

MINUTES: ENVIRONMENT REFERENCE GROUP MEETING HELD IN THE ROS CRICHTON PAVILION ON MONDAY, 11 APRIL 2022 AT 6.00PM

PRESENT

Councillor Bourke in the Chair, Councillor Baker, Beregi, Lamb and Welch

Staff: Peter Massey, Manager Environmental Services
Danielle Birkbeck, Senior Sustainability Programs Co-ordinator
Bo Karaula, Waste Management Co-ordinator
Peita Rose, Governance Officer (Minutes)

Citizen Members: Anne Edwards, Community Member
Bruce Handmer, Community Member
Philip Worrall, Community Member

Visitors: James Bushell, Resident

Apologies were received from Councillor Santer, John Berry, Community Member and Rick Miller, Community Member

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 3 May 2021, copies of which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

Moved by Councillor Baker and seconded by Councillor Welch

Voting was unanimous.

2. **3.1 Council’s Waste Management Services**

Report of Shivaan Kumar, Waste Management Officer

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of Council’s waste management services.

Recommending:

1. **THAT** the Waste Services Report be received.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Bruce Handmer.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1. **THAT** the Council’s Waste Management Services Report be received.

3. **3.2. Bushcare Community Nursery Update**

Report of Gareth Debney, Bushland Management Coordinator

This report provides an update on the operations and achievements of Council’s Bushcare Community Nursery during 2021.

Recommending:

1. **THAT** the Community Nursery report be received.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Baker and seconded by Councillor Welch.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1. **THAT** the Bushcare Community Nursery Update report be received.

4. **3.3. Regional Grant Project Proposal - Urban Rewilding**

Report of Gareth Debney, Bushland Management Coordinator

This report details North Sydney Council’s support for a regional, multi-partner grant application that seeks to quantify environmental management practice in urban bushland and test the feasibility of urban rewilding.

Funding for this project is included in the adopted 2021/22 budget.

Recommending

1. **THAT** the report be received.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Lamb and seconded by Bruce Handmer.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1. **THAT** the Regional Grant Project Proposal - Urban Rewilding report be received.

5. **3.4. Future Directions of the Green Events Program 2022**

Report of Jordan Moy, Sustainability Education Officer

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the future direction of the Green Events program in 2022.

The Green Events program is funded through Council's Environmental Levy.

Recommending

1. THAT the report on the Green Events Program be received.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Anne Edwards.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1. THAT the report on the Green Events Program be received.

6. **3.5. Sustainable Business Programs Report**

Report of Ali Devlin, Sustainable Business Officer

The report provides an update of program reach, major focus areas and recent and upcoming events for each of the business programs.

Sustainable Business Programs are funded through the Environmental Levy.

Recommending:

1. THAT the report on North Sydney's Sustainable Business Programs be received.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Baker and seconded by Councillor Lamb.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1. THAT the Sustainable Business Programs report be received.

7. **3.6. Towards Net Zero Emissions**

Report of Danielle Birkbeck, Snr Sustainability Programs Coordinator

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview on how North Sydney Council and the community are tracking on the carbon footprint targets and how we propose to assist as we work towards net zero emissions.

The program will be funded through the Environment Levy.

Recommending:

1. THAT this report on Net Zero Emissions be received.

The Motion was moved by Bruce Handmer and seconded by Councillor Baker.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1. **THAT** the Towards Net Zero Emissions report be received.

8. 3.7. Water and Energy Management Programs Update

Report of Ian Garradd, Sustainability Project Officer

This report provides an overview of Council greenhouse gas emissions, energy and water consumption data for the period of 2004-2021.

The water and energy programs discussed in this report are funded through a combination of Council's Environment Levy and property maintenance budget.

Recommending:

1. **THAT** the report on Council's Water and Energy Management Programs is noted.

A Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Baker,

1. **THAT** the report on Council's Water and Energy Management Programs is noted.

2. **THAT** an update on this report be brought back to the next Environment Reference Group Committee meeting on the future of the Cammeray Dam post the works on the Warringah Freeway Upgrade and the cutting-edge sustainability design/practices for the new North Sydney Olympic Pool including water sources.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1. **THAT** the report on Council's Water and Energy Management Programs is noted.

2. **THAT** an update on this report be brought back to the next Environment Reference Group Committee meeting on the future of the Cammeray Dam post the works on the Warringah Freeway Upgrade and the cutting-edge sustainability design/practices for the new North Sydney Olympic Pool including water sources.

9. 3.8. Streets Alive, Community Garden and HarbourCare update

Report of Hugh Goodman, Streets Alive Co-ordinator

The purpose of this report is to update the Environmental Reference Group on the Streets Alive, Community Garden and HarbourCare programs.

Budget allocated in the 21/22 financial year

Recommending:

1. **THAT** the report be received and noted.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Baker and seconded by Councillor Beregi.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1.THAT the Streets Alive, Community Garden and HarbourCare update report be received.

10. 3.9. Revision of Bushcare Program Guidelines

Report of Andrew Scott, Bushcare Officer

To advise the Environmental Reference Group of the changes to the Bushcare Volunteer Program Guidelines.

Bushcare is funded under the Environmental Levy.

Recommending:

1. THAT the report on the Bushcare Program Guidelines be received.

2. THAT the draft guidelines be placed on public exhibition and volunteers consulted directly on the changes to the Bushcare Program Guidelines.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Anne Edwards.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1. THAT the report on the Bushcare Program Guidelines be received.

2. THAT the draft guidelines be placed on public exhibition and volunteers consulted directly on the changes to the Bushcare Program Guidelines.

11. 3.10. The Coal Loader Report

Report of Rebecca Farrell, Events and Engagement Coordinator

To outline the achievements and highlights of The Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability throughout 2021 and into the beginning of 2022.

Recommending

1. THAT the report on activities at the Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability be noted.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Baker and seconded by Councillor Beregi.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1. THAT the report on activities at the Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability be noted.

12. General Business

James Bushell presented to the Committee on the 'Domestic waste (red bin) charges and incentivisation for waste reduction'

A Motion was moved by Councillor Baker and seconded by Councillor Beregi,

1. THAT a report on the 'Domestic waste (red bin) charges and incentivisation for waste reduction' presentation be bought back to the next Environment Reference Group Committee.

2. THAT Council establishes a Citizens Working Group on waste based on action and opportunities to increase diversion from landfill within the current constraints of Council's waste regime.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1. THAT a report on the 'Domestic waste (red bin) charges and incentivisation for waste reduction' presentation be bought back to the next Environment Reference Group Committee.

2. THAT Council establishes a Citizens Working Group on waste based on action and opportunities to increase diversion from landfill within the current constraints of Council's waste regime.

Bruce Handmer addressed the Reference Group on the following:

- 1) Preservation of the natural environment and 'open space' (even on the water)
- 2) Environmental pollution.
- 3) Noise pollution.

A Motion was moved by Bruce Handmer and seconded by Councillor Beregi.

1. THAT the Environment Reference Group recommend that Council actively support the Heritage Fleet's proposal, as one that will help continue the excellent conservation of this bay and provide a unique and beautiful destination for locals and tourists alike.

Voting was unanimous.

Resolved to recommend:

1. THAT the Environment Reference Group recommend that Council actively support the Heritage Fleet's proposal, as one that will help continue the excellent conservation of this bay and provide a unique and beautiful destination for locals and tourists alike.

The Committee recommends that there be another meeting of the Environment Reference Group to be held in July 2022.

The Meeting concluded at 8.20pm.

CHAIRPERSON

GENERAL MANAGER