth Services
- DAYSS (Drug & Alcohol Youth Services)
- TAFE
- Community Flower Studio

OMG Doughnuts, along with the youth led social enterprise mobile coffee shop from Phoenix House Youth Services provided snacks and refreshments.

The event was held on Saturday, 6th August between 12:00pm and 5:00pm with 6 bands taking to the stage to showcase their talents and entertain the crowd.

The two opening young bands, Deep Focus and The Fuming were the respective winners from the Battle of the Bands competitions held in March 2022 at Mosman Council and Ryde Council and gained valuable experience and exposure in supporting the better-known headlining artists.

A young girl who has been attending Planet X Youth Centre for the last two years was invited to play “unplugged” between band sets and it provided her with an opportunity to showcase her original songs.

Following the event, she stated “I honestly had the time of my life performing and watching bands at Shoreshocked”.

The bands in general were very appreciative of having the option of playing at an all ages concert as there this a lack of all ages events to play at.

The lead singer of RedHook stated “I can’t believe that Shoreshocked has been going for 27 years. It is our first all ages gig so thank you so much for having us.”

For the Youth Workers organising the event, following the impact Covid-19 and the inclement weather, it was a special occasion for them to see so many happy young people enjoying the show.

Security and Paramedics, along with Police were on hand to ensure the event ran safely and to provide assistance if required. There were no critical or medical incidents.

The organising committee would like to thank the attempts of all the North Sydney Council staff who tried to ensure Shoreshocked could go ahead in St. Leonards Park but could not.

A big thank you needs to be extended to Willoughby Council and The Concourse management for responding quickly to our request to use their indoor space at short notice.



Red Hook



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Deep Focus



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