

10.9. Tender 7/25 - Bushland Rehabilitation and Infrastructure Services

AUTHOR	Gareth Debney, Bushland Management Coordinator
ENDORSED BY	{custom-field-endorsed-by-do-not-remove}
ATTACHMENTS	1. CONFIDENTIAL - Tender 7/2025 [10.9.1 - 9 pages]
CSP LINK	1. Our Living Environment 1.1 Protected, enhanced and biodiverse natural environment

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an analysis and recommendations of the tender process for Tender 7/2025 Bushland Rehabilitation and Infrastructure Services.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- Tenders were called and received until 3pm Tuesday 22 April 2025 for the provision of bushland rehabilitation services (Part A) and bushland infrastructure services (Part B) during the period 01/07/2025 to 30/06/2030.
- The purpose of this tender is to establish a panel of suitably qualified, experienced, and accredited contractors to continue implementing Council's Bushland Rehabilitation Plans over the next five-year period, through the allocation of reserve-specific, 12-month-duration contracts (under Part A of the tender) and one-off project-specific contracts for bushland track construction/infrastructure upgrades (Part B) as allocated.
- The Tender establishes a panel of up to eight suitably qualified, experienced, and accredited bushland rehabilitation contractors, and up to eight specialist bushland infrastructure service providers, to whom Council may, at its discretion, allocate works for the period specified above. There is no guarantee that empanelled contractors will be allocated work under this contract.
- Should Council wish to discuss this report it is noted that the attached confidential document includes commercial information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it. Further, release of the information would, on balance be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered amounts would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services. As such should this matter be discussed, it should be considered in closed session.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** Council accept the tender panel appointments under Parts A and B of Tender 7/2025 for Bushland Rehabilitation and Infrastructure Services
- 2. THAT** the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to take any necessary action to implement the decision including entering into associated contracts.

3. THAT Council resolves that the identified attachment to this report is to be treated as confidential in accordance with section 11(3) of the Local Government Act for the following reason under section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act:

(d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

It is further noted that the release of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered documents would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

Background

North Sydney Council is responsible for the conservation management of approximately 49 hectares of remnant bushland, distributed across 12 main reserves / reservation groupings within the Local Government Area (LGA). In addition to Council's well regarded Bushcare volunteer program, specialist bushland rehabilitation contractors are engaged annually to support whole-of-reserve bush regeneration and biodiversity conservation. These efforts are guided by Council's Community Strategic Plan, Bushland Plan of Management, and reserve-specific bushland rehabilitation plans.

This tender seeks to establish a panel of up to eight suitably qualified and experienced bushland contractors for both (Part A) bushland rehabilitation services and (Part B) bushland infrastructure services. The panel would enable Council to allocate works to eligible contractors annually from 01/07/25 to 30/06/30. Appointment to either panel (Part A/B) does not guarantee the allocation of work to any contractor.

Report

The methodology adopted to undertake the evaluation of Tender 7/2025, was based on selection criteria, outlined in the tender documents and in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

Open tenders were called and were received until 3pm Tuesday 22 April 2025 via Tenderlink.

At close of tenders, 15 tenders were received. Listed in **alphabetical order**, the tenderers were:

Tenderer
Australian Bushland Construction Pty Ltd
Australian Bushland Restoration Pty Ltd
Bush Habitat Restoration Cooperative Ltd
Bush-it Pty Ltd
Bushy Landscapes Pty Ltd
Dragonfly Environmental Pty Ltd
Earthbuilt Environmental Pty Ltd
Ezy-Pave Pty Ltd
Greg Taylor (trading as Endemic Restoration)
National Trust of Australia (NSW)
Solutions Aust Pty Ltd (trading as Habitat Solutions)
Symbiota Ecology Pty Ltd (trading as Apunga Ecological Management)
Toolijooa Pty Ltd
W A Hamilton Masonry (Sole Trader)
Waratah Eco Works Pty Ltd

Information provided by tenderers which is commercial-in-confidence, has been protected and will not be disclosed in accordance with section 10A(2)(d) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

A consistent standard for all tenderers has been used in assessing any request for confidentiality by a tenderer.

The following information is treated as confidential in the confidential attachment:

1. Tender evaluation including selection criteria

The tender process has been reviewed and endorsed by Council's Procurement Panel for adherence to the *Procurement Policy*.

2. Tender evaluation panel results

The final ranking and point scores (out of a total 100) of the tenders are identified in the table in the confidential attachment. The assessment was based on Council's standard tender evaluation methodology, as outlined in the selection criteria.

3. Funding and costing details

Application for access to documentation should be through lodgement of a GIPA Public Information application form and payment of prescribed fees.

Consultation requirements

No consultation required, tender process included a briefing session, and all responses to questions from prospective tenderers were published on the designated portal for transparency and equal access to information.

Financial/Resource Implications

Funding for Part A (bushland rehabilitation services) of the tender is allocated under Council's Environmental Levy and totals approximately \$536,000 per annum (ex GST).

Funding allocations per reserve are as follows:

Reserve	Funding Allocation \$ per annum
Badangi Reserve, Wollstonecraft	76,000
Balls Head Reserve, Waverton	60,000
Brightmore Reserve, Cremorne	40,000
Cremorne Reserve, Cremorne Point	55,000
Forsyth Park, Neutral Bay	30,000
Gore Cove Reserve, Wollstonecraft	54,000
Primrose Park, Cremorne	66,000
Tunks Park, Cammeray	88,000
Waverton Park, Waverton	32,000
Wonga Road Reserve, Cremorne	35,000
Total Costs	536,000

Funding for Part B of the tender (bushland infrastructure services) is allocated on a project-specific basis, in line with Council's Delivery Plan and Capital Works Program. Where

possible, external grant funding is also pursued to support the delivery of bushland track upgrades and other related infrastructure projects.

Legislation

Council acceptance of tenders must be undertaken in accordance with clause 178 of the Regulation. For transparency, minutes record the names of the councillors who supported the decision and any councillors who opposed the decision. Clause 178(3) of the Regulation gives Council six options where it either accepts none of the submitted tenders or receives no tenders. The options are:

- postpone or cancel the proposal for the contract;
- invite fresh tenders, either open or selective, based on the same or different details;
- invite fresh applications by public advertisement (clause 168) from persons interested in tendering for the proposed contract;
- invite fresh applications from recognised contractors listed by council (clause 169) interested in tendering for contracts of the same kind as the proposed contract;
- enter into direct negotiations with any person with a view to entering into a contract in relation to the subject matter of the tender;
- carry out the requirements of the proposed contract itself.

Project Program

Anticipated Start: 01/07/2025

Anticipated Completion: 30/07/2030

Responsible Officer: Gareth Debney, Bushland Management Coordinator