

Sydney CBD owners and tenants an interesting presentation on the history of Vivid and how it has developed.

Mr Jones's presentation provided the group with an insight into the way in which business communities can interact with the festival. In particular, he explained how the business community at Darling Harbour had successfully achieved its strategic objectives last year and how businesses at Martin Place are supporting the event for the first time this year.

The meeting also explored what would be required to extend the Vivid footprint to the North Sydney CBD. The conversation ranged from determining strategic objectives, through to obtaining sponsorship and potential themes for installations.

The meeting was well attended by our local business community and the feedback I have received from attendees was that the idea of bringing Vivid to the North Sydney CBD deserved further investigation.

Recommending:

1. **THAT** the post-Vivid 2014 report to Council include discussion of the ideas that emerged at the meeting held 7 May 2014.
2. **THAT** the record of the meeting be referred to the next meeting of the CBD Working Group.
3. **THAT** Vivid be included as a standing item on the CBD Working Group agenda.

The Minute standing moved it was

RESOLVED:

1. **THAT** the post-Vivid 2014 report to Council include discussion of the ideas that emerged at the meeting held 7 May 2014.
2. **THAT** the record of the meeting be referred to the next meeting of the CBD Working Group.
3. **THAT** Vivid be included as a standing item on the CBD Working Group agenda.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 6/5

Councillor	Yes	No	Councillor	Yes	No
Gibson	Y		Morris		N
Reymond	Y		Robertson	Absent	
Clare		N	Burke	Y	
Baker		N	Butcher	Absent	
Carr		N	Marchandean	Y	
Beregi	Y		Bevan	Y	
Barbour		N			

Note: A Notice of Rescission was lodged (regarding Minute 168 - Item MM02: Vivid Sydney) signed by Councillors Beregi, Baker and Clare.

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

169. G02: Legal and Planning Committee - 12 May 2014

Report of Ian Curry, Governance Coordinator

This report presents the recommendations of the last meeting of the Legal and Planning Committee held on 12 May 2014, for Council adoption. The minutes are attached for information.

Recommending:

1. **THAT** the Current Appeals and Results - May 2014 report be received.

2. **THAT** the Draft Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan be placed on public exhibition for 28 days.
3. **THAT** key stakeholders are thanked for their input to date and notified in writing of the exhibition.
4. **THAT** the outcome of the public exhibition of the Draft Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan be reported back to Council with advice on implementing the scheme through the Delivery Program and budget estimates.
5. **THAT** extra lighting be provided along the pathway between McHatton Street and Bay Road.
6. **THAT** Council's Team Leader - Design and the Strategic Planning staff be thanked for the quality of the report.
7. **THAT** the Careening Cove Precinct Plan - Progress Report be received.
8. **THAT** consultation with the Milson Precinct Committee and other key stakeholders commences in the third quarter of 2014.
9. **THAT** the 1A Plunkett Street, Kirribilli - Landscape Plan report be received.
10. **THAT** Council write to the neighbour of 1A Plunkett Street Kirribilli in light of the advice received.
11. **THAT** Council review landscape maintenance standard conditions of consent and incorporate any amended condition into Council's standard Conditions of Consent Manual.

RESOLVED:

1. **THAT** the Current Appeals and Results - May 2014 report be received.
2. **THAT** the Draft Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan be placed on public exhibition for 28 days.
3. **THAT** key stakeholders are thanked for their input to date and notified in writing of the exhibition.
4. **THAT** the outcome of the public exhibition of the Draft Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan be reported back to Council with advice on implementing the scheme through the Delivery Program and budget estimates.
5. **THAT** extra lighting be provided along the pathway between McHatton Street and Bay Road.
6. **THAT** Council's Team Leader - Design and the Strategic Planning staff be thanked for the quality of the report.
7. **THAT** the Careening Cove Precinct Plan - Progress Report be received.
8. **THAT** consultation with the Milson Precinct Committee and other key stakeholders commences in the third quarter of 2014.
9. **THAT** the 1A Plunkett Street, Kirribilli - Landscape Plan report be received.
10. **THAT** Council write to the neighbour of 1A Plunkett Street Kirribilli in light of the advice received.
11. **THAT** Council review landscape maintenance standard conditions of consent and incorporate any amended condition into Council's standard Conditions of Consent Manual.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Reymond and seconded by Councillor Burke

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 11/0

Councillor	Yes	No	Councillor	Yes	No
Gibson	Y		Morris	Y	
Reymond	Y		Robertson	Absent	
Clare	Y		Burke	Y	
Baker	Y		Butcher	Absent	
Carr	Y		Marchandean	Y	
Beregi	Y		Bevan	Y	
Barbour	Y				

170.

G06: Independent Conduct Reviewer

Report of Jenny Gleeson, Acting Director Corporate Services

To present the report of an Independent Conduct Reviewer following the Reviewer's investigations into alleged breaches of the Conduct of Conduct by a Councillor.

In accordance with Clause 8.45 within Appendix A of Council's Code of Conduct - Councillors and Staff:

The council is to close its meeting to the public to consider the final investigation report where it is permitted to do so under section 10A of the Act.

Recommending:

1. THAT the report concerning the Conduct Reviewers Report be considered in Closed Session pursuant to section 10A (2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993 that Council resolves to go into Closed Session in order to deal with a personnel matter.

It was moved by Councillor Reymond and seconded by Councillor Clare

1. THAT the report concerning the Conduct Reviewers Report be considered in Closed Session, at the end of the Meeting, pursuant to section 10A (2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993 that Council resolves to go into Closed Session in order to deal with a personnel matter.

It was moved as an amendment by Councillor Gibson and seconded by Councillor Bevan

1. THAT the report concerning the Conduct Reviewers Report be considered in Open Council.

Voting on the amendment was as follows: For/Against 2/9

Councillor	Yes	No	Councillor	Yes	No
Gibson	Y		Morris		N
Reymond		N	Robertson	Absent	
Clare		N	Burke		N
Baker		N	Butcher	Absent	
Carr		N	Marchandean		N
Beregi		N	Bevan	Y	
Barbour		N			

The amendment was put and **lost**.

The Motion was put and **carried**.

Voting was as follows: For/Against 9/2

**Report to General Manager**

Attachments:

1. Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan
2. Arup's advice on Napier Street and Charles Street

SUBJECT: Draft Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan**AUTHOR:** Emma Booth, Team Leader - Design**ENDORSED BY:** Stephen Beattie, Acting Director Planning and Development Services**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report presents the draft *Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan*. Preparation of the Masterplan is a key action under the *Education Precinct Planning Study*, which was adopted by Council in 2013.

The draft Masterplan aims to transform the area into an 'Education Precinct' - an engaging and lively place for students, residents and workers within the 'campus hub' whilst protecting the leafy residential streets that already gives the area so much character. A suite of short to long term public domain upgrades is proposed.

Greater priority is given to pedestrians on the network of small laneways and paths that connect the CBD with the residential area, education establishments and Mary MacKillop Place. It improves the safety and amenity of these links through public art, landscaping, lighting and applying the street furnishings under the *Public Domain Style Manual 2014*.

Following public exhibition, the matter will be reported back to Council with cost estimates and a proposed way forward.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the Draft Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan be placed on public exhibition for 28 days.
2. **THAT** key stakeholders are thanked for their input to date and notified in writing of the exhibition.
3. **THAT** the outcome of the public exhibition of the Draft Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan be reported back to Council with advice on implementing the scheme through the Delivery Program and budget estimates.

LINK TO DELIVERY PROGRAM

The relationship with the Delivery Program is as follows:

Direction: 2. Our Built Environment

Outcome: 2.3 Vibrant, connected and well maintained streetscapes and villages that build a sense of community

Direction: 3. Our Economic Vitality

Outcome: 3.1 Diverse, strong, sustainable and vibrant local economy

Direction: 4. Our Social Vitality

Outcome: 4.9 Enhanced community safety and accessibility

BACKGROUND

On 19 August 2013, Council resolved:

1. *THAT the Education Precinct Planning Study be adopted.*
2. *THAT a masterplan and associated works program be prepared to implement the strategies outlined in the study.*
3. *THAT traffic issues raised during the development of the study be referred to the North Sydney Centre Review traffic study.*
4. *THAT Council write to key education establishments in the education precinct seeking their support for the proposed Living Campus Program.*

The draft *Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan* (the 'draft Masterplan') has been prepared by Oculus, a highly regarded landscape architecture firm (Oculus prepared the *North Sydney Public Domain Style Manual 2014*). The draft Masterplan is at Attachment 1.

Traffic issues raised during the development of the study have been referred to the North Sydney Centre Review traffic study, currently being undertaken by Arup. Advice concerning the potential conversion of Napier Street and Charles Street into a shared zone has been forwarded in advance to inform the draft Masterplan. The traffic advice is at Attachment 2.

On 23 September 2013, Council wrote to the Australian Catholic University (ACU) and Sydney Church of England Grammar School (Shore) seeking their support for the Living Campus Program. Both establishments subsequently participated in a workshop to inform the draft Masterplan, along with Mary MacKillop Place.

On 9 April 2014 Council entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the ACU. The MOU includes an objective to collaborate on placemaking initiatives in the Education Precinct.

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

1. Education Precinct Planning Study

The Education Precinct is 26 hectares of commercial, mixed use and residential land located on the western edge of the North Sydney Centre (Figure 1). The precinct accommodates close to one third of North Sydney's student population and is experiencing significant growth with the expansion of the ACU and Shore facilities.

The *Education Precinct Planning Study* (the 'Planning Study') was released in 2013. It envisages:

"The education precinct will be an engaging and lively place for students, residents and workers. As a modern urban campus, there will be a range of formal and informal spaces for students to study, socialise and engage with the local community.

Whilst protecting the significant heritage and leafy urban streetscapes, well designed buildings, a revitalised public domain and careful traffic planning will enhance the form and function of the precinct and become a popular, easy to reach destination in North Sydney."

The Planning Study identifies a suite of strategies to achieve the above vision. A key action is to establish Living Campus - a design-led initiative focused on the public domain that:

- Enhances the precinct's function as an urban campus;
- Better connects people, schools and places; and
- Transforms the streets into valuable civic spaces.

To achieve this, Council engaged Oculus, a highly regarded landscape architecture firm, to prepare the draft *Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan* (Attachment 1).

2. Masterplanning process

2.1 Site analysis

To inform the draft Masterplan, Oculus undertook a detailed analysis of the public domain in the Education Precinct. Building on the work under the Planning Study, Oculus mapped areas of activity, open space, footpaths, trees, softscape, heritage and public art.

Areas of poor visual surveillance, blank facades, poorly illuminated and narrow footpaths were also mapped (Figure 2). Most of these issues are located within the area identified as the 'campus hub', which is located between Berry, Edward and Mount Streets. This is of particular concern given the Planning Study identifies this area as the focus for future student activity in the precinct.

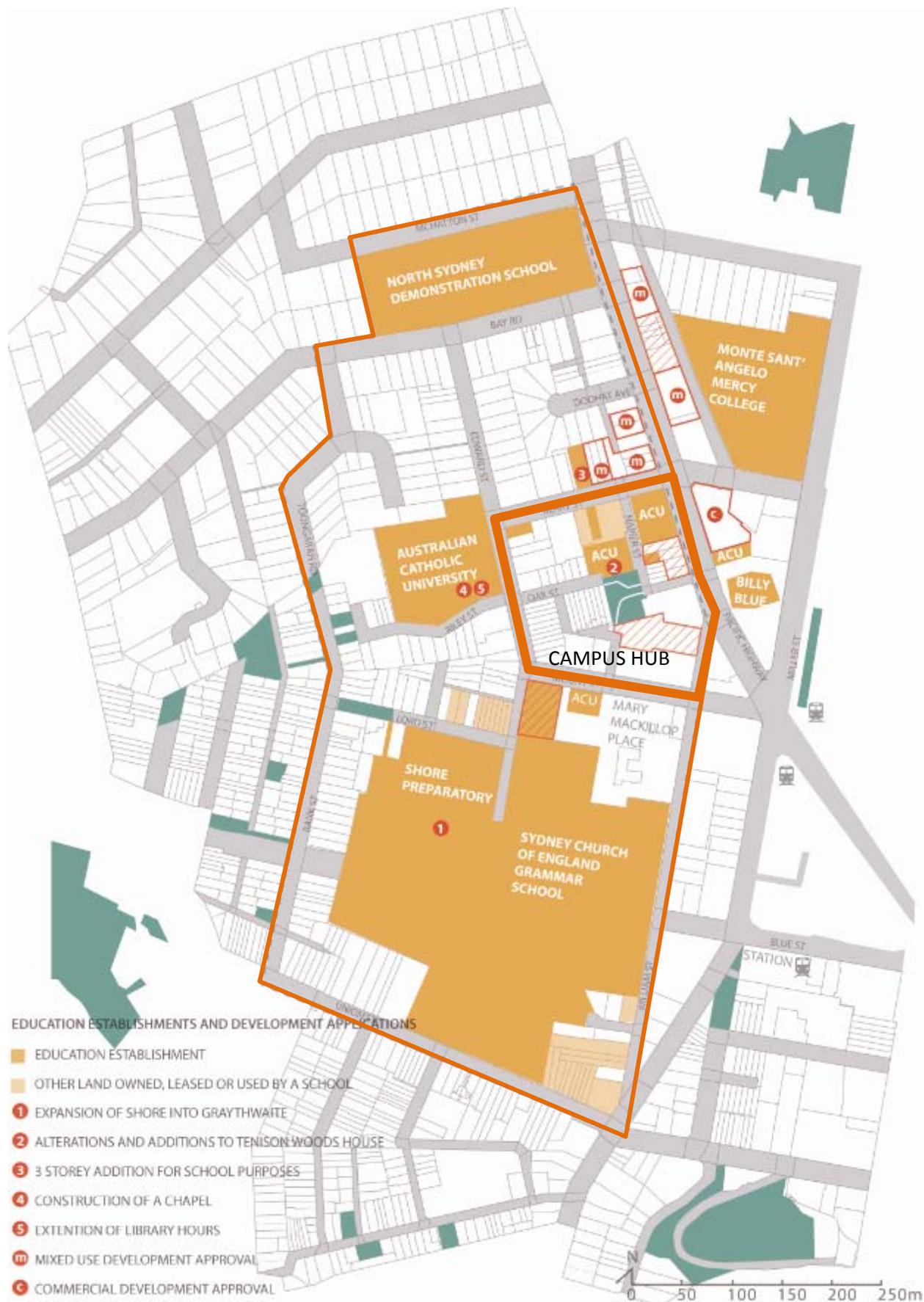


Figure 1. The Education Precinct (page 11 *Education Precinct Planning Study 2013*)



LEGEND

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 10M CONTOURS | Physical Barrier to Pedestrian Movement | Green Space Within Education Establishment |
| <<< STEEP ROAD GRADIENT | Poorly Illuminated Footpath | Existing and Future Plaza |
| High Pedestrian Traffic | Heritage Conservation Zone | Education Establishment |
| Pinch Point / Poor Visual Surveillance | Park | Narrow Footpaths |
| Large Blank Facade / Lack of Activation | Road Reserve / Pedestrian Link | |

Figure 2. Key issues (page 76 of the draft Masterplan. Image courtesy of Oculus).

2.2 Stakeholder workshop

To further investigate the issues identified around the campus hub, a stakeholder workshop was convened by Oculus on 16 December 2014 with Council staff, the ACU, Shore and Mary MacKillop Place attending.

Significant improvements to pedestrian safety and amenity were suggested through relatively simple upgrades to paving along Mount Street, Edward Street and Berry Street. The installation of more public seating would be highly desirable for visitors to Mary MacKillop Place, many of whom are older, come from outside the local government area and often need to wait for transport.

Actual or potential conflict between traffic and pedestrians continues to be a cause for concern. There is a need to strike the right balance between enabling traffic to flow freely and encouraging greater pedestrian activity by giving people the right of way through the precinct.

The workshop attendees acknowledged that the vehicle drop off and pick up facility constructed on Shore's premises is likely to have a positive impact by reducing traffic on Edward Street. This should benefit the North Sydney Demonstration School further north in the precinct. However the impact of this facility, along with the new William Street bus stop, will require monitoring, particularly at the pedestrian crossing on Mount Street.

The opportunity to create a heritage link between Mary MacKillop Place and the Don Bank Museum, as envisaged in the Planning Study, was strongly supported.

Shore recognised the area where their courts are located on the corner of Edward and Mount Street has the potential to become a front entrance to the school and could positively contribute to the precinct, building on the significant heritage reconstruction work currently being undertaken by Shore on the Graythwaite complex.

The ACU expressed a strong desire to improve the footpaths, verges and pedestrian crossings within the campus hub and fronting the ACU's Edward Street campus. High pedestrian activity is wearing out the grass verges, affecting the prestige of the university entrances and potentially creating safety hazards. Accordingly, the ACU is keen to work with Council to fast track short term upgrades in the area and supports Council's plans for more higher quality upgrades to Napier and Charles Streets. It was acknowledged this could be investigated as projects under the MOU with Council (subsequently signed on 9 April 2014).



3. The draft Education Precinct Public Domain Masterplan

The draft Masterplan aims to transform the study area into an ‘Education Precinct’ - an engaging and lively place for students, residents and workers within the ‘campus hub’ whilst protecting the leafy residential streets that already gives the area so much character. A suite of short to long term public domain upgrades is proposed.

Greater priority is given to pedestrians rather than vehicles on the network of small laneways and paths that connect the CBD with the residential area, education establishments and Mary MacKillop Place. It improves the safety and amenity of these links through public art, landscaping, lighting and applying the street furnishings under the *Public Domain Style Manual 2014*.

This section provides an overview of proposed short term upgrades. Full details are provided in the draft Masterplan (Attachment 1).



Figure 3. Campus hub (page 26 of the draft Masterplan. Image courtesy of Oculus).

3.1 Napier and Charles Street shared zone



Figure 4. Napier St - business as usual



Figure 5. Preferred 'Option 2'
(pp 38-39, Images courtesy of Oculus)

There are two options presented in the draft Masterplan for Napier and Charles Street:

- Option 1 (pages 29-32) proposes wider footpaths, new seating and the removal of two parking bays to incorporate additional street trees; and
- Option 2 (preferred - pages 34-39) proposes the streets are converted into a shared zone with flush precast concrete cobble pavement, new seating, new drainage, the removal of one parking bay and a greater number of street trees (Figure 5).

Arup has provided qualified support for the conversion of Napier Street into a shared zone, noting approval is required from Roads and Maritime (Attachment 2). In their consideration, Arup noted the potential for traffic signals on the Pacific Highway at Charles Street. It is understood this is being considered as part of the North Sydney CBD Traffic Study.

3.2 Wheeler Lane heritage link



Figure 6. Wheeler Lane - business as usual



Figure 7. Proposed
(pp 44-45, Images courtesy of Oculus)

Significant improvements to Wheeler Lane are achieved through simple paving and lighting upgrades in accordance with the *Public Domain Style Manual 2014*. Public art would be installed along the western edge of the laneway subject to agreement of property owners at 12-14 Mount Street. Heritage interpretation would be installed in the paving.

3.3 Berry Street upgrades



Figure 8. Berry St - business as usual



Figure 9. Preferred 'Option 2'
(pp 54-55, Images courtesy of Oculus)

There are two options presented in the draft Masterplan for Berry Street:

- Option 1 (pages 47-49) proposes wider footpaths at the intersection with Edward Street and infill street trees; and
- Option 2 (preferred - pages 50-55) proposes widened the footpaths along the southern side to essentially 'right-size' Berry St and allow for more sidewalk cafes along the northern edge of the campus hub (Figure 9).

Both options also propose a dedicated drop-off space outside the Willow Cottage Early Learning Centre to operate at am/pm peak times. This initiative could ease traffic congestion along Edward Street.

3.4 Don Bank Museum

The Don Bank Museum is located in the centre of the campus hub. The draft Masterplan suggests lowering the picket fences along the adjacent park and Napier Street frontages could open up views to the museum whilst protecting the heritage significance of the site.

Halving the concrete retaining wall fronting Tennison Woods House and introducing an open palisade fence with additional planting would also achieve views into the museum grounds. Alternatively, if this is cost prohibitive, public art along the retaining wall would significantly improve the area.

Dr Ian Hoskins, North Sydney Council Historian, suggests the presence of a former carriage drive at the northern end of the front wall could be investigated as part of any upgrades to the grounds. The area could be replanted and interpreted with a Victorian/Edwardian garden.

3.5 Medium to long term improvements

The draft Masterplan also proposes a suite of medium to long term upgrades to the public domain. It essentially shows how the paving and lighting treatments under the *Public Domain Style Manual 2014* can be rolled out over the Education Precinct.

Opportunities for a shared zone on Oak Street, additional seating and infill trees along Mount,

Edward, William Street and Bay Road are proposed. Formalised crossings on Edward and Mount Street would be located at existing desire line crossing points in the precinct.

4. Way forward

4.1 Public exhibition

It is recommended the draft Masterplan be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

Key stakeholders will be thanked for their input to date and notified in writing of the exhibition. This will include all education establishments within the precinct, Mary MacKillop Place and the Precinct Committee.

4.2 Cost estimates and scheme implementation

Prior to reporting the matter back to Council following public exhibition, cost estimates will be prepared for each of the options. Advice on implementing the scheme through the Delivery Program and budget estimates will be included in the report.

4.3 Memorandum of Understanding

As discussed in the Background section to this report, Council entered into a MOU with the ACU on 9 April 2014. The MOU includes an objective to collaborate on placemaking initiatives in the Education Precinct.

Certain upgrades identified in the draft Masterplan could form the basis of a project, or projects, to be delivered under the MOU with the agreement of the ACU.

5. Conclusion

Education is an important issue for North Sydney Council. Our schools, TAFEs, business colleges and university support over 17,000 students. This figure is set to grow with plans for new schools under consideration and the strategic growth of existing schools within the local government area.

The Education Precinct supports close to one third of our total student population. Along with the teachers and support staff, the establishments contribute to the vibrancy and local economy of the centre.

The draft Masterplan proposes upgrades that transform the streets within the Education Precinct into valuable civic spaces. This will improve street level amenity and reinforce the character of the area, delivering an engaging and lively place for students, residents and workers.