



Report to General Manager

Attachments:
1. Waverton Lighting Survey

SUBJECT: Waverton Park Sportsfield Lighting Upgrade

AUTHOR: David Manson, Manager Parks and Reserves

ENDORSED BY: Rob Emerson, Director Open Space and Environmental Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report presents the current status of the sportsfield lighting upgrade project at Waverton Park, the results of preliminary public consultation process and the suggested next step for this project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

Local Government Act 1993: Section 23A Guidelines - Council Decision Making During Merger Proposal Period

The Guidelines have been considered in the preparation of this report and are not applicable

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council proceed with the preparation of an amended design for sportsfield lighting at Waverton Park that does not necessitate an increase in the height of the poles required and proceed to the lodging of a development application.

LINK TO DELIVERY PROGRAM

The relationship with the Delivery Program is as follows:

Direction: 1. Our Living Environment

Outcome: 1.5 Public open space, recreation facilities and services that meet community needs

BACKGROUND

Councils Delivery Plan was adopted in June 2013 and projects over the next four years have had the required funding allocated to undertake the projects identified. A project for the current financial year 2016/17 is to upgrade the Sportsfield lighting at Waverton Park in order that the levels of illumination meet the current Australian Standard AS2560.2.3-2007 Football (All Codes) – Ball & Physical Training.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol.

SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT

The sustainability implications were considered and reported on during the initiation phase of this project.

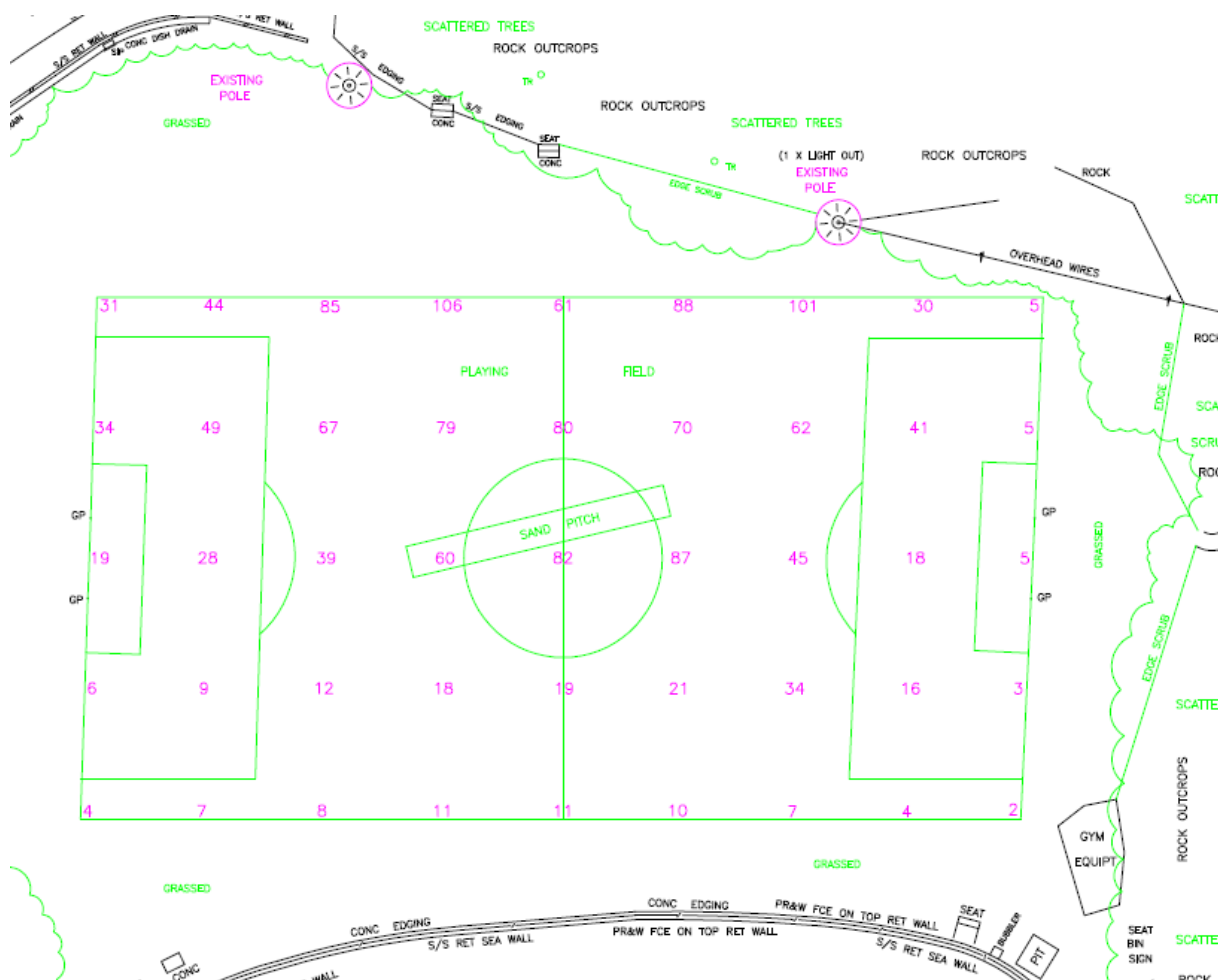
DETAIL

Council has been upgrading over a number of years all sportsground sports field lighting facilities to ensure that our sportsfields currently have sportsfield lighting that meet the required Australian Standard and ensure that all the sports fields are fit for the purpose of evening organised sport for our community sporting groups.

Waverton Park is the only remaining sportsfield that currently has sportsfield lighting that currently does not meet the required sports field lighting standard as all other fields within North Sydney have been upgraded over a long program of upgrading works.

A snapshot from the recent lighting audit undertaken below illustrates the current lighting lux levels from the two existing poles. The current (average) lighting achieved over the entire football field is 36.1 Lux falling significantly below the 50 Lux (ave) which is required for compliance within "AS2560.2.3-2007 Football (All Codes) – Ball & Physical Training and 100 Lux for match play".

As can also be seen in the diagram below the existing lighting levels at Waverton Park are generally poor and very uneven levels of illumination across the sportsfield, which is totally unsatisfactory.



Initial investigations into improving the sportsfield lighting at Waverton Park indicated the capability of possibly using only the existing two pole locations on the northern side of the sportsfield to achieve the desired outcome. However to meet the light uniformity requirements of the Australian Standard the two new poles would need to be taller than the existing poles.

The existing two poles are 18 metres in height and to achieve a fully complying design the poles would need to increase to 25 metres in height.

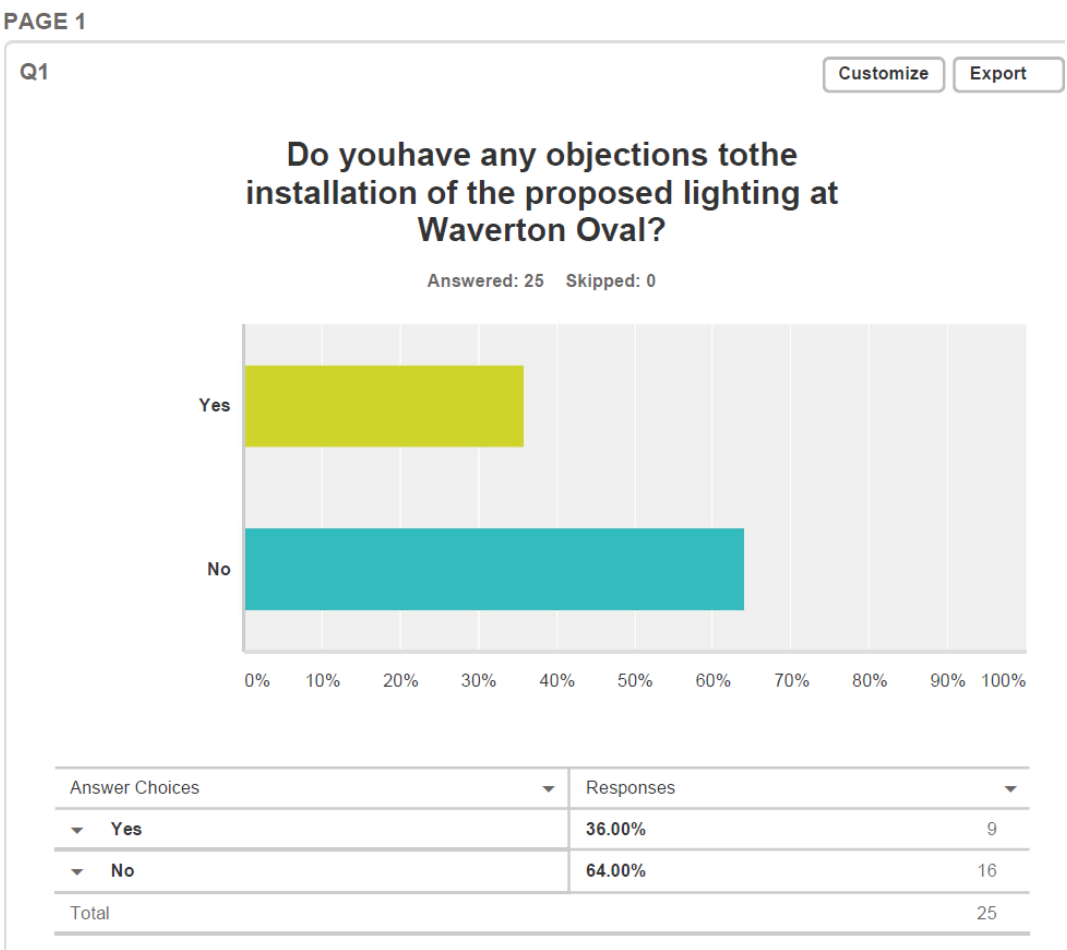
Advice from Councils planning department indicated that a Review of Environmental Factors would be required as a minimum to proceed.

In the preparation of undertaking the Review of Environmental Factors, preliminary consultation was undertaken providing information about the project to over 300 local neighboring properties and requesting their comments in a survey (attached to this report) identifying the design above.

Throughout the initial consultation period Council has received significant feedback on the proposed design with concerns including but not limited to

- increasing the height of the poles
- allowing the lights to be turned on 5 nights a week
- impact this will have on dog walkers
- no parking in surrounding streets every evening
- conflict with other recreational uses and
- indication of intensification of use

The summary of the survey results is identified below



Comments received via this survey included as follows.

- *I have no objection to improving the lighting but I do object to the current light towers being increased in height by 7 metres*
- *The lights already shine into our bedroom and the noise of yelling players is intrusive. A waste of money and time*
- *I am concerned that the extra 7m in height will intrude into the views over berry's bay for residents on the northern side of Woollcott St*
- *This will help ensure it remains a safe park and allow for safer use in the evenings for women*
- *We should support sport and fitness*

- *Raising the height level will bring the light source to eye level in my unit as far as I can judge. Particularly on the eastern end impacting my recreation at home*
- *Based on Google levels the new lights will be at 25+4 = 29m Elevation. Woollcott street is at 21mm some residents views of the city will be obstructed (#26 through #38)*
- *The extended poles will be visually intrusive to Woollcott St residents*
- *The oval is located in an area surrounded by residential properties. Any intensification of use of the oval will have impacts on surrounding residents in terms of light spill, noise associated with increased use of the oval and on street parking from park users as there is no parking available at the oval. It is noted that the oval is only currently used one or two nights a week at present until 9 pm. The information provided indicates that this could increase to use five nights per week until 9.45pm which is unacceptable in the ovals residential context. Increasing the height of the light towers by 7 metres would result in the towers being far more visible from surrounding residential properties and they would adversely impact on the current iconic and harbour views. from many properties. There is no information provided on the cost of the new light towers - a cost benefit analysis should be undertaken and this information should be made available. A thorough analysis of the proposed towers should be undertaken before any proposal is progressed. The appropriate avenue for this consideration would be a development application that is circulated for public comment. We note neither Waverton or Union Precinct were advised of the proposal when the survey was distributed*
- *I have very grave objections to this proposal on the basis of visual impact and the impact on passive users if the oval is occupied by sports teams. I also have safety concerns given the tight access around the playing field - I have been hit by a cricket ball.*
- *Accept in principle. However, an increase of 7m in height of light pole in front of the border between Merrett Playground and the bowling green would be an unwelcome intrusion on viewscape from the park, street and residences at 38 Woollcott St. Suggest pole be relocated to the west.*
- *Please empty garbage more regularly to stop rubbish entering waterways*

Upon completion of the survey process a subsequent petition signed by 79 people was received.

The concerns that have been raised within the petition include:

"I object to Council's proposed Waverton Oval Lighting Upgrade due to the impacts:

- *7m extensions to the Waverton Oval light towers blocking harbour views*
- *no parking in surrounding streets every evening*
- *conflict with other recreational uses*
- *Council's indication of intensification of use from one or two nights per week to five nights/week to 9.45pm"*

Council is not proposing any changes to the current available hours or type of use or intensity of use within Waverton Park. Waverton Park as with all other natural turf sportsfields in North Sydney is currently and will continue to be limited to an absolute maximum of 32 hours of organised sports use per week regardless of demand.

It is not anticipated that ensuring the sportsfield lighting meets Australian Standards will significantly increase the usage of Waverton Park for organised sport, however the improvements will make it safer for evening use for sport and the Council will meet its obligation with regards to the identified Australian Standard.

Council staff have reviewed with consultant lighting engineers the clear message from the local community not to increase the pole heights beyond the existing pole heights.

Advice received is that if the pole heights are not to be increased the proposal would require the standard four pole lighting configuration similar to all other lit sportsfields within North Sydney. A design has been sought for this option and once the design is available a development application will be prepared for lodgment and community consultation recommenced.

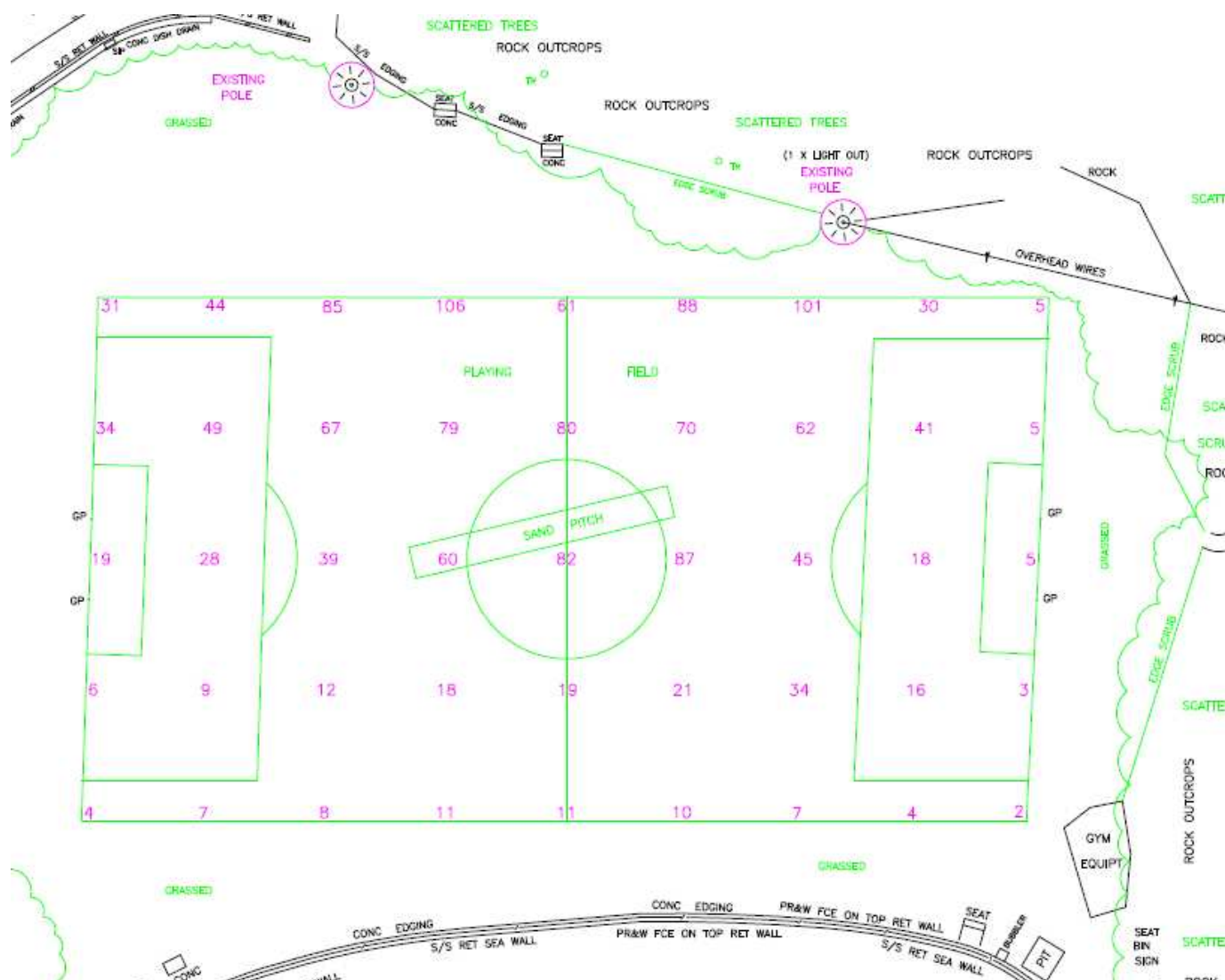


Dear Local Resident

Councils 4 year delivery plan has allocated funding for this current financial year 2016/17 to upgrade the Sportsfield lighting at Waverton Oval. At present Waverton Oval is the only remaining Sportsfield lighting with the North Sydney LGA that does not meet the current Australian standards.

This letter has been delivered to you as you are located within close proximity to the Oval. This letter will also give you the opportunity to provide any feedback or concerns you may have on the proposal

The lighting audit below shows the current projected light from the 2 existing poles. The lighting levels provided within this document were measured on site on Wednesday 27th July, 2016. The (average) lighting achieved over the entire football field is 36.1 Lux AFFL. Please note that this falls below the 50 Lux (ave) which is requirements for compliance within “AS2560.2.3-2007 Football (All Codes) – Ball & Physical Training”. The full A4 size audit is attached to this letter

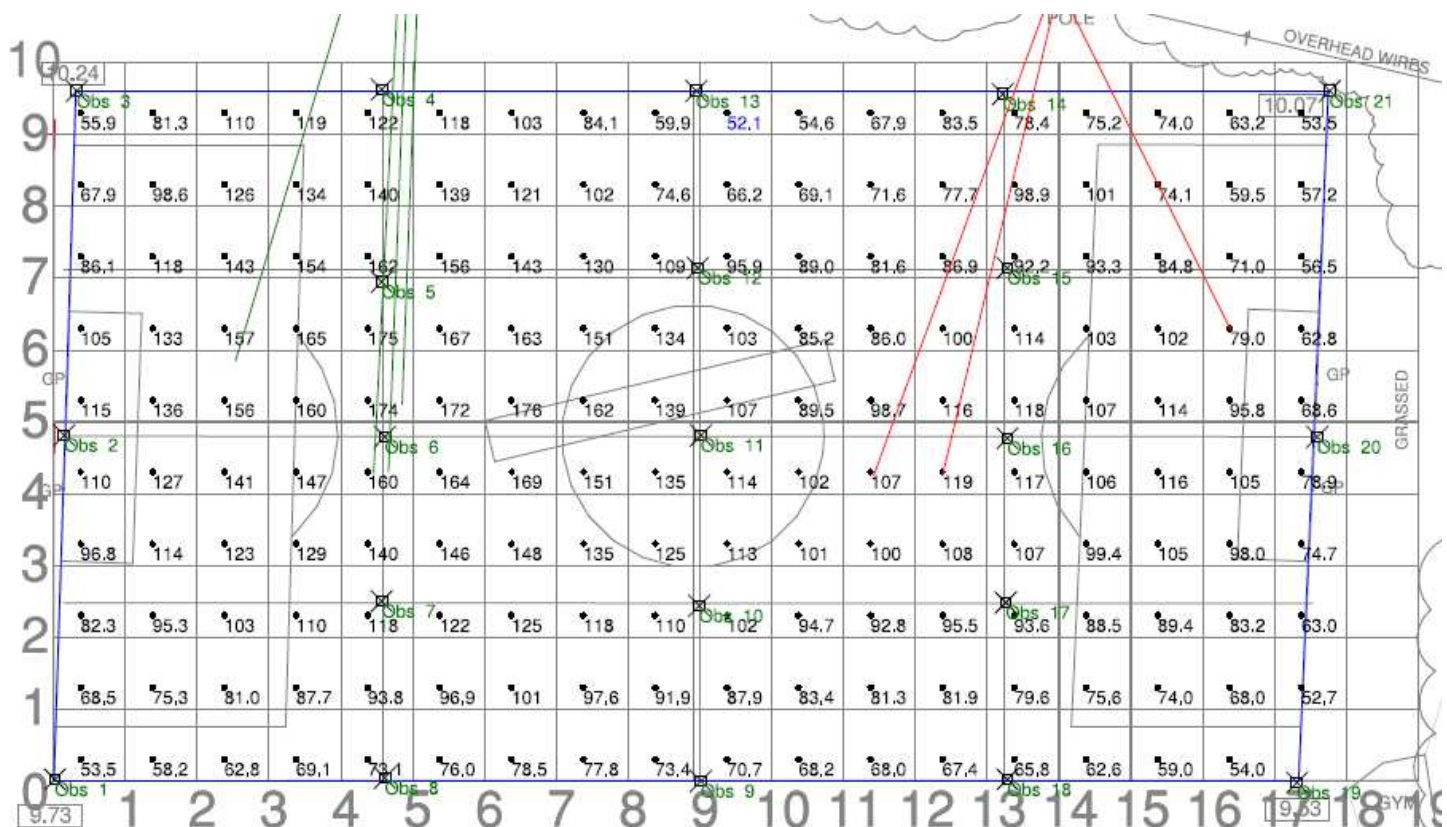


Proposed Lighting design

Initial investigations into the requirements of improving the lighting at Waverton Oval sees the capability of using only the existing 2 pole locations to achieve the desired outcome. This is the preferred method of installation as to avoid any extra poles being installed on the water side of the Oval. However to meet the uniformity requirements of the Australian Standard the 2 new poles would need to be taller than the existing ones.

The existing poles are 18 meters in height and to achieve a fully complying design the poles will need to increase to 25 meters in height.

The lighting design below indicates the new lux levels with the installation of the 25 metre poles and new luminaires. The full A4 size design has been attached to this letter



Light fittings: The use of the Optivision MVP507 (pictured below) light fitting achieves excellent light spill control, limitation of glare and upward leakage of light is secured by asymmetric optics that achieve a maximum intensity at 60° and a sharp cut-off of light at 80°. Light spill in this instance is not projected above the fitting. Spill analysis in this case would not be required unless other circumstances are being considered.

A full specification on the luminaire has been attached to this letter

**Hours of Use**

There will be no changes to the current hours of use for the lighting they will remain as they are currently of which shut down time is 9.45pm.

If you have any questions please contact me on 9936 8234.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DM', followed by a horizontal line.

David Manson
Manager Parks and Reserves

Feedback Form: Waverton Oval Lighting Upgrade**1. About you**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email: _____

- 2.** Do you have any objections to the installation of the proposed lighting at Waverton Oval? Yes ☐ No ☐

Please explain why: _____

- 3.** Do you have any other comments, questions, or concerns? Yes ☐ No ☐

Please provide details: _____

Thank you for taking time to complete this form. Please return to Council by 2nd of September 2016.
If you have any questions please contact me on 9936 8234

You can also complete this form online using the link below

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MCXD96T>

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Personal details requested on this form will only be used for the purpose of processing your application. The supply of information by you is voluntary. If you cannot provide or do not wish to provide the information sought, the Council may not be able to process your application. Access to the information is restricted to Council officers and other authorised people. You may make application for access or amendment to information held by Council. Applications by members of the public to view Council's records are subject to the provisions of Council's Privacy Management Plan, *Section 18 Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 & Schedule 1 - Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009*.