



northern  
beaches  
council

# ATTACHMENT BOOKLET TRANSPORT AND ASSETS

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2022**

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## Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

### Naming proposal - Brian Green Lookout

Impact level: Four

Consultation period: Fri 1 Oct – Sun 14 Nov, 2021

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## 1. Summary

This report outlines the community and stakeholder engagement conducted between 1 October and 14 November 2021 as part of the proposal to name the lookout area above the South Curl Curl Rockpool on Carrington Parade, Curl Curl after Brian Green, Emeritus Mayor and President of Warringah Council from 1991 to 1995.

During the exhibition period 231 people provided submissions including 190 with written comments - 46% supportive, 49% not supportive, 5% neutral. Though there was support for the naming proposal there was not a majority of support.

Submissions supporting the proposal commented on the significant contributions made by Mr Green to the Northern Beaches community. Submissions not supporting the proposal commented on matters including: a preference for an Indigenous or generic name, gender equity in place names and objections to naming public facilities after politicians.

### Key outcomes



Total unique  
responses

**231**



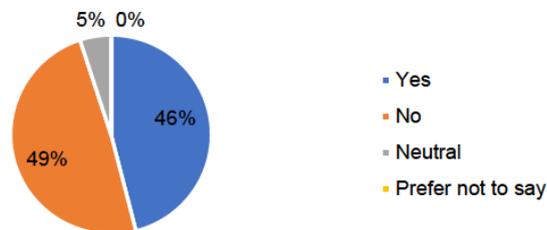
How responses  
were received

Comment form

Contributors: 231



Do you support the  
proposed naming of  
the lookout area  
above the South  
Curl Curl Rockpool  
on Carrington  
Parade, Brian Green  
Lookout?



Total responses = 231



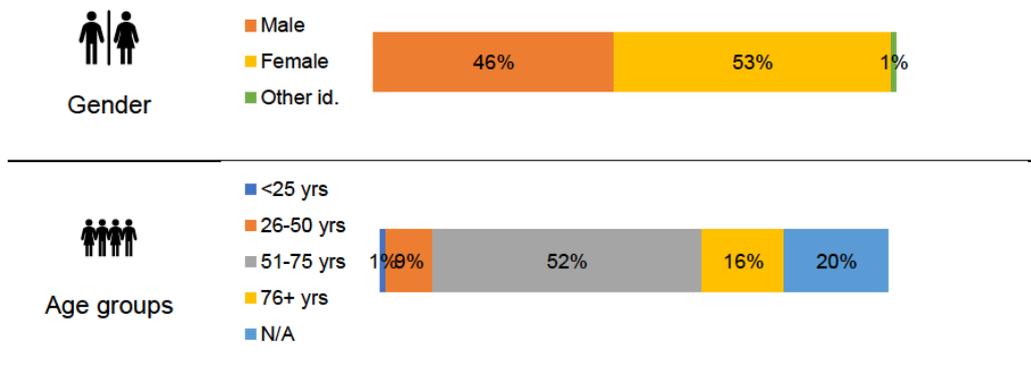
Feedback themes

- Supportive of the contributions made by Brian Green.
- Prefer an Indigenous name.
- Suggested alternative names.
- Object to naming public land or features after a politician.
- Need for more gender equity in place name.

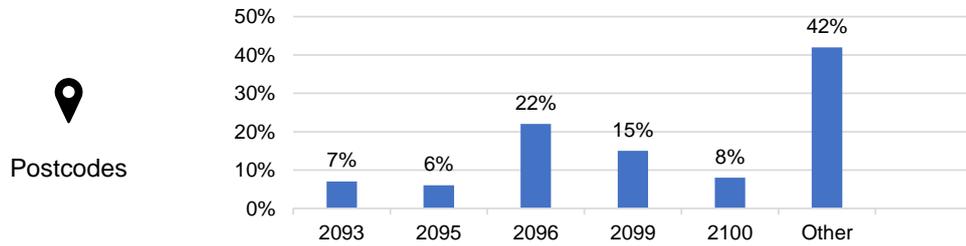
### 1.1. How we engaged

	Visitors: 1,265      Visits: 1,588      Av. time onsite: 1m
Have Your Say: visitation stats	
	Letterbox drop: Site signs used:      Number of signs: 2
Print media and collateral	
	Community Engagement (fortnightly) newsletter: 1 edition      Distribution: 22,000 subscribers Council (weekly) e-News: 1 edition      Distribution: Approx. 150,000 subscribers Stakeholder email: 4      Distribution: 15 plus
Electronic direct mail (EDM)	
	Interview: 0      Attendance: Meeting: 0      Attendance:
Key stakeholder engagement	

### 1.2. Who responded<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Demographic data was gathered by request only. The data represented only includes those respondents who provided this detail.



## 2. Background

Council received a proposal to rename the lookout area above the South Curl Curl Rockpool as the Brian Green Lookout. The lookout is located on Carrington Parade, Curl Curl.

Brian Green is a life-long resident of the Northern Beaches where he served as a Warringah Councillor (1980-85, 1987-99), Deputy Shire President (1981-82, 1984-85, 1988-89), Shire President (1991-93) and Mayor of Warringah Council (1993-95). In 2002, Mr. Green was awarded the title of 'Emeritus Mayor'. Mr Green played an integral role in the initiation and delivery of projects and programs that were of benefit to our community.

The naming proposal is consistent with the Council's Naming our Reserves, Facilities and Roads Policy.

The project's impact is assessed as level four in accordance with the Northern Beaches Council Community Engagement Matrix, resulting in a community engagement process devised on a single staged approach.

## 3. Engagement objectives

Community and stakeholder engagement aimed to:

- Provide accessible information so community and stakeholders can participate in a meaningful way
- Identify community and stakeholder concerns, local knowledge and values
- Seek out and facilitate the involvement of those affected by or interested in a project

## 4. Engagement approach

Community and stakeholder engagement for the Naming proposal – Brian Green Lookout was conducted over a six week period, from Fri 1 Oct to Sun 14 Nov 2021, and consisted of a series of activities that provided opportunities for community and stakeholders to contribute.

The engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's [Community Engagement Matrix](#) (2017).

A project page was established on our have your say platform with information provided in an accessible and easy to read format.

The project was primarily promoted through our regular email newsletter (EDM) channels.

Feedback was captured through an online comment form embedded onto the have your say project page. The form included a question that directly asked respondents for their level of support on the proposal.

An open-field comments box provided community members a space to explain or elaborate on their support, not support or neutral sentiment as well as any other feedback they wished to contribute.

Email and written comments were also invited.

#### 4.1. Reaching diverse audiences

A thorough stakeholder mapping exercise was completed to identify and understand the needs of the whole community.

It was determined for this project that it was particularly important to hear from Friends of Freshwater and Friends of Curl Curl Lagoon.

### 5. Findings

During the feedback period, 231 submissions were received. Of these 46 percent supported the proposal, in honour of the contributions made by Brian Green to the community.

49 percent of the comments received did not support the proposal, with some respondents preferring an Indigenous name or word. Other respondents indicated that places or features should not be named after a person. They would prefer a geographical, environmental, or historical association, others felt Curl Curl Lookout would be appropriate.

Other reasons included objections to places being named after someone associated with Council or holding a political office, and a preference for more gender equity.

**Table 1:** Issues raised and response

Theme	What we heard	Council's response
More meaningful, generic or broader name.	Lookouts etc. should have names that are more reflective of their positions topographically, geographically or historically.	This naming proposal is consistent with Council's Naming our Reserves, Facilities and Roads Policy.  In this instance it is considered that the naming proposal is appropriate given the significant contributions by Mr. Green to the Northern Beaches community.

Theme	What we heard	Council's response
Preference for an Indigenous name.	<p>We should look for inspiration from the Indigenous language first. Indigenous place names are few and far between ...</p> <p>Any names should be in Aboriginal language to reflect the fact that the original custodians of the land are alive and well ...</p> <p>Aren't there some local indigenous women we should remember ...</p>	<p>This naming proposal is consistent with Council's Naming our Reserves, Facilities and Roads Policy.</p> <p>In this instance it is considered that the naming proposal is appropriate given the significant contributions by Mr. Green to the Northern Beaches community.</p> <p>The Policy provides guidance about and preference to the use of Aboriginal names particularly for parks and natural areas.</p>
Objection to naming public places after an elected politician.	<p>As a matter of principle, I am against politicians at any level of government having any facility, park, building etc. belonging to the public being named after them ...</p>	<p>This naming proposal is consistent with Council's Naming our Reserves, Facilities and Roads Policy.</p> <p>In this instance it is considered that the naming proposal is appropriate given the significant contributions by Mr. Green to the Northern Beaches community.</p>
More gender equity in place names	<p>I'd prefer a female to be chosen. So many places are named after men.</p>	<p>Gender equity is a consideration in assessing naming proposals.</p> <p>In this instance it is considered that the naming proposal is appropriate given the significant contributions by Mr. Green to the Northern Beaches community.</p>

## Appendix 1 Verbatim community and stakeholder responses\*

### Number Comment / Submission

1. Brian Green has been an icon of the Northern Beaches for decades and in particular he has championed the Freshwater region.  
My association with Brian has been longstanding and rewarding and I was most impressed with the way he drove a lot of the early debate concerning the Northern Beaches Hospital.  
I can think of no worthier person to have this project named after.
2. A name relating to the first nation people or their culture. They would have been on the peninsular far longer than the Green family.
3. A name that will be as relevant in 100 years as it is today should be chosen for this beautiful location. Mr Green may have served the community well for a number of years but there probably are many who served the local community equally as well and I think naming a site after a person will always generate controversy. Why not give this location an indigenous name that relates to either the original people of this area or describes the beauty of the area in the indigenous language.
4. A very appropriate recognition of someone who has made a huge contribution to the district.
5. A very passionate man for the local community. Would be a great recognition.
6. A well respected community contributor.
7. Aboriginal name should be used. Giving it a new name because a man worked and lived here is short sighted and doesn't acknowledge the aboriginal people who are from the area.
8. After being born and bred in this area feel that many other people should be more recognised than someone who served for Mayor for 4 years
9. Agree Greenie is a fantastic servant of the area and well deserved.
10. All respect to Mr Brian Green, I hope he was respected in his lifetime for his services. Will we rename every other point of interest to people for eternity? NO ! Will we propose a "Michael Reagan" Reserve in the future? NO !
11. An excellent selection
12. An indigenous or natural heritage name would be more appropriate for this lookout. I'm sure Brian Green has done a lot of good things for the Northern Beaches, but so have many other people (men and women).
13. Any (re)naming of local sites should reflect and recognise Indigenous names for those sites. We don't need any more sites named after old white men.

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\* Personal details and inappropriate language have been redacted where possible. Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused. \* Not every respondent made a comment in addition to answering the sentiment question

14. Are these places named after men: Passmore Reserve, Millers Reserve, Nolan Reserve, John Fisher Park, Adam St Reserve, Stirgess Reserve, Weldon Oval, Mike Pawley Oval, Walter Gors Park, Ted Jackson Reserve, Jamieson Park, McLean Lookout, Berry Reserve, Jaf Renwick Park, Rowland Reserve, Bert Payne Park, Rowland Reserve, Eric Green Reserve, Dunbar Park, Hitchcock Park, Lionel Watts Reserve et etc  
We do have Tania Park, Michaela Howie Playground & Betty Morrison Reserve.  
I would like to request an audit of place names which recognise the contribution of women in NB LGA. Not to mention indigenous recognition. This was all Aboriginal land, how would we know that from our naming practices.  
I can't believe we are still gratifying the urge to perpetuate the stale die-hard status quo. With respect to Mr Green, there are plenty dead old white men we can hark back to to take the mantle of whatever is the next thing to be appropriated.  
Come on, we can do better than this in NB LGA.
15. As a long term resident of the area I wish to register my strong objection to the proposed naming of the lookout overlooking South Curl Curl pool, after Brian Green. This type of site would be expected to carry the name for a very long period of time, and I don't believe it is appropriate the the name Brian Green be placed there in perpetuity.
- \* I am not in favour of a council inferring the name of one of their own on a site like this, unless that individual provided truly exceptional service that makes him stand out well above all others.
  - \* Brian Green was involved with a council that was ultimately dismissed and replaced with an administrator.
  - \* While Brian Green lived several hundred metres from the site, my understanding is that his main beach and surf club involvement was with Freshwater, not Curl,Curl.
  - \* If it is to be named after an individual, then I'm sure there are a multitude of people who have provided extraordinary service to South Curl Curl thru the local swimming and surf club. For example, Billy Rock taught untold numbers of children to swim in the pool. These included my brothers and myself in the 1940's. He would be a truly worthy recipient. I think one of the reasons he was so successful with children was that he actually looked like a 'Big Bad Banksia Man', and we were all terrified of him. But I'm sure the local swimming club could give you names of multiple other worthy recipients.
  - \* Local wild life could provide an excellent name. The rocks in the area were covered with Cunjevoi. Cunjevoi Lookout sounds great. Alternatively, Black Fish Lookout would work. The area around the pool and rocks has been a favourite place to catch Black Fish over the years.
  - \* My preferred option would be an aboriginal name and I'm sure the local indigenous community have a number of options, though my suggestion would be Curiel Curiel, the name that I understand was the indigenous name for the lagoon, and the origin of the name Curl Curl.

Please do not call it Brian Green Lookout.

16. As a matter of principle, I am against politicians at any level of government having any facility, park, building etc belonging to the public being named after them, regardless of the claimed justification for the proposal. A politician would seldom have a significant majority either supporting them or endorsing their claimed legacy and naming public infrastructure after them would inevitably alienate a lot of people.

Specifically, Brian Green was a Warringah Councillor during a period of such poor performance and concerns raised by residents that the NSW Government dismissed the Council and appointed an administrator from 1985 to 1987. No councillor from that tumultuous period should in any case be considered for their name on any public infrastructure.

I note that this proposal comes from his family. I am a 40 year engaged resident of Freshwater and Curl Curl and I am unaware of any other groundswell of support for this proposal. If the lookout area must be named, select a local, unpaid volunteer whose contribution to our community deserves recognition; there are plenty of them. Not a (ex) politician.

17. As a proud granddaughter, Brian Green has served this community proud and will continue to for the rest of his existence. He shows leadership, loyalty & a never-changing hard working attitude to whatever he does. He strives to leave, wherever he goes, a better place than when he found it. He will leave a legacy of understanding, commitment & passion to the place he has always called home and to where his family will continue to cherish. This gesture will acknowledge his dedication to South Curl Curl & the Northern Beaches. It'll make him so proud & happy for all that he has achieved!  
Thank you
18. Authentic love of the area and passion for all things real and vital . A fitting tribute to a very popular, caring committed man you gave it his all for many years .
19. Because he deserves the name of the lookout.
20. Because I do not support the naming of sites unless they are indigenous names.
21. Because the family( ! )requested it. Wouldnt it be more appropriate if a community organisation was putting it up
22. Before the naming ceremony takes place can you please put in a pathway around the outside of the parking area. It is an accident waiting to happen with people walking at the back of the carpark behind parked cars. There is a very large number of people on a weekend using the carpark to access the cliff side walkway
23. Brian contributed selflessly to Warringah Shire over a long period. It's particularly appropriate to name the outlook at the beginning of the Carrington Parade boardwalk after Brian - the walk was his idea
24. Brian devotes so much of his life to the betterment of the local community, it is appropriate that he should be recognised in this way and close to his family home for so many years. Thank you, Peter Wood, 7 Wyndora Avenue Freshwater
25. brian did so much for the northern beaches over 30 yrs his honoring him is long overdue
26. Brian exhibited almost boundless energy for so many years as an active participant of the northern beaches community. As well as his time in public office as a Councillor and as Mayor Brian, also supported many local community sporting clubs and community events. He was never too busy to help somebody.  
If ever there was a person who embodied community spirit, it is Brian and naming this lookout after Brian is an excellent acknowledgement because for many years he lived just a few hundred metres from the lookout point.
- 27.

Brian Green contributed to this area and may have lived close by, however, rather than naming sites after another European white male, I would like to see more naming of

sites with appropriate indigenous names. I am not aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, but I believe in the use of indigenous names where possible.

28. Brian Green did a lot of work for Freshwater and very little for South Curl Curl. A much better and more appropriate name would be after some body linked to this area: Mr Howard Hansen, head and shoulders over what Brian Green ever achieved.
29. Brian Green had a close association with South Curl Curl Beach and headland area. The proposed name would acknowledge his contribution to the community and council.
30. Brian Green has always been good for the nthn beaches. His hard work & dedication paved the way for what the beaches have become today. He was always a big supporter of the youth of the area in all their sports & academic achievements. The naming of the lookout is a justified way to recognise all he has done for that area, especially the suburbs of south curl curl & harbord/freshwater.
31. Brian Green has given many years of unselfish dedication to the Freshqater, Curl Curl area and such Recognition would be an appropriate recognition of that service.
32. Brian Green has made an incredible contribution to this community, his home.
33. Brian Green has worked selflessly for the community of the Northern Beaches his entire life. His contribution can be seen in the many everyday amenities and services we as residents often take for granted, but also his tireless efforts in fostering community spirit is well known. This lookout would be a fitting tribute to such a well regarded man who continues to look out for our community to this day.
34. Brian Green served the local community in his role as was a long-standing Councillor on Warringah Council and his association with many local organisations
35. Brian green was a former long term mayor and local identity who worked tirelessly for the local community and the lifesaving fraternity  
A thoroughly deserved nomination
36. Brian Green worked hard for the community for many years ,this would be a fitting recognition of his many years of service.
37. Brian has been a long time contributor to improving and sustaining many things in the Freshwater (Harbord forever) curl Curl area He is worthy of being recognised and commemorated in this way. I wholeheartedly support this proposal .
38. Brian has committed years of work to this area, good idea.
39. Brian has made great contributions to the area and should be recognised.
40. Brian is also a long time member of the Frigid Frogs Winter Swimming Club which has the South Curly rockpool as its base!  
He has been a valuable member & friends to everyone involved.
41. Brian is well known for his work within the Curl Curl/Freshwater area and is worthy of this proposal.
42. Brian was a director for several years of Manly Warringah Credit Union where I worked for a long time. He contributed to the success of the Credit Union and is worthy of receiving this recognition particularly in view of his other activities.
43. Brian was a great man and achieved a great deal for the community. It is a fitting tribute.
44. Brian was a great supporter and promoter of Sydney's Norther Beaches area for as long as I can remember (1970's +). I can't think of a better tribute.
45. Brian was a long term member of the Harbord Frigid Frogs, having joined in the winter of 1978. His attendance on a Sunday morning was always welcome and the executive have endorsed my support for the naming of the point as the Brian Green Lockout.
46. Brian was a wonderful and inclusive Shire President during his time at the former Warringah Shire Council and did a lot for the community in which he served.

47. Brian was an invaluable member of our community. This proposal is a wonderful tribute to an extraordinary man.
48. Brilliant suggestion and an appropriate honour for Brian reflecting the many years of community service he has given serving on Council
49. Carrington Parade Lookout would much more accurately describe the location
50. Cllr Brian Green was an outstanding contributor to the community of Warringah over decades not years. His contributions, mostly on a voluntary basis, helped improve community facilities. He was proud of the Freshwater (Harbord/Curl Curl) area in particular but served the whole Council area. It is fitting that an acknowledgement of his service be recognised at a prominent location on the Headland. I support the proposal. DT
51. Dear Sir or Madam,  
Curdos to Mr Brian Green for his achievements and contributions, but unfortunately I cannot support the proposed naming of the lookout area above South Curly Rockpool. Locations such as this one is meant to engage the community, and such a name would make harder for people to relate to. The location should be named "South Curl Curl Lookout". Moreover, there would be dozens of other people that could deserve the naming and I haven't heard about the Council doing a proper election or assessment of the various names. It feels like a favouritism or influence of the family over a council member. Northern Beaches Council should avoid such perception, and lack of transparency in assessing various names do not help.
52. does it need a name at all ??  
Brian green is just one of many citizens who have done great work in our area  
I cannot tick the NO box above
53. Excellent advocate and representative of the area  
Fully support
54. Excellent choice.
55. Finish the job, take it though to it logical conclusion - Freshwater pool and walkway
56. Frankly i think its rather too late coming anyway. Aren't there some local indigenous women we should remember rather than an old white guy who got a big ego trip from being on Council. Are we going to name a lookout after every ex-councillor?
57. Give it an indigenous name that will live on for generations and has a connection to country.  
A plaque for Mr Green could be installed at Freshwater SLSC were his contribution would be more appreciated.
58. Great choice, he has done so  
Mich for the community.
59. Great idea for a man that gave the community so much of his time for the public good.
60. Great man for the locals
61. He has been recognised and rewarded enough as it is. Why don't you find someone who is yet to be acknowledged. Hint: please look outside the white male box. Hint-hint: what about naming it after the First Nations?
62. He sounds like a wonderful man. However I'm sure he is not alone in that. So why name a local area after him. Maybe call it after the traditional owners.
63. He was a good bloke.

64. Honestly with all due respect to Brian and his families I'm sure good intentioned request and Brians undoubted good public service - he was an elected official and I believe that elected officials dont need to be nor should they be rewarded for the public service with namings of this significance - for the tasks and deeds they were elected to simply perform. Its sounds like hes been acknowledged already with many awards. A 4 years Mayor sounds like he lasted 1 term ?? I assume that this location with its great view should have a far more significant Indigenous name and meaning and surely that should be acknowledged that would teach its many passers by something far more significant and have a lot more salience and authenticity for children, locals and tourists alike as its a very significant Sydney coastal trek/ trail ( sorry by Mr Green is a councilor moment in time and should be granted this naming . Surely we've moved on from these types of self indulgent namings - do the indigenous research and the whole coastal track should reflect the coasts indigenous heritage of our area - Anything else would be a total cultural cringe.
65. I acknowledge his service but prefer to acknowledge indigenous peoples first. Let's not continue to ignore that we have indigenous history. Try to always name sites by natural or indigenous features, names or people. Thanks.
66. I agree he has served his community. So have many others. The blurb doesn't say what made his services beyond others?

Otherwise, we'll need a naming ceremony for all 50 yr plus surf life-saving members. How many of those years was he on patrol? Paying a membership fee and being very active in the surf club should be distinguished in the application.

Who were the other worthy candidates?

The submission needs to be stronger to support the application. These comments are not a reflection on Brain. He may have these attributes it's just not clear.

67. I am generally against geographical places being named after individuals.
68. I am happy with the proposal.
69. I am the wife of Brian Green and I respond on behalf of our children Martin Geoffrey , Timothy Brian , Nicholas Brian and Sarah Elizabeth Holding ( née Green ). We all agree that this award is indeed overdue due to the years of dedicated service our father / husband has given to the NB Council.
70. I beleive that all renaming of areas should be named after the 1st nations people either an elder or the indigenous name of the area, I am sure that they would have had a name for the lookout.  
Naming an area after someone who will be long forgotten in a few years if anyone knows of him now is inappropriate.
71. I believe it to be more appropriate to name it in honour of Layne Collette Beachley , AO, professional surfer who has lived in the area all her life. There is the obvious connection to Hawaiian surfer Duke Kahanamoku who introduced surfing to Australia. Ms Beachley is the only woman in ASP World Championships seven times and the only surfer, male or female, to win six consecutive world titles. She supports a number of charitable organisations to the community.  
Ms Beachley is a motivational speaker and inspiration to all.  
It is fitting that her achievements are honoured. A plaque is in order.
72. I believe people who serve the community receive the awards and recognition during their life. Whilst family members may wish for a permanent marker of their relative it becomes meaningless to the wider public. Our geographic places should be named to recognise and remind generation change by using geo identification and First Nations habitation.

73. I believe that a name consistent with the aboriginal heritage of the area would be more appropriate than naming the area after yet another middle aged white man.
74. I believe the council needs to commence a consistent practice of investing and naming all locations after the traditional custodians of this land, the First Nation's people. Recognition of post 1788 individual contributions to the community can be done in other ways, e.g. a hall or a library room.
75. I believe the site should be named after Bill and Coralie Tawa or Kevin Moffat. These are people who have genuinely contributed to the community of South Curl Curl, not those who have worked in a paid position in the area.
76. I do not agree with any landmark being named after a person and especially Mayors. Far better, if a name has to be found, to link it to a geographical feature.
77. I do not support this proposal.  
I think it is an opportunity lost when we make such a grand gesture such as this to a person who was in a paid position. It is being in this position which gives one the opportunity to achieve these goals and assisted by others on the various Council committees. It also seems a shame to make this award to a political party stalwart and not to someone more deserving in the Volunteer arena for example. Being nominated by family and not the wider community does not bode well for the person's popularity in that wider community.  
Although I live on the Northern Beaches I am not a resident of Curl Curl so am not familiar with names of others who may be more deserving in the suburb but I am sure Council would have a list of other worthy candidates. Those in the field of volunteering who have put their lives on the line for their community such as fire fighting or life saving would be a starting point.
78. I don't support individual families laying claim to an area as their own. Has the Aboriginal land council been consulted? This is public land and any names should reflect the fact that it is public land. If they want some sort of acknowledgement, how about they install a chair and put a little plaque on it, like on so many lookouts. That way the family is actually contributing to the rest of the community, not just taking a claim as this piece of land being their own. Also, any names should be in Aboriginal language to reflect the fact that the original custodians of the land are alive and well and NB Council is committed to including them, not for white people to continue taking land and labelling it, as though it is their own.
79. I don't think it's appropriate to name an area after a past leader or politician. A more organic name is required in this instance. Place names need to reflect the nature of the area and it's use. It would be better to consult indigenous people and locals in determining a suitable name.
80. I don't think working for the council or being a member of a SLSC is a reason to name a lookout after you.  
He was paid to do the council roles and shouldn't receive a special mention just for going to work. I am tired of naming places after politicians or council workers. I think lookouts etc, should have names that are more reflective of their positions topographically, geographically or historically.  
Calling it the Brian Green lookout serves to benefit his family only and is meaningless to most people.  
I think the council needs a different policy when it comes to naming places.
81. I feel like we have named enough things after important anglo people. I would like to see a return to the local indigenous names of places via consultation with local knowledgeable indigenous people.  
A compromise may be to have two names, a 'colonialist' name and an indigenous one.
82. I fully support the naming of the lookout after a true, selfless and hard-working servant for the local community.

83. I had the pleasure of serving with Brian on the then Warringah Council from 1991 - 1999 . Since his election to Council in 1983 he was a tireless advocate for many charities , sporting and cultural groups . He was Mayor during the very difficult break up of Warringah and Pittwater and was instrumental in ensuring a fair share of the assets of the council .  
I believe the naming of the lookout is a recognition of his dedication to the northern beaches community over many many years .  
( Warringah Councillor 1991-1999)
84. I have commented on 3 proposed naming on the Council website today. And EVERY one of them were suggestions to name places and buildings after a white male. Bush locations to be named after Caley....a clubhouse to be named after the club president....this lookout to be named after the mayor. I don't deny that these people may have contributed in many ways...but who's shoulders did Mr Green stand on? STOP naming buildings and places after white men "who came to prominence". Please re-visit your naming policy.
85. I have know mr Brian Green as a long serving mayor and president of manly Warringah community, and as an extremely passionate and dedicated servant for the good and aesthetic value of our community. To place such an honour to Mr Green for his valued contribution is indeed a great tribute for his dedicated service. Yes
86. I have known Brian Green for 45 years and know him to be so deserving of this recognition for his longstanding commitment and service to his local area. He had a huge environmental concern particularly for the preservation of the Northern Beaches coastline and this would be a fitting tribute for all his efforts.
87. I have lived on the Northern Beaches, including North Curl Curl for 21 years. I feel it is time to use every opportunity to reflect and respect the First Nations of Australia. Naming a natural place like a lookout in this way could provide information about the Aboriginal history of the area. For example my research tells me the name Curl Curl is from Curial Curial - Dharuk, "river of life" How wonderful for our community, especially our children to learn about this. And the name has a poetry. And timeless relevance.  
Curial Curial Lookout.  
Has a ring about it, don't you think?  
The local Aboriginal Support Group may have other suggestions.
88. I knew a Harry who I think is more deserving.
89. I knew and worked with Cr Green and I remember him as a very genuine and committed representative. It is good to hear he will be commemorated in this way.  
Kind regards  
██████████
90. I knew Brian during his term as president of the shire and he was a great bloke and a tireless worker for the shire snd his friendship spanned the whole community including his political opponents including me.

91. I most strongly object to this suggestion which would be laughable if it were not so offensive.



How could you consider an honour for a man who served in a council that failed in its basic public duties and responsibilities and as a consequence was dismissed by the state government for its failings.

I would point out this proposal has not been instigated by the community but by his family and as such should be ignored as irrelevant.

92. I oppose more signage clutter on footpaths and particularly do not support a mini hagiography on someone who received sufficient recognition by being voted in as Mayor 36 years ago.

I'm not being ungenerous, but he's already been appropriately recognised in several other ways as outlined in your proposal, so I can't understand why we need yet another acknowledgement.

The money would be better spent on upgrading the entrance to the boardwalk from the Curl Curl end which isn't wide enough, hence the vegetation has been degraded.

93. I presume there is no current name for this lookout
94. I say Yes, so long as you can also place a plaque with the Aboriginal people's local's name next to his plaque, on those viewing rocks. This plaque should also give words of acknowledgement to the parallel of community spirit to which the Aboriginal group would have lived by as they flourished in this area abundant in its foods and beauty. There should be a standard plaque designed by the Aboriginal people which befits such an acknowledgement of community spirit which we, Australia's abundant inhabitants, are now following and respectfully continuing to uphold in such dedication to community contribution.
95. I strongly support this proposal as Brian Green was an outstanding contributor to this area and this is a fitting and appropriate naming proposal.
96. I support a tribute to Brian Green, however, I think our Northern Beaches area should be focusing on indigenous names for locations as a priority. That is the location should be named more appropriately. This location may still have a tribute to Brian Green, especially if this was favourite place he liked to visit.
97. I support recognising a person who has contributed to community.

98. I support the the idea with reservations. Do more than just stick a sign there. Honestly, look at the whole area. The start is run down with out of date infrastructure. Return the South Curl Curl beach carpark area back to the cummunity for passive recreation, incorporate some meaningful public art, replace the fencing, more seating and shelter. Extend the the southern end through to Freshwater pool. When will the whole South Curl Curl Beach remodelling finally start? The walkway is a good idea but underdone. It needs immediate redesign and investment of capital.
99. I support this proposal BUT where are you up to with the Harry Elliffe walkway signage. Nothing to see yet!!
100. I think he did a lot for our harbord community . I would Like to see him Honoured in this way
101. I think it would be great to have an Indigenous name for this lovely spot - perhaps of the local tribe who lived here for 60000 years. Nothing against Mr Green but I do know that people are tired of council identities being immortalised in this way. They may be very good people but surely when not widely known or appreciated they do not warrant permanent recognition.
102. I think it's boring!  
A musical aboriginal name or something to do with the name curl curl or the ocean would be much more appealing  
Have his name engraved on a seat there
103. I think that places named after people become meaningless (to all but his family) within a very short space of time. By all means place a plaque there to thank Mr Green for his valuable service. We have numerous parks, buildings, lookouts with personal names and I think to myself 'who was he/she'. Make names meaningful.  
Public service is meant to be a reward in itself.
104. I think the Brain Green Lookout is the best name for this lookout.  
And it also need a plate to showing what he did great jobs for this area to honor such a great person who did so much great works for this be loved area.  
And, I cannot thinking what other new names can be better?
- Thank you.
105. I think the site should carry an indigenous name to celebrate the custodians of the land for over 60,000 years.  
I feel that future generations will feel awkward about another white anglo reference to the past especially as a local government rep when most of feel a deep mistrust of government at all levels.  
Do us and future generations a favour and put off the inevitable work required to rename sites such as this.
106. I think we need more names that have meaning for the people who frequent those areas. Something that reflects the landscape or the aboriginal history.  
  
My mother calls that lookout "Gratitude Lookout" because every time she walks past it she thinks "gosh I'm lucky". We have no idea who Brian Green is, as Im sure the majority of the Northern Beaches residents don't.
107. I think we need to use indigenous place names for reserves etc
108. I worked for Cr Green for many years as the Councillors Executive Assistant and have the highest regard for him and all he has done for the community.

109. I worked for Warringah Council under Brian Green as Mayor and always found him both supportive and well-informed about our work in youth and community services. He was always friendly, open and approachable and down-to-earth, but not afraid of making difficult decisions when needed. He has a distinguished record of community service and has made a significant contribution to the safety and well-being of northern beaches residents and visitors. I support this recognition of Brian's invaluable contribution to his community.
110. I would have a strong preference for the site to take a name which has meaning to First Nations people.
111. I would like the Council to stop giving permanent names to features that represent people from the past, and instead, to name things in a way that is meaningful to everyone in the present, no matter when that present is.

There are three reasons for this:

1) Many people contribute to the good things in our local areas, and many will do so in the future. Naming things after people from the past locks them in as being honoured over and above the people currently contributing or who will do so in the future. Names are essentially icons of ego. We should recognise that many people have, do and will contribute to our area and the reward for that is in the benefits that come with the contribution and the gratitude of those who are around at the time it's achieved. Memorialising certain people for all time privileges people from the past as if their contribution is somehow more important than others now or in the future.

2) Because naming is focused on people from the past, it's also disproportionately skewed towards (white) men. Indeed even in this email, there are three names in the headings for naming proposals, and all of them are anglo-sounding men's names. Names of privileged white men are plastered all over the place already. Enough!!

3) Names of places should be meaningful to people of all times, not just people from certain families (many of whom were privileged enough to be able to contribute in the ways they did, such as a mayor) or from certain time periods. Give places names that capture the essence of that place somehow, so that anyone from any time, who goes there can connect with it.

112. I would prefer an indigenous name for the lookout.
113. I would prefer these gorgeous places in our local area be named in a way that acknowledges and honors the Indigenous people, culture and history of the area.
114. I would prefer to see it named with an aboriginal name and perhaps have a bench or something similar in his honour.
115. I'd prefer a female to be chosen. So many places is named after men.
116. If the email by the resident in Carrington Pd Curl Curl is correct in relation to Brian Green's involvement in forcing amendments to a DA & costly court cases it is not appropriate.
117. If the mayor believes his own rhetoric "Discovering our past is so important to understand our beginnings" he would acknowledge the lookout is on Aboriginal land. Give it back the name it had before it was renamed by English invaders.
118. If you want to name it after someone 90% of the population don't know put a bench there with Brian Greens name on it.  
If you want to name it for the mental benefit and satisfaction of the the community I would suggest 'Come-together Point'.

119. I'm sure Mr Green is a lovely man. Sounds like a champion. But, as a member of the South Curl Curl Surf Lifesaving Club & swim club for 50 odd years, the naming doesn't seem to be based on the history of the area in question. I mean an indigenous name would be the first port of call surely. Wouldn't it? If not an indigenous name, then that of Howard Hansen the amazing swim coach & life member of South Curl Curl would seem appropriate. If Mr Green was a Freshwater SLSC Member then i'm sure there's a nice bit of grass, headland, water, a seat & a plaque you can put in Mr Harbords old habitat. Maybe the Brian Green Pool, Freshwater. Tremondous idea Kieran. Three cheers for that.

How bout this....the name Curl Curl may have been derived from a Dharuk Aboriginal phrase 'curial curial', meaning river of life! NOOOOO, STOP IT! Really? That's beautiful. A plaque with the history of our indigenous custodians of Curl Curl pre white civilisation. Pre Brian Green & Howard Hansen even.

And so the point was called - Curial Curial Lookout (River of Life).

I can hear the children asking their parents as they walk along the coastal trek, 'what's Curial Curial, Mummy & Daddy? What an amazing name. The parents read the history of the indigenous land owners of the Northern beaches, whilst the children look at beautiful aboriginal engravings that accompany the plaque with Curial Curial Lookout's name. Brass & sandstone sculptures of some of the original wildlife dot the Lookout. Or will the child ask, 'Mummy, who's Brian Green'? Mum 'No idea darling. Apparently he was a Freshwater fellow. Not sure why it's named after him? I think his family paid a goodly amount of cashola to the council in 2021, for a plaque and naming of the lookout. Sad isn't it' 'OH' The child walks away confused & despondent.

The name Brian Green Lookout, seems totally at odds with the location. I might get my family to lodge an application for moi, if that's what drives naming things. What a white, upper class privileged concept. But then again, the Northern Beaches Council don't seem to have had too much to say about the loss of our iconic Freshwater Class Ferry's either. 160 years of history disappearing before our very eyes. And what do you have to say? NUTHIN!

Anyway, congratulations on naming the South Curl Curl headland - Curial Curial Lookout. You've done exactly what was appropriate and correct. Hoorah!

120. In a few years no one will know who Brian Green was.
121. Inappropriate!
122. It is well deserved recognition of community work by Brian in his time with Council and in the community generally.
123. It needs to have a description in this request for feedback, on what projects he has done for the community. I live in here for 8 years now and never heard of him. Knowing what he supported the community with, would make it easier to decide if he deserves it or not.
124. It seems he was a member of Freshwater SLSC, somewhere around that area would be more appropriate to have an area dedicated to him.  
I would also think that there have been many Mayors of Warringah and NB councils that have been sitting for longer than 4 yrs and as a part of that, lead and deliver, as expected, many projects within their time.
125. It should be a name reflecting the local aboriginal place name for this area.
126. It should be given an aboriginal name related to water or ocean .
127. It should be named the original true Aboriginal name or another Aboriginal name that have been in existence for thousands of years. Not just three or four years

128. It's not that Mr Green is not deserving, but I would like to see what other options were available particularly under recognised women in the area and perhaps an indigenous element. Enough things are named after well meaning blokes.
129. Let's stop naming places after non indigenous men& start giving further recognition to First Nations people by having an Indigenous name.
130. Lovely local man, deserving and appropriate
131. Lovely man who mixed well with everybody and worked hard over a long time for the northern beaches.
132. Mr Brian Green served the community in many ways for a long period of time. The spot is appropriate too as he was instrumental in achieving the vision of the walkway around the headland.
133. Mr Green's service is noted of course but at the end of the day he's just a public servant that benefited from the public purse and was part of what was a woeful council that ended bankrupt. Hardly a fitting person to name such a beautiful look after! How about naming it after one of our threatened N Beaches animals, such as the Loggerhead Turtle, to help raise awareness of the natural environment around us?
134. Much prefer something recognising indigenous history of the area.
135. Name it after Howard Hansen who taught hundreds of kids how to swim in that pool
136. Naming it simply South Curl Curl lookout, if it needs a name, would be simpler. There have clearly been many people who have contributed to the Northern Beaches community over many years and I do not think it is right to single out individuals for naming rights.
137. Naming public domain with names of local elected politicians is not appropriate irrespective of how good the individual's past contribution to the community has been.
138. No need for that
139. Oh for goodness sake ridiculous!!!!!!
140. Ok. I guess, but why is it politicians compared to other important people in the community or an indigenous name.
141. Only question is why isn't he overlooking Freshwater not Sth Curl Curl. Maybe name it after a prominent Curlie resident.
142. Perhaps it would add more relevance to the site if were named after a local family or family member. Two names are prominent in the history of curly; Buckingham (Bruce) and the Macpherson brothers, all of which are life members at south curly.  
Thanks for you time.
143. Please could we have some recognition of Aboriginal sites. We have of many of recent Mayors etc.  
There is wonderful sketch by William R Govett of Aborigines fishing on Northern Beaches coastline, which looks very like Curl Curl. It is in The work of early surveyors in Manly, Warringah and Pittwater by Shelagh Champion.  
For information on aboriginal sites and practices please see other books by Shelagh based on early European descriptions of their exploration on the northern beaches.  
Please work with local land council on this idea.  
Local studies experts in Northern Beaches libraries could also assist  
Thank you  
[REDACTED]
144. Please liaise with our local aboriginal elders for suitable names.
145. Please use an Aboriginal name place. For suggestions contact the Aboriginal Cultural Centre Freshwater.
146. Prefer an aboriginal name for the area
147. Prefer another person who has contributed in local area e.g. Surf Life Saving, Local sporting achievers, Layne Beachley..

148. Private and Confidential -Without Prejudice
- [REDACTED]
149. Proposed by his family NOT by community!
150. Regardless of his prowess as a Councillor, unless he donated the land (which is not the case) lets recognise the point for what it is  
Weve already too many recognitions for past councillors who are long forgotten, as most should be
151. Should be an Aboriginal name to partly redress wrongs against our First Nation peoples and acknowledge our joint history
152. Should be named an Aboriginal name. From the land owners of this area, Warringah..
153. Should change second sentence of second paragraph from "is a lifelong resident" to "was a lifelong resident".

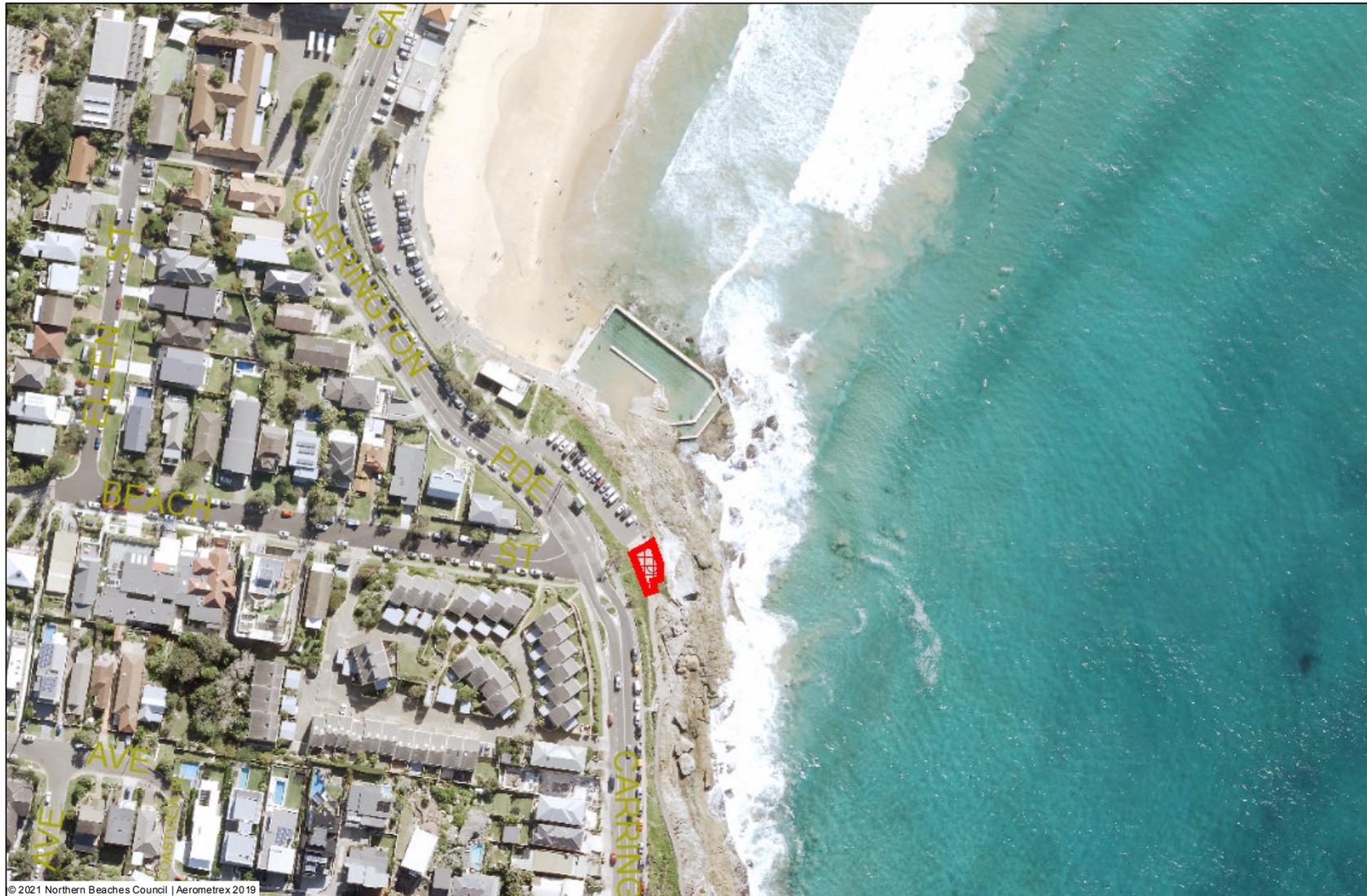
The proposal is in recognition of Mr Green's service and commitment to the community and local government throughout his tenure within Warringah Council. He is a lifelong resident of the Northern Beaches and played an integral role in the initiation and delivery of projects and programs that were of benefit to our community.

154. Should have a aboriginal name.
155. Sincerely support such worthy recognition and honour to Mr Brian Green for his excellent contributions, initiatives and leaderships over the years. It is a privilege to remember and leave such a ongoing remembering of a legacy left unknown otherwise. Take our support as we are such blessed migrant residents of Northern Beaches
156. Sorry but too many personal names of features and streets. Prefer a geographic , aboriginal or nautical name appropriate to the location.
157. Sounds like he had plenty recognition during his life, I don't think it's really necessary to name this after him. There's plenty of deserving people who don't get any recognition for their contributions to our society. Would this man have the awards and recognition he was given if he didn't have a public profile?
158. That location is a special and very beloved site, and to be honest I would rather it not be "named" after yet another relatively unexceptional white male for doing an adequate job. I would find that annoying at best and a bit offensive at worst.
159. The lookout is a beautiful spot, and I do not think that naming it after a man who was mayor for a number of years is a good choice.  
It seems very uninspired and colonial in some respects to name it after a man. How about an Aboriginal name or something in nature like Dolphin Lookout, as it is a great spot to see dolphins?
160. The lookout is at Sth Curly and should be named after a Sth Curly boy. DG Jones would be more appropriate as Darren is a former Mayor of Warringah Shire Council and long standing advocate for the area, he is also a former Sth Curly surf club captain, Honour Blazer recipient and current Life Member.  
The lookout at Freshwater Point would be more appropriate to be named after Brian Green as it is adjacent to his former home and I believe that his family requested a reserve in the Freshwater area be named in his honour.
161. The pool should have either an Aboriginal name as does the suburb Curl Curl or alternatively the name of a prominent Swimming instructor at the pool for many years, Bill Rock.
- [REDACTED]

162. There area does not need a name. we have enough signs.  
There are lots of councilors who do a good job, which is what they are paid for.  
If named it should not be names after a councilor
163. This application has been made by the Green family. It has not been endorsed or indeed proposed by the local community. Any 'naming' proposal to honour a member of the community surely cannot be initiated by the family - rather the it should be from those, whom Mr Green served, proposing recognition.
164. This is an ideal opportunity to name the lookout in recognition of Country. The first point of reference for naming should be Country and Aboriginal connection.
165. This kind of jumped out at me as I was reasonably sure there was "an area" named after Brian Green at the Northern end of Newport ? Might be worth double checking.
- Cheers [REDACTED]
166. This proposal from Mr Green's family ignores the fact that this man was a member of a council that was dismissed for failing in its duties to the ratepayers of Warringah. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] This proposal is outrageous and the lookout should be given an aboriginal name to honour its origin if it needs a name at all. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
167. Throughout his life, Brian Green has proven to be an outstanding member of the Northern Beaches community. He has never been one to sit idly by and leave making an active contribution to others. He has dedicated many years to being directly involved in serving the community by taking on the demanding roles of both local Councillor and Emeritus Mayor over a number of years. Brian has always had a deep love for the local area and has an obvious passionate appreciation for the innate beauty of the local environment. He has maintained an ongoing desire to protect all aspects of our native flora and fauna and remains committed to working towards the maintenance and enhancement of the local natural environment. Throughout his time on Council, Brian remained consistently committed to professionally representing the wishes of all his constituents. I believe that the naming of the area above the South Curl Curl Rockpool The Brian Green Lookout would be extremely appropriate.
168. Use an aboriginal name  
A pathetic choice
169. very appropriate and fitting.
170. Very much appreciate the service of former Mayors and Surf Club members, though think it is not a good precedent to name places after them. Perhaps an original Aboriginal name?
171. We already have too high a proportion of anglicised names of our Reserves, Facilities and Roads. There should be a greater number of indigenous names to acknowledge that aspect of our history.
172. We need more places named after traditional place names and Aboriginal people. We also need more places named after women and minorities. We need to move on from everything revolving around pasty white British male descendants.
173. We should be consulting local indigenous people and giving these areas aboriginal names. There are far too many areas named after various councillors etc. Time we resurrected our Aboriginal heritage and named areas accordingly.
174. We walk at Curl Curl every weekend and have for 40 years
175. Well deserved.

176. What about the traditional aboriginal name for the area?
177. Where there are opportunities to ascribe names to things and places within our community we should look for inspiration from the indigenous language first. Indigenous place names are few and far between compared to place names for rich, old, white men.
178. While I admired Cllr. GREEN and respect the life of dedication to the people of the Northern beaches I think the name should reflect the first nation people and their history.
179. While I remember Brian Green as a very worthy person and an excellent mayor, it is my belief that prominent areas such as lookouts etc be given indigenous names in honour of those who came before us and whose spirits inhabit this land. Compare the Arabanoo Lookout at Dobroyd Head( Dobroyd incidentally should also be renamed - hardly anyone would know who Dobroyd was but they certainly know about Arabanoo). Many people, including myself after a swim at Curl Curl, love to stand there looking out over the water and giving an indigenous name to the place helps to remind us of those who stood there maybe 12, 000 years ago and gazed out at the same place.
180. Whilst Mr Green has undoubtedly contributed to the the local area, it might be more forward thinking to allow Mr Green's family to partner with a local first nation community and have both parties pick a name of meaning together. Recognising the work that has been done for the local community by Mr Green whilst acknowledging reconciliation and the original community of the land.
181. Whilst Mr Green was a valued member of the community and an accomplished mayor, it would seem more fitting to award the site an Indigenous name, in recognition of its original inhabitants. Many of the parks/reserves in the area have been named after prominent settlers, but not after the first inhabitants. Perhaps that should begin to change.
182. Why does everything need to be named after someone???
183. why not?
184. Why waste heaps of money with a useless name change.
- Leave it as is.
185. With all respect for Mr Greens family, I don't feel we have to name lookouts after council members or life savers who patrolled at Freshwater. There are too many of them for that and what makes one more important than another, they all do a good job at the time so it's not possible to cherry pick one.
- I think the lookout could have a more spiritual name that everyone can relate to. It has beautiful sunrises and maybe a lookout for dolphins and Whales. Maybe Mamang (aboriginal for Whale) or Europa for sun.
186. With his connection with Freshwater SLSC for 50 years would it be more appropriate to have a memorial over looking Freshwater Beach.
187. Would much prefer a name from the first Australians. There are not many streets or areas in the district acknowledging their impact in the area that lasted much longer than a couple of years.  
Further the name Brian Green does not have much of a ring or flow to it.
188. Yes - Brian Green contributed a lot to our community this is a fitting tribute.
189. Yes, Brian Green did a lot for Warringah during his term in office and as a local resident this would be appropriate recognition of his service.
190. You're kidding.

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Location of area proposed to be named Brian Green Lookout

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## Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

### Proposal to name the enclosed dog off-leash area at the northern end of Forestville War Memorial Fields the Purple Poppy Dog Park

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## 1. Summary

This report outlines the outcomes of community and stakeholder engagement as part of a proposal to name the existing enclosed dog off-leash area at the northern end of Forestville War Memorial Fields the Purple Poppy Dog Park. The proposal is in response to an application made by the Forestville RSL sub-branch. The purple poppy was introduced to Australia by the Australian War Animal Memorial Organisation in 2013 as the emblem to recognise the deeds and sacrifices made by animals during wartime.

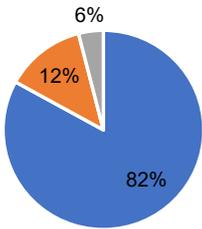
The proposed name is in keeping with the War Memorial theme of the reserve, including aligning with the name of the playground in the reserve known as Poppy Park.

The feedback collected during consultation indicated a high level of support for the proposal to rename the dog off-leash area at Forestville War Memorial Fields as the Purple Poppy Dog Park, citing that the proposed name was appropriate in that it recognises and commemorates the role of animals in war particularly dogs.

Feedback also suggested that there should be more Purple Poppy Dog Parks.

Some respondents who were not supportive of the proposal felt that an alternative name would be more appropriate, for example, an Aboriginal name, an alternative military or dog related name, or that the informal name Forestville Dog Off-Leash Area should be retained. One respondent was concerned about noise and another suggested a plaque be erected instead.

### 1.1. Key outcomes

 Total unique responses	50*	
 How responses were received	Submission form Submission outside of Your Say	Completions: 46 Emails: 4
 Online sentiment question: Do you support the naming proposal - Purple Poppy Dog Park?	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: blue;">■</span> Support</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">■</span> Don't support</li> <li><span style="color: grey;">■</span> Neutral/undetermined</li> </ul> <p>Total responses = 50</p> </div>	

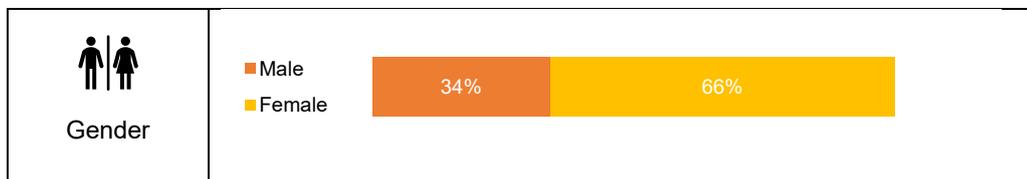
\*Not every respondent made a comment in addition to answering the sentiment question

 Feedback themes	Support for the proposed name  Suggestion for a plaque to be installed instead	Other suggested names  Preference for an Indigenous name  Concerns about noise
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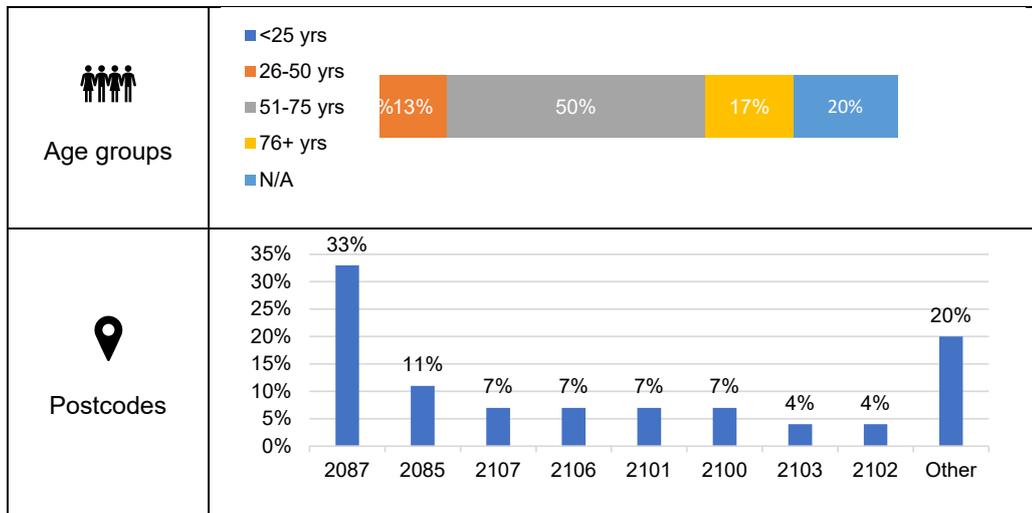
### 1.2. How we engaged

 Have Your Say: visitation stats	Visitors: 354	Visits: 430	Average time onsite: 2mins 16secs
 Print media and collateral	Letterbox drop: surrounding residents	Site signs used:	Distribution: 150
	Media release:		Distribution: 2
			Distribution: 26
 Electronic direct mail (EDM)	Community Engagement (fortnightly) newsletter: 1 edition	Stakeholder email:	Distribution: 22,000 subscribers
			Stakeholder: 1

### 1.3. Who responded<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Demographic data was gathered by request only. The data represented only includes those respondents who provided this detail.



## 2. Background

An application was received from the Forestville RSL sub-Branch to name the existing enclosed dog off-leash area at the northern end of Forestville War Memorial Playing Fields, the Purple Poppy Dog Park. This off-leash area is informally referred to as the Forestville Dog Off-Leash Area and has no time restrictions.

The purple poppy was as introduced to Australia by the Australian War Animal Memorial Organisation in 2013 as the emblem to recognise the deeds and sacrifices animals have made and continue to make during wartime.

This name is in keeping with the War Memorial theme of the reserve as it is located within the Forestville War Memorial Playing Fields. The playground is also known as Poppy Park.

The proposal is aligned with Council’s Policy for the Naming of our Reserves, Facilities and Roads.

The project’s impact is assessed as level four in accordance with the Northern Beaches Council Community Engagement Matrix, resulting in a community engagement process devised on a single staged approach.

## 3. Engagement objectives

This community and stakeholder engagement aimed to:

- build community and stakeholder awareness of participation activities
- provide accessible information so community and stakeholders can participate in a meaningful way
- identify community and stakeholder concerns, local knowledge and values
- seek out and facilitate the involvement of those affected by or interested in a project

#### 4. Engagement approach

Community and stakeholder engagement for the proposal to rename the dog off-leash area at Forestville War Memorial Fields, Purple Poppy Dog Park, was conducted between 6 May to 5 June 2022, and provided opportunities for community and stakeholders to contribute.

The engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's [Community Engagement Matrix](#) (2017).

A project page was established on our have your say platform with information provided in an accessible and easy to read format.

The project was primarily promoted through onsite signage, Have Your Say project page, resident and stakeholder notifications, letterbox drop to nearby homes, Council's E-News and our Have Your Say community engagement newsletter.

Feedback was captured through an online submission form embedded onto the Have Your Say project page. The form included a question that directly asked respondents about their support or otherwise on the proposal.

An open-field comments box provided community members a space to explain or elaborate on their support, not support or neutral sentiment as well as any other feedback they wished to contribute.

Email and written submissions were also invited.

#### 5. Findings

50 submissions were received in total. Of these 82% supported the proposal to name the dog off-leash area at Forestville War Memorial Fields the Purple Poppy Dog Park. The majority of the submissions supported the proposed name and commented that it is an appropriate name that recognises and commemorates the role of animals in wars.

12% of submissions were not supportive of the proposal. These submissions commented that the area should have an alternate name, or that the existing informal name of Forestville Dog Off-Leash Area should be kept. Alternate suggestions included: to be named after the original Aboriginal name, to be named Military Animals Memorial Park or Memorial Park to Military Animals, Purple Poppy Off-leash Park, Forestville Purple Poppy Off-leash Park or to be named after the most decorated Australian dog in peace or war, or both. One respondent was concerned about noise and another suggested the installation of a plaque.

6% of submissions received were neutral.

**Table 1: Issues, change requests and other considerations, Council's response**

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Issues, change requests and other considerations raised</b>	<b>Council's response</b>
Like the proposed name	Majority of the comments supported the name change saying it is an appropriate name that recognises and commemorates the role of animals in wars.	This naming proposal is consistent with Council's Naming our Reserves, Facilities and Roads Policy.  In this instance it is considered that the naming proposal is appropriate given the name is in keeping with the War Memorial theme of the reserve and aligns with the name of the playground in the reserve known as Poppy Park.
Preference for another name	Some comments suggested other names: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Military Animals Memorial Park or Memorial Park to Military Animals</li> <li>• Forestville Dog Off-Leash Area</li> <li>• Purple Poppy Off-leash Park</li> <li>• Forestville Purple Poppy Off-leash Park</li> </ul> Or that it is named after the most decorated Australian dog in peace or war, or both.	Our consultation process provides an opportunity for the community to indicate their level of support or non-support for suggested name.  While the comments provided are reasonable, the overwhelming support provided for the proposed name indicates that most consider it suitable.
Preference for an Indigenous name	One comment suggested the area be called the original Aboriginal name or another Aboriginal name as per Council's policy.	The Naming our Reserves, Facilities and Roads Policy provides guidance about and preference to the use of Aboriginal names particularly for parks and natural areas.  In this instance it is considered that the naming proposal is appropriate given the significance of the proposed name to the RSL and the support for the proposal.
Noise concern	One respondent was concerned about noise from the existing use of the park by dogs and their owners.	This is not a new park and no additional noise is expected.
Install a plaque	One respondent suggested a small bronze plaque could be installed rather than changing the name.	While the comments provided are reasonable, the overwhelming support provided would indicate that most consider the proposed naming as suitable.
Why purple poppies?	One respondent queried the proposed name	The purple poppy signifies recognition of the deeds and

		sacrifices animals make during wartime.
Time restrictions	One respondent queried the time restrictions	No time restrictions are proposed.

## Appendix 1 Verbatim community and stakeholder responses\*

Number	Submission
59682	Great idea
59584	I think this is a brilliant idea.
59583	Dogs in war were very important. lets show our respect.
59541	I think it's a wonderful idea.
59443	Although I live in Forestville, I never realised this dog off-leash area existed. Given its relationship with the Forestville RSL, I feel the Purple Poppy Park name is very appropriate.
59285	Beautiful, meaningful name
59228	That is a great name. Did not know field existed. It is not much use to anyone if it is only available between 10pm!!!!!! and 8 am. Is it safe to do dog walking at that time of night as there are quite a few unruly teenagers around wandering and causing problems.
59223	I think the naming and the reason behind the name, is an excellent idea.
59221	Renaming the dog park "purple poppy" complements the the children's playground which was renamed "poppy park" previously. Red poppy sculptures are part of the play equipment. It also denotes children being taken to the playground by their pops.
59214	Maybe add the word TINY to this parks title - it is ridiculously small to serve the dogs and dog owners of Forestville
59212	Please call it Forestville Purple Poppy Off-leash Park. It should be an area for everyone, not just dogs and dog owners.  I am glad it is not named after a person. There's a trend to name everything after someone and I think that the Council should move away from this. I know it's nice to honour people but!...Qantas, until recently, would not name their aircraft after people. Why? Because dead men do tell tales. Instead, planes were named "City of...". Why not name the dog areas after the location? Bayview Dog Off-leash area, Careel Bay Off-leash area. Or the delightful Forestville Purple Poppy Off-leash Park. What a delightful, imaginative name.
59204	In corporations Purple Poppy into the name would be an appropriate name choice for the park given its location. Could it be the Forestville Purple Poppy Dog Park allowing for the possibility of more dog parks being able to include Purple Poppy in their name to recognise animals in wartime?
59187	Instead of Purple Poppy Dog Park, please name it Purple Poppy Off-leash Area. The descriptor *Dog Park* imputes an exclusive use, which is not intended. It is a shared-use area, which happens to permit off-leash use as well. We don't need place names that serve to segregate sections of our community, or give the appearance of intending this.
59141	I think all animals lost in war times should be remembered. I wear a purple poppy with pride every year when I lay the wreath at Terrey Hills .
59133	Perfect name. I fully support this name proposal as a way to honour the animals who have fought beside us in wars and raise awareness in our community.
59111	What a great name to remember the service of dogs during our wars.
59093	It is a very silly name- Forestville Dog Off-Leash Area. is much more reflective of the area. This whole submission and process is a waste of council/ratepayers funds for a ridiculous name.
59074	Think it's a great idea
59072	Before reading the rationale for the name I saw it as being as ridiculous as the earlier ferry proposal "Boaty McBoat Face" with the additional insult of misspelling "puppy". Now knowing the background, I can see the proposal's relevance. However, for the majority to have some hope of similar appreciation, it needs punctuation: "Purple Poppy" Dog Park would give half a chance to we who are ignorant of the origin.
59063	A wonderful idea to honour the dogs for deeds and sacrifices made in Australian military service.

\*Personal details and inappropriate language have been redacted where possible. Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused.

59059	This is a wonderful and creative initiative, most appropriately named as the Purple Poppy Dog Park, for this off-leash dog area, within the Forestville War Memorial Playing Fields, in addition to the existing Poppy Park with playground facilities for children and their carers. This initiative has further application with other dog parks around the Northern Beaches, and elsewhere throughout NSW. Northern Beaches Council can lead the way!
58907	<p>What a mouth full for a start; It could be named the Purple Poppy Puppy Park. In all seriousness perhaps a more inclusive name such as ' Military Animals Memorial Park' or 'Memorial park to Military animals'</p> <p>A small bronze plaque could be easily and cost effectively dedicated at the site: (Words such as...- example:) "The 'Forestville off leash Dog Park' is dedicated to the remembrance of all animals who have serve alongside the military in peace time and war. The Purple Poppy is a unique symbol dedicated to the remembrance of all military animal and their handlers "</p>
58885	<p>This dog park was installed against the wishes of local residents. A petition was delivered to the Council at the time it was proposed - but ignored.</p> <p>I don't see any wisdom in building a noisy dog park right next to an over 55;s complex, or any residential dwellings.</p> <p>It has been a nuisance for adjoining residents since it was established and complaints have been made. The Council did try to alleviate some of the issues by putting up a notice advising dog owners how to behave, however, this has had limited effect and a nuisance still persists.</p> <p>Mainly, the noise of barking dogs early in the morning and owners shouting either at the dogs, or each other - as many dogs are apparently untrained and annoying other animals.</p> <p>Dog walking companies also make use of the park and simply let several dogs loose at once - often with attendant mayhem.</p> <p>Whilst I applaud the idea of naming a dog park in honour of the contribution trained dogs have made in military service, this just adds insult to adjoining residents who have to put up the nuisance the park currently creates.</p> <p>I'm sure that handlers of trained military dogs would be dismayed at the behaviour of dogs and their owners in the park currently.</p> <p>I live in the adjacent over 55's complex.</p>
58879	<p>It was interesting to learn the significance of the purple poppy and we are in support of the name.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Forestville</p>
58757	I believe this is a very worthwhile proposal to recognise Dogs in War
58278	Wonderful idea!
58274	It would be a FAR better use of time &/or money to actually make the dog park a place we would want to take our dog. It's an awful place - it's either a dust bowl or a quagmire. And to mow the dog park in Currie Rd would be VERY helpful. Last time we went it was unusable. So few dog specific places in this LGA. Pathetic really.
58268	It should be called the original Aboriginal name that is the correct name or another Aboriginal name as per council policy for renaming.
58143	Commemorating the sacrifice animals have made in Defence of Australia is entirely appropriate and naming an existing dog park as the Purple Poppy Dog Park makes sense. It has even more meaning given it lies within the existing Forestville War Memorial Playing Fields precinct and is close to the Poppy Park Children's Play area.
58131	A very appropriate suggestion in recognition of the role various animals have contributed to our war efforts.
58114	A good acknowledgement of the contribution of animals to all of our lives. A lovely idea.
58064	This would be fitting recognition of the sacrifice that animals have made in war.

58061	This is a wonderful initiative, and an opportunity to commemorate animals at war, specifically dogs in this case, in conjunction with the existing Poppy Park for children and parents elsewhere in the FWMPF. It is also the opportunity to establish more Purple Poppy Dog Parks elsewhere on the Northern Beaches, as a precursor to NBC being the leader/initiator in spreading this creative initiative elsewhere in NSW and throughout Australia, in conjunction with and through other RSL sub-Branches. Thanks NBC for leading the way! Congratulations!
58059	I think it's a wonderful gesture by Forestville RSL sub-Branch suggesting that naming this dog off-leash area as the Purple Poppy Dog Park, from my perspective it's an appropriate recognition of the deeds and sacrifice dogs have made during Australian military service. Every time people exercise their dogs in this off-leash area they will be reminded of sacrifices made by past service people and dogs so that we can enjoy the freedom we have today.

**Comments Received Outside of YourSay**

1	<p>Supportive</p> <p>Firstly what a wonderful idea. Best of all, this park would be at the end of Forestville Avenue, my street address, as is the RSL Club.</p> <p>I, therefore consider, that this park should be named after the most decorated Australian dog in peace or war, or both. Dogs have been used by our military in both world wars, Vietnam and the Middle East as bomb detectors, trackers and guards. Our police dogs are invaluable in a variety of situations. Dogs in these services have lost their lives in the line of duty, and should, without doubt, be recognized.</p> <p>I hope my proposal will come to fruition.</p>
2	Why purple? Poppies are mostly red or yellow. Purple poppies are opium poppies.

**Document administration**

Version	1.0
Date	26 9 2022
Approval	Content provided and approved by Open Space and Recreational Planning Team Manager
Status	Final
Notes	Community and stakeholder views contained in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Beaches Council or indicate a commitment to a particular course of action.



Enclosed dog off-leash area  
proposed to be called the  
**Purple Poppy Dog Park**

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beaches  
council

**Enclosed dog off-leash area, Forestville**

Scale (A4) - 1:2,600  
GDN of HGA Zone 5G  
Date Printed: 2/02/2022  
Produced by: Spatial Information



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## Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

### Proposal to rename Undercliff Reserve, Freshwater, Irene Crump Reserve

**Notification period:** 27 May 2022 to 26 June 2022

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## 1. Summary

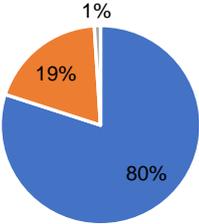
This report outlines the outcomes of community and stakeholder engagement for the proposal to rename Undercliff Reserve in Freshwater to Irene Crump Reserve. The proposal seeks to recognise the outstanding contribution made by Irene Crump in securing public ownership of the reserve and saving it from private development in 1970.

The proposal is in response to an application made to Northern Beaches Council by Friends of Freshwater Inc. to rename the reserve in honour of Irene Crump and her environmental advocacy.

The proposal was publicly exhibited from 27 May to Sunday 26 June 2022. 127 submissions were received with a high level of support expressed for the proposed name change (80% supportive).

Of those that were not supportive, some respondents preferred an Indigenous name or for the name to remain as it is.

### 1.1. Key outcomes

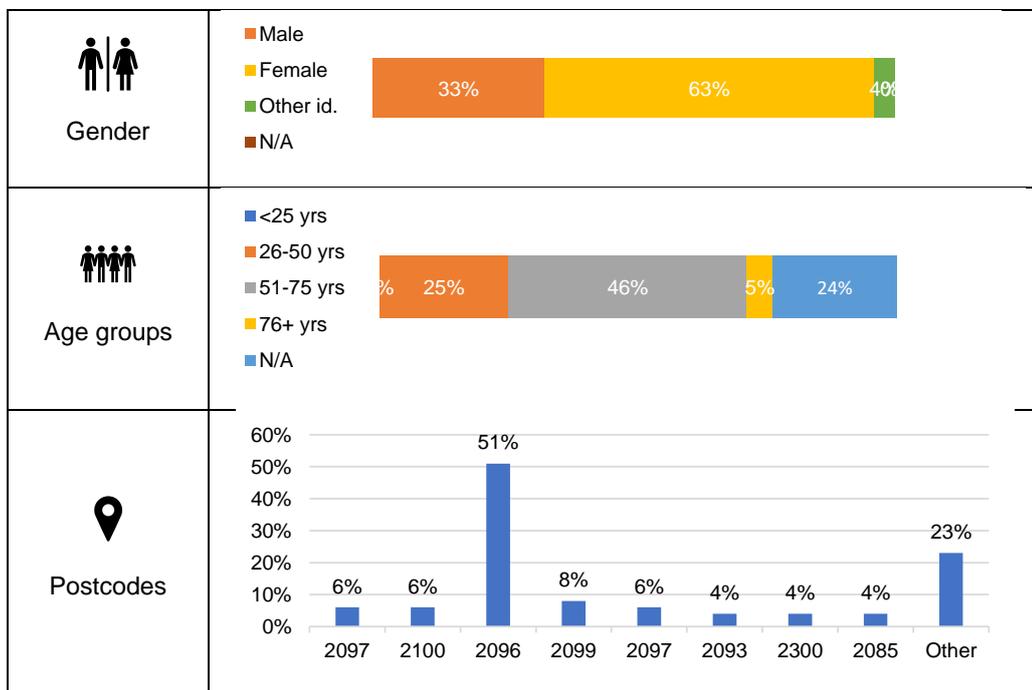
 Total unique responses	127*	
 How responses were received	Submission form Written responses (email/letter)	Completions: 123 Number received: 4
 Online sentiment question: Do you support the renaming proposal?	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>                     ■ Support                      ■ Support with changes                      ■ Neutral/undetermined                 </p> <p>Total responses = 127</p> </div>	
 Feedback themes	Great way to recognise a local hero Prefer an Indigenous name Like the current name	A plaque is enough recognition Waste of Council funds Other suggested names

\*Not every respondent made a comment in addition to answering the sentiment question

### 1.2. How we engaged

 Have Your Say: visitation stats	Visitors: 526	Visits: 645	Average time onsite: 2mins 23secs
 Print media and collateral	Letterbox drop: 2096  Site signs used:		Distribution: 150  Number of signs: 3
 Electronic direct mail (EDM)	Community Engagement (fortnightly) newsletter: 1 edition  Council (weekly) e-News: 1 edition  Stakeholder email:		Distribution: 23,000 subscribers  Distribution: 180,000 subscribers  1

### 1.3. Who responded<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Demographic data was gathered by request only. The data represented only includes those respondents who provided this detail.

## 2. Background

Council received an application from Friends of Freshwater Inc. to rename Undercliff Reserve in Freshwater, Irene Crump Reserve. The proposal aims to recognise the outstanding contribution made by Irene Crump in securing public ownership of the reserve and saving it from private development. The naming will also acknowledge Irene Crump's contribution to the community as a prominent environmental advocate and leader for over four decades.

The proposal is consistent with the Geographical Names Board of NSW Policy – Place Naming as well as Council's Policy for the Naming of our Reserves, Facilities and Roads. For Council to submit a naming proposal to the Geographical Names Board of NSW, a Council resolution is required, and evidence community input has been sought.

The project's impact is assessed as level four in accordance with the Northern Beaches Council Community Engagement Matrix, resulting in a community engagement process devised on a single staged approach.

## 3. Engagement objectives

Community and stakeholder engagement aimed to:

- build community and stakeholder awareness of participation activities
- provide accessible information so community and stakeholders can participate in a meaningful way
- identify community and stakeholder concerns, local knowledge and values
- seek out and facilitate the involvement of those affected by or interested in a project

## 4. Engagement approach

Community and stakeholder engagement for the proposal to rename Undercliff Reserve in Freshwater to Irene Crump Reserve was conducted between 27 May to 26 June 2022. Consultation consisted of providing an opportunity for community and stakeholders to contribute.

The engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's [Community Engagement Matrix](#) (2017).

A project page was established on our have your say platform with information provided in an accessible and easy to read format.

The project was primarily promoted through onsite signage, resident and stakeholder notifications, Council's E-News and our Have Your Say community engagement newsletter.

Feedback was captured through an online submission form embedded onto the have your say project page. The form included a question that directly asked respondents for their level of support on the proposal.

An open-field comments box provided community members a space to explain or elaborate on their support, not support or neutral sentiment as well as any other feedback they wished to contribute.

Email and written submissions were also accepted.

## 5. Findings

127 submissions were received in total. Of these, 80 percent support the proposal in recognition of the contribution made by Irene Crump in securing public ownership of the reserve and saving it from private development.

19 percent did not support the proposal, with some preferring we consider an Indigenous name to recognise the traditional owners of the land. Some respondents also indicated they would prefer the name remains Undercliff Reserve as it better describes the area and remains neutral. A further one percent of respondents were neutral on the proposed renaming of the reserve.

Table 1 outlines the key themes raised during consultation and Council's response.

**Table 1: Issues, change requests and other considerations**

Theme	Issues, change requests and other considerations raised	Council's response
Fitting tribute to Irene	Majority of the comments supported the name change saying it is a fitting tribute to Irene and a deserving honour for a woman who did so much for the local area.	This naming proposal is consistent with Council's Naming our Reserves, Facilities and Roads Policy.  In this instance it is considered that the naming proposal is appropriate given the significant contributions by Irene Crump to the Northern Beaches community.
Preference for a First Nations name.	Some comments mentioned the land is Aboriginal land and renaming should recognise the country in which it is located and pay respects to the First Nation custodians of the land, water and sky.	This naming proposal is consistent with Council's Naming our Reserves, Facilities and Roads Policy.  In this instance it is considered that the naming proposal is appropriate given the significant contributions by Irene Crump to the Northern Beaches community.  The Policy provides guidance about a preference to use Aboriginal names particularly for parks and natural areas.
Prefer current name	Some comments preferred the current name stating that Undercliff Reserve makes geographic sense, and the current name better describes the location being on Undercliff Street.	Our consultation process provides an opportunity for the community to indicate their level of support or non-support for suggested namings.  While the comments provided are reasonable, the overwhelming support provided would indicate that most consider the proposed naming as suitable.

<p>A plaque is enough recognition</p>	<p>Some comments requested that the name remains as is and suggested that a plaque recognising the work done by Irene Crump to protect the reserve is sufficient.</p>	<p>Our consultation process provides an opportunity for the community to indicate their level of support or non-support for suggested namings.</p> <p>While the comments provided are reasonable, the overwhelming support provided would indicate that most consider the proposed naming as suitable.</p>
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## Appendix 1 Verbatim community and stakeholder responses\*

Comments from Your Say	
60148	Irene was instrumental in the initial stages of having this land set aside for the benefit of the whole community.
60147	A wonderful name to be remembered appropriately
60146	I strongly support this proposal as it recognises a truly significant community member for all of her contributions to our community and particularly her efforts to preserve the natural beauty and public access to this important part of our local environment.
60144	Irene Crump was an amazing women and I am grateful for her work to protect the beautiful reserve. I wonder if renaming the reserve, at a time when our country will finally fly the aboriginal flag on the harbour bridge permanently, is tone deaf in the current climate. Personally, I would love to see the traditional owners of the land recognized in any renaming.
60143	Because she stood against progress to destroy the beach area with concrete! Thank you Irene for leaving such a legacy.
60141	Upon hearing what Irene did in helping to preserve the reserve I support the change of name.
60138	No disrespect to Irene Crump but the current name has a much better ring to it.
60137	A wonderful teacher in the local community who fought to maintain this area as a reserve and as such this area should be named after her.
60133	As Irene Crump saved this space now at the southern end of Freshwater beach for every one it is only fitting it should be renamed in her honour. [REDACTED]
60131	She was an inspirational figure in harbord and deserves this recognition.
60130	I live in Freshwater. I support this proposal and think it's a great way to pay tribute to her and the contribution she made.
60129	I think is a great way to acknowledge what Irene achieved, the area is something that get to enjoy every day . It is her reserve , she saved it from what would have been an eyesore development. What a women, she needs to be celebrated!
60128	Do not support. Would prefer it remains as Undercliff reserve.
60126	The actions taken by Irene Crump on behalf of the community and future generations are inspiring.
60125	Irene is my grandmother and I unreservedly support the proposal - Irene not only loved the Freshwater beach and all the children who came through her nursery but also the whole of the Northern Beaches and was passionate about the egalitarian nature Australian beaches as places where everyone had equal rights to the joy of the salt sand waves.
60124	This land should not to be named after an individual. A renaming should be one that recognises the country in which it is on and pay respects to the First Nation custodians of the land, water and sky of the area. Always was, always will be. There is very little representing if Aboriginal First Nations in the area, and a renaming of the area to a First Nations local language name would pave the future for inclusion and reconciliation by council.

\*Personal details and inappropriate language have been redacted where possible. Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused.

60123	I am pleased to support the name change as it is a reminder of the gallant stance that was taken by Irene Crump to stop inappropriate development and save the southern area of Freshwater Beach for future generations.
60117	I love what Irene has done and are grateful. However, I would prefer the name to remain or be changed to a name from the Aboriginal language of the area.
60114	It is imperative that the reserve remains public land and renaming it Irene Crump Reserve would be an excellent proposal. Irene Crump an environmental advocate deserves recognition .
60073	The rock carving is a prominent feature, reflected by the fairy garden nearby.  I proposed to rename the reserve:  The fairy king garden  It brings so much joy and magic and positivity and wonder to kids and families of freshwater.  It will also become a draw card for visitors to the area
60027	Undercliff makes geography sense to me. Sorry Crump doesn't. It's a reserve I walk through most days and I admire the cliffs. The current name simple, dignified and appropriate. Recommend Irene and the many others that maintain this reserve for an order of Australia. I doubt they do their good work to have places named after them.
60011	also, her outstanding contribution to Harbord Kindergarten
60006	Open public space has immense value. Once it's gone it's gone forever. The protection of this space should be celebrated. It is fitting that it is named after its defender.
60004	I regularly use this reserve and have fond memories there, renaming it shows how grateful we are to Irene for saving it!
59998	Irene Crump was an inspiring woman who was highly regarded in the local Freshwater community. She was also a passionate early childhood educator and director who loved the outdoor environment and enjoyed many happy gatherings at Freshwater beach with children and staff from the local preschool, her family, and her many friends in the local community. It was her love of this local coastal area that inspired her to go to great lengths to bravely protect and save the Undercliff Reserve from development. By doing so, she not only enabled people in the local community to continue enjoying this public space, but also conserved the natural environment for future generations to come. I strongly support renaming the Undercliff Reserve to the 'Irene Crump Reserve' as a testament to her courage, to her highly respected standing in the local community, and to all the positive values that she represented throughout her life. By having the reserve renamed in her honour, it also brings more interesting, historical context to the local area. It also serves as a reminder that through a person's passion and determination, things can change for the better, and positive outcomes can be achieved for the community as a whole.
59997	A deserving honour
59990	We need more local heroes like Irene to stand up against developers and council to protect our unique environment. We are all guardians who also need to preserve public access to our bushland, lakes & beaches.
59984	There's always a cost involved in changing any name, Council would do better by using funds for something more worthy than this. It's also a bit of a mouthful to say.

59969	<p>With the name Undercliff Reserve you know exactly where you are. End of Undercliff Road. It's also under the cliff of south Freshie, it's a logical name for this area. I don't think people will use the name Irene Crump Reserve and will always need t</p> <p>Clarification where that is with using its existing logical name.</p> <p>Whilst I think it is important to remember this local heroine and acknowledge her contributions, I think a plaque with a storyboard and photo would educate people better and would fit into this area nicely for contemplation whilst sitting on the bench or walking through the area.</p>
59960	I think Crump is ugly....what about Irene Reserve?
59946	Absolutely not. Too many personal names already including streets and parks. Geographical names such as 'undercliff' are descriptive and neutral and should be cherished.
59943	<p>Yes a great idea!!!</p> <p>But what of the rest of the Freshie beach and park areas?</p> <p>Play equipment is tired and outdated.</p> <p>Picnic area is sad.</p> <p>What of the plans for refurbishing the area?</p> <p>We must be the only beach on the Northern beaches that has had no improvements despite the community consultation process which dates back at least 3 years or more.</p> <p>As yet no money has been spent on the promised upgrade of Freshie beach and park.</p> <p>Please can we have an update on this.</p> <p>Many thanks</p>
59942	Inflation is high, the cost of living and food prices are skyrocketing. I feel council could spend their time and our money more wisely given the current state of the economy.
59935	Undercliff Reserve has been important to the people of Harbord for many a long year and Irene Cramp is important to remember not only for the love of the environment and the retention of the reserve but because of the creative development she help young children in her care at Harbord Community Pre-school acquire. She is a person well deserving of acknowledgement.
59919	<p>I am strongly against areas, especially natural areas, being named after a person and believe instead that these areas should have Aboriginal names re/instituted. I am sure as someone who fought for the area for all the community to enjoy, Irene would not really want the place named after her, surely? She does not own it, it's ridiculous. These British / Western naming 'rights' and processes need to cease. I am all in favour of a plaque or bench in the spot commemorating her work, which is commendable, however no single person owns this public land by name and I think Council is sending the wrong message in naming places like this after people, especially non-Indigenous people. Please listen and stop this archaic British naming system on the Northern Beaches. As a note: I am of British decent (Scottish and English), I am very white skinned and an immigrant to this country when 11 years old. I live in Belrose and grew up in St Ives and went to an elite all girls private school on the North Shore. This is the new way of thinking, please consider this strongly with these requests. I am sure the whole of the Freshwater group who pitched this will vote yes and I may be the only no, who else might even care to make a statement about this? How do you qualify that? How is that a fair process? You need some policy around this kind of place naming. Take into consideration the amazing work Nicole Monks is about to commence in Freshwater for Council and all the good work Council is aiming for in the First Nations healing space. A plaque of commemoration and thanks to Irene is all that</p>

	is needed to retain the memory of Irene's work for people to read and respect. I feel very strongly about this and commend the work Council is doing in re-naming lanes and roadways with Aboriginal words and phrases. Please listen and help this change. Thank you.
59916	Having read the history surrounding this reserve and the action taken by Irene Crump to save the reserve then she deserves to have the reserve named after her and her actions honoured.
59913	No human is good enough to have their name on land why not name it with animal names that live there?  Also please fix the dangerous washed away pot holes all over northern beaches now before more people are injured. When they are filled in they are not using correct material faulty material which washes out again or cannot withstand heavy vehicles!?? Fix potholes now as they are dangerous no?
59909	Current name is underwhelming and this proposal provides the opportunity to recognise an individual, through her actions, has provided a significant community benefit to be enjoyed for generations to come.
59905	I believe it is beneficial to the history of an area to name places of recognition after those who have influenced that area to become what it is. In this case I had never heard of Irene Crump & now know what she did. I also believe that more area should have recognition of the traditional land owners of this great country of ours.
59902	Freshwater would not be what it is today without her.
59895	If it was to be renamed, it should be renamed to honour the traditional custodians of our land. This is a good opportunity to show our respect and willingness to repair our history.
59880	Great work preventing development!
59874	The reason we have the reserve is because of her resolve. Hight time women also get acknowledged.
59872	I fully support this name change due to the contribution Irene made to the community
59866	I fully support and approve the renaming of this reserve to Irene Crump reserve for the following reasons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irene Crump was a longstanding educator of pre-school children at Harbord community pre-school. She is fondly remembered by both parents and pre-schoolers alike, many of whom still live in the community.</li> <li>• She was also dedicated to preserving the local environment from over-development and particularly the Southern headland of Freshwater which was threatened with a DA for apartments down to the beach edge.</li> <li>• Irene Crump bravely defended this reserve from development and it is here today because of her.</li> <li>• Irene crump died in 2011 aged 91 and this would be a fitting and wonderful recognition of her as a role model and the significant contribution she made to our community.</li> </ul>
59863	I fully support and approve the renaming of this reserve to Irene Crump Reserve for the following reasons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irene Crump was a longstanding educator of pre-school children at Harbord community pre-school. She is fondly remembered by both parents and pre-schoolers alike, many of whom still live in the community.</li> <li>• She was also dedicated to preserving the local environment from over-development and particularly the Southern headland of Freshwater which was threatened with a DA for apartments down to the beach edge.</li> <li>• Irene Crump bravely defended this reserve from development and it is here</li> </ul>

	today because of her • This would be a fitting recognition of her contribution to our community.
59862	Leave the name as is. You can honour Irene with a plaque instead. Name change is drastic.
59846	Irene Crump did a lot of work to preserve the local environment from over-development, particularly the southern headland of Freshwater which was threatened with a DA for apartments down to the beach edge. We can thank her for the preservation of this beautiful parcel of bushland. She was also a longstanding educator of pre-school children at Harbord Community Pre-school. She was highly regarded by both parents and pre-schoolers.
59841	It is aboriginal land. The name should be in aboriginal language. It is high time to start showing respect for their land 🇺🇸 🙏 🙏
59824	As Irene Crump's only son, I fully support the renaming of this reserve after my mother who fought to save public access to this land and Freshwater beach for the public and Northern Beaches community. My mother put her life on the line to stop destruction of this special lot of land and as she was doing this, the community rallied around her. She was able to draw on high reserves of people and goodwill because she had initiated and lead the pre-school located at Harbord Literary Institute during the post-WW2 lack of adequate child care. She was a visionary educator and environmentalist and passionate about Freshwater beach where we all grew up and spent most of our childhood; being the place where surfing began in Australia - something I've talked about with Hawaiian surfers at Waikiki indicating the international significance of this location and the importance of it retaining a suitable aesthetic. Renaming the reserve would be a fitting recognition of a woman who showed leadership in her community decades before it became common.
59823	That headland is a beautiful public space that many people benefit from daily as either local walkers or visitors to the area. I spent a couple of years doing bush regeneration there and am aware of who Irene Crump is. Her bravery and vision at the time should be acknowledged. If not for her it would be a hill full of units, not a beautiful bush reserve. The fact she was also a respected school teacher /Director at Harbord Primary is proof of her ties to the community. I don't know if Undercliffe is a person or a geographical name, but there is Undercliffe St, so spread the love I say and re name this site Irene Crump Reserve.
59820	The reserve is shared by community and shouldn't be labelled and personalised. If somebody likes to contribute to society, this should be selfless, meaning no tag needed. Thanks to Irene and her generosity.
59813	This brave woman gave so much to the community during the course of her life, but especially to the preservation of the wonderful bushland and magnificent sandstone rock outcrops at the south end of Freshwater Beach. My family and I get such pleasure walking from the end of Undercliff Road to the south end of Freshwater beach. Thank goodness brave people, such as Irene, literally put their bodies on the line to protect this gem for the enjoyment of so many people, some from far away, who come to share Freshwater Beach. I strongly support the proposal to name this reserve in honour of Irene Crump.
59810	It's a beautiful legacy and adds history to freshwater. She deserves it
59806	It is a great suggestion to rename the reserve to celebrate Irene Crump's involvement and courage. Irene was an important resident and was prepared to put her life on the line. If not for her there would likely be high rise apartments as

	on the north side of the beach. Too often the involvement of women is not celebrated.
59800	I fully support this proposal. Irene should certainly be recognised for her defence of Freshwater and the preservation of its natural beauty. My only thought is that the use of her full name is rather unwieldy - perhaps Irene's Reserve or Crump Reserve. I assume there would be an explanatory plaque placed in the area.
59797	Too much of our public spaces are infringed on by development. Standing up to those who only have their personal profit as the end result should be encouraged and lauded. Irene Crump was my mother. All her life she campaigned for the environment and the welfare of children. Today people of all ages can enjoy walking onto the beach with sand under their feet, due to her strength of character and action. [REDACTED]
59766	I grew up in Harbord, as it was called then. We knew her as Mrs Crump. She taught at the pre-school I attended, and was still there, in charge, when my daughter went there. We kids loved her and she was held in the highest esteem by the parents and the whole community. I recall her climbing the tree. I was amazed and it was my first lesson in what individuals, and groups, could do to protect the environment and people's rights - a lesson I have never forgotten. She was a women of vision, integrity and determination. For a woman to stand up to authority in those days was unusual. She has left a legacy many of us would be proud of. To name the reserve after her is a most fitting tribute.
59763	At a time when coastal development was a bit of free for all, Irene Crump firmly stood up for what she believed in. By renaming the reserve in her memory it will remind people to have the courage stand firm against adversity and also to stand up for what you are passionate about. In Irene's case, her hard efforts ensured that the reserve remained for the benefit of future communities, not just private developers. I find it particularly beautiful that she always had the children in mind and how important green spaces are for them to have & appreciate. What a gift it is to to have a public green space for all to enjoy. Thank you Irene Crump!
59751	Irene Crump did so much for Freshwater
59747	Irene worked hard to retain this reserve.
59746	Mrs Crump was a very community minded figure in the area and I knew her and her children most of my life although I no longer live in the area I still visit from time to time. I think that for the reasons given by Friends of Freshwater Inc cover the reasons this proposal is such a good one very well and I hope it will be approved as a very fitting tribute to her and her commitment to preserving the reserve.
59739	To whom it may concern,  As Irene's granddaughter, I welcome and support the proposed renaming of Undercliff Reserve to the Irene Crump Reserve. Not only am I heart-warmed by the recognition of my grandmother's exceptional commitment to her local community and the natural environment around her, but I also believe the proposal is in keeping with the values and ideals of the wider Northern Beaches.  Warmly, [REDACTED]
59738	My mum, Irene Crump, was forward thinking. She was a defender of the environment for the community and for future generations. She knew this proposed development was wrong and fought to stop it. The land title for proposed development, at the southern end of Freshwater Beach, went to the high water mark and included the vegetated land that now

	<p>makes up Undercliffe reserve. The development intended to go right to the waters edge with foundations in the sand, thus taking away traditional public access and beach use and destroying vegetation. The southern end of Freshwater Beach would be very different if the development had proceeded.</p> <p>It is important to note that Irene's actions in 1970 were at a time when there was a lack of legislation for environmental protection. Overdevelopment of land was negatively impacting our coastal beaches and headlands all along the eastern seaboard. Mum was ahead of her times in fighting for coastal protection.</p> <p>I strongly support the proposal to rename Undercliffe Reserve to Irene Crump Reserve.</p> <p>It is heart-warming to know that, after 50 years, the Freshwater community and Council acknowledges Irene's contribution to protecting the Southern end of Freshwater Beach for the benefit of the public and future generations.</p>
59736	Irene saved the area from the developer which the community and visitors now enjoy the area
59734	Irene Crump was my grandmother. This name change will honour her commitment to environmental protection at Freshwater Beach.
59733	<p>Mrs Irene Crump was my mother. I clearly remember the day she climbed the tree ,and the court battle that followed. As her daughter I have always been proud of her vision for saving the environment and for having the courage of her convictions. I was deeply saddened to witness the loss of the previous plaque. Renaming the reserve will not only honour her efforts in saving the reserve, but will remind us all that sometimes the things we fight for do matter and people do listen. Thank you for the opportunity to support the name change. [REDACTED]</p>
59710	Irene's contribution is immeasurable! It would be so wonderful to name the park after her.
59703	Irene Crump. What an absolute Legend. I give my full support in renaming this park to Irene Crump Reserve. Anyone who can and has stopped further development in this beautiful area needs to be acknowledged .
59701	It's so wonderful that from the courageous efforts and foresight of Irene Crump that this area is now protected as a public reserve for all creatures great and small. Irene Crump was a selfless community contributor that we can all draw inspiration from. Irene Crump was my Grandmother. I have fond memories visiting and playing at the park and the beach with my grandparents. It is so wonderful that this area is now preserved and is a wonderful environmental and community asset. Dedicating this reserve in her name is a fitting recognition of her efforts and a great way to preserve history and tell the story of a women acting to selflessly for the community, the environment and the generations to come.
59609	I love how she fought to protect our local environment. We need more like her these days.
59607	I am in favour of renaming the site to the Irene Crump Reserve. Irene was instrumental in preserving our beautiful suburb and this would be a fitting tribute to her.
59605	<p>I have written before to suggest Council focus on more Aboriginal place names where known.</p> <p>Also where it is named after a community member ( deceased) there should be a small explanation who the person was and why it is named for them</p> <p>Thank you</p>
59603	I was a student at Harbord Community Kindergarten when Mrs Crump marched us all down to the beach to protest against the Unit block Development at the Southern end of Freshie Beach. Mrs Crump was a legend and I attended her Funeral at Mosman and learnt so much more about my Kindy Teacher and her

	humanitarian endeavours. It would be very honourable to remember Irene in this way.
59601	I would love to see the renaming of the reserve to honour Irene Crump. I have not personally met Irene, but I am very thankful for her engagement to protect this reserve from over-development, so that we still can enjoy our beautiful beach. I understand that she was a highly regarded member of the community. It would be a great way to remember a local person for her amazing contributions for our community.
59596	She was an institution for the community. Wish my kids had the luck of a kindy teacher like her.
59595	I think it definitely support the renaming of this reserve to Irene Crump Reserve. She was such a positive influence in the local community through the Harbord Preschool and through her determination to protect our environment. Many people still remember her kindness when they were children. She died in 2011 and I believe there's a lot of good that will come from remembering her contribution to the community in this way. I strongly support the renaming of this reserve, Irene Crump Reserve in memory of a wonderful community member.
59540	I think naming a location after a person who is only a flash in time is the wrong thing to do. Undercliff reserve is logical and without ego and describes exactly where the area is and what it is. This is good for the local community. I see no need to change the name. There are many many good people in the world doing amazing jobs volunteering and championing causes. I am grateful Irene championed this cause. But we don't name things after every person who does good and nor should we. It takes away the gift of giving without gain. Im sure Irene's drive to do this was for the greater good and not to have a piece of land named after her.
59537	It gives a more meaningful narrative to the reserve. Thank you Irene
59533	What an amazing woman, ahead of her time who deserves to be recognised.
59448	Having lived opposite the proposed reserve from 1942 to 1970 & knowing full well all the effort that Irene Crump put into keeping this land development free, I fully endorse the reserve being named in her honour. The reason my family moved was because of the proposed development down the cliff- face to the sand below.
59441	As we live very close by, it is wonderful that the Reserve has been preserved and we really appreciate all the gardening that has been done lately to stop it being overgrown with weeds. It is such an improvement.
59439	Great idea to name it after someone who cared enough to prevent it being used for housing.
59436	All new names for areas on the northern beaches should follow the latest protocol by using Indigenous names. Using a persons name will not be relevant to the next generation.
59296	I support renaming of reserve but ask that you provide a fuller story of the movement of local citizens which stopped this development. My father, Dr Peter Cook, was the founder and president of the Harbord-Queenscliff Residents Action Group which was formed to stop the rampant development of apartment building throughout Harbord as it was then known, and Queenscliff. There was particular opposition to any high rise of which the block on the beachfront was an outrageous example. Irene did not act on her own, so it would be fitting for the historical interpretation that would go with this renaming to acknowledge that she was part of a group of other concerned citizens, led by the H-Q Residents Action Group. I was in late primary school at the time of the fight, and remember Dad being at many meetings, both of residents and Council. There was a Council election during this time and as I recall, I joined other adult volunteers in handing

	<p>out how to vote cards for candidates who had committed to ending the wholesale development of apartment blocks. The outrage of residents led to some significant changes in councillors and new planning controls were brought in which permanently stopped any development over 3 storeys. This has been a permanent achievement of that movement led by my father. There were also other much tighter planning controls brought in I think - perhaps a complete ban on any more units. Certainly there were no new ones for decades after that, and even now, I see them redeveloping old blocks but not building new ones. So this was a very significant resident action group achievement. My father was a lifelong conservationist and he was never one to care about publicity for himself, but I feel he should be acknowledged somewhere in this change as he worked very long and hard. He gave all his records to Local Studies at Dee Why Library so I ask that you consult your historian, [REDACTED]. I look forward to hearing what you find. Thank you, [REDACTED]</p>
59260	If it were not for Irene Crump, this reserve would be private property all the way to the beach.
59247	Irene was a pioneer in this area for real environmental issues and naming the reserve is the least the community can do !
59230	I live in Undercliff Road. I so much admire what Irene Crump did to ensure that this land stays in public use.
59219	<p>Why do you continually want to change names so as to make your council look better.</p> <p>Areas have already been named leaved then alone.</p> <p>Thanks</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
59217	no brainer
59216	It would do no harm to honour someone local who has cared so much for the environment
59211	Her actions and determination in saving the space from development deserve recognition. For what it's also worth, as a pre-schooler at Harbord in the early 1960s, I still have fond memories of Mrs Crump.
59207	Sounds like a great women so why not
59193	I appreciate the work of people in our community and I am sure Irene Crump is well deserving of community recognition. However, I believe that it is essential that we recognise the First Nations as original owners and occupiers as a matter of urgency. Now is the time for recognition.
59182	As far as I can see it was her brave actions that resulted in the reserve still being there , so I think it's quite fitting that it be named in her honour
59181	A very brave woman and well deserving
59180	<p>Brave lady.</p> <p>I think 'Crumps Reserve' sounds better though, not such a mouthful.</p>
59178	<p>Why not name it 'Irene Crump Undercliff Reserve'.</p> <p>When reserves like this are named after people it may honour and remember them but you lose the physical identity of the place. I walk the Undercliff stairs frequently when joining friends from Queenscliff to go to Freshwater. Now knowing the history I certainly appreciate the efforts of Irene but it makes more sense to me to keep the location in the name. It was part of the "undercliff" she was saving and I imagine that she would want that kept as part of the name.</p>
59168	Many of those who grew up in Harbord were taught by Mrs crump. A fantastic and well known woman back then. It would be good to have something still recognisable around Harbord.

59156	The current name better describes the area. Irene Crump is irrelevant to the topography of the area notwithstanding her personal contribution to the creation of the reserve.
59145	This 1970 story is about Councils greed to develop every square centimetre of available land into units down onto the sand purely for their financial gain. Irene Crump shouldn't be recognised as a community hero because everyone hated the idea at the time, the community as a whole should be celebrated for having basic common sense against councils greed and ability to permanently ruin the beautiful environment we have. Council could however celebrate Irene by building a huge block of units down to the sand at the same spot and possibly concreting half way across the beach to build more units. C'mon ? Don't say the council never thought of that ?!?! There must be some HR reason for removing beaches and turning the sand into real estate money ?
59127	She sounded like an amazing woman who has helped save vital environmental areas for public use and protection
59125	What a great story, as a nearby local resident of 26 years who walks that track most days to Freshie I had no idea of Irene or the history. How could you not honor her by renaming the reserve as she single handedly drove the outcome we all enjoy today. Well done Irene. [REDACTED]
59122	I feel a plaque with her work done for the reserve is enough She saved urgent undercliff reserve not her name reserve Why change this if you do give it the aboriginals name that it was know as
59069	It is important to support those that stand against development for more building & apartments. Destroying g the natural environment to house more people is detrimental to us all. Developers are purely greed driven, with no concern for the environment.
59047	I support Council in its renaming of this Reserve to Irene Crump Reserve. Mrs Crump was well-known to a great many people from the then Harbord, who either attended the unique Harbord Community Pre-School or were parents of those who attended. Many of these people are still residents of the local community. She was a respected educator and died at 91 years of age. Very few Reserves are named after women and this would be a fitting statement of her contribution to our community.

Comments Received Outside of YourSay	
1	<p>An amazing woman who came in to our lives as director of Harbord Community Pre School during the 1970s. She was an educator for early childhood studies with a passion for the environment and nurturing of the next generation Warm and supportive woman and friend to many families. We were so fortunate to have her in our lives Congratulations on the suggestion of renaming Undercliff Reserve.</p>
2	<p>Thank you for this opportunity of renaming the undercliff reserve. What a woman – public ownership in lieu of private destruction. We need more of this.</p> <p>I hope her story is included with Irene’s name in the reserve.</p> <p>I’d like to request that the name ‘harbord’ be removed from the suburb. ‘freshwater’ is it’s correct title, softer, relevant to its original inhabitants, would you agree??</p>
3	<p>Plaque:?</p> <p>██████████, climbed a tree And fought off corrupt developers ██████████ I am ██████████. There’s a whole lotta ██████████ and she certainly had an ego. But what about the quiet unassuming man who fought in ww2 and never wanted to talk about it? The man who cleaned up the literary hall ██████████ ██████████ Her husband gordon crump. ██████████ ██████████ ██████████</p>
4	<p>Please accept my approval for the renaming of the Undercliffe Reserve at Freshwater, to the Irene Crump Reserve. It is really a no-brainer. The current reserve name has no particular reference to anything, except that it is “under a cliff”. How boring and definitely not representing the amazing Harbord Community pre-school educator, Irene Crump, who literally could have sacrificed her very life by her actions in stopping the over-development of the natural bushland under the cliff. She is a heroine in this community of ours. The many people who were taught by Irene Crump have nothing but wonderful memories of her and by her heroic actions which also proved to be one of the most important lessons she could teach, that being to stand up for what is right in your community, despite extreme opposition and even danger to ones own self. The Freshwater community will applaud this recognition to a great local heroine. LET IT BE DONE. ██████████</p>

### Long Submissions

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT:

COUNCIL RECENTLY APPROVED A PUBLIC CONSULTATION PHASE FOR THE RENAMING OF UNDERCLIFFE RESERVE TO IRENE CRUMP RESERVE.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO LODGE A SUBMISSION APPROVING THE NAME CHANGE

THE FOLLOWING DOT POINTS MAY ASSIST:

- I/WE APPROVE THE RENAMING OF THIS RESERVE TO IRENE CRUMP RESERVE
- IRENE CRUMP WAS A LONGSTANDING EDUCATOR OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AT HARBORD COMMUNITY PRE-SCHOOL. SHE WAS HIGHLY REGARDED BY BOTH PARENTS AND PRE-SCHOOLERS ALIKE, MANY OF WHOM STILL LIVE IN THE COMMUNITY.
- SHE WAS ALSO DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT FROM OVER-DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICULARLY THE SOUTHER HEADLAND OF FRESHWATER WHICH WAS THREATENED WITH A DA FOR APARTMENTS DOWN TO THE BEACH EDGE.
- MRS CRUMP DIED IN 2011 AGED 91 AND THIS WOULD BE A FITTING RECOGNITION OF HER CONTRIBUTION TO OUR COMMUNITY.

You are welcome to lodge a submission to [Yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au](https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au)  
Scroll down the COMMUNITY CONSULTATION PAGE TO ITEM 16- PROPOSAL TO RENAME UNDERCLIFFE RESERVE TO IRENE CRUMP RESERVE.

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE ON 26 JUNE.

(If you lodge a submission, please let us know on Facebook with a simple YES to this posting)

Document administration	
Version	1.0
Date	11 October 2022
Approval	Content provided and approved by Open Space and Recreation Planning Team. Responsible Manager: Damian Ham
Status	Draft
Notes	Community and stakeholder views contained in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Beaches Council or indicate a commitment to a particular course of action.

**Proposed Road Reserve Closure Plan**  
Land adjoining 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach NSW 2107



**Legend**

 Proposed Road Reserve Closure





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## Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

### Proposed road reserve closure adjacent to 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach

Consultation period: 4 February 2022 to 6 March 2022

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## 1. Summary

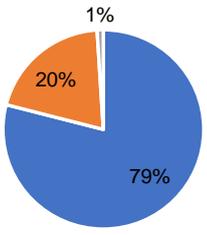
This report outlines the outcomes of community and stakeholder engagement as part of a proposal to formally close the road reserve for the unconstructed pathway between 32 and 34 & 36 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach.

The feedback collected during consultation indicated a high level of objection for the proposed road reserve closure in between 32 and 34 & 36 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach, with comments citing the public will not benefit at all from the potential sale and loss of public land.

Respondents who were supportive of the proposal to close the road reserve felt it is not usable or needed as an accessway as there are alternatives nearby.

Feedback also suggested Council should consider creating and maintaining the public walkway.

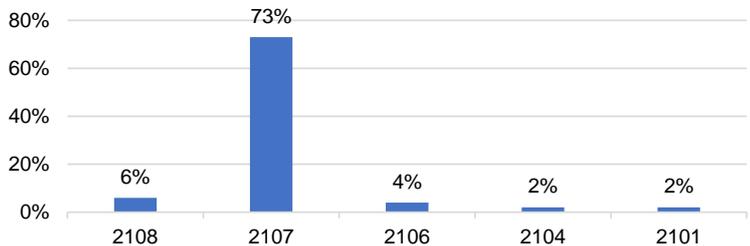
### 1.1. Key outcomes

 Total responses	<h1>228</h1>	
 How responses were received	Online submission form	Completions: 205
	Written responses (email/letter)	Number received: 20 during the public notice period 3 late responses
 Community sentiment	<div style="text-align: center;">  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: blue;">■</span> Objection to the proposal</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">■</span> Support for the proposal</li> <li><span style="color: grey;">■</span> Neutral/undetermined</li> </ul> <p>Total responses =225</p> <p>The online submission form did not contain a direct sentiment question. The results in the above graph are based on a sentiment analysis of the comments in the submissions provided by respondents. It does not include late submissions.</p> </div>	
 Feedback themes	Loss of public land Impact on wildlife corridor Access for emergency services	

**1.2. How we engaged**

 Have Your Say: visitation stats	Visitors: 1387	Visits: 1961	Average time onsite: 2mins 7secs
 Notifications	Mailout to adjoining owners: parts of 2107 Site signs used: Yes		Distribution: 22 Number of signs: 1
 Electronic direct mail (EDM)	Community Engagement (fortnightly) newsletter: 2 editions  Stakeholder email to:  Avalon Preservation Society Pittwater Natural Heritage Association		Distribution: Approx. 22,000 subscribers

**1.3. Who responded<sup>1</sup>**

 Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: orange;">■</span> Male</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Female</li> <li><span style="color: green;">■</span> Other id.</li> <li><span style="color: brown;">■</span> N/A</li> </ul> 
 Age groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: blue;">■</span> &lt;25 yrs</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">■</span> 26-50 yrs</li> <li><span style="color: grey;">■</span> 51-75 yrs</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">■</span> 76+ yrs</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">■</span> N/A</li> </ul> 
 Postcodes	 <p align="right">The graph shows the top five postcodes only.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Demographic data was gathered by request only. The data represented only includes those respondents who provided this detail.

## 2. Background

Council received an application for Road Reserve Closure from the adjoining owner at 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach (the applicant). The reason for the application is to enable the sale of land for the potential construction of a second dwelling and subdivision of land.

The application was notified to internal stakeholders. It was agreed that the proposal should be taken to public notification to gain a perspective from the community.

## 3. Engagement objectives

Community and stakeholder engagement aimed to:

- build community and stakeholder awareness of participation activities
- provide accessible information so community and stakeholders can participate in a meaningful way
- identify community and stakeholder concerns, local knowledge and values.

## 4. Engagement approach

Community and stakeholder engagement for the proposed road reserve closure adjacent to 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach was conducted between 4 February 2022 to 6 March 2022.

The engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's [Community Engagement Matrix](#) (2017).

A project page<sup>2</sup> was established on our have your say platform with information provided in an accessible and easy to read format.

The project was primarily promoted through resident and stakeholder notifications, onsite signage, and in our community engagement newsletter.

Feedback was captured through an online submission form embedded onto the have your say project page. Only qualitative information was collected and a direct sentiment question was not asked as part of this process.

Email and written submissions were also invited. Contact details for the project manager were provided as a channel for the community to ask any questions about this project.

Council carried out public notification in accordance with the Roads Act 1993. Council is to consider all submissions received with respect to the proposed closing of the road reserve

## 5. Findings

A majority of the submissions received were opposed to the proposal of closing the road reserve. The main theme of the submissions was regarding the loss of public land.

We heard from local residents who strongly opposed the proposal, indicating that the road reserve is necessary for public and emergency access and for the amenity of the area.

Other respondents were not aware of the existence of this pathway but strongly feel that it would be in the public's best interest for the land to be kept in the public's hands.

Issues raised within the feedback and our responses are outlined in Table 1 below.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/proposed-road-reserve-closure-adj-32-watkins-road-avalon-beach>

Respondents who were supportive of the proposal to close the road reserve felt it is not usable or needed as an accessway as there are alternative access points nearby.

However, other feedback suggested Council should consider creating and maintaining the public walkway from Watkins Road to connect with Bangalley Head Walk.

Some respondents also suggested allowing shared access to the pathway between the applicant and the public. This in turn would benefit both the public and the applicant for its use of the land.

**Table 1: Themes and response**

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Council's response</b>
Loss of public land	<p>Concerns around the loss of public land have been noted. Council undertakes community engagement to ascertain the views of the community on various issues. In this instance, the community has made it clear that they consider this land to be a valuable public asset that should be retained in public ownership.</p> <p>There were mixed opinions on the usability of the land in question. Those who indicated it was too steep and unusable had no issues with the proposed road closure and sale of the land. Others indicated it was usable and opposed the proposed road closure and loss of public land. Some indicated Council should maintain the land to allow better public access. Access issues could be resolved by Council retaining a public right of way over the land, although the competing uses of vehicles and pedestrians may not be compatible.</p>
Impact on wildlife corridor	<p>The far eastern end of the road reserve includes native vegetation which is contiguous with native vegetation within the adjoining bushland reserve. Establishment of a public accessway may require additional clearing to connect to the existing trail in the reserve as well as the construction of stairways given the steep terrain. Sale of the road reserve may inhibit Council's capacity to retain this area of native vegetation, and also result in the loss of vegetation to the rear of 32 Watkins Road. Native vegetation within and adjoining the reserve currently provides connectivity as part of a coastal biodiversity corridor.</p>
Access required for emergency services	<p>Access for emergency services to Bangalley Head Reserve, in particular for the fire agencies to combat wildfire or implement prescribed burning programs, is and will continue to be limited.</p> <p>It would be prudent to seek comments from the emergency services, in particular Fire &amp; Rescue NSW as the relevant combat agency for bush fires in the reserve, regarding their views on the road/pathway and if it would contribute to accessibility to the reserve.</p> <p>Council has attempted to contact NSW Fire &amp; Rescue for a comment in relation to this matter. No response has been received as of yet.</p>

During the consultation/exhibition. Council received a number of questions either through direct contact or within feedback received.

**Table 2:** Questions raised and Council's answers

Question raised in feedback <sup>3</sup>	Council's answer
How has it gotten to this point?	<p>Council is following the application process for a Road Reserve Closure. Within the <a href="#">application form</a>, there is a general guide to the process. Before public notification, the following steps were taken for this particular application:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consultation with internal stakeholders.</li> <li>2. Initial planning review for future consideration of structures.</li> <li>3. Road status search.</li> </ol>
How much money has/would Council agree to sell the land for?	<p>NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) - Crown Lands has advised that the department would have no objection to a future closed road being vested in Council ownership and subsequent sale to the applicant.</p> <p>Should Council resolve to close and sell the former road reserve land, it would be subject to an independent valuation.</p>
How many people currently access this space?	<p>Council currently has no data or statistics of the number of pedestrians who use this access. It is believed that very few people have used this access, as it is an unconstructed steep pathway and there are many weeds obstructing the path.</p>
Did Councillors decide on this prior to community engagement?	<p>This application has not yet been reported to Council. A report with the community feedback will be submitted to Council for consideration of the proposed road closure.</p>

<sup>3</sup> Some questions have been paraphrased to ensure clarification or to cover multiple questions within the same theme.

## Appendix 1 Verbatim community and stakeholder responses\*

### A. Online submissions

Number	Comment/submission
1.	To Whom it may Concern, I see no reason why this land should not be owned and developed by a private individual as it serves no purpose in its current state. I fully support the view that this land should be made available to private ownership and developed to meet standard council guidelines. Regards [REDACTED]
2.	I object to the sale. Public access ways ought to remain public and be available to encourage exercise and to be enjoyed. Once sold to private they can never be made public again
3.	We walk up Bangalley Head at least once a week - daily during the lockdowns - and found the there-and-back walk a little tiresome. Having this route remain as council land and opened back up to be more easily accessible would be a great improvement to this popular hiking route.
4.	Prefer to keep road reserve as public land to allow access for fire brigade. Prefer that said land be revegetated for habitat and/or as public path.
5.	Dear Council I am opposed to the proposed road reserve closure It removes the right of way of the public to foreshores, lookouts, etc Secondly, if you do this for this developer then you set a precedent for other developers to demand similar road closures This is public land that belongs to the public Thank you
6.	We believe that it is in the interests of public safety that the public access should remain. We have lived on the headland for 26 years and have witnessed 2 huge fires on Bangalley Headland where the only access for the Fire Services to enable them to take hoses and other equipment up there was via the right of way. We object to Council selling any public pathways. [REDACTED]
7.	I support the sale of the piece of land with continued access to the public as proposed
8.	To whom it may concern,  I regularly walk Bangalley headland on my own as it is a lovely walk, and would love to take my young children there sometime, however, am put off by the fact they might not make the whole distance. If there was a way to enter or exit if they are not up to walking the whole way, this would be super helpful. Similarly if someone was hurt, and needed assistance, a quicker way to get to the main road would also be super helpful.  It seems to me, that if the path is not currently accessible, but should the way be cleared it would be frequently used and useful and an excellent use of funds. It would be a shame to sell off this valuable piece of public property and no longer have this option.  Best wishes, [REDACTED], Avalon
9.	I see no problem as land is not being utilised.
10.	I strongly believe that public footpaths should be kept open and available for the community to be able to use to explore and fully benefit from the beautiful area we live in. I am strongly opposed to seller my off any public land to enable any individual to subdivide and sell off part of their land.
11.	I am part owner of [REDACTED] Watkins road. I DO NOT agree for the owner of 32 to purchase the reserve land.

\*Personal details and inappropriate language have been redacted where possible. Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused.

	<p>I grew up in this house. Over the last 45 years my parents and us kids cleared the council ground. The council has never maintained. When we went up to bangalley headland for school I told the teacher that's my house down there. I was allowed to go home and I used the trail next to our house. It should be left to the locals. Isn't it aboriginal land ? Help pay to clear up? I'm sure the locals will get in and do clean ups and keep it maintained for people to enjoy. Covid-19 has taught a lot of people to be outside more and especially MENTAL HEALTH is so important as suicide increased during Covid-19. It's really important this reserve stays open for the public to enjoy. 32 building on the land is going to cause more erosion on the headland and take away the beautiful scenery it is now.</p>
12.	<p>Dear NBC</p> <p>I would like to make a submission against the closure of the road reserve adjacent to 32 Watkins Road Avalon Beach. Whilst the land may currently be overgrown and not easy to access, this is not a reason to permanently remove public space that could easily be managed and made accessible to the public. Loss of public space is an issue across Sydney and this is having detrimental impacts on amenity, community and the general livability of suburbs. Avalon prides itself as having a great environment to live in and public open space is a large part of the Avalon appeal. Local Governments do not need to sell off land for revenue and there is much greater value in retaining and improving this reserve for community benefit and not just the benefit of one property owner. Once land is sold to a private owner it is gone forever.</p>
13.	<p>I think any land that is available for public use should remain available for public use. Once land is re-zoned and sold development happens putting more cars and people into an area. One day that pathway could be cleared and stepped to make another access to the Bangalley track.</p>
14.	<p>We support the sale of land which would raise funds for Northern beaches rate payers without any loss of amenity to the community. The land strip is narrow, heavily overgrown and steep.</p>
15.	<p>[REDACTED] Avalon NSW 2107</p> <p>6<sup>th</sup> March 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Subject: Proposed Road Reserve Closure Plan – 32 Watkins Road, Avalon</b></p> <p>I would like to strongly object to the Closure Plan for the Public Pathway adjoining 32 Watkins Road. This is an area of outstanding beauty and cultural significance. It currently has 4 Public Access Pathways. I have been denied access from Watkins Road for an extended period and wish to ensure that future generations aren't similarly denied.</p> <p>I have limited my Response to addressing the FAQ Section on the Council's website, but there is so much more that I would like to say on this matter. I feel that the argument Against is so strong, I prefer to leave my Response concise.</p> <p><b>DELIBERATE BLOCKING OF ACCESS</b> I take particular exception to the FAQ which states: <i>This road reserve is not currently being used by local residents due to being an unconstructed public pathway and heavily vegetated.</i> An active trail runner and a long-time Peninsula resident, I have enjoyed exploring the many pathways of Pittwater. I share these with my friends, and they are amazed at how interesting and varied their walks can become. This was particularly important during COVID, when the wellbeing benefits of being outdoors really came to the fore. I set about running every street, path and trail on the Peninsula and found so many more. Some were well maintained, others required a little bush bashing and some were purposely planted to make access impossible.</p>

	<p>The Path in question had clearly been deliberately made impassible. I revisited the path adjoining 32 Watkins Road on several occasions, but each time realized that short of cutting down the obstructing trunks, I would have to encroach on private property. On each occasion, I had to give up.</p> <p>Contrast this with the overgrown access from Binburra Avenue which I have enjoyed rediscovering on many occasions with its unmaintained stairs and seat which are a reminder of an era when Public Land was appreciated for being exactly that.</p> <p>I am particularly annoyed now to discover that someone has cleared the pathway adjoining 32 Watkins Road in anticipation of Approval to purchase this beautiful stretch of Public Land. Surely this is an illegal clearing?</p> <p><b>Local Resident Use</b></p> <p><i>There has been a desire from local residents to have a public accessway from Watkins Road to Careel Headland Reserve. However, due to safety issues that could potentially arise from the steepness of the terrain, as well as alternative accessways to the reserve available nearby, it is unlikely that a public accessway would be supported in the future.</i></p> <p>Had it not been deliberately planted to make it inaccessible, I would have been using this pathway for a few years. This is evidenced by my regular use of the pathway from Binburra Avenue and my numerous attempts to access the Watkins Road Access Pathway.</p> <p>The steepness of the terrain and safety issues argument compared to other excellent Council constructions seems ridiculous to me. There are a couple of very short sections that would benefit from stairs, otherwise it is no more dangerous than several paths that I regularly use in Pittwater.</p> <p>Unfortunately, Bangalley Headland is entirely closed when Emergency Services have the unfortunate task of visiting the area. It is possible that alternative access on these occasions may be beneficial.</p> <p>Assuming that alternative access ways will always be available seems short-sighted given the environmental changes we are experiencing.</p> <p><b>Custodianship</b></p> <p><i>Council has no role in any future sale and will not receive any proceeds.</i></p> <p>I must admit that before visiting Council's website I assumed the only possible benefit would have been a negligible sum of money from the Land Sale. Having read that Northern Beaches Council will not receive any proceeds, I am assuming that the Application will be unsuccessful as it purely financially benefits the current owner at a great opportunity cost to the Community. Bangalley has Indigenous significance. As Custodians we have an obligation to respect and leave accessible all corners of the Headland that remain Private Land.</p> <p><b>Protection of Pittwater Public Pathways</b></p> <p>As there are a number of Pittwater Pathways under threat, does the Council maintain a register that concerned residents can update? I have long been concerned with respect to the illegal obstruction and clearance of Public Pathways but have never been able to find an efficient way of registering my concerns - I encounter many examples.</p> <p>I commend [REDACTED] &amp; [REDACTED] on making the YouTube video which a running friend sent to me. Without my friend contacting me I would have been totally unaware of this Application. I suspect that I am not alone in this regard. As such, I believe that the 150+ Submissions already received are the tip of the iceberg with respect to how many locals would object to the Application.</p> <p><b><i>I trust that Northern Beaches Council will Reject the Proposed Application and hope that an efficient mechanism can be created for residents to raise their concerns regarding other Public Pathways at risk.</i></b></p> <p>Kind regards, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Avalon NSW 2107</p>
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<p>16.</p>	<p>As owners of █ Milga Road Avalon which is located approx 30 metres from the proposal we object to the application.</p> <p>This should remain a public access to provide right of way for all citizens to directly access the headland. In the six years we have lived here the access has been poorly maintained without sign posting which has meant that we have frequently been stopped by members of the public trying to locate the pathway. In addition to rejecting the application we recommend that the council clears the pathway and installs adequate signage to alert all pedestrians to its existence so that all residents can enjoy the direct access to this area of outstanding natural beauty.</p>
<p>17.</p>	<p>I have seen and visited on a number of occasions the land labelled 'road reserve' or 'unconstructed pathway' and highlighted in red on the attached plan to this public notice. Importantly I have walked up beside it at the top ( approximately on the top 1/3 ).</p> <p>The owners of 32 Watkins road kindly gave me permission to walk on their land to look at the top third of the easement, knowing the road reserve / 'unconstructed pathway' itself was very steep and overgrown at the top.</p> <p>At the time of inspection the top steep area showed no signs of human use for many years. It was unpassable and overgrown with weeds and weedy bush and could even be described as dangerous to use for many members of the public and hence a potential liability. Any claim in submissions saying they have used or intend to use this land in its current state are indications they have NOT been on the top of this road reserve- unformed pathway, unless they came from the top pathway then on the land owned by 32 Watkins Road without asking permission. Such physical action has a 'legal term' but this is not a matter worth focusing on at this point and not a matter for Council to waste time on.</p> <p>The top of the slope is in stark contrast to the topography of the 'turfed area' of the front at the Watkins road end which some submitters may have bothered to visit by driving or walking up Watkins road ( less than one quarter of the length is turfed). This is as highlighted on the public notice attached plan and as shown visually on your header page for this public notice.</p> <p>That turfed area appears to have been 'used', 'encroach on', 'appropriated', probably informally as a 'visual extension' to the property at 34 Watkins road, presumably to enhance the street appeal of 34 Watkins road, for a variety of probably selfish reasons including sale. Social media comment by a number of people on 'Avalon what's on' face book page was of the negative opinion that this sort of encroachment action around the peninsula was a form of 'virtual theft', but apparently this is a practice that is quite common. IN CONTRAST HOWEVER this applicant to Council being the owners of 32 Watkins Road are NOT doing this, they are being completely upfront and are requesting to purchase the unused/ unusable easement with its very steep top section. The steepest most dangerous section is above where a drive way would finish.</p> <p>The very fact this 'open and honest' approach of following a legal and transparent process has been followed by the owners of lot 32 has led to a raft of vexatious comments on the social media 'Avalon what's on' site and as stated on that site are strong indications that similarly vexatious submissions have been formally made to Council, even though many or most people I would suggest are never likely to have been up the land in question and are never likely to go up or down it in the future. It appears mainly to be a 'beat up' that I suggest has been whipped up by one or two people hell bent on making trouble for their own self centered reasons.</p> <p>Importantly it seems to me that the financial return to Council of selling this particular strip of difficult land could, if handled correctly in relation to any legislation involving the Crown along with appropriate strong advocacy to the Crown from Northern beaches Council, be used to create far greater community value by utilized the proceeds of sale to improve other public land amenities in the area and or to improve specific access safety on the cliff top walk.</p> <p>Therefore in consideration of the proposal as detailed in the public notice and my preceding comments backed up by on site observations as stated in my submission above, I therefore</p>

	SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL to sell this difficult land as per the public notice to the owners of 32 Watkins road Avalon.
18.	<p>Dear Council,</p> <p>As a long term council resident I understand the tensions between green space and development. We appreciate the green spaces in this council area and the abundant access to them. I can safely say that this particular piece looks to have never been utilised, and does not materially lead to any area that would likely need the access. Moreover, each block along the same side of the street has a similar configuration with two residences on it. Hopefully utilisation and sub division of blocks like this is a better way to achieve some growth in dwellings without further impacting and developing new areas of crown land.</p> <p>Regards, [REDACTED]</p>
19.	The path is not in use and in poor condition for any kind of access. The proposed closure will not in anyway have significant impact as the path is unused. It will also improve care of the area as someone will actually be looking after it.
20.	<p>This is a terrible idea!</p> <p>I live in Binburra Ave and I really appreciate the reserve area to the south from where you can start or finish walking the Bangalley Headland. I didn't know about this public pathway because it's been overgrown until now.</p> <p>I find it quite bizarre that the council would even consider selling this pathway so that a resident can capitalize by building a second dwelling. How is this, in anyway, serving the public interest? (I reject the idea that the public will be welcome to use it once it is transferred to private ownership) It is public land already !!!</p> <p>These areas of access such as the little cut through between Binburra and Whale Beach Rd and the same between Bareena, Milga the end of Tasman Rd add so much benefit in terms of freedom to walk and explore, to access the headland or beach and be adventurous in your own backyard.</p> <p>In an age when we do now recognise how important health and wellbeing is to the community it is imperative that we retain the wonderful aspects that make the area so appealing. It is all the more important given the amount of development and construction underway. If this goes ahead. I imagine other home owners will get the same idea.</p> <p>Please. No.</p>
21.	I have lived in the northern beaches area since 1987 , and I lived in Avalon for 6 years. The northern beaches area is well known for its stunningly beautiful beaches and coastal bushlands. I have enjoyed many walks up to and around Bangalley Head. I think it is important that public access to this area is maintained and facilitated. This public access includes the strip of land between 32 and 34/36 Watkins Road , and I would like to see Northern Beaches Council maintain this track and erect signs to the effect that it is publically owned land. Emergency Services would also be provided with an access trail to the Bangalley Head reserve . I strongly oppose the closure and sale of this road reserve.
22.	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>I am writing about the proposed closure of a public road reserve between 34 and 36 Watkins Rd, Avalon Beach</p> <p>I feel this 'unconstructed pathway' should definitely NOT be sold - it should be cleared and kept accessible in the case of a fire on Bangalley Headland - which has happended in recent times - and the firemen that attended this fire were unable to get their hoses up to the headland - as the only access to this headland is where Watkins Rd meets Marine Parade - which is way too far from the headland for the firemen to reach with their hoses</p> <p>I strongly object to selling off of the pathway - for two reasons:-</p> <p>1) For the preservation of the flora and fauna on Bangalley Headland</p>

	<p>2) For the safety of the houses in Watkins Rd that adjoin this part of the headland - as a bushfire that is out of control would threaten the safety of the residents in this part of Watkins Rd</p> <p>Please keep me updated on the outcome of this proposal</p> <p>Your Sincerely</p> <p>██████████</p>
23.	<p>The proposed closure and sale of the land adjoining 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach will further reduce the availability of valued public land to the community.</p>
24.	<p>I write to offer my support of this proposed plan. The reason for my support is that the land has been unused for many many years, is practically impassable and has not been maintained by council for decades, nor is it likely to be.</p> <p>The proposal to build a new residence behind number 32 Watkins Road means that another family will be able to enjoy living in this beautiful part of the world. Access to Bangalley headland is just a very short stroll down the road so I don't believe that anyone will be disadvantaged by this plan whatsoever.</p>
25.	<p>We live in a society where we are constantly handing over valuable public land to the benefit of private interests. The significance of the land for public use to the mental well being of our community is not measured in dollars. This has been particularly evident with the arrival of the Covid pandemic (are there more to follow) where all of a sudden what was taken for granted is now an amenity for all to enjoy in perpetuity.</p> <p>The cost and effort of maintaining this land is small in comparison to the benefit bestowed on our children into the future. In a difficult, complex and increasingly distraught climate-affected environment the last thing we want is to give away land on which to develop another hard surface.</p> <p>We cannot keep kicking the proverbial tin down the road for the next generation to deal with the regrets arising from our shortsighted actions.</p> <p>Keep our land for us!</p>
26.	<p>Proposed road Reseve closure r 23,34 36 Watkin's Road Avalon Beach 2107</p> <p>I personally don't think it's justified to sell off the crown land where people can actually benefit on the walks, improve their mental health for their personally health within the environment in which we live and that's why we choose to live here.</p> <p>I personally sourced the information of all the walkways within my area and now you're proposing to close them so that a person can benefit from it when it is public land.</p> <p>I really don't think that's fair.</p> <p>And this has not been advertised enough.</p> <p>Why should someone purchase the Queensland which is fie the general public living in this area so that they can benefit and build a second dwelling and then probably sell it off and make a profit.</p> <p>Will the land be sold at the market value and it is not stated clearly the full square meterage of the land that is up for the sale of the Reseve land proposal in between 32, 34 Watkins Road Avalon beach 2107.</p> <p>I'd like to ask a few questions but no one was available when I called on the 03/03/22 at 4:47 pm</p> <p>Thank you</p>
27.	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I totally object and disagree with the proposed roadway closure on Watkins Road. This amenity belongs to the community and should be maintained to provide access to Bangalley headland</p>

	<p>walk. This roadway could be easily maintained and provide access to Bangalley Headland for an additional shorter loop for people who do not want to make the entire loop to whale beach road. The gradient is no steeper then other parts of the existing Bangalley walk so gradient is not an excuse to no use it for accessing this beautiful headland reserve. To many times in the past council have sold public walkways and enough is enough. Do not sell this one!</p>
28.	<p>Seems perfectly reasonable to allow No32 to replicate the battle axe next door at 34 and 36. The subject land is steep and overgrown and doesn't serve any valid function in it's current state. As a local property owner I am in favour of reasonable developments of this nature and, consistent and fair granting of approvals by the council.</p>
29.	<p>As the owner of 32 Watkins Road I am obviously supportive of the road closure.</p> <p>During the process I have been very surprised at the amount of miss information that has been circulated via social media. I understand that you have supportive submissions from many neighbours in Watkins Road who are best to provide factual information on the historical use of the land. The land which is too steep for an access path will enable us to create a battle axe block which is not controversial and quite common.</p> <p>With regard to creating another entrance to the Bangally Head walk. The level access next to 2 Watkins Road is 200 m down the road and leads onto a beautiful grassed area.</p> <p>We have also heard that the track could be used for the fire brigade. Currently there are a number of trees on the path that the fire brigade would be able to navigate. When the proposed driveway is in place the access will be much better for the fire brigade and there will be water available from the planned swimming pool.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission</p>
30.	<p>I have had a house in Palm Beach for the last 25 years and spent many hours walking around the area. I have walked all over Bangally Headland and enjoyed the views. There are numerous walking trails in the area and at no time do i need to walk up someones driveway to access this walk. Just because a resident proposes a change when there was no clear walking track in the first place , people suddenly object. It looks to me like the resident is being more than accommodating to allow people up the driveway. I see no problem with this proposal.</p>
31.	<p>I am writing in support of the road reserve closure in between 32 and 34/36 Watkins street Avalon.</p> <p>I enjoy coastal walks in the northern beaches, and the terrain on this land is impossiable to safely ascend or descend. There is substantial vegetation and injuries are likely to occurr to someone trying to access Watkins street from the Bangalley Headland walk this route. It is much safer to do so from the easily accessible path next to 2 Watkins street, at the cul de sac.</p> <p>I would not consider it financially wise for the council to spend money making this reserve road safer to use, as it will unlikely be used by the public.</p> <p>I do not object to the land being sold to the adjoining neighbour.</p>
32.	<p>I support the proposal to sell the reserve which serves no use as it stands to either side with the exception of #32 which allows easy driveway access for a new home to the rear of the property in a quality location and therefore a quality lifestyle for another family in this area which is far from overpopulated in this location of Avalon. Plus the income from such a sale can be put to good use to improve ammenities in the community.</p>
33.	<p> Avalon Beach NSW 2107 3 March 2022 Attn: Northern Beaches Council <b>Re :Proposed Road Reserve Closure – Land Adjoining 32 Watkins Rd Avalon Beach</b> I'm writing in support of the proposal.</p>

	<p>Having lived in Avalon for over 30 years in close proximity to this land both in Bareena Rd., just 250 metres away and for the past 5 years at [REDACTED] Watkins Rd (directly opposite the site) I have never seen the land as a viable access to Bangalley Head. I have also never seen anyone use it to access Bangalley Head.</p> <p>The land is steep and until the present owners cleared the bottom half it was impassable through that section. The top section is very steep and has never been cleared. With much easier access just 200metres south I don't see the need for an additional access point to Bangalley Head.</p> <p>Our family are keen bushwalkers and have walked the bush tracks through much of the Northern Beaches. It is a vast area with some wonderful walks. We would much rather see Council use the money from the sale of this land to better upkeep existing walks and to purchase land to link the cliff walk through from Bangalley Head to Avalon Head.</p> <p>The land proposed for sale has never been used for bushwalkers, has never been landscaped nor had a viable pathway constructed by Council. I presume because the costs of such out-way the benefit to the public given that there is a much easier route just a short distance south. In short, the money from the sale can be put to much better use for the benefit of all Northern Beaches Ratepayers.</p> <p>Regards, [REDACTED]</p>
34.	<p>It is noted that this is an unconstructed public pathway. The potential for council to make this safe and accessible for use by the public is extremely low and it will continue to remain overgrown and unusable. Given the slope and terrain and accessibility to other alternate and more accessible pathways we consider it appropriate for sale and support this submission.</p>
35.	<p>I support the following submission as a fellow neighbour</p>
36.	<p>I support the closure of the Road and the sale to the adjoining owner. The road is not and will never be required as a road for public use, nor does it provide continuity for any existing road network or a means of access to other land. There is therefore no valid reason under the Roads Act or otherwise that it remain a road. From the perspective of the Council, there is no benefit to those living in the Council area to the land remaining as a Road. The area is not used or maintained, and is not suitable for use. While providing no benefit, the Council has the downside of having legal responsibility for the area, and hence possible liability arising from that. These old road reserves are really a historical anomaly, and are being closed under the Roads Act for good order and to reflect that it is in the public interest that they be taken out of public hands, and allowed to be purchased and used, That is what should happen on this application</p>
37.	<p>Good morning,</p> <p>This seems a perfectly reasonable application. There is no public roadway actually in existence. There is very good access to Bangalley Headland and the walk through the bush only 200m away.</p> <p>The sale proceeds could be put to good community use, perhaps new playground equipment, upgrades to the pathways in Angophora Reserve, public art at Palm Beach.</p> <p>I support the closure of this unused roadway and potential subsequent sale.</p>
38.	<p>I am in total support of utilising the area for private use by [REDACTED] as it has been overgrown for years and never used as a proposed pathway.</p>
39.	<p>I know the road reserve block and the land is very steep and completely overgrown. There is no support from any government authority to maintain this stretch of land to be kept in safe and accessible state.</p> <p>While in current Government ownership, the road reserve is a fire risk and danger to human life at the moment, particularly when no responsibility is taken to look after this piece of land. The best care and maintenance of this road reserve is to sell to the applicant.</p> <p>There is also a flat access to the Bangally Head wall 200 m down the road next to 2 Watkins Rd.</p> <p>Regards [REDACTED]</p>
40.	<p>Hi, I don't feel the need for another access point to the headland as there's fantastic access at the start of the street that's flat, wide and accessible with a vehicle for maintenance and events. The road reserve in mention is the total opposite, steep, dangerous, overgrown and leads to nowhere. It would cost hundreds of thousands to make it safe just to have people be able to walk up there. It's not viable to keep it, it's never been maintained anyway and never will be.</p>

41.	To my knowledge this strip of land is very steep hence has unmanaged vegetation and overgrown. It is not a critical piece of land, not the sole access point for key bush land and the funds for this sale could go towards council funded community initiatives.
42.	Hi,  I don't agree with the closure. I occasionally walk with a friend there, and it would be good to be able to access this path.  We need to keep all the public land we have in the Northern Beaches, and not sell it off to everyone who requests a slice.  The owner's property is 100% viable and useable as it stands and if they wish to add on to it they need to come up with a design that doesn't involve resuming public land.  It would be very little expense to remove the weeds from this pathway and make it viable again ... it's safe, and a form of easy access for the public.  Since covid, more and more people are out walking on the Northern Beaches. Let's not discourage them by reducing pathways and easy access to the beautiful asset that is Bangalley Headland park.
43.	This piece of land has not been maintained by the council for many years, it is steep and overgrown. It is not an effective public right of way or emergency access. In addition, it has been superseded by a better, flat, access right of way to the headland only slightly further along my the road.  Allowing the sale of this land will provide additional useful funds to the council while making absolutely no difference to the public or emergency access to the headland. It should be allowed to proceed.
44.	This public pathway (road reserve) should remain for the public. Public land is becoming scarce for the use by residents and native fauna. A stairway already exists at the northern end of the Bangalley Headland walk incorporating steps at the steepest point and this same configuration could also be applied to this pathway in Watkins Road to provide access from the road to the headland. This same pathway was also used by firefighters to extinguish a blaze sometime ago. Private application to purchase this pathway should be refused and remain for all residents.
45.	To whom it may concern, I am a resident on watkins road and have been for 30 years. I am happy for the works proposed by 32 watkins road to go ahead. I do not think this public land is suitable for a foot path as it is a steep block. As a resident I have never seen anyone using this public land. Regards [REDACTED]
46.	To whom it may concern, I am the owner of a house directly across the road from 32/34 Watkins road. I am happy for the works of a driveway that the resident from 32 Watkins has applied for to go ahead. In over 30 years of owning this property I have never seen this public land utilised it has been overgrown in all this time and is extremely steep. As well as that there is access to bangalley headland next to number 2 therefore I see no purpose for the need for a second public pathway with access to bangalley headland. Thank you
47.	This proposal looks perfectly reasonable and sensible as it will create an amenable use for an otherwise unused, and unusable, parcel of land. I think the proposed use of the land would not create a disruption to neighbours or the local neighbourhood, nor the amenity of the headland.  Further, I believe it would be a waste of limited Council funds to undertake what would be a very expensive exercise to clear and construct a public access road in this location that would simply be a duplication of a designated flat access path that is much more accessible, and is only some 200 metres away from the land subject to this proposal.

	The proceeds from the sale of the land would provide funds to the NSW DPIE for other much needed initiatives.
48.	To whom it concerns,  This area is known to me. The land is very steep and completely overgrown. There is flat access to the Bangally Head wall 200m down the road next to 2 Watkins Rd, and no access via this vacant land therefore it would make total sense sell at a fair price to a neighbouring property should they be interested.  [REDACTED]
49.	I am a long-term resident of Avalon Beach, having been born here and returned 12 years ago after a stint of 20 odd years of living in Queensland. The Northern Beaches and especially Avalon, is a very special and beautiful part of the world. One of the attractions in our area are the many public walkways. Being able to access headlands, beaches, and parks through these walkways is something that is not found in many places. I am not in support of this application. I regularly access Bangalley Headland via both Whale Beach Road and Marine Parade. I have major concerns regarding access to emergency services being able to access this area. This is route provides the only direct street access where firefighters can gain access into the bushland and out to the headland. By removing this access, the risk of fires getting out of control and risking houses along this whole area is increased dramatically. Please do not approve this application.
50.	My family has been enjoying the Bangally Head walk on a regular basis for years. We had no idea there this public access has been there for almost 100 years. This access is also useful for effectively fighting fires and other emergencies. How Council has been able to justify not maintaining this access over the years or even indicating it exists with a sign is beyond all of us. As lifetime residents and ratepayers of Pittwater we ask that Council not only refuses this application but clears the growth, commits to maintaining the access and installs signage, as there is with so many other public access points in our area.  Sincerely, [REDACTED] Bilgola Plateau NSW 2107
51.	Properties such as this should be preserved by Council for the benefit of all people within the community who wish to use them - this would also include local wildlife which I have seen using similar access pathways in the area. I am amazed that a property that is deemed too steep and dangerous to walk upon can be proposed as a building site with associated vehicle access.
52.	I do not agree with the closure of the public land for private use. The land should stay as its original purpose and allow access to Bangelly Head for many to enjoy.  Subdivision of the land to allow for a new dwelling further exasperates the continuous over development of the Pittwater area. This is a fragile and unique headland and does not need one more concrete and glass monstrosity, which is what is very likely to happen.  I adamantly disagree with the proposal.
53.	Please do not sell off this parcel of land. It will set a precedent. Very against it.
54.	Proposed closure of of land adj. 32 Watkins Rd. The land should stay as public land accessible by walkers and should be subject to bush regeneration. Absolutely opposed to its falling into private hands. Should be for the amenity of the community.
55.	You as a council are corrupt and as a councillors daughter has bought this house it is an inside job no no to the sale of this to the councillors daughter who owns brothels
56.	This should under no circumstances be permitted. 1. It is a public access route. The fact that it is currently unused is irrelevant. 2. If it is heavily vegetated it is presumably providing much needed habitat for fauna. There has been so much recent over development in North Avalon wildlife is struggling to survive. Leave this as is.

	3. Just another example of greed and money making by already wealthy landowners. I object in the strongest possible terms to this proposal.
57.	I submit an objection to this road closure as I utilise it.
58.	This area of land is of immense value to the owner on no. 32, yet we the ratepayers will receive no tangible benefit from any sale and minimal benefit from future rates payable for this parcel of land. It costs nothing for Council to maintain this land. If No. 32 wishes to subdivide, then they should utilise the property they purchased. I am against disposal of this public land.
59.	If local residents have a desire for access, that possibility should not be foreclosed to please the one resident who wants to purchase the land. Since you mention, in your FAQ section, that their are residents who would like access, I'd have to be against the sale of the land. If the land is safe to enclose and build upon, then it could be rendered a safe accessway if there was enough will. Thanks.
60.	I would like this land to remain public and be turned into another access point to the bangalley headland. I live in Binburra Avenue the next street over and it would be wonderful to have a shortcut to the headland and walks instead of having to go round to the other entry point. Would also be good to help disperse people with covid. Thankyou.
61.	I understand that this path was used by the fire service when Bangalley Head was on fire several years ago. With global warming it is likely that at some stage there will be another fire on the headland. it would seem sensible to keep this access open
62.	I feel that the public land should be retained, access to Bangalley Head should be improved along this parcel of land and it should be correctly signposted by council. Selling it would set a precedent and I know there are lots of strips of land like this throughout the council that are not signposted correctly, not maintained or have been absorbed into adjoining residents gardens. A lot of these are like the land in question, a direct public access that no one knows is there to a magnificent public area. If they were correctly signposted and maintained they would be used on a daily basis by visitors and locals. Thank you.
63.	We object to a public pathway (even though it is unconstructed) being closed as many locals with their children use the public path to walk up to Bangalley Head and sit and rest on the seat provided, to take in our spectacular Avalon views of the ocean. Families often go to Bangalley Head via the public pathway provided to watch the whale migration. HOW DO WE KNOW IF IN THE FUTURE THE PUBLIC PATH WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC??
64.	I do not think the pathway reserve between 32 Watkins Road, and 34 & 36 Watkins Road. should be closed and sold so that a house can be built behind plot 32. As we have seen during Covid more and more people need access to our reserves. to restore this path would be an asset to the community.
65.	Dear NBC Please sell this unused and inaccessible strip of land. It's of no use to ratepayers and the money received from the sale will benefit ratepayers. Thank you
66.	I support the sale of the 3.66m wide road reserve to the adjoining owner of 32 Watkins for the potential construction of a second dwelling - as is commonplace in that area due to the enormous block sizes. I am familiar with the very steep and overgrown jungle-like strip of land and it would not be practical to be used as a public walkway. It would also be a considerable waste of Council funds to convert it to another walkway, given there is already a designated flat access walkway path only 200 mtrs down from this location. Why would 2 access points be required, especially as the second one is impractically steep and not needed. It makes much more sense for Council to sell the strip to the owner at number 32 for a second dwelling - as per dual dwellings next door at 34 & 36 Watkins and 38A and 38. Funds from the sale of the 3.36mtr strip as well as development fees from the likely second dwelling development on number 32 I am sure could be used for many more beneficial Council projects and initiatives, rather than a duplication of an access pathway, which is also an impractical one with higher public accident risk.

	Common sense needs to come into play here - selling the reserve to the neighbour makes the most sense and has the least negative consequences for all.
67.	Enabling this, means thousands of houses around the northern beaches will consider this behaviour normal. All public pathways give avalon it's charm. Another piece of activity which is only about subdivision and making money to then increase house prices. The public say no. The community of avalon says no too. Not to mention the wildlife who may live within this area.
68.	Council should look after these access so called roads.  In this case it provides access to the Coastal walkway and is particularly important that it is not lost. Excuses for less cars on the road parked etc are just an attempt at justification. At the end the owner who wishes to buy the so called road is looking at subdivision and adding to the cars parked now doubt
69.	This is public land and it should stay that way. It gives access to one of the most lovely walks in the area and gives the area a feeling of uniqueness with access to unspoiled green areas. Once gone, it's gone for good.
70.	Re public pathway between 32 & 34&36 Watkins Rd Avalon, to Bangalley Headland Reserve. I was thrilled to find there is public access to Bangalley Headland Reserve, other than the north & south ends of the walking track. I can see why this public pathway formed part of the plan. It allows emergency & maintenance access to the reserve. It also provides for smaller loop walks for the public in a reserve which is much used by the public for exercise, and for the natural bushland experience. The smaller loop, Marine Parade entrance to Watkins Road entrance & return by road (or reverse) will be much appreciated by those needing a shorter walk. This public pathway needs to be made passable & signposted. If, now that the public is aware of it, it were to be sold off, there would be a very strong negative reaction by all users of the reserve, local residents & visitors, except for the one local resident who has put up the proposal. Do not allow this public pathway to be taken from us. Member Bangalley Headland Volunteer Bushcare Group Member Bangalley Head Landcare Group
71.	I know this site and I do not see a problem with the acquisition of the parcel of land by the owner of No. 32 Watkins Rd to build a 2nd dwelling on the block, which is essentially the same set up as No. 34 & No. 36 next door.
72.	I fully support the sale of the proposed road reserve closure
73.	I fully support the closing of the road reserve and the sale of the land to the owner at 32 Watkins Rd.
74.	I have walked along the Bangalley headland many times and never knew this strip of public land existed, being so overgrown. Given the walk exits onto Marine Parade some 200 meters further down it seems redundant as an access path. If council had no intentions of building and maintaining a path due to steepness, it would seem sensible to sell it removing risk of liability. Even better if council could come to some arrangement with DPIE to access some of the proceeds to open up other such strips to less easily accessible areas, or upgrade and maintain existing ones.
75.	I am against Council selling off this piece of Public Land. I think they should clear it and sign post it
76.	We have had our house in the area for 24 years and know the houses and land around 32,34 and 36 Witkin's Road Avalon Beach well, and often walk around that street and the Bangally headland. The public road reserve referred to in the public notice is an unused, narrow and incredibly steep piece of land that, I am guessing, has not been used by any member of the public for a very long time. It is overgrown and steep and would be a danger to members of the public who might try to use it. It does not provide any practical access to/from Bangally headland and Watkins Road; there is in fact a perfectly suitable access between Bangally headland and Watkins road at 2 Watkins road and this access is open, flat and safe. I see no sensible reason why this public road should not be closed and incorporated with adjacent land; it will then be properly cared for and safe (not theoretically available for public access).

77.	Selling off this public land will further restrict access to the coastal strip of public land behind the houses. It's not reasonable to sell off this public land and access just so that someone can subdivide their property to make more money.
78.	I strongly oppose the road closure at 32 Watkins Road.
79.	This public road reserve (I believe it is actually a public pathway, not a reserve) would be another valuable resource not just to the residents of the area but for visitors to explore and appreciate this beautiful Bangalley Head area. The reason it has not been utilised up to now is simply because of the overgrown and un-maintained condition of the pathway. Our public pathways are an asset to our community not just for now but for future generations. I would urge the Council not to sell this off to allow a homeowner an opportunity to gain value from something which is essentially a public asset.
80.	Public land should not be sold off to a single party to enable subdivision. This land has been put aside for everyone to use, and it would be shortsighted of democratic NBC councillors to allow transfer of this land.
81.	As a resident of the Northern Beaches, I am familiar with Watkins Rd and in particular the section of land that is in question. I know that strip to be virtually impenetrable and imposingly steep. The only time I have seen the strip cleared is in the article (photo) in the Northern Beaches Review, page 10, February 23rd. How many people actually use this access? The proposal appears to want to replicate what is happening next door at No. 34 & No.36 and thus does not appear to be unreasonable request at all. I would support the sale of the strip of land to No.32 as the maintenance of the strip then becomes the responsibility of No. 32 and not the NBC also if the new dwelling is approved, it will provide rates to the NBC. In short to reiterate, I would support the sale of the strip of land to No.32.
82.	Public land should remain available for the use of the public and for the benefit of local flora and fauna. And this goes double in the case of closing the reserve so a land owner can profit from it. Avalon is special because of the big plots that offer separation from other neighbours and our fantastic tree canopy that support all types of wildlife. We moved here because of that. If people want more density and development they can move to Manly.
83.	Please leave the public access pathway for the use of all residents and emergency workers to have access to Bangalley Headland. Selling off public land for someone's personal profit is just wrong
84.	The path should be made readily available for use by the community. The council should be maintaining and putting in appropriate signage so the community have additional access to this beautiful headland. They community should be in mind when making this decision, not the monetary benefit to council or to the private owner wanting to purchase the land. The northern beaches is becoming a sea of houses and this will only increase the opportunity for this private land to erect another private dwelling rather than additional green space for community as well as habitat for flora and fauna
85.	The public land should stay public land and should not be sold off. The council should prepare the land for proper walking access to bangalley head pathway and properly sign it. Selling land to a private owner has no benefit to the community and just because it is currently neglected does not justify the sale.
86.	I strongly decline the closure of the the road reserve and sale of the land on Watkins Road between 32 Watkins Road, and 34 & 36 Watkins Road . It's a valuable parcel of public land that should be kept to have a third access to Bungally Headland Reserve. Please don't give it away. Kind regards [REDACTED]
87.	Definitely not!!! Reinstate as a public pathway
88.	Disagree strongly against the sale of the land. Belongs to the public and that's where it should remain.

89.	I strongly oppose the loss of public land between 32 and 34 Watkins Rd for subdivision. We really need more access to Bangalley Headland for recreation and emergencies. I Also promote less development and more greenery! The bottom line is that this land belongs to the people. Council should make it available to us! It is very disappointing that this proposal is even on the table
90.	Hi council. I have lived in the local area for past 30 years and my grand parents before me and I walk passed this spot nearly every day. This land should be maintained by our council so people both local and visitors actually know it even exists! and seriously you cannot consider selling it off. I'm outraged and strongly oppose.
91.	I object to the closure of this road reserve, and the sale of this public land.  The reserve was made to facilitate public access. The fact that a path has not yet been constructed is not a reason to sell the land.  What this points to is that Council should construct a public path here. This is a very beautiful location that should be opened up to the public, rather than shut away. Build it and they will come.  Access corridors such as this are difficult/impossible to reinstate once they are lost.
92.	Hello I would like to say that I am totally opposed to the sell off of the public land pathway! Remember Please! Once they are gone they are gone forever! I have lived in Avalon Beach for over 20 years and part of the main attraction of this area is the magnificent walks and the fabulous views and Beaches that we are so blessed to have! I find it pretty sad, that I have walked this area, so many times over the years and it's shocking to think that we didn't know about this path, because it would've added to the joy of the walk! Please give this pathway back to the people for recreational use! Even more so after Covid we know how precious our natural land is and how important it is to be able to access it easily and safely! Please work on this path to make it accessible for all to use and enjoy our beautiful area thank you!
93.	I am totally against this request as the northern beaches has become so over populated the roads are busting with cars! The traffic coming out of north Avalon road in the morning is horrendous and most days is back beyond Careel Head Rd. With the new developments in north Avalon road won't help either! Another house squashed on a property, more cars parked on that road you can't drive 2 by 2 as it is! So sorry you can't always get what you want!!
94.	I strongly object to public land being sold off. This is an important access point to Bangalley Headland.
95.	Seems like a reasonable proposal to me - totally overgrown at the moment - no current public usage and no foreseeable future public usage. If the adjacent owners wants to buy it and they develop in accordance with local environment plan then I'd have no objections.
96.	I would like to submit that the public land adjoining 32 Watkins Rd, be kept for the public and not sold. I have grow up in Avalon and just 2 blocks from this public pathway but had no idea it existed as public land, due to the lack of signage and maintenance of the pathway. If I had know this pathway existed I would have used it frequently. Once this land is sold off there will be no retrieving it for future generations. Don't sell off all our public land!
97.	I have been a resident of Avalon Beach for 34 years and regularly walk the local pathways and bush walks in the area, including the Bangalley Head trail. I and many other local walkers would like to be able to access the trail from this existing public strip of land between 32 and 34/36 Watkins Rd Avalon, as originally intended when the housing blocks were created. I request that the NB Council disallow this proposal for private acquisition of the land in question and clear and signpost this public strip so that we can make more use of our beautiful nature walks that this access will provide. This is why we live here!
98.	This is a video submission. The author opposes the proposal. Please view the video at <a href="https://youtu.be/6wprE2q3KEQ">https://youtu.be/6wprE2q3KEQ</a>

		
99.	I oppose this sale due to the fact it will limit the access of emergency services to an already hard to access location.	
100.	This is public land that has been allowed to purposely deteriorate by successive councils over many years. It should be re-cleared, properly signposted and REMAIN publicly owned for the enjoyment of ALL. I vehemently oppose this proposal!	
101.	I do not agree with the sale of the road reserve adj 32 Watkins Road Avalon. This is public land that should be maintained for Access to Bangally Headland. there are far too many of these public accessways that have already been built over and illegally planted out to stop access to the public on public land. With an ever increasing population in and around Avalon all public spaces should be retained and maintained by council, including signage.	
102.	As a resident of over 50 years, I am strongly opposed to the sale of this public asset for private gain. As the funds won't go to NBC there is no gain for our community should the land be sold. I would prefer to see the path opened up for public use and as an access for emergency services. The increase in subdivisions in the area has meant the significant loss of tree cover and green space. Please don't sell this public land. I'm sure the land owner in question can build a granny flat if he desperately needs more accommodation. Thank you.	
103.	I am opposed to the proposed sale of the land. It is public land and should be retained permanently for the public to use now and for future generations.	
104.	I request that the public road reserve in Watkins Road should be retained for future use by the public and not sold. All public land is a precious commodity and should remain in public ownership. It would be a possible site for a walkway and suitable planting in the future. I strongly support retaining this strip of land in public ownership.	
105.	<p>I do not support the closure of the Road Reserve on (at 32) Watkins Rd. Nor the rezoning &amp; sale of the parcel of land to owners of 32 Watkins Rd.</p> <p>This is supposed to be public &amp; emergency services access to the cliffside walks on the headland.</p> <p>The owners of 32 had same opportunity to leave space down side of property for battle axe development as neighbours at 34 &amp; 38 did, but no, instead built right to boundary, and now want public land for their private use/profit.</p> <p>Perhaps, based on current owners comments in submission, a right of way/lease could be established, with owner of 32 paying for a common public use drive upto the reserve, providing</p>	

	access to the battleaxe block at rear (which in itself can be securely fenced off) and allowing public walkers & emergency vehicles access to the bushland reserve (A proper legally binding arrangement as opposed to 32s owners general comments & thoughts). This has been done in other parts of Pittwater eg Tasman Rd thru to Bareena Rd & Bareena Rd thru to Milga.
106.	This public land should be retained and used as a walkway rather than the enrichment of individuals.
107.	Please do not sell off public land for the profits of one person. It is very short-sighted. Once it is gone it is almost certain that it will never come back in public hands even if in the future there is a need for it. Do not put money over public places like so many other governments do. Set the standard council, don't be part if the problem.
108.	I am opposing the proposed road reserve plan as: - there is a desire from Avalon residents to have a public accessway from Watkins Road to Careel Headland Reserve. There are only a view access points for the headland reserve - the road reserve is currently not know to the public as there are no signs visible. They have been potentially removed. - I dispute the safety concerns regarding an access as other access points are as well steep - there is a concern of over development in this area close to the reserve
109.	Avalon Preservation Association objects to the proposal for closure of this road reserve/public pathway, which would enable sale of the land by the State Government.  The public land is currently overgrown with vegetation, but it has been used in the past when the vegetation was less dense, for emergency services access for bushfire fighting in Bangalley Reserve. There are very few access options for urgent firefighting in the Reserve. It should be sensitively cleared and suitably replanted where necessary. It could then provide access for emergency services and for walkers in future.  It is public land. Once sold it cannot be recovered.  This public land, which is effectively a public reserve/ green space, is valued by the local community, including for its visual benefits in such a highly visible publicly exposed location.  The closure of the road reserve would enable sale of the land by the State Government, the proceeds of which would go to State Revenue, not Northern Beaches Council, and so would not benefit local residents or council.  The closure of the road reserve/ public pathway to enable sale of this public land is opposed because there would be no public benefit for the local community from the sale, whereas it currently provides public benefits, will continue to do so, and has the potential to provide more in future.  A sign should be placed on Watkins Road in front of the land to notify the public that it is public land for public access.
110.	I don't support the sale of this public pathway to a recreational area, being the headland walk. The area is well used by the public and any additional access points for the public should be retained for public use. We need more public walkways, not less.
111.	For many years this public access pathway has been inaccessible & unused by the public. I believe the owner of 32 Watkins Road should be able to purchase the land. As a narrow residential street already overrun with parked cars we do not have space for walkers to be taking valuable parking spots away from local residents. There are already 2 pre-existing access points to Bangalley Headland - one of which is mere meters down the road. Providing pedestrian access will do more harm than good to the environment by disturbing well established flora & fauna. Alternatively, make both parties happy & allow 32 Watkins to partially own the access road (but also allow public access to the walkway via the driveway! - problem solved!)

112.	We object to this proposal due to the fact that this public reserve is crucial to fire control access for Bangalley Headland. Bangalley is a very precious piece of bushland surrounded by residential properties and any access in the event of required fire control must be preserved.
113.	I object to the proposed closure and subsequent sale of the unconstructed pathway between 32 and 34 Watkins Rd. This strip of public land provides access to the Headland for fire and emergency services and it's closure will end this access permanently. The land, publicly owned should stay in public hands and provide a pathway for the public
114.	<p>As a member of a local northern beaches surf club, I have been to see the pathway in question between 34 &amp; 36 Watkins Road.</p> <p>It is significantly overgrown, including well established trees, and I have never seen anyone use the pathway in the 32 years I have been around the area.</p> <p>The pathway in question is extremely steep and would put the council at risk of significant public liability if it were to be used. It would take an extremely fit individual to walk up this hill. Being qualified in first aid, I could only imagine the risk of injury to the community if this pathway was opened.</p> <p>The whole community uses the flat access pathway next to 2 Watkins Road to access the Bangally Headland trail. Any funds should be used to upgrade this access and for other much more urgent community projects</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration</p>
115.	I am a member of a surf club within the surrounding area and have been to see the land in question. The land is completely overgrown and very steep. The ability to access Bangally Head walk, next to 2 Watkins Road is where funds should be received to maintain the area for the greater community.
116.	<p>I think the road reserve should remain public and not be sold off to develop, subdivide or build on.</p> <p>These public reserves are unique and special to the area and need to be maintained as public access for all.</p> <p>Public reserves such as these are part of the character of the area. They provide much needed open space and vegetation for native animals and greatly add to what makes the northern beaches peninsula so inviting and special to the people that live here. The northern beaches needs more public pockets of nature and walking tracks for everyone to explore not less.</p> <p>Please, please, please don't sell it off for another residence, or developers dream.</p>
117.	<p>I have lived in North Avalon for 34 years.</p> <p>For the past 4 years opposite the road reserve noted here and prior to that in Bareena Rd. For this whole time the land in question has been impassable. Council have done nothing to remediate the land for bushwalking / foot traffic access. Nor would I have wanted them to as there is a perfectly serviceable access to Bangally Head just 200 m south of this point. We have raised our four children walking extensively around our area from West Head through Mona Vale and up to Palm Beach. I support the sale of this land as I see much better use of the sale proceeds for Council to improve more accessible walking tracks within our LGA and for the acquisition of lands that would provide more scenic walks in the area. A case in point being the acquisition of cliff-top land along the eastern edge of the properties along Marine Parade to allow a coastal walk from Whale Beach through Bangally Head to Avalon Beach. But there are plenty of other walks that could be improved in the area as well. In the past 34 years Council have not seen the remediation of the land in question as a good use of ratepayer funds. I agree with that as the costs outweigh the benefit in saving a 200 m walk for people who seek access to Bangally Head.</p>
118.	Please do not close or sell public land. It is already in short supply and there is no way back after it is sold . The subject land has potential use and there is zero justification for giving up and selling it .
119.	No do not agree with this. We are losing land again. Why should that property owner benefit?
120.	<p>I am vehemently opposed to the sale of this public access land between 34 and 36 Watkins road and ALL public land in the Northern Beaches Council.</p> <p>As Sydney ( and NBC area ) increase in density the need for access to Public land and local amenities will increase and walkways such as these will be even more desired.</p>

	<p>The fact the proposed purchaser plans to double the dwelling on his own block proves my point regards density.</p> <p>I have noted many other walkways where neighbours have blocked access with landscaping and ropes (evidence is seen between 38 and 40 Palmgrove Road Avalon and at 39A Dress Circle Road Avalon.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of NBC to prevent such blocking of public land and act to remediate when it occurs.</p> <p>It is NOT in the remit of council to sell Crown Land.</p> <p>The public access ways in the old Pittwater council area have been logged and the community is tracking closures and council response.</p>
121.	<p>Proposed road reserve closure adj. 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach.</p> <p>I am against this proposal.</p> <p>Even though this access is not expected to be used in the near future, not having it available for use later is unacceptable.</p> <p>It was planned for future use, let it remain that way.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>Resident Avalon Beach.</p>
122.	<p>I live across the road from 32 Watkins Rd. Until about 6 months ago the entrance to the pathway was fully overgrown. I have attempted to walk up the path with the owner of 32 Watkins however it is virtually impossible. Very overgrown, rocky and steep.</p> <p>There is access to Bangally Headlead at the bottom of the road and from Whale Beach Rd which I feel is sufficient. Also given that Bangally is sadly a known suicide spot, I question if it is necessary to provide more access points?</p> <p>Therefore, I do not object to the sale of this public land.</p>
123.	<p>please do not close this pathway to the public. I belong to a walking group and we would like to still continue to have access.</p>
124.	<p>As a resident of watkins road we have no objection to the sale of this piece of land. Recently the owners of 34 Watkins Road, stripped out all vegetation to create the feeling of a much larger block than they actual have. This property is currently for sale. This piece of land has never provided access to Bangalley Headland due to it being overgrown and too steep. It hasn't been maintained as an access point either.</p>
125.	<p>Formal Closure of Watkins Rd Road Reserve/Public Pathway</p> <p>I strongly object to the above proposal on the following basis.</p> <p>1) I do not agree to the ad hoc sale of green space/public land unless there is a very strong reason for so doing. This not the case here'</p> <p>2) The principal beneficiary is the owner of 32 Watkins Rd, The incremental benefit of the proposed acquisition and development would be substantial.. The rest of the NBC ratepayers would suffer both a short and long term loss of a potentially valuable recreational facility. This is totally inequitable and unacceptable.</p> <p>3) An option for the NBC is to keep the road reserve open and work with the local residents to clear the access path and provide ongoing maintenance, This was successfully done by Pittwater Council in conjunction with CABPRA (Clareville and Bilgola Plateau Residents Assoc). Three paths were chosen, each of a similar length and steepness to Watkins, All three were successfully implemented and five or so years later provide an excellent example of rate payer council co-operation. (Adopt a Pathway)</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>Clareville 2107</p> <p>██████████</p>
126.	<p>I don't agree with the council closing this reserve for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It's public land and it should be available to the community</li> <li>- It can be used by the fire department if there's a fire on Bangalley head</li> <li>- The bushland should be retained and revegetated as habitat for wildlife</li> <li>- It's not in the public interest</li> </ul>

	- Would be great if a proper public path could constructed Thank you :)
127.	We need more access to our parks and reserves, not fewer. Stop giving away our public land.
128.	This submission requires geographical knowledge of the local area. This would be a very highly sought after piece of public land but it is worth much more to the community than the council seems to understand. Its very important when living behind such large cliffs to have access to the lower areas, for shopping or going to the beach, or to work. Its an access lane way and also it is not wide enough for a house. Financial incentives motivate some people, as well falsely and wrongly sometimes enhance council coffers and influence outcomes. Lets hope not in this circumstance as the benefit to everybody living in and around north Avalon will be inconvenienced by the loss of the laneway. Financial incentives have no place in this discussion and should not be a consideration behind the motives of the development. The land in the lane way between 32 watkins road avalon and 34 watkins rd Avalon should not be sold. The Avalon community needs it.
129.	I am wondering why a sub-division should be allowed to done when you look at how close to the edge of the cliff the "new" block will be. The erosion of the coast is an ongoing and ever present danger . In the process of building a new dwelling there is a possibility on the land becoming unstable, which could lead to the Council being liable for any remediation of the house/land. I do not think that approval of the sale of the land should be given.
130.	Hello, in response to your notification regarding Watkins Road sale, having viewed the site and seen the terrain involved and therefore non-existent access to the community, I support the sale process. While I agree with council maintaining large open spaces, a level of common sense needs to be applied around assets that have limited benefit to the community, particularly when we have increased demands on council funds and therefore increasing council rates. I feel in this case that the balance favours a sale and is an easy decision for council.
131.	This should stay in Council hands. At some time in the future it can be opened up to allow public access.
132.	I believe that the public land between 32 and 34 Watkins Road Avalon. should remain in public ownership. It is an access to Bangally Reserve and as such should be maintained for public use. This is an area that should be kept as a walking track (for exercise) but also could be planted with some of the local natives, as a continuation of the beautiful and important Bangally Reserve. We do not need any more houses in this area - parking and traffic is already a problem.
133.	Thank you for the opportunity as a resident, to register my strenuous objection to this proposal. Precious public reserves/pathways are just that . Public! They benefit both residents & visitors & provide essential habitat for native flora & fauna. For any or part of these to be 'sold off' to financially benefit individual property owner/s is unconscionable. The buyers of this property (in 2020 according to a quick google search) would, (or should) have been aware of the obvious difficulties subdividing this block. I assume the sale price reflected this. This is an issue for the owners & cannot nor should it, result in the loss of any rare public land. The approval of this would set an appalling precedent. Death by 1000 cuts! Once sold, it's gone forever. This proposal is not in the public interest & needs to be rejected unconditionally.
134.	I am sick and tired of this Council swallowing up public land and selling it off to private developers. There is a lovely reserve off Halesmith St in Mona Vale and someone has painted over the sign indicating where it is. In other words if you didn't know there is nothing to direct you. When will that reserve be sold off? There were other walking tracks from Rednal St through to Pittwater which have been sold off. My firm request is please do not sell off Watkins are Avalon.
135.	<b>From</b> [REDACTED] <b>Avalon Beach</b> [REDACTED]

	<p><b>Submission: Proposed closure of Crown Land Road Reserve next to 32 Watkins Rd Avalon Beach</b></p> <p>I object to this closure. It is not in the public interest to close the road reserve. The possible benefit to the owner of 32 Watkins Rd is contrary to the general public benefit in leaving the road reserve open.</p> <p>It is not currently used as a track suitable for walking into Bangalley Head Reserve, but that could happen at some time in the future if it remains a road reserve; the top of the road reserve meets the Reserve walking track.</p> <p>It has been used by emergency vehicles such as fire engines to take hoses up into the reserve to control wildfires. No doubt this access will be needed again in the future.</p> <p>It is Crown Land. I understand purchase after closure is sought by the owner of 32 Watkins Rd. Proceeds of any purchase would go to the NSW Government, not Northern Beaches Council.</p> <p>All public land should be kept in public ownership, particularly the many pathways and informal tracks in this part of the LGA. While many are impassible for various reasons, others enable walkers to move around the landscape, adventuring along the tracks and shortcuts between roads. Once closed or sold, such pathways are impossible to recover.</p>
136.	<p>I strongly object to the closure of this road reserve. Too many small parcels of public land are disappearing from the Northern Beaches and must be retained for the ease of people walking through their suburbs for mental and physical health. Not all people are able to participate in the total lengths of a walk so short cuts are a vital way of benefitting our wonderful views.</p> <p>This road reserve is also a necessary route for the access of emergency crews in case of a fire or accident, there are very few places where access is possible to Bangalley Reserve. I also object to a person buying extra land just to be able to put down more concrete in a sensitive area which leads to a very special bushland reserve, we need every piece of green space to help combat the deep decline of the health of our planet which humans are responsible for.</p>
137.	<p>I object to the closure and sale of the road reserve. Crown land should remain accessible to the public, allowing egress to the bush land and views behind these properties.</p>
138.	<p>Please do not sell public land. The access should remain public.</p>
139.	<p>I am strongly against any further subdivision and over development of the local area.</p> <p>I am therefore against this proposal of road closure to allow for further subdivision and subsequent sale and development of land.</p> <p>I am for retaining local character and bushland and space and for preserving local natural vegetation and animal habitat. This headland is a particularly special piece of land and should be respected and protected.</p>
140.	<p>The proposed sale is for pure greed This is a public pathway and should stay there and be upgraded to allow access to the headland Stop selling off public land for private greed</p>
141.	<p>This should not be sold but left for public access. We are losing land</p>
142.	<p>I do not believe the proposed closure of this public land should go ahead. It would be a loss to our community to loose this strip of land. It would serve the community better to be a pathway to bangally reserve as well as providing a corridor for flora. Revegetation of this strip of land would also provide a natural corridor for native fauna to access the bangally reserve.</p>
143.	<p>Why is the Council considering or supporting the closure of this public road reserve in order to facilitate sale of the land to the adjacent landowner at 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach. This is not in the public interest or benefit in anyway.</p> <p>The owner of 32 Watkins Road wants to acquire the land to facilitate the subdivision of the land and the construction of a second dwelling house which is clearly for the owner's individual personal profit and benefit to the detriment of all other residents and visitors. This public road reserve is a community asset. If this is a road reserve, the owner should be able to negotiate the use of the road reserve for access to the back of their block and they need to pay to the cost of building of the driveway/pathway. This driveway/pathway could provide assistance to</p>

	<p>gain an additional public access to the iconic Careel Headland Reserve - a win for the owner by giving them access to the back of their block and a win for residents and visitors by maintaining public ownership of the Road Reserve and assisting the Council build an additional access to the Reserve.</p> <p>I suspect, however, that the owner does not have a sufficiently large size block to subdivide into 2 minimum size blocks without this public land (as a number of their neighbours have been able to do with similar battleaxe blocks). This unfortunate for the owner but is not a sustainable reason to sell off a public asset which could offer the residents and visitors better access to the Reserve.</p> <p>It appears that the only reason why this important public asset is not in current public use is that it is not marked as public right of way and the Council has not built and maintained an appropriate pathway to one of the most iconic Public Reserves on the northern peninsula - Careel Headland Reserve. For the Council to argue that the area is not suitable for a pathway is absolute rubbish. If this was the case, the pathways to the Barrenjoey Headland and nearly every other headland and hilltop Reserve on the Peninsula wouldn't be open to enjoyment and benefit of community and visitors alike.</p> <p>I understand that there is a risk that the current southern access to the Careel Headland Reserve via Marine Parade may become compromised if the cliff near this entrance continues to collapse. Having a another pathway to Careel Headland Reserve is a valuable asset for the residents and visitors, and critical to ensuring public access can be maintained.</p> <p>The sale of a public road reserve which has the potential to provide access to important public assets including Careel Headland Reserve and Bangalley Park, to an adjacent landowner, in order to facilitate the future redevelopment of the land for private benefit, is clearly not in the public interest.</p> <p>If the Council was truly interested in improving public visitation and community use of the Northern Beaches iconic natural assets, they should actively oppose the closure and sale of this Road Reserve.</p>
144.	I object to this declaration of a proposed road reserve closure. These public assets are essential to community wellbeing. It blocks access to a viewpoint of the coastline.
145.	Retain for public use, do not sell or close.
146.	<p>It is important to keep all council/public access points open for the public. I am a big walker and routinely seek alternative tracks and public access points to navigate and explore. The headland does not need any more local development encroaching on the beautiful Bangalley reserve track and clearing of bush land.</p> <p>Subdivision of your own land is your decision. If there is no access, no subdivision. We live on a large block of approx 1200sqm and I would hesitate building a granny flat on our property which may crowd our neighbors and destroy our beautiful tree scape.</p> <p>History has told us the public do not appreciate people building over and extending their gardens and blocking/hiding public access to waterways along Riverview and Barrenjoey rd as examples.</p> <p>I do not agree with public land being sold for the reason for an owner to subdivide their land for their own gain.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
147.	<p>I do not support the closure and sale. Too many public access ways are already concealed by neighbours, reducing public access.</p> <p>I regularly run Bangalore Head and Watkins Road and I had no idea this was public land. Council needs to open it and others in the area, not sell it.</p>
148.	I definitely do not wish to see this public footpath closed to public foot traffic. I use it often and would be very disadvantaged if it was to be closed. Furthermore northern beaches council does not deserve to be awarded any more public monies, after the absolutely disastrous effort at fixing sand point boat ramp. Never in the history of council projects has there been a attempt to fix something, that ended up making it so much worse.
149.	Council is proposing the closure of a public road reserve in order to facilitate sale of the land to the adjacent landowner at 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach.

	<p>The owner of 32 Watkins Road wants to acquire the land to facilitate the construction of a second dwelling house and subdivision of the land.</p> <p>Despite not currently being used, there is potential for the reserve to be upgraded and used in the future to provide pedestrian access for the public from Watkins Road to Careel Headland Reserve.</p> <p>Noting the area is subject to geotechnical risks, the current accessway via Marine Parade may become unusable at some point in the future if the cliff near this entrance continues to collapse into the ocean over time. With this in mind, having an alternative access route to Careel Headland Reserve is a valuable asset for the community, and critical for ensuring public access can be maintained for future generations.</p> <p>Council have flagged potential "safety issues" that could potentially arise from the steepness of the terrain, but no further information has been provided. If the land can be considered suitable for an intensification of residential development, as is proposed by the owner of 32 Watkins Road, then safety risks associated with a pedestrian walkway are likely manageable.</p> <p>In summary, the sale of a public road reserve, which has the potential to provide future access to important public assets including Careel Headland Reserve and Bangalley Park, to an adjacent landowner, in order to facilitate the future redevelopment of the land for private benefit, is clearly not in the public interest.</p>
150.	<p>As a local I have walked up bangalley headland on many occasions and often wanted an alternative route back down but was unaware this reserve existed.</p> <p>I would like to see it opened up and signposted as public access to the headland. Whilst steep it is less dangerous than the current access through to whale beach road</p> <p>It is public land and should remain that way.</p> <p>Perhaps I could purchase the walkway to the side of my property so that I can benefit financially at the expense of other ratepayers!!! Where does it stop!</p>
151.	<p>I am completely against closing off more pathways in Avalon for the benefit of one land owner to build another property behind them. I run up and down the Bangalley head track a couple of times a month so I know the area in question.</p> <p>It should be upgraded to an official walking path with clear signage. If it is too difficult to join up to the Bangalley head track above it, it should be re-vegetated as a wildlife corridor for animals moving in and out of the reserve.</p>
152.	<p>As a local and a walker I love the pathways that connect areas and feel the more of these we lose the less a accessible walking is. Our footpaths are limited- let's us keep the little lanes</p> <p>There's much concern locally at the loss (by sale, by neighbours encroachment or by overall neglect and inaccessibility) of these road reserves around the area, which potentially now provide pathway access to a number of areas, in this case up to the headland. Many are overgrown, some are appropriated (and maintained!) by neighboring properties...</p> <p>In this case, it seems there is a real interest in this being retained. My understanding is that any proceeds go the general income and do not benefit the area. Either way, it seems that there is an easy solution.</p> <p>The proposed buyer should be granted a right of way, at a price (given that this will significantly enhance the value of the currently inaccessible land behind 32).</p> <p>In addition, he should be required - and it can be noted in the deeds which should be amended - to build AND maintain (in perpetuity) - the driveway to the front of the new subdivision AND a fully safe pathway along the route beyond the driveway. This will ALL be a public right of way, will be signed accordingly, and may NEVER be fenced or gated.</p> <p>This will maintain public access, but provide the owner with road access.</p> <p>As more people move to this area - where resources and access are already under pressure - maintaining these spaces is essential.</p> <p>This should NOT be sold in an attempt to raise easy money. There is an easy win/win for the potential purchaser, council AND the public, which merely requires a bit more effort from Council, on behalf of the people for whom they are supposed to be working.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

153.	This should be kept and made into a public pathway access to the ocean reserve and not sold
154.	To all the councillors especially those representing the Northern Ward. Pittwater has precious little land, so it is unimaginable why Council thinks this important public land won't be needed as the population becomes more dense, and access becomes Priceless into the future. Local government is the last bastion of hope for good planning, because Rob Stokes future vision is horrifying.
155.	I worry about any public land being sold off, especially when the said land provides local and visitors access to beautiful walks or views. Unfortunately these pieces of land often aren't signed so we don't even know they exist, or, are purposefully encroached on by neighbouring properties intending to hide them. ( I'm not saying that is happening here). Looking at the aerial photo it appears that there are no other access paths to the headland close by so once it's gone then it's gone for good. I also have a question. How much money has/would council agree to sell the land for? This will be a huge windfall for number 32 because without this public land they would be unable to build behind their house. Blocks of land are presently at a premium. Like I said previously "once it's gone it's gone"!
156.	Please do not allow closure of the road reserve by 32 Watkins Rd Avalon. Northern Beaches Council needs to hold onto its public lands in the best interest of future generations. Rights of way and public pathways are continually being obscured by greedy landowners in the area (e.g. 143 Whale Beach Rd, Whale Beach and the pathway between Rockbath Rd and Florida Rd, Palm Beach). It needs to stop. A healthy and happy community needs access to public spaces, quiet walkways that exist throughout the area make the area a more enjoyable and easier place to enjoy on foot. If anything, Council should be more proactive in properly signposting and preserving public lands.
157.	Leave it as public access. Council should clear it so it's accessible. We need to keep as many areas as possible accessible for people to enjoy. The applicant might say he is leaving it to be accessible but if he's also subdividing the future owner may not give permission. Once it's in private hands, it lost 😞
158.	I am amenable to this parcel of land to be granted to 32 Watkins Road. I see that this has little or no benefit to anyone else except to the adjoining owner/s.
159.	We believe that the sale of any public land, particularly public walkways should be prevented. We live beside such a piece of public land in Elizabeth St Avalon and it is invaluable for habitat and a movement corridor for our ever dwindling wildlife. Pity no one did anything about this before our koalas disappeared. We are also overpopulated enough as the recent accident on the Bigola bends proved. Stopping traffic for 24 hours. If we double up the number of houses on each block the population will be impossible to support. Yours Sincerely ██████████
160.	Public pathways should not be sold by council to neighbouring properties it is council's responsibility to maintain the pathway and make it accessible to the public selling this land would be unwise and confirm this council as being completely redundant.
161.	To whom it may concern I am a resident of Avalon and strongly object to the council selling off public land for the benefit of one landowner to benefit financially from building another home. Public land belongs to the public for all to share and enjoy.
162.	The road reserve should be maintained as public land, along with a proper footpath that allows access from the road to Bangalley headland - ideally wheelchair accessible. In addition, the footpath should be signposted as a pathway to Bangalley. Road reserves such as this should NEVER be allowed to be acquired as private land.
163.	What little public access land that exists should be kept as such. It is against the public interest to give up this land... even though it has not been maintained recently by council, it is an asset that belongs to the public. The neighbouring owner says he needs it for access to a second dwelling. Once it is in his control, he can close it off, even though he says he won't. He cannot speak for subsequent owners, though. I note that he doesn't ask if he can have a right of way,

	leaving ownership in public hands., even though he says that he just needs access to a secondary dwelling... hmmm...
164.	<p>There's much concern locally at the loss (by sale, by neighbours encroachment or by overall neglect and inaccessibility) of these road reserves around the area, which potentially now provide pathway access to a number of areas, in this case up to the headland. Many are overgrown, some are appropriated (and maintained!) by neighboring properties...</p> <p>In this case, it seems there is a real interest in this being retained. My understanding is that any proceeds go the general income and do not benefit the area. Either way, it seems that there is an easy solution.</p> <p>The proposed buyer should be granted a right of way, at a price (given that this will significantly enhance the value of the currently inaccessible land behind 32).</p> <p>In addition, he should be required - and it can be noted in the deeds which should be amended - to build AND maintain (in perpetuity) - the driveway to the front of the new subdivision AND a fully safe pathway along the route beyond the driveway. This will ALL be a public right of way, will be signed accordingly, and may NEVER be fenced or gated.</p> <p>This will maintain public access, but provide the owner with road access.</p> <p>As more people move to this area - where resources and access are already under pressure - maintaining these spaces is essential.</p> <p>This should NOT be sold in an attempt to raise easy money. There is an easy win/win for the potential purchaser, council AND the public, which merely requires a bit more effort from Council, on behalf of the people for whom they are supposed to be working.</p>
165.	The land needs to remain in the hands of the public and not sold off for more development
166.	I disagree with selling off public land. Let the people enjoy the area
167.	I object to the sale of this reserve. Such reserves should be opened and maintained by the council to promote access to other public areas.
168.	<p>I strongly object to the closure of the public road reserve in order to facilitate a sale of the land to the adjacent landowner at 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach.</p> <p>The owner of 32 Watkins Road wants to acquire the land to facilitate the construction of a second dwelling house and subdivision of the land for their private benefit.</p> <p>Despite not currently being used, there is potential for the reserve to be upgraded and used in the future to provide pedestrian access for the public from Watkins Road to Careel Headland Reserve.</p> <p>Noting the area is subject to geotechnical risks, the current accessway via Marine Parade may become unusable at some point in the future if the cliff near this entrance continues to collapse over time. With this in mind, having an alternative public access route to Careel Headland Reserve is a valuable asset for the community, and critical for future-proofing access to this important public asset for future generations.</p> <p>While Council have flagged potential "safety issues" that could potentially arise from the steepness of the terrain, no further information has been provided. If the land can be considered suitable for an intensification of residential development, as is proposed by the owner of 32 Watkins Road, then safety risks associated with a pedestrian walkway are likely manageable.</p> <p>In summary, the sale of a public road reserve, which has the potential to provide future access to important public assets including Careel Headland Reserve and Bangalley Park, to an adjacent landowner, in order to facilitate the future redevelopment of the land for private benefit, is clearly not in the public interest.</p>
169.	<p>If you get rid of the road reserves you end up with less greenery on the streets which causes a warming effect on the area. If you allow this, there will be more to follow resulting in what has happened in other parts of Sydney and the world. This will hugely impact the lives of all residents whether they are conscious of it or not.</p> <p>Road reserves also provide home to many possums and birds lizards and insects, which, with the removal of this will result in habitat destruction and even local extinction which is seen time</p>

	<p>and time again in the past looking at northern beaches as well as other parts of Australia and the world.</p> <p>Removing road reserves also causes a degradation to the integrity of Avalon, who is prided as an area with greenery and why it is such a desirable area to live in, with the removal of each road reserve, you are taking one step forward into the destruction of this beautiful area to live</p>
170.	<p>I am against the sale of this public land. The owner want to build another house at thr back of the block "as his neighbours have ." His block is much smaller than number 36 is, and was before number 34 was carved off, or visa versa.</p> <p>The owner says that he will let anyone use the driveway and landscape it beautifully. Until he sells those two properties! Then what?</p> <p>There are complaints and news articles about how big new buildings are, around the peninsula.</p> <p>Do we want every block filled with structures?</p> <p>More people, more cars on our already jammed roads and car parks.</p>
171.	<p>I strongly object to the closure of the public road reserve so the land can be sold to the adjoining owner at 32 Watkins Road who intends to construct a second dwelling.</p> <p>This in effect, takes a valuable asset away from the community so that a private individual can profit from redeveloping the land for their own benefit. This is clearly not in the public interest.</p> <p>This reserve should instead be upgraded by Council to provide alternative pedestrian access to the Bangalley headland walking track.</p>
172.	<p>Regarding the proposed road reserve closure adj 32 Watkins Road, AVALON.</p> <p>I am in favour of allowing the sale of the land to the owner of the lot at 32 Watkins Road, conditional upon the owner granting the public rights at all times to use the resulting driveway as access to reserve land at the rear of the property.</p> <p>Surely such an outcome preserves the best interests of all parties ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Council is released of obligations and risks arising from owning unmaintained property.</li> <li>2. The Council benefits from the sale of the land.</li> <li>3. The purchaser is able to maximise the use of their existing property, and use it in the same manner as many others in the area. That is, construct an additional dwelling.</li> <li>4. The public benefits in that they gain FULLY MAINTAINED access to the coastal reserve.</li> </ol> <p>No one is worse off.</p> <p>Let's not complicate the simple decisions.</p> <p>I support the conditional sale of the land.</p>
173.	<p>I disagree.</p>
174.	<p>I strongly object to this public road reserve being closed for the purpose of selling the land to an adjacent home owner. Avalon Beach was planned with many small laneways and over time many of these have been lost from public ownership either in a planned way or surreptitiously by homeowners that have moved boundaries and where spaces to be allowed to become over grown.</p> <p>We need to maintain these public owned land for future generations. I would strongly encourage the council to keep the land. Perhaps you can put the burden of maintenance on neighbours to keep this clear, just like we all have to do for the verges in front of our own properties. If not, put it to public walkers to allow us to maintain routes on our public land.</p>
175.	<p>I live nearby this road reserve and frequently enjoy walking on Bangalley Headland.</p> <p>I had no idea this road reserve existed, I have not noticed any sign to indicate access to the reserve.</p> <p>I walked past the site the other day, it did not seem like a clear track, building rubble and equipment from the neighbouring property appeared to impede the track so I did not attempt to walk up it.</p> <p>I think it is important that it is properly cleared and maintained as a road reserve easily accessible from Watkins Road. I have lived adjoining Bangalley Headland for more than 25 years, from my property Bangalley headland is not accessible.</p> <p>During the time I have lived in this area there have been many emergency situations, such as bushfires, people requiring ambulance assistance etc on Bangalley Headland, often emergency services do not know where the quickest point of access is. I have directed them to the main</p>

	<p>entry, not knowing that a closer point of access, that should be clearly marked and accessible is available.</p> <p>There is already far too much development in this sensitive zone. It is pure greed driving the acquisition of what should be an important access point to the headland.</p> <p>Please keep and clear the track, so it is at able to be utilized if needed by emergency services and enjoyed by local walkers.</p> <p>This is a gem that should be polished and accessible to all, not sold on to increase the wealth of an individual. If there is real concern for the environment it must be retained as green space.</p> <p>I shudder to see all the properties, battleaxe blocks with two massive dwellings, or single properties with 'granny flats' larger than my home, surrounding me. There is very little street parking, no footpaths and not the level of infrastructure to support this density of development. Do not facilitate more development in such an environmentally sensitive area.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
176.	<p>No!!! Why should public space be closed so a self-entitled neighbour (No 32) can put up a granny flat and derive income. Disgraceful!</p> <p>Council should be ashamed for even considering it!</p>
177.	<p>This is yet more evidence of public land being given to a private owner. In this case for the private owner to increase living density which they will then sell off at a significant profit.</p> <p>Frankly Council has absolutely no intention of listening to the community but are solely focused on their OWN priorities which does not include fixing roads, collecting rubbish, or cleaning up cycle paths.</p>
178.	<p>This should not proceed. I live less than 100m from this proposed closure and have done so for 25 years. What is most disturbing is that this access was not developed and it made clear of its very existence. This would have simplified access to the headland, and reduced foot traffic through the cliff reserve at the back of all the houses in Watkins Road. The proposal should be to DEVELOPE the public access, not sell it!!</p>
179.	<p>It sounds like a terrible idea, no doubt purely to benefit the developers who will surely build multiple properties on the lot. If there was a medical emergency at Bangalley head, the loss of this throughfare might impact access by medical staff and police. I can see no benefit at all to the public or the neighbours in that quiet street of allowing the sale.</p>
180.	<p>I object to the sale on a matter of principle. It is public land and should remain so. I understand that the owner of 32 sees this as an opportunity to gain a second income or a second property to sell but that should not be at the expense of public land. Don't get me wrong if I were this person I would hope to do the same but he purchased the property knowing it was public land and it should remain public land.</p> <p>Thanks</p>
181.	<p>I am against the sale of this land. I know at this stage it can't be used as an access but I feel it sets a precedent for any other residents who feel they might like to obtain some Council land for their own benefit. Already there are some residents who have "acquired" some Council land for their own use - This should also be addressed by the Council. Money shouldn't speak!!</p> <p>Thank you</p>
182.	<p>Here is Clareville we put into place "adopt a pathway" with Pittwater Council. These pathways are valuable for our community. They are a way for us to walk our areas via lovely natural settings and connect with others. Unfortunately they have been ignored by council. They should not be sold off but reinstated. <a href="https://cabpra.wordpress.com/funds-for.../adopt-a-pathway/">https://cabpra.wordpress.com/funds-for.../adopt-a-pathway/</a></p>
183.	<p>Selling the land means another pathway taken away from people of Avalon that like to walk to the headland with no return. A much better option would be to allow the applicant to build and maintain a road but still allow public access. A win-win for the community and the person wanting to build the road</p>
184.	<p>If the owner of the property wants to build at the rear of his property he needs access via his own land, not public land.</p> <p>If that desperate to build a second house he can demolish the existing house and redesign to provide access to rear of property.</p> <p>We have had too many public access paths in this area claimed or hidden by greedy property owners.</p> <p>The local community can assist with maintenance of the path if the council can't.</p>
185.	<p>Dear Northern Beaches Council.</p>

	<p>I am strongly opposed to the closure of the public pathway between 32 Watkins Road and 34 and 36 Watkins Road. It represents the support of a single interest at the expense of the greater North Avalon (and beyond) community. The Bangalley Headland is such a beautiful part of Avalon enjoyed by many locals and visitors to the area. I often walk the paths of Bangalley Headland enjoying the native flora and fauna and as this public pathway is very near where I live, I would certainly make use of the access, as would many others. A signpost showing it is a public pathway would be welcome. Many locals are very community minded and have interests in preserving public areas for the enjoyment of current and future generations. We cannot stand by and let these benefits of the environment disappear forever. At a time when the mental health of all is being tested like never before, the value to our local community must take precedence over any financial gain to a single person. Please consider the health and recreational needs of our current and future community ahead of the financial gain of one person and reject the closure of the public path.</p> <p>Sincere regards, [REDACTED]</p>
186.	<p>Public spaces should always be for all the community....</p> <p>Not the privileged few....</p> <p>If the public walkway is overgrown.....council has been negligent in maintaining</p>
187.	<p>I object to the sale of this PUBLIC LAND. On my many walks around Avalon I have found walkways marked on google maps to be non existent, ie part of someone's property? PUBLIC LAND should remain as PUBLIC LAND , too much of what we once owned has been sold off by successive governments at all levels.</p>
188.	<p>I think that this piece of road reserve is a remarkable public asset that creates the opportunity for all people in the community to engage with the reserve and view the ocean at that point. If this land is privatised public access is lost forever. Please retain in public ownership this unique/scarce public asset and invest in basic walking access along to the end of the reserve. This is an asset to be treasured for future generations. 🙏 [REDACTED] - Avalon</p>
189.	<p>We strongly do not approve!!</p> <p>This path is vested to the community and should be utilised as such</p> <p>To facilitate another property to subdivide is unacceptable.</p> <p>The additional parking in the street is all ready full and will only add to it</p> <p>All so many longstanding property owners will be affected by headlights going down the driveway.</p> <p>Further development fights will occur as neighbouring properties will be adversely affected by a proposed new building (yet to be lodged)</p> <p>Community deserves its rates to be used to create and maintain amenities that are for the benefit of the community</p> <p>Not to mention, what about the rights of 34 and 36.</p>
190.	<p>I am against this pathway (and many others) being closed for public use because there are so many lovely pathways in the northern beaches that should be better marked If they were people would use them more often. Everyone is walking to keep fit and healthy which is what we want in our area.Closing this and others like it is a travesty if our forefathers left them purposely. It would be much better if they were marked as pathways so people would use them and not just leaving it up to local knowledge/word of mouth or walking groups to find and use them. Unless they are completely unpassable on foot/by bike then these older reserved pathways should be made useable and not closed and sold to the neighbours.</p>
191.	<p>With reference to selling the footpath/land at 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach, I am opposed to selling. It should remain as public space, and developed into a proper path to the Bangalley reserve cliff.</p>

	<p>Public land/footpaths are precious, as overdevelopment is constantly being condensed onto larger blocks of land in our suburbs. Although this path has been obscured either by neglect or design, it should be cleared, the borders shrub planted for privacy for the adjoining properties, including simple bush steps constructed for the steeper top section. This a valuable asset for the community and should definitely not be sold off. Residents in the streets north of the reserve access on Marine Parade would find this footpath much more convenient to enjoy this popular area.</p> <p>In the event of bush fire, as happened a few years ago on the headland, the fire brigade would be able to connect hoses in the street, and run them up the path to the cliff without interfering with private property.</p>
192.	<p>Dear NBC, Thanks for this opportunity. I am opposed to the closure of the subject public land and its consequent sale by the Crown to the current owner's of one of the neighbouring properties. Any strip of public land that is vegetated 'green belt', a fauna habitat and corridor, and an existing or potential public access way to other public lands is rare and valuable. Clearly, it should be retained. It is suggested that the strip is little, even unused by the public. That is not surprising given it has been made to look like private land and has not been maintained as a thoroughfare by authorities. Were those matters addressed, the public would readily walk to and from the famous Bangalley Headland. Any suggestion that the pathway would be too steep in part does not stack up: sections of the Angophora Reserve, Pinnacle Track, Smugglers Track and numerous other popular walks on the Peninsular are equally steep. Indeed, they are sought out by the many locals and visitors looking for exercise in beautiful settings. I understand Council is in the business of encouraging such activity reasonable even challenging. It is also suggested there are other public ingress and egress points to Bangalley. Those other points are not "nearby" as suggested. In any case, the more access points the more the community and visitors will be encouraged to exercise and enjoy spectacular Bangalley. Multiple accesses are also a simple matter of safety in the event of accident, injury or illness while in the Reserve. Closure and sale of the strip would also facilitate further development of the neighbouring plot. More 'green belt' and fauna habitat would be lost. Density and traffic would increase. Only the Crown and the current owners of 32 Watkins stand to gain from the subject proposal. On the other hand, all NBC LGA constituents and visitors would lose. The proposal is certainly not in the public interest. Indeed, it is against the public interest. I urge Council to reject the proposal. Sincerely, [REDACTED] Avalon Beach</p>
193.	<p>Please do not close this pathway. Instead, please signpost it as 'public path' There are many pathways in this area and some residents make access difficult by planting out public land. Another example is an access to McKay reserve from Bynya rd Palm Beach. Long term residents are aware of many pathways newer residents are not aware are actually public access, not private land. This pathway should not be closed to enable private purchase of the land.</p>
194.	<p>I [REDACTED] object strongly to this back door method of acquiring public lands. How dare the owners of 32 Watkins Rd assume that there would be no community disgust at this proposal. Public land is exactly that, land which the public can use. It is not for their personal gain. There are many such public walkways in Pittwater, so should we block and discourage people from using them so that some developer and neighbours make some money. I shall be waiting for Councils determination, Yours sincerely [REDACTED]</p>
195.	<p>I am totally opposed to the closure and sale of this piece of Public Land. Its existence has clearly been a very closely guarded secret as I regularly walk there and didn't know if its</p>

	<p>existence. Rather than selling it for the economic benefit of one ratepayer it really must be kept in public ownership. The fact that it is a public way should be clearly established and sign posted.</p> <p>Even if this is too steep to be used as part of the walking track system on Bangalley Headland, it should be kept as a wildlife corridor. There are very few existing corridors left, which has contributed to the loss of many native species of flora and fauna.</p> <p>In Summary: If you really care about your reputation as a forward looking Green Council, you cannot even consider selling a rare road reserve in such a beautiful place.</p>
196.	<p>Dear Northern Beaches Council</p> <p>I am strongly opposed to the closure of the pathway from Watkins Rd to Bangally Headland.</p> <p>This Public land is a community asset and the interests of the community should always be considered before the interests of private land owners.</p> <p>I am an organiser for a local Heart Foundation Walking Group and our group regularly walks the Bangally Reserve Walking Track. I never knew that this access was there.</p> <p>The Northern Beaches Council has been campaigning for the community to become more active/healthy by advocating the use of pathways and cycleways. Instead of handing this Public Pathway over to private landowners I think that the Pathway should remain a community asset and be upgraded to a proper pathway access to Bangally Reserve.</p> <p>It is a very shortsighted plan to hand this Public asset to private interests. Once this asset is gone, it is gone forever! We don't know what the future holds and what the needs of the community will be in the future. Public land is a scarce asset and we need to preserve and look after these assets for future generations. These assets should not be given away to the highest bidder! I understand the council does not have a role in the sale of the land but, the intention of this proposal is very clear and the land will be sold to an adjoining property.</p> <p>I strongly oppose to the proposal of the closure of this Road Reserve, and demand that the Public Land stays for the use of the whole community.</p> <p>Sincerely, [REDACTED]</p>
197.	<p>I strongly oppose the closing of this public pathway so that someone can build a second dwelling. This public land is there to give people access to Bangalley Headland, not for someone to build another house for profit. If these people want 2 houses they need to move somewhere where this is possible. Granny flats are taking over our suburb and one more is not needed - especially when there is not access for it.</p>
198.	<p>I strongly oppose the proposed closing of this significant and well-used public road reserve (access path) and its possible sale to private interests. I understand they are separate issues, but they are closely linked because the closing of the path opens up and facilitates the sale.</p> <p>This pathway is a valuable public asset and connects the public road directly to Bangalley Headland - one of the best ocean/cliff/coastal views in the entire NBC LGA. It allows community access to the Bangalley Headland and as such represents a net loss to the community if it is closed to community access.</p> <p>Instead of being closed off, the path should be revegetated to improve the existing wildlife corridor, in line with NBC's tree planting/biodiversity goals and policies. Closing the path, then selling this bushland off to a neighbour to facilitate a second dwelling (by concreting it for a driveway), would potentially obliterate a significant section of vital wildlife habitat that we're rapidly losing in our area due to increased development.</p> <p>My wife and I regularly use this path to access Bangalley Headland. There are other accesses, but this is the most gently sloped and convenient. Whenever we use the access, we always see</p>

	<p>other community members doing the same thing; the pathway is a significant community asset. The closing of this path, and the disposal of the land to private interests as a result, is absolutely against the public interest and should not be contemplated by NBC.</p> <p>██████████ ██████████ Avalon Beach</p>
199.	<p>Dear NBC</p> <p>We strongly oppose the closing of the path and proposed takeover/sale of this community land. We understand they are separate issues, but they are closely linked because the closing facilitates the sale. This pathway is a valuable public asset and connects directly to Bangalley Headland - one of the best ocean/cliff/coastal views in the entire LGA.</p> <p>Council has been actively encouraging the community to walk or bike ride around their suburb instead of driving. These connecting pathways facilitate that goal.</p> <p>The eastern (upper) part of the track is currently a vital habitat corridor for birds and animals, that directly connects to Bangalley Reserve, but the lower section has been made to look like it's private land. This path should not be closed, but remediated and revegetated with native trees and shrubs by NBC/Crown Land contractors, with perhaps help from bushcare groups, while incorporating a low-key stepped track to properly connect from Watkins Rd to Bangalley Reserve - as NBC has done with the Pinnacle Track and Angophora Reserve in Avalon, which are equally steep. The view rewards at the end of this track warrant any costs.</p> <p>NBC says there are other tracks nearby that connect to Bangalley, but they are too far distant to be convenient for walkers from Whale Beach Rd, Milga, Binburra, Albert, Alexander Roads etc. If a plan to make a formal path is too costly, or not feasible, then simply revegetating the path to improve the existing wildlife corridor would be the best option, and is in line with NBC's tree planting/biodiversity goals and policies. Closing the path, then selling this bushland off to the neighbour to facilitate a second dwelling (by concreting it for a driveway), would potentially obliterate a significant section of vital wildlife habitat that we're rapidly losing in the area, due to increased development.</p> <p>Many Pittwater public paths have been illegally appropriated by adjoining neighbours trying to discourage community use - for example: 173 Riverview Rd, Avalon which has been an ongoing legal saga over 4 years +, where the resident has done major construction work on road reserve and on the Shore Brace Reserve path that connects to Pittwater. This sets a very poor precedent by NBC to further undermine their use by closing/selling the Watkins Rd path. Which Pittwater/NBC path will be next?</p> <p>But most importantly, why should the community &amp; local wildlife lose a valued asset, so a single resident can potentially profit (hugely) from the sale of this public land.</p> <p>The closing of this path, &amp; the disposal of the land as a result, is not in the public interest.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
200.	<p>Dear Northern Beaches Council,</p> <p>I strongly object to the closure of this public road reserve for the following reasons:</p> <p>I really appreciate this pathway, and all of the other pathways on the northern beaches where I can walk and look at the ocean or aspects of this beautiful area; I can't understand why you would consider allowing this to be developed. Not only would you be removing a valued area of land access but this would likely lead to similar requests to remove public land for an individual's development goals - a very bad precedent in my opinion. Why should the entire community be negatively impacted by one individual's gain?</p> <p>We already are seeing too much development on the northern beaches - there is very little land left for wildlife to be able to live and to move safely; please let's appreciate the unique special nature of the peninsula and not destroy any area which can support and aid our natural wildlife.</p>

	<p>Please do not approve this closure; please keep this public reserve access for our community - both now and for future generations. Once this land is lost, it will never be able to be regained or restored.</p>
201.	<p>I oppose the closure of the road reserve for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- many public pathways are already illegally appropriated by property owners adjacent to them and are blocked off from public use. If these pathways were maintained they would provide incentive for people to walk, taking advantage of the short cuts many of these paths provide. Closing this walkway represents further deterioration of the public assets and undermines community prerogatives.</li> <li>-It's also an important wildlife corridor connecting to Bangalley Reserve. With increasing development in area, these connecting corridors are crucial to wildlife.</li> <li>- It's on the Pittwater Public Pathway list &amp; is a low key but valued pathway to a beautiful ocean lookout</li> <li>- If NBC can do it here, they could do it to many public paths.</li> <li>- Sets a bad precedent.</li> <li>- The community pays to enhance this resident's property value.</li> <li>- Should be signposted so more people know it exists and can access the reserve more easily</li> </ul>
202.	<p>I oppose closure of this road reserve.</p> <p>Even though it is currently unused, as it is overgrown, it is public land.</p> <p>Public land ..in this case effectively a de facto public reserve/ green space ..albeit a narrow one is valued by the community for its visual benefits in such a highly visible publicly exposed location. Public value more so than a paved road to enable access to and enhanced value to undeveloped private land.</p> <p>This is preferable to further development along the escarpment that would further make it like the North end of Newport Beach in appearance</p> <p>The FAQs suggest a public pathway would be unsafe due to steepness. If cleared and preferably left as an unmade surface with a public pathway sign, that should be up to users to decide. If it's unsafe for pedestrians due to its steepness, it should also be equally unsafe as a private road for users of the public road below, and for residents opposite in Watkins Rd</p> <p>The sale of this public land for no local community benefit from the sale, is opposed.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
203.	<p>I object very strongly to this proposed closure. This is, and always has been, a very beautiful walkway to one of this areas' spectacular ocean lookouts.</p> <p>It is also vital for the local wildlife to use as a corridor allowing native animals to roam the headland.</p> <p>I have heard this proposal is being suggested to facilitate a development. This is not a reason to forever take away public land. I will be doing all I can to oppose this.</p> <p>Regards, [REDACTED]</p>
204.	<p>I cannot believe that the NB Council is even entertaining this idea! The council's response straight up should have been an unequivocal 'NO'. How is it even getting to the point where the Council is asking for submissions on this request?! I am very disappointed!</p> <p>Public Land is public land. There are too many public land/access ways in the Pittwater area where private properties have usurped the access to these areas, and I don't see the council really doing anything to get 'our' land back! (Public reserve on Whale Beach Rd and Riverview Rd, just to name a few). I believe the land should very much remain as public land for the following reasons;</p> <p>It's an important wildlife corridor connecting to Bangalley Reserve. With increasing development in the area, these connecting corridors are crucial to wildlife!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It's on the Pittwater Public Pathway list &amp; a pathway to a beautiful ocean lookout</li> <li>- If NBC can do it here, they could do it to many public paths.</li> <li>- Sets a bad precedent.</li> </ul>

	<p>- The community pays to enhance this resident's property value. - Should be signposted so more people know it exists and can access the reserve more easily.</p> <p>The council has spent \$\$\$\$\$ on painting bike symbols on the road and useless blue sign posts to help people navigate the area whilst walking &amp; on bicycles, when everybody carry's a mobile GPS! What a waste of money. One example of many being the blue sign on Little Head (Whale Beach's northern headland) showing that Whale Beach is 0.5km down the road, when they can clearly see the beach from that point. What a waste of money!</p> <p>How about the council use this money to properly signpost and make available/accessible all the Public Land and access ways in Pittwater that have fallen by the wayside or been encroached on, or being denied access to, by private properties!</p>
205.	<p>It is very sad that NBC is even considering the closure of this road reserve so it can be sold so someone else can make a profit. This is public land, and provides access from Watkins Road through to Bangalley Headland reserve. It would also function as a wildlife corridor to/from the headland. With the increasing development in the area, such corridors are increasingly important for safe movement of wildlife. The closure of this road reserve sets a poor precedent for other such road reserves in the Northern Beaches. Instead, it should be signposted as public access to the clifftop walk along Bangalley Headland, so it can be more easily used by the public, who already own the land. I am 100% opposed to the sale of this road reserve.</p>

### B. Emailed Submissions

Number	Submission
206.	<p>Your Ref: 2022/020903 [REDACTED] Avalon Beach NSW 2107 [REDACTED] Mobile: [REDACTED] Chief Executive Officer Mr Ray Brownlee Northern Beaches Council 27 February 2022 Dear Mr Brownlee, <b>Re: Notice of proposed formal closure of a public road reserve in Avalon Beach between 32 and 34/36 Watkins Rd</b> I am the owner of [REDACTED] Watkins Rd Avalon. My property is the direct adjoining neighbour to 32 Watkins Road. As one of the most directly affected neighbours I strongly oppose the proposal to close the public road reserve between 32 and 34/36 Watkins Rd Avalon. I understand that all other adjoining neighbours, as well as nearby neighbours also oppose the proposal. This public road reserve provides real public amenity. The closing of this public path, and the stated intention to sell to my neighbour, is not in the public interest. This pathway is a valuable public asset that connects directly to Bangalley Headland and Reserve with walking tracks that have some of the best coastal views in the Northern Beaches Local Government Area. The public path connects directly to the popular Palm Beach to Manly bicentennial walk. Importantly, this is an opportunity for this public road reserve to be the primary access for emergency services, in particular the Fire Brigade, to attend bush fires in the Bangalley Reserve as well as police and ambulance services should a member of the public need assistance. There are very few public access points to Bangalley Reserve and Headland and restoring this pathway is essential for public welfare. The path is clear at the bottom and with simple maintenance could be improved further. It can easily be remediated and revegetated with native trees and shrubs with help from neighbours (such as myself), community volunteers and bushcare groups. It would then be a low maintenance track that properly connects Watkins Rd to Bangalley Reserve for the public to enjoy as well as create that vital access for the emergency services. As a direct</p>

	<p>border holder I would happily contribute to its restoration. The path offers genuine public amenity that all should be able to enjoy.</p> <p>The situation at 32/34 Watkins Rd has until very recently also been made to look like it is private land and the upper component significantly affected by the lack of maintenance on the applicants border. The closure and disposal of this land in not in the public interest and creates a poor precedent for other residents to contend with.</p> <p>The purpose of the closure is to enable the potential sale of the road reserve to a private party for the potential construction of a second dwelling (behind the existing dwelling at 32 Watkins Road) and subdivision of land. Currently, the applicant does not have the land size required to subdivide in accordance with Council planning controls. In effect, if Council were to formally close the road reserve, it would be giving up public land and green space, with no gain to either council or the community (proceeds would go to the Crown), to enable a private subdivision opportunity (and significant private gain) that currently does not exist. Closure and privatisation of this path will ultimately result in increased densification of the built environment and will negatively impact on the natural environment. This path should not be closed.</p> <p><b>I strongly oppose the proposal to close the public road reserve between 32 and 34/36 Watkins Rd Avalon and proposed sale of this community land. I respectfully ask that you reject this proposal.</b></p> <p>Your faithfully [Redacted] Avalon NSW 2107 [Redacted] Mobile: [Redacted]</p>
207.	<p>[Redacted] NSW 2107 3 March 2022 Attn: Northern Beaches Council <b>Re :Proposed Road Reserve Closure – Land Adjoining 32 Watkins Rd Avalon Beach</b></p> <p>I'm writing in support of the proposal.</p> <p>Having lived in Avalon for over 30 years in close proximity to this land both in Bareena Rd., just 250 metres away and for the past 5 years at 23 Watkins Rd (directly opposite the site) I have never seen the land as a viable access to Bangalley Head. I have also never seen anyone use it to access Bangalley Head.</p> <p>The land is steep and until the present owners cleared the bottom half it was impassable through that section. The top section is very steep and has never been cleared. With much easier access just 200metres south I don't see the need for an additional access point to Bangalley Head.</p> <p>Our family are keen bushwalkers and have walked the bush tracks through much of the Northern Beaches. It is a vast area with some wonderful walks. We would much rather see Council use the money from the sale of this land to better upkeep existing walks and to purchase land to link the cliff walk through from Bangalley Head to Avalon Head.</p> <p>The land proposed for sale has never been used for bushwalkers, has never been landscaped nor had a viable pathway constructed by Council. I presume because the costs of such out-way the benefit to the public given that there is a much easier route just a short distance south. In short, the money from the sale can be put to much better use for the benefit of all Northern Beaches Ratepayers.</p> <p>Regards, [Redacted]</p>
208.	<p>[Redacted] Avalon NSW 2107</p>

6<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Subject: Proposed Road Reserve Closure Plan – 32 Watkins Road, Avalon**

I would like to strongly object to the Closure Plan for the Public Pathway adjoining 32 Watkins Road. This is an area of outstanding beauty and cultural significance. It currently has 4 Public Access Pathways. I have been denied access from Watkins Road for an extended period and wish to ensure that future generations aren't similarly denied.

I have limited my Response to addressing the FAQ Section on the Council's website, but there is so much more that I would like to say on this matter. I feel that the argument Against is so strong, I prefer to leave my Response concise.

**DELIBERATE BLOCKING OF ACCESS**

I take particular exception to the FAQ which states:

*This road reserve is not currently being used by local residents due to being an unconstructed public pathway and heavily vegetated.*

An active trail runner and a long-time Peninsula resident, I have enjoyed exploring the many pathways of Pittwater. I share these with my friends, and they are amazed at how interesting and varied their walks can become.

This was particularly important during COVID, when the wellbeing benefits of being outdoors really came to the fore. I set about running every street, path and trail on the Peninsula and found so many more. Some were well maintained, others required a little bush bashing and some were purposely planted to make access impossible.

The Path in question had clearly been deliberately made impassible. I revisited the path adjoining 32 Watkins Road on several occasions, but each time realized that short of cutting down the obstructing trunks, I would have to encroach on private property. On each occasion, I had to give up.

Contrast this with the overgrown access from Binburra Avenue which I have enjoyed rediscovering on many occasions with its unmaintained stairs and seat which are a reminder of an era when Public Land was appreciated for being exactly that.

I am particularly annoyed now to discover that someone has cleared the pathway adjoining 32 Watkins Road in anticipation of Approval to purchase this beautiful stretch of Public Land. Surely this is an illegal clearing?

**Local Resident Use**

*There has been a desire from local residents to have a public accessway from Watkins Road to Careel Headland Reserve. However, due to safety issues that could potentially arise from the steepness of the terrain, as well as alternative accessways to the reserve available nearby, it is unlikely that a public accessway would be supported in the future.*

Had it not been deliberately planted to make it inaccessible, I would have been using this pathway for a few years. This is evidenced by my regular use of the pathway from Binburra Avenue and my numerous attempts to access the Watkins Road Access Pathway.

The steepness of the terrain and safety issues argument compared to other excellent Council constructions seems ridiculous to me. There are a couple of very short sections that would benefit from stairs, otherwise it is no more dangerous than several paths that I regularly use in Pittwater.

Unfortunately, Bangalley Headland is entirely closed when Emergency Services have the unfortunate task of visiting the area. It is possible that alternative access on these occasions may be beneficial.

Assuming that alternative access ways will always be available seems short-sighted given the environmental changes we are experiencing.

**Custodianship**

*Council has no role in any future sale and will not receive any proceeds.*

	<p>I must admit that before visiting Council's website I assumed the only possible benefit would have been a negligible sum of money from the Land Sale. Having read that Northern Beaches Council will not receive any proceeds, I am assuming that the Application will be unsuccessful as it purely financially benefits the current owner at a great opportunity cost to the Community. Bangalley has Indigenous significance. As Custodians we have an obligation to respect and leave accessible all corners of the Headland that remain Private Land.</p> <p><b>Protection of Pittwater Public Pathways</b></p> <p>As there are a number of Pittwater Pathways under threat, does the Council maintain a register that concerned residents can update? I have long been concerned with respect to the illegal obstruction and clearance of Public Pathways but have never been able to find an efficient way of registering my concerns - I encounter many examples.</p> <p>I commend [REDACTED] &amp; [REDACTED] on making the YouTube video which a running friend sent to me. Without my friend contacting me I would have been totally unaware of this Application. I suspect that I am not alone in this regard. As such, I believe that the 150+ Submissions already received are the tip of the iceberg with respect to how many locals would object to the Application.</p> <p><b><i>I trust that Northern Beaches Council will Reject the Proposed Application and hope that an efficient mechanism can be created for residents to raise their concerns regarding other Public Pathways at risk.</i></b></p> <p>Kind regards, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Avalon NSW 2107</p>
209.	<p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>For this proposal I hereby submit <b>NO</b></p> <p>This is scarce public and should not be sold to a private party. The current owner says he will keep it open to the public, but we all know those promises can change at any time once the owner takes possession. This is especially so if in the future that owner sells his home.</p> <p>We should be protecting all the public land we can, and further, the lane being for public use should be cleared so I can be safely and properly used by the public.</p> <p>Thanking you and trusting NO comes in as the majority.</p> <p>kind regards [REDACTED] Freshwater NSW 2096</p>
210.	<p>I object strongly against the proposed closure and sale I have only recently become aware that there is a extra access to Bangalley Headland Walk.</p> <p>I have spoken to someone who said he has just recently walked up using this pathway and in its current unmaintained condition This pathway has to be weeded and improved so it can be accessed and used by everyone There are no safety issues ( especially compared to the Bangalley Headland Walk itself which is being used and enjoyed by so many and so should this pathway ) The public have not been aware of this pathway which needs signage</p>

	<p>Kind Regards, [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>211.</p>	<p>Proposed public pathway road reserve closure adj. 32 Watkins Rd, Avalon Beach</p> <p>Northern Beaches Council,</p> <p>I strongly OBJECT to the proposed road reserve closure (adj. 32 Watkins Road) &amp; the subsequent sale of Public land (which I have used in the past to access Bangalley Headland, Nth Avalon Beach).</p> <p>Listed below are some reasons why it should be left as a 'Public Pathway Road Reserve' &amp; some comments on how to improve its accessibility;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The public pathway is a vital access point to Bangalley Headland.</li> <li>• Council should be purchasing (more) private land to further add to what public land we already have.</li> <li>• It should never be taken away from us (the public) to be sold to individuals for their gain.</li> <li>• The public Access from Watkins Road (between 32 &amp; 34/36) should be sign posted to notify the public that there is access to the Headland between these properties.</li> <li>• A sign should also be placed along the trail on the headland walk to notify anyone using the reserve of an alternative route out.</li> <li>• Unfortunately a lot of people don't know it exists, because it is not sign posted (and now that some have become aware of it, say they would use the path in future) (It has been neglected in the past by previous councils)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The access has been obscured over the years by a number of weeds and shrubs that can be easily cleared and managed so that it blends/fits in with the current headland landscape &amp; walking trails.</li> <li>• I recently accessed the public pathway road reserve walkway from Watkins Rd up to Bangalley Head (between 32 &amp; 34/36 Watkins Rd) on Sunday 20 February 2022 with a friend and we both found it an easy walk. (Please note my friend is in his 70s)</li> <li>• We do not want a pathed/constructed path up to Bangalley Head from Watkins Rd. We just need it to be left untouched except for the planting of some native plants to replace the weeds that have grown over some of the path/walkway and some simple Landscaping (ie retaining logs) to hold the soil to stop erosion just like already is in place on the Bangalley Trail.</li> <li>• This access is an asset to our community that should not be lost forever into private ownership.</li> <li>• We need this access to the headland in cases of emergencies. ie injured/unwell users of Bangalley Walking trail, so they can be treated and evacuated in a timely manner. (Minutes and seconds could be the difference between life &amp; death.)</li> <li>• It is also needed in the advent of a fire, for the safe evacuations of persons and for access by firefighters to fight a bush fire on the headland and to save neighbouring properties that do back onto the Reserve.</li> </ul> <p>I do trust that Northern Beaches Council will listen to my voice and those voices of the community who are strongly against the closure of this site and will keep this Public Asset in Public Hands for the people as intended for all of us to use.</p> <p>Regards,    </p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
212.	<p>The General Manager Northern Beaches Council</p> <p>Dear Sir</p>

	<p><b>Re: Closure of Public Reserve: 32 Watkins Road Avalon</b></p> <p>Pittwater Natural Heritage Association objects to the proposal to close the public road reserve next to 32 Watkins Road Avalon Beach. We believe that this loss of public land is not in the interest of the community as there is no resulting benefit to the community to compensate for the loss of an access way to Bangalley Headland reserve. As we understand, Council will not receive any proceeds from the sale, so if the access way was to be sold there is no money available to Council to purchase land to replace it.</p> <p>We request that instead of putting up what we consider to be a very weak argument for not opposing the closure, Council improves access to the headland through this reserve, which would encourage more people to enjoy Pittwater's wonderful natural environment.</p> <p>Council's stated reasons for its likely lack of support implies, in our opinion, a negative attitude to the natural environment of Pittwater, especially since research by Council shows that our community values its natural environment. We ask that Northern Beaches Council shows that it too values the natural environment by refusing closure of the road reserve.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Secretary</p> <p><b>Pittwater Natural Heritage Association</b></p> <p> Find us on Facebook for the latest news!</p> <p> PITTPATER NATURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION INC. <i>Protecting Pittwater's Environment</i></p>
213.	<p>27/ 2 /22</p> <p>To Ray Brownlee Chief Executive Officer Northern Beaches Council</p> <p><b>RE proposal Public Road Reserve Closure between 32 Watkins Rd and 34 &amp;36 Watkins Rd Avalon</b></p> <p>I am saddened to hear that yet another piece of public land, that could benefit everyone ( as well as emergency access to a bushfire prone area ) has been left unmaintained and then is being proposed to be privatised.</p> <p>This headland is popular and well visited and needs good access.</p> <p>I object to the proposal , but also suggest that signage and maintenance be organised for this area.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

	<p>Newport 2106 NSW [REDACTED]</p>
<p>214.</p>	<p>The General Manager Northern Beaches Council.</p> <p>Dear Sir, I am objecting to this proposed closure and sale of the strip of land providing access to the Bangally Headland walking path.</p> <p>This strip of land, presently neglected, should form an important access to the Coastal walkway from Avalon to Whale Beach around the headlands.</p> <p>If the land is sold, it will allow further erosion of urban bush land, by another suburban dwelling, on land with a likely bush fire risk.</p> <p>The public land also allows access for bush fire fighting , people and equipment, increasingly essential with climate change.</p> <p>Selling this land will establish or reinforce bad precedents. I refer to Manly Council selling a tiny portion of urban bush land at 40 Pine St, Manly, in about 2000. Now there is a proposal for a residential development with roof covering about 80% of the site which will destroy a de facto biodiversity corridor along the Kangaroo St., Pine St escarpment with the inevitable loss of future and existing trees on this site and neighbouring properties.</p> <p>This land was sold by Council for a very low price, now there is a development proposal which will be very destructive to the environment and to neighbours, if approved.</p> <p>I would oppose Council selling off public access routes to enable private development at the expense of bush land, and community enjoyment of public spaces.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Sent from my iPad</p>
<p>215.</p>	<p>Dear Northern Beaches Council,</p> <p>I would like to express my strong objection to the privatising and closure of the public pathway between 32 Watkins Road and the Bangalley Headland.</p> <p>The Bangalley Headland is described in countless bushwalking articles and on many websites as a truly spectacular piece of coastline. It is the highest point on Sydney's northern coastline and offers spectacular views south to Sydney and north to Broken Bay and the Central Coast. The large size of the reserve together with the great variety of native plants, makes it an ideal home for an abundant variety of native wildlife.</p> <p>As a resident of Bilgola Plateau since more than 30 years we regularly walk Bangalley Headland.</p> <p>Currently there are only two easy usable access tracks to the headland reserve and most</p>

	<p>people use the main access at the corner of North Avalon Rd and Marine Pd. The third access, the public pathway between 32 and 34 Watkins Road became more and more difficult to access, because it was neglected by Council for years. Understandably the adjoining property owners have no interest in maintaining the access to the pathway, in contrary, from the street they more made it looking as they own the land.</p> <p>I object against privatising the neglected public pathway because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To keep people more active we should make access to our public land easier, not more difficult by selling it.</li> <li>- Also privatising this third access to Bangalley Headland further reduces access in case of Emergency or fire</li> </ul> <p>There are several neglected or overgrown pathways on the Northern Beaches and often the adjoining residents put a lot of effort into making them look like private land - obviously to discourage the public to use them. <u>It should be the Council's obligation to maintain them and make them accessible for the public, not to take them away from the public and convert them into private land.</u></p> <p>Rather than selling negligent public pathways to private, these should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- clearly signed as "Public Pathway"</li> <li>- maintained at least to a minimal level that they can be accessed</li> <li>- make sure that adjoining property owners do not block these in any way</li> </ul> <p>Sincerely, [Redacted] Bilgola Plateau</p> <p>-- [Redacted]</p> <p>B</p>
216.	<p>Dear sir Council should not sell any of these unmade roads or access ways. If it's true to its "strategy" of permitting increased pedestrian activity these areas should be retained and preferably opened so they can be utilised by the public in all suburbs across the Council area.</p> <p>In this particular case perhaps an easement can be given to the back block but public ownership and acces should be retained. Yours faithfully [Redacted]</p> <p>Sent from my iPad</p>
217.	<p>[Redacted]</p>

	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>13 February 2022 Chief Executive Officer Mr Ray Brownlee Northern Beaches Council Dear Mr Brownlee Re Notice of proposed road reserve closure – Unconstructed pathway between 32 and 34 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach I strongly oppose the proposal to close the road reserve between 32 and 34 Watkins Road Avalon Beach. I object to the proposal to sell the land to the adjoining owner, thereby privatising public land in an environmentally significant area. This as yet unconstructed pathway should, instead of being lost to the public, provide one of the regrettably few points of public access to Bangally Reserve and Headland which is a beautiful and very popular area for residents and visitors alike. The reason that the pathway is as yet unreconstructed is, no doubt, because even long-term residents, such as I, have been unaware of its existence. Possibly NBC only became aware of its existence through the application for its closure. Rather than closing the path, NBC should publicise it as access to Bangally Reserve. Its steepness is no barrier for the people who regularly walk in the Pittwater area. If it requires some remediation, so be it. The State Government’s Parks for People Program “supports more green, open and public space in NSW and increased tree canopy and green cover”. Rob Stokes recently said “During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have learned just how valuable our public open spaces are for everyone’s health and well-being. Mayor Regan also acknowledged the importance of the community becoming “involved in improving the open space in their area”. Closure and privatisation of this currently unconstructed path will ultimately result in increased densification of the built environment and will negatively impact on the natural environment. It will be a lost opportunity to facilitate walking in the local area. Significantly, this road reserve has the potential to provide crucial access for emergency services and also the Fire Brigade in the event of a bush fire in the Bangally Reserve. For more than 30 years, I have attempted to publicise and protect public paths, road reserves and community land. Sadly, on many occasions, neighbours seem to begrudge walkers having access. Shore Brace Road Reserve is one example of effective privatisation of a precious road reserve which should provide public access for to the waterfront. The path next to 25 Marine Parade is another example. The closure and disposal of this land in not in the public interest and creates a precedent. I urge you to reject the proposal and erect a Public Land sign at the entrance to the road reserve. Yours faithfully [REDACTED]</p>
218.	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Chief Executive Officer Mr Ray Brownlee Northern Beaches Council  February 28th, 2022  Re: Proposed road closure adj. 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach</p>

	<p>Dear Mr Brownlee</p> <p>I am the former owner of [redacted] Watkins Road Avalon, the property directly adjoining 32 Watkins Road. My [redacted] currently live in [redacted] Watkins Road.</p> <p>This letter is written to strongly oppose the proposal to close the road reserve between 32 and 34 Watkins Road Avalon Beach. Furthermore, I object to the proposal to sell the land to the adjoining owner, and privatizing public land in an environmentally significant area for the commercial goals of one landholder.</p> <p>It is regrettable that there are currently very few points of public access to the Bangalley Reserve and Headland. This as yet unconstructed pathway should, instead of being lost to the public, provide a rare point of access for visitors and residents alike. Selling this space will be a lost opportunity for both the council and residents.</p> <p>The road reserve has potential to provide crucial access to emergency services and the Fire Brigade. With my children living right beside the Bangalley Reserve, I fully support the protection of this public path and road reserve for future initiatives.</p> <p>Closure and privatisation of this currently unconstructed path will ultimately result in increased densification of the built environment and will negatively impact on the natural environment. There will be an immediate impact to neighbors (and my family) either side because of the new construction, but the longer-term consequence of this style of precedent will have a negative impact on many residents.</p> <p>The closure and disposal of this land in not in the public interest and creates a poor precedent for other residents to contend with. I respectfully ask that you reject this proposal.</p> <p>Yours Faithfully,</p> <p>[redacted]</p>
219.	<p>The General Manager GMC:DT:GV:30203 Northern Beaches Council 1 Belgrave Street 28 February 2022 Manly NSW 2095 Attention: [redacted]</p> <p>Dear Sir,</p> <p>Submission re Notification of Proposed Public Road Reserve Closure. Property: Road Reserve between 32 Watkins Rd and 34 &amp; 36 Watkins Rd. We act on behalf of [redacted], the owners of 36 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach. Our client's property shares a boundary with the public road reserve in question of approximately 50m, which separates their property from 32 Watkins Rd, Avalon Beach. We understand that the owner of 32 Watkins Rd has initiated a process with Council to seek to close the public road and have exclusive rights to purchase the land without any ability for other interested parties to obtain the land.</p> <p>The purpose of this submission is to strongly oppose the closing of this Public Road Reserve (Road). In our 30 years of experience acting for Councils and applicants, we are genuinely surprised that Council has 'predetermined' to carry out this closure and sell to the owner of 32 Watkins Road without any potential for third party purchase. This could not be considered to be consistent with the functions of fairness and public benefit of which Council is typically bound. We note that at the time of formation, the Road has been described in a notation on DP21756 as being a pathway dedicated to the public and has continued to exist since 1949 in this manner. Since this time, the pathway has become an access point for the Bangalley Headland</p>

trail as part of what Northern Beaches Council describes in its website as “one of the world’s great urban coastal walks” and is recognised on a map of the trail provided by Council. Several similar pathways exist in this area and offer public access to this walk and world-class reserve. However there have been examples of appropriation by adjoining land-owners who have discouraged the use of these pathways, either consciously or otherwise, by development that inadvertently disguises or even intentionally blocks the pathway from public access. The Road here is no different, being virtually indistinguishable from the private properties [REDACTED]

surrounding it. Given the state of development in this area, there is limited opportunity to create new community assets that facilitate engagement with such magnificent areas of natural environment and a decision to privatise this land would be both detrimental to the area and create irrevocable impacts on the constituents of the Northern Beaches.

Any success attributed to the use and maintenance of similar pathways that connect to Bangally are indicative of the potential for this Road to become a utilised public asset. Maintaining this Road will give a more direct point of access for local residents and tourists alike, as well as emergency services that would otherwise be blocked from accessing the headland for a significant distance as the primary access points are currently at opposite ends of the headland. With the Road fenced at Watkins Road until recently, emergency services have been forced to utilise our client’s property on two occasions in 2017 and 2019, to attend to a fire and rescue a walker suffering a cardiac episode respectively.

We submit that rather than closing the Road in the interest of a singular resident’s opportunity to achieve the minimum lot size and profit, the Road should be maintained and remediated, restoring it to function as intended by its creation. Northern Beaches Council have committed to maintaining other routes on sites that face similar difficulties including the Pinnacle Track and Angophora Reserve which are also not level pathways. Considering the access to Bangally Headland, the environmental separation this would create in the residential landscape of Watkins Rd, the maintenance of natural habitat and the potential benefit to the residents and general public that the Bangally Trail attracts, an investment to maintain the Road, by Council or community groups would not be outweighed by its closure.

The only parties that will benefit will be the owners of 32 Watkins Rd, and the Crown. As Council are aware, closing the Road will not directly benefit Council, nor its constituents. The closure would instead provide funds from the sale to Crown Lands and is a decision subject to the Roads Act 1993 (the Act) which states at S38A(a):

A council may propose the closure of a council public road for which it is the roads authority if—  
(a) the road is not reasonably required as a road for public use (whether for present or future needs)

It is the view of our client and the plethora of associated submissions that there is a failure to meet subsection (a) and the requirement for public use, particularly relating to the future needs element. 27It is the intent of those making submissions to make this apparent by reinstating the Road as a functional element of the locality.

Should Council proceed with the closure of the Road against these public submissions, our client has the option to appeal the decision as per S38F (1) of the Act, which states:

A person referred to in section 38B (1) (b) may appeal to the Land and Environment Court against the closure of a council public road by a council,

Our client, being an owner of land adjoining the Road is given this opportunity to appeal. Considering the lack of financial gain to be made by Council in the sale of this land and the community support in maintaining it, we trust that Council will not support the closure of the Road. [REDACTED]

We encourage Council to abandon the proposal to close this public road reserve. It is our opinion that there is a requirement for the use of the road, as supported by other submissions, particularly due to the nature of the locality, Bangally Trail and the central access this Road facilitates. Furthermore, any continuance of this proposal will inevitably lead to an appeal in the Land and Environment Court. It is clear that there is strong community support to maintain this valuable piece of public land. The transfer of this public benefit, current and future to a private

	<p>individual in the form of development rights to the owners of 32 Watkins Road is not in the public interest. Should you have any questions please contact [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]. Yours faithfully [REDACTED]</p>
220.	<p>Mr Ray Brownlee PSM Chief Executive Officer Northern Beaches Council PO Box 82 MANLY NSW 1655 Attn: [REDACTED] – Property Officer <b>Proposed road reserve closure adjacent to 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach</b> Dear [REDACTED]</p> <p>I write in opposition to the proposed road reserve closure of the unformed pathway running between 32, 34 and 36 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach. Local communities have embraced public open space in the wake of the pandemic. Now is the time for government and councils to reclaim forgotten places like this reserve, and reintegrate them into our network of streets and parks. Although the road reserve is unsigned, obstructed and overgrown with weeds as a result of long term neglect, its current condition is not a sufficient reason to justify the closure and sale of public land. I note that the NSW Government would be responsible for selling the reserve once closed by Northern Beaches Council. As Minister for Active Transport and Member for Pittwater, I would not support such a sale. The NSW Government does not need the proceeds from the sale of this land. There is much greater public value in retaining and improving this reserve for access for the community rather than selling the land for private development. I have confidence that Northern Beaches Council could build on enlivened community interest in this reserve to plan, design and deliver an accessible walkway. This reserve could form improved access to Bangalley Head, in addition to the established entrances at the northern and southern ends of the walkway. I ask that Northern Beaches Council does not proceed with closing this road reserve, and instead invests in making it a treasured and naturalised public space. Yours sincerely <b>The Hon. Rob Stokes MP</b> Minister for Infrastructure Minister for Cities Minister for Active Transport</p>
221.	<p><b>Submission against the proposed road reserve closure adj. 32 Watkins Road, Avalon Beach</b></p> <p>For this proposal to progress to the stage of public exhibition council staff must have considered that <i>the application has merit and is supported by Council's internal stakeholders.</i> ( see Point 4 of the Northern Beaches Council Road Reserve Closure Information Sheet 19/20 at <a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/4043-road-closure-purchase-council-land-sep2020.pdf">4043-road-closure-purchase-council-land-sep2020.pdf (nsw.gov.au)</a> .</p> <p>This is a concern as there is no public benefit from the potential sale of this public land. The area is designated a road reserve but is inaccessible at the present time. In the future this pathway should be made assessable to the community and emergency services as an access way to Bangally walking track and headland reserve a section of the Bicentennial Coastal Walkway.</p> <p>A detailed list of public pathways throughout the former Pittwater LGA was provided by John and Lynette Illingsworth at the request of the former Pittwater Council. The list detailed the locality, start, middle and end points of pathways, the length, signage or lack of, status of the land, steps, rails and accessibility. The Pittwater Pathways information is an invaluable</p>

	<p>resource for council and the community. ( See attached Report and List by Pittwater Pathways ).</p> <p>Since the Pittwater Pathways report and list was provided to council a number previously inaccessible pathways have been formed or rehabilitated to provide access for the benefit of the community.</p> <p>This proposal is not in the public interest and should not proceed.</p> <p>██████████</p>
222.	<p>To Northern Beaches Council</p> <p>I personally <b>object</b> to the proposed road reserve closure (adj. 32 Watkins Road) and the subsequent sale of Public land which I have used in the past to access Bangalley Headland, Avalon Beach.</p> <p>This road reserve access is an asset to our community that should not be lost forever into private ownership and fenced. We use this bangalley track to walk and would like to use this walkway that Council has allowed to become overgrown and haven't maintained for many years.</p> <p>Firstly the rate payers should be informed correctly by a letter stating the Council wish to sell land or agree to sell public land reserve walkways. I have not received a public notification as a rate payer.</p> <p>I understand that the owner of number 32 adjoining the walkway has indicated their willingness to purchase the walkway.</p> <p>All owners adjoining the walkway must support the closure in order for it to proceed which I believe is not the case.</p> <p>One of the owners 36 Watkins Road I believe is strongly against the closure of the walkway and subsequent sale of the public land to the adjoining neighbour.</p> <p>This road reserve gives access for protection from bush fires for many homes and people living along Watkins Road. We need this access to the headland in cases of emergencies. I trust that Northern Beaches Council will think seriously about the closure of this walkway for the safety and the enjoyment for all.</p> <p>Once the public walkway is maintained with natural grass habitat it will be an asset for all age groups to use this point of entry and exist for Bangalley Headland.</p> <p>Also the elderly and parents with young children need somewhere close to park a car for a short stroll to enjoy the Bangalley headlands the road reserve gives them that advantage without the very long hike to appreciate the beautiful views, fauna and flora.</p> <p>I recently accessed the public pathway road reserve walkway from Watkins Rd up to Bangalley Headland and found it an easy walk up to the headland. I found it difficult to find the walkway from Bangalley headland on my return as it is not signed posted as an exit point.</p> <p>Bangalley Headland is a lovely bushwalk with amazing views to the city and Central Coast. The track winds its way through trees, the flora and fauna is just beautiful also a great spot to watch the Whale migration.</p> <p>I therefore request that Northern Beaches Council take action to stop the closure of this road reserve walkway to Bangalley Headlands so we can all use this access in the future.</p>

	<p>Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me. Kind regards, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ( M: [REDACTED] : E: [REDACTED] * P: [REDACTED] Mona Vale, NSW 1660 AUSTRALIA</p>
223.	<p style="text-align: center;">CABPRA Clareville and Bilgola Plateau Residents Association</p> <p>Response to selling off of public pathway in 32 Watkins Rd North Avalon</p> <p>CABPRA is against the ad hoc approach of selling off public land without being part of a well thought out strategy that has been thoroughly formulated with due diligence To date we see no evidence of this. It is clear to us that NBC needs to audit to evaluate all pathways in with a strategy that needs to be linked to other council strategies and policies like the environment policy now on display. For example, paths that are no longer used do serve as wildlife corridors that are increasingly becoming important as land clearing is increasing with bigger homes, subdivision, and granny flats. There is no real benefit to the community for this land in Watkins road to be sold it just enhances the chances of one resident to subdivide.</p> <p>We are aware that many of these pathways have not been sign posted ever or have disappeared or residents have removed “public pathway” signs over the years to deter the public from using paths close to their homes or so they can incorporate the land into their landscaping which is now a huge issue for NBC with all the encroachments. An owner in no 14 Paradise Avenue for example has removed the public pathway sign so a public path now looks like his driveway, and no one generally knows of its existence. With reinstating signs and proper maintenance of paths like this in Watkins Road, the big question is would it used frequently as it feeds into the reserve of Bangally which is now part of the coastal walk whereby people might segway for views, breaks or picnic lunch.</p> <p>We are not sure how this request has come about but it certainly would only benefit an owner who requires increase in land size for subdivision and whilst it lays dormant due to bad or no signage with overgrown flora and fauna, it’s easy to assume it’s not an important bit of public land, but it is for all the above and somewhat disappointing that it’s got this far in council. We believe this is not supported by neighbours also. This is a big no from CABPRA and a request that a revised full audit of pathways be done in the near future. (There is an audit done in 2014). From this a detailed list of those pathways feasible to resign and clear for use in by the public for various reasons. CABPRA is happy to assist in this as it was on their list of priorities and requested of council often. We are heartened to read Rob Stokes letter on this matter.</p>

224.

[REDACTED]  
Avalon NSW 2107

26 February 2022

Part A – Written submission (photographs submitted as Part B)

Re: Notice of proposed formal closure of a public road reserve in Avalon Beach between 32 and 34/36 Watkins Rd

We are the owners of no. [REDACTED] Watkins Rd Avalon. We are the direct adjoining (majority) neighbour, with a 50m adjoining border with the public path. As the most directly affected neighbour we strongly oppose the proposal to close the public road reserve between 32 and 34/36 Watkins Rd Avalon. We understand that all other adjoining neighbours, as well as nearby neighbours also oppose the proposal.

Further, we have previously advised the applicant in writing that we will not consent to both the closure of public road reserve and any potential subsequent sale of the land. As important stakeholders in this matter we are fully aware of our rights to appeal.

This public road reserve provides real public amenity. The closing of this public path, & the stated intention to sell to our neighbour, is not in the public interest.

This pathway is a valuable public asset that connects directly to Bangalley Headland and it's walking tracks that have some of the best ocean and coastal views, both North and South, in the entire Northern Beaches Local Government Area. Indeed, the public path connects directly to the very popular and highly frequented Palm Beach to Manly bicentennial walk. The map listed on the Northern Beaches Council website outlining this walk clearly highlights that the Watkins rd access point directly joins the track.

Significantly, this public road reserve has previously been utilised to provide crucial access for emergency services, in particular the Fire Brigade, to attend bush fires in the Bangalley Reserve. Over the past few years, with the lower section of the public path having the appearance of private land (with planting, and then more recently with the lower section cleared and then with fencing erected right up until the time of the posting of the notice), our property has been used instead with the Fire Brigade attending to a fire in 2017; and police, fire and ambulance services utilising our property for an extraction point for a walker who had suffered a cardiac episode on the walking track in 2019. This public path can and should be the primary access for emergency services.

We would like to outline that there are a number of inaccuracies in the Council Notice worth noting.

Firstly, the path is not heavily vegetated or inaccessible, the bottom half is completely clear, and the upper component is entirely passable. It could be further improved with simple maintenance (as the lower half demonstrates)

Secondly, the path is 'moderate' in its steepness with official certified surveys showing that the path rises 26m over a 99.47m distance. Further the path joins a fully formed walking trail with significant natural barriers to the shore line (see photos in submission Part B). There are no safety concerns regarding the terrain or the walking trail it connects to.

Thirdly, The Council notice says there are other tracks nearby that connect to Bangalley. This is also inaccurate. It is one of the regrettably very few points of public access to Bangalley Reserve and Headland. There are only 2 other access points, and both have either been resumed or are underdeveloped, and neither of them connect to the Bangalley section of the bicentennial walkway. See the map in the link below that is located on the council website  
<https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/file/bangally-headland-map-and-trail-0>

We understand that many Pittwater public paths have been illegally appropriated by adjoining neighbours trying to discourage community use - for example: 173 Riverview Rd, Avalon, the Shore Brace Reserve, and even one of the suggested alternate access points to Bangalley Headland on the Council notice in Binburra Rd (see photos in submission Part B). Indeed, the situation at 32/34 Watkins Rd has until very recently also been made to look like it is private land and the upper component significantly affected by the lack of maintenance on the applicants border. This sets a very poor precedent by Council to further undermine their use by closing/selling this path.

The purpose of the closure is to enable the potential sale of the road reserve to a private party for the potential construction of a second dwelling (behind the existing dwelling at 32 Watkins Road) and subdivision of land. Currently, the applicant does not have the land size required to subdivide in accordance with Council planning controls. In effect, if Council were to formally close the road reserve, it would be giving up public land and green space, with no gain to either council or the community (proceeds would go to the Crown), to enable a private subdivision opportunity (and significant private gain) that currently does not exist.

This path should not be closed. It can easily be remediated and revegetated with native trees and shrubs with perhaps help from neighbours (such as ourselves), community and bushcare groups. It would then be a low maintenance track that properly connect from Watkins Rd to Bangalley Reserve. We as direct border holders would happily contribute to its restoration. The rewards at the end of the track with views that are panoramic in what is a very popular area for residents and visitors alike, warrant any modest maintenance costs. The path offers genuine public amenity that all should be able to enjoy. See photos

We strongly oppose the proposal to close the public road reserve between 32 and 34/36 Watkins Rd Avalon and proposed sale of this community land.

Your faithfully

[REDACTED]  
Avalon NSW 2107

██████████  
Avalon NSW 2017  
██████████

26 February 2022

Follows Submission Part A - ██████████

Part B – Supporting pictures and links

Re: Notice of proposed formal closure of a public road reserve in Avalon Beach between 32 and 34/36 Watkins Rd

Picture from Council Website that shows other access points – Note, the two others on Binburra Rd do not access the track (one no longer exists. Watkins Rd joins directly to the Bicentennial walking track

<https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/file/bangally-headland-map-and-trail-0>



Photos

Bicentennial Walk, Juncture of Watkins Rd public path – looking South. No safety concerns apparent



Bicentennial Walk at juncture of Watkins Rd public path – looking North East. No safety concerns apparent



Bicentennial Walk at juncture of Watkins Rd public path – looking South East. No safety concerns apparent



Views Bicentennial Walk near Watkins access point



Alternate access public path Binburra Rd – not present



Alternate access – Binburra (unmaintained) – much longer 350m to access Bicentennial Walk. No track



Clear bottom half of Watkins Public Path following works at both 32 and 34 Watkins (picture supplied by applicant who at the time was annoyed by clearance)



Bottom pf Watkins public path – recently has had dirt pile added and fencing to offer sense of private land. Note here mulch covering that is no longer apparent



Your faithfully  
  
Avalon NSW 2107

225.

RECEIVED  
NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL  
20 FEB 2022

28 Feb February 2022

Mr. Browne Mayor and all Councillors

Subject: Proposed Road Reserve Closure Adjacent to 32 Watkins Road Avalon

Please note that I strongly object to and reject the above proposal.

This pathway belongs to the public. It should be kept as such and not sold to an individual for private development.

It seems that residents of this area are constantly & historically fighting the 'sell-off' of public land. As a member of the Pittwater Ramblers I frequently witnessed evidence of private land owners encroaching public pathways. And going back to 1996 there was a significant local outcry over council's proposed 'sell-off' of road reserves and pathways.

Recently council spent \$185,000 to upgrade a perfectly functional playground in Dunbar Park. Surely the council can allocate a small fund to improve →...

2

29th February 2022

accessability of this pathway!  
Please no more public land leases or 'sell-offs'!

Yours faithfully

[Redacted Name]

Avalon Beach NSW 2107

[Redacted Address]

**Late Submissions – Received after closed notification period.**

Number	Comment/submission
226.	To Whom it may Concern, I see no reason why this land should not be owned and developed by a private individual as it serves no purpose in its current state. I fully support the view that this land should be made available to private ownership and developed to meet standard council guidelines. Regards [Redacted Name]
227.	[Redacted Name] We strongly oppose the proposal to close the public road reserve between 32 and 34 Watkins Rd Avalon, We understand that all other adjoining neighbours, as well as nearby neighbours also oppose the proposal. The public path is one of the only spots to view this area of beautiful land. The closing of this public path, & the stated intention to sell to our neighbour, is not in the public interest. There are so many reasons why this public path should not be terminated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It's a valuable access that allows the general public to connect directly with bangalley headland and its walking tracks</li> <li>- We need this path to exist if there is a fire so we can be protected. The fire brigade must have at least one access point to attend bush fires. . This public path can and should be the primary access for emergency services not just in case of fires but if someone hurts themselves and needs urgent help.</li> <li>- We understand that many Pittwater public paths have been illegally appropriated by adjoining neighbours trying to discourage community use - for example: 173 Riverview Rd, Avalon, the Shore Brace Reserve, and even one of the suggested alternate access points to Bangalley Headland on the Council notice in Binburra Rd (see photos</li> </ul>

	<p>in submission Part B). Indeed, the situation at 32/34 Watkins Rd has until very recently also been made to look like it is private land and the upper component significantly affected by the lack of maintenance on the applicant's border. This sets a very poor precedent by Council to further undermine their use by closing/selling this path.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The purpose of the closure is to enable the potential sale of the road reserve to a private party for the potential construction of a second dwelling (behind the existing dwelling at 32 Watkins Road) and subdivision of land. Currently, the applicant does not have the land size required to subdivide in accordance with Council planning controls. In effect, if Council were to formally close the road reserve, it would be giving up public land and green space, with no gain to either council or the community (proceeds would go to the Crown), to enable a private subdivision opportunity (and significant private gain) that currently does not exist.</li> </ul> <p>This path should not be closed. It can easily be remediated and revegetated with native trees and community and bushcare groups. I use this area on a regular basis and I know what the views are like and they should be able to be enjoyed by all who live in the area. We strongly oppose the proposal to close the public road reserve between 32 and 34 Watkins Rd Avalon and proposed sale of this community land.</p> <p>Sincerely   Avalon</p>
228.	<p>Dear Northern Beaches Council, I have only just become aware of the proposal via Northern Beaches Advocate</p> <p>So i have included the Northern Beaches Advocate's story at the start of the attached file. The adjoining Property owner wishes to purchase the site, and so build a second house on his existing Avalon Dwelling.</p> <p>Having Visually seen an existing dwelling demolished and then two attached dwellings built on the same site, it seems that THAT is an option that could be used in Northern Beaches. This then "ASKS " what is the BEST USE for the 345 m2 site.</p> <p>It seems to be "Preserving the Tree Canopy potential" of the site, and also providing a Bushfire SAFE surrounding.</p> <p>It could be that "LACKS BUSHFIRE SAFE" building standards have allowed houses to be built that are easily "Burnt Down".</p> <p><b>Attachment:</b> The proposed "Sale of a Laneway" in regional Avalon should be prevented and instead the "Laneway" be improved as a "Vegetated walkway" thru the Suburb. It can provide "Small Scale native fauna corridors, if the "laneway" is free of cats and dogs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Preserving public pathways Feb 15, 2022   Government, Lifestyle, Pittwater ward</b></p> <p>A proposal to close a road reserve at Avalon Beach has met with opposition.</p> <p>Founder of the walking group Pittwater Ramblers Sue Martin OAM (main image) says the Northern Beaches Council proposal to close the road reserve at Watkins Road, Avalon Beach, and sell the land to an adjoining property owner, represents a loss of increasingly scarce public land.</p>

*"I think it's over 30 years I've been trying to save public paths with Pittwater Ramblers. The last Friday of every month we went for a walk around the area.*

*"I found all the paths in the Avalon and Palm Beach area and we just walked along them to show people where they were because a lot of them have got ivy over them," said Ms Martin. According to Ms Martin, access to public land is under threat through sale of public land and development by stealth from adjoining landowners who encroach to prevent public access.*

*"This path should not be closed, but remediated and revegetated with native trees and shrubs while incorporating a low-key stepped track to properly connect from Watkins Road to Bangalley Head, as Northern Beaches Council has done with The Pinnacle Track and Angophora Reserve in Avalon, which are equally steep.*

*"It's public land and currently unformed as a pathway. However, as the area gets increasingly denser population, it seems to me public land like this should be retained for access up to the reserve [at Bangalley Head]. It's a shame to get rid of public access which have potential for public walkways," said Ms Martin.*

Owner of the property adjoining the road reserve, Ivan Byak (image above) said he wished to purchase the strip of land to provide access for another home at the rear of his property.

*"Previously, the next-door neighbours have cleared this first section because they're selling. They've cleared that and put the grass down there. Up until six months ago that was completely overgrown and you couldn't walk through there. It is completely overgrown and the Council hasn't touched it in forever,"* said Mr Byak.

Mr Byak said he just wanted to do what others have been allowed to and build another home at the rear of his existing house for his children. He also said he would be happy to reach an accommodation for people to use the driveway as access to the reserve behind.

*"If people want to walk up there, I'm not precious about it. I just want to build a battle-axe block like everybody else along here has. I'm not asking anything special.*

*"I guarantee that I'll landscape it with natives, so it'll look absolutely fantastic and if people want to walk up there, they can knock themselves out.*

*"From the back of the property to the Bangalley Head walk is just completely overgrown and nobody can get through it. I promise to clear it all up, put natives down there, make it really good, and if people want to walk up the driveway, they can.*

*"They can walk up, there'll be a fence up there and I'll put a gate in for them and they can go up and walk through 45m, which will be landscaped and it'll be nice but steep. I'm happy for that to happen. Nobody uses it now, but there's a possibility they will use it because they will be able to access it,"* said Mr Byak.

In the notification of proposed road reserve closure (image above), Northern Beaches Council states the reserve is an unconstructed pathway on Watkins Road, Avalon Beach, between 32 Watkins Road, and 34 & 36 Watkins Road.

*'We are currently considering the formal closure of a public road reserve.*

*'The purpose of the closure is to enable the sale of the subject land to the adjoining owner at 32 Watkins Road [Lot 16 DP 11096]. The intention is the potential construction of a second dwelling (behind the existing dwelling at 32 Watkins Road) and subdivision of land,'* says the notification.

Northern Beaches Council further states on its website,

*'The dimensions of the proposed road reserve closure are approximately 95.69m long by 3.66m wide. The approximate area of the proposed road reserve closure is 347.8sqm.'*

*'If the closure of the road reserve is approved, any proposed sale of the land will be managed by NSW Department of Planning Industry & Environment [DPIE] – Crown Lands.'*

Northern Beaches Council has placed the proposed closure on exhibition and is [seeking public feedback](#).

Submissions close Sunday, 06 March 2022.

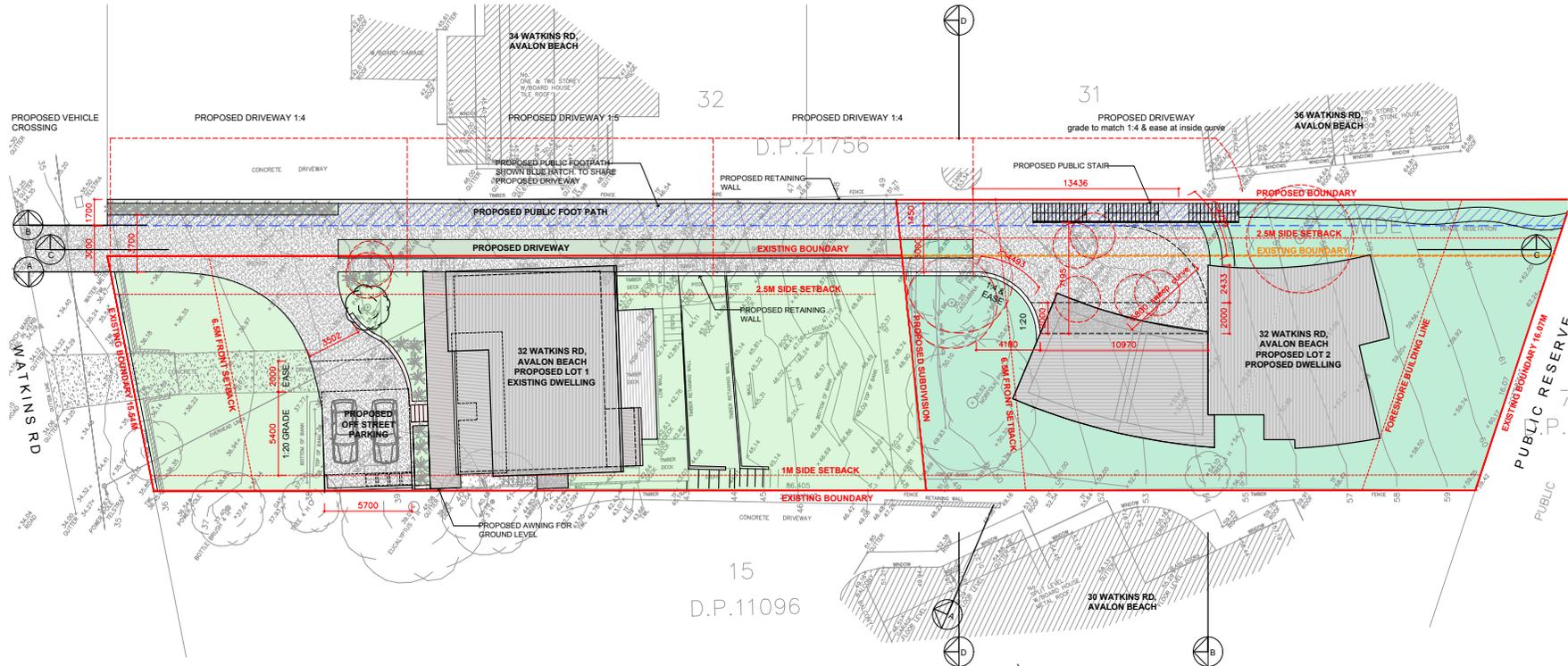
At the time of writing, 25 submissions had been received.

#### RESPONSE ::

1. The Dimensions of the LANEWAY provide circa 347 m2
2. With the width being circa 3.66m wide. ( circa 12 feet )
3. There is "Detail" evidence of a "FLAWED" Urban Planning within the Pittwater LGA.
4. This has not been "Rectified" by the Pittwater LGA ( years).
5. There is "Walkways" in National Parks that allow walking front Spit Bridge area to Manly. The walkways are two person wide in popular areas.
6. The "SPACE needed for a Group of Walkers" could justify the Wider Width".
7. The ability to also provide space for cyclists / Rough Terrain Cyclists could also be considered.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>8. But combining the “Wildlife SAFE MOVEMENT needs” may restrict the “WIDTHS” for humans.</li><li>9. The Funding of Green Infrastructure in Urban Areas, may have been “underfunded when Pittwater was “outside the City Limits” in the 1920’s to 1950’s era.</li><li>10. At MANLY there is “Communal Space” to allow walking along the “BEACHFRONT”</li><li>11. There is just 25 submissions at time of writing the Northern Beaches Advocate – Media Story.</li><li>12. The proposed “Sale” seems to “Decrease the Urban Tree Canopy” in Avalon, as the Greater Sydney Commission is Targeting a 40% tree Canopy Cover. Even in Avalon it is hard to achieve?</li><li>13. So the “Maximum Tree Canopy needs to also provide a “Bushfire Safe solution” to minimise BUSHFIRE in the LANEWAY.</li><li>14. The proposed “Sale of a Laneway” in regional Avalon should be prevented and instead the “Laneway” be improved as a “Vegetated walkway” thru the Suburb.</li><li>15. It can provide “Small Scale native fauna corridors, if the “laneway” is free of cats and dogs.</li></ol>
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Document administration	
Version	1.0
Date	7 March 2022
Status	Final
Notes	Community and stakeholder views contained in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Beaches Council or indicate a commitment to a particular course of action.



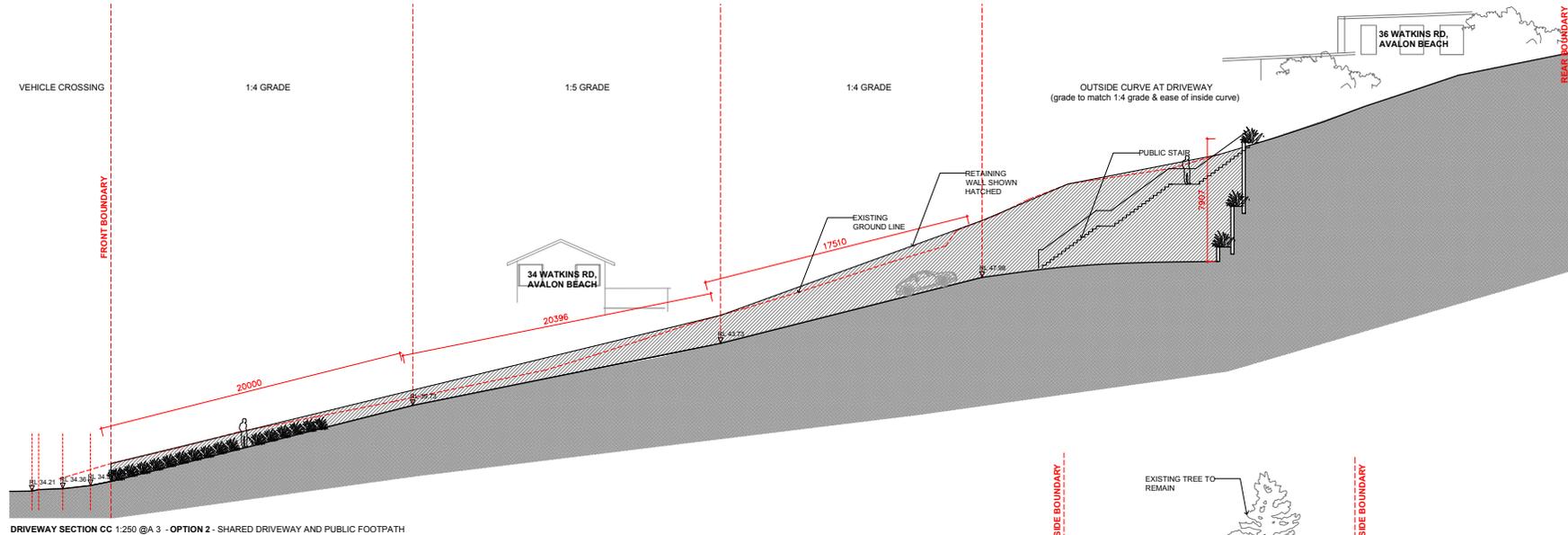
TOTAL SITE AREA:	1378M <sup>2</sup>		
PROPOSED LOT 1 LOT AREA	780M <sup>2</sup>	PROPOSED LOT 2 LOT AREA	756M <sup>2</sup>
CALCULATED SOFT LANDSCAPING: (55.4% OF SITE AREA)	432M <sup>2</sup>	CALCULATED SOFT LANDSCAPING: (55.2% OF SITE AREA)	418M <sup>2</sup>
		PROPOSED BUILDING PLATFORM	208M <sup>2</sup>

**DRAFT**

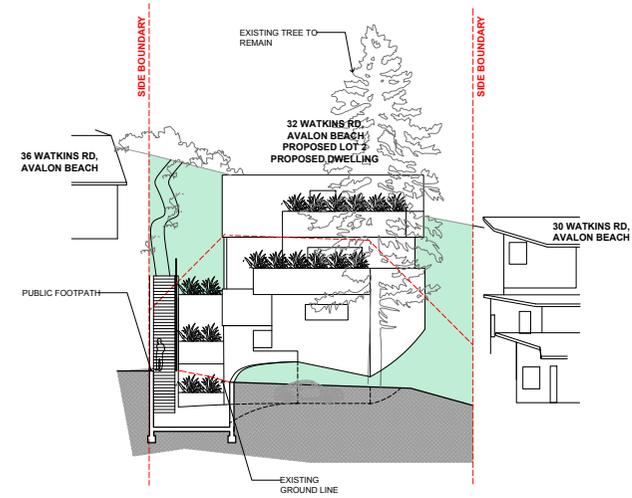
**SITE PLAN 1:250 @ A3 - OPTION 2 - SHARED DRIVEWAY AND PUBLIC FOOTPATH**

	<p><b>LEGEND:</b></p> <p> DENOTES EXISTING SPOT LEVEL</p> <p> DENOTES PROPOSED LEVEL</p> <p> DENOTES EXISTING WALLS TO REMAIN</p> <p> DENOTES OUTLINE OF EXISTING TO BE DEMOLISHED</p> <p><small>NOTE: THESE DRAWINGS ARE NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION. FOR DA APPROVAL ONLY.          NOTE: DO NOT SCALE OFF THIS DRAWING.          NOTE: ALL WORKS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE S.E.C.          NOTE: ALL WORKS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS.          NOTE: ALL WORKS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BASIX REQUIREMENTS.</small></p>	<p> DENOTES PROPOSED ADDITION</p> <p> DENOTES PROPOSED ALTERATION</p> <p> DENOTES CALCULATED AREA OF SOFT LANDSCAPING FOR LOT 1</p> <p> DENOTES CALCULATED AREA OF SOFT LANDSCAPING FOR LOT 2</p> <p> DENOTES SOFT LANDSCAPING WHICH IS NOT INCLUDED IN SITE CALCULATIONS</p> <p> DENOTES TREE TO BE REMOVED</p>	<p><b>PROJECT:</b>          PROPOSED ROAD RESERVE CLOSURE &amp; SUBDIVISION OF ONE LOT INTO TWO</p> <p><b>CLIENT:</b>          IVAN BYAK</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b>          32 WATKINS RD, AVALON BEACH</p>	<p><b>PROJECT STAGE:</b>          DA</p> <p><b>DRAWING TITLE:</b>          SITE PLAN          SHARED DRIVEWAY &amp; PUBLIC PATH</p> <p><b>SCALE:</b>          1:250 @ A3</p>	<p><b>DATE OF ISSUE:</b>          2022</p> <p><b>DRAWING NO.:</b>          DA-001</p> <p><b>REVISION:</b>          A</p>	<p><b>Renée Byth</b></p> <p><small>© Copyright in Architecture, 1970          MA, Architecture, 1970          r.byth@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au          ph. 0455 734 630          fax. 09 514 593 765</small></p>
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DRIVEWAY SECTION CC 1:250 @ A 3 - OPTION 2 - SHARED DRIVEWAY AND PUBLIC FOOTPATH



DRIVEWAY SECTION DD 1:250 @ A 3 - OPTION 2 - SHARED DRIVEWAY AND PUBLIC FOOTPATH

DRIVEWAY SECTION DD 1:250 @ A 3 - OPTION 2 - SHARED DRIVEWAY AND PUBLIC FOOTPATH

LEGEND:		PROJECT STAGE:		DATE OF ISSUE:		Renée Byth © Design to Architecture, URB MA, Architecture, URB r.byth@ntel.com m. 0455 734 630 a/c. 09 510 593 765
	DENOTES EXISTING SPOT LEVEL		DENOTES PROPOSED ADDITION	DA	2022	
	DENOTES PROPOSED LEVEL		DENOTES PROPOSED ALTERATION	DRAWING TITLE: DRIVEWAY SECTIONS SHEET 02		
	DENOTES EXISTING WALLS TO REMAIN		DENOTES CALCULATED AREA OF SOFT LANDSCAPING FOR LOT 1	SCALE: 1:250 @ A3		
	DENOTES OUTLINE OF EXISTING TO BE DEMOLISHED		DENOTES CALCULATED AREA OF SOFT LANDSCAPING FOR LOT 2	REVISION: A		
	DENOTES OUTLINE OF EXISTING TO BE DEMOLISHED		DENOTES SOFT LANDSCAPING WHICH IS NOT INCLUDED IN SITE CALCULATIONS	<b>DRAFT</b>		
	NOTE: THESE DRAWINGS ARE NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION. FOR DA APPROVAL ONLY. NOTE: DO NOT SCALE OFF THIS DRAWING. NOTE: ALL WORKS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE B.C. NOTE: ALL WORKS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS. NOTE: ALL WORKS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BASIX REQUIREMENTS.		DENOTES TREE TO BE REMOVED			
		PROJECT: PROPOSED ROAD RESERVE CLOSURE & SUBDIVISION OF ONE LOT INTO TWO		CLIENT: IVAN BYAK		LOCATION: 32 WATKINS RD, AVALON BEACH



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## Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

North Manly recreation site redevelopment – Public notification of lease

Consultation period: 23 September 2022 to 25 October 2022

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## 1. Summary

This report outlines the outcomes of community and stakeholder engagement conducted between 23 September 2022 and 25 October 2022, as part of a proposal to grant a lease to Manly Warringah Gymnastics Club (MWGC) to allow construction of a new 3,000sqm purpose-built gymnastics facility.

Respondents who were supportive of the proposal indicated they felt it addressed the need for additional fit for purpose Gymnastics facilities in the area, approved of a non-for-profit organisation utilising the site for community benefit, or indicated support for MWGC generally.

Respondents who were not supportive of the proposal cited environmental and flooding concerns as well as impact on parking, traffic and amenity of the area. Others indicated they would prefer the site be utilised for other recreational uses.

### 1.1. Key outcomes

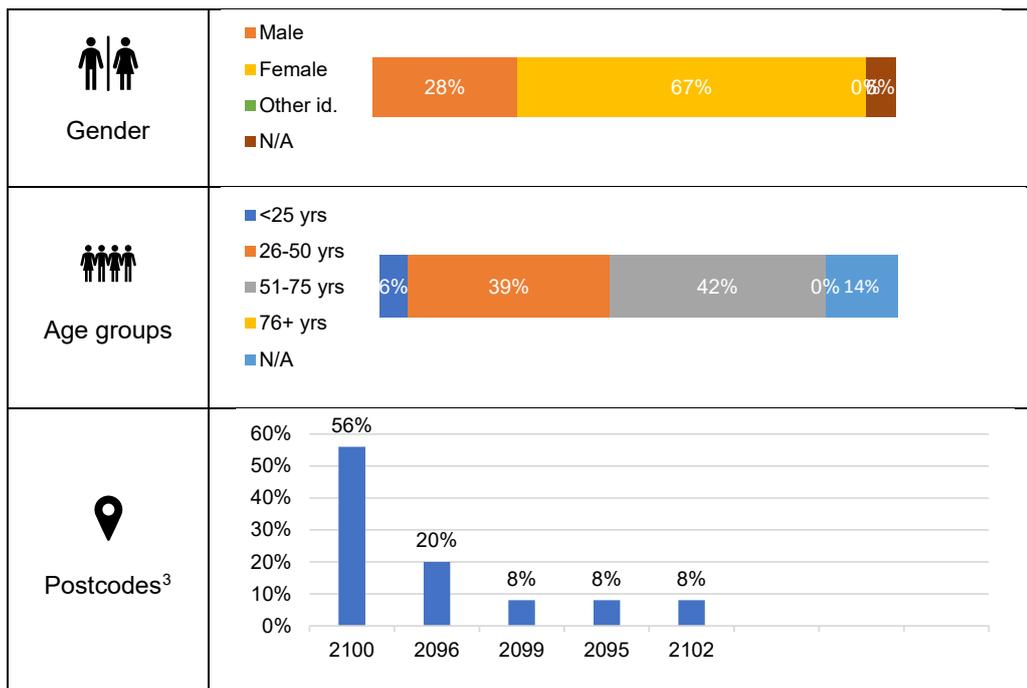
 Total unique responses	<h1>39</h1>	
 How responses were received	Submission/Comment form Written responses (email)	Completions: 37 Number received: 2
 Online sentiment: <sup>1</sup>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p> <span style="color: blue;">■</span> Support  <span style="color: orange;">■</span> Don't support  <span style="color: grey;">■</span> Neutral/undetermined                 </p> <p>Total responses = 39</p> </div>	
 Feedback themes	Support for gymnastics facility onsite Concerns around flooding Alternative uses for the site	Other Environmental Concerns

<sup>1</sup> The results in the above graph are based on submissions received online only.

## 1.2. How we engaged

 Have Your Say: visitation stats	Visitors: 435	Visits: 567	Average time onsite: 3 mins 18 secs
 Print media and collateral	Letterbox drop: 2095 Site signs used: Yes		Distribution: 100 Number of signs: 1
 Electronic direct mail (EDM)	Community Engagement (fortnightly) newsletter: 2 editions Council's Disability Newsletter, The Wave – 1 edition		Distribution: 22,000 subscribers Distribution: 1,270 subscribers

## 1.3. Who responded<sup>2</sup>



<sup>2</sup> Demographic data was gathered online by request only.

<sup>3</sup> Top five responses counted

## 2. Background

On 23 August 2022, Council endorsed a proposal to enter into a Public Private Partnership (PPP) with the Manly Warringah Gymnastics Club to transform the former North Manly Bowling Club site (corner of Kentwell and Pittwater Roads) into a 3,000sqm indoor gymnastics centre.

As part of this proposal, Council intends to enter into a Project Delivery Deed and, following construction of the centre, grant a thirty (30) year lease with the gymnastics club who will redevelop the site at no cost to ratepayers. Subsequently, Council gave public notice of its intention to enter into a lease with MWGC, in accordance with Section 47 of the Local Government Act 1993.

## 3. Engagement objectives

Community and stakeholder engagement aimed to:

- build community and stakeholder awareness of participation activities regarding the proposed lease
- provide accessible information so community and stakeholders could participate in a meaningful way and contribute feedback
- provide balanced and objective information to assist in understanding the problem, alternatives and/or solutions.

## 4. Engagement approach

Community and stakeholder engagement for the North Manly recreation site redevelopment – Public notification of lease was conducted between 23 September to 25 October 2022, and consisted of a series of activities that provided opportunities for community and stakeholders to contribute.

The engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Matrix (2017).

A project page<sup>4</sup> was established on our have your say platform with information provided in an accessible and easy to read format.

The project was primarily promoted through our regular email newsletter (EDM) channels.

Feedback was captured through an online submission form embedded onto the have your say project page. A qualitative data review of submissions received included an analysis of respondents' level of support on the proposal.

An open-field comments box provided community members a space to explain or elaborate on their support, not support or neutral sentiment as well as any other feedback they wished to contribute.

Email and written submissions were also invited.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/north-manly-recreation-area>

#### 4.1. Reaching diverse audiences

A stakeholder mapping exercise was completed to identify and understand the needs of the whole community.

It was determined for this project that it was important to hear from local businesses and residents. To ensure they were given the opportunity to view the notification and provide comment, letters were sent to surrounding businesses and residents.

### 5. Findings

A majority of the submissions received (21) were supportive of the proposal to lease the site to MWGC, citing the need for a fit for purpose gymnastics facility in the area, support for reuse of the site that has become dilapidated and rundown, approved of a non-for-profit organisation utilising the site for community benefit, or indicated support for MWGC generally.

There were 14 submissions that did not support the proposal. Those that did not support the proposal raised concerns that construction on the site would exacerbate flood risk in the area or raised other environmental concerns relating to impact on amenity caused by noise, traffic and demand for parking. There were also submissions that preferred the site to be utilised for other recreational uses. A summary of the issues raised in the submissions received is presented in the table below.

**Table 1: Issues, change requests and other considerations**

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Issues, change requests and other considerations raised</b>	<b>Council's response</b>
Supportive of proposed lease	Respondents indicated they felt the proposed lease addressed the need for additional Gymnastics facilities in the area, approved of a non-for-profit organisation utilising the site for community benefit, or indicated support for MWGC generally.	Community support for the lease of the site has been noted.
Preferred alternative use for the site	Respondents indicated they had a preference for an alternative use for the site, such as other sporting uses and other general community uses.	Council acknowledges that individuals and groups may have differing views and preferences relating to the future use of Nolan Reserve and surrounds. Council ran an extensive two stage procurement process to determine the proposed use of the site, ensuring the outcome provided various community benefits.  Stage one was a public Request for Proposal (RFP) process to determine a

Theme	Issues, change requests and other considerations raised	Council's response
		<p>shortlist of appropriate uses for the site. These uses included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• combined BMX, skateboarding, surfing and snowboarding facilities</li> <li>• tennis facilities</li> <li>• indoor basketball facilities</li> <li>• small sided soccer (synthetic) facilities</li> <li>• gymnastics facilities.</li> </ul> <p>Subsequently Stage two consisted of an expression of Interest (EOI) inviting applicants to put forward proposals for the site that aligned with the uses outlined above. The proposal put forward by the prospective lessee was deemed to best meet Council objectives for the site. This was determined via an extensive and rigorous procurement process and subsequently endorsed by the elected Councillors.</p>
Request for further detail	Respondents requested further specific detail around the building size, land usage, parking, impacts on traffic or nearby road and facility usage.	This Community Engagement process was carried out to give notice and seek feedback on Council intent to enter into a lease over the site. Specific details relating to buildings to be constructed onsite and associated land usage, parking, traffic impacts will be assessed and made available when the lessee seeks planning approval as part of the standard Development Application (DA) process.
Flooding Concerns	Respondents expressed concern around historical flooding events and risk of future flood events being exacerbated by construction of the gymnastics facility on the site.	Council is aware of historical flooding events in the area and future risk of flooding on the site. These risks will be considered and assessed when the lessee seeks planning approval as part of Council's standard DA process. Design of the building and surrounds will have to address and mitigate flooding risk in order to gain development approval.
Other Environmental, Traffic, Parking and Noise concerns	Respondents expressed concern around the environmental, traffic, parking, noise and amenity impacts of construction of the gymnastics facility on the site.	Environmental, Traffic, Parking and Noise concerns will be addressed when the lessee seeks planning approval as part of Councils standard DA process. Design of the building and surrounds will have to address and adequately

Theme	Issues, change requests and other considerations raised	Council's response
		mitigate these impacts in order to gain development approval. Concept plans do consider parking on site and a drive through drop off bay.

During the consultation/exhibition, Council received a number of questions either through direct contact or within feedback received. Please see table below

**Table 2:** Questions raised and Council's answers

Question raised in feedback	Council's answer
<p>I'm happy for the gym to use a space during certain hours, but community events come first. Is there a problem with the place in Cromer?</p> <p>Who will own the building after 30 years?</p>	<p>MWGC's existing premises is not fit for a national training facility due to ceiling height limitations. The lease expired in July 2022 and is on a year-by-year renewal currently with no long term tenure guarantee. The increasing cost of the site is also prohibitive for a non-for-profit wishing to ensure affordable access to the facility by a range of community members.</p> <p>At the end of the proposed lease term, ownership of the building will be retained by Council.</p>
<p>How is it that that more buildings in one of the last urban open spaces in the area is even being considered? A giant flat roof building and more tarmac is exactly opposite what the community needs. Why can't it be converted into something sustainable (and naturally absorbing) like a BMX pump track or something similar?</p>	<p>The site currently comprises the former bowling club building and four bowling greens. These dilapidated facilities would be demolished to make way for the new facility</p> <p>Council acknowledges that individuals and groups may have differing views and preferences relating to the future use of Nolan Reserve and surrounds. Council ran an extensive two stage procurement process to determine the proposed use of the site, ensuring the outcome provided various community benefits.</p> <p>Stage one was a public Request for Proposal (RFP) process to determine a shortlist of appropriate uses for the site. These uses included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• combined BMX, skateboarding, surfing and snowboarding facilities</li> <li>• tennis facilities</li> <li>• indoor basketball facilities</li> <li>• small sided soccer (synthetic) facilities</li> <li>• gymnastics facilities.</li> </ul> <p>Subsequently Stage two consisted of an expression of Interest (EOI) inviting applicants to put forward proposals for the site that aligned with the uses outlined above. The proposal put forward by the prospective lessee was deemed to best meet Council objectives for the site. This was determined via an extensive and rigorous</p>

Question raised in feedback	Council's answer
	procurement process and subsequently endorsed by the elected Councillors.
I was under the impression Council were around reducing the impacts of storm /flood events with the safety of people and protection of property the main focus?	Council is aware of historical flooding events in the area and future risk of flooding on the site. These risks will be considered and assessed when the lessee seeks planning approval as part of Councils standard DA process. Design of the building and surrounds will have to address and mitigate flooding risk in order to gain development approval.
The proposal to use the old North Manly Bowling Club for a new Gymnasium facility is good for the gymnastics community, but will the entire area be built upon? This area is zoned Open Space. Building on this area will decrease the open space available for use by the general public. Currently several exercise groups utilise the old bowling greens because they are well drained and are usable in wet weather. Also there is less dog poo , although not totally free of, unlike the adjoining reserve, which is very much covered in dog poo. Can one bowling green be kept for use by the general public, please?	<p>The existing bowling greens will not be able to be maintained for general public use. However, Initial design plans have a section of the site remaining for shared public access with gymnastics until such time as Stage 2 of the development can be progressed. It is unknown when this will be as it will depend on the funding the club has available to it for the expansion.</p> <p>The exact location of this outdoor space won't be known until the DA has been reviewed and determined. When the DA is notified the location of the proposed structures on the site will be shown.</p>
So after Stage two is complete, there will be no public access to the site that is currently zoned Open Space. Is that correct?	<p>The land is zones RE1 – Public Recreation which provides for a range of permitted recreational pursuits including indoor recreation facilities.</p> <p>Similarly, to when the land was an operational bowling club, open public access will not be available after Stage 2 is completed however the site will be accessible to a range of community members that participate in the programs offered by MWGC.</p>

## Appendix 1 Verbatim community and stakeholder responses\*

Number	Comment/submission
1	<p>The proposed plan for the North Manly site references a two-stage lease and development of 3,000square metres for an indoor gymnastics facility.</p> <p>The outlined material has no information on building size, land usage, parking, impacts on traffic or nearby road and facility usage.</p> <p>It is impossible to provide any meaningful submission without further detail.</p> <p>Council is requested to provide additional information noting that the adjacent carpark is used by other recreation users and regularly floods.</p>
2	<p>I cannot believe this is going ahead ! as a longtime sports player in my local community and administrator, President of some sports this is a disgrace !!!!</p>
3	<p>I support this proposal - this will be a great use of space and a great addition to the lower Northern Beaches. It will especially provide more recreation space for young girls and teenage girls who are historically under-served by many other uses of public open space (eg soccer fields, ovals, skate parks) which tend to be more male dominated.</p>
4	<p>This is a private business on council land. Council recreation space is scarce so I don't know why there is a private business developing such precious land. Our council needs flexible community spaces. We need a teenage recreation and hang out space that is non secular. Presently teenagers hang out at the mall, or go to church recreation spaces. I'm happy for the gym to use a space during certain hours, but community events come first. Is there a problem with the place in Cromer?</p> <p>Who will own the building after 30 years?</p> <p>This seems a really odd proposal.</p>
5	<p>A well deserved outcome for one our highly dedicated and successful community owned NFP sports organisations. A fantastic initiative, proposal and partnership.</p>
6	<p>Great idear</p> <p>Great location</p>
7	<p>Hi. Whilst I support the use of this building for recreation I am very concerned about the flood impacts of such a large building.</p> <p>The recent floods in March 2022 caused extensive flooding of resident properties in this area. This large solid building and surface will make this worse.</p> <p>Also the recent conservation zone review does not include this use. During floods it will pose risks to cars and children attending the site.</p> <p>I do no support such a large building with the associated flood risks on this site.</p> <p>The gymnastics centre is better suited to an industrial zone not public open space.</p>
8	<p>This site would be ideal for community use, not only a sporting facility.</p> <p>Like the old Queenscliff Health Centre, this could be a Mental Health Centre for teenagers, or set up as place for people in need to gather and be given a meal and a helping hand.</p> <p>But the huge concerns for this area is the flooding, which happened again in March 2022.</p> <p>The site and surrounds cannot handle more concrete, asphalt etc. for obvious reasons.</p> <p>I also do not support the project if it will create more issues with parking.</p>

\*Personal details and inappropriate language have been redacted where possible. Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused.

	<p>This is a very fragile and stressed area on land and in the very polluted lagoon.</p> <p>I have lived here for forty years and seen the gradual neglect of the area, not to mention the many "Floodplain Risk Management Studies" to no avail.</p>
9	<p>Dear council, I note the intended redevelopment of North Manly bowling club. As much as I am all for the development of community facilities which improve the health and well-being of residents and their families- I do wish to note my concern. I live in Lakeside Cres in north manly, which was earlier this year devastated by local flooding. I would like to note my concern and ask that all possible measures are taken and included to avoid the further impact of flooding downstream ( to our area) in this development. The environment must be of high priority in considering the flow of storm water. Large structures such as this could easily have an impact on the properties and residents of Lakeside, Palm and Riverview in regards to the change or the flow of water.</p>
10	<p>I support the proposal to enter into a Public Private Partnership (PPP) with the Manly Warringah Gymnastics Club to transform the former North Manly Bowling Club site into an indoor gymnastics centre.</p>
11	<p>Absolutely fantastic news for our gymnasts, as mwgc is now the best club in NSW it is excellent news that they will be getting a state of the art facility. As club members and locals, we completely support this project.</p>
12	<p>I think this is a fabulous idea for the community and for the kids who are so involved in the most popular sport for youngsters in australia - gymnastics. The current gymnastics centre at Cromer is bursting at the seams and in dire need of repair. This project would provide a state of the art facility to allow Manly Warringah gymnastics club's very talented youngsters to progress to their ultimate capacity in their sport. It would also provide a space for the highly populated area to give their children an opportunity to exercise and to lead healthy lives in this state of the art facility.</p>
13	<p>That site and the buildings on it have been an unutilised eyesore for too long, knowing that a community group and its members will benefit and also have a long term home is a fabulous outcome. Congratulations to everyone involved.</p>
14	<p><i>No comments provided</i></p>
15	<p>What a wonderful project - a great idea having a gymnastic club. Benefits all ages of the community. Well done.</p>
16	<p>Having being involved in the club for over 35 years now, a permanent gymnastics facility is well overdue for this club.</p> <p>MWGC is a non for profit organisation, where hundreds of kids to adults attend a range of recreational classes throughout the week. There is no other high performance facility on the Northern Beaches where they can train, with the adequate level of safety equipment.</p> <p>Gymnastics helps to trigger a positive feeling in the body which can have a positive impact on your happiness and mental wellbeing of those attend - intern having a positive impact on the community. It is a fantastic club, and I look forward to my daughter being a part of the club for many years to come.</p>
17	<p>A fantastic use for the space.</p> <p>I also operate a Rhythmic Gymnastics club in the Beaches/North Shore and GymNSW is always struggling to find venues for competitions etc. If this space could facilitate RG that would be a great addition to the gym sports on offer and way of using the facility.</p> <p>I am open to assist running an RG Program for MWGC also if this is something they'd consider doing/the venue can do. Ceiling height is the biggest factor holding back new clubs opening/venues for competitions so that would be the main area to look at if this is an avenue MWGC would be keen to explore.</p>
18	<p>We are so pleased to read this wonderful news. How exciting! This not for profit club serves as a happy place to so many people in our community, from tiny tots to Rec gymnasts, adult gymnasts, even seniors all the way up to elite athletes. Gymnastics is so wonderful providing</p>

	the basic foundations for so many different sports. We can't wait to see this club thrive and keep serving our community.
19	This site/plan looks amazing and much needed for this amazing club that provides opportunities for kids and adults of all ages and levels.
20	Brilliant idea Would be amazing for kids and the development for the industry Has my support
21	I think this project would be a great asset to the area. Perfect use of the old bowling club. I know many kids who are/have been a part of Manly Warringah Gymnastics Club past and present and know it would be beneficial to all in the community.
22	MWGC is an amazing gym club and deserves a space to finally have a permanent set up where the building is not compromised by the owner refusing to fix leaks etc. Nolan's reserve is the perfect spot as it is central and easy to access
23	I think it would be brilliant to have the amazing gymnastics company in North Manly. I fully support it
24	What an amazing opportunity for the community. Such a central area for a gymnastics centre on the northern beaches which will attract more business from areas like Mosman and North Sydney and beyond, making it more accessible. More opportunities for more aerial sports for champions in the making for our Australian Competitive sports. Well done to MWGC and the Northern Beaches Council.
25	<i>No comments provided</i>
26	This is a wonderful submission and I wholeheartedly support it. I have been associated with Manly Warringah Gymnastics Club for many years and it is a fabulous community club that supports the growth and development of every child that walks through the door. If they want to be an Olympic champion or just have fun & learn to do a cartwheel they have a program that suits and more importantly they treat every child equally. The construction of the new facility for Manly Warringah Gymnastics Club would provide the much needed new space and equipment this club needs to continue and flourish for its members of all levels. It would also create the opportunity for other sports to cross train such as diving, winter sports, surfing and skating which all have an acrobatic element that could be progressed faster & safer in a gymnastics training environment. Please proceed with this project!!
27	Something like this is so much needed in NSW. Having a community run world class gymnastics facility has the potential to improve international prospects for so many NSW gymnasts.
28	I live at [redacted] and was badly flooded by the March storms. I can't support any plan that includes more hard surfaces and buildings. How is it that that more buildings in one of the last urban open spaces in the area is even being considered? A giant flat roof building and more tarmac is exactly opposite what the community needs. Why can't it be converted into something sustainable (and naturally absorbing) like a BMX pump track or something similar?  IF we have to have this proposal please make sure the car park is gravel or something similar, the roof is green, and on site water retention is included in the design  Many thanks
29	Hi,  I am against the proposed lease/development unless it will be done in such a way that does not contribute to making the flooding situation any worse in the local area and/or work is done to offset it e.g. to the creek.  My objection is against any additional hard (non pervious) surfaces e.g. for parking, and additional flood storage taken up if the development is at ground level etc.  Regards,

30	<p>I was under the impression Council were around reducing the impacts of storm /flood events with the safety of people and protection of property the main focus?</p> <p>Whilst I'm all for gymnastics or any sporting facilities for that matter, the mindset should be to retain what little permeable land remains...as it now stands.</p> <p>Only 1 kilometer upstream of the Gymnastics Centre proposal is a man made concrete suburb/dam called Brookvale. The 'Brookvale Dam' is actually larger than Manly Dam. Unfortunately the 'Brookvale Dam' spills the moment the rain falls as there is no dam wall! As is already evidenced, Mother Nature, in the form of a tiny creek, cannot handle 5 suburbs of captured storm/flood/polluted/sewage-water surrounding the 'Brookvale Dam'. The catchment is so big Warringah Mall gained approval to replace around 1 kilometer of the proposed conservation zones and subsequent riparian surrounds with multiple truck sized reinforced concrete culverts that meet 11 additional oversized drains at the exit/apron at the northern end of Warringah Golf Course.</p> <p>I repeat... as is already evidenced, Brookvale Creek (upstream of Manly Creek and Queenscliff Lagoon, both also overwhelmed by the upstream tsunami), cannot handle the approved built up areas, infrastructure and all that goes with it. A gymnastics center, likened to an airplane hanger architecturally, is yet another huge water catchment, delivered directly to the now not for purpose struggling creek, that lies in the proposed 'Conservation Zones' and surrounding Riparian areas.</p> <p>A Councillor spoke in 2015 about the major dangers from our stormwater system during storm events due to the development decisions of the past....even as I type, there is yet another precinct planned at Frenchs Forest (alongside the recently built hospital), envisaged to drain all and sundry into Manly Creek atop Manly Dam!.....perhaps now is a good time to commence learning from past mistakes??</p>
31	<p>In the process of entering into a Public Private Partnership (PPP) with the Manly Warringah Gymnastics Club, it is the request of Manly Lagoon Friends that Council has sufficient processes in place to ensure that impacts of this development on the lagoon's watercourses, riparian corridors and wetlands are seriously considered. The proposed gymnastics club site sits within the Riparian zone (Category 1 and 2, High Environmental Value Criteria used for Conservation Zones Review) of Brookvale Creek which feeds into Manly Lagoon. This gymnastic club development will sit within a Biodiversity Corridor and Swamp Oak Floodplain Forest and therefore serious water-sensitive and environmental design would be required. Recent Watercourse, Wetlands and Riparian Lands, Stormwater and Biodiversity Studies show that our waterways have considerable value and are under strain from urban development. It is our request that these studies positively inform the Council process for the development of this recreation site.</p> <p>*Manly Lagoon Friends, Community Association Objects are –</p> <p>To ADVOCATE for the protection, preservation, regeneration and sustainable management of the Manly Lagoon environment, including the three catchment creeks Manly Creek, Burnt Bridge Creek and Brookvale Creek, all public land within the catchment, and Queenscliff Beach.</p> <p>To ENGAGE with Council, Community and Key Stakeholders to provide strategic focus for sustainable management actions, with the objective of maintaining, protecting and enhancing the Manly Lagoon coastal environment.</p> <p>To EDUCATE the community on the value of the Manly Lagoon system, to inform community on management actions affecting the lagoon and facilitate community based projects.</p>
32	<p>Good evening</p> <p>I live at [redacted], just down the road from Nolans/District Park. My home was badly flooded in the 8 March storm. I want to ensure that any planned building works in the area do not contribute further to storm water run off due to current grassed areas being replaced by hard surfaces eg car parks. Although in theory I am not against the planning of another sporting facility in the area, I cannot support a plan that includes adding more hard surfaces in our area given the terrible flooding the local residents went through. It has cost me and my family almost \$80,000 to fix up my house and replace fixtures and fittings damaged in the flood. I am hoping</p>

	<p>the surface of the car park, site water retention, landscaping and drainage is extremely well thought out before this proposal goes any further with council. I would prefer the building is used for something much smaller than a massive gymnasium with a flat roof.</p>
33	<p>I live at [redacted]. Our house was badly affected by the flood on March 8 and our family have yet to return home. I can't support any plan that includes more hard surfaces on Nolan Reserve. We need solutions to the flooding issues around Nolans Reserve. I don't see that more buildings and more bitumen car parks on Nolans is something that the community needs. In fact I think it will put the local residents at more of a flood risk in the event of a replica of March 8 earlier this year.</p>
34	<p>I am concerned that the new proposal for a gymnastics centre has been approved considering the new rezoning of the nearby area. I am an owner and resident of a house on Palm Avenue - residents on this street will no longer be allowed to host as a child minder due to new safety rules I presume regarding evacuation logistics. Buildings can no longer be Community Centres and can no longer to be built in our street (regarding the old hospital on the corner).</p> <p>The gym centre will have high traffic, the carpark at the opposite end is already over used and abused.</p> <p>If this project goes ahead it must be designed with intelligence, respect to it's environment and use strategies that will create little impact when the area is flooded again.</p>
35	<p>I write to express early concern on the aesthtics of the building. Gym Halls tend to be ugly concrete pre fabricated buildings, per the Narrabeen one. The area is a nice nature spot and would like to see an award winning sympathtic design for the proposed building that could ideally be used for multi purpose sports and leisure activities</p>
36	<p>Concerns with size of Club, impact to traffic volumes &amp; noise in residential area:</p> <p>Size of Club: Concerned with this proposal for this large gym club (2000+ members) at this location which appears smaller than the current location for the club. This is likely to heavily influence the large building which would not be appropriate for this residential area. In addition to increased traffic volumes and noise of the venue with usage early morning / evening 7 days a week in addition to weekend entertaining while they attempt to recover costs !</p> <p>Traffic: This area in North Manly is on a busy intersection where the current road / junction is unable to cater for the current traffic flow, in peak hours and at weekends. The times the club operates will coincide with peak times and with heavy usage of the playing fields. Road improvements by the State Government &amp; NBC LGA would have to be a consideration for traffic flow &amp; safety with filter/slip lane into the area from Manly avoiding the junction with Kentwell Road, a dedicated right turn for traffic south bound on Pittwater Road into Kentwell Road, and road widening / filter lane for traffic from Condamine turning into the complex. With existing heaving traffic volumes, excessive speed and heavy vehicles including large volume of busses (in/out of service) there needs to be more safe places to cross the busy Pittwater Road</p> <p>Noise With the previous club, North Manly Bowling there was limited noise due to the type of clientele. On the very rare occasion there was music in the evening, the sound would carry and could be heard along North Manly. This is also the case with the Golf Club and acoustics of sound across District Park. This is a concern with the potential gym and additional revenue streams required to pay for the building and how this would heavily impact residents. If this does proceed despite objections then the building needs to be heavily sound proofed with any entertaining areas pointing into District Park / Golf Course and away from residential area of the east side of Pittwater Road. There should be no entertaining licence permitted until the building is completed and impact further accessed</p> <p>Overall feel the size club in this area and the issues which need to be addressed at a cost to State &amp; Council, there must be a more appropriate areas for this club and better use for the North Manly Bowling Club site. Any extra dollars at state or council level should be spent</p>

	improving infrastructure to cater for the changes in climate which we are all impacted by especially the poor stormwater / flood management across the beaches
37	<p>The proposal to use the old North Manly Bowling Club for a new Gymnasium facility is good for the gymnastics community, but will the entire area be built upon? This area is zoned Open Space. Building on this area will decrease the open space available for use by the general public. Currently several exercise groups utilise the old bowling greens because they are well drained and are usable in wet weather. Also there is less dog poo , although not totally free of, unlike the adjoining reserve, which is very much covered in dog poo. Can one bowling green be kept for use by the general public, please? Thank you,</p> <p><i>Second submission:</i></p> <p>So after Stage two is complete, there will be no public access to the site that is currently zoned Open Space.</p> <p>Is that correct? No shared public access at all.</p>
38	<p>My son is a gymnast at Manly Warringah Gymnastics Club and has been for 3 years in the competitive Mens Artistic Gymnastics program. For some time the club has been seeking a new permanent location and it is pleasing to hear that the North Manly Bowling Club site is a proposition.</p> <p>The location would be excellent for many gymnasts and a purpose built structure would enable our club to provide the quality facilities required to seriously compete against clubs from other areas within Sydney and beyond.</p> <p>It is also good to know that the site which was used as a community sport facility in the past will continue in this manner... from bowls to gymnastics.</p>
39	<p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I write on behalf of the 4500 members of the [redacted] Association in support of the proposed indoor gymnastics facility at District Park in North Manly which will be built and operated by Manly Warringah Gymnastics Club (MWGC).</p> <p>Council has been executing studies and EOI's on this site since 2011. To date nothing of value for residents or ratepayers has been achieved. We believe that this proposed facility will greatly benefit both residents and ratepayers.</p> <p>Over time we would expect more than 3,000 local children to access the facility on a weekly basis, making it one of the most important recreation facilities on the Northern Beaches. That MWGC will finance this without ongoing Council support will be of great benefit to ratepayers. It is worth noting that field and aquatic sports have received tens of millions of dollars in capital and operating support from Council over the past decade, while indoor sports have received virtually nothing in comparison. This project is a genuine bargain for the community.</p> <p>Our sole concern is that the PPP is only over the existing MWBC site. Access to the site and street parking will have to be upgraded by Council. It is unreasonable to expect the number of users of District Park to double or treble without some upgrades to local infrastructure. The last thing anyone wants is another Abbott Rd in Curl Curl or Kenneth Rd in Manly where infrastructure was years behind the development of sporting facilities.</p> <p>Regards, [redacted]</p>

<b>Document administration</b>	
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Notes	Community and stakeholder views contained in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Beaches Council or indicate a commitment to a particular course of action.