Summary of Actions Arising (SOA) 2021 - Edward Precinct

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 precincts@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

Month	ltem	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
December	GB	 e) Local Council Election - Edward Precinct considers: the 100 metre Covid-required limit for handouts was too long. If such a restriction is required in future, a shorter distance is suggested. The high rate of informal votes (currently about 6.5%) could suggest to the NSW Electoral Commission that improvements to the ballot papers and instructions are required. It is likely that many informal votes arose due to the filling in of numbers both above and below the line. The instruction on the ballot paper was clear but needs to be made more strongly. 	Council's Executive Manager Governance thanks the Precinct for their feedback. Council has been making a record of our observations as to the conduct of the election for the NSW Electoral Commission and will include these comments. Council notes that the informal voting levels were lower than they were for the last election for North Sydney.	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		 The failure to open the Council chamber for voting on election day was problematic for some. 		
		g) Local Environment Plan - Lavender Precinct has lodged an objection to the LEP changing R3 zones to permit apartment construction. Precinct objects to changes to the R3 zone which allows residential apartment building. Council is currently meeting residential accommodation targets, so why change the zoning development allowance? Increased density diminishes amenity for existing residents. There is no justification for it, nor has the community been consulted on this change.	Council's Manager Strategic Planning has advised that an amendment to the North Sydney LEP in mid-2021 permitted residential flat buildings (RFB) within the R3 zone but only if they complied with the existing height limit (8.5m), setbacks and other envelope controls that already applied in the area. The outward appearing built form, height, setbacks etc, are the same as previous. The intent of the amendment was to overcome "existing use rights" legislation, which essentially loosened all controls if an older style flat building existed within an R3 zone. The amendment sought to impose all controls that apply to the R3 zone, which under the existing use rights regime, could effectively be ignored and lead to undesirable built form outcomes. The amendment was widely exhibited. This included sending notification letters to all property owners and resident occupiers within the North Sydney LGA (approximately 55,000) and the placing of a formal notice on Council's website. UPDATE (14 January 2022):	Closed for Council
			Council at its meeting of 10 January 2022 considered a matter of urgency and resolved: THAT Council urgently begins the appropriate process to amend the North Sydney LEP to remove the addition of residential flat buildings as a permissible use in the R3 Medium Density Zone in the land use table which came into force in Amendment 30 to the	

Month Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		North Sydney LEP on 30 June 2021 by removing residential flat building from the R3 Land use table and updating the LEP as required to remove the residential flat buildings in the R3 Zone.	
	h) Shore School afternoon student pickup - Cars queuing to collect students from Shore Junior School on Edward St on Monday 29 November caused problems for some residents. In part it was caused by limits to bus parking in William St due to construction on the eastern side of the street, and also by the need of residents in the 10 Mount St apartment block to park on the street due to repair work to their basement car park. The issue will be reviewed again at our February meeting.	 UPDATE (16 December 2021) Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that Council is proposing to extend the length of the Bus parking zone on William Street and is currently consulting with affected residents to resolve the issue. Council has received concerns from SHORE School regarding the capacity/length of the existing bus parking on William Street, north of Blue Street, as more buses are now departing at this location in the afternoon school peak time. It is proposed to convert 13 metres of metered parking (Bays 3 & 4 of Meter #4284) to "No Parking 2.30pm-4pm School Days - Buses Excepted". The current 1 Hour and ½ Hour Meter parking would apply outside of these times. It is expected that this temporary arrangement will only be required while the construction zone at 2-4 Blue Street is in place and the normal parking restrictions would be reinstated when the construction zone is removed. Council is seeking feedback on the proposal and will use this feedback to progress to implementation. UPDATE (10 February 2022) Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that following consultation with the affected residents, the matter was referred to the Traffic Committee under delegated authority and was subsequently approved. The parking changes will soon be implemented in 	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
			accordance with the notification distributed to adjacent properties in William Street on 9 February 2022.	
November	DA	DA 293/21, 1 Denison St - Installation of illuminated advertising. Lights on the west of several city buildings are negative for residents of Edward and Priory Streets. They can affect the wellbeing and health of residents. Precinct considers that the increase in building lights is a major issue and recommends that Council assesses the steps that may be considered to limit building night lighting.	Comments noted by Council's Executive Assessment Planner.	Closed for Council
		DA 313/21, 48 Edward St - Precinct considers that the current third storey extension on the west of the house is already too tall and poorly designed and constructed in comparison to the architectural heritage of the area. The proposed two storey extension at the western end of the existing house will bring it close to the boundary fence, overlooking the back gardens of houses at 9, 11 and 13 Priory Rd. Edward precinct will object to the proposed development.	Comments noted by Council's Senior Assessment Officer.	Closed for Council
	3.3	Draft Bushland Plan of Management - Precinct supports the plan and the additional recommendations made by JB of Bay Precinct. His recommendations related to the limitation of flood lighting of parks and reserves; noise pollution and synthetic turf which make wildlife residence in the	Council's Landscape Planner/Architect has advised that the Precinct Committee comments are noted and will be treated as a submission.	Closed for Council

Month Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
	areas problematic and should be avoided as far as possible.		
4	Brush turkeys - Have increased greatly in number in Edward Precinct (and much of North Sydney) over the past five years, largely due to the eradication of foxes by Council. Turkeys are already problematic, as shown by a small-scale survey undertaken by our precinct secretary in Lord, Short and Bank streets. Of the 22 residents interviewed on 6 and 7 November, 50% considered turkeys to be a major problem, 27% a minor problem and 23% no problem. Motion: was Precinct requests NSC to discuss with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and National Parks and Wildlife how to improve the management of brush turkeys in North Sydney.	Council's Bushland Management Co-ordinator has advised that Council, together with other northern Sydney councils, are working with the State agencies regarding the management of the Brush Turkey. Council undertakes 2x 3-week fox baiting programs per annum. This program has been running since 1999. The reduction in predation pressures may have contributed to Brush Turkey numbers increasing, however this has not been studied (data tracked) to date so it cannot be stated with any confidence. Brush Turkeys are a protected native species and it is an offence to cause them harm, including their eggs/nests/chicks, without a permit issued by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE). Council is currently supporting a University of Sydney research study that is looking at urban Brush Turkeys and changes in their population dynamics. Council's Bushland Team provide property-specific advice and assistance to residents dealing with Brush Turkey issues. We have also coordinated several community talks by Brush Turkey researchers/experts to help raise community awareness of the species. Contact Council to arrange for a member of Council's Bushland Team to	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
			conduct a home visit to look for site-specific solutions (where possible).	
			Where problems occur on Council land, steps are taken to ameliorate the community impact through the installation of partial barrier fences or increased cleaning of leaf litter etc.	
			Information and advice on living with Brush Turkeys is available from the DPIE <u>website</u> .	
	7	Council Meeting Minutes files - Motion: Precinct requests NSC to publish all pdfs including Meeting Minutes in a format showing the filename and key file information on the screen. Headings should also be set to allow easy movement around the minutes.	Feedback noted by Council's Manager Council & Committee Services. Council's Website Coordinator advises that pressing 'F8' (show/hide toolbar) in Acrobat will assist with how the Minutes appear.	Closed for Council
September	GB.c	North Sydney Pool redevelopment - Motion: Precinct thinks that increased transparency is needed. It recommends that council reports regularly on progress on the pool in relation to budget, timeframe and milestones. Precinct seeks to know whether the	Further to the Council's Corporate Contacts Manager response to the Precinct Committee's related request from August 2021, the NSOP redevelopment reporting to Council is as follows:	Closed for Council
		project is on time and budget.	 Monthly high level progress reports which are publicly available via the Council meeting business paper. Confidential quarterly reporting to Council via the Governance & Finance Committee with full details on budget, timeframes and other issues. 	

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		NSC Traffic Management - Motion: Precinct recommends to Council that this recommendation is reversed and cycling continues to be allowed on the Highway shared zone, with a 10 kph speed limit and a sign requiring cyclists to give way to pedestrians.	Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that Council further considered this matter at its meeting of 27 September 2021 and resolved: 22. THAT Council acknowledges communication by local cyclists expressing their dissatisfaction. (General Business - Pacific Highway Shared Path) 23. THAT the implementation of items 3-5 of the resolution on item 5.4 from 23 July 2021 Traffic Committee meeting be delayed until an assessment of concept options for alternative cycling routes be prepared and brought back to the Traffic Committee. 24. THAT work with TfNSW to build the Pacific Highway Cycleway to address the underlying access issues. 25. THAT Council immediately erects signage and footpath stencils instructing cyclists to '! SLOW' and 10 kph speed advisory at this location. (General Business - Pacific Highway Shared Path) 26. THAT the Council writes to Bike North and to all submitters on the matter to promote the intent of the resolution to change behaviours and increase awareness of pedestrians in the area. (General Business - Pacific Highway Shared Path)	Closed for Council
	GB.g	Publication of Precincts E-news - Motion: Edward precinct recommends to Council that a pdf version is also produced each Friday with bookmarks, similar to the version Edward produces on the last Friday of each month for circulation to our members and all precincts.	Council's Community Engagement Coordinator has advised that as per the response to the CPC SOA (February 2021), an alternate PDF version of Precincts E-news was investigated. Council does not use MS Word to create the E-news, it is created using web-based software. Manual creation of a PDF with bookmarks by Council (following the automated distribution of E-news) is not considered practical, instead on a weekly basis Council will provide a link via email to each E-news which does not include the unsubscribe	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
			function, that can be forwarded on by individual Precinct Committees as warranted.	
	GB.h	North Sydney Demonstration School upgrade - The proposed state significant site upgrade will be on display until 5 October (no web link yet identified, though files can be downloaded e.g. by searching for "Upgrade to North Sydney Public School 182 Pacific Highway, North Sydney. The proposed buildings are quite large and result in a loss of the green area along Bay Rd. Motion: It is important that the development retains the current landscape settings with a green area along Bay Rd with large tree plantings. It is requested that a full set of plans is forwarded to Precinct.	Council's Manager Development Services has advised that this State Significant DA is being assessed by the DPIE. DPIE uses the online NSW Planning Portal and has made hard copies obsolete. Council does not have a paper copy of these plans. This DA is available online: <u>Upgrade to North</u> <u>Sydney Public School</u>	Closed for Council
August	а	2021 Elections - Council is requested to publicise that existing nominees for councillor positions will remain registered unless they withdraw. However, this is not fully clear on government websites.	Council has outsourced the conduct of the election to the NEW Electoral Commission (NSWEC). Registered candidates are publicly available from the NSWEC website - <u>https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/Funding-and-</u> <u>disclosure/public-register-and-lists/Register-of-Candidates</u>	Closed for Council
	b	North Sydney Olympic Pool Redevelopment - Council resolved that the General Manager will provide a high level monthly update/report on the progress of the redevelopment of the North Sydney Olympic Pool to each Council meeting including changes in cost. These reports are expected to be open to Precincts.	Council's Manager Corporate Contracts has advised that Council at its meeting of 26 July 2021 resolved as follows: 1. THAT the General Manager provide a high level update/report on the progress of the redevelopment of the North Sydney Olympic Pool to each Council meeting until the redevelopment is completed. 2. THAT Council notes that this report does not alter the governance structure of the project.	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
			The first progress report was presented to the Council on 23 August 2021 - <u>Item 8.11</u> is publicly available within the business paper for this meeting.	
	e	Combined Precinct Committee - Council is requested to finalise and distribute CPC meeting notes as soon as possible after each CPC meeting. Minutes should have their headings visible in Acrobat's Navigation area.	Council's Community Engagement Coordinator has advised that draft CPC minutes are compiled within 5 working days of each meeting. The draft minutes are reviewed by the Co- Convenors prior to distribution to all Precinct Committees. Draft minutes are added to Council's website and replaced with final minutes following endorsement at the subsequent meeting.	Closed for Council
	i	Public Attendance at Council Meetings - In response to the pandemic, Council has introduced the following changes to the public access to Council meetings: The Public Forum is cancelled until further notice. Alternatively, individuals can provide a written submission on any agenda item by 4pm on the day of the meeting which will be provided to the Councillors. Precincts need to find out whether this refers to public forums like Environment and Sustainable Transport as well as Council meetings. Also if it only applies during lockdown periods. If it extends past the end of lockdown, advice is needed on when it will end. Motion: Precinct requests Council to support public zoom meetings before each council meeting where people can express their views. These sessions should be recorded and made available online.	Council's Manager Council & Committee Services has advised that the situation regarding Public Forums prior to Council meetings is reviewed before each meeting in line with the current Public Heath Order, i.e. they are not cancelled until further notice. Reference Groups have never held Public Forums, and meetings have been held online during the lockdown. The Precinct Committee's motion is noted.	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
	j	Bradfield Park - Precinct seeks information on what is happening in the Park, what worksites are operating and how long will the closures last? Current park closure is limits park usage by the public.	Council's Manager Parks & Reserves has advised that current works on the Harbour Bridge and within Bradfield Park are by Transport for NSW (TfNSW). Work in the park is due to be completed in early 2023, weather permitting. Once all work is completed, the fences will be removed and the park restored and returned to Council and the local community. For further queries contact Sydney Trains on 1300 656 999. or Vanessa Tiernan, Community Relations Lead for the contractor responsible for the works on 0409 219 994	Closed for Council
	Ι	Zoom account - Many thanks to Union Precinct for the use of their Zoom account. Edward Precinct will offer to contribute to the Zoom cost. It is recommended to NSC this cost is accepted as a valid Precinct expense. If not, we require further advice on how to hold online meetings which will need to be held during this or subsequent lockdowns.	Council's Community Engagement Coordinator has advised that a response to this request, and the related CPC motion from 17 August 2021, is pending. UPDATE (7 October 2021) As advised to all Precinct Committees via the CPC SOA, Council's Executive Manager Governance has reviewed the reports and Minutes and confirms that at its meeting held 28 June 2021, Council considered the Precinct System Review recommendations (<u>Item 8.14</u>) which included a recommendation that Council permit individual Committees to use remote meetings, complemented by in person meetings, with a subscription for each Precinct Committee supplied by Council. In considering this matter, Council resolved to defer the matter until after the Local Government Election on 4	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
			September 2021. It is noted that the Local Government Election has now been deferred further to December 2021. As a result of the above, we do not have Council endorsement for the use of remote meetings with a subscription supplied by Council. The COVID Roadmap to Recovery has been set by the NSW Government and face-to-face Committee meeting are expected recommence in the near future.	
June	4.3	Northern Bridge cycle ramp and cycleway options - Edward Precinct prefers a linear approach for a cycleway runoff but considers that the current design is not satisfactory as it detracts from heritage value of the Bridge. Precinct recommends that TfNSW also assesses the potential for a longer, less bulky runoff adjacent to the bridge approach wall, either reaching the ground on the western side of the railway viaduct towards the north of Bradfield Park North, in Middlemiss St or crossing under the Alfred St bridge and connecting with the former tramway abutment and Blue St. The second option would also cater for an extension of the cycleway alongside the Warringah Expressway to St Leonards Park	Council's Community Engagement Coordinator has advised that this is a TfNSW project and submissions should be made directly to TfNSW. The Precinct Committee's feedback is noted by Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations.	Closed for Council
	4.5	Councillors online meeting participation - Edward Precinct expresses its concern at Council barring online meeting participation by elected representatives of the community and recommends that councillors with genuine reasons are allowed to	Council's Manager Council & Committee Services has advised that this is a Council resolution. The matter was further discussed at the Council meeting held 28 June 2021, whereby the Council resolved:	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		participate in council meetings online at least until the next council election in September. Carried unanimously.	 THAT Council consider applications for remote attendance on a "meeting by meeting" basis to the end of this term of Council. THAT Council note the OLG Guidelines providing that "the council and its committees must act reasonably when considering requests by councillors to attend meetings remotely by audio- visual link". 	
April	1	Traffic issues - School drop-offs cause significant problems in some areas of North Sydney. Precinct members suggested that Council could look at ways public transport could be used to assist in school drop-offs. Maybe a need for a free public transport/shuttle bus from Falcon St to Milsons Point. The meeting suggested that Council should consult with schools to develop travel plans.	Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that public transport, including schools transport, is administered by Transport for NSW. The North Sydney LGA has excellent links to public transport, but it is essentially an individual decision to use public transport. Planning controls require all new developments at schools to provide Green Travel Plans to reduce reliance on private vehicles and increasing other modes of transport like incentivise walking, cycling and public transport to minimise traffic and parking issues. Council regularly communicates with schools in the area to address specific issues or to promote road safety messaging within the school community.	Closed for Council
	4a	Morton Street and Hazelbank pedestrian upgrade - The meeting considered that the proposed pedestrian safety measures proposed for the crossroads on the north-west corner of Edward Precinct were useful.	Council's Transport & Traffic Engineer has advised that the Precinct Committee's comments will be treated as a submission.	Closed for Council
	4f	Combined Precinct Committee Item - File names at the top of pdf files. NSC often uses Document Title rather than File Name to appear at the top of open	Council's Manager Customer Service & Records has advised that Council is currently undertaking a records management review. Naming conventions will be taken into account as part of this review.	Open/Ongoing

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
		pdfs. This can make it impossible to identify the file when many files are open. Motion 1: For all files sent to precincts by NSC, File Name should always be set, rather than Document Title. Most NSC file names that include the date use Day Month Year e.g. 14 April 2021. This means that file sorting in Microsoft Explorer by date and name give different file sequences. Some precincts including Edward change the names to use e.g. 210414 as the date, which makes the name and date sorting sequence the same. Motion 2: All NSC files that are sent to precincts with a date in the name should include the YYMMDD sequence in the file name, or YYYYMMDD if preferred by NSC or most precincts.	UPDATE (8 June 2021) Response extract from Combined Precincts Committee SOA: Council Community Engagement Coordinator advises that where possible, files generated by the Integrated Planning and Special Projects department will include the File as per the requested naming conventions. SOAs however will only include the YYMM as they are applicable to the month being sent not the day.	
March	2	DA 19/2, 110-122 Walker Street - Edward Precinct's submission is locked, though all that Precinct requested was for lodging party's name to be withheld. Other Precinct submissions seen are public. There are now 41 submissions, all reviewed submissions are objecting. MC noted that Council will consider submissions made after the end of the advertising period but where that is the case the submitter is not entitled to a third-party appeal. Motion: Council allows the locking of personal information for Precinct objections but publishes the content of the objection.	Council's Manager Customer Service & Records has advised that whilst the Precinct Committee is requesting only the name of the person who made the submission on behalf of the Precinct Committee to be withheld, that currently the way planning submissions are published from Council's records system to its Applications Tracking site only allows for the whole submission to be locked (regardless if all or part of the submission is requested to be withheld). The submissions by other Precinct Committees are public because they did not request all or part be withheld. We are unable to change our procedures at this time.	Closed for Council

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
	3.7	COVID-19 building works - Edward Precinct requests that Council asks the State Government when special COVID provisions with regard to permissions for building work on weekends will be lifted.	Council's Executive Planning Advisor has advised that there is no current plan to roll back the extended hours provisions and no timeframe for renew has been indicated. UPDATE (19 April 2021) Council's Manager Development Services has advised that COVID-19 initiatives are now extended to 31 March 2022.	Closed for Council
	3.9.2	Military Road/Future Directions Report - Motion: Edward Precinct supports Harrisons Precinct's submissions opposing aspects of the Future Directions Report and in particular believes that the proposal does not reflect the NSW Local Character and Place Guideline. Unanimous.	Comments noted by Council's Senior Strategic Planner.	Closed for Council
	3.9.3	Lit signs on high buildings - Vodafone/TPG is appealing Council's decision to ban its west-facing sign on the basis that Council rules have changed, and such signage is now permitted. There is no longer a need to take account of negative impacts on local residents. Edward Precinct requests Council to clarify whether or not the rules relating to signage have changed and if so, provide the reason, and information on how future control is planned.	Council's Manager Development Services has advised that this matter was appealed to the Land and Environment Court and was heard on 8 March 2021. Council defended the appeal and there was a site viewing that evening. Judgement has been reserved. There has been no shift in Council's controls or policy application that allows no more than two building identification signs to be illuminated, particularly if a sign is likely to effect residential amenity.	Closed for Council
February	2	DA 19/21 110 Walker Street - Precinct recommends to Council, that upholds the current planning regulations regarding building height limits, building setback, floor space ratio and car parking ratio.	Comments noted by Council's Senior Assessment Officer.	Closed for Council

Month Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
3.4	NSOP Construction - The meeting expressed concern at the cost of the project and its probable escalation. Concerns were also raised about the bidding process and the award of the contract. Concern was also raised regarding the approval process adopted by Council and the awarding of the contract to a building contractor who has a poor record for delivering on time, to budget and to required quality.	Council's Director Engineering & Property Services has advised that Council has resolved to appoint ICON SI to the NSOP redevelopment construction. ICON SI was formerly known as Cockram Construction, an Australian construction company with 150 years of experience. Cockram was rebranded to ICON SI in December 2018. ICON SI has built three major aquatic centres, most recently the Lane Cove Aquatic Centre which was completed last year. ICON SI is part of the Kajima Corporation and while it is under the Kajima umbrella with the ICON (NSW) that built the Opal Tower, it is a separate legal and financial entity. The tender was assessed on the quality of the projects ICON SI (and the Cockram team) had completed. Council is hosting an online information session on 16 March 2021, from 6pm to 7pm regarding the NSOP redevelopment. Interested community members must pre- register to be sent the Zoom link. Questions to be addressed before (via the registration form), during and after this session. This is an opportunity to ask questions in addition to those already responded to by Council via the website. For more information visit https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/InformationSessions.	Closed for Council