

AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary Meeting of Council will be held at the Civic Centre, Dee Why on

Friday 16 December 2016

Beginning at 12:00pm for the purpose of considering and determining matters included in this agenda.



Mark Ferguson
General Manager

Issued: 16/12/2016

OUR VALUES

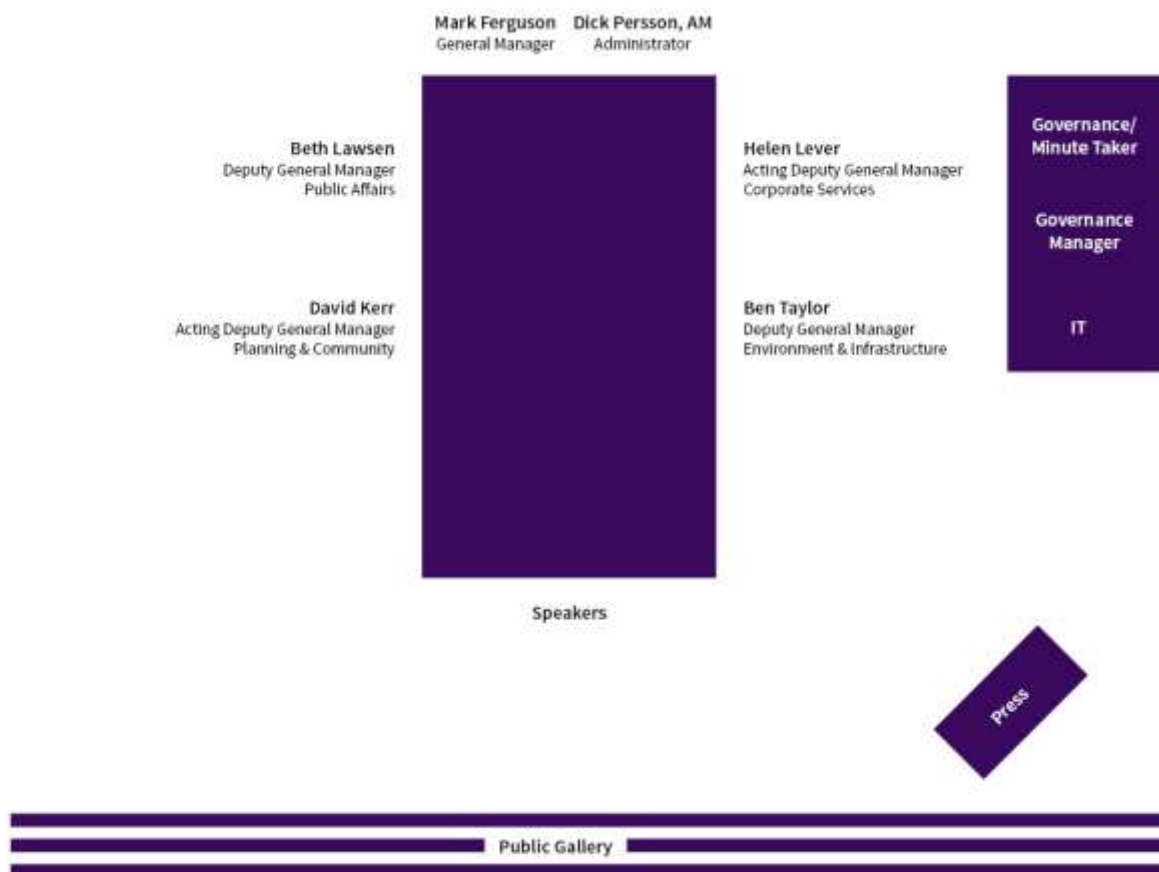
Respect

Empowerment

Service

Wellbeing

Equity



**Agenda for an Extraordinary Meeting of Council
to be held on Friday 16 December 2016
at the Civic Centre, Dee Why
Commencing at 12:00pm**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

1.0 APOLOGIES

2.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

3.0 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

4.0 ADMINISTRATOR'S MINUTES

Nil

5.0 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS.....1

5.1 Stronger Communities Fund - Major Projects1

5.2 Stronger Communities Fund - Community Grants Round 133

6.0 CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION REPORTS

Nil

7.0 ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE DIVISION REPORTS

Nil

8.0 PLANNING & COMMUNITY DIVISION REPORTS

Nil

9.0 PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIVISION REPORTS

Nil

10.0 MATTERS PROPOSED TO TAKE PLACE IN CLOSED SESSION

Nil

11.0 REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN CLOSED SESSION

5.0 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

ITEM 5.1	STRONGER COMMUNITIES FUND - MAJOR PROJECTS
REPORTING MANAGER	GENERAL MANAGER
TRIM FILE REF	2016/409020
ATTACHMENTS	1 Connecting the Northern Beaches 2 Connecting All Through Play

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To endorse the allocation of funds from the Stronger Communities Fund and the Merger Savings Fund toward the programs *Connecting the Northern Beaches* and *Connecting All Through Play* as attached to this report.

SUMMARY

The Stronger Communities Fund has been established by the NSW Government to provide councils with funding to kick start the delivery of projects that improve community infrastructure and services.

The fund includes two components:

- A Community Grants Program allocation of \$1 million (addressed in a separate report to Council)
- \$14 million allocated for major projects that improve community infrastructure and services.

This report discusses the latter of these programs in detail and reports on the applications received and assessed by the panel utilising the criteria set out by the State Government and Council.

RECOMMENDATION OF GENERAL MANAGER

That Council:

- A. Adopt the \$32.6 million programs as attached to this report:
 - i. ***Connecting the Northern Beaches***, totaling \$22.3M to provide an iconic coastal walkway from Palm Beach to Manly as well as an extensive council-wide cycle way and shared path network focused on the B-Line; and
 - ii. ***Connecting All Through Play***, totaling \$10.3M featuring a regional network of inclusive accessible playgrounds including two major new all abilities playgrounds at Manly Dam and Lionel Watts, upgrades to play areas across the northern beaches to make them more inclusive, and \$4M for sporting facilities and surf lifesaving clubs.
 - B. Allocate \$14 million from the Stronger Communities Fund as recommended by the Stronger Communities Fund Assessment Panel together with \$4 million from the Merger Savings Fund, noting Transport for NSW is contributing \$10.39 million with the \$4.21 million balance to be sourced through alternate streams.
 - C. Commence project implementation following an appropriate community engagement process on the detailed project designs and consideration of the full lifecycle costs as providing value for money.
-

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Stronger Communities Fund has been established by the NSW Government to provide councils with funding to kick start the delivery of projects that improve community infrastructure and services.

The Fund includes a Community Grants Program allocation of \$1 million with individual project funding up to \$50,000 to incorporated not for profit community groups, for projects that will develop more vibrant, sustainable and inclusive local communities. This program is being addressed in a separate report.

The other component of the Stronger Communities Fund is \$14 million allocated for major projects that improve community infrastructure and services. The Northern Beaches Council has applied the theme of *Active and Inclusive Communities* to this program of works and has undertaken a process of identifying projects that fulfil the criteria set out by the State Government and Council.

The Assessment Panel for the Stronger Communities Fund is comprised of the same members for both streams:

- The Administrator, or delegate;
- State Members of Parliament (MPs) or representative;
- Regional Co-ordinator of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, or delegate;
- Other members, appointed by the Administrator, as required;
- An Independent Probity Adviser, appointed by the Administrator to advise the Panel on their deliberations and assessment process.

Projects selected for funding must meet the following State Government criteria:

- Have been through a community consultation process;
- Demonstrate social and/or economic benefits to the community;
- Consider issues of sustainability and equity across the broader community;
- Demonstrate project feasibility and value for money, including full lifecycle costs;
- Did not have funds allocated by the former councils;
- Give consideration to the processes and procedures outlined in the capital expenditure review guidelines issued by the Office of Local Government.

In addition to this, the council applied the following criteria:

Projects should:

- Address the theme of Active & Inclusive Communities;
- Be visionary, reflecting a single, connected Northern Beaches;
- be infrastructure based.

The proposed projects

It is proposed two programs are delivered to connect our villages, towns and centres uniting the northern beaches community through the delivery of world class local infrastructure that showcase the natural environment.

These programs can only now be delivered with the formation of the Northern Beaches Council.

Council proposes to deliver a \$32.6 million infrastructure program in partnership with the NSW Government across the council area focused on connecting the community through two program streams:

1. The \$22.3M *Connecting the Northern Beaches* program, providing a continuous all-weather walkway from Palm Beach to Manly and an extensive council-wide cycle way and shared path network focused on the B-Line
2. The \$10.3M *Connecting All Through Play* program features a regional network of inclusive accessible playgrounds including two major new all abilities playgrounds at Manly Dam and Lionel Watts, upgrades to play areas across the northern beaches to make them more inclusive, and \$4M for sporting facilities and surf lifesaving clubs.

As a result, Sydney's iconic Northern Beaches will be connected by a spectacular world class coastal walkway and cycleway stretching from Manly to Palm Beach. Council will also take a huge step on the path to establishing the Northern Beaches as the world's most innovative destination for inclusive play.

This linkage brings together the three former council areas as one Northern Beaches community. By removing the administrative boundaries, the merger has unlocked the potential to interconnect our villages and towns via cycleways, walkways and transport hubs across the region.

Connecting the Northern Beaches

Through a NSW Government and Northern Beaches Council partnership, the *Connecting the Northern Beaches* initiative is a once in a lifetime opportunity to connect our communities and link to major B-Line transport hubs and services.

The centrepiece is an iconic world class fully continuous coastal walkway linking Palm Beach to Manly together with cycleways and shared paths linking north and south, east and west.

This corridor will also showcase the spectacular coastline and views from some of the most beautiful spots in Sydney as well as the diversity of history in the region. The cycleways will be integrated with the transport network, including to the new B-Line and the Frenchs Forest Hospital and enable fast and safer cycling across the northern beaches.

Highlights of this program include:

- 36 km of continuous all-weather coastal walkways from Palm Beach to Manly including 8 km of new investment into footpaths, boardwalks and stairs such as the Palm Beach Walkway from Palm Beach Ferry to Beach Rd
- 36 km of cycleways connecting North – South and East - West across the Local Government Area including 14km of new off-road shared paths, 22km of designated on-road routes connecting to the existing network with new infrastructure at critical locations such as Bilgola Bends and from Collaroy to Narrabeen.

This program of works is estimated at \$22.3 million with \$9 million allocated from Stronger Communities Fund and the remainder from the NSW Government through programs such as B-Line and TfNSW Walking and Cycling Program. Stage One is expected to be completed by October 2017 and Stage two in January 2019.

Connecting All Through Play

\$10.3 million will be invested across the Northern Beaches into inclusive and active play. The Stronger Communities Fund will contribute \$5 million and fund priority works, \$4 million will be invested from the Merger Savings Fund generated through savings as a result of the Council merger, while the balance will be required to be funded from other sources such as government grants.

Inclusive Play - \$6.3 million

The community of the northern beaches has a strong focus on inclusivity, and loves to get out into the environment to enjoy all that this region has to offer.

The *Inclusive Play* program will connect our communities by bringing people of all-abilities and ages together at 5 major 'destination' all-abilities playgrounds and creating a regional network of 50 inclusive district playgrounds across the northern beaches.

Major new all-abilities playgrounds will be built at Manly Dam and Lionel Watts Reserve to add to those in Collaroy, Manly and now Newport Beach. Manly Dam will also receive a new accessible boardwalk between the different recreational areas removing the need to share the road. These works will be designed to create exciting and vibrant play spaces and also connect the community, in particular, less able children to natural areas. It is anticipated that the Lionel Watts Playground and Manly Dam Playground and Boardwalk will be completed in October 2018 and February 2019 respectively.

Council will also pilot an innovative local neighbourhood inclusive playground program providing experiential and accessible play spaces in local park playgrounds, supporting community linkages and inclusivity.

Active Play - \$4 million

The *Active Play* program builds on the inclusive theme through the investment into Surf Club and sporting facilities that promote active and inclusive play, encouraging a fit and healthy lifestyle for our community.

Council will invest \$2 million into sporting facilities to improve and increase capacity of our existing facilities and \$2 million for Surf Life Saving Clubs for priority upgrades to improve accessibility, inclusiveness and the critical role of surf lifesavers.

This funding will be rolled out over three years with \$2 million in 2017/18, and \$1million each in the two subsequent years and will be sourced from the Stronger Communities Fund and Merger Savings Fund.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Northern Beaches Council proposes to deliver a \$32.6 million infrastructure program in partnership with the NSW Government. The funding allocations are:

		Stronger Communities Fund	Merger Savings Fund	B-Line	Grant funding
Connecting the Northern Beaches	Walking	\$6.39M		\$0.5M	
	Cycling & shared paths	\$2.61M		\$9.89 M	\$2.91M
Connecting All	Manly Dam Playground & Boardwalk	\$1.25M	\$1M		\$0.5M

Through Play Inclusive Play	Lionel Watts Playground & community hub (incl. skate park)	\$1.75M			\$0.8M
	Accessible District Playground Program		\$0.9M		
	Local Play Innovation pilot		\$0.1M		
Connecting All Through Play Active Play	Surf Life Saving Clubs	\$1M	\$1M		
	Sporting Facilities	\$1M	\$1M		
Total		\$14 Million	\$4 Million	\$10.39 Million	\$4.21 Million

Note all Stronger Communities Funds are to be allocated by 2019, with the Active Play projects delivered in the 2020 year to be funded by the Merger Savings Fund. To realise the full vision of the *Connecting the Northern Beaches* and *Connecting all through Play* Programs, an additional \$2.91M and \$1.3M respectively needs to be confirmed and/or sourced through other external funding streams. If this funding is not received, Council will seek to identify alternative funding sources or modify the program accordingly.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Where required appropriate environmental impact assessments will form part of the detailed design and where possible environmental protection works will be undertaken so as to result in a positive to nil environmental impact from these projects. The anticipated number of commuters and day-trippers utilising the new cycleways and footpaths connecting them to public transport and/or our towns and village centres will have a positive impact on air quality and is another step towards reducing our community's greenhouse gas emissions.

SOCIAL IMPACT

These programs are focused on creating an Active and Inclusive Northern Beaches Community and as such, upon successful implementation the entire northern beaches community will reap significant social, health and well-being benefits through the use of this community infrastructure that physically and socially connects them to their community and the natural environment through improved active and public transport links and upgraded community infrastructure.

The Connecting the Northern Beaches Program will:

- Provide connections between Northern Beaches towns and villages via walkways and cycleways creating greater connection between our communities;
- Deliver on a community priority for a major active transport network;
- Improve pedestrian and cyclist safety particularly at major pinch points such as Palm Beach and Bilgola Bends;
- Integrate with the B-Line, providing greater pedestrian and cycleway access to faster public transport;
- Support economic development through tourism by linking pathways and cycleways to town centres;
- Create infrastructure for the development of ecotourism in the area such as cycling and walking tourism business, for which the natural assets of the area are well suited;
- Result in wider community health benefits and increased use and convenience of facilities through the provision of active transport options.

The Connecting all Through Play program will:

- Build community capacity by creating spaces where the community, regardless of age and ability, can come together and play;
- Collaborate with children and others to design play spaces and experiences connecting the users to the spaces;
- Provide spaces that develop better physical, social and mental skills;
- Provide equal geographic access to all ability playgrounds across the Northern Beaches;
- Provide access to existing major playgrounds within the Northern Beaches;
- Improve decision making and adaptability through risk based play;
- Provide a diversity of different play experiences.
- Support and encourage physical activity and wellbeing across the entire community;
- Increase capacity of our existing sporting facilities so more people can play, more often;
- Upgrade facilities to make surf lifesaving clubs more accessible and support lifesaving.

THE STRONGER COMMUNITIES ASSESSMENT PANEL RECOMMENDATION

The Stronger Communities Fund assessment panel has reviewed the 2 program briefs as attached to this report and is satisfied that the proposals meet the assessment criteria and as such has recommended that the projects identified as funded from the Stronger Communities Fund \$14 million allocation be approved.

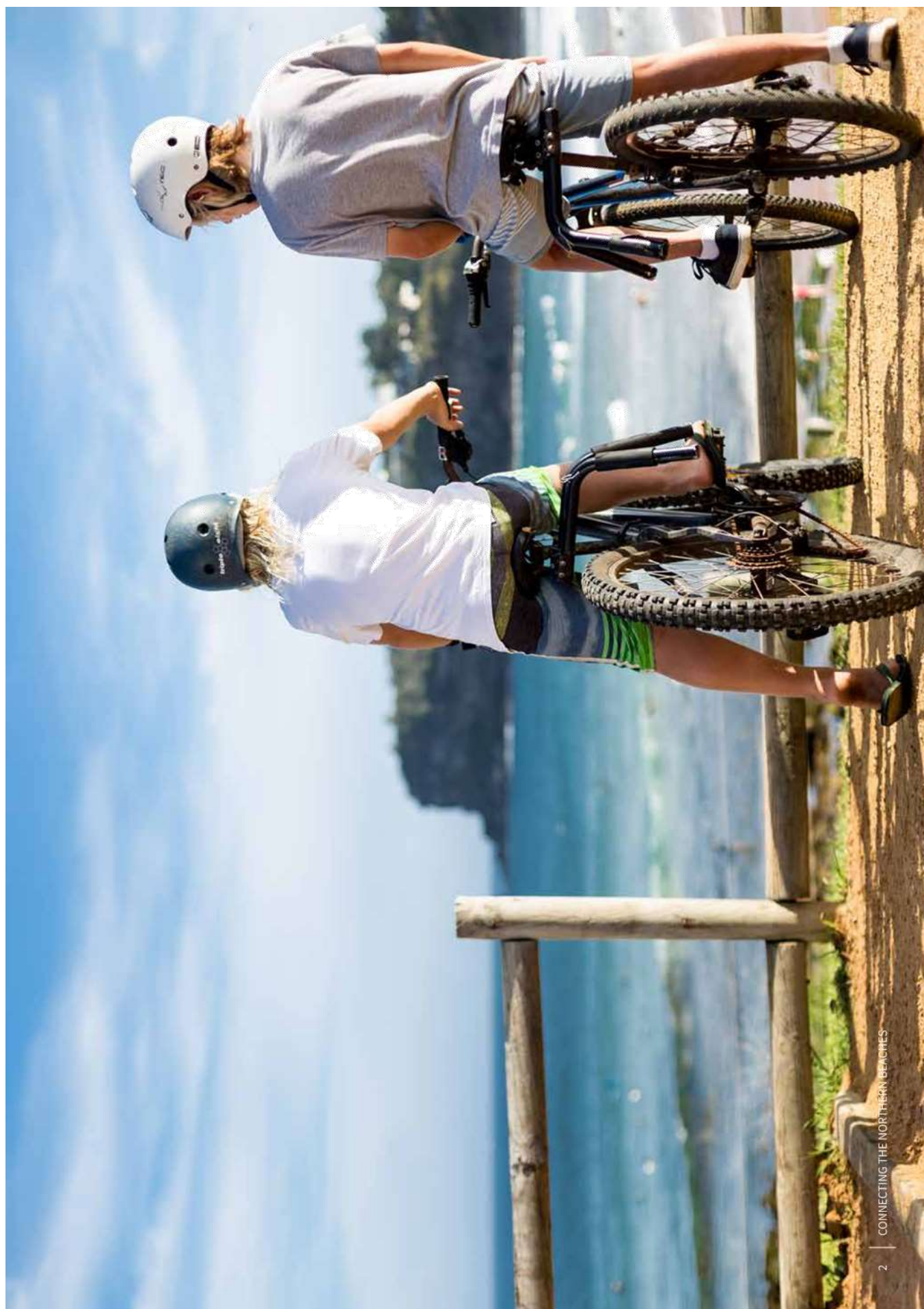
CONNECTING THE NORTHERN BEACHES

NORTHERN
BEACHES
COUNCIL



Bline

northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au



CONTENTS

Connecting the Northern Beaches	4
Map - Proposed Coastal Walkway and Major Investments	5
Where you can walk	7
Map - Proposed and Existing Bicycle Tracks	9
Where you can cycle	
Estimated Investment for Connecting our Communities	

CONNECTING THE NORTHERN BEACHES

One Northern Beaches Council creates the unique opportunity to truly connect our villages, towns and centres and unite the Northern Beaches community.

Through a partnership between the NSW Government and Northern Beaches Council, the Connecting the Northern Beaches initiative is a once in a lifetime opportunity to connect our communities and link to major B-Line transport hubs and services.

The centrepiece is an iconic fully continuous coastal walkway linking Palm Beach to Manly together with cycleways and shared paths linking north and south, east and west.

This corridor will also showcase the spectacular coastline and views from some of the most beautiful spots in Sydney as well as the diversity of history in the region.

With the new 'Northern Beaches' brand, this initiative will also create extensive ecotourism opportunities throughout the area. It will build local economic capacity by attracting more local and international tourism, while maintaining our area's lifestyle and natural beauty.

Funded by the Stronger Communities Program allocated to the newly merged Council together with the NSW Government's B-Line walking and cycling Program.

Highlights

- Connecting our community through linkages with existing public transport connections, the **B-Line** and Northern Beaches Hospital
- **36 km** of continuous all-weather coastal **walkways** from Palm Beach to Manly
 - ▶ Including **8km of new footpaths**, boardwalks and stairs
 - ▶ New footpaths and tracks, including the Palm Beach Walkway from Palm Beach Ferry to Beach Road
- **36 km of new cycleways and shared paths** connecting north-south and east-west across the Local Government Area
 - ▶ Including **14km of new off-road** shared paths, **22km designated as on-road routes**, connecting to the existing network
 - ▶ New shared paths including around Bilgola Bends and from Collaroy to Narrabeen.

Community benefits

- Physical connections between Northern Beaches' towns and villages via walkways, cycleways and shared paths creating **greater connection between our communities**
- Delivers on community priority for major active transport network
- **Integrates with the B-Line**, providing great pedestrian and cycleway access to faster public transport
- With the pathways, cycleways and shared paths situated near town centres and existing businesses, it supports local business and **economic development through tourism**
- Creates the infrastructure for the **development of ecotourism** in the area, such as cycling and walking tourism businesses, for which the natural assets of the area are well-suited
- Increased use and convenience of facilities and services, as well as community health benefits, with **active transport options**.

PROPOSED COASTAL WALKWAY AND MAJOR INVESTMENTS

Palm Beach Walkway - Barrenjoey Road

- Pedestrian connectivity and safety between Palm Beach Wharf and Governor Phillip Park
- Quality, landmark infrastructure which includes a cantilevered walkway and landscape to maintain the natural beauty of the area and protect tourism values.

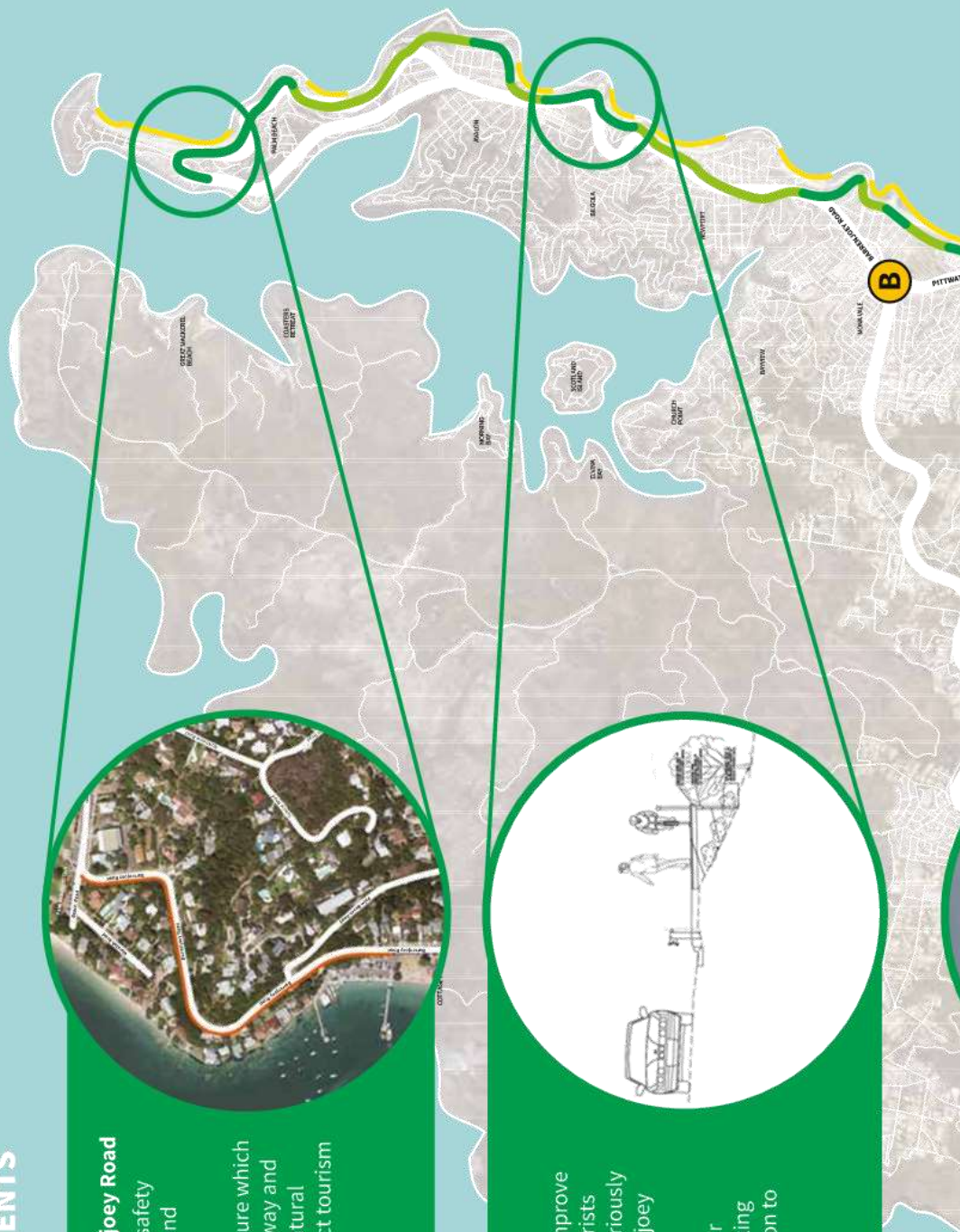
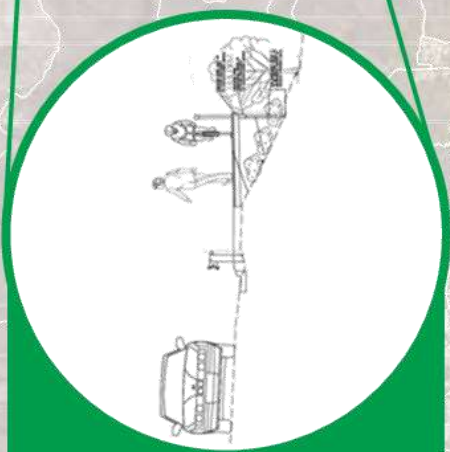
\$1.83 million

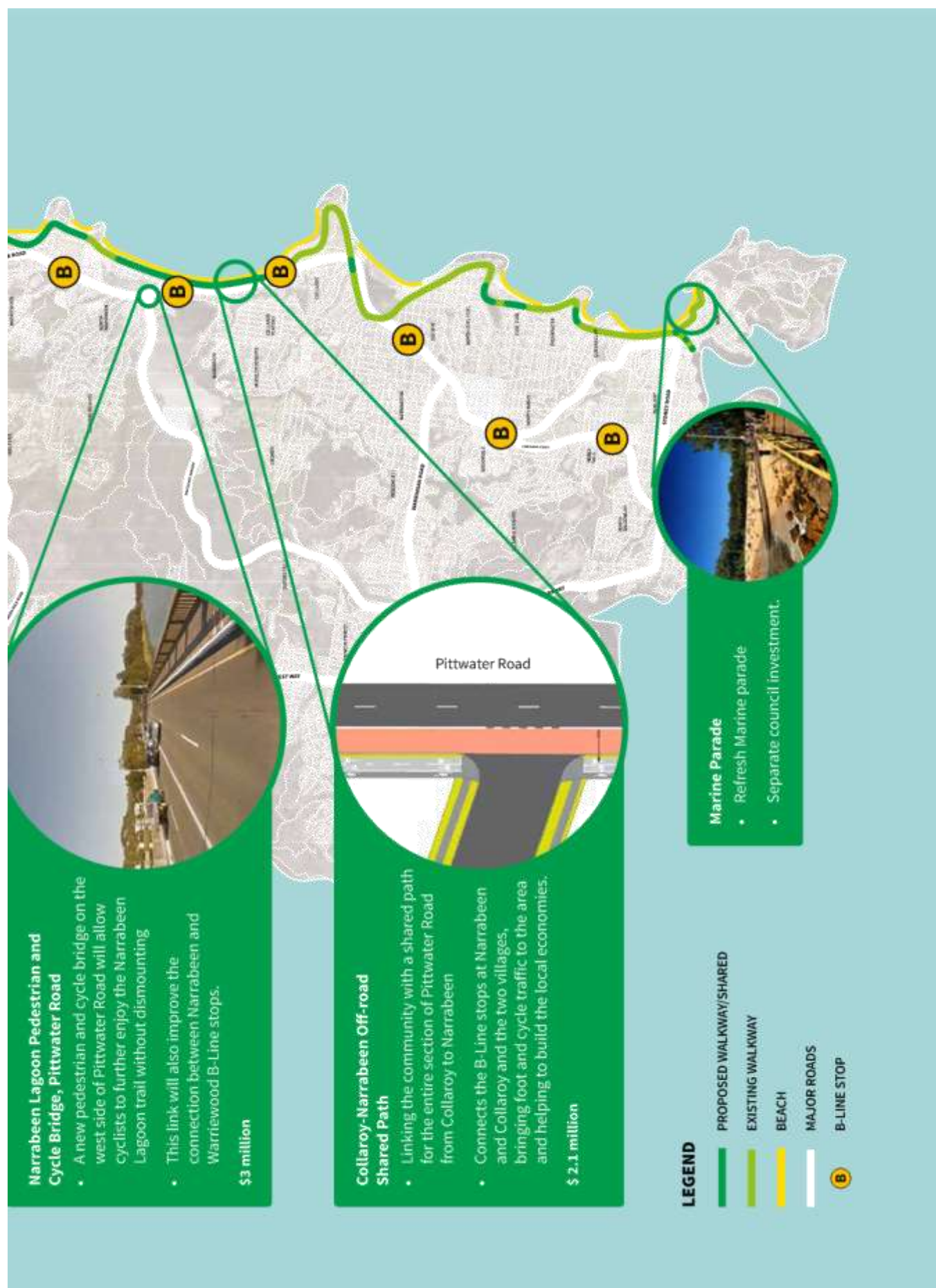


Bilgola Bends Shared Path

- A significant investment to improve road safety for cyclists, motorists and pedestrians on this notoriously challenging stretch of Barrenjoey Road
- A shared path will provide our community and tourists walking and cycling access from Avalon to Newport.

\$2.91 million





WHERE YOU CAN WALK

Palm Beach Ferry to Avalon Beach

Leaving the Palm Beach ferry, head north to take in the spectacular views of the Barrenjoey Lighthouse, then follow the route around to the beach and up the stairs near the rockpool for breathtaking views of the Pacific Ocean and Pittwater. Follow the route along the top of the headland before descending into Avalon for a coffee at a local café.



Avalon Beach to Newport

After taking in the sights of Avalon Beach, the route follows the coast around the Avalon Golf Course to Bilgola Headland for pristine, undisturbed views of the ocean and coastline. The track continues around the headland stopping at Bilgola Beach before descending through a bush path into Newport Beach.



Newport to Mona Vale

From Newport, the route follows Barrenjoey Road providing plenty of opportunities for walkers to end their walk and catch a bus home or cool down with a dip at Bungan Beach via beach access paths. The track then veers off the main road along Hillcrest Avenue through Mona Vale Headland before descending down onto Basin Beach and Mona Vale Beach. A new shared pathway behind the Golf Course hugs the coastline offering spectacular coastal views.



Mona Vale to Narrabeen

The route winds through local streets allowing easy access to public transport stops along Pittwater Road. The track passes by Warriewood Beach, with a detour around the Turimetta Headland for walkers. The route continues along Narrabeen Headland with views of the coast and Narrabeen Lagoon. A detour to the amazing existing Narrabeen Lagoon trail is a must.



Narrabeen to Dee Why

After crossing the Narrabeen Lagoon entrance, the route follows the long stretch of the Collaroy coastline to Long Reef, with easy access to the new B-Line facilities or the beach. Passing by the Collaroy Surf Life Saving Club, the route continues around Long Reef Point, with views across Curl Curl and Dee Why as well as Collaroy and Narrabeen. Crossing Pittwater Road, the route heads south towards Dee Why Park and then through a scenic off-road bush track to Dee Why Beach.



Dee Why to Manly

Walkers can enjoy an unspoilt view of the ocean along the Dee Why Beach promenade or stop to grab a bite to eat or drink. Passing by the rockpool, this popular bushland track goes off-road along the Dee Why Headland all the way to North Curl Curl. The route passes through reserves on either side of the Curl Curl Lagoon. Walkers enjoy views of the Curl Curl coastline from the boardwalk before descending down to Freshwater Beach. Up and over Queenscliff headland and down some stairs and you're in Manly. Continue walking along the promenade and opt for a surf or bite to eat, or head round to North Head showcasing diverse flora and military remains, or simply head through The Corso to Manly Wharf to catch a ferry to the city.







WHERE YOU CAN CYCLE

Dee Why to Northern Beaches Hospital

From Dee Why Beach, an off-road route crosses Pittwater Road for access to Dee Why PCYC (due to be completed in 2017). The route continues along McIntosh Road, with a mix of off-road and on-road linkages to Beacon Hill Primary School. A new designated route on local roads direct cyclists to the Northern Beaches Hospital Precinct, avoiding Warringah Road. From there, cyclists can use other designated cycleways through Allambie Heights and Forestville.



Manly Beach to Warringah Mall and B-Line

Leaving Manly Beach, the off-road shared path along North Steyne connects cyclists to an off-road shared path along the Manly Creek. Cyclists can then choose to head north along a new off-road shared path on Pittwater Road to head to Warringah Mall and the Brookvale Community Centre where a B-Line stop is proposed (under construction), or ride along Kentwell Road to link up with the designated cycleway to Allambie Heights.

Alternatively, cyclists can opt to head south to the newly constructed Manly Boy Charlton Swim Centre, the B-Line stop, or the designated cycleway to Manly Dam.



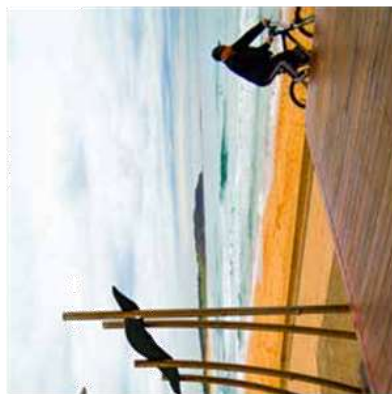
Curl Curl to Warringah Mall and B-Line

Cyclists heading west to Pittwater Road from Curl Curl Lagoon can cycle to the Warringah Mall entirely off-road via the shared paths along the Curl Curl Lagoon inlet and John Fisher Park, and the proposed shared paths through Miles, Ada, Wattle, Short and William Streets. Alternatively, cyclists can connect through existing on-road designated routes through Freshwater, along Oliver Street, deviating along Wyadra Avenue, Thomas Street and Corrie Road and connecting to William Street and Pittwater Road.



Dee Why Beach to Dee Why Town Centre

An off-road link along Howard Avenue is proposed for extensive public consultation which connects Dee Why Beach to the Dee Why Town Centre. Existing links connect Dee Why Town Centre to Brookvale and Warringah Mall, along with proposed B-Line stops at Warringah Mall and Dee Why.



Palm Beach Ferry to Avalon Beach

Setting off from the ferry at Palm Beach, cyclists follow the on-road designated route to Palm Beach along Ocean Road before climbing to the top of the headland to cycle along Whale Beach Road. The route then diverts off to Avalon via Burrawong Road, Binburra Avenue and North Avalon Road, before following the off-road shared path along Careel Creek through Des Creagh Reserve to Avalon Beach.



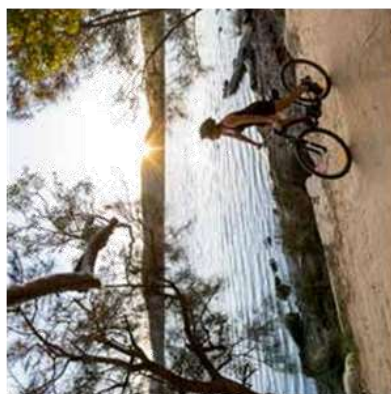
Avalon Beach to Mona Vale

A mix of on and off-road sections connect Avalon to Newport around Bilgola Headland. Diverting through the reserve to a new off-road section along Ross Street, the cycleway crosses Barrenjoey Road at traffic lights before heading south along Barrenjoey Road. Following the route around Crescent Road and along Bassett Street and onto Surfview Road, cyclists can stop at Mona Vale Beach or continue along a new off-road shared path behind the Mona Vale Golf Course. Cyclists can easily access Pittwater Road and public transport hubs by heading west from the route.



Mona Vale to Collaroy

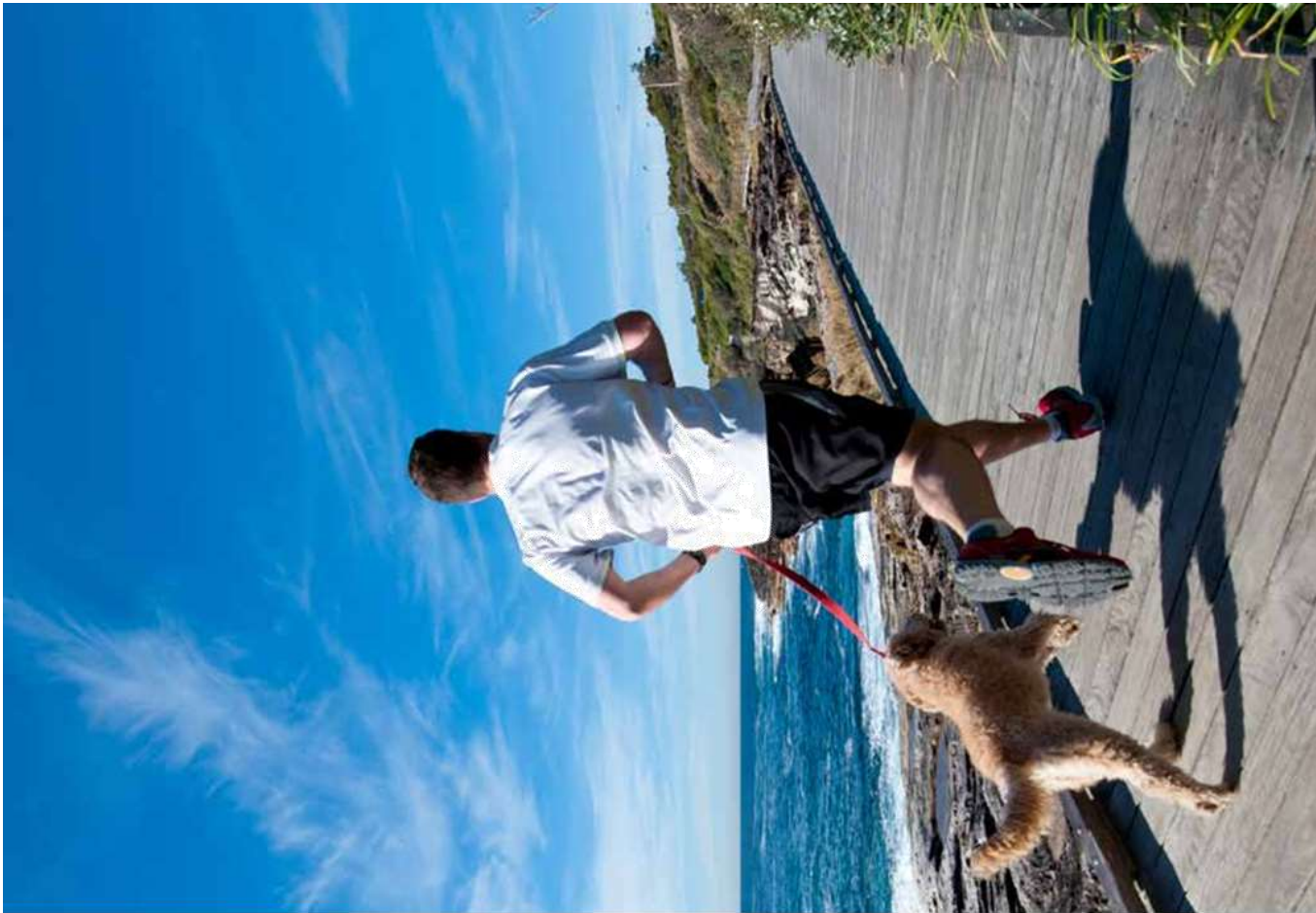
The route follows Narrabeen Park Parade along Sydney Road via local shops before connecting to the existing cycleway adjacent to Rat Park and heading south to the Narrabeen Lagoon via Pittwater Road. Here, cyclists can join the existing Narrabeen Lagoon Trail. A new pedestrian and cycle bridge across Narrabeen Lagoon provides cyclists a continuous route along Pittwater Road and to Narrabeen. Connecting to the new off-road shared path along Pittwater Road, the route passes B-Line stops and Collaroy Beach.



Collaroy to Manly

The route continues south along Pittwater Road, and at Long Reef the route heads west along Hay Street and Cumberland Avenue, before crossing Dee Why Park and connecting to the existing off-road shared path to Dee Why Beach. With existing designated on-road links, the cycleway provides a continuous connection from Dee Why Beach to Manly, via Curl Curl Lagoon and beaches, Freshwater, and Manly Beach. Following the off-road shared path along the North Steyne, cyclists can access the Manly Wharf for a variety of public transport options to the city.





ESTIMATED INVESTMENT FOR CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

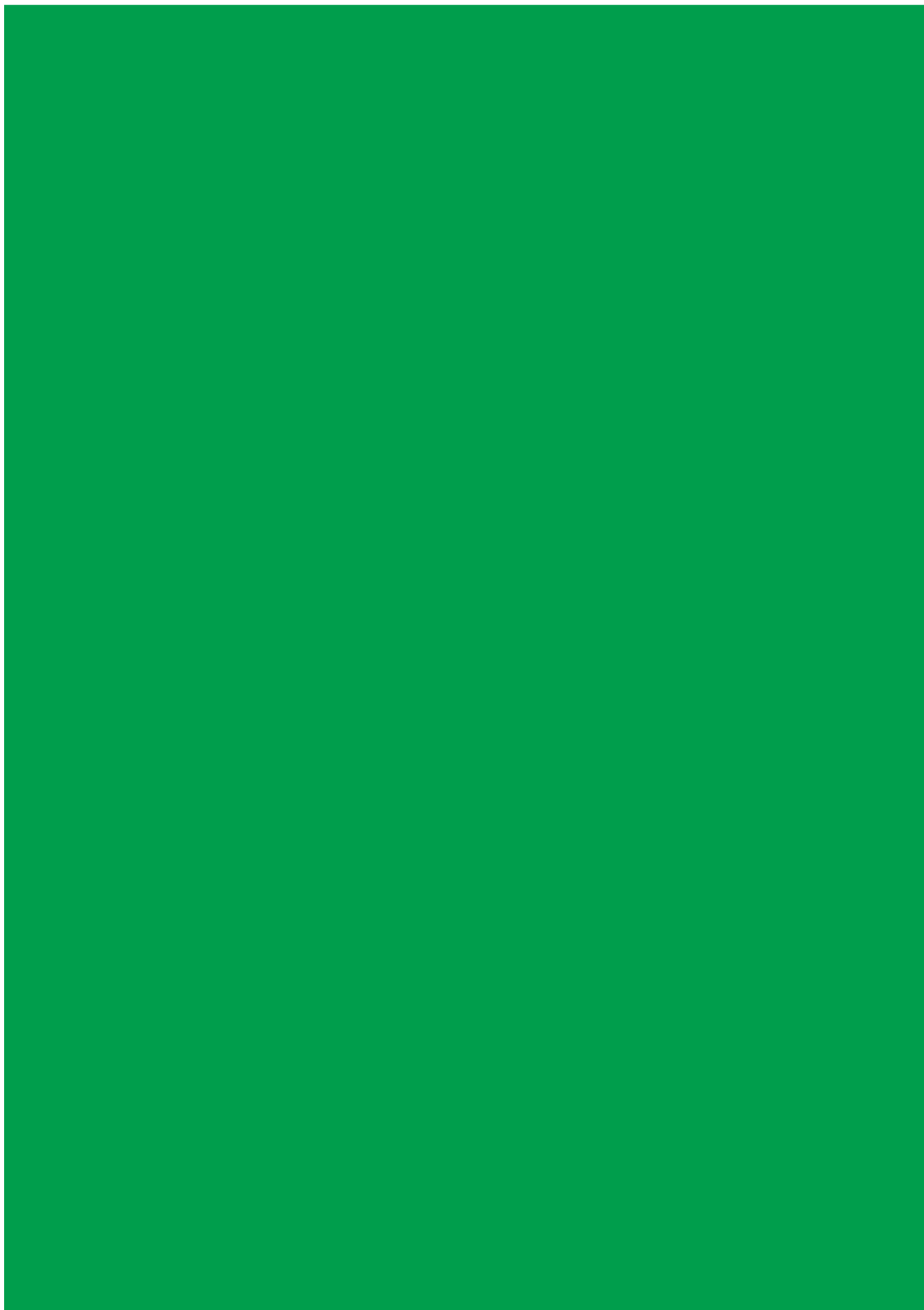
The proposed investment for creating landmark walkways, cycleways and shared paths from Manly to Palm Beach, with key linkages east to west and with transport hubs and the Northern Beaches Hospital is a symbolic opportunity to unite and connect the Northern Beaches community.

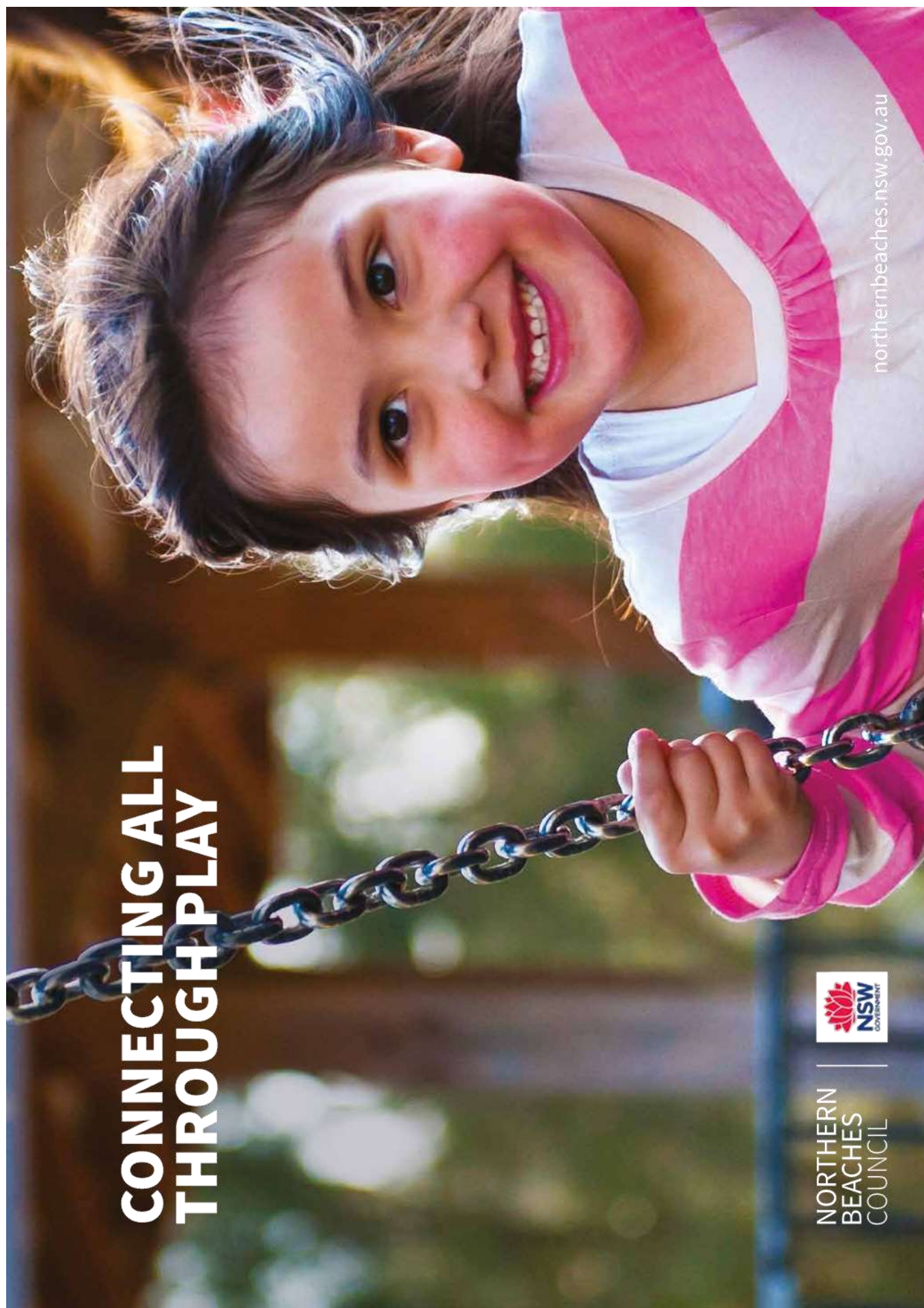
Made possible through the Stronger Communities Fund provided to newly merged councils, together with a significant investment from the NSW Government's B-Line, walking and cycling programs.

	Stronger Community Funds	NSW Government funding	TOTAL
Walking	\$6.39m	\$0.50m	\$6.89m
Cycling and shared paths	\$2.61m	\$12.80m	\$15.41m
Total	\$9.0m	\$13.30m*	\$22.30m

*B-Line:
\$10.39m approved
TFNSW Walking and cycling program:
\$2.91 for Bilgola Bends, subject to confirmation of grant funding - anticipated February 2017

Proposed Timeline
Stage One: Completion by October 2017
Stage Two: January 2019





CONTENTS

Connecting All Through Play	3
Map	
Community Benefits	5
Major Projects	6
Estimated Investment for the	
Connecting All Through Play Program	8
Timeframe	9

CONNECTING ALL THROUGH PLAY

The community of the Northern Beaches has a strong focus on inclusivity, and loves to get out into the environment to enjoy all that this region has to offer.

- With the whole of the Northern Beaches now one Council, Northern Beaches Council and the NSW Government have an opportunity to connect our communities by bringing people of all abilities and ages together through the **\$10.3 million Connecting All Through Play** program.

The inclusive playground program will increase the capacity and improve the quality of the Northern Beaches regional and district playground environments to maximise inclusion and participation. It will provide two new all-abilities playgrounds, equitable access to major playgrounds and pilot an innovative inclusive local playground program.

These works will be designed to not only create exciting and vibrant play spaces but to connect the community, in particular, children of all abilities, to natural areas.

Sporting facilities and Surf Life Saving Clubs are hubs for active play and central elements of the lives of Northern Beaches residents. \$4 million will be invested in upgrades to make them more inclusive and increase capacity for all.

The greater accessibility of these major play spaces will enable people of all-abilities to participate in play and reap the benefits of increased physical activity, social interaction and mental stimulation.

The Program

\$10.3 million will be invested in inclusive and active play across the Northern Beaches. The Stronger Community Fund will contribute \$5 million and fund the priority works, \$4 million will be invested from the Merger Savings Fund, while the balance will be funded from other sources such as government grants.

1. Inclusive Play - \$6.3 million

The Northern Beaches have three all-abilities playgrounds located at Collaroy, Manly and now Newport Beach. The Connecting All Through Play program will deliver a regional network of inclusive accessible playgrounds by:

- Creating two major new all-abilities playgrounds at Manly Dam and Lionel Watts Reserve that will be destinations for residents from across the Northern Beaches area
- Investing in inclusive and accessibility upgrades to the 50 district playgrounds across the Northern Beaches, to provide access to the Northern Beaches most exciting playgrounds so everyone of all abilities and ages can connect through play
- Piloting an innovative local neighbourhood inclusive playground program to bring communities together.

2. Active Play - \$4 million

A priority of Council is to encourage active play and provide opportunities for residents across the Northern Beaches to be fit, healthy and enjoy everything this region has to offer. The Connecting All Through Play program will:

- Invest \$2 million in sporting facilities to improve and increase capacity of our existing facilities
- Invest \$2 million in Surf Life Saving Clubs for priority upgrades to improve accessibility, inclusiveness and the critical role of Surf Lifesavers









COLLAROY ALL-ABILITIES PLAY GROUND

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

- Build community capacity by creating spaces where all the community, of all generations and abilities, can come together and play
- Collaborate with children and others to design play spaces and experiences connecting the users to the spaces
- Provide spaces that develop better physical, social and mental skills
- Provide equal geographic access to all ability playgrounds across the Northern Beaches
- To provide access to existing major playgrounds within the Northern Beaches
- Risk-based play will improve decision making and adaptability
- Provision of a diversity of different play experiences.
- Support and encourage physical activity and wellbeing
- Increase capacity of our existing sporting facilities so more people can play, more often
- Upgrade facilities to make Surf Life Saving Clubs more accessible and support lifesaving.

INCLUSIVE PLAY - MAJOR PROJECTS

Vision: To transform the Northern Beaches into the world's most innovative destination for inclusive play experiences

Manly Dam All-Abilities Nature Playground

- Provide a challenging play space that connects children of all-abilities to the natural area that surrounds them
- Integration of a variety of inclusive physical, sensory and educative play opportunities.

Manly Dam Boardwalk

- Creation of an accessible boardwalk to provide a safe connection between different recreation areas at Manly Dam
- The community will not have to share a busy road to walk or ride between the two recreation areas
- Provide equitable access to one of Sydney's most valued natural areas.



Lionel Watts All-Abilities Playground

- New all-abilities playground similar scale to Collaroy All-Abilities Playground
- Integration of a variety of inclusive physical, sensory and educative play opportunities.

Accessible Playground Program

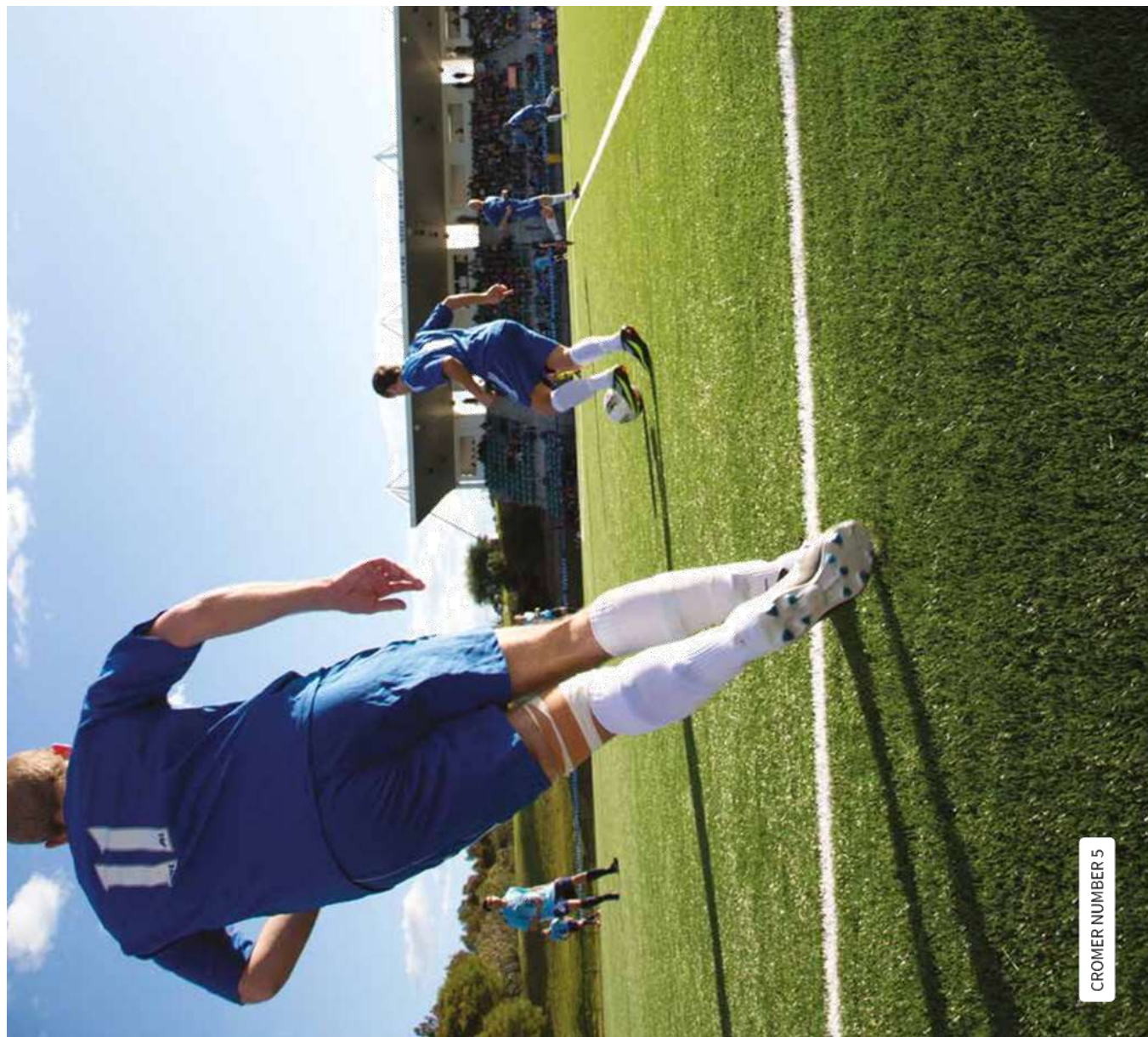
- \$900,000 for access works to provide opportunities for everyone to access the Northern Beaches favourite playgrounds.

Innovative local playground program

- Piloting an innovative local neighbourhood inclusive playground program, providing experiential and accessible play spaces in local park playgrounds, supporting community linkages and inclusivity.



COLLAROY ALL-ABILITIES PLAY GROUND



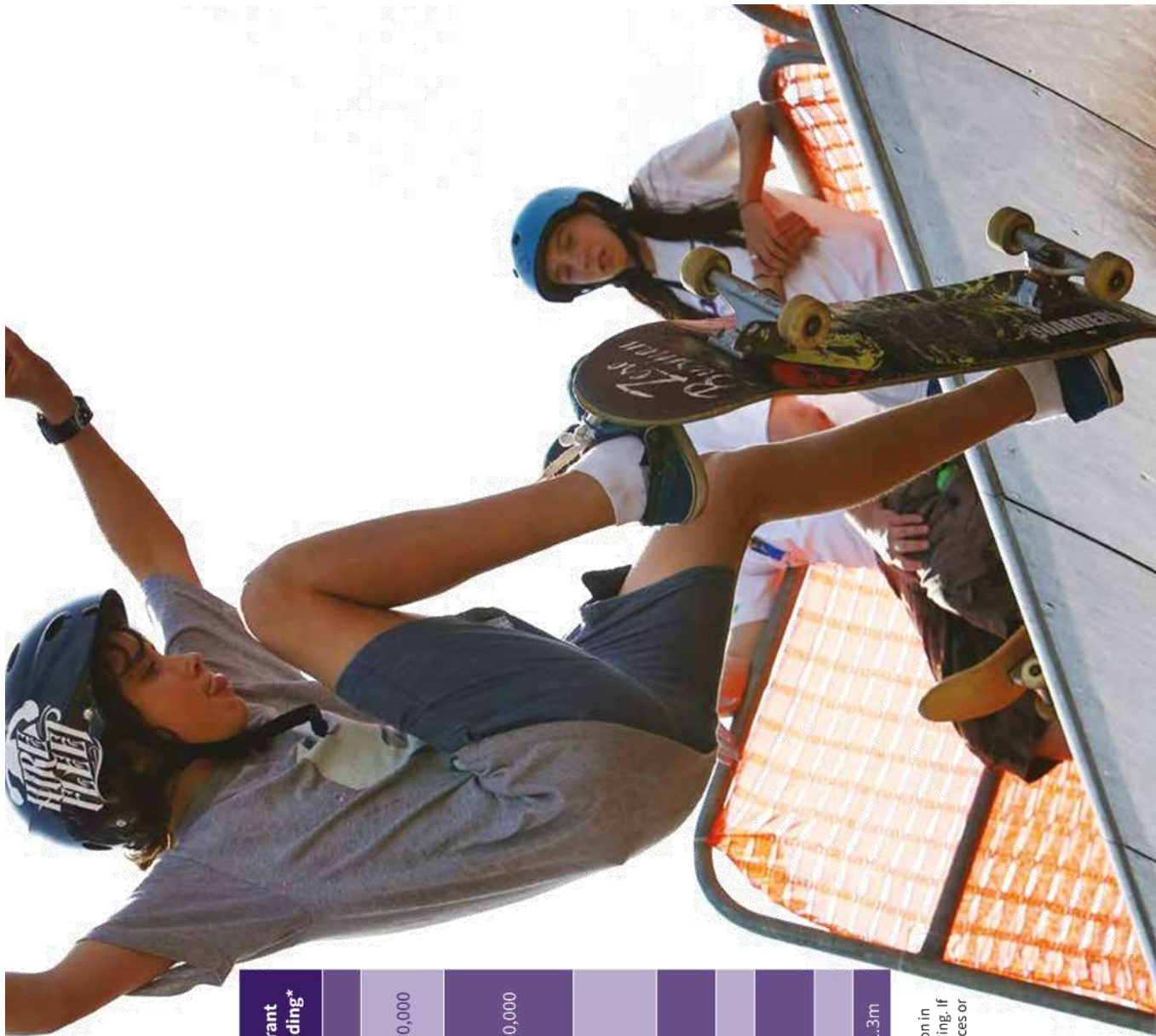
ACTIVE PLAY PROGRAM

Sporting facilities

- \$2 million investment in sporting facilities to improve and increase capacity of our existing facilities
- Support and encourage physical activity and wellbeing
- Increase the capacity of our existing sporting facilities so more people can play, more often
- Priorities to be determined in consultation with Manly Warringah Pittwater Sporting Union and major sporting Associations
- Examples could include lighting, irrigation, building works, redesigns, upgrades

Surf Life Saving Clubs

- \$2 million investment in Surf Life Saving Clubs for priority upgrades to improve accessibility, inclusiveness and the critical role of surf lifesavers
- Priorities to be determined in consultation with Surf Lifesaving Northern Beaches
- Examples could include accessibility improvements such as lifts, building works, lifesaving facilities



**ESTIMATED INVESTMENT
FOR THE CONNECTING ALL
THROUGH PLAY PROGRAM**

	Stronger Community Fund	Merger Savings Fund	Grant Funding*
Inclusive Play			
Manly Dam Playground and Boardwalk	\$1.25m	\$1m	\$500,000
Lionel Watts Playground and community hub (including skate park)	\$1.75m		\$800,000
Accessible Playground Program		\$900,000	
Local Play innovation pilot		\$100,000	
Active Play			
Surf Life Saving Clubs	\$1m	\$1m	
Sporting facilities	\$1m	\$1m	
Total	\$5m	\$4m	\$1.3m

*To realise the vision of the Connecting All Through Play program, \$1.3 million in additional funds is required through grants or other external sources of funding. If funding is not received, Council will seek to identify alternative funding sources or modify the program accordingly.

TIMEFRAME

- Accessibility works
Complete June 2018
- Lionel Watts Playground and Community Hub
Complete October 2018
- Manly Dam Playground and Boardwalk
Complete February 2019
- Sports facilities
2017-2020
- Surf Life Saving Clubs
2017-2020



Dee Why Lifeguard Hut



ITEM 5.2	STRONGER COMMUNITIES FUND - COMMUNITY GRANTS ROUND 1
REPORTING MANAGER	GENERAL MANAGER
TRIM FILE REF	2016/409053
ATTACHMENTS	1 Independent Probity Advisor - Report 2 Brief Project Descriptions

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

To seek approval to allocate funding under Round 1 of the Stronger Communities Fund – Community Grants program in accordance with the recommendation of the SCF Assessment Panel.

SUMMARY

The Stronger Communities Fund (SCF) has been established by the NSW Government as part of the NSW Government's Fit for the Future reform program.

The fund includes two components:

- A Community Grants Program allocation of \$1 million
- \$14 million allocated for major projects that improve community infrastructure and services (addressed in a separate report to Council)

This report discusses the first of these programs in detail and reports on the applications received and assessed by the panel utilising the criteria set out by the Office of Local Government.

RECOMMENDATION OF GENERAL MANAGER

That Round 1 of the Stronger Communities Fund – Community Grants Program be allocated as recommended by the assessment panel as follows (listed alphabetically by organisation; project name; and funding allocation):

- A. Active Opportunities Inc. – Minirooms Disability Kick-Off Program - \$12,800
 - B. Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) – Aspect Vern Barnett School Years 5 & 6 Excursion - \$6,350
 - C. Barrenjoey High School P&C Association – Barrenjoey Community Performance Space - \$25,000
 - D. Be Centre – Double number of therapy rooms to help twice as many local children - \$24,451
 - E. Fighting Chance Australia – Boosting Fighting Chance's Social Impact on the Northern Beaches - \$25,000
 - F. Fisher Road Public School P&C Association – Sensory Room Project - \$32,000
 - G. Forestville Park Tennis Club – Upgrade tennis court lighting to LED - \$8,550
-

H.	Friends of freshwater Inc. – Freshwater Village Public Art Project – \$29,769
I.	Lifeline Northern Beaches – Lifeline Northern Beaches Website upgrade - \$5,300
J.	Manly Women’s Shelter – MWS Vehicle Project - \$29,106
K.	Northern Beaches Indoor Sports Centre (NBISC) – NBISC Capital Upgrade - \$10,000
L.	Northern Beaches Interchange Inc. – Beaches After School Club - \$49,750
M.	NSW State Emergency Service – Warringah Pittwater Unit – Emergency vehicle safety and utility project - \$15,620
N.	Pittwater Natural Heritage Association – Supporting Bushcare in Mona Vale Basin Reserve - \$12,000
O.	Relationships Australia NSW – Tackling Violence - \$10,000
P.	Sea Life Conservation Trust Inc (auspicing Sustainable Organisations of Manly) – SO Manly Single-Use-Plastic Reduction Project - \$35,100
Q.	St John Ambulance Australia NSW – Manly Warringah Division – Replace obsolete Radios - \$10,785
R.	St Vincent De Paul Society NSW – Youth Reach - \$9,000
S.	Sunnyfield – TechKNOWLEDGE - \$37,475
T.	The Burdekin Association – The Burdekin Association Cultural Program - \$15,000
U.	The Community Pantry – The Community Pantry - \$8,000
V.	The Humour Foundation – Clown Doctors – holiday program at Bear Cottage - \$7,284
W.	The Link Community Care Inc. – Mobile Foodcare Project - \$39,990
X.	The Shepherd Centre – for deaf children – “Clear & Confident Class Mate” – for deaf children on the northern beaches - \$49,000
Y.	Wakehurst Golf Club Ltd. Wakehurst resurface 4 plexi-pave courts - \$30,360
Total funding allocation for Round 1 - \$537,690	

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Stronger Communities Fund (SCF) has been established by the NSW Government as part of the NSW Government's Fit for the Future reform program.

The Fund includes a Community Grants Program allocation of \$1 million with individual project funding up to \$50,000 to incorporated not for profit community groups, for projects that will develop more vibrant, sustainable and inclusive local communities.

The other component of the Stronger Communities Fund has \$14 million allocated by the NSW State Government for major projects which will be assessed under a separate process.

The Northern Beaches Council will run two rounds of the SCF community grants program with Round 2 scheduled to open in April 2017. Round 1 of the SCF opened on 5 September 2016 with a maximum funding pool of \$500,000 and closed on 28 October 2016. The SCF community grants program was advertised and promoted through print and on-line media and direct email as well as temporary outdoor banners at key locations on the northern beaches and at the libraries in Manly, Dee Why and Mona Vale. Additionally, information sessions were held during the opening week at key locations in Manly, Dee Why and Warriewood and two grant writing workshops all of which were well attended.

Applications were sought from eligible organisations for projects that addressed the Assessment Criteria as set by the Office of Local Government:

- Deliver social, cultural, economic or environmental benefits to the local community;
- Address an identified community priority;
- Be well defined with a clear budget;
- Demonstrate that any ongoing or recurrent costs of the project can be met by the community group once grant funding has been expended;
- The organisation must demonstrate the capacity to manage funds and deliver the project.

The Northern Beaches Communities Priorities were listed as the 11 Strategic Reference Groups.

Council received 103 applications to round 1 requesting \$3,249,048. Applications were reviewed for eligibility in the first instance, followed by an initial assessment undertaken by a panel comprising 5 staff members from different disciplines whose ranking and comments were sent to the SCF Assessment Panel for consideration during their independent assessment.

The Office of Local Government has determined that the SCF Assessment Panel is to include:

- Administrator or delegate
- State Member(s) of Parliament, or representative;
- Regional coordinator of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, or delegate;
- Other members, appointed by the Administrator, as required;
- An independent probity adviser, appointed by the Administrator to advise the Panel on their deliberations and assessment process.

As the ultimate decision maker in this process, the Administrator has delegated his role on the SCF Assessment panel to a senior member of staff in the interest of probity.

The SCF Assessment Panels role is to make recommendations to the Administrator on projects that should be funded. The panel members undertook individual assessments and submitted a score for each application against the above criteria resulting in a priority ranking. A round table discussion of the Panel was held and consensus on the recommended projects and funding allocation was obtained however it should be noted that only 8 projects have been allocated the full amount that was requested within their application. The successful projects support organisations in the disability sector, arts & culture, people at risk, environment & sporting and local volunteers to develop a vibrant, sustainable and inclusive northern beaches.

The IAG also undertook assessments of all applications at the request of the Administrator and their assessments have informed the Administrator of their individual views on these applications via scoring and recommendations. The IAG comments and scores consistently support the organisation and/or projects that have been recommended by the SCF panel however in some instances indicate funding could be sought from a different source. The comments and scores for all levels of assessment will remain confidential however all applicants will be able to seek feedback on their application.

An independent probity advisor was appointed in accordance with the requirements of the OLG. In this capacity a review of all relevant documentation was undertaken as well as reviewing any declared conflict of interest and attending all meetings at which a recommendation was the intended outcome. The probity report is attached to this report.

The Administrator has reviewed the projects recommended by the SCF panel and has accepted this recommendation and added an additional 2 projects that scored highly with all panels which brought the total funding allocation up to \$537,690.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The recommended funding allocation for this round of the Stronger Communities Fund – Community Grants is \$500,000. This funding can be fully accommodated out of the Stronger Communities Fund allocated to the Northern Beaches Council. The additional \$37,690 will be accommodated from the Merger Savings Fund.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

No negative impact from this process however a couple of recommended projects will deliver environmental benefit.

SOCIAL IMPACT

Many of the recommended projects will provide social, economic or cultural outcomes for the northern beaches community including assistance and inclusion programs for disadvantaged and disabled residents. Funding has also been allocated to a number of volunteer organisations that will increase their capacity to service the northern beaches, improvements to sporting facilities and a number of cultural activities and infrastructure.



GPO Box 1104, SYDNEY, NSW 2001
ABN: 22 130 908 824
Phone: 1300 559 385

Mr Dick Persson
Administrator
Northern Beaches Council
Dee Why
NSW 2099

By email (per): Alison.osborne@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

24 November 2016

Dear Dick

PROBITY REPORT – STRONGER COMMUNITIES FUND

Procure Group Pty Ltd (**Procure**) has been engaged by Northern Beaches Council (**Council**), to provide independent probity advisory services in relation to the evaluation of submissions received for community grants available under the Stronger Communities Fund (**SCF**).

The SCF comprises \$15 million and falls into two categories, that being \$1 million in community grants and \$14 million for major projects. We note that the Community Grants Program (**Program**) was advertised to community organisations with submissions closing on 28 October, 2016. Major projects will be initiated by Council and the assessment process is currently underway.

This probity report addresses the evaluation process for the community grants submissions, within the context of the framework provided by the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption's (**ICAC**) probity fundamentals.

Procure's scope of work involved advisory services for the internal Council staff assessment panel and the Fund Assessment Panel (**FAP**) comprised of the local State Members of Parliament (**MPs**), as required by the Stronger Communities Grants Guidelines (**Guidelines**). The FAP included a representative of the Department of Premier and Cabinet. The guidelines for the program, including the make-up of the assessment committees and the assessment criteria were established by the NSW Government. Procure's scope of work does not include these aspects of the program.

The initial assessment of community grants was an online process for both the Council staff committee and the FAP, with one face to face meeting held for the Council Staff committee and one meeting for the FAP. The committees have completed their evaluation and a report has been prepared with recommendations to be referred for final decision the Administrator of the Council. The process has been administered by the Council Grants Officer.

This report has been completed to assist Council in its decision-making relating to the submissions received. The report cannot be relied upon by any other party or for any other purpose. While the Probity Advisor may provide input into the processes followed, Council retains overall responsibility for the probity of its personnel and processes.

Vic Baueris has represented Procure at all stages of this process and has prepared this report.

Probity Fundamentals

In undertaking the probity advisory role, Procure has had regard to the "probity fundamentals" described in the ICAC publication "Probity and Probity Advising (November 2005)". These probity fundamentals are:

- + Maintaining impartiality
- + Managing conflicts of interest
- + Maintaining accountability and transparency
- + Maintaining confidentiality
- + Obtaining value for money

Our work performed to review the application of each of these probity fundamentals during the negotiation process is documented below.

Work Performed

In completing this engagement, Procure has completed the following tasks.

- + Reviewed Guidelines for the Community Grants program and noted that they included:
 - o Objectives of the Program
 - o Establishment of the internal Council staff assessment panel and an Implementation Advisory Group (IAG) comprising former members of Council
 - o Assessment criteria and outline of the assessment process
 - o Statement of Community Priorities and ineligible activities
 - o Details of the project completion requirements and the funding agreements to be established
- + Reviewed the online assessment process established by the Council Grants Officer which included a requirement that for each submission the assessor record if any conflict of interest arose. The online process was utilised by all assessors. Where conflicts were declared, they related to prior involvement with the organisations and were not of a measure that required assessors to withdraw from the assessment process.
- + Noted that on 18 October 2016, the members of the three assessment panels were required to sign a confidentiality undertaking and confirmed with the Grants Officer that all signed undertakings were returned prior to commencing the assessment process.
- + Attended the meeting of the staff panel held on 4 November 2016 where the individual scores of each committee member were discussed and final scores agreed. Noted that in accordance with the guidelines, the panel considered and agreed on recommendations for partial funding for some submissions.
- + Noted that at the meeting held on 4 November, potential conflicts of interest not previously declared were declared to the panel. In only one case was it necessary for a panel member to excuse himself from the discussion due to his membership of the Board of the organisation. Procure confirmed that the panel member had not has any role in the preparation of the submission.
- + Attended the meeting of the FAP (in some cases they sent representatives) held on 21 November 2016 at which the FAP reviewed the ranking and scores provided by the panel of Council staff and agreed on recommendations for funding. Noted that each member had undertaken their individual review of the submissions prior to attendance at the meeting.
- + Noted that at the meeting held on 21 November, potential conflicts of interest not previously declared were declared to the FAP. Further noted that no matters declared were of such a nature that they prevented the participation of the FAP from participating in the assessment of the relevant submission.
- + Reviewed the Report to Council on the outcome of the assessment process on 23 November 2016 and confirmed that it was consistent with the outcome of the assessment completed by the FAP. Noted that in relation to the assessment undertaken by the IAG, the report included the following statement:

- o *The IAG also undertook assessments of all applications at the request of the Administrator and their assessments have informed the Administrator of their individual views on these applications via scoring and recommendations.*

Conclusion

Based upon our work performed and detailed in this report, no issues of a probity nature have come to our attention that would lead us to conclude that the process followed by Council in the conduct of the evaluation process for submissions from community organisations for funds available under the Stronger Communities Fund has not been conducted in a fair and equitable manner with due regard to probity, and in a manner consistent with the approved Stronger Communities Fund Guidelines.

Yours sincerely



Daniel McPhee
Director
Procure Group Pty Ltd

BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Active Opportunities Inc. – MiniRoos Disability Kick-Off Program - \$12,800 (partial funding)

The MiniRoos Disability Kick-Off Program is the national introductory football project for boys and girls with a disability aged 4-9 years. This program uses short, game-based sessions to introduce the sport of football to newcomers in a fun and inclusive way and provides grassroots football participants with more playing options and opportunities to try the world game. The MiniRoos Kick Off Program has been developed in line with the game-sense philosophy of sport participation. This approach to sport delivery emphasises a move away from traditional coach dominated sessions to those that are player-centred, using game-like situations rather than technical drills. Active Opportunities will be implementing the MiniRoos Disability Kick-Off Program across four of the Northern Beaches Council Wards including Narrabeen, Frenchs Forest, Manly and Pittwater. The implementation of the program will be completed over a one-year period commencing in April 2017 to be completed in April 2018. The program will be delivered initially within one suburb for eight weeks, in line with Term 2 of the school year, and then be implemented in a secondary suburb for eight weeks in the next school term (etc.) until the program has been delivered within each of the four suburbs above. The program will be delivered on Saturday mornings for one hour. This type of environment teaches the fundamentals of a sport in a fun, engaging, which would suit children with a disability to participate within an inclusive environment.

Austism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) – Aspect Vern Barnett School Years 5 & 6 Excursion - \$6,350 (full funding)

Each year we take our year 5 and 6 students on an overnight camp to complement the syllabus and to build upon their skills in the areas of confidence, independence and social skills. In alternate years, we visit Canberra as part of the HSIE syllabus on understanding the government of Australia. In the other years, we visit the Sydney Academy of Sport at Narrabeen to participate in a program forming part of the PDHPE syllabus with an emphasis on health and wellbeing, building resilience and confidence. In 2017, the Sydney Academy of Sport camp will be held over 3 days and 2 nights from 30 August to 1 September 2016. We will have 17 young people participating from both our main campus at Forestville and satellite classes.

Barrenjoey High School P&C Association – Barrenjoey Community Performance Space - \$25,000 (partial funding)

The construction of a 200 seat purpose-built community performance space-a tiered auditorium including a gallery space, to be built in two stages. Stage 1 will be an outdoor auditorium with tiered concrete seating with doors connecting through to the existing Barrenjoey High School hall/gymnasium. The completion of this stage will ensure an outdoor performance area ready to use by both school and Northern Beaches community groups for music recitals, concerts/rehearsals, theatre/dance performances, film/comedy events, meetings/functions.

Be Centre – Double number of therapy rooms to help twice as many local children - \$24,451 (partial funding)

Be Centre has been supporting local children since 2008. Recently referrals from government and local agencies have led to an increase in the number of children presenting and the levels of trauma children are presenting with. Be Centre now has nearly 100 children on a six month waiting list to start programs. These children have been impacted by domestic violence, family breakdown, sexual assault, neglect, parental drug and alcohol addiction, parental death or suffering anxiety. This is too long for children to wait for support. Play Therapy is one of the few psychological modalities suitable for children aged 3-13 and Be Centre is a unique Australian charity that supports many of the children through community funded scholarships. Be Centre currently has 3 play rooms and one room for older children. With this funding, we plan to double our infrastructure and build 3 additional Play Rooms to double capacity. This will ensure children and families in crisis will get the support they need and in a timely manner. Children in crisis experience

behavioural and learning difficulties. Extended waiting periods could mean a child waits half a school year before receiving support. This will ensure the northern beaches has a national centre of excellence in this field. Over a 10 year period this would ensure 1800 additional children could receive support. (based on 3 clients per day and sessions lasting 12 weeks).

Fighting Chance Australia – Boosting Fighting Chance’s Social Impact on the Northern Beaches
\$25,000 (partial funding)

Fighting Chance is a local, grass roots not-for-profit disability service provider that has grown up on the Northern Beaches. From our humble beginnings supporting eight clients in our tiny Brookvale office (opened in 2011), we now support over 140 people with disability from the Northern Beaches area to access vocational participation and employment opportunities through our two innovative social enterprises located in Frenchs Forest. Due to increasing demand for our services from the local community, in 2017, we will be expanding our presence and boosting our social impact on the Beaches by:

- Doubling the capacity of our innovative day program for young adults with severe and profound disability ('Avenue') by opening a new Avenue work hub in Frenchs Forest
- Relocating and expanding our digitisation and document management business 'Jigsaw' to a larger office in Frenchs Forest, which employs people with mild to moderate disability. In doing so we seek to create additional employment, skills development and transition to work pathways within Jigsaw for school leavers with disability from the Beaches.
- Implementing a fit-for-purpose Client Management System (CMS) across all hubs and enterprise to streamline our operations and underpin our growth across the Beaches in 2017.

With this expansion project, Fighting Chance aims to build its own capacity, and that of the Northern Beaches community, to be truly inclusive and to provide improved infrastructure and services to some of the area's most marginalised residents.

Fisher Road Public School P&C Association – Sensory Room Project - \$32,000 (full funding)

The primary goal of the project is to develop and maintain a world class sensory room available to our students at Fisher Road School and to people with a disability in the community, their families and carers. This will cater for the 60 students at the school aged 4-18 years who have a moderate to severe intellectual disability. In addition the room will be available to the local community outside school operating hours. It will also attract visiting special needs classes and after hours respite care programs for adults and children with disabilities.

Most students have challenges with sensory processing and find it a daily challenge to integrate all the sensory input that is inevitable in daily life. The sensory room will have multiple areas that are adaptive and can be relaxing or stimulating, whilst promoting nurturing and resilience in children with limited verbal and physical ability.

The secondary goal was to include the whole community in the project and spread awareness about daily challenges of people with special needs. Setting up a sensory room, due to its speciality, tends to cost a vast amount of money, however with careful and ingenious planning and involvement of the community we hope not only to reduce the cost but also bring the community together in a joint effort that will benefit both parties in the long run.

Forestville Park Tennis Club – Upgrade tennis court lighting to LED - \$8,550 (partial funding)

Remove all existing metal halide lamps and globes and install new LED lights.

Friends of freshwater Inc. – Freshwater Village Public Art Project – \$29,769 (full funding)

Currently freshwater village has no public art to depict its history; its Indigenous heritage; its early settlement more than a century ago: the development of its institutions (literary institute, public school, postal service etc); its tragic anzac heritage, and its surfing culture. We propose to utilise 5 concrete pods in the freshwater village plaza to install aboriginal art, community artefacts; memorabilia, wall murals and historical storyboards to redress this deficiency. As the images attached show, these pods contain no vegetation, provide limited seating, and weathered, unpainted, concrete surrounds. Freshwater has a strong sense of community and its village is one of the last of its kind. It is our objective to provide a stronger sense of space, amenity and community and to enhance work already undertaken by council. The freshwater village plaza is an important gathering point.

Lifeline Northern Beaches – Lifeline Northern Beaches Website upgrade - \$5,300 (partial funding)

upgrade to Lifelines Northern Beaches Website to meet an ever changing technology to communicate with younger members of the community in a more responsive/interactive communication. Currently our website does not react to urgent inquiries from younger people who are in the primary group affected by feelings of isolation and hopelessness. Many people today are more comfortable with digital interaction, via their phone or laptop. The new website will be responsive and able to deal with higher levels of crisis communication and response. This is vital when someone who is depressed or for a carer who requires support/advice on how to help and perhaps save a life.

The new website will be developed locally to include:

- Counseling- Point of crisis
- Pre- intervention care
- Training courses
- Advice Videos
- Pod cast
- Fundraising

Manly Women's Shelter – MWS Vehicle Project - \$29,106 (partial funding)

This project has 3 problems to solve and one way to solve it - MWS needs a service - being a multi-purpose vehicle.

1-The women who stay with MWS are on a road to recovery. That road requires various medical, phycological and case related appointments that are outside of the shelter. The women do on occasion have access to Opal Cards, however not all the time and often they do not have the funds to top them up. This means that they may sometimes miss vital appointments - which can take months to rebook - impacting their healing process.

2 - We have an extremely supportive community. That community often donates goods that can help us set up a woman in her new accommodation when she is ready to leave us. This includes coffee tables, bedside tables and often kitchen appliances. We love working with our community and can store a small amount of items in locked sheds on the property. We often don't have much advance notice of when these items will become available - nor wether that coincides with a woman leaving the shelter, but we always try and take the items, in readiness of her departure.

3 - When a woman is ready to move out of the MWS and into alternate accommodation, we need to help her move her belongings to her new home. Meaning she can continue her healing and rejoin the community faster and more effectively because she has a comforting home environment.

Northern Beaches Indoor Sports Centre (NBISC) – NBISC Capital Upgrade - \$10,000 (partial funding)

Following the \$3.5m capacity expansion there are a number of relatively small projects required to cope with increasing demand and to enable larger state based tournaments to be held.

First, changes to the carpark have created a suboptimal and potentially unsafe exit from the building. Extending balustrading would alleviate this problem. Second, the rapid increase in user numbers has swamped our storage capacity. Increased lockable caged storage is required.

Third, some of the original equipment in the building is nearly 20 years old and is approaching the end of its useful life. While \$275k has been spent over the past five years updating major pieces of equipment there remain items that should be replaced or upgraded. There is one horizontal swinging hoop support system, four electronic scoreboards, four sets of shot clocks and two sets of volleyball posts that need replacing. Fourth, some of the original fans are beginning to falter and require replacement.

Northern Beaches Interchange Inc. – Beaches After School Club - \$49,750 (full funding)

The project will provide an After School service to meet the needs of local children and young people with disabilities aged 5-18 who are currently unable to access this form of support. The project will provide age appropriate social, recreational and skill building opportunities for children with staff & volunteers able to meet each child's individual needs. It will provide an after School service for parents to enable them to engage/engage more vocational/employment opportunities. It will support families to manage often competing pressures and needs in the busy after school period. The project will support each child and young person to have fun play opportunities and downtime after school whilst also providing opportunities for the development of social and independence skills. It is envisaged that the project will be based in Arranounbai and/or Fisher Road Schools to meet an already identified need and be open to children from within and outside those school communities. The project will also enable NBI to identify and pursue opportunities to "seed" similar clubs in other locations dependent on demand to meet more need in our community. Significant demand for this service has been identified, currently no service exists for High School age students who often, unlike their peers are unable to spend time unsupervised at home and/or readily access other leisure opportunities. Primary aged children will continue to be supported to access OOSH facilities wherever possible, but access is extremely limited and demand outstrips places particularly for children with high support needs.

NSW State Emergency Service – Warringah Pittwater Unit – Emergency vehicle safety and utility project - \$15,620 (full funding)

The Warringah Pittwater Unit of the SES is based at Terrey Hills and comprises around 100 volunteers from the local Northern Beaches Council area. Whilst SES State Headquarters provides funding for the basic ongoing operations of our unit, there are many expenses incurred throughout the year that require us to generate additional funds. Our volunteer members raise funds in a number of ways including events such as sausage sizzles at Bunnings and assistance at some events like the Pub to Pub fun run. The money raised is used to supplement funds from SES HQ or items such as defibrillators, life jackets and emergency lighting systems. Our SES unit has two cab chassis trucks which are 8 years old. They are fitted with a specialized rescue truck body on the rear which were transferred off our two previous trucks. The specialized rescue truck body contains our emergency equipment for use on jobs and provides a platform for emergency lights and sirens, and high visibility markings. The specialized rescue truck bodies were built in 1986 - it is a number of years before they are due to be replaced and they need urgent repairs now.

Pittwater Natural Heritage Association – Supporting Bushcare in Mona Vale Basin Reserve – \$12,000 (partial funding)

To support and encourage the bushcare volunteers efforts within the Mona Vale Basin Reserve through engaging professional bush regeneration contractors to undertake works byong the scope of the volunteers. To restore the natural coastal dune and coastal rainforest environment through removal of weeds and replanting with appropriate native species, and to encourage natural regeneration where potential exists after weed control. To engage the broader community, raise awareness and encourage stewardship of these significant coastal areas, and to increase social cohesion and activity within the local community.

Relationships Australia NSW – Tackling Violence - \$10,000 (partial funding)

Tackling Violence is a community education, early intervention and prevention program using men's involvement in sport as the context for attitude and behaviour change towards violence against women. The project has been operating since 2009, primarily in regional, rural or remote communities with significant Aboriginal populations. Tackling Violence is unique in using the central role of rugby league as a vehicle to educate men about the nature and consequences of domestic violence and engage them as role models and advocates for action. This pilot Tackling Violence initiative will be delivered in a metro setting, offering sponsorships of \$2,400 to Manly Warringah Rugby League Clubs, with an additional \$600 available for Club representatives to complete Responsible Service of Alcohol training, as the major engagement mechanism. The sponsorship requires all club officials, Under 17s, 19s and senior players to sign a Code of Conduct committing them to refrain from domestic violence, become community role models through a media campaign and participate in a domestic violence education workshop provided by trained Tackling Violence educators who are former NRL players. Penalties for Code of Conduct breaches include exclusion from games and club events, so the impact is felt by the entire team. Clubs will be required to display Tackling Violence branding on playing kits and during matches/events, and commit to responsible service of alcohol practices through the Good Sports program coordinated by the Alcohol & Drug Foundation. The strategies linked to the Tackling Violence sponsorship will foster a stronger 'Family Friendly' culture within clubs.

Sea Life Conservation Trust Inc (auspicing Sustainable Organisations of Manly) – SO Manly Single-Use-Plastic Reduction Project - \$35,100 (partial funding)

The strategy to reduce single-use-plastic will be focusing on customer awareness around plastic bags, straws, coffee cups and bottled water. In 2016, SO Manly partnered with Plastic Free Manly to work on the issue of plastic bags. In 2017, this new project will develop and roll-out campaigns that engage and inspire consumers to change their behaviour surrounding all single-use plastic items and ultimately re-think their plastic footprint.

We will hold quarterly beach clean events to show how much plastic is littered in our local environment and use these events as a fun way to raise awareness about the issue. We communicate this challenging issue effectively by making it fun and recruiting local artists to create art on the day and perform music. We will have a turtle mascot and face painting for kids. We will also hold movie events with plastic documentary films as an opportunity to communicate our plastic reduction strategy.

Our strategy involves engaging with local businesses, schools and organisations. For businesses, we provide staff training to use the point of sale as a fun, educational experience to engage with our campaigns. Customer education is key to success. Furthermore, we will provide a platform on our website to put businesses in contact with the plastic alternative solutions. For schools, we use our turtle mascot to provide a curriculum-based educational session to raise awareness about the problem and solutions. We will network with other plastic pollution organisations to roll out the campaign across the Northern Beaches and beyond.

St John Ambulance Australia NSW – Manly Warringah Division – Replace obsolete Radios - \$10,785 (full funding)

St John Ambulance is a not for profit organisation and our volunteers provide first aid services to sporting groups, school fetes, community events and many other community activities on the Northern Beach. For many years we have provided first aid cover for events such as the Manly Food and Wine Festival, The Jazz festival, Brookvale show, Anzac and Vietnam commemorations and charity fund raisers.

Effective radio communication is a vital part of our ability to properly service these events. Over the next year our current analog radios are going to be phased out and we will need to replace them radios that have both analog and digital capabilities. The replacement cost is approximately \$11,000 including appropriate chargers, and we somehow have to find the funds for their acquisition.

St Vincent De Paul Society NSW – Youth Reach - \$9,000 (partial funding)

Youth Reach is undergoing major change with new programs and activities directed to a wide range of interest providing new opportunities for employment and training. Funding will be used to undertake urgent repairs to the roof of the youth centre and provide new computers and software for our youth training/education programs.

Currently the roof is leaking into the computer room, this needs to be repaired before the installation of new computers to the Youth Reach Learning Centre. 10 new computers and monitors will allow young people attending the centre the opportunities to complete their studies, complete homework, learn new skills such as Photoshop, social media administration. Youth Reach have 3 full time staff who will coordinate the programs and work with clients on a daily basis. Also a number of specialist mentors have indicated their support to students to a successful outcome in gaining employment.

Sunnyfield – TechKNOWLEDGE - \$37,47 (full funding)

To address a gap in adult education for people with intellectual disability along with the impact of digital exclusion, Sunnyfield will develop and deliver 40 innovative Skills-for-Life courses that target opportunities for daily independence, social integration, education and employment. For effective program delivery, we seek to purchase and install technology-driven equipment at Sunnyfield's Northern Beaches site, 14 Rodborough Road, Frenchs Forest. Using visuals, text and internet resources to suit varying learning styles, courses will focus on Functional Self-Care, Community Skills, Areas of daily-living and technology use.

Each course will include 4-16 participants and cover topics such as:

- Using an iPad/Cyber Safety,
- Food Safety/Following recipes,
- Personal Appearance,
- Dental Care,
- Establishing and maintaining friendships,
- Intimate Relationships,
- Numeracy/Money recognition,
- Budgeting/purchasing

Courses will run over 4 semesters, building participants' ability to gain requisite skills for accredited courses as well as enabling them to pursue individualised goals of independence, community inclusion and employment. Using a Train-the-trainer model, key frontline staff will also receive training on supporting clients' technology needs within program and in the community. The project will equip Sunnyfield with capital equipment, while recurrent costs will be covered through internal resources.

The Burdekin Association – The Burdekin Association Cultural Program - \$15,000 (partial funding)

The Burdekin Association is based in the Northern Beaches and has accommodation options for young people 16-24 who are homeless. We support our young people to address past trauma, address social, emotional and physical needs. Assess a young person's ability to engage in education and employment and provide support and case management to ensure they work towards gaining the skills and abilities both socially, emotionally, educationally and work based so they can move successfully into independence ensuring that they move out of the welfare system permanently. We currently have an over represented number of Tibetan young people that have come to us for assistance as they are homeless. We have identified that this cohort of young people have become isolated from their community and we need to learn to address this to reduce homelessness in this cohort. Currently 24% of our homelessness accommodation is accommodated by Tibetan young people. The project will provide documented cultural training to our staff, it will create appropriate material targeted to prevent homelessness among this cohort as well as a culturally specific worker, employed by the Burdekin Association (1 day per week) to ensure we all immerse ourselves in the best way to work.

The Community Pantry – The Community Pantry - \$8,000 (partial funding)

The Community Pantry has been running for 9 months at the North Narrabeen Sharks Footy Club to help those in need in the Northern Beaches. It is a growing organisation that provides a free healthy meal, in a safe environment. It also provides fresh fruit and vegetables, personal hygiene products and social support. We provide craft for the children, gifts on special occasions like Mother's Day, entertainment via two musicians who also take instruments, so the children can join in the music, while mothers watch on and relax with other guests and volunteers. The guests include single mothers with children, mothers with handicapped children, the homeless, refugees, the isolated, the unemployed and those recovering from addictions and mental illness. We require funds to purchase a bbq, additional tables and chairs, cutlery and table-clothes, ongoing weekly food costs, emergency essential gift vouchers, a hot water service, fridge/freezer, vacuum cleaner so we can continue to feed, support and help our guests.

The Humour Foundation – Clown Doctors – holiday program at Bear Cottage - \$7,284 (partial funding)

Since 2002, our no-fee Clown Doctors program has helped enhance the emotional wellbeing of children with life-limiting conditions cared for at Bear Cottage children's hospice, by treating them with doses of fun and laughter. Clown Doctors performers like Dr Silly Billy and Dr Quack use fun and humour to deliver improvised performances to these sick children and their families. Highly empathetic and sensitive, performers use music, mime, magic, song, dance, etc to provide much needed feel-good/magic moments to alleviate stress, trauma and isolation resulting from their medical condition, procedures and hospice life. Performers are highly professional, specially trained to work in sensitive settings, who can adapt to meet the individual needs during challenging situations. They also help to divert attention and/or distract a child during painful procedures/treatments. They provide children with a strong coping technique and lighten the environment for everyone. The program is not government/hospital funded. In 2016 Bear Cottage visits were restricted due to funding pressures. This grant would ensure a significantly increased 2017/18 delivery, including:

- 12 Clown Doctor visits (across school holiday periods) – 3 times more than 2016
- A high-quality, tailored humour therapy program that actively engages and supports the health/wellbeing of sick children, families and hospice staff in over 800 individual interactions.
- The recruitment/training of two professional performers with high level skills and sensitivity, equipping them with the knowledge and ongoing professional development to work with seriously
- sick/hospitalised children for 12 months
- Robust program monitoring and evaluation to maintain rigorous quality assurance

The Link Community Care Inc. – Mobile Foodcare Project - \$39,990 (partial funding)

Currently The Link Community Care provides affordable groceries, fruit and vegetables at a low recovery fee every Friday at Cromer Community Centre. Services can be accessed by any low income earner and holder of a Centrelink benefit card – registration is conducted at the location and secondary identification (eg. drivers licence) is required. The existing 'STATIC' food care program has serviced 100 families per week for the past 4 years. During this time over 14,000 food hampers have been distributed. The existing 'STATIC' food care program has 900 families registered. The 'MOBILE Foodcare Project' (MFP) to be established would be an extension of the current 'STATIC' Program enabling the assistance and support to reach out to the entire Northern Beaches Area. Our research and current client base shows that many of those in need cannot make it to the current 'static' food care program as they are scattered throughout the Northern Beaches and either can't access transport or are unable to travel. The 'MFP' would allow us to go to those in need either directly deliver to households or via central locations across the community on various days. For example the 'MFP' would allocate times and locations where people can access the service. e.g Tuesdays in Brookvale, Wednesdays in Narrabeen, Thursday in Belrose etc throughout the Northern Beaches. The 'MFP' would be outworked within a large van (incl. refrigeration and annex). The 'MFP' would supply frozen meals, groceries, bread, fruit & vegetables whilst creating a community connection and support.

The Shepherd Centre – for deaf children – "Clear & Confident Class Mate" – for deaf children on the northern beaches - \$49,000 (full funding)

'Clear & Confident Class Mate' is a new initiative at The Shepherd Centre supporting the social integration of deaf children (& their families) from the Northern Beaches as they start mainstream school. Also the project will deliver training and professional development to the early childhood educators and teachers in the Northern Beaches area so they can support children with hearing loss access the curriculum efficiently and effectively.

The new 12 month long program will run across a number of disciplines incorporating field specialists who cover parent orientation & education on the challenges their children will face in the noisy classroom & playground, individual child assessments & counselling support, group language & listening classes, social skills development sessions, school/classroom visits & teacher support. 'Clear & Confident Class Mate' will be helping more than 30 deaf children aged 5-9 years old from the Northern Beaches area and their families. Starting 'big school' is a challenge for all children but hearing impaired children are often ostracised and can fall behind if they are not prepared with noise coping methods, social strategies & advocacy skills. Feedback from families whose children have recently graduated from our program addressed a common social skills gap endured by their deaf children. Also our internal research shows that social skills are the foundation for a smooth integration into mainstream schools. This is key to ensuring the children with hearing loss flourish, succeed & feel included at school. 'Clear & Confident Class Mate' will empower the children and their parents so they can have a smooth integration into school life.

Wakehurst Golf Club Ltd. Wakehurst resurface 4 plexi-pave courts - \$30,360 (partial funding)

Funds are required to resurface the 4 hardcourts, repair the seating and cabanas and instal drop awnings to the pergola adjoining reception, hopefully in time for to host the Northern Beaches Hot Shots Grand Slam tournaments conducted by Northern Beaches Hotshots beginning on 18th February, 2017. Five are held each school holidays and with 10 operational courts, Wakehurst is the main centre, utilising up to 2 other centres for the overflow. We also host TNSW Junior development Tournaments; the NSW State Series on 18-19th December 2017 and on 8th January, 2018 we will host the Australian Bronze Junior Ranking tournament. The resurfaced hardcourts will also provide a currently much needed hardcourt venue on which juniors, particularly those wishing to compete in State and National tournaments can practice. The repairs to the seating and cabanas are needed, but not essential for these events and awnings for the cabana will provide much needed shelter in inclement weather.

NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL

