

# **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

## **BUSINESS PAPER**

**TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2011**

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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, 8 November 2011 at 6:00pm.

Committee Members: The Mayor (S Nash), Belleli, Hughes (Deputy Chairperson), Matson (Chairperson), Smith, Tracey, White and 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 - 11 October 2011

#### 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. E18/11



**Subject:** Terms 3 and 4 sustainability courses and school visits at Randwick Community Centre

**Folder No:** F2011/00361

**Author:** Fiona Campbell, Sustainability Education Officer

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### Introduction

To provide an update on sustainability courses and school visits at Randwick Community Centre during Terms 3 and 4, September to December 2011.

### Issues

As Randwick's sustainability education 'hub', the Randwick Community Centre continues to provide an important venue for sustainability courses and visits free for Randwick residents, local schools and community organisations.

Courses provided over Terms 3 and 4 include:

- Sustainable Living (Living Smart) course (6 weeks);
- Sustainable leadership and public speaking course (5 week course); and
- Sustainable gardening at the Randwick Permaculture Garden (5 week course).

School visits over Terms 3 and 4 include:

- St Brigids, 60 x mixed class students on catchments and conservation;
- Coogee Prep, 23 x students on environmental conservation;
- Coogee South Public School, 60 x Year 1 students on energy and water saving;
- Kormehl Emanuel pre-school, 20 x early childhood on energy savings;
- La Perouse Public, 20 x mixed year students on energy and water savings;
- Matraville Long Daycare, 20 early childhood on water savings;
- Randwick Public School, 220 mixed class students on water saving;
- Rainbow Public School, 70 x Year 1 students + 71 x Yr 5 and 6 students on energy saving.

Guided visits and presentations during Term 4 were held for:

- Transition Sydney (community group); and
- City of Sydney (staff).

School visits ensure that learning material delivered fits in with Education Dept curriculum requirements for the relevant levels.

### Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome 10: A healthy environment.

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

### Financial impact statement

The costing for developing course materials and delivering these courses are shared between the externally funded Climate Change grant provided by the NSW Government (\$212,000) and the community education budget of the environmental levy program (approx \$80,000 annually).

**E18/11**

**Conclusion**

The Randwick Community Centre continues to increase Council's profile in sustainability education for local residents, schools and other organisations.

**Recommendation**

That the report be received and noted.

**Attachment/s:**

Nil

**E18/11**

## Environment Report No. E19/11



**Subject:** An update on the Compost Revolution  
**Folder No:** F2008/00385  
**Author:** Richard Wilson, Ecological Footprint Project Officer

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### Introduction

To provide an update of the Compost Revolution, a food waste reduction program that has been developed through the 3-Council Ecological Footprint Program.

### Issues

The Compost Revolution has already provided some exceptional outcomes and results, including the reduction of food waste going to landfill and encouraging organic gardening. The project also offers tangible opportunities for local residents to become involved in sustainability improvements around their own home and garden.

The Compost Revolution began as a trial between Waverley and Randwick Councils and 580 participating households, who over 12 months diverted 115 tonnes of food waste from landfill.

An external evaluation conducted by Hyder Consulting reported that a further small scale roll-out to achieve a target of 20 per cent of households composting or worm farming could save in the order of \$2.1 million a year and reduce greenhouse gas emissions across the region by around 13 per cent.

To assist in the continuation of the Compost Revolution, an online compost tutorial has recently been developed [www.compostrevolution.com.au](http://www.compostrevolution.com.au) which is the first of its type in Australia. This online tutorial is already helping expand the roll-out to our residents in conjunction with monthly workshops held across the 3 Council areas.

A part-time (3 days per week) Project Officer has been appointed to continue to implement the project with residents, schools and local community groups for another 12 months.

Due to the innovative approach of the Compost Revolution and online tutorial a number of other Sydney metropolitan Councils and one in Victoria have enquired whether they can access and provide the Compost Revolution resources to their residents. Discussions are currently underway with the external web developer, the funding organisation and the 3-Council Project Officer to investigate how this access can be provided to the interested Councils under a licensing arrangement.

### 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.

### Financial impact statement

There are no financial implications in this matter.

**E19/11**

**Conclusion**

The development and delivery of the Compost Revolution has enhanced the reputation and tangible results of the 3-Council project between Randwick, Waverley and Woollahra Councils. This acknowledgment and recognition extends further with the strong interest from other Councils to pickup and apply the Compost Revolution approach within their own local government area.

**Recommendation**

That:

- a) the report be received and noted; and
- b) Council endorse the request for other Councils to be able to use the 3-Council Compost Revolution resources for residents in their own local government areas.

**Attachment/s:**

Nil

**E19/11**

## Environment Report No. E20/11



**Subject:** Overview of Council's 2011 Water Audit Results  
**Folder No:** F2004/06495  
**Author:** Choonghan Yeo, Sustainability Projects Officer

### Introduction

To provide Council with an overview of results of the recently completed water audit of Council site and facilities

### Issues

As part of the Waste and Sustainability Improvement Payment (WaSIP) Program, a water audit of the top ten water consuming Council sites and facilities has recently been completed. This audit is a follow up to the previous Water Savings Action Plan presented to the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) in 2006.

A summary of the overall results indicates the changes monitored between the two reporting periods of 2005/06 and 2010/11:

	Use kL/day 2005	Use kL/day 2011	\$ Saving	
			Daily	Yearly
<b>Price of Water (\$/1000 litres)</b>	<b>\$1.20</b>	<b>\$2.10</b>		
Des Renford Aquatic Centre, Maroubra	63.5	63	\$1.05	\$383.25
Randwick Council Administration Building, Randwick	17.2	11	\$13.04	\$4,759.60
Burrows Park, Clovelly	5	7	-\$4.21	-\$1,536.65
Beach Amenities, Maroubra	5	0	\$10.52	\$3,839.80
Beach Amenities, Clovelly	18	4	\$29.44	\$10,745.60
Paine Reserve, Kingsford	0.7	0.2	\$1.05	\$383.25
Pioneers Park, Malabar	10 (35kL/d leak)	17	\$37.85	\$13,815.25
Anzac Parade Gardens, Maroubra	0	0.03	-\$0.06	-\$21.90
Coral Sea Park, South Maroubra	9	0.04	\$18.84	\$6,876.60
Phillip Bay/Yarra Bay Reserve	2	2	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Consumption of Top 10 Water users</b>	<b>130.4</b>	<b>114.3</b>	<b>\$107.52</b>	<b>\$39,245</b>
Irrigation water replaced with stormwater and bore water		<b>226</b>	<b>\$474.60</b>	<b>\$173,229</b>
			<b>Total Saving per Year</b>	<b>\$212,474</b>

From the table above, there is a 12% decrease in water consumption. This equates to an annual saving of \$39,245, which is a significant achievement given that the price of water has also increased by 75% over the last 5 years. With the implementation of the stormwater re-use and borewater systems, Council has also managed to achieve an additional saving of 226,000 litres per day through the use of non-potable water. Overall, the water savings for the last financial year is 340,000 litres per day which equates to an annual cost saving of \$212,474.

E20/11

Further work is being carried out from these water audits to establish a prioritised approach to achieving further water savings across the Randwick Local Government Area.

### **Relationship to City Plan**

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome 10: A healthy environment;

Direction 10 F: A total water cycle management approach including water conservation, reuse and water quality improvements is adopted.

### **Financial impact statement**

There is no direct financial impact for this matter.

### **Conclusion**

These are very positive results indicating the investment made by Council through the environmental levy program and external grants is contributing to a robust water conservation program, with a good mix of alternative water sources supplementing or replacing the normal supply of potable/townwater where appropriate, and efficiency measures to reduce our water consumption.

### **Recommendation**

That the report be received and noted.

### **Attachment/s:**

Nil

**E20/11**