



AGENDA

COMMUNITY AND BELONGING STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group will be held in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Dee Why on

WEDNESDAY 12 MAY 2021

Beginning at 6:00pm for the purpose of considering matters included in this agenda.

Committee Members

Cr Kylie Ferguson (Chair)	Councillor
Cr Candy Bingham	Councillor
Cr Penny Philpott	Councillor
Cr Sarah Grattan	Councillor
Tamzin Lee	Community Representative, Arts, Culture & Youth
Simon Moriarty	Community Representative, Curl Curl Ward
Michelle Povah	Northern Beaches Child & Family Interagency
Julie Williams	Community Representative - Narrabeen Ward
Samuel Wilkins	Community Representative - Forest Ward, Youth, Arts & Culture
Maria-Elena Chidzey	Community Northern Beaches Inc. (CNB), Multi-Cultural
Cathy Hockey	Community Representative, Disability
Dan Giles	Easylink
Margaret Shonk	Community representative - Manly Ward, Mental Health
Justene Gordon	Burdekin Association
Evelyn Shervington	Community Representative with experience in volunteering, social services, charitable or, strategic marketing

Council Officer Contacts

Russell Peake	Acting Executive Manager Community, Arts & Culture
Rob van den Blink	Manager Youth & Community Development
Caroline Psaltis	Manager Community Centres
Kath Young	Community Safety Coordinator
Briana Davis	Social Planning & Strategy Coordinator
Jasmine Evans	Governance Officer

Quorum

A majority of members including the Chair or one of the elected Councillors.

**Agenda for Community and Belonging
Strategic Reference Group Meeting
to be held on Wednesday 12 May 2021
in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Dee Why
Commencing at 6:00pm**

1.0	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	4
2.0	APOLOGIES	4
3.0	DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST	4
4.0	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	
4.1	Minutes of Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group meeting held 10 February 2021	5
4.2	Minutes of Extraordinary Joint Strategic Reference Group held 10 February 2021	5
5.0	UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING	
	Nil	
6.0	AGENDA ITEMS	6
6.1	Community Development and Arts & Creativity Grant Programs	6
6.2	Update - Better Together - Social Sustainability Strategy 2041.....	20
6.3	Draft Community Safety Plan.....	42
6.4	Community Centres Strategy and Policy - Project Update	62
7.0	GENERAL BUSINESS	

NEXT MEETING Wednesday 11 August 2021

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As a sign of respect, Northern Beaches Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and pays respect to Elders past and present.

2.0 APOLOGIES

All members are expected to attend the meetings or otherwise tender their apologies to the Chair and Governance at councilmeetings@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au.

3.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members should disclose any "pecuniary" or "non-pecuniary" interests in matters included in the agenda. The [Northern Beaches Council Code of Conduct](#) (the Code) provides guidance on managing conflicts of interests.

A **pecuniary interest** is defined in Section 4 of the Code as:

A pecuniary interest is an interest that you have in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to you or a person referred to in clause 4.3.

A **non-pecuniary conflict of interest** is defined in Section 5 of the Code as:

A non-pecuniary conflict of interest exists where a reasonable and informed person would perceive that you could be influenced by a private interest when carrying out your official functions in relation to a matter.

If you required further information or guidance about disclosing an interest please contact Governance at councilmeetings@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au.

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 MINUTES OF COMMUNITY AND BELONGING STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP MEETING HELD 10 FEBRUARY 2021

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group meeting held 10 February 2021, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

**4.2 MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNITY AND BELONGING STRATEGIC
REFERENCE GROUP HELD 10 FEBRUARY 2021**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group held 10 February 2021, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM 6.1	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ARTS & CREATIVITY GRANT PROGRAMS
REPORTING OFFICER	YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
TRIM FILE REF	2021/252426
ATTACHMENTS	1 Community Development and Arts & Creativity Grants SRG Presentation 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To consult the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group on suggested changes to the Guidelines for the 2021/22 Community Development and Arts & Creativity Grants Programs and provide opportunity for feedback.

REPORT

In 2018 Northern Beaches Council implemented a Community Grants program across four streams;

- Sport and Recreational Infrastructure
- Events
- Eco Schools
- Community and Cultural Development, incorporating the Community Development and Arts and Creativity Grants

The Community Grants & Partnership Policy was adopted by Council in June 2019 to provide overarching strategic direction for Council across all grants programs. In 2020 an additional Environmental Grants Program was introduced.

This report is regarding the Community Development and Arts & Creativity Grants only.

The 2020/21 Arts & Creativity Grants, originally included in the Community and Cultural Development stream, were separated out for their own promotion, application and assessment process. The grant amount (\$240,000) remained as one pool, with final allocation to be based on the merit of applications.

In 2020/21 a total of 231 applications were received between the two streams. These were reviewed and scored via SmartyGrants by Assessment Panels, which included members of the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group.

PROGRAM PURPOSE

Community Development Grant Overview

The Community Development grant stream supports community development projects that focus on improving equality in the local area and reducing disadvantage. This grant stream assists organisations to empower community members to create stronger and more connected communities.

Community development models recognise community members to be experts in their lives and communities, valuing community knowledge and wisdom. Projects and programs that follow these principles strive to involve community members throughout the project.

Community Development Principles

Empowerment	Supports the personal growth and confidence of community groups or individuals to be connected in the community and better address their needs and interests
Human Rights	Respecting the intrinsic value of each person, regardless of background, where we live, what we look like, what we think or what we believe
Inclusion	Ensures that opportunities for participation are available for all people in the community with an emphasis on addressing any obstacles for inclusion
Social Justice	Efforts towards a more equitable distribution of power, wealth, opportunities, and privileges within a society
Self-Determination	Processes by which individuals and groups have agency and control to make choices and have opportunities for their wellbeing
Collective Action	Values the strength of a group or community's ability to share resources, knowledge and efforts to reach a shared goal

Arts and Creativity Grants Overview

The Arts and Creativity grants stream supports the growth of creativity on the Northern Beaches by funding a range of projects, programs and activities that provide opportunities for individual artists, groups or arts organisations to connect with the communities of the Northern Beaches.

Initiatives may include:

- The production and presentation of new work
- Research and development of new techniques/creative art forms
- The incubation of new creative, arts and design-based organisations
- Projects that provide opportunities for all members of the Northern Beaches community to participate in arts and cultural activities

Arts and Creativity Grants Key Objectives

- Foster innovation and contribute to the growth of the local arts and creative sector through collaboration and partnerships
- Connect with and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and cultures
- Develop the skills of local creative professionals and arts workers across all arts disciplines
- Increase access and community participation in arts, culture and creativity
- Animate public spaces with creative initiatives, including in unexpected and unique urban environments

- Tell diverse stories authentic to the Northern Beaches

2020-21 Program Review:

Applications Received

Grant Stream	Applications Received	Eligible Applications	Eligible Applications Amount Requested	Amount Available
Arts and Creativity	135	121	\$808,815.17	(\$240,000 total - remaining funds were pre-allocated to 3-year recurrent grants from previous years)
Community Development	96	91	\$750,546.72	
Total	231	212	\$1,559,361.89	\$192,816

Approved Applications

Grant Stream	Applications Recommended for Funding	Partial Funding	Full Funding	Amount Recommended (ex GST)
Arts and Creativity	26	18	8	\$95,150
Community Development	17	13	4	\$97,566
Total	43	31	12	\$192,716

Following an evaluation of the 2020/21 Grant Round a range of revisions to further improve the Community Development and Arts & Creativity Grants Programs for 2021/22 was developed.

The following key changes are proposed:

1. Defined funding allocation for Arts & Creativity Grants and Community Development Grants (\$120,000 each)
2. Improve requirement for program evaluation based on Social Outcomes Measurement Principles (e.g. Survey templates)
3. Community Development Grants to target identified priority areas from the draft Better Together Social Sustainability Strategy 2021-2041
4. Arts & Creativity grants to address the goals/priorities of the adopted Arts and Creativity Strategy – Connected through Creativity 2029
5. Introduction of a Community Development Small Grants Program (10 x \$1000 – additional funding to current grant budget)
6. Introduction of a Youth Small Grants Program (10 x \$1000 – additional funding to current grant budget)

7. Cessation of the Multi-Year Grant (3 year) program
8. Increased governance in regard to Assessment Panel configuration, Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct
9. Modifications to the process for scoring, ranking and selecting successful applicants during the Assessment Panel meeting
10. To allow a longer planning and delivery period for grant applicants, the recommended timeframe for the Grants Program is to open in June 2021, funding allocated in November 2021 with projects completed by end of December 2022.

Changes specific to Arts & Creativity Grants –

11. Eligibility:

- Applicants must be an artist/creative, a small to medium arts organisation or creative business

12. Assessment criteria:

- Less criteria, more streamlined
- Greater focus on evidence of appropriate cultural permissions / adherence to relevant cultural protocols and consultation e.g. with Aboriginal communities.

13. Applicant Support:

- Two Grants-focused workshops as part of 'Creative Toolkit' program (in addition to other grants info sessions)
- Presentation on Aboriginal Protocols and ICIP as part of 'Creative Toolkit' professional development program to encourage best practice and set new benchmarks

These will be presented for discussion and any further ideas from the Strategic Reference Group considered.

RECOMMENDATION OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

That the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group:

1. Note the information presented and provide further suggestions for improvement.
 2. Consider participating as a member of the 2021/22 Grants Assessment Panels.
-

Community Development and Arts & Creativity Grants Program 2021-22



Community & Belonging
Strategic Reference Group
12 May 2021

TRIM 2021/271650



Program Objectives

Community Development

The Community Development grant stream supports community development projects that focus on improving equality in the local area and reducing disadvantage. This grant stream assists organisations to empower community members to create stronger and more connected communities.

Arts & Creativity

To support the growth of creativity and the development of an agile and sustainable creative sector by funding projects that provide opportunities for individual artists, cultural or creative workers, or arts organisations across all artforms to connect with the communities of the Northern Beaches.

2020-21 Program Overview

Applications Received

Grant Stream	Applications Received	Eligible Applications	Eligible Applications Amount Requested	Amount Available
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Applications Approved

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Suggested Changes 2021-22

1. Defined funding allocation for Arts & Creativity Grants and Community Development Grants (\$120,000 each)
2. Improve requirement for program evaluation based on Social Outcomes Measurement Principals (eg. Survey templates)

Suggested Changes 2021/22 cont.

3. Community Development Grants to target identified priority areas from the draft Better Together Social Sustainability Strategy 2021-2041

4. Arts & Creativity grants to address the goals/priorities of the adopted Arts and Creativity Strategy – Connected through Creativity 2029

Suggested Changes 2021-22

5. Introduction of a Community Development Small Grants Program (10 x \$1000 – additional funding to current grant budget)
6. Introduction of a Youth Small Grants Program (10 x \$1000 – additional funding to current grant budget)
7. Cessation of the Multi-Year Grant program (3 yrs)

Suggested Changes 2021-22

8. Increased Governance in regard to Assessment Panel configuration, Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct

9. Modifications to the process for scoring, ranking and selecting successful applicants during the Assessment Panel meeting

Suggested Changes 2021-22

10. To allow a longer planning and delivery period for grant applicants, the recommended timeframe for the Grants Program is to open in June 2021, funding allocated in November 2021 with projects completed by end December 2022.

Suggested Changes 2021-22

Arts & Creativity Grants –

11. Eligibility:

- Applicants must be an artist/creative, a small to medium arts organisation or creative business

12. Assessment criteria:

- Less criteria, more streamlined
- Greater focus on evidence of appropriate cultural permissions / adherence to relevant cultural protocols and consultation eg with Aboriginal communities.

13. Applicant Support:

- Two Grants-focused workshops as part of 'Creative Toolkit' program (in addition to other grants info sessions)
- Presentation on Aboriginal Protocols and ICIP as part of 'Creative Toolkit' professional development program to encourage best practice and set new benchmarks

Recommendations -

That the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group:

- A. Note the information presented and provide further suggestions for improvement.
- B. Consider participating as a member of the 2021/22 Grants Assessment Panels**

ITEM 6.2	UPDATE - BETTER TOGETHER - SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2041
REPORTING OFFICER	SOCIAL PLANNING & STRATEGY COORDINATOR
TRIM FILE REF	2021/272726
ATTACHMENTS	1 Appendix 1 - Joint SRG Workshop Report 2 Appendix 2 - Update to Strategic Framework 3 Powerpoint - Report + Project Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To report back on the outcomes of the SRG workshop held in February and provide an update to the SRG on the status of the draft Better Together – Social Sustainability Strategy 2041.

REPORT

Better Together Joint SRG Workshop

A workshop was held on 10th February with members of the Community and Belonging, Partnerships and Participation Strategic Reference Groups and several representatives from the other Strategic Reference Groups.

The workshop was integral to the development of the draft Strategic Framework that will underpin Better Together, Social Sustainability Strategy 2041.

Appendix 1 provides a summary of the activities and input provided during the session. Key feedback received in the session led to the following actions in the development of Better Together:

- Re-design of the Strategic Direction Framework (Appendix 2) into a circle to show the interconnected and interdependent nature of the objectives, outcomes and action under each of the three Strategic Direction's.
- Incorporation of the Healthy and Action and Safe Participation outcome under the Safe Strategic Direction within "Safe Places" and "Safe People"
- Key opportunities where integrated into wider Action Planning priorities ahead of Co-design day and strategy finalisation
- Inclusion of young people in the Co-Design workshop to ensure the voices of that priority population were included.

Update on draft Better Together strategy development and consultation

Consultation for the development of Better Together concluded in February 2021 with over 1000 participants contributing.

A wide range of in person, digital, online and collaboration methods and tools were used throughout the engagement program:

- Harvesting of 208 interested Community Members
- Have your Say Project page, outlining project and asking for feedback

- 2 Better Together Internal Working Group workshops;
- 8 Strategic Reference Group Workshops;
- 2 Partner Workshops with the social services sector to identify the key impacts of Better Together;
- Workshop in a Box resources that supported community partners to conduct workshops
- Online Survey of community members;
- 29 Creativity Challenge submissions in response to asking community members to share what safe, inclusive and connected looks like to them;
- Better Together Discussion Paper and Community Conversations that identified key community strengths, challenges and priority groups and spoke with 30 community members.
- Co-Design Day bringing together 69 participants from council, the social services sector and those with lived experience to complete collaborative action planning;

All feedback received was collated and analysed. Five key themes emerged during engagement which align to the five core principles of socially sustainable communities:

- Accessing information is critical for people to be safe, included and connected however there are significant barriers for some priority population groups.
- All people want to feel welcome, included and valued within the community.
- People who are experiencing mental health or social isolation need services and supports.
- Priority populations face barriers to finding employment and education opportunities that allow them to feel safe, connected and contribute to community life.
- Events, activities and facilities are essential for connection and need to be universally accessible.

The key themes informed the development of 10 outcomes and 3 aspirational targets and over 50 actions to drive implementation. The outcomes represent broad areas of importance to the community and allow for flexibility over time as new areas of focus emerge for the community. The actions support Strategy implementation providing an overall direction for the next 5 years. These will be implemented within council's delivery program and operational plans.

Next Steps

The draft Better Together Strategy will be presented to Council at the May Council Meeting seeking approval to publicly exhibit the draft for 28 days.

Following public exhibition all submissions will be reviewed and any necessary changes made to the draft Better Together strategy.

It is anticipated that the submissions and the final Better Together Strategy will be reported to Council for adoption in July 2021.

RECOMMENDATION OF SOCIAL PLANNING & STRATEGY COORDINATOR

That members:

1. Review and note the outcomes from the February SRG joint workshop.
 2. Note the status update for the Better Together Strategy and the intended public exhibition timeframe.
-



WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Level 13, 255 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000
T +61 2 8099 3200

Reference:	<i>Better Together</i> : Northern Beaches Council Social Sustainability Strategy 2041
Meeting Name:	NBC <i>Better Together</i> workshop #2 Updating and confirming directions for <i>Better Together</i>
Meeting date:	SRG: Wednesday 10 February, 6:15-8:45pm
Meeting location:	Via Teams
Workshop purpose	• Provide an update on how Council is developing the <i>Better Together</i> Social Sustainability Strategy • Test top outcomes under each Strategic Direction (from survey responses) • Confirm and expand outcomes • Introduce priority areas and confirm grouping • Test Vision stories • Identify potential partnerships Emphasise that everyone in the room has an important role to play because they bring a different perspective on how Council serves the community.
Report	This report was authored by Laura Fayers-Pooley, Associate Director at RPS. 22 February 2021



WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Level 13, 255 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000
T +61 2 8099 3200

Activity	Discussion	Outcome, action or insight that informed the Better Together Strategic Framework and Action Plan
Project update	Update from NBC regarding wide engagement program for <i>Better Together</i> , including survey, Creative Challenge and Workshop in a Box.	NA
Testing Outcome priorities under each Strategic Direction (NOTE: breakout but then plenary due to technical issues)	For each Strategic Direction we: A) Reviewed survey results outlining top three priorities plus word cloud B) Reviewed original Strategic Directions - Share revised Strategic Direction Outcomes - Seek consensus about Outcomes, identify any gaps C) Reviewed and grouped priority areas under appropriate outcome. Each breakout facilitator presents back – 15 mins	SAFE - Council removed the Healthy and Active Outcome - Council removed the Safe Participation Outcome OVERALL: Discussion in all break out groups about about blending of areas / cross over / matrix structure. <i>"I think there is a lot of overlap between the 3 areas and some rationalisation could be useful ... or greater distinction between what we are trying to achieve in each area."</i> Council responded by re-designing the Strategic Directions into a circle to show the interconnected and interdependent nature of the objectives, outcomes and action areas under each of the three Strategic Direction heading areas.

WORKSHOP REPORT

Activity	Discussion	Outcome, action or insight that informed the Better Together Strategic Framework and Action Plan
Vision Story	In three breakout groups – grouped as per the first Direction they worked on Each group will review the vision for Strategic Direction: A) Review the vision story in light of the Strategic Directions, above keeping in mind Creative Challenge contributions B) Refine vision story statement / add bullets Each group to present back to wider group	Refer to comments following on Mural pages. Vision stories were revised to include themes such as: SAFE: individual and collective feelings of safety. INCLUSIVE: recognised the importance of including young people to enable them to speak in their own words – invited three schools to send a total of six representatives to the Co-Design day. CONNECTED: felt safe communal spaces should live there, and Strategy also needs to mention connection across localities – a web of connections.
Partnerships	What key opportunities are there for partnerships to make shared outcomes happen? Each Strategic Direction	Captured on Mural as per the attached and used to inform Action Plan prioritising ahead of Co-Design and strategy finalisation.
Final questions and close	- Next steps - Point people to Briana as contact point - Record any final questions	Overall, this SRG was a crucial step in re-connecting, sense-checking and confirming our refined direction of the Better Together Framework with key internal and external champions, advocates, partners and bridge-connectors for social sustainability in the Northern Beaches. From our experience and perspective as engagement professionals, we both commend and are encouraged by NBC for their commitment to involving stakeholders from the inception of the Better Together Engagement process. We have seen their genuine dedication to keeping them updating, involving the broader community, and also ensuring partnership and transparency are key tenants of the ongoing approach. These values should be reflected in the final refinement and early implementation stages of the Framework, and provide crucial cornerstones for both its effective, sustainable and impact on the fabric of life in a community these SRG members are clearly so passionate about.

WORKSHOP REPORT

WORKSHOP REPORT

Appendix A: digital whiteboard outputs

Mural PDF reports from workshop sessions as per above, specifically:

- NBC SRG workshop 2 - Safe Direction
- NBC SRG workshop 2 - Connected Direction
- NBC SRG workshop 2 - Inclusive Direction
- NBC SRG 2 - Vision stories
- NBC SRG 2 - partnership opportunities



What key opportunities are there for partnerships to make shared outcomes happen?

1) A safe community

Vision for a Safe Northern Beaches

The Northern Beaches is a safe and resilient place to live, work and visit where there is a collective feeling of comfort and security.



2) An inclusive community

Vision for an Inclusive Northern Beaches

The Northern Beaches is a place where diversity is valued and celebrated. The community harnesses the power of diverse thoughts, actions and experiences to make sure everyone feels welcomed.



3) A connected community

Vision for a Connected Northern Beaches

The people of the Northern Beaches are connected across generations, through their relationships with their family, culture, groups, and the broader community.





Review the vision stories, reflecting on what we have heard.

1) A safe community

Vision for a Safe Northern Beaches

The Northern Beaches is a safe and pleasant place to live, work and visit where there is a collective feeling of comfort and security.

People in the Northern Beaches live in a safe environment, where their right to be free from harm and danger is respected by others. Through successful crime prevention, instances of harm are greatly minimised. Everyone has access to information and safe spaces for those who experience physical or emotional harm. The community identifies keeping children safe as a priority and has a strong commitment to best practice child safeguarding.

Public spaces are designed to allow everyone to feel safe or they can participate in community life. There is cohesion and a culture of mutual caring, safe and free from bullying in the community, at home, and online.

The community works together to address difficult and complex personal safety issues including violence and domestic and family violence. Everyone feels empowered to contribute and share knowledge and information about available support and systems.

A) SAFETY: What we heard



B) SAFETY: How should we respond?

Use sticky notes to add elements or themes missing from the vision story.



2) An inclusive community

Vision for an Inclusive Northern Beaches

The Northern Beaches is a place where diversity is valued and celebrated. The community harnesses the power of diverse thoughts, actions and experiences to make sure everyone feels welcomed.

Everyone deserves to be visible, heard and celebrated regardless of age, gender, sexuality, cultural background, socioeconomic status, religion or beliefs, ability, or life circumstance. Everyone is respected for who they contribute and are actively encouraged to participate in the shared experience of living in the Northern Beaches. Decision-making reflects the diverse voices of the community and honours the needs of all.

All people experience a sense of wellbeing and belonging, respecting different points of view and approaches to living. Those who live in the Northern Beaches represent a multicultural community where the participation of all generations is equally valued.

Access to support and information is equitable and available to empower everyone to participate.

A) INCLUSIVE: What we heard



B) INCLUSIVE: How should we respond?

Use sticky notes to add elements or themes missing from the vision story.



3) A connected community

Vision for a Connected Northern Beaches

The people of the Northern Beaches are connected across generations, through their relationships with their family, culture, groups, and the broader community.

Individuals are linked to a variety of networks where they are part of the community and feel a sense of belonging. Barriers for those seeking to strengthen their networks are recognised and overcome.

Everyone is informed and has equal access and opportunities to education, training, health, information, support services, and employment.

Vibrant and diverse opportunities are available that enhance individual and community wellbeing. These opportunities bring people together and foster and contribute to people feeling that they have a place in the community.

Everyone has access to safe communal spaces that encourage shared connections in the natural and built environment.

CONNECTED: What we heard



B) CONNECTED: How should we respond?

Use sticky notes to add elements or themes missing from the vision story.





A connected community

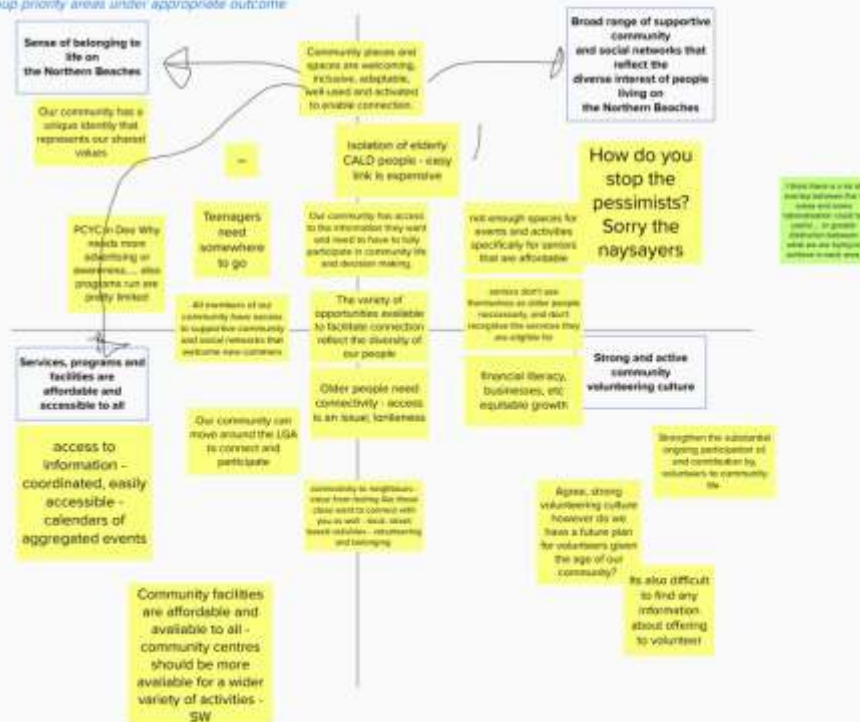
The people of the Northern Beaches are connected across generations, through their relationships with their family, culture, groups, and the broader community.

A: CONNECTED: What we heard



C: CONNECTED: Putting it into action

Review and group priority areas under appropriate outcome:



B: CONNECTED: How we responded

As a group, discuss updated Strategic Direction Outcomes and identify any gaps

Strategic Direction: Connected



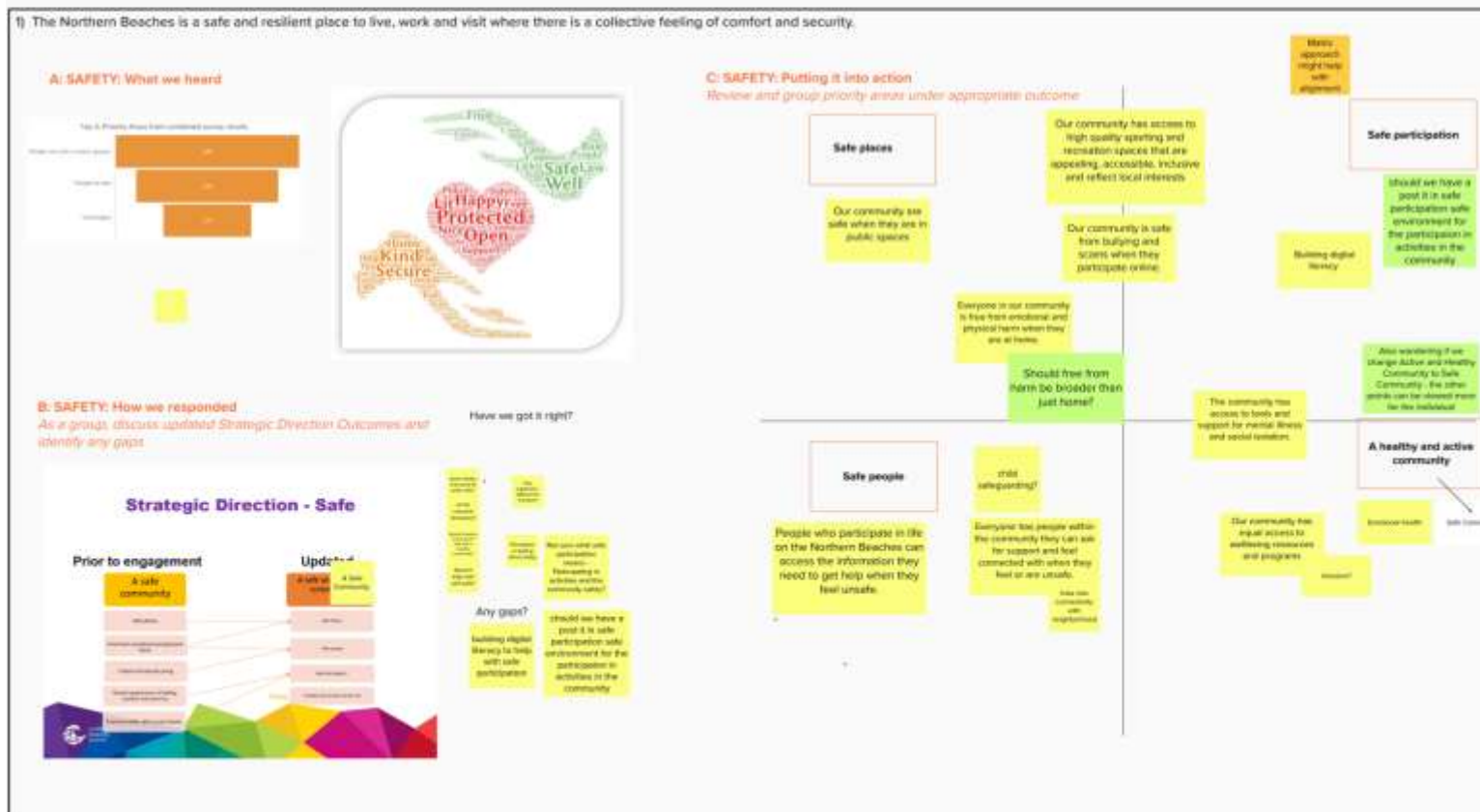
Have we got it right?



Better Together

Social Sustainability Strategy 2041

A safe community





An inclusive community

The Northern Beaches is a place where diversity is valued and celebrated. The community harnesses the power of diverse thoughts, actions and experiences to make sure everyone feels welcomed.

A: INCLUSIVE: What we heard



B: INCLUSIVE: How we responded

As a group discuss updated Strategic Direction Outcomes and identify any gaps



Have we got it right?



C: INCLUSIVE: Putting it into action

Review and group priority areas under appropriate outcome

Value of all people is recognised, respected and embraced

Our community embraces and celebrates diversity of all kinds

Equity and inclusion drive action

Our Indigenous heritage is celebrated

Our community has access to housing that matches their needs

Balanced and inclusive decision making

Economic growth is distributed fairly across all the community and creates opportunities for all

There is evidence of inclusive representation of all groups within the community when decisions are made

Evidenced need drives planning and delivery of community services, and there is access to adequate data

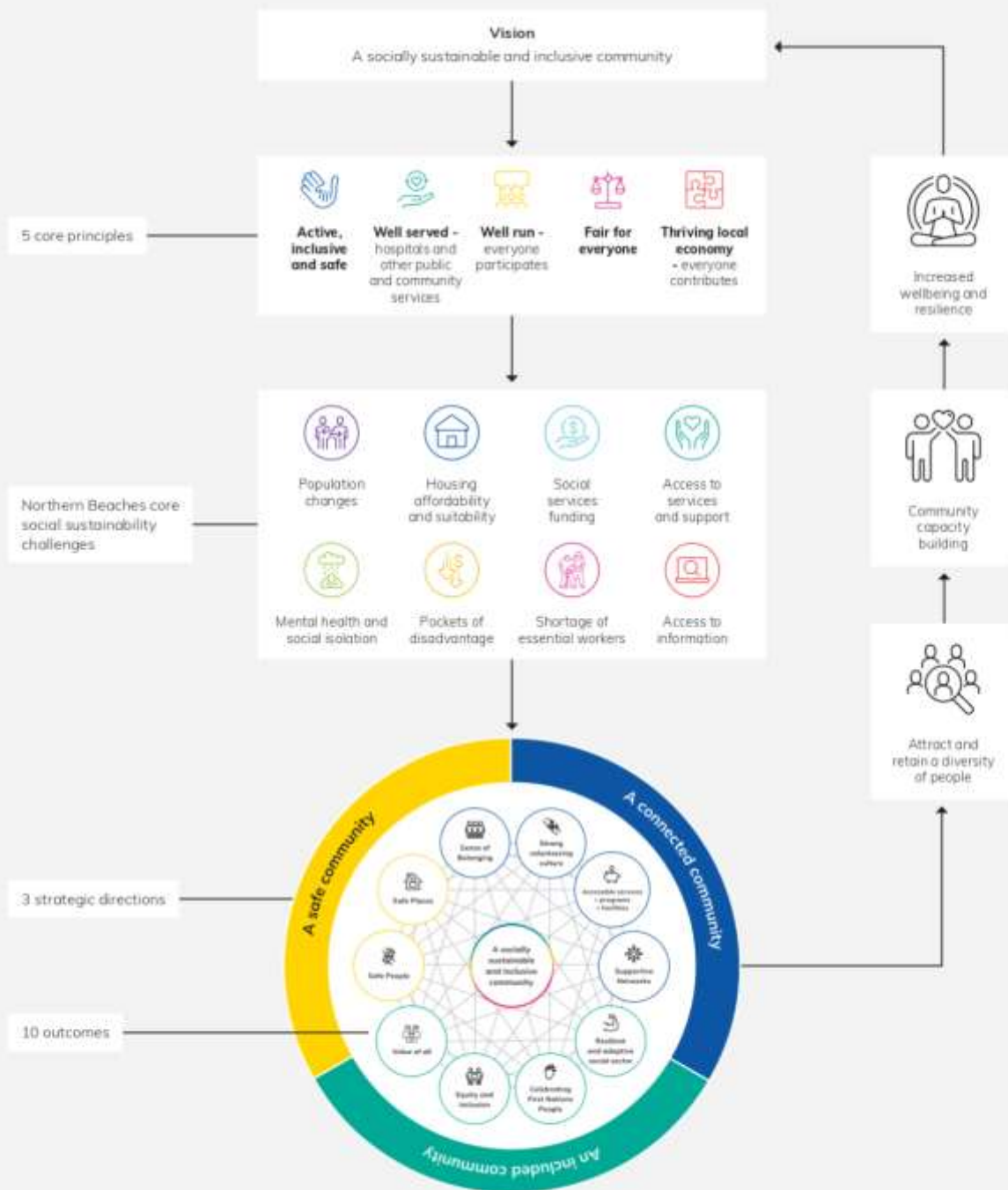
We have a resilient and adaptive social services sector

The broader community and volunteering groups are also resilient and adaptive

Our social services respond and are adaptive to changing need in our community and are accessible

Can be difficult to access the correct social service or even know what is available

Community resilience is increased through sector collaboration and capacity building





Changes actioned following SRG Workshop



Update to Outcomes

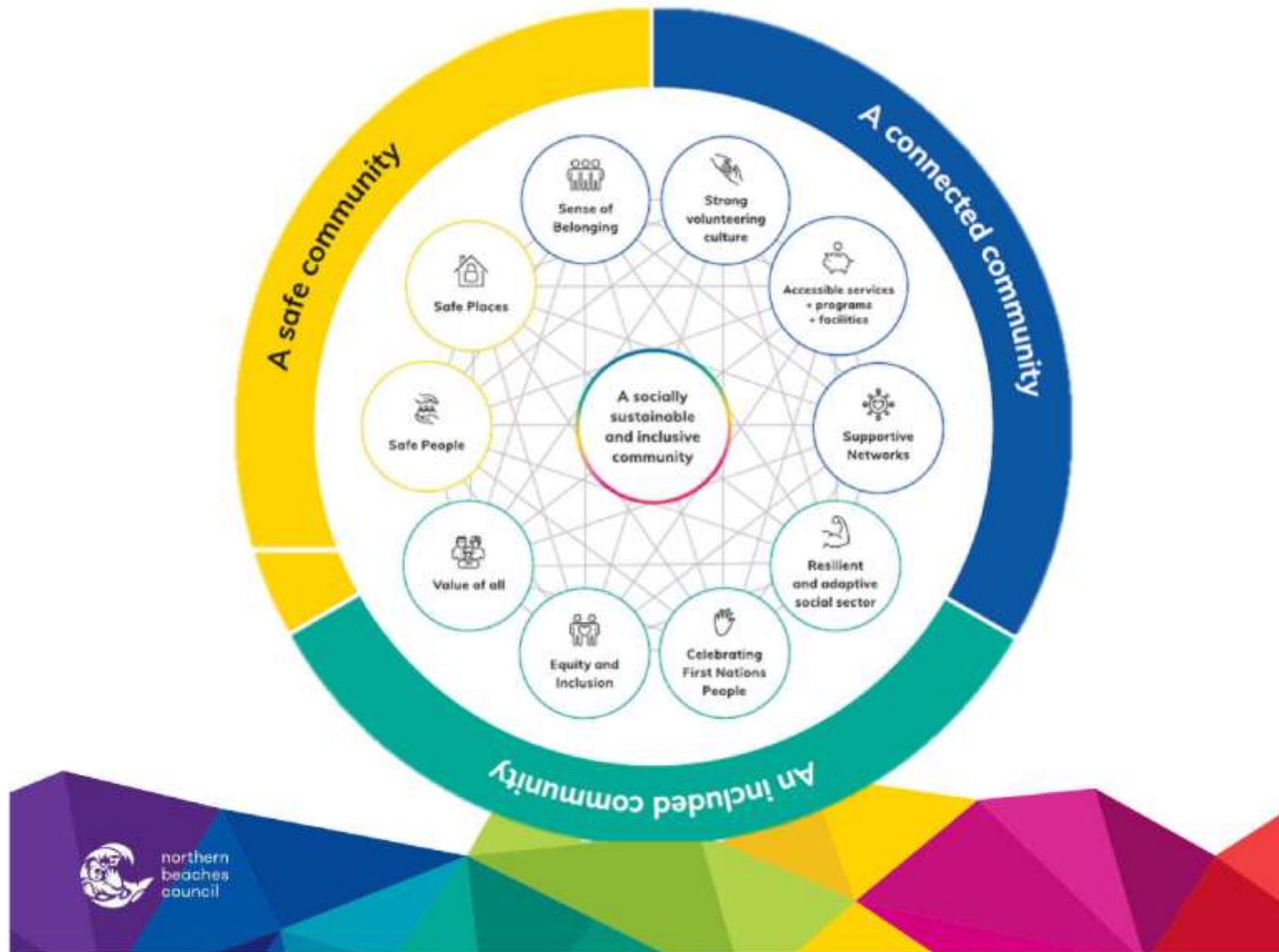
Reduced 12 Outcomes to 10 Outcomes



Update to Strategic Framework







Next steps



May

Draft Better Together presented to Council seeking approval to publicly exhibit.



June

Publicly exhibited for 28 days.



July

Submissions and final Better Together Strategy reported for adoption to Council





Thankyou from the Social Planning Team

We have enjoyed working with you and look forward to our ongoing work together as we implement the Strategy and Action Plans.

ITEM 6.3	DRAFT COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN
REPORTING OFFICER	COMMUNITY SAFETY COORDINATOR
TRIM FILE REF	2021/291105
ATTACHMENTS	1 Draft Community Safety Plan Presentation

ISSUE

To present the draft Community Safety Plan 2021-2026 (the draft Plan) to the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group.

BACKGROUND

Northern Beaches Council's draft Community Safety Plan 2021-2026 is an important tool to help realise Northern Beaches Council's Vision of *a safe, inclusive and connected community that lives in balance with our extraordinary coastal and bushland environment*.

The draft Community Safety Plan works within the framework of the Northern Beaches Council's draft Better Together: Social Sustainability Strategy 2041, which has the vision to create a socially sustainable and inclusive community for all.

The Strategy's three strategic directions work towards achieving the vision in Council's Community Strategic Plan: Shape 2028 of *a safe, inclusive and connected community*.

The **Safe** pillar of Better Together 2041 aims to achieve two outcomes:

- Safe Places: our community is safe in public, at home and online
- Safe People: our community has access to people, organisations and information that can help when they need assistance.

The draft Community Safety Plan 2021-2026 reflects this and serves to action the **Safe** pillar of the draft Better Together 2041 strategy.

DISCUSSION

Extensive consultation has been undertaken with the community and stakeholder groups on the issue of safety over the past 18 months, through the development of the draft Plan, and the development of the broader Better Together Sustainability Strategy. The feedback from both of these processes has been integrated and considered, alongside crime data and research.

Engagement has also been undertaken with key service partners, including the Northern Beaches Police Area Command, Northern Beaches Youth Interagency, Northern Beaches Mental Health Interagency, Northern Beaches Child and Family Interagency, Lifeline, Sydney North Health Network, Local Health Network Health Promotion, Northern Beaches Multicultural Network, State Transit Authority, Northern Beaches Community Drug Action Team and Northern Beaches Women's Shelter. These sessions included the identification of activities already being undertaken throughout the community to improve community safety and discussion of actions suggested for implementation over the next 5 years.

Sections of the draft Community Safety Plan were submitted to the Community Safety Committee meetings on 6 August and 8 October 2020 and feedback from those consultations has been incorporated. A presentation was delivered to the Community Safety Committee on 22 April, outlining the final draft Plan.

The draft Plan outlines the actions that Council, service partners and the community will take to form the 'Safe Community' pillar of Council's Better Together Social Sustainability Strategy 2041, and contribute toward Council's Shape 2028's vision for a 'safe, inclusive and connected community'.

The key elements of the revised draft Plan are presented for the information of the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group.

The draft Plan looks at community safety from a range of perspectives:

- the safe design and planning of our community
- the prevention of crime and anti-social behaviour
- the connection and support of vulnerable community members
- access to services
- the building of resilience to support us against any adversity in the future.

The draft Plan provides a five-year framework for Council, service partners and the community to sustain and increase safety for all residents of the Northern Beaches.

The draft Plan aims to:

- align with, and contribute toward, meeting the outcomes of the draft Better Together 2041 Social Sustainability Strategy
- provide a framework for Council, service partners and the communities safety related actions over the coming 5 years
- identify and consider priorities raised by the community during the consultation process
- map the activities currently undertaken by Northern Beaches Council and partners that support community safety
- embed community safety principles and practices across relevant Council business units
- serve as a base for crime prevention activities
- be a living document, reviewed annually to accommodate emerging trends.

From the data gathered during the consultation and research processes, ten priority areas have been identified for the coming five years. Actions under each of these Priority Areas form the full draft Community Safety Plan. These 10 Priority Areas are:

Safe Places:

- Safe open spaces
- Safe neighbourhoods
- Safe business
- Safe transport
- Safe online

Safe People:

- Safe residents
- Safe visitors

- Safe relationships
- Safe communities
- Safe supports.

The draft Plan values the part that community members, service providers, government agencies and Council all have to play in making our community a safe and vibrant place to live.

The draft Plan will be presented to Council on 25 May 2021 for a minimum 28-day public exhibition period. During this exhibition period submissions are encouraged from the community, including all members of the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group.

RECOMMENDATION OF COMMUNITY SAFETY COORDINATOR

That the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group:

1. Receive and note the draft Community Safety Plan 2021-2026
 2. Note the intended timeframes for public exhibition and the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Community Safety Plan, when exhibited in June 2021.
-

Draft Community Safety Plan

Community & Belonging SRG
12 May 2021



Strategic Fit

The Plan supports:



Better Together – Social Sustainability Strategy 2041

The **Safe** pillar of Better Together 2041 aims to achieve two outcomes:

- **Safe Places**
- **Safe People**



Purpose

To sustain and increase safety for all residents of the Northern Beaches.

Collaborative

The draft Plan emphasises that community safety is a complex issue that requires a whole of community approach.

Our community said:



Love the open
spaces



Safe at home

Value community
gatherings



Safe in the
community



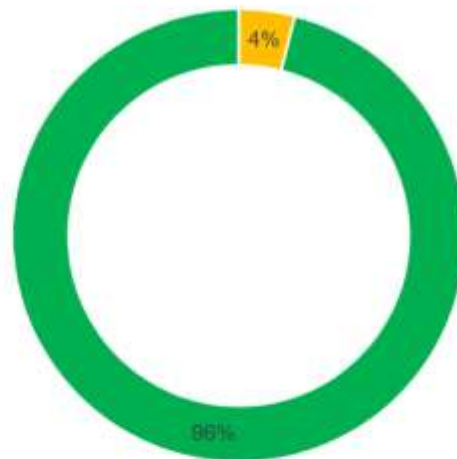
Love the coastal
lifestyle



Enjoy community
based activities

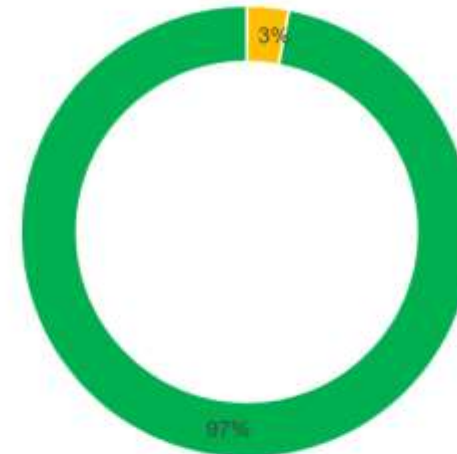
Phone survey results:

96% of residents agree with the statement
'I feel safe at home'



■ Agree

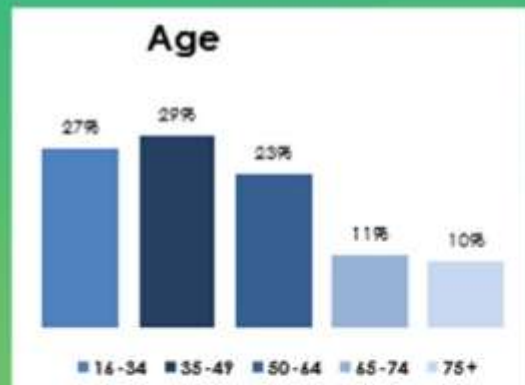
97% of residents are satisfied with
crime prevention and community safety
in the Northern Beaches



■ at least somewhat satisfied

When the community felt unsafe

Survey Demographics -



The community is concerned about



The community wants to prioritise:



online safety for
young people



improved lighting and
pathways to ensure
safety while travelling

safe futures for
young people



safe design of the area



developing a
stronger night time
economy



community
preparedness for
emergency situations

protection for seniors
against elder abuse,
fraud and scams



building resilient and
connected
communities to
increase safety



Our community: A crime snapshot

Northern Beaches LGA Recorded Crime Statistics January 2016-December 2020 Source: BOCSAR

Incidents of crime recorded by the NSW Police Force in Northern Beaches LGA: number, rates[^] and trends^{^^}

Major offence category ^{BOCSAR}	Incidents of crime recorded by NSW Police Force in Northern Beaches LGA					Rate per 100,000 population Jan - Dec 2020 [^]		2 year trend and annual % change ^{^^} (Jan 2019-Dec 2020) Northern Beaches LGA	5 year trend and average annual % change ^{^^} (Jan 2016-Dec 2020) Northern Beaches LGA
	Jan - Dec 2016	Jan - Dec 2017	Jan - Dec 2018	Jan - Dec 2019	Jan - Dec 2020	Northern Beaches LGA	NSW		
Murder	4	1	1	0	0	nc	0.9	nc	nc
Domestic violence related assault	305	358	448	487	350	128	396.5	Down 28.1%	Stable
Non-domestic violence related assault	591	613	607	682	568	207.7	364	Stable	Stable
Sexual assault	99	99	107	131	137	50.1	86.4	Stable	Up 8.5%
Indecent assault, act of indecency and other sexual offences	114	127	153	148	173	63.3	99.2	Stable	Up 11.0%
Robbery without a weapon	24	21	25	33	27	9.9	14.2	Stable	Stable
Robbery with a firearm	0	1	2	2	0	nc	1.3	nc	nc
Robbery with a weapon not a firearm	3	9	10	15	7	2.6	10.7	nc	nc
Break and enter dwelling	473	449	391	317	247	90.3	243	Stable	Down 15.0%
Break and enter non-dwelling	245	206	157	174	121	44.2	91.1	Down 30.5%	Down 16.2%
Motor vehicle theft	172	242	211	204	184	67.3	144.7	Stable	Stable
Steal from motor vehicle	838	920	782	887	758	277.1	350.3	Stable	Stable
Steal from retail store	599	490	572	686	321	117.4	246.1	Down 53.2%	Down 14.4%
Steal from dwelling	453	417	422	353	339	123.9	207.8	Stable	Down 7.0%
Steal from person	100	86	64	74	53	19.4	26.6	Down 28.4%	Down 14.7%
Fraud	1,246	1,216	1,249	1,226	1,142	417.6	547.9	Stable	Stable
Malicious damage to property	1,170	1,134	1,196	1,349	1,044	381.7	658.3	Down 22.6%	Stable

Crime trends



- Decreased opportunity to commit crime
- Decreased crime incidents in most major crime categories
- Impact on trends



- Sexual assault
- Indecent assault, act of indecency and other sexual offences



- Domestic violence
- Non-domestic violence related assault
- Fraud
- Malicious damage

Safe Places



Safe Places: opportunities to do more

Safe Places	Priority Areas	Actions focus on
	Safe open spaces	• Coordinated response to 'hot spots' • Alcohol restricted zones • Night time economy
	Safe neighbourhoods	• Flexible community centres
	Safe business	• Post-COVID support • Crime prevention
	Safe travel	• Safety and behaviour on public transport • Strengthen options for priority populations
	Safe online	• Safe language • Digital literacy

Safe People



Safe People: opportunities to do more

Safe people	Priority Areas	Actions focus on
	Safe residents	• Access to sport and wellbeing activities
	Safe visitors	• Safe night time activation strategies
	Safe relationships	• Elder abuse • Sexual assault • Domestic Violence (CALD and ADV)
	Safe communities	• Social isolation • Dementia • Youth outreach • LGBTIQ+
	Safe supports	• Resilience • Suicide response • Health and wellbeing

Next Steps

May 2021 - Submit
draft Plan to
Council

June 2021 – Public
Exhibition and
submission period

August 2021 -
Submit final draft
Plan to Council

All members of the Community Safety Committee are encouraged to review and submit comments to the draft Plan during the 28 day public exhibition period.

Questions??

ITEM 6.4	COMMUNITY CENTRES STRATEGY AND POLICY - PROJECT UPDATE
REPORTING OFFICER	MANAGER, COMMUNITY CENTRES
TRIM FILE REF	2021/291622
ATTACHMENTS	1 Community Belonging SRG Presentation - 20210512

ISSUE

To inform the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group on the key findings and status of the Community Centres Strategy and Community Centres Policy.

BACKGROUND

Community centres provide space for activities that support social connectedness, reduce social isolation and loneliness and increase physical activity, resulting in well-being for all in the community. The variety of opportunities include group activities, social support, public meetings, health and wellbeing classes, private family functions, education, sport, art and creative activities.

Community centres are of increasing value to the whole community as demographic profiles change across the Local Government Area. The Northern Beaches has a trend towards an older population demographic, with housing becoming medium to high density, impacting on demand for community space outside the home. Community infrastructure needs to adapt as the community grows and demographic profiles and social trends change.

Council owns and directly hires out 39 community centres across the Northern Beaches, which have been acquired or built at various times over the past century. There are significant variances in the condition of centres. Some of these buildings are no longer able to respond to contemporary needs, activities, and population changes due to the increasing level of maintenance required. Many are not in the best locations, with those located in central, strategic locations are in high demand for community space and are at capacity.

Council has developed a Community Centres Strategy to guide and inform the management of Council managed community centres for the next twenty years. Research for the Community Centres Strategy commenced in 2018, with community engagement held between August to October 2018. This engagement included a workshop held with the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group on 22 August 2018.

A draft report, including baseline data and engagement results, was presented to Council on 22 October 2019, and placed on public exhibition from 24 October 2019 to 8 December 2019. Two submissions were received for the draft Policy and twenty-six for the draft Strategy.

Following full review and analysis of the submissions received, no amendments were made to the Draft Community Centres Policy and minor amendments to the draft Community Centres Strategy. The amendments to the draft Strategy included a greater emphasis on the cultural heritage of the buildings. Two new Strategic Recommendations have been added:

Strategy 9: Develop a funding plan to enable the implementation of this strategy, including divestment, renewal, grant programs and capital works budget.

Strategy 10: Investigate the Aboriginal history of the sites of current and future centres, and ensure the history is recognised.

Most of the feedback on the Draft Strategy confirmed the findings and validated the recommendations.

As new population projections were received by Council in 2020, the presentation of the draft Strategy back to Council was delayed to allow time to ensure that the strategy was revised accordingly. These amended population forecasts have resulted in amendments to the Strategic Directions in the Mona Vale Planning Catchment and relatively minor amendments to the other Planning Catchments. Other amendments were made to the Strategy and Action Plan to provide further clarity on the proposed Strategic Directions and Actions for Council's community centres.

At its meeting on 23 March 2021 Council adopted both the Community Centres Policy and amended Community Centres Strategy.

<https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/council/publications/policies/community-centres-strategy>

The adoption of the Policy supersedes two policies from the former Pittwater and Manly Councils.

DISCUSSION

The key findings from the adopted Community Centres Strategy are:

- Council has a lot of small, local centres, with many not in a central, accessible location
- The centres need to be accessible, in central locations with transport and other services
- A regional centre is needed in Dee Why central
- Larger, district sized centres are needed in central Manly and Brookvale
- The centres need to be modern, flexible and meet multiple community needs
- Feedback and population data confirmed there are current gaps in floor space in key locations, especially in Dee Why, Brookvale and Manly.
- The gaps in community centre floor space needed will increase over the next 20 years.

The Guiding Principles outlined in the Strategy are:

1. Multi-purpose, flexible in form, function and management, the centres are available for a range of social, recreation, community and cultural services, activities and programs
2. Designed and planned through active engagement and transparent collaboration with the community. Changing demographics and social trends in relation to current needs and future demands for new facilities and upgrades will be considered
3. Centrally located within strategic centres in visually prominent and accessible locations that are close to public transport, enhancing community identity and improving community cohesion and connection. Accessible locations to encourage the use of active and public transport
4. Co-located and integrated with other community uses and facilities. Ensure alignment with the principles of the District Plan, Community Strategic Plan, and the Local Strategic Planning Statement, Towards 2040
5. Designed to be welcoming and safe environments that reflect local character and are sustainable. New and upgraded community centres are low-carbon developments with high-efficiency in energy, water and waste
6. Innovative and inspiring places that support community wellbeing with the provision of high quality spaces for the community to connect, create, learn and socialise
7. Accessible and inclusive places that have universal access and cater for multiple users and people of all ages, cultures and abilities
8. Managed and planned through collaboration and shared use arrangements between Council, government agencies, community groups and other stakeholders

9. Supported by good governance and centre management practices that are financially sustainable and at quality and cost standards that are acceptable to the community
10. Marketed to improve community awareness and access to information about community centres – locations, availability and programs

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The implementation of the Community Centres Policy poses no financial impact on Council.

The implementation of the Community Centres Strategy will have financial implications in relation to capital works over the next 20 years. The strategic directions within the Strategy will assist in the development of robust asset management plans and need to be considered in the Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) and annual capital works budgets. Not all projects identified in the Strategy have funding commitments in place at this point in time.

Some major capital works are already included in the LTFP, such as the Warriewood Community Centre and other current projects. Other ongoing minor upgrades are covered in annual budgets and renewal programs, subject to available funds and competing projects across Council.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Community centres support social sustainability through the provision of spaces for activities that support social connectedness, reduce loneliness and increase physical activity. These activities result in improved general health, mental health, personal and social well-being and build the capacity and resilience of the community in times of shocks and stresses.

The current undersupply of fit-for-purpose community space, in conjunction with a growth in population and increase in medium density housing in areas with existing high demand, will put pressure on Council to provide sufficient community centre space. This contributes to the need to expand the community centre network in the future to respond to existing and changing demographics.

Community centres in the future will also provide spaces for use during times of community need such as has been experienced with recent natural storm events and during the COVID-19 pandemic. The network of community centres will be a key element in ensuring the ongoing resilience of our population. It is noted here that the soon to be constructed Warriewood Community Centre has been designed to meet this likely future need. An integrated network of larger multipurpose centres will be an important consideration for the future to be prepared for disaster events and the follow-on impacts.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

All capital upgrades and management of the Centres will include sustainable products and practices. Council's Environment and Climate Change Strategy outlines commitments to ensuring new Council buildings are exemplars of best practice sustainability and to retrofitting existing Council buildings to deliver similar outcomes. The Strategy also commits that Council buildings will operate using 100% renewable electricity and where feasible install onsite solar panels.

RECOMMENDATION OF MANAGER, COMMUNITY CENTRES

That the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group note the adoption of the Community Centres Policy and Community Centres Strategy.

Community Centres Policy & Strategy

Community & Belonging SRG
12 May 2021



Project Update:

August to October 2018 – Community Engagement.
Draft report created including baseline data and
engagement results.

22 October 2019 - draft Policy and Strategy approved by
Council to go on public exhibition for 28 days.

24 October 2019 to 8 December 2019 - Public exhibition.
2 submissions for draft Policy. 26 submissions for draft Strategy.
Some amendments made to the Strategy.

November 2020 – updated population forecasts
received and draft Strategy amended

23 March 2021 - the Policy and amended
Strategy adopted by Council

Key findings of the project

- Community centres are highly valued by the community and bring people together, building stronger communities
- Many centres are located out of strategic centres, are inaccessible and in need of upgrades/renovation
- Based on existing and future population growth there are gaps in floor space across the LGA, especially in Brookvale/Dee Why and Manly Planning Areas
- Need for integrated multipurpose centres at a district/regional level with floor space of at least 2,000 sqm per centre

The community told us..

Quotes taken from the project's consultation process

“ Some of the centres are ageing - toilets, kitchen facilities need upgrading. ”

“ Often the heating or air con wasn't working, or the ceiling vent made a racket, which was an issue with a meditation group. ”

“ Manly library or surf clubs could become a hub of activity rather than mostly vacant underutilised spaces in really prime locations. ”

“ The meeting room is not a very enlightening space. ”

“ They need to be affordable... to provide a variety of spaces - not just large halls but smaller areas ...with a nice outlook and outdoor area. ”

“ ... access to information of what is available at each place. E.g. an e-community hub or something - it is hard to know what is on offer unless you walk past and see a sign up for yoga or something. ”

Strategic Directions

- **Strategy 1** Improve utilisation rates of existing centres
- **Strategy 2** Maximise fair and equitable access to existing centres
- **Strategy 3** Implement 'community hubs', with the co-location and integration of existing and future community centres in areas that are accessible via active and public transport, in support of the 30 minute city concept
- **Strategy 4** Investigate the potential for a Regional Community Centre within the Local Government Area
- **Strategy 5** Increase the number of District community centres through a detailed asset management plan
- **Strategy 6** Develop a community centre marketing strategy to promote the centres as welcoming and inclusive spaces for the whole community
- **Strategy 7** Create inviting, accessible and welcoming community centres
- **Strategy 8** Investigate management models for non-Council managed and/or owned facilities to maximise floor space available to the community
- **Strategy 9** Develop a funding plan to enable the implementation of this strategy, including divestment, renewal, grant programs and the capital works budget
- **Strategy 10** Investigate the Aboriginal history of the sites of current and future community centres, and ensure the history is recognised

Proposed new and upgraded District centres

Figure 5. Proposed new regional (in blue) and new or upgraded district (in green) community centres in the local planning catchment areas. The locations of proposed facilities are indicative only and are subject to further investigation.

-  Health and Education Precinct
-  Strategic Centre
-  Local Centre
-  Regional
-  District
-  Northern Beaches Council Area Boundary
-  Mona Vale Planning Catchment Area
-  Terrey Hills Planning Catchment Area
-  Frenchs Forest Planning Catchment Area
-  Brookvale-Dee Why Planning Catchment Area
-  Manly Planning Catchment Area



Summary of the Action Plan

- The Community Centres Strategy Action Plan will assist in the planning and delivery of the community centre service.
- It is an operational plan relating to the Strategic Directions of the Strategy.
- The Action Plan has short, medium and long term actions for each centre, and will be reviewed annually.

Next Steps

Implementation of the
Community Centres Strategy
and its 10 Strategic Directions

The Strategic Directions include
community hubs and need for a
regional centre in Dee Why.

Implementation of the
Community Centres Strategy
Action Plan.