



northern  
beaches  
council

**Community & Belonging**  
Strategic Reference Group

# MINUTES

## **COMMUNITY AND BELONGING STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP**

held in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre Dee Why on

**WEDNESDAY 12 MAY 2021**

**Minutes of the Community and Belonging  
Strategic Reference Group  
held on Wednesday 12 May 2021  
in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre Dee Why  
Commencing at 6:06pm**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Committee Members**

Cr Kylie Ferguson (Chair)	Councillor
Cr Candy Bingham	Councillor
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
Dan Giles	Easylink
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
Robert van den Blink	Manager Youth and Community Development
Caroline Psaltis	Manager Community Centres
Briana Davis	Social Planning and Strategy Coordinator
Kath Young	Community Safety Coordinator
Jasmine Evans	Governance Officer

## **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**

Apologies were received from Cathy Hockey, Maria-Elena Chidzey, Cr Penny Philpott, Cr Sarah Grattan and Justene Gordon.

## **3.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Dan Giles declared an interest in item 6.1 Community Development and Arts & Creativity Grant Programs, stating that Easylink is likely to apply a for a grant.

## **4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

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

***M Povah / S Wilkins***

The Minutes of the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group meeting held 10 February 2021 were confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

### **4.2 MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY JOINT STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP HELD 10 FEBRUARY 2021**

***M Povah / S Wilkins***

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Joint Strategic Reference Group held 10 February 2021 were confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

## **5.0 UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING**

Nil

## 6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

### 6.1 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ARTS & CREATIVITY GRANT PROGRAMS

Robert van den Blink, Manager Youth and Community Development, presented on Council's Community Development and Arts and Creativity grants programs. The presentation provided the group with an overview of the previous grants program and details of the changes intended for the new 2021-22 program.

Feedback from the group included:

- When promoting the Arts and Creativity grants it should be clear that the program isn't just for visual arts and invites other creatives such as musicians etc.
- Council's community is continuously growing however funding for the grants programs appears to be static year on year. Council should look at increasing the funding as the population grows.
- Collaborative projects and activities that build capacity should be encouraged through the program.
- Standout programs that have been previously been awarded a community development or arts and creativity grant could be featured during promotion. Past recipients could be asked to attend grant writing workshops to share their experience.

The group was invited to be part of the judging panel for the grants program. Nominations were received from Simon Moriarty and Michelle Povah. If any other members would like to participate please contact the Chair (Cr Ferguson).

**Action:** The group requested a further report highlighting examples of standout programs or projects that have previously been awarded a community development or arts and creativity grant to be submitted to the next meeting.

### 6.2 UPDATE - BETTER TOGETHER - SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2041

Briana Davis, Social Planning and Strategy Coordinator, provided the group with a brief on the changes made to the Better Together - Social Sustainability Strategy 2041 (the Strategy).

Following the workshop with the SRGs, a number of changes have been made to the Strategy. An updated presentation was provided to the group (attachment 1). Some of the key changes included:

- A new circular graphic representing the strategic framework has been included to better illustrate how elements of the Strategy are connected.
- The number of strategy outcomes has been reduced from 12 to 10.

Some of the questions raised by the group were:

**Q.** How can Council help create safe spaces online, without appearing to be big brother?

**A.** Council will focus on creating safe spaces online through building digital literacy within the community, eg. educating the elderly to protect them from online scams.

**Q.** How will the goals and actions in the Strategy be funded?

**A.** The majority of actions can be delivered within operational budgets by realigning our current work activities. Many of these actions rely on other organisations and part of the Strategy's

consultation process will be seeking feedback from the relevant organisations about whether the actions are deliverable.

The Strategy will be presented at the next Council meeting (25 May) to be placed on public exhibition. Subject to the submissions received, Council intends to present the final Strategy for adoption in July 2021.

*Note: B Davis left the meeting at 6:50pm.*

### **6.3 DRAFT COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN**

R van den Blink and Kath Young, Community Safety Coordinator, presented on Council's draft Community Safety Plan (the Plan). The presentation provided the group with an overview of Plan including:

- The purpose of the Plan and how it fits in Council's strategic framework and the other documents it will support eg. Community Strategic Plan and Social Sustainability Strategy.
- The outcomes, priority areas and actions for the Plan.
- The research and consultation undertaken so far to develop the Plan.
- Crime statistics and trends for the Northern Beaches community.

Some of the feedback and questions raised by the group were:

- Council needs an audit program to proactively identify and address accessibility issues in town centres and the broader community, such as wheel chair ramps that don't comply with standards, so they can be fixed before an incident occurs.
- Transport hubs should be called bus stops as more people in the Northern Beaches will understand what that means.
- The Northern Beaches has a lack of lighting at bus stops which can make people feel unsafe.

The Plan will be presented at the next Council meeting (25 May) to be placed on public exhibition. Subject to the submissions received, Council intends to present the final Plan for adoption in August 2021.

*Note: R van den Blink left the meeting at 7:38pm*

### **6.4 COMMUNITY CENTRES STRATEGY AND POLICY - PROJECT UPDATE**

Caroline Psaltis, Manager Community Centres, provided the group with an update on the Community Centres Strategy and Policy. She gave a presentation outlining the:

- Project timeline and outcomes.
- Key findings and some of the community feedback.
- Strategic Directions.
- Implementation and next steps.

The group provided positive feedback on how the community centres operated during COVID 19

commenting that the check-in processes were easy and people felt safe.

**Action:** Update the location of the Manly district on the 'Proposed new and upgraded district centres' map.

## 7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

*The meeting concluded at 7:58pm*

This is the final page of the Minutes comprising 6 pages numbered 1 to 6 of the Community and Belonging Strategic Reference Group meeting held on Wednesday 12 May 2021 and confirmed on Wednesday 11 August 2021

# Better Together

Report + Update





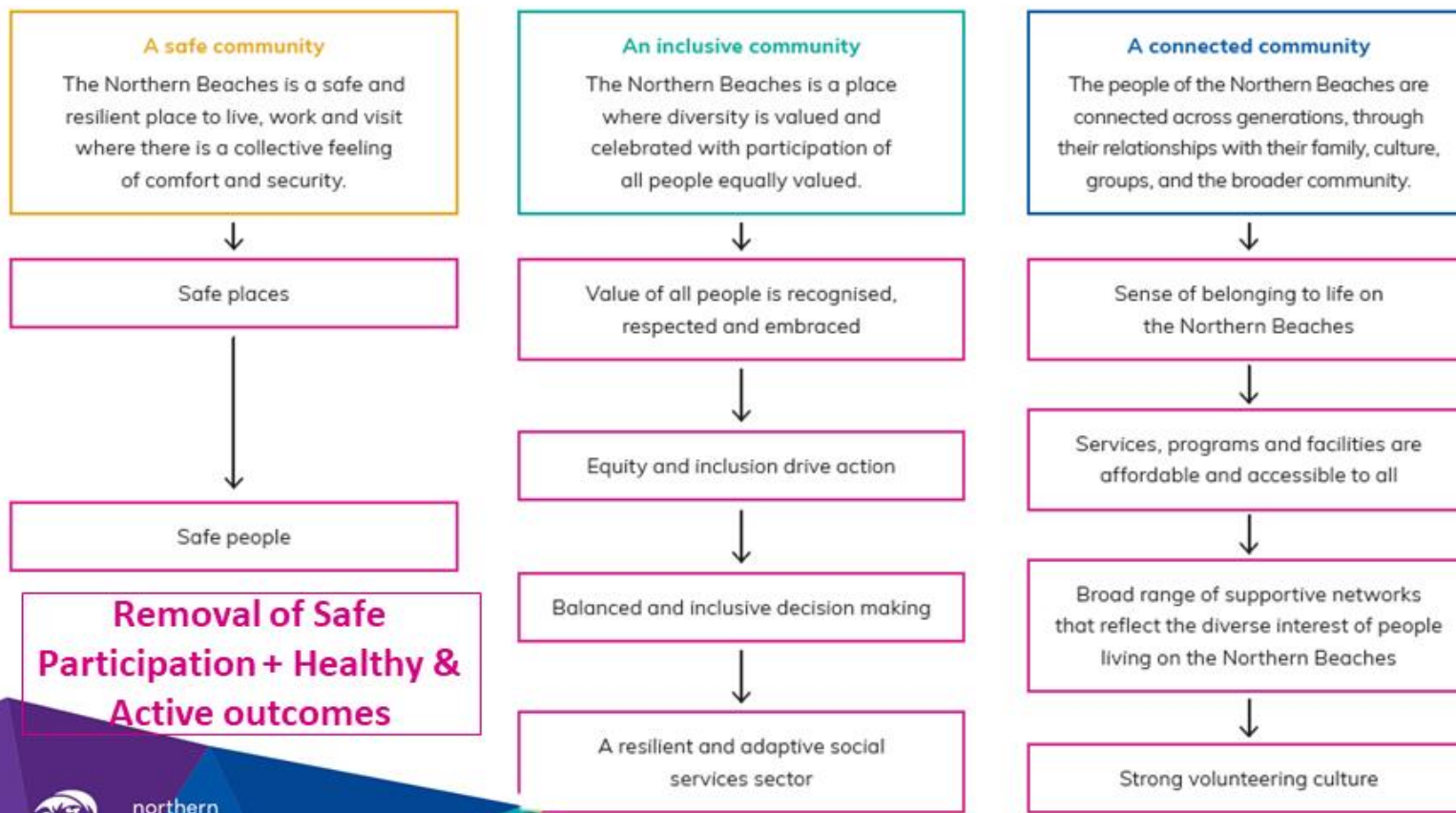
# Changes actioned following SRG Workshop





# Update to Outcomes

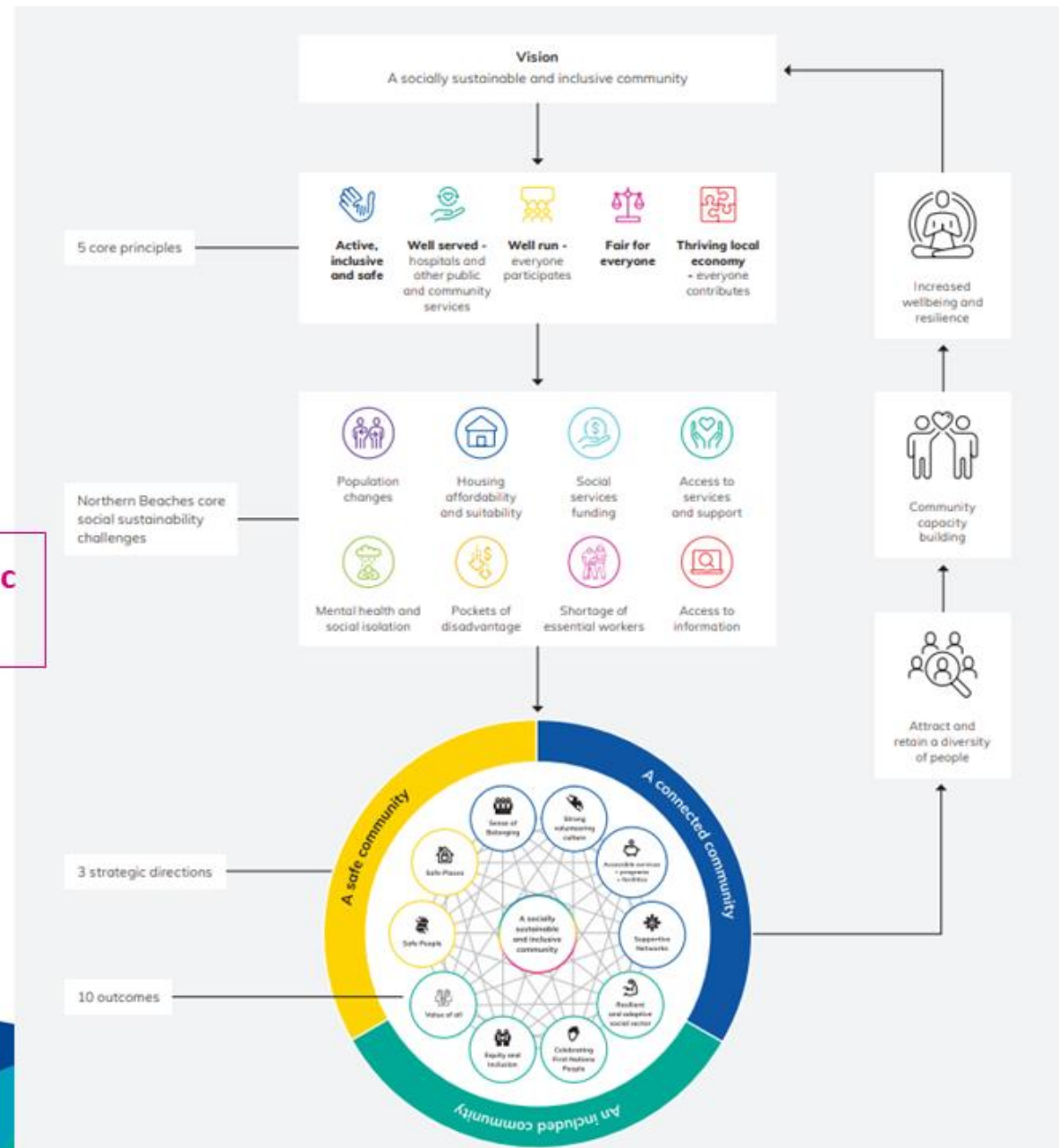
Reduced 12 Outcomes to 10 Outcomes



# Update to Strategic Framework



## Updated Draft 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.