

Summary of Actions Arising (SOA) Waverton Precinct 2023

This document is North Sydney Council's response to actions arising from Precinct Committee Minutes. On receipt of the minutes, actions are numbered and allocated to relevant Council Officers for response.

To effectively manage and provide clarity, all actions are allocated a status when reporting to Precinct Committees in response to their minutes. There are three categories:

- **Awaiting Response** - action allotted to Council Officer - response awaited.
- **Open/Ongoing** - action allocated to Council Officer, initial response provided. Matter ongoing and further response/update to be provided at later date.
- **Closed for Council** - Council either completed related works/tasks or has taken all reasonable steps within its power to resolve issue (for example when matter is beyond its jurisdiction). If the Precinct Committee feels Council can take further steps, they can request Council reopen action.

Questions or concerns re content of this document should be directed to precincts@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
December		February meeting - The next meeting will be held back at the Uniting Church Community Hall, 75 Bay Road, Waverton, at 7.30pm on Tuesday, February 6, 2024. Our special guest speaker will be the Council's Director Community, Planning and Environment	Council's Director Community, Planning and Environment has advised that a tentative date in March has been scheduled with the Precinct instead. UPDATE (5 March 2024) Council's Director Community, Planning and Environment attended the March meeting.	Closed for Council
November	4.1	Road surface hazards - Quality of finish of new road surfacing is generally very poor. It was requested that the Precinct ask Council to include into contracts a repair clause which will require the contractor returns to the site after 12 months or so to fix.	Council's Works Manager has advised that the quality of road resurfacing is always checked with a defect liability period. Council will not pay contractors unless satisfied with the quality of the finish. Council has not been made aware of poor road finish from new asphalt re-sheeting works.	Closed for Council

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	5.1	Nicholson Street car park - A resident pointed out that Nicholson Street Car Park in Crows Nest has designated spots for Mater Hospital employees, which are often empty. The Mayor said she would investigate and get back to the Precinct on this matter.	Council Manager Parking Stations & Business Operations has advised that the Mater Hospital is currently undergoing a 2-year project to establish a Palliative Care service and extend their day surgery capacity. These works required the demolition and rebuilding of their existing staff parking facilities. Mater Hospital initially requested on-street parking permits for their staff to park however this was not a viable solution as demand for parking is already very high in the Wollstonecraft area. In turn following a request for car park spaces, analysis of several years of data (including data pre-COVID) found that Nicholson St car park (closest to the hospital) is underutilized. 40 vehicles can fit in the basement permanent parking hence the overflow of 20 reserved spaces placed in the public area on 14 April 2023. The arrangement with the Mater Hospital is temporary and will cease once their renovations are complete. The aim is to reduce their parking spaces as their works progress and their onsite spaces gradually start opening back up. Council will continue to monitor the parking situation at Nicholson St car park to ensure it's fair and equitable for all users.	Closed for Council
	5.2	Waverton Park hazard - The upper level of Waverton Park has some access points/caps that finish well above the grass level, thereby creating a hazard for park users.	Council's Manager Parks & Reserves has advised that the repair of these hazards is the responsibility of Transport for NSW. Council has made them aware of the issue and has requested action be taken to fix the hazards.	Closed for Council
	5.5	Wood St/Balls Head Rd pedestrian visibility - A resident requested that the vegetation around the junction on	Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that Council Officers have investigated the site	Closed for Council

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		Balls Head Road be cut back as it is dangerous and you cannot see pedestrians when driving.	and have scheduled trimming of the vegetation on the western side of the intersection to improve visibility on the bend.	
October	EB	Beaches Link Project - This project has been officially cancelled. As a result, there is no need for the clearing near the road at Cammeray Golf Club. There has been no official announcement as to what happens with this land now, but it is assumed it will remain a construction site for the time being.	Council's Public Projects Interface Manager has advised that there has been no determination by the NSW Government regarding the long-term use of the site formerly allocated to the Beaches Link Operations Centre. Council has made representations to have the land returned to public use as open space. Council is awaiting a response.	Closed for Council
	NB	Noakes Floating Dry Dock update - The Precinct asks the Council to contact NSW Maritime to remind them that the Floating Dry Dock has to be excluded from Berry's Bay as instructed by the Land and Environment Court.	Council's Manager Environment & Building Compliance has advised that the Floating Dry Dock has been removed.	Closed for Council
	OB	Frequent closures of Larkin Street - That the Council identify the person within Council who approves the closure of Larkin Street for photography and filming use and asks them to provide local residents with reasonable notification of any road closure.	Council's Manager Customer Services & Records has advised that an internal review of approvals is underway to determine how much activity occurs that affects Larkin Street. However, the issue may also need to be raised with other regulatory services in order to be managed. Council will provide to the Precinct Committee, an overview of the approved permits we are aware of, in due course. UPDATE (14 November 2023) Council's Manager Customer Services & Records has advised that from June 2022 until November 2023, Council only approved 4 filming permits in the Larkin St	Closed for Council

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			<p>area, of which 3 involved parking/barricading. As part of our standard requirements, and in line with the NSW Film Protocols, all of these supplied a resident notification letter which is sent to residents with a minimum of two days' notice. This is to ensure any residents who may be affected by the production have adequate notification.</p> <p>No third-party events have been organised with Council at the location in the same time period, or for quite a number of years, with the exception of course for New Year's Eve planning and infrastructure.</p> <p>Larkin Street and Carradah Park do offer iconic Sydney views, and it seems to have been particularly utilised for vehicle promotional photo shoots. We have numerous enquiries and regularly advise applicants of the need for road closures if any traffic disruption is to occur. This requires fees and appropriate licenced traffic control, as well as notification requirements.</p> <p>With some research on various car sales websites, there does seem to be a lot of use of the location for this purpose, however, none have obtained relevant film permit permissions or had appropriate permits and notification conversations with Council. We have shared this feedback with our Rangers generally, however, they do ask that if residents are inconvenienced by filming in the area involving the use of a vehicle, use of parking, or disruption to traffic occurring with no resident notification being received, please take action to notify</p>	

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			<p>Council immediately so that Rangers can investigate and take appropriate action. Given much of this activity occurs outside of Council's core hours of operation, it is best to call Council on 02 9936 8100 so that Rangers can be notified as soon as possible.</p>	
	OB	<p>The Coal Loader Market - That the Council consider why foot traffic may be declining at the Coal Loader market, and what steps can be taken to address this. Whether those reasons are related to the lack of a change of stall holders to freshen the experience, the lack of a cafe, or the possibility of advertising wider or any other reason that can be identified, and that these be addressed by Council.</p>	<p>UPDATE (7 November 2023) Council's A/Team Leader Events has advised industry professionals have indicated that participation across events in Sydney have shown an overall downturn in participation number after COVID and due to the current economic conditions. A large proportion of the items on sale can be categorized as luxury and so the first to be scaled back on. In our current selection of stallholders, we have ensured that there are a number of lower-priced items. The Christmas Markets do tend to be the largest of the year and a good point to compare this December to last year, however, in 2023 we are also affected by unavoidable train works this year due to the Metro so that will most likely lessen crowds.</p> <p>To address the question re stallholders, for the past 5 years, we have maintained a rough demographic of 50% regular stalls (exhibiting a max of 3x per year), 25% occasional stallholders, and 25% new stalls. The café not being open has definitely affected overall daily footfall to the site and could be having a knock-on effect on events but this is difficult to measure. I have been informed that Council is currently working on getting a new tenant in as fast as possible.</p>	Close for Council

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			The markets are advertised on social media to 15KM from the area but stepping up the marketing exposure, reach and budget could be addressed but might not fix the underlying issues if their basis is in household economics. Council continues to be committed to the long-term viability and growth of this much-loved event and encourage the Precinct Committee members to attend on 3 December 2023 to show your support.	
August	1	Water Leaks in Bay Road - Further issues were brought up in relation to water leaks and accompanying road damage. Some improvements were noted by various residents. Mr Parsons said that he would investigate further, particularly the lingering tripping and bike hazards on Bay Road. DL assured residents that NSC has read and either actioned repairs or are. Council's Assets Engineering Officer is aware from past meetings Minutes and is currently aware and action underway on all the road matters that have been raised at past meetings.	UPDATE (4 October 2021) Council's Director Open Space and Infrastructure has advised that the matter was reported to Sydney Water in the 31 July 2023 (Reference # 480040734). Sydney Water have confirmed that they attended site at Bay Rd, Waverton and carried out repairs.	Closed for Council
	1	Pedestrian Crossing - Other matters brought attention were the natural softening elements at pedestrian crossings growing too bushy/high and he would note this.	Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that the Council undertakes regular maintenance at pedestrian crossings. Community members are encouraged to make a submission identifying any specific areas of concern and maintenance can be prioritised, email council@northsydney.nsw.gov.au . Precinct Committees can also identify any areas of concerns via their minutes.	Closed for Council

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			<p>To allow the Council to act effectively on any concern, it is helpful to be specific regarding the location and issue. For example, request that the landscaping be maintained on the eastern side of the pedestrian crossing on Pitt Street north of Park Street, in Cremorne as it impacts visibility between pedestrians and approaching drivers.</p>	
	1	<p>Pedestrian Crossing Euroka Street - A traffic calming/directing island at Euroka Street being in the wrong position for buses and they need to drive over the centre of it to take the corner. The resident was requested to take photographs and directly let the Council know if this.</p>	<p>Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that a new pedestrian refuge has been provided in Woolcott Street at the intersection with Euroka Street. While the design narrows the width of the intersection, it has been developed to ensure that buses can turn safely. The reduced width requires drivers to reduce speeds when turning, improving safety at the intersection. Post installation, kerb strikes were reported. Council officers have investigated the status of the intersection and have observed buses now turning safely at the intersection in line with design parameters.</p>	Closed for Council
	OB	<p>The state of Waverton Oval - BD noted that Waverton Oval is now a dust bowl, with the sprinkler system rarely used. Council attention needs to be brought to the upkeep of the Oval. Over-use may be reducing its utility and health over time.</p>	<p>Council's Manager Parks & Reserves has advised that Waverton Oval is used to its absolute capacity through the winter season, 32 hours per week. This is the same for every other field in the North Sydney LGA, all of which are looking a bit worse for wear at this time as it's the end of the season. Councils dedicated team of greenkeepers work tirelessly to provide the best possible surface under the circumstances and use the watering system when required. Council spends over \$1million per year on sports field maintenance.</p>	Closed for Council

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July	EB7	Crows Nest development update - The matter of development in the stretch between St Leonards Station, along the Pacific Highway towards North Sydney, and down Falcon Street to North Sydney Boys High School is the next big issue. A decision relating to the “triangular site” (at Falcon Street and Pacific Highway and Alexander St) is currently in court in relation to height limits. IG, Chairman, suggested to the meeting that MO, the Director of Council's Community, Planning and Environment Division be invited to address the Precinct regarding these matters and the changes being made by the new State Government and this was agreed to by the meeting.	Council's Director Community, Planning and Environment has noted the Precinct Committee's comments and will attend the Precinct meeting on 5 September 2023 to discuss.	Closed for Council
	GB1	Community Notice Board - It was noted that Council updated the signage at the Bay Road community noticeboard, following our request last meeting. Community announcements are generally left alone but all other notices are still removed by an unknown party.	Council's Community Information Officer notes the Precinct Committee's comments regarding the notice board.	Closed for Council
	GB3	Waverton Park drilling/access point - is a tripping hazard as it is elevated above the grass and could be a dangerous obstacle for anyone using this recreational area. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.	UPDATE (21 September 2023) Council's Public Project Interface Manager has advised that the example of the hazard provided was an old concrete structure that was much, much older than the WHT project. Council has asked the WHT contractor to investigate, and they have stated that the boreholes that they made in the park are all capped at or below the surface. No further action to be taken at this stage.	Closed for Council

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	GB5	Road surface hazards - A resident raised that various issues are ongoing in regard to road surface hazards around Waverton. Principally, these exist at the station end of Crows Nest Road near the intersection with King St, where there seems to be underground water issue, and also on Bay Road outside number 79, and the poor quality of the resurfacing on Balls Head Rd. The Precinct Committee will suggest a walk around with a North Sydney Council representative.	UPDATE (28 July 2023) Council's Assets Engineering Officer has advised that Carr Street between Crows Nest Road and King Street is scheduled for resurfacing this financial year. The road defects advised in Bay Road outside 79 and Crows Nest Road between Bay Road and Carr Street are in relation to works by Sydney Water. The officer in charge of restorations will follow this up with them. Balls Head Road resurfacing works were inspected and appeared satisfactory. If there were specific locations of concern the Precinct can raise an item in the next meeting for further investigation.	Open/Ongoing
June	2a	Damaged area of road on Bay Road - (adjacent to the Hall) remains an issue and is still a danger to residents - particularly those on foot and two wheels. A resident put to the meeting that his information is that this is an issue that requires intervention by Sydney Water. A trench had to be inserted to attend to a fire hydrant upgrade to an adjacent apartment block, and this has damaged the natural water course. It needs to be investigated if this assessment is correct or the damage is being caused elsewhere, and fixed by the correct authority.	Council's Contracts Manager has advised that Sydney Water has approved the Council estimate. Restoration works has been allocated to Council's contractor and works have already commenced.	Closed for Council
	3a	Other Business - It was raised that cars regularly remain in parking zones longer than the time they are zoned for. This includes several cars belonging to Capo Pizza. The Chair undertook to speak to the Pizzeria owner and also take it up with the Council to increase ranger patrol of this area.	Council's Manager Ranger & Parking Services has requested extra Parking Services Officer patrols for Bay Road in Waverton.	Closed for Council

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	3b	<p>Balls Head Road resurfacing - The recent resurfacing of Balls Head Road was seen to be of a modest standard. There is a clear joining line down the middle of the road, which will lead to water-based erosion over time and the manhole access is suspect and poorly aligned in places. It was: moved KA seconded VY Motion: That Council be asked to inspect the resurfacing of Balls Head Rd for quality control to ensure the work is up to standard. Further, that Council confirm whether they routinely sign off on this sort of work even when the contract for the work is not with the Council. Carried</p>	<p>Council's Contracts Manager has advised that the visible joint was due to the weather when they were laying (wet weather). Council will monitor the pavement and any defects will be rectified by the contractor in the near future.</p>	<p>Closed for Council</p>
May	1c	<p>Pothole/speed bump degradation on Bay Road - It was raised that there is a nasty dip in the road at Bay Road, almost directly outside the Uniting Church Community Hall. Some residents said that they had already contacted the Council however no action had yet been taken. Residents expressed concern that this was a significant safety hazard and needed to be rectified. Moved KA, Seconded DL "The Precinct asks Council to make good the dangerous degradation of the speed hump in Bay Road, and for the task to be completed to a high standard as soon as possible". Carried.</p>	<p>Council's Contracts Manager Engineering has advised that the road failure is related to a water leak and has been referred to Sydney Water for leak repair and restoration.</p>	<p>Closed for Council</p>
	1d	<p>Continued closure of the Coal Loader Café - It was raised that the cafe at the Coal Loader has been vacant for a period of months. This was a primary reason why some residents visited the Coal Loader precinct and is an important community hub and draw for other facilities at the Coal Loader. Moved IB, Seconded DL. Motion: "The</p>	<p>Council's Property Officer has advised that Council has appointed Colliers to find a tenant. There have been many interested prospective tenants to view the cafe since its closure, and to date one party has made two offers that have been unacceptable. Council's managing agent has been instructed to advertise for expressions of</p>	<p>Closed for Council</p>

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		<p>Precinct asks Council to update the Precinct on the status of the Coal Loader Cafe lease as the community are concerned that it has been left empty for an extended period of time". Unanimously passed.</p>	<p>interest, and it is anticipated that this process will take three months to secure a tenant and finalise a lease.</p> <p>UPDATE (1 August 2023) The expression of interest campaign continues.</p> <p>UPDATE (21 November 2023) After an extensive Expression of Interest process conducted from 17 July to 14 August 2023, Council has successfully identified a suitable tenant to lease the Coal Loader Café. Council is obligated to give public notice of the proposed lease for a 28-day period, during which time submissions from the public may be received. Submissions closes 18 December 2023. For more information visit https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/coal-loader-cafe-lease</p>	
	1e	<p>Bus zones to provide for additional opportunity for local car parking - One of the two bus zones on Bay Road has been changed so that short term parking is permitted after 7pm and on Sundays, when bus routes are not operating. It was suggested that the other bus zone also be changed in this manner. Moved LH, Seconded KA. "That North Sydney Council to add the second bus zone to short term parking after 7pm and on Sundays adjacent to the shops on Bay Road as per the other zone so both zones are consistent". Unanimously passed.</p>	<p>Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that Council will investigate the potential for a change to the kerb side restrictions to allow turnover of parking. If the proposed change is supported by TfNSW, Council will consult on the proposal.</p> <p>UPDATE (4 October 2023) Council raised the issue with Busways the bus operator, who does not support the change to the Bus Zone restrictions as it would prohibit proposals to expand services to seven days. Busways also raised concerns about frequent illegal parking in timed Bus Zones,</p>	Closed for Council

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			impacting the reliability of bus services. TfNSW and Council identify efficient public transport operations as a priority on the road network and as such, would not implement changes to bus infrastructure where the bus operator identifies that it would negatively impact services.	
	2c	Community Notice Board - Concern was raised regarding people taking down notices with which they might not agree. This needs to be discouraged. The Precinct supports the use of the noticeboard as a way of encouraging respectful debate and providing information.	Council's Community Information Officer has advised that Council will provide a sign to be placed on the Waverton Noticeboard at the time of the next noticeboard change-over (13 June 2023), asking that people do not take down other people's notices. Note: that the open noticeboards are cleared and refreshed by Council every six weeks so that notices do not bank up and look untidy. Council will also take down notices which do not comply with the <i>Community Information Policy</i> if they are seen to be overtly political.	Closed for Council
April	1c	Merrett Playground - A periodic upgrade of the playground was on the capital works list for 2023 but the Precinct requested this be delayed until the former Bowling Club site's future was clearer. However, the Council decided in March that the upgrade will go ahead, sometime this year. The slope on the site is informally used as part of the playground but can be dangerous. It contains rocks and other obstacles. It was: Moved JB; Seconded GF. Motion: The Precinct asks Council to include improving and using the slope as part of the overall upgrade of the playground. It is suggested that changes should be made to the current playground	<p>Council's Landscape Architect/Project Coordinator has advised that the post-exhibition report was considered by Council at its meeting of 13 March 2023 (Item 10.01), whereby Council resolved to "proceed with the Merrett Playground upgrade".</p> <p>Modification of the design, as proposed by the Precinct Committee, would involve significant costs and result in further time delay including the need for consultation on the new proposal.</p> <p>UPDATE (7 November 2023)</p>	Closed for Council

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		upgrade plan to utilise the slope as part of the playground, for example by including a long slide at ground level (access at the top, exit at the bottom). Unanimously passed.	Council's Landscape Planner/Project Coordinator has advised that Merrett Playground upgrade has been revisited and will be advertised for tender in the next two weeks. Construction will begin in early 2024.	
	3a	Other Business - There is a broken water pipe at the end of Ross Street.	Council's Assets Manager has advised that Sydney Water have fixed their water leak at the end of Ross Street.	Closed for Council
	3b	Other Business - Graffiti and deterioration on public signage especially in the Carradah Park area requires Council attention. An Audit of the state of all public signs would be sensible and the resulting maintenance can be planned, funded, and undertaken.	Council's Manager Parks & Reserves has advised that staff will be looking at upgrading this signage in the next financial year.	Closed for Council
	3c	Other Business - There also was a request for Council to look for improvements to be made of obstructions often as vegetation grows and obscures views around pedestrian crossings.	Council's Manager Parks & Reserves has advised the Precinct Committee's feedback is noted. Council staff will action any pruning requirements on crossings as they see fit in terms of view lines.	Closed for Council
March	1a	Berrys Bay - Representatives from Western Harbour Tunnel (WHT) project were due to attend and address the meeting - but due to standard pre-election protocol they cannot attend within 3 weeks of a State election. We look forward to having them next month. North Sydney Council and the WHT team have both been notified following our last meeting that the toxicity of Berrys Bay and especially along the line of the former Woodley's slipway is a significant concern to the community. It was pointed out to both that remediation of this toxic waste is not mentioned anywhere in the WHT plans, or in the new 'Berrys Bay Masterplan'. The	Council's Acting Director Open Space & Environmental Services has advised he has no knowledge of any proposed remediation of the contaminated sediments in Berrys Bay. The land is entirely owned by Transport for NSW and hence any cost and responsibility for the clean-up is borne by them. Ideally, given the works that are proposed to occur on the land, the harbour bed could be remediated as well.	Closed for Council

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		<p>Premier has announced that a new Parkland will open on these sites in mid-2024 but there is still no mention of fixing the decaying wharves and former marina piles, transferring the marine leases to the Council, or for any remediation of the known problem sites.</p>		
	2	<p>Sydney Heritage Fleet (Shf) - AE and GI were invited to address the meeting on a proposed re-use of Woodley's Shed and Office building to create a new business in Berry's Bay. SHF first addressed the Waverton Precinct group in 2020, so the proposal to move a segment of the operation of SHF to Berry's Bay dates from then. The proposal involves the conversion of Woodley's Shed to house small historically significant craft, have a place to put them on display, a woodworking workshop for historical boat restoration and invite people to work on small craft... Council's recent Waverton Peninsula Working Group was looking into the condition of Woodleys Shed condition. However, a dilapidation report has not been shown. We do not know the overall condition of this structure. It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for discussions to move forward, the community will need time to review the proposal in more detail. • more detailed material will be circulated with the March meeting Minutes, which will facilitate further discussion. This will be a future Agenda item, around other presentations by WHT representation that may occur in April and an address by Council's General Manager in May. 	<p>Council's Acting Director Open Space & Environmental Services has advised that it is envisaged that Council will be handed the site by Transport for NSW but that is still uncertain. Basically, Council has no control over either of the above parties, but Council has put forward a position that is not backing the current plans of the Sydney Heritage Fleet.</p>	Closed for Council

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	3	<p>Former Bowling Club Site - The Chairman sent email to Mayor after last meeting. However, he did not receive a reply as yet. He will chase this up with the view of having further information to report at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Council's Executive Assistant to the Mayor has advised that the Chair met with the Mayor on 31 March 2023 to discuss this item.</p>	<p>Closed for Council</p>
February		<p>Berry's Bay 'Masterplan'/WHT project - Project representatives will be attending our March meeting. It was noted neither the 3 land allotments subject to the 'Masterplan' process or the related Maritime leases have been handed to the Council. Poisonous sediment in the shallow harbour waters around the slipway of the former Woodley's site (and in other parts of Berry's Bay) remain a significant concern as they are not acknowledged in the Masterplanning process, so far. At the invitation of the Chair, BR addressed the meeting at this point. In his role as an Environmental Engineer, he has extensive understanding of this situation and he has made submissions and provided data to all relevant parties, plus acted as an expert witness to the recent Upper House Inquiry. However, Maritime has not made any progress on remediating this area - plus both the EPA and TfNSW remain silent on this aspect.</p> <p>BR said he regarded this as one of the most polluted water ways in Sydney Harbour and it must be cleaned up as soon as practicable and certainly before anyone starts walking, playing, swimming, kayaking etc in the area. The remedial idea of dumping new sand on top of the polluted chemicals, as floated by TfNSW, he regarded as "simply preposterous". BR passed around a summary of the data and submissions made and it was agreed this</p>	<p>Council's Public Interface Manager notes the Precinct Committee's comments regarding WHT/Berry's Bay Masterplan.</p>	<p>Closed for Council</p>

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		will be sent out to our mailing list, as well as to the WHT team with the request they address this issue when at our meeting next month.		
		Public access to toilets - It was raised that the toilet facility in the building housing Coles in Crows Nest is permanently locked to the public and the Chair was asked to raise this with the company - probably as a joint approach with Wollstonecraft Precinct.	Council's Administrative Support Officer has spoken with the building manager, who has advised that the toilets are not open to the general public hence they are locked. Customers of the respective retail shops/Coles can borrow a key to access the toilets.	Closed for Council