



5th April, 2005

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RANDWICK WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, 90 AVOCA STREET, RANDWICK, ON TUESDAY, 12TH APRIL, 2005 AT 5:30 P.M.

Committee Members: His Worship, the Mayor, Cr M. Matson, Bastic, Kenny, Nash, Procopiadis, Tracey (Chairperson) & Woodsmith (Deputy Chairperson)

Quorum: Four (4) members.

NOTE: AT THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 28TH SEPTEMBER, 2004, THE COUNCIL RESOLVED THAT THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE BE CONSTITUTED AS A COMMITTEE WITH FULL DELEGATION TO DETERMINE MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.

1 Apologies

2 Minutes

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 8TH MARCH, 2005.

3 Declaration of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests

4 Addresses to Committee by the Public

5 Mayoral Minutes

6 Library

6.1 DIRECTOR, CITY SERVICES' REPORT 36/2005 - RANDWICK CITY LIBRARY HSC STRATEGY. 2

7 General Business

8 Notice of Rescission Motions

.....
GENERAL MANAGER

Director, City Services' Report 36/2005

SUBJECT:	RANDWICK CITY LIBRARY HSC STRATEGY
-----------------	------------------------------------

DATE:	30 March, 2005	FILE NO:	F2004/08121
--------------	----------------	-----------------	-------------

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR, CITY SERVICES

INTRODUCTION:

Randwick City Library & Information Service as a member of the Eastern Sydney Libraries Cooperative (ESLC) has developed a dynamic and highly successful strategy for delivering information services and resources to students preparing for the HSC.

The following report provides information and analysis of the ongoing program and some recommendations on future strategic directions.

ISSUES:**Eastern Sydney Libraries Cooperative**

The ESLC was formed in October 2002 following a meeting of representatives of libraries from the four Eastern Suburbs Councils – City of Botany Bay, Randwick City, and Waverley & Woollahra. This is significant as it would be the first time the four libraries formalised a collaborative approach to targeted service delivery.

All four library services recognised a need to provide a program of support for HSC students. Given the close proximity of each LGA and the fact that residents of each LGA regularly cross boundaries to shop, attend educational institutions and utilise library services, a cooperative approach would deliver the following benefits:

- Shared cost of promotion and delivery of program,
- Potential to reach the widest audience at each location, and
- Opportunities to share ideas and implement a continuous improvement process.

Ride the HSC Wave

Ride the HSC Wave is a package of resources, services and events. It was developed as the product that the ESLC would deliver each year to support the HSC students. Randwick City Library had already developed specific HSC collections for use in the library and for loan as well as web-based resources and links to other resources on the Randwick City Council website. However, an initial survey of students, conducted in January 2003 [and ongoing] revealed that they had little idea of the existence and availability of these resources. Indeed, subsequent surveys supported this lack of awareness, which is endemic in HSC students. This has been a guiding influence in the development of the *Ride the*

HSC Wave program – to ensure that what is delivered is exactly what the student's desire, and not a perceived need. The results have been very encouraging.

75 students attended the 4 sessions at the Bowen Library in 2003
217 students attended the 4 sessions at the Bowen Library in 2004

The program of talks and seminars has grown each year as awareness has grown and students have become more responsive to the surveys. In 2005 Randwick City Library will offer three times the number of talks offered in 2003.

2004 English Curriculum Talk

Randwick City Library staff identified the need to provide public library staff with support and information to best assist students decipher the new HSC English curriculum. An event separate from the ESLC program titled "Understanding the English Curriculum" was hosted at the Bowen Library in March 2004. Gillian Lovell from Learning Curve spoke to an audience of sixty-five library staff from metropolitan and country public libraries, attesting to the need for this type of forum.

2004 HSC Expo

In November 2004 the ESLC hosted the first HSC Expo at Waverley Library. The purpose of the Expo was to provide teachers, teacher librarians and librarians with an opportunity to become aware of the variety of services and resources offered by the four libraries, the State Library of NSW and the various publishers of HSC resources. The turn-out was disappointing, although librarians travelled from far western Sydney and country NSW to attend. Despite an extensive mail-out very few staff from schools attended.

The ESLC team decided that the Expo should be timed for early in the year and to coincide with the English Curriculum talk to attract the widest possible audience - in particular, library staff from county NSW who could justify the time and travel .

2005 English Curriculum Talk – Decoding the English Curriculum

The second talk was expanded to include an additional speaker from Macquarie Press who provided the audience with valuable information about the texts, supporting publications and resources available to students to support their study requirements. This additional session was very well received by the 60+ attendees. The talks took place in the morning of Friday 4th March.

2005 HSC & Education Expo

An expanded Expo was timetabled for the afternoon of Friday 4th March to give library staff the opportunity to attend following the morning program of talks.

As well as the four libraries, other exhibitors included publishers, the University of Sydney, University of NSW, TAFE and Tutoring Australasia, the company that provides *Live Homework Help*. A series of talks for students and teachers was scheduled from 5.30 pm onwards including:

- Professional Development for Teachers (University of Sydney)
- Continuing education and resource databases for teachers (NSW Dept. of Education & Training)

- HSC and related databases available through Randwick City Library for students (Victoria Scarf – Randwick City Library & Information Service)

While the first two talks were not well attended, over 35 students attended the talk on library databases. As a result this talk will be scheduled regularly throughout the *Ride the HSC Wave 2005* program.

Overall at least 250 people visited the Expo – based on the number of sample bags handed-out.

2006 Planning and beyond

Planning is already underway. Some valuable lessons have been learned from the past two years. It is quite clear that teachers have little interest in attending the programs offered. As such the ESLC will concentrate on parents and students in marketing and promoting the HSC package.

The State Library of NSW has been invited to co-host the curriculum and expo in 2006 as this has the potential to reach a much larger audience and is a more convenient geographic location. The State Library Public Libraries Service has already indicated that they would be interested in this venture.

Each year it is expected that additional talks and workshops will be provided as part of the *Ride the HSC Wave* program as the audience and awareness grows. A number of other library services have requested membership to the ESLC and these requests will be considered.

Although four library services are involved in providing the program, the driving force behind the program is Randwick City Library and in particular, Client Services Library Assistant Avril Jeans. Ms Jeans has been singularly responsible for development and delivery of the 2004 and 2005 curriculum talks and the success of the 2005 expo. Ms Jeans' efforts have been entirely commendable and brought much credit to Randwick City Council.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Funding for the HSC strategy is available in this financial year library budget in the following areas.

- HSC Collections - Library resources budget line [\$2,000.00]
- Ride the HSC Wave program - Library Marketing & Promotions [1,800.00]
 - Income from \$5 per person [-\$1,375.00].
 - Financial contributions from other ESLC member libraries for printing, publicity etc [\$600.00].
- English Curriculum program - Library Marketing & Promotions [\$300.00]
 - Income from \$5 per person [-\$300.00].
- HSC & Education Expo - Library Marketing & Promotions [\$300.00]

Pending the outcome of negotiations with the State Library of NSW there should be considerable cost savings in staging the curriculum and expo programs.

CONCLUSION:

The Eastern Sydney Libraries Cooperative has developed and delivered a successful program of support for HSC students with access to the services and resources in Randwick, Waverley, Woollahra and Botany libraries. Feedback from both students and library staff has been extremely positive and encouraging. It is planned that the *Ride the HSC Wave* program will continue and possibly expand to include other library services.

Although the HSC Expo was a huge success in 2005, relocating the curriculum talk and the expo to the State Library of NSW would benefit a wider audience consisting of library staff, parents and students.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

- a) Council support the ongoing program of support for HSC students; and
- b) Council support negotiations with the State Library of NSW to host the Expo.

ATTACHMENT/S:

Nil

.....
JORDE FRANGOPLES
DIRECTOR, CITY SERVICES

.....
BARRY MCGUREN
CLIENT SERVICES
COORDINATOR