

# **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

## **BUSINESS PAPER**

**TUESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2010**

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## **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that an Environment 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, 9 February 2010 at 6:00pm.

Committee Members: The Mayor, J Procopiadis, Andrews, Belleli, Hughes (Deputy Chairperson), Matson (Chairperson), Notley-Smith, White & Woodsmith.

Quorum: Five (5) members.

NOTE: At the extraordinary meeting held on 22 May 2007, the Council resolved that the Environment Committee be constituted as a committee with full delegation to determine matters on the agenda.

### **Apologies/Granting of Leave of Absences**

### **Confirmation of the Minutes**

Environment Committee Meeting - 1 December 2009

### **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

### **Address of Committee by Members of the Public**

### **Urgent Business**

### **Greening Randwick Reports**

Nil

### **Environment Reports**

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### **Notice of Rescission Motions**

Nil

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Ray Brownlee  
**GENERAL MANAGER**



## Environment Report No. E1/10

**Subject:** Randwick Council's 2010 Summer Activities Program

**Folder No:** F2006/00249

**Author:** Peter Maganov, Manager Sustainability



### Introduction

This report provides an overview of results for Council's Summer Activities Program and advise Council of a modified approach to the delivery of this program over 2010 and 2011. The program is developed and delivered by the Sustainability and Community Programs and Partnerships teams.

### Issues

For the past 6 years, Council's Sustaining our City program has conducted an extensive program of marine and coastal education activities along Randwick's 29 kilometres of coastline during the January holiday period. The emphasis has been on ensuring parents and children attend these activities together to maximise the learning experience and enjoyment from activities taking place over a 2 week period. Activities include snorkelling, sea-kayaking, surf schools, sailing, rockpool and coastal foreshore walks and sustainable fishing clinics. A new activity offered this January was a boat trip across Botany Bay from Yarra Bay and a guided tour from one of the National Parks rangers at Cook's Landing (Kamay Beach) at Kurnell.

These activities have been organised to support a similar program across the metropolitan coastal area coordinated and promoted by the Sydney Coastal Councils Group. Randwick's program tends to be one of the most comprehensive in both the numbers of activities organised and the 2 week duration. Advertising for the Randwick program aims to maximise attendance by local residents and children.

In the past two years Council's Community Programs and Partnerships team has had an extensive role in delivering the Summer Activities Program. This has included working with youth service providers to design appropriate programs as well as focusing some of the activities to our target groups, in particular at our southern suburbs.

Despite extensive advertising and very positive feedback in evaluations from those who participated, attendance over the past 2 years has been decreasing rather than increasing. As a result, a number of activities were cancelled in 2010 due to a lower number of bookings. A new approach to the summer activities is to be trialled over 2010/2011 with two smaller programs to be organised with a focus on location rather than activity.

As a result a series of activities will be organised as Council's Marine Discovery Program at 4 locations during the April school holidays, 12-15 April 2010. This focus of activities will occur at LaPerouse, Maroubra, Coogee and Clovelly. Council's 2011 Summer Activities Program will focus on activities at 5 locations, LaPerouse, Malabar, Maroubra, Coogee and Clovelly from, 17-20 January 2011 (two of the Malabar beach activities are still subject to confirmation). The Community Programs and Partnerships team will be responsible for the delivery of this program.

**E1/10**

## Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

- Outcome 5: Excellence in recreation and lifestyle opportunities.  
Direction 5(b): Maximise opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy both active and passive open space uses.
- Outcome 7: Heritage that is protected and celebrated.  
Direction 7(a) Our heritage is recognised, protected and celebrated.
- Outcome 10: A healthy environment.  
Direction 10(a) Council is a leader in fostering environmentally sustainable practices.

## Financial impact statement

A small fee is charged for some activities where items such as sea kayaks, snorkelling or fishing gear are provided by the various contractors engaged to run the activities for Council. This raises approximately \$1,000 each year. The remaining activities are free for residents and other beachgoers with approximately \$10,000 provided from the Environmental Levy program to engage contractors and marine specialists with the necessary skills, equipment, insurances etc.

## Conclusion

With 29 kilometres of coastline including both the Pacific Ocean and south-eastern reaches of Botany Bay, Council's Summer Activities Program provides an important opportunity for parents and children to attend activities that enable them to learn about our spectacular coastal and marine environment. This new approach to delivering our coastal learning over two separate times of the year and specific Randwick locations is aimed at facilitating local interest and attendance at this worthwhile event.

## Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

## Attachment/s:

Nil

## Environment Report No. E2/10



**Subject:** Six Council partnership grant on Social Housing Sustainability

**Folder No:** F2004/07726

**Author:** Peter Maganov, Manager Sustainability

### Introduction

This report provides Council with details of Randwick's involvement in the six Council Urban Sustainability grant on sustainability within public housing areas.

### Issues

In 2009, Council was advised of its success in a joint funding application with 5 other inner city Councils to increase sustainability outcomes around public housing areas. The funding application led by City of Sydney involves a partnership with Randwick, Woollahra, Marrickville, Leichhardt and Canterbury Councils for a range of projects described as the Social Housing Sustainability Partnership Project.

As the lead Council, the City of Sydney has been responsible for the preparation and approval of the business plan with the NSW Government's Environmental Trust, employment of the Project Manager and a soon to be completed recruitment process for 2 additional Project Officers.

As one of the partner Councils, Randwick has identified priority project areas including responses to illegal dumping and a small number of specific water saving, waste minimisation and community garden projects. The Project Steering Committee and the Project Manager are still finalising the work program and recruitment process for the project officers to facilitate the various project outcomes across the 6 Council areas.

Council will continue to receive updates on the progress of this 3 year project between the 6 Councils. Staff from Randwick's Waste Management and Sustaining our City teams are represented on the Project Steering Committee and involved in different aspects of this partnership.

### Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

- Outcome 2: A vibrant and diverse community.
- Direction 2b: Enrich our range of community services that meet our community's needs.
- Direction 2c: Strong partnerships between Council, community groups and government agencies.
- Outcome 6: A liveable city.
- Direction 6e: Housing diversity, accessibility and adaptability to support our diverse community is enhanced.
- Outcome 10: A healthy environment.
- Direction 10e: Our community is encouraged to implement waste minimisation strategies.

E2/10

**Financial impact statement**

This is a 3 year Urban Sustainability Program grant provided to the 6 Councils by the NSW Government's Environmental Trust. While the total project funding is approximately \$1.8 million, specific project funding is to be allocated on finalisation of projects approved by the Steering Group and approval of the work program of the new project officers and project manager engaged and hosted by the City of Sydney.

**Conclusion**

This is an innovative partnership project between 6 inner city Councils each seeking to carry out a range of sustainability projects across respective public housing areas. The focus on waste minimisation, water saving and community garden projects is intended to build on Randwick's existing initiatives and priorities in these areas.

**Recommendation**

That the report be received and noted.

**Attachment/s:**

Nil

**E2/10**



## Environment Report No. E3/10

**Subject:** Food Waste Reduction Project  
between Waverley and Randwick  
Council



**Folder No:** F2008/00385

**Author:** Richard Wilson, Ecological Footprint Project Officer

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### Introduction

This reports provides an update of the recently commenced food waste reduction program: 'Be part of the Compost Revolution'.

### Issues

The Food Waste Reduction Project is Waverley and Randwick's major project under the 3-Council Ecological Footprint Project funded via the NSW Environment Trust.

The objective of the project is to trial and analyse effective methods of reducing food waste going to landfill by establishing a residential food waste reduction and recycling trial based on household composting and worm farming. This trial aims to encourage composting for single-unit and multi-unit dwellings, never before trialed in a metropolitan setting.

Following a two hour training workshop each householder receives a compost bin (or worm farm), kitchen collector bin and resource kit. Participants are expected to stay involved over a 10 month trial period, completing reports and surveys regarding their food waste and composting practices over that timeframe.

This project has been developed to allow a detailed comparison based on financial and environmental costs with Woollahra Council's existing combined food and green waste collection service.

As a result of the demand and interest from Randwick and Waverley residents to participate in this program a second intake was advertised in December bringing the total participants from the 2 Council areas to 580 households.

In addition, the trial has been extended to respond to interest from community groups to set up communal composting systems. There are three groups participating, the Community Kitchen in Flood Street, Bondi; the Burnie Street Playgroup, Clovelly; the WAYS Youth Centre, Bondi and a trial community composting system has been set up in St James Road Park near Waverley bus depot.

In the first 3 months of the trial the first 240 households in the trial saved a total 10.5 tonnes of food waste from landfill. This is expected to increase markedly as data becomes available from the second round of households.

### Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome 10: A Healthy Environment.

Direction 10(a): Council is leader in fostering environmentally sustainable practices.

Direction 10(d): Sustainable alternative waste technologies and environmentally sound collection systems are identified and implemented.

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Direction 10(g): Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced.

**Financial impact statement**

The 3-Council Ecological Footprint Project is funded through an external grant provided by the NSW Environmental Trust through its Urban Sustainability Program. Approximately \$300,000 is allocated to this combined project within the Ecological Footprint grant itself.

**Conclusion**

As a result of the high interest from households across Randwick and Waverley and third intake is currently being investigated. A series of food waste avoidance workshops and demonstrations for participants of this trial to learn more about cooking and shopping for low waste, sustainable and organic gardening and a community 'train the trainer' course for composting and worm farming.

**Recommendation**

That the report be received and noted.

**Attachment/s:**

Nil

**E3/10**