

6.3. MM03 Cremorne Land

On 18 August 2021 a 484sqm vacant block of land adjacent to Cremorne Point Reserve was put on the market for sale at 60 Kareela Road, Cremorne Point. A small block of six units existed on the land which the NSW State Government acquired some years ago owing to the fact that asbestos contamination made it uninhabitable. Approximately 12 months ago, the unit block was demolished and the site decontaminated. The land is now advertised for public auction on Saturday, 11 September 2021.

It is a fact that the Local Government Area of North Sydney has one of the lowest ratios of public open space per capita in the Sydney region.

Due to the Warringah Freeway upgrade and Western Harbour Tunnel projects approximately 64,000m² open space is temporarily being used for construction and approximately 15,000m² will be lost permanently.

Council has lobbied the State Government to ensure that there will be no permanent net loss of open space on the completion of the projects. A unique opportunity has presented itself and I believe it is worth lobbying the State Government to withdraw the land from sale and enter into negotiations to gift the land to the North Sydney community as public open space. This elevated north facing site would be perfect for a local pocket park. I believe Council needs to capitalise on every opportunity and use imagination in its quest to increase open space in our LGA.

I therefore recommend:

1. THAT Council writes to the appropriate State Government authorities, the Premier Gladys Berejiklian and our local State MP Felicity Wilson requesting an urgent zoom meeting to discuss all options available for the ownership of the land at 60 Kareela Road, Cremorne Point to be transferred to North Sydney Council as public open space.

**COUNCILLOR JILLY GIBSON
MAYOR**