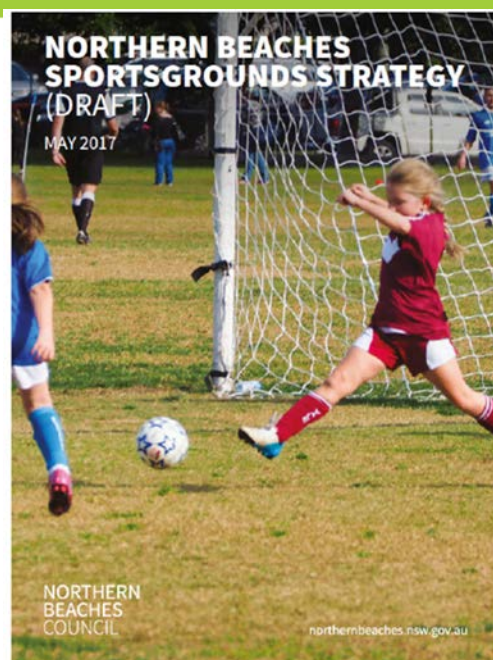


DRAFT NORTHERN BEACHES SPORTSGROUNDS STRATEGY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

FINAL REPORT

13 JULY 2017



NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL

**DRAFT NORTHERN BEACHES
SPORTSGROUNDS STRATEGY**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

Northern Beaches Council responded to a call by sporting groups on the northern beaches over many years for more sportsgrounds and new and improved sporting facilities by commissioning a Golf Market Assessment and a Sportsgrounds Needs Analysis in 2016. These two reports informed the Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds and Golf Courses Discussion Paper, which presented 6 actions to improve opportunities for sportsgrounds on the northern beaches:

1. Make better use of existing sportsgrounds
2. Convert more sportsfields to synthetic
3. Acquire and embellish additional private land as part of new housing developments
4. Convert existing open space to sportsfields ie. golf courses
5. Acquire and embellish additional land
6. Do nothing and accept the shortfall.

The Discussion Paper was placed on public exhibition for comment over four weeks from 8 April to 7 May 2017. Interest in the Discussion Paper was high, with 402 responses received through a random telephone survey; 4,152 online survey submissions; 634 written submissions through Your Say Northern Beaches, emails and letters; a petition with more than 10,000 signatures co-ordinated by Warringah Golf Club; and sporting group representatives attending a Sports Forum.

The majority of people and organisations support the need for more sportsfields on the Northern Beaches to meet an increasing demand for sportsfields.

The general community (the telephone survey and to a lesser extent the online survey respondents) favoured Actions 1 and 3 most, ie, to:

- ☐ make better use of existing sportsgrounds
- ☐ acquire and embellish additional private land as part of new housing developments.

Among sporting groups and members of sporting groups in the telephone survey, online survey, written submissions and the Sports Forum, the highest ranked Actions are:

- ☐ Action 1 to make better use of existing sportsgrounds by using fields on school grounds, increasing the time available for use of fields by lighting and other means, improving field surfaces, and changing allocation of fields
- ☐ Action 3 to acquire and embellish additional private land as part of new housing developments.

Action 2 to convert grass fields to synthetic surface was ranked highest in the written submissions due to the high volume of submissions from hockey players and to a lesser extent football players.

There is some support for Action 4 to Convert existing open space to sportsfields, for example golf courses. However significant numbers of comments and submissions have demonstrated there is opposition by many in the community and by golf players and members of golf clubs to converting golf courses, particularly Warringah Golf Course, to sportsgrounds. The inclusion of the example of using golf courses for sportsfields in Action 4 has most likely reduced the level of support for Action 4 when, if golf courses had been considered separately, the support for converting existing open space to sportsfields may well have been higher.

Both online and phone survey participants indicated their preference for Option A – implementing actions 1 through 4 (73% online compared with 58% by phone). Option A was described as “including use of sportsfields, synthetic fields, new fields in land release areas, and converting all or part of a golf course to sportsfields. This means we are largely able to meet the shortfall and have enough sportsfields for our needs”.

The reasons for online and phone survey participants preferring Option A were that they felt this was the best combination of actions to take. Option A included converting golf courses, which many residents felt were large amounts of land dedicated to too few golfers using large parcels of land, while players of other sports are crammed onto fields. Respondents believe Council should ‘convert golf courses to maximise grounds per sport’.

Option B was described as implementing actions 1 through 3 ie. *“makes better use of our existing fields, new synthetics, and new fields in land release areas, but does not include converting any golf course land to sportsfields. This means we will have a shortfall of supply, fields will be overused and we may not have enough space for everyone to play sport.”* Option B gained support (26% online compared with 36% by phone) mainly because they are ‘against the conversion of existing golf courses’ and the golf courses would not be affected.

Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy and Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report

The outcomes of the community engagement for the Discussion Paper are strongly reflected in the two documents following on from the Discussion Paper: the Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report (Otium Planning Group, May 2017) and the Draft Sportsground Strategy (Northern Beaches Council, May 2017).

The Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy sought community input on six priorities and associated recommendations based on the order of priority the community had placed on the actions in the Discussion Paper. The priorities of the Strategic Implementation Plan in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy are as follows:

- A Allocate sportsfields based on needs and growth
- B Improve capacity and resilience of existing sportsfields
- C Build new sportsfields in new housing development areas
- D Partner with schools to provide additional sportsfields for the community
- E Install synthetic surfaces on some existing sportsfields to enable greater use
- F Convert suitable open space to sportsgrounds including golf course land.

For each priority above, short term (2017-21), medium term (2022-26) and long term (2027-2031) strategies were developed.

The Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report were presented to the Administrator on 30 May 2017, who resolved to place the two reports on public exhibition for comment by the community in June-July 2017.

Community engagement

Council promoted and facilitated numerous opportunities for the community through the media and active participation throughout the community engagement period to view and comment on the Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report. Such opportunities included a project page and an online feedback form on the Your Say Northern Beaches website, emails sent to Council contact lists for Northern Beaches e-News and Your Say Northern Beaches project updates, notices published in Council’s weekly ‘Have Your Say’ section in the *Manly Daily*, and holding two presentation briefing/question and answer sessions at Dee Why Civic Centre.

Purpose of this report

This report summarises the outcomes of the community engagement processes undertaken in June-July 2017 to ascertain community views on the Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report.

Outcomes of community engagement on the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy and Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report

Sources of responses

780 written responses were received during the public exhibition period as follows:

- ☐ 742 responses to Your Say Northern Beaches
- ☐ 19 emails
- ☐ 14 submissions from sporting groups
- ☐ 5 formal hard copy submissions and letters.

Sporting group submissions

11 of the 14 sporting groups which lodged submissions were generally supportive of the Draft Sportsground Strategy in relation to the proposals for their sport in particular, and in some cases for other sports also. It should be noted that the MWPSU advised that it "...supports that all alternatives to increase supply and improve capacity are to be explored and implemented where feasible, prior to proceeding with the conversion of Warringah Golf Course."

Three sporting groups - Golf Australia, Golf NSW and Warringah Golf Club - were not at all supportive of the recommendation to convert all or part of any golf course on the northern beaches to sportsfields. They were also critical of the data used and the process for determining the recommendations, the process of seeking/ considering public input, and/ or other elements of the Draft Strategy.

Community submissions

Respondents to Your Say Northern Beaches (which comprised 97% of submissions from the community) were asked which field and court sports that they are involved in on the northern beaches. The key sports in which Your Say respondents are involved are golf (44%), 30% in hockey, 21% in football, 10% in netball, 9% in rugby union, 8% in cricket, 7% in touch football, 6% in rugby union, 6% in rugby league, 6% in six-a-side football, and 5% in Australian Football.

Three questions were asked on the Your Say Northern Beaches online platform:

1. How supportive are you of the Implementation Plan?
2. How supportive are you of the recommendations in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Analysis Report to address the current and future needs for sportsfields?
3. Do you have any comments about any of the recommendations in this report or any additional ideas for our sportsgrounds?

About 55% of respondents to Your Say Northern Beaches were either 'not supportive' or 'not at all supportive' of the Strategic Implementation Plan and the recommendations of the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report, while 45% were either 'somewhat' to 'very' supportive. However, the level of support for the Draft Strategy must be viewed with some

caution, because many respondents provided the same answer to one or more questions and appeared not to understand the difference between the Strategic Implementation Plan and the recommendations in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Analysis Report. Many respondents commented on the actions in the Discussion Paper. Also, it was clear that the stated level of support often did not match the comment, for example stating “not at all supportive” when requesting synthetic fields for hockey.

In general, the responses from the community (Your Say Northern Beaches, emails and letters) showed:

- ❑ The highest number of “supportive” responses related to the development of synthetic hockey fields (Priority E).
- ❑ The highest number of respondents indicating they were not supportive of the strategy related to the conversion of Warringah Golf Course to sportsgrounds and a park, followed by conversion of other golf courses to sports grounds (Priority F).
- ❑ Respondents would be more supportive of the Draft Strategy as a whole if it did not involve the conversion of Warringah Golf Course to sportsgrounds/park in Priority F.
- ❑ Balgowlah Golf Course was the second most suggested golf course (after Warringah Golf Course) for conversion to sportsfields if a golf course is intended to be converted to sports fields.
- ❑ Most people opposing conversion of golf courses to sports grounds preferred other options to increase the number of sportsfields, particularly acquiring additional land and/or using Crown land instead of golf course land.
- ❑ A frequent suggestion for converting suitable existing open space to sportsgrounds in Priority F was converting the driving range at Pittwater Golf Centre to sportsfields.
- ❑ Other suggested locations for new sportsfields are in the vicinity of Seaforth Oval/Wakehurst Parkway, and Metropolitan Aboriginal Land Council land.
- ❑ Users of the baseball diamonds at Aquatic Reserve pointed out that if Council is looking at providing additional sportsfields on the northern beaches, then the fields at Aquatic Reserve should be retained.
- ❑ Any additional sports fields should be provided in the northern and western areas of the Northern Beaches LGA in areas of population growth, rather than concentrating sportsfields in the developed areas in the south of the LGA.
- ❑ Support for Priority A (Allocating sportsfields based on needs and growth) through better allocation of sportsgrounds according to actual player numbers, reconfiguring sportsgrounds, and changing single use to multi-use facilities.
- ❑ Support for Priority B – Improving the capacity and resilience of existing sportsfields – by upgrading sportsgrounds by improving playing surfaces, drainage, lighting, cricket facilities, softball facilities, clubhouses, vehicle parking, cycling facilities, and toilets).
- ❑ Support for Priority C - Build new sportsfields in new housing development areas (Warriewood and Ingleside). Respondents felt that developers should provide sportsfields in new land releases. However residents in Boondah Road opposed the proposed action to acquire private land in Warriewood Valley for sportsfields.
- ❑ Support for Priority D – Partner with schools to provide additional sportsfields for the community – by allowing community access to fields and courts after school and on weekends.

Next steps

The outcomes of the community engagement in this report will inform the preparation of the final Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy.

This report will accompany a staff report and the Final Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy which is expected to be presented to Council on 25 July 2017 for adoption.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Northern Beaches Council responded to a call by sporting groups on the northern beaches over many years for more sportsgrounds and new and improved sporting facilities by commissioning a Golf Market Assessment and a Sportsgrounds Needs Analysis in 2016. These two reports informed the Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds and Golf Courses Discussion Paper, which presented 6 actions to improve opportunities for sportsgrounds on the northern beaches:

7. Make better use of existing sportsgrounds
8. Convert more sportsfields to synthetic
9. Acquire and embellish additional private land as part of new housing developments
10. Convert existing open space to sportsfields ie. golf courses
11. Acquire and embellish additional land
12. Do nothing and accept the shortfall.

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- ☐ Action 3 to acquire and embellish additional private land as part of new housing developments.

Action 2 to convert grass fields to synthetic surface was ranked highest in the written submissions due to the high volume of submissions from hockey players and to a lesser extent football players.

There was some support for Action 4 to Convert existing open space to sportsfields, for example golf courses. However significant numbers of comments and submissions have demonstrated there is opposition by many in the community and by golf players and members of golf clubs to converting golf courses, particularly Warringah Golf Course, to sportsgrounds. The inclusion of the example of using golf courses for sportsfields in Action 4 has most likely reduced the level of support for Action 4 when, if golf courses had been considered separately, the support for converting existing open space to sportsfields may well have been higher.

Both online and phone survey participants indicated their preference for Option A – implementing actions 1 through 4 (73% online cf. 58% by phone). Option A was described as “including use of sportsfields, synthetic fields, new fields in land release areas, and converting all or part of a golf course to sportsfields. This means we are largely able to meet the shortfall and have enough sportsfields for our needs”.

The reasons for online and phone survey participants preferring Option A were that they felt this was the best combination of actions to take. Option A included converting golf courses, which many residents felt were large amounts of land dedicated to too few golfers using large parcels of land, while players of other sports are crammed onto fields. Respondents believe Council should ‘convert golf courses to maximise grounds per sport’.

Option B was described as implementing actions 1 through 3 ie. *“makes better use of our existing fields, new synthetics, and new fields in land release areas, but does not include converting any golf course land to sportsfields. This means we will have a shortfall of supply, fields will be overused and we may not have enough space for everyone to play sport.”* Option B gained support (26% online cf. 36% by phone) mainly because they are ‘against the conversion of existing golf courses’ and the golf courses would not be affected.

1.2 Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy and Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report

The outcomes of the community engagement for the Discussion Paper are strongly reflected in the Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report (Otium Planning Group, May 2017) and the Draft Sportsground Strategy (Northern Beaches Council, May 2017).

The Strategic Implementation Plan, which is an overview of the more detailed recommendations of the 15- year Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Analysis Report (refer to Appendix A), is in Table 1.

The Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report were presented to the Administrator on 30 May 2017, who resolved to place the two reports on public exhibition for comment by the community in June-July 2017.

1.3 Purpose of this report

This report summarises the outcomes of the community engagement processes undertaken in June-July 2017 to ascertain community views on the Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report.

The outcomes of the community engagement in this report will inform the preparation of the final Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy.

This report will accompany a staff report and the Final Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy which is expected to be presented to Council on 25 July 2017 for adoption.

Table 1 Strategic Implementation Plan

Priorities	Short-term strategies (2017 to 2021)	Medium-term strategies (2022 to 2026)	Longer-term strategies (2027 to 2031)	Discussion Paper Actions
A: Allocate sportsfields based on needs and growth.	Review and update the sportsground allocation processes, consider demand management measures, review agreements and undertake regular monitoring of actual use and impacts.	Ongoing review and action as appropriate	Ongoing review and action as appropriate	Action 1: Make better use of existing sportsgrounds.
B: Improve capacity and resilience of existing sportsfields.	Improvements including irrigation, drainage, lighting, reconfiguring fields, upgrade amenities and car parking to improve capacity of fields. Example locations: Allambie Heights, John Fisher Park	Improvements including irrigation, drainage, lighting, reconfiguring fields, upgrade amenities and car parking to improve capacity of fields. Example locations: Balgowlah Oval	Improvements including irrigation, drainage, lighting, reconfiguring fields, upgrade amenities and car parking to improve capacity of fields. Example locations: Boondah Reserve	Action 1: Make better use of existing sportsgrounds.
C: Build new sportsfields in new housing development areas (Warriewood and Ingleside)	Continue with action to acquire land through s94 plan and convert to sportsfields - Warriewood Valley Land Release	Develop stage 1 fields in Ingleside in accordance with proposed timing for provision and development of land (South)	Develop stage 2 fields in Ingleside in accordance with proposed timing for provision and development of land (North)	Action 3: Acquire and embellish additional private land as part of new housing developments
D: Partner with schools to provide additional sportsfields for the community.	Investigate opportunities for joint use/development, or greater use, of school grounds for community and school use. In the first instance, focus on schools with larger fields.	Upgrade identified school facilities to cater for training and competition as agreed with schools and Department of Education.	Upgrade identified school facilities to cater for training and competition as agreed with schools and Department of Education.	Action 1: Make better use of existing sportsgrounds.
E: Install synthetic surfaces on some existing sportsfields to enable greater use.	Proceed with installation of synthetic surfaces at Lionel Watts and Cromer 2. Undertake a feasibility study into the potential funding, location, management and viability of developing dedicated wet surface synthetic hockey fields.	Review feasibility of potential sites for synthetic surfaces and install where feasible and budget allows. Develop new synthetic hockey facilities subject to the outcome of feasibility studies	Review feasibility of potential sites for synthetic surfaces and install where feasible and budget allows	Action 2: Convert more sportsfields to synthetic
F: Convert suitable open space to sportsgrounds including golf course land.	Develop a masterplan for the conversion of the northern half of Warringah Golf Course to a Centennial Park style sporting area incorporating fields, playgrounds and passive open space and link with the proposal for a sports and community facility in District Park. Continue to review other potential opportunities for the conversion of suitable open space to sportsfields. Undertake a feasibility study for the conversion of Balgowlah Golf Course to a sporting area incorporating fields and passive open space.	Convert the northern half of Warringah Golf Course to a Centennial Park style sporting area incorporating fields, playgrounds and passive open space to provide 5 Ha of additional sportsfields.	Based on the outcomes of a feasibility study (and if required) convert Balgowlah Golf Course to a sporting area incorporating fields and passive open space to provide 3 Ha of additional sportsfields.	Action 4: Convert existing open space to sportsfields e.g. golf courses

Source: Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy (Northern Beaches Council, 2017)

Figure 1 Context of this report



1.4 Opportunities to comment on the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy

Council promoted and facilitated numerous opportunities for the community through the media and active participation to view and comment on the Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report throughout the community engagement period. Such opportunities included:

Table 2 Timeline of community and stakeholder engagement

Date	Methods of community engagement
Fri 2 June	Bulk email sent to 13,246 residents registered for Your Say Northern Beaches project updates
Fri 2 June	Bulk email sent to 60,000 people registered to receive Northern Beaches eNews
Sat 3 June	PUBLIC COMMENT BEGINS / YOUR SAY PAGE GOES LIVE Background information, answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs), and an online feedback form at 'Your Say Northern Beaches' http://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/sportsgroundreview Notice published in 'Have Your Say' in Northern Beaches News in the <i>Manly Daily</i> .
Sat 10 June	Notice published in 'Have Your Say' in Northern Beaches News in the <i>Manly Daily</i> .
Sat 17 June	Notice published in 'Have Your Say' in Northern Beaches News in the <i>Manly Daily</i> .
Mon 19 June	Presentation briefing and Q and A session from 6-7.30pm at Dee Why Civic Centre
Tues 20 June	Presentation briefing and Q and A session from 6-7.30pm at Dee Why Civic Centre
Thur 22 June	Bulk email sent to 13,246 residents registered for Your Say Northern Beaches project updates
Sat 24 June	Notice published in 'Have Your Say' in Northern Beaches News in the <i>Manly Daily</i> .
Sat 1 Jul	Notice published in 'Have Your Say' in Northern Beaches News in the <i>Manly Daily</i> .
Sun 2 Jul	ONLINE SURVEY AND YOUR SAY COMMENTS CLOSE

Appendix A sets out some of the elements of Council's notification and promotion in the media to invite community comment on the Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report.

1.5 Scope of this report

This report presents the outcomes of community engagement in June-July 2017 about the recommended strategies to provide more and improved sportsgrounds in the Northern Beaches local government area.

The sports within the scope of the Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report are:

Archery	Baseball	Gridiron	Oztag	Soccer (football)	Touch football
Athletics	Cricket	Hockey	Rugby league	Soccer (6 a side)	Ultimate Frisbee
Australian football	Golf	Netball	Rugby union	Softball	Other field sports

1.6 Contents of this report

The remainder of this report sets out the outcomes of the community engagement conducted by Council in June-July 2017 in response to the call for comments on the Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report.

Appendix A includes the recommendations of the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report.

Appendix B shows media notification and promotion materials issued by Northern Beaches Council to invite submissions.

Appendix C comprises submissions from sporting groups.

Appendix D contains written comments from the community on the recommendations of the Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report.

2 OUTCOMES OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2.1 Sources of feedback

The Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report were available for comment for four weeks between Saturday 3 June and Sunday 2 July 2017. During that time 780 active responses were received on the Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy and the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report. Community feedback was received by Council as follows.

Table 3 Sources of feedback to the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy and Strategic Directions Report

Method	No. responses/participants
Respondents to Your Say Northern Beaches webpage	742
Emails	19
Sporting organisation submissions	14
Formal hardcopy submissions and letters	5
TOTAL	780

2.2 Feedback from sporting groups

11 of the 14 sporting groups which lodged submissions were generally supportive of the Draft Sportsground Strategy in relation to the proposals for their sport in particular, and in some cases for other sports also. It should be noted that the MWPSU advised that it "...supports that all alternatives to increase supply and improve capacity are to be explored and implemented where feasible, prior to proceeding with the conversion of Warringah Golf Course."

Three sporting groups - Golf Australia, Golf NSW and Warringah Golf Club - were not at all supportive of the recommendation to convert all or part of any golf course to sportsfields. They were also critical of the data used and the process for determining the recommendations, the process of seeking/considering public input, and/or other elements of the Draft Strategy.

Refer to Appendix C for full submissions from the sporting groups which responded.

Table 4 Feedback from sporting groups

Sporting group	Key points
Manly Warringah Pittwater Sporting Union	We would like to acknowledge that if what has been planned for the next 5 years is implemented, then together we will have improved the number and quality of sportsfields for both training and competition games across the northern beaches council area, while providing greater accessibility and choice in sporting activities for our community. Something we could not have been achieved without the amalgamation. The following 10 years of the plan will be just as impactful if all parties remain willing and focused.

Sporting group	Key points
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The MWPSU acknowledge's the shortfall in sportfields can only be fully met with the acquisition of additional land, be it purchased/ donated/ leased or converted public land including golf course land.

The MWPSU's position on the conversion of Warringah golf course to sportsfields remains as was fed back to council in the District Park review of March 2014. If and only If the 18 holes are reduced to 9 holes, the MWPSU would like to have a say in what this land is used for.

The MWPSU supports that all alternatives to increase supply and improve capacity are to be explored and implemented where feasible, prior to proceeding with the conversion of Warringah Golf Course.

AFL NSW/ACT	<p>AFL NSW/ACT is very supportive of Council's strategies.</p> <p>Keeping up with the demand for our sport is being comprised by the current allocation and availability of facilities.</p> <p>Access to new and improving current facilities - lighting/amenities/oval expansions – will greatly assist our services matching demand.</p>
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Manly Warringah Basketball Association	<p>Council has proposed a sensible compromise with the staged leasing of Warringah Golf Club, but a 10-year lease with 2x5 year options would be preferable.</p> <p>The present method of field allocation and use of bookings to approximate demand for sports fields are flawed. An emphasis on pricing (particularly differential pricing) is essential for a practical and affordable solution. Real demand can be measured using a pricing mechanism which would probably be 20-25% lower than current demand to reveal a modest surplus of fields rather than a large deficit.</p> <p>Agree with the focus on installing synthetic fields and the focus on joint ventures with schools. However the Narrabeen Sports High School synthetic field is the most underutilised field included in the Strategy, being booked for 55% of available hours. The reasons for its low use should be discussed before doing similar investments.</p> <p>There should be more emphasis on co funding of capital and allowing the sports groups to manage the assets (particularly the major centres), such as the arrangement at the Northern Beaches Indoor Sports Centre.</p> <p>There is no clear discussion of operating costs and the share borne by ratepayer s across various sports. It appears that there is considerable difference between field sports, water sports and indoor sports.</p>
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Cricket NSW	<p>Support the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy.</p> <p>The Draft Strategy identifies the shortage of cricket facilities, and the need for utilising the current facilities to ensure they are updated, used to their capacity and maintained in good condition.</p> <p>Need to provide additional cricket fields to cater for increased demand for grounds.</p> <p>Revised junior cricket formats (reducing the number of players per team, length of pitch, shorter game time) will increase the number of teams in the Manly Warringah Junior Cricket Association (MWJCA). Although shorter game times will in effect allow more matches to be player per day, one of the consequences will be an increased demand for grounds.</p> <p>Continuing to be able to grow sport across the community allows collaboration and growth in schools, and female and junior participation.</p> <p>With participation numbers growing on the Northern Beaches, the need for facilities will continue to increase. It is vital for Council to ensure that the current grounds are utilised to their best capacity, which includes reconfiguring grounds, developing new facilities and that summer and winter sportsground bookings are appropriately allocated across the sports to meet the growing demand.</p> <p>Cricket NSW expresses strong support for the short-term strategy of cricket field reconfiguration, liaising with the Northern Beaches cricket associations and identifying potential grounds such as Seaforth and other grounds outlined in the Cricket Council submission. Upgrading current facilities and lighting capacity will also provide a better user experience and ensure grounds are not becoming unavailable regularly due to maintenance and works. Evaluating and working on school ground availability and partnerships is key to the strategy, as is looking at potential indoor facilities as set out in the medium-term recommendations.</p>
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Sporting group	Key points
Northern Beaches Cricket Council	<p>Cricket has a current and growing need for more grounds for competition games and practice facilities.</p> <p>Cricket Australia is introducing new junior formats ie. reducing the number of players on each team which will create more teams and the increase the number of cricket grounds and training facilities required. Instead of the traditional Saturday morning, junior games will now be played on Friday nights and Saturday afternoons on the northern beaches. Junior cricket games are not scheduled on Sundays because that conflicts with representative cricket and nippers.</p> <p>The number of teams has increased from 108 in 2012-13 to 163 in 2016-17. 24 additional grounds will be required to accommodate the 262 projected number of teams in 2019-20. Without additional cricket grounds on the northern beaches NBCC will have to turn players away.</p> <p>Priority A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prioritise reconfiguration on grounds to increase number and size of cricket fields at John Fisher Park, North Narrabeen including the driving range (4 x full-size and 3 x small cricket pitches), and Kitchener Park - Investigate the opportunity for some grounds not needed for winter sports finals to be made available and uncovered for pre-season cricket use. cricket could also look at releasing some grounds at the end of the summer season for winter pre-season use. <p>Priority B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trial drop in or roll out cricket pitches for junior cricket games. - Determine suitable locations for new year-round cricket net enclosures and a program to upgrade existing cricket nets. <p>Priority D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would like access to toilet facilities at the schools where junior cricket is played <p>Priority E</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investigate synthetic surfaces that do not radiate heat and cause a cricket ball to bounce higher than normal, as occurs at Melwood Oval. - Investigate potential locations for grounds to install turf cricket pitches for use by local juniors and seniors, and representative cricket. <p>Priority F</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avalon Golf Course has some relatively flat land suitable for sporting fields. Other fields could be staggered down the slope. There are few sporting fields on the peninsula. - Wakehurst Golf Course would become more accessible with the proposed Northern Beaches Tunnel. Sections of the golf course are fairly flat and fields could be staggered down the slope. Spill from the tunnel could be used to level sections of the golf course. - Cricket grounds should be part of the plan for Warringah Golf Course if it changes use. <p>Narrabeen Sports High School is a possible location for the CNSW indoor facility.</p>
Football NSW	<p>Football NSW and Manly Warringah Football Association look forward to working with Council to increase and improve the football fields in the Northern Beaches and to ensure that football remains the number one participation sport in the Northern Beaches.</p> <p>Manly Warringah Football Association (MWFA) is the second largest association in NSW and in Australia with 17,648 active players in 2016. A further 3,775 registered players are playing six-a-side soccer in summer.</p> <p>Females participation represents 27% of the MWFA in 2016, however women and girls do not have access to change rooms in some areas.</p> <p>Football fields that are overused include Seaforth Oval, Lionel Watts Oval, Kitchener Park, David Thomas Reserve, and St Matthews Farm.</p> <p>Recommendations by priority are set out below.</p> <p>Priority A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reconfigure fields to the best orientation possible. - Use as much open space at each site as possible, whether on or off a marked field. - Allocate grounds to sports based on the number of participants of the sport. In coming years MWFA will have to turn people away from participating in football.

Sporting group	Key points
	<p>Priority B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - upgrading and renew floodlighting on all sporting fields, including football fields. Many fields on the northern beaches do not meet minimum Australian standards for training and/or competition. Floodlighting should light all of the field, not just sections of it, to ensure maximum use and create additional space for training and moving players off high traffic areas such as goal mouths. Floodlight upgrades are desired at Boondah Reserve and Passmore Reserve. - Consider moving goalposts during the week to the sides of the field least used to spread wear and tear of the field. - replace kikuyu turf to couch to ensure a quality surface and increasing the carrying capacity of fields. <p>Priority C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporate a planning process of where new facilities could become available into the Strategy - Use Section 94 funds to purchase additional land <p>Priority D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partner with local primary and high schools for sporting clubs to gain access to school fields after school hours and on the weekend consistent with the NSW Department of Education policy. <p>Priority E</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conversion of fields to synthetic surface has benefited football by increasing the number of people and the number of hours that can be played. - Support council's plans to convert Lionel Watts Oval and Cromer Park 2 to synthetic. - More synthetic surfaces on the northern beaches will reduce the number of games and training sessions lost each year due to wet weather. - Suggest synthetic field at John Fisher Oval. - Consider new synthetic fields at new developments at Ingleside and Warriewood. <p>Priority F</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Convert golf courses to sporting fields, as the northern beaches has double the courses per head of population compared to other areas in Sydney, and to create several additional fields which would be ideal for football. - There may be scope to co-share a golf course between football and golf if the complete conversion of a golf course is not possible. Football could use the fairways of the golf courses on weeknights for training, which would require installation of floodlights. Reconfiguring golf holes to allow space for additional fields is an option, for example at North Turramurra Recreation Area. <p>Acquisition of additional Crown, private or other land would be expensive.</p>
Manly Warringah Football Association	Council's plan needs to be implemented in full and now.
Manly Allambie United Football Club	<p>Actions 1-3 are strongly supported and represent a significant level of support from respondents to the previously released discussion paper.</p> <p>It is recognised that Action 4, whilst strongly supported by the Club, carries with it potentially significant levels of community resistance, albeit by a particular and relatively small segment of the sporting community. Even though the Club supports any future decision to convert nine holes of the Warringah Golf Course to more generic sporting fields, it is recognised as a politically difficult one for Council. The realisation of that conversion may see the foundation of a significant and exciting sporting precinct for the Northern Beaches with the conglomeration of Nolans, Miller, Passmore and David Thomas Reserves combining with the new sporting fields proposed as a result of the conversion of the Warringah Golf Course. Notwithstanding this, it is recognised that for the reasons outlined in the draft Strategy, this may be a longer term proposition.</p> <p>The Sportsground Strategic Directions Analysis identifies that Miller Reserve has the necessary attributes and characteristics to be considered a candidate to accommodate a synthetic playing surface. Miller Reserve offers a central location, accommodating three full playing pitches and associated smaller fields with good access and parking. Along with Narrabeen High School, Cromer Park and Melwood Oval, this would provide a great</p>

Sporting group	Key points
	<p>network of synthetic pitches that would serve the soccer and wider sporting community of the Northern Beaches extremely well into the future.</p> <p>The Club welcomes the identification of Miller Reserve as a candidate for conversion in the 2022-2026 planning period. It is considered, however, that with collaboration, this timeline can be accelerated. The Club Committee has coverage of planning, fund sourcing and other areas of expertise, albeit on a voluntary basis, which can assist with the coordination of seed funding, mobilisation of the local community and local consultation to assist Council in delivering an accelerated delivery of a synthetic playing surface. The Club is a willing partner in this process and is prepared to take a level of responsibility to see the Miller Reserve vision come to fruition.</p>
Golf Australia	<p>Golf Australia does not support Priority F to “Convert suitable open space to sportsgrounds including some golf course land as needed” in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy and 15-year Implementation Plan, and urges Council to reconsider for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - golf course spaces are important community assets. - golf is the 5th most participated in activity for people aged 45 years and over in Australia. - golf is the number one club sport for adults in Australia, particularly for adults aged 45 years and over. <p>Australian golfers are playing more competition golf.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - golf delivers a community benefit to the population aged 45 years and over who have more time to participate in golf compared to other age groups, coupled with a significant trend in aging of the population. 32% of Australian adult golfers are aged 65 years and over. - The benefits of golf to the community include physical and mental health, social networks, reduction in health care costs, and financial benefits to local businesses. - Northern Beaches golf clubs perform strongly compared to those in the North-West Region. - Warringah Golf Club performed second best of all public golf courses on the Northern Beaches in terms of retention of members (4% decline between 2006-2015), and reports up to 65,000 rounds are played each year. - The population of the Northern Beaches is aging. 42.9% of people in Northern Beaches local government area are aged 45 years and over, which is higher than the rest of Sydney. - Golf meets the needs and drivers of the 45 years and over age group, given it is the number one club sport for the 45 years and over age group. - Golf courses in Northern Beaches LGA contribute significant economic, social and health benefits to the community. - Any decision to convert golf course land to other sporting grounds will have a negative community impact and a negative impact on golf. <p>Golf Australia supports the position of Warringah Golf Club that Council should further consider alternatives such as the acquisition or lease of Crown or other land instead of using land enjoyed by current and future golfing communities.</p>
Golf NSW	<p>The proposal to convert some (9 holes) or all of the Warringah Golf Course is a poor and ill researched one. The reports I have read in regard to the golf course are embarrassingly flawed, and in many cases do not provide the necessary information for the administrator, or the newly elected Council, to make an informed or impartial decision on the matter. The option to utilise school sports grounds has been sadly under investigated by all reports that have been conducted to date.</p> <p>Once again the recommendations in this report in regards to the golf course have been made using flawed and inaccurate data and information.</p> <p>The golf report from GBAS was also supposed to also research the “future needs” of golf on the Northern Beaches, but there is no reference to this?</p> <p>The same report focuses on the decline in club membership, yet Warringah Golf Club is predominantly a public “pay for play facility”, a market within the golf sector that is growing. The biased nature of all the reports unfortunately casts many dispersion on the brief that was given by the Council/Administrator to these “independent” consultants.</p>

Sporting group	Key points
Warringah Golf Club	Warringah Golf Club agrees with Council's review of sporting fields. However they do not support any strategy that includes the conversion of all or part of any golf course on the northern beaches, particularly Warringah Golf Course. Refer to Appendix C for full submission
Northern Beaches Hockey Facility	Accelerate the proposal to approve land allocation for new Synthetic Hockey Facility Implement action 2 – synthetic hockey field facility for all 6 Northern Beaches hockey clubs with priority.
Manly Warringah Netball Association	MWNA agrees that allocation should be based on needs and growth of each sport even if that results in reconfiguration and re-allocation of some fields. More sealed netball courts at John Fisher Park would improve capacity, because limited games can be played on the grass courts. Netball courts (preferably sealed) should be provided in new housing developments (Warriewood, Ingleside and elsewhere) where local clubs can train even after rain. The lack of amenities for players and spectators at outdoor netball courts on school grounds is a problem. If Council could finance building of separate amenities that would be a good option. MWNA requests an indoor four netball court complex for training and competition as close as possible to the netball headquarters at John Fisher Park.
Wakehurst Netball Club	Netball could benefit from more sealed courts at John Fisher Park to improve its capacity, as it is difficult to conduct a fair competition on grassed courts that are in poor condition. There needs to be adequate parking and amenities for participants and supporters to attend games.

2.3 Feedback from the community

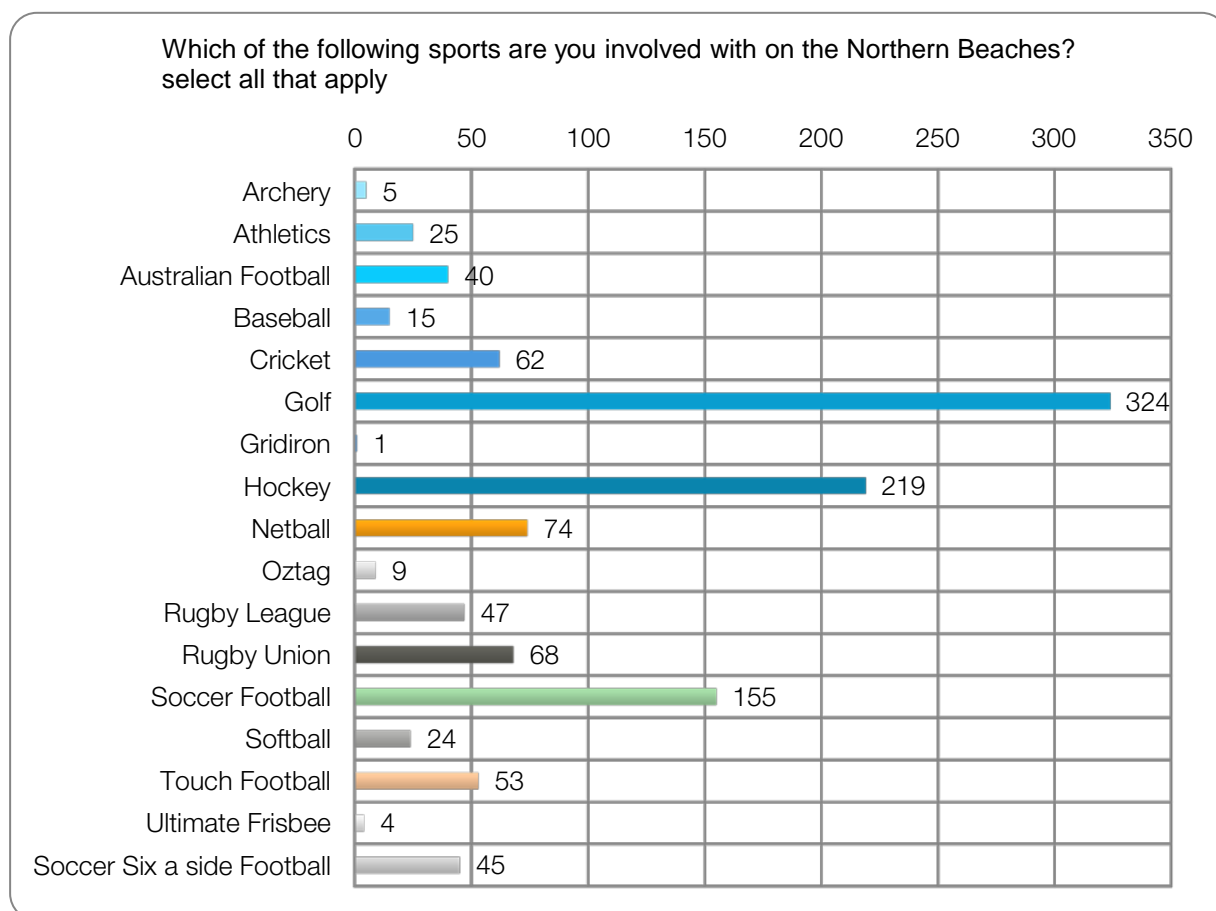
Feedback from the community was obtained by online comments on Your Say Northern Beaches, and from emails and letters. Refer to Appendix D for submissions from the community.

2.3.1 Involvement in field and court sports

The sports in which people who responded on Your Say Northern Beaches are involved in are shown in Figure 2.

Respondents to Your Say Northern Beaches (which comprised 97% of submissions from the community) were asked which field and court sports that they are involved in on the northern beaches. The key sports in which Your Say respondents are involved are golf (44%), 30% in hockey, 21% in football, 10% in netball, 9% in rugby union, 8% in cricket, 7% in touch football, 6% in rugby league, 6% in six-a-side football, and 5% in Australian Football.

Figure 2 Sports in which respondents to Your Say Northern Beaches are involved



2.3.2 Support for the Strategy

Three questions were asked on the Your Say Northern Beaches online platform:

4. How supportive are you of the Implementation Plan?
5. How supportive are you of the recommendations in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Analysis Report to address the current and future needs for sportsfields?
6. Do you have any comments about any of the recommendations in this report or any additional ideas for our sportsgrounds?

The level of community support for the Draft Strategy must be viewed with some caution, because respondents to Your Say Northern Beaches and people making other written submissions are self-selected and not representative of the community. Many respondents provided the same answer to one or more questions and appeared not to understand the difference between the Strategic Implementation Plan and the recommendations in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Analysis Report. Many respondents commented on the actions in the Discussion Paper. Also, it was clear that the stated level of support often did not match the comment, for example stating “not at all supportive” when requesting synthetic fields for hockey.

About 55% of respondents to Your Say Northern Beaches were either ‘not supportive’ or ‘not at all supportive’ of the Strategic Implementation Plan and the recommendations of the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Report, while 45% were either ‘somewhat’ to ‘very’ supportive.

They key reason for not being supportive of the Strategy is that a high proportion of respondents oppose the proposal to convert Warringah Golf Club to sportsfields and a park, and to convert other golf courses to sportsfields, which resulted in an overall negative rating for the Strategy.

Respondents indicating they were Very Supportive are generally supporters of a synthetic turf hockey field.

Overall the community would generally support the Strategy if it didn't involve conversion of Warringah Golf Course to sportsgrounds/park.

The number of submissions made in relation to each point below are in brackets to indicate relative weighting of responses between the various proposals in the Draft Strategy.

2.3.3 General comments

There is general support for the Draft Strategy to provide more sportsgrounds in the Northern Beaches local government area (21).

More sportsfields are said to be required for the following sports:

- ☐ Soccer (3)
- ☐ Rugby (2) specifically for Newport Rugby Club.
- ☐ Baseball (2)
- ☐ Touch (1).

Baseball players asked for the baseball diamonds at Aquatic Reserve be retained (4).

Another netball complex is required (2) to decentralise netball from John Fisher Park at Curl Curl.

As Council is considering increasing the number of sportsfields on the Northern Beaches, baseball players expressed a desire to retain the existing baseball fields at Aquatic Reserve which is being considered as the site for relocating Forest High School, and there was a request not to use a field at Kitchener Park for the B-Line bus stop at Mona Vale.

Neutral or negative comments about the Strategy in general (4) are:

- ☐ there are enough sportsfields already
- ☐ existing fields are being used below capacity
- ☐ this strategy for sportsfields and courts has been prepared before an up-to-date strategy for all sports.
- ☐ Implementing the proposed short-term actions will take more than 5 years to indicate whether more fields are required.
- ☐ recent submissions by sporting groups to Council's Strategic Community Plan about desired facilities and improvements have been ignored.
- ☐ look at the distribution of sportsfields throughout the Northern Beaches.
- ☐ sporting groups need to pay more to use fields.
- ☐ sportsfields encroach on informal recreation areas.

2.3.4 Support for the priorities in the Draft Strategy

11 people explicitly stated in their submission that they support Priorities A-F to provide more sporting fields to solve capacity issues.

Others explicitly stated in their submission that they support Priorities A-E, but oppose Priority F (6). Most people who oppose Priority F did so because it involves conversion of part of Warringah Golf Course to sportsgrounds and a park. If Priority F did not include conversion of golf courses there would be much higher community support for converting suitable open space to sportsgrounds. Most people opposing conversion of golf courses prefer other options, particularly acquiring additional land and/or using Crown land instead of golf course land.

One person explicitly stated they supported Priorities A-D. Another person stated they support Priorities E and F only because Priorities A-D will not meet expected need.

Comments about specific priorities are set out below.

2.3.5 Priority A – Allocate sportsfields based on needs and growth

34 comments support or suggested improvements to allocation of sportsgrounds based on needs and growth.

Better allocation of sportsgrounds

The field allocation/scheduling process should be changed to maximise use (1).

Field allocations should be based on current demand not historical use (2), but historical users need to be included in decisions about any reallocation of fields (1).

Fields are more heavily used than allocations would suggest, so new fields provided within the next five years is a priority (1).

Clubs should review their competition and training schedules (1)

Sporting groups must put in a submission to justify requests for additional fields (1)

Player registration numbers received from sports should be verified before making decisions about field allocation (2).

Manly Warringah Pittwater Sporting Union should take bookings instead of Council to improve cost recovery from use of fields (1)

Use a computer program to allow teams to book available time slots when they want to use fields (1)

Several suggestions were to spread use of fields from Saturdays to weekdays (6) and Sundays (3).

Develop a pricing mechanism so demand can be managed away from peak times (weekend mornings during school terms) to underused and unused times (1).

Reallocate sports to fields based on seasonal needs, for example cricket can play on grounds with a good synthetic wicket but a lower quality outfield (1)

Use of Frank Gray Oval for hockey and AFL in winter does not work for hockey because of damage to the ground. Hockey would prefer to share a ground with cricket (1).

Reconfigure sportsgrounds

Conduct an audit of Council sportsgrounds/land to better use small pockets of land for training and competition (2)

Reconfigure specific fields:

- ☐ Balgowlah Oval to full-sized AFL (1)
- ☐ Terrey Hills Oval to add another small-sided soccer field at the unused grass netball courts (1)

Reconfigure fields for junior soccer and hockey (1).

Single use to multi-use facilities

The rugby clubhouse at Terrey Hills Oval should be shared with soccer, cricket and other users (1).

2.3.6 Priority B – Improve capacity and resilience of existing sportsfields

More than 50 comments support or suggested improvements to existing sportsgrounds.

Upgrade sportsgrounds

General upgrades of specific sportsfields suggested by the community are:

- ☐ Balgowlah Oval (2) – widen, upgrade for AFL
- ☐ Lionel Watts Oval (1)
- ☐ Aquatic Reserve (1)
- ☐ Newport Oval (sewer at amenities block, pedestrian access from Bishop Street, repair timber fence (1)

Improved playing surface

Ground levelling/topdressing is desired at:

- ☐ Lionel Watts Oval (1)
- ☐ Frank Gray Oval (1)
- ☐ Stirgess Reserve (1).

Improved drainage

Improved drainage is required at:

- ☐ existing fields – general (2)
- ☐ Rugby union grounds (2)
- ☐ Wyatt Oval (1)
- ☐ \Newport Oval – western side (1).

Improved lighting

Improve lighting for night training and games – general (8)

New/improved lighting is requested at:

- ☐ Frank Gray Oval (2)
- ☐ Mike Pawley Oval (2)
- ☐ New rectangular field at North Narrabeen (1)
- ☐ Tania Park (1)
- ☐ Outer baseball diamonds at Aquatic Reserve (1)
- ☐ John Fisher Park (1)
- ☐ Current baseball fields (1)
- ☐ Current football fields (1).

Improved cricket facilities

- ☐ Level the cricket pitch surrounds at Newport Oval (1), Frank Gray Oval (1) and Lionel Watts Oval (1)
- ☐ More usable cricket nets at existing cricket fields (1)
- ☐ Use synthetic drop-in cricket pitches (1)
- ☐ Address safety at the two cricket nets at Newport Oval (1).

Improved softball facilities

Longer pitching area at Abbott Road softball diamonds, and a roof over the pitching area for training in wet weather (1)

Improved club facilities

Build a clubhouse at Newport Oval for rugby union, rugby league, cricket (8)

Improved parking

Increase parking at sportsfields to accommodate game changeover times (1)

Improve parking at netball courts at John Fisher Park (1).

Provide for cycling

Increase cycle paths, bike lanes and bike storage to, at and between sportsgrounds in the southern high density suburbs around District Park (1).

Improve toilets

Better and clean toilets at sportsfields (1).

2.3.7 Priority C – Build new sportsfields in new housing development areas (Warriewood and Ingleside)

Support

66 people indicated their support for building new sportsfields and netball courts in new housing development areas, for reasons including that:

- ☐ sports facilities will be provided in areas of population growth.
- ☐ requiring developers to pay for or provide land is the cheapest option and at no cost to ratepayers.
- ☐ new facilities can be provided instead of converting existing facilities.
- ☐ it will take the pressure off converting golf courses to sportsfields.

The State government and Councils should require that sporting fields are provided by developers in new land releases (9). There was a lost opportunity to provide sportsgrounds in Warriewood Valley (6). Only minimal sportsfields are planned to be provided in Ingleside (1).

Sportsgrounds should be provided in developing areas where they are needed, not in the southern areas of the Northern Beaches LGA (2).

Specific locations in new development areas where sportsfields should be provided are:

- ☐ Ralston Avenue, Belrose
- ☐ Warriewood Valley
- ☐ Ingleside
- ☐ Belrose – unspecified
- ☐ Terrey Hills
- ☐ Narrabeen
- ☐ Cromer
- ☐ Oxford Falls
- ☐ Frenchs Forest
- ☐ Manly Dam Reserve.

Oppose

13 submissions from residents of Boondah Road in Warriewood are not at all supportive of the proposed action to acquire private land in Warriewood Valley for sportsgrounds. They feel Council is targeting their properties to acquire them cheaply when they do not want to sell. They would prefer that Warriewood Golf Driving Range be used for sportsgrounds in the Warriewood area instead.

2.3.8 Priority D – Partner with schools to provide additional sportsfields for the community

More than 40 submissions support partnering with public, Catholic and private schools to allow community access to their sportsfields and to hardcourts for netball and basketball after school and on weekends.

Use of school sporting facilities is considered preferable to using golf course land.

Community use of the synthetic field at Narrabeen Sports High School is a good example of this arrangement (1).

Access to toilets and change rooms for women and girls at school sportsfields is needed (1).

Schools with sports fields that possibly could be shared with the community are Cromer High School (1) and Wheeler Heights Public School (1).

2.3.9 Priority E – Install synthetic surfaces on some existing sportsfields to enable greater use

Support for synthetic surfaces

General

Installing synthetic surfaces on some existing sportsfields to enable greater use is generally supported (34).

Reasons for supporting synthetic surfaces on existing sports fields include:

- ☐ Improved surface quality of overused fields, which is safer for players and reduces injury
- ☐ the field can be used in wet weather
- ☐ games can be spread out over additional days and times
- ☐ increased hours of use of the field
- ☐ high initial costs are outweighed over time
- ☐ lower maintenance costs.

The synthetic fields at Narrabeen Sports High School and Abbotsleigh in Wahroonga are good examples of multi-purpose synthetic fields.

Suggested fields for converting to synthetic surface are:

- ☐ Lionel Watts Oval (3)
- ☐ Abbott Road (1)
- ☐ John Fisher Park (1) – supported by Football NSW
- ☐ Miller Reserve (1)
- ☐ Boondah Reserve (1)
- ☐ Mike Pawley Oval (1)
- ☐ St Matthews Farm (1)
- ☐ David Thomas Reserve (1)
- ☐ Bevely Job Park (1)
- ☐ Balgowlah Oval (1)
- ☐ Cromer 2 (1)
- ☐ NSW Academy of Sport at Narrabeen (1)
- ☐ Porters Reserve (1)
- ☐ Wyatt Oval (1)

Manly Allambie United Football Club support the conversion of Miller Reserve to synthetic fields.

It was suggested that 6 fields a year should be converted to synthetic surface (1).

All new fields should have a synthetic surface (1).

Hockey

193 submissions support synthetic hockey field(s) on the northern beaches.

Reasons supporting local synthetic hockey field(s) include to:

- ☐ minimise the time and cost of travelling to Concord, Ryde, Ku-ring-gai, Pennant Hills, and other locations throughout Sydney to play and/or train on a synthetic field
- ☐ existing grass hockey fields are in poor condition

- ☐ games can be played in wet weather
- ☐ increase local participation in hockey
- ☐ minimise children dropping out of the sport
- ☐ attract carnivals and representative tournaments to the local area.

Several people stated they support synthetic hockey field(s) being provided in an earlier timeframe than specified in the Draft Strategy (6).

Suggested locations for synthetic hockey fields are:

- ☐ Frank Gray Oval (2)
- ☐ Mike Pawley Oval (1)
- ☐ corner of Mona Vale Road and Forest Way, Terrey Hills (1)
- ☐ Belrose (1)
- ☐ Davidson (1)
- ☐ Frenchs Forest (1).

Football

Two submissions requested synthetic fields for football.

The suggested locations for synthetic football fields are Abbott Road and Adam Street fields in John Fisher Park (1).

Baseball

One submission requested synthetic fields for baseball.

Netball

A request was made to seal the grass netball courts at John Fisher Park (1).

Oppose synthetic surfaces

Two people oppose converting sportsfields to synthetic surfaces because the field will not be available to exercise their dog.

2.3.10 Priority F – Convert suitable open space to sportsgrounds including golf course land

Support conversion of driving range at Pittwater Golf Centre to sports fields

15 submissions support conversion of the golf driving range at Pittwater Golf Centre at North Narrabeen to sports fields.

Reasons include the land:

- ☐ is owned by Council
- ☐ would be suitable for 4 playing fields (4 hectares)
- ☐ is zoned for recreation
- ☐ was once used for sportsfields
- ☐ is flat

- ☐ has amenities and parking
- ☐ is on the B-line route.

Support use of land at Fern Creek Road, Warriewood for sports fields

7 submissions support use of land at Fern Creek Road, Warriewood for sports fields.

Reasons include:

- ☐ the land is owned by Council
- ☐ it was purchased with Section 94 funds for open space and recreation
- ☐ it could support one full-sized field or several junior sports fields
- ☐ private land in Boondah Road would then not be required for sports fields.

Conversion of golf course land for sportsfields

Support

12 submissions support conversion of golf courses in general to sportsgrounds.

Reasons include:

- ☐ there is an oversupply of golf courses/land for golf
- ☐ an undersupply of sportsgrounds
- ☐ golf courses are not accessible to the community.

Golf courses suggested for full or partial conversion to sportsgrounds/recreation areas are:

- ☐ Warringah Golf Course (14)
- ☐ Balgowlah Golf Course (6)
- ☐ Avalon Golf Course (2)
- ☐ Manly Golf Course (1)
- ☐ Palm Beach Golf Course (1)
- ☐ Mona Vale Golf Course (1) – western side.

One submission suggested implementing the proposal to convert Warringah Golf Course to sports fields immediately because the lease has expired, rather than wait for another lease term.

Oppose

71 submissions oppose converting golf course land to sports fields in general.

If conversion of golf courses was removed from the Strategy many more people would be supportive of the Strategy to provide more sportsfields.

Reasons given by the community for opposing converting golf course land to sports fields include:

- ☐ population increase and aging will increase popularity of golf in future
- ☐ opposition to replacing golf courses with facilities for other sports
- ☐ golf courses cater for a sport enjoyed by older people
- ☐ golf courses provide green space
- ☐ environmental considerations – loss of trees, fauna, creek
- ☐ golf courses are financially viable

- ❑ there are other options for additional sportsfields, particularly leasing or acquiring Crown land and acquiring other land.

237 submissions oppose converting part of Warringah Golf Course to sports fields.

Reasons include:

- ❑ the club has an 80-year history
- ❑ it is the second busiest golf course in Sydney (65,000 rounds a year)
- ❑ the course attracts people from outside the northern beaches
- ❑ the club is financially viable and contributes \$80,000 income to Council per year
- ❑ the club covers all costs for maintaining and improving the course at no cost to ratepayers
- ❑ the course is used every day
- ❑ tree cover on the course
- ❑ membership and social playing costs are affordable
- ❑ the course is used by an increasing population of older people who prefer a level course
- ❑ the course is a wildlife refuge
- ❑ it is a public golf course
- ❑ accessible by public transport
- ❑ a nine hole course is not favoured by players (reduced interest, variety and player skill)
- ❑ use of 9 holes by members will reduce social play
- ❑ increase in traffic, parking and road safety issues in the local area
- ❑ flooding of the back nine holes occurs during and after heavy rain
- ❑ club facilities (pro shop, buggy store, toilets) would need to be relocated
- ❑ there are sufficient sporting fields adjoining the golf course
- ❑ adjoining sports fields are not used during the day
- ❑ units adjoin the southern boundary
- ❑ The proposed District Park Sports Club would not be viable for Warringah Golf Club
- ❑ there are other options, particularly purchasing additional land and using Crown land.

Other options to convert suitable open space to sportsgrounds

Any proposal to provide additional sportsfields should recognise the frequent comments that sportsfields should be provided in the north and west of the LGA to address the need north of Dee Why/Narrabeen and west of Allambie, and to avoid traffic and parking congestion in the Manly/Brookvale area in the south (25).

Options to convert suitable existing open space to sportsgrounds are:

- ❑ bushland (5) at Seaforth Oval/along Wakehurst Parkway, and in Pittwater, whereas 2 people opposed using clearing bushland for sportsfields
- ❑ Red Hill (3)
- ❑ the market site and equestrian area at North Narrabeen Reserve (1)
- ❑ Dee Why Lagoon area (1)
- ❑ provide carparks under playing surfaces to free up land for sportsfields (1)
- ❑ establishing a new golf course on Crown land (1)
- ❑ multi-level playing fields (1).

A suggestion was made to renovate Harbord Bowling Club and the Calabria Club in return for their synthetic pitches being used for children's soccer (1).

2.3.11 Other suggested locations for sportsgrounds

Several people suggested acquiring additional land for sportsgrounds, and/or purchasing or leasing Crown land.

Other suggested sites for provision of sportsgrounds are:

- ☐ Metropolitan Aboriginal Land Council land (5)
- ☐ Belrose Waste Management Centre (4)
- ☐ Western side of Wakehurst Parkway from Seaforth Oval to Bantry Bay (3)
- ☐ Terrey Hills (3)
- ☐ Land that was investigated for netball courts at Belrose (1)
- ☐ Belrose (1)
- ☐ Oxford Falls (1)
- ☐ Dee Why (1)
- ☐ Frenchs Forest (1)
- ☐ Duffys Forest (1)
- ☐ leasing sportsgrounds in adjoining local government areas (1).

2.3.12 Alternatives to sportsgrounds

Some alternatives to providing outdoor sportsfields and sports courts were put forward to reduce the demand:

- ☐ build mountain biking, skating and other non-standard sports facilities to reduce demand for new sportsgrounds (19)
- ☐ Indoor sport/netball courts for field and court sports (1).

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3 CONCLUSION

The views of Northern Beaches sporting groups and the community on the Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy were set out in Section 2.

11 of the 14 sporting groups which lodged submissions were generally supportive of the Draft Sportsground Strategy in relation to the proposals for their sport in particular, and in some cases for other sports also. It should be noted that the MWPSU advised that it "...supports that all alternatives to increase supply and improve capacity are to be explored and implemented where feasible, prior to proceeding with the conversion of Warringah Golf Course."

Three sporting groups - Golf Australia, Golf NSW and Warringah Golf Club - were not at all supportive of the recommendation to convert all or part of any golf course to sportsfields. They were also critical of the data used and the process for determining the recommendations, the process of seeking/considering public input, and/or other elements of the Draft Strategy.

In general, the responses from the community (Your Say Northern Beaches, emails and letters) showed:

- ❑ The highest number of "supportive" responses related to the development of synthetic hockey fields (Priority E).
- ❑ The highest number of respondents indicating they were not supportive of the strategy related to the conversion of Warringah Golf Course to sportsgrounds and a park, followed by conversion of other golf courses to sports grounds (Priority F).
- ❑ Respondents would be more supportive of the Draft Strategy as a whole if it did not involve the conversion of Warringah Golf Course to sportsgrounds/park in Priority F.
- ❑ Balgowlah Golf Course was the second most suggested golf course (after Warringah Golf Course) for conversion to sportsfields if a golf course is intended to be converted to sports fields.
- ❑ Most people opposing conversion of golf courses to sports grounds preferred other options to increase the number of sportsfields, particularly acquiring additional land and/or using Crown land instead of golf course land.
- ❑ A frequent suggestion for converting suitable existing open space to sportsgrounds in Priority F was converting the driving range at Pittwater Golf Centre to sportsfields.
- ❑ Other suggested locations for new sportsfields are in the vicinity of Seaforth Oval/Wakehurst Parkway, and Metropolitan Aboriginal Land Council land.
- ❑ Users of the baseball diamonds at Aquatic Reserve pointed out that if Council is looking at providing additional sportsfields on the northern beaches, then the fields at Aquatic Reserve should be retained.
- ❑ Any additional sports fields should be provided in the northern and western areas of the Northern Beaches LGA in areas of population growth, rather than concentrating sportsfields in the developed areas in the south of the LGA.
- ❑ Support for Priority A (Allocating sportsfields based on needs and growth) through better allocation of sportsgrounds according to actual player numbers, reconfiguring sportsgrounds, and changing single use to multi-use facilities.
- ❑ Support for Priority B – Improving the capacity and resilience of existing sportsfields – by upgrading sportsgrounds by improving playing surfaces, drainage, lighting, cricket facilities, softball facilities, clubhouses, vehicle parking, cycling facilities, and toilets).
- ❑ Support for Priority C - Build new sportsfields in new housing development areas (Warriewood and Ingleside). Respondents felt that developers should provide sportsfields in new land releases. However residents in Boondah Road opposed the proposed action to acquire private land in Warriewood Valley for sportsfields.

- ❑ Support for Priority D – Partner with schools to provide additional sportsfields for the community – by allowing community access to fields and courts after school and on weekends.

It is recommended that Council consider the outcomes of the community engagement in this report to inform the preparation of the final Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy.

REFERENCES

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Northern Beaches Council (2017) *Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds and Golf Courses Discussion Paper*. April.

Northern Beaches Council (2017) *Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy (Draft)*. May.

Otium Planning Group (2016) *Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Needs Analysis*. Prepared for Northern Beaches Council, December.

Otium Planning Group (2017) *Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Analysis (Draft)*. Prepared for Northern Beaches Council, May.

Parkland Planners (2017) *Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds and Golf Courses Discussion Paper: Community Engagement Report*. Prepared for Northern Beaches Council, May.

Parkland Planners (2017) *Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds and Golf Courses Discussion Paper: Written Submissions Report*. Prepared for Northern Beaches Council, May.

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A RECOMMENDATIONS OF SPORTSGROUNDS STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS ANALYSIS (DRAFT)

7 RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUPPLY MODELLING

The following sections detail all recommendations developed through preparation of the strategy and the cumulative impact on the supply and demand position. Draft Strategy recommendations have been categorised as follows:

1. '*Planning and/or management*' actions required to investigate and/ or facilitate further opportunities to increase capacity or quality of facilities
2. Actions that '*Increase Capacity*' and reduce the need for additional land through a range of improvements and upgrades
3. '*Service level*' actions which address ground/ facility quality issues to ensure sustainability and optimum use, and are in accordance with the hierarchy ranking of the ground

Recommendations have been assigned the following time frames:

- Short Term 2017 - 2021
- Medium Term 2022 - 2026
- Long Term 2027 - 2031

This report does not suggest that Council should be responsible for the implementation and funding of all recommendations in this Strategy. External funding such as state/ federal government grants, available mechanisms for developer contributions, and/ or partnerships with education and/ or sporting bodies should be sought where possible. Further, priorities may change over time subject to changes in demand or funding opportunities.

7.1 Guiding Principles

In order to guide the implementation of recommendations, the following guiding principles are suggested:

1. Priority Principles - prioritise initiatives that represent best value, that is, initiatives which:
 - Provide a strong cost benefit ratio
 - Involve low or no capital costs whilst increasing access/ use (e.g. planning and management changes)
 - Increase sportsground capacity, and enhance viability of existing facilities through improved surfaces, lighting, drainage and design
 - Maximise carrying capacity at existing sportsgrounds which optimises investment
 - Match uses/ activities with the characteristics of sportsgrounds and other users

2. Funding Principles

- Seek external funding contributions where possible (government and/ or sport)
- Focus funding priorities on improving sportsground facilities for conducting sport, as opposed to contributing towards club based social facilities
- Plan collaboratively for turf and synthetic ground replacements and whole of life costs
- Should users wish to have higher quality of facility than Council can afford, or is considered a low priority, they may contribute to the capital cost of the upgrade works

3. Equity Principles

- Ensure infrastructure is more female-friendly and family orientated, consisting of factors and attributes such as:
 - Buildings and surrounding areas that offer supporting amenities and resources
 - Unisex change facilities that cater for the needs of both males and females
 - Inviting community spaces
 - Safety (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design -CPTED)
 - Easily accessible facilities
 - Adequate lighting in and around the facility
 - Ensure the following principles from Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan are reflected in planning:
 - Everyone can participate
 - Access and inclusion is everyone's business
 - Social Justice Principles inform decision making - Access, Equity, Rights and Participation
- Provide for diverse populations and lifestyles: age, ability, cultural backgrounds and demand for new sport formats and schedules
- Prioritise access to sportsgrounds for community based sport

7.2 Short Term Recommendations (2017 – 2021)

7.2.1 Planning and Management Recommendations

RESERVE NAME/ LOCATION	FIELD/ FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
1. Aquatic Reserve	All Fields	Audit booked hours versus actual hours of use to assess opportunities for increased use/ capacity
	Field 1	Keeping in mind the constraints of the site as a former landfill, investigate the potential to improve drainage and surface quality.
2. Ararat Reserve	All	Revisit the Sunday booking agreement with Eurofest in order to potentially extend usage and determine if drainage and surface improvement works are required.
3. Balgowlah Oval	All	Investigate either (1) Potential for reconfiguration/ reshaping of field and realignment of golf hole(s) to expand area/ capacity or (2) Incorporation of expanded playing fields into potential conversion of Balgowlah Golf Course to playing fields (refer recommendation 15, 7.2.1).
4. Bantry Reserve	All	Review and amend current Council agreement that restricts allocation to allow for full allocation. Audit booked hours versus actual hours of use to assess opportunities for increased use/ capacity.
		Assess the condition and functionality of the amenities block and upgrade if considered necessary, including storage.
5. Beverley Job Park	Netball area	Investigate the option of converting the former netball area to multi-use hardcourts.
6. Cromer Park	Fields 2-5	Audit booked hours versus actual hours of use to assess opportunities for increased use/ capacity.
7. JFP Sports Complex	All	Prepare a Master Plan to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate best use of all sportsgrounds and facilities particularly in regard to softball and conversion of existing space for other uses Investigate options to address car parking particularly for netball (including potential conversion of existing courts, or - 4 -alston- 4 -od- 4 -ation of netball competitions, or rescheduling of competitions times) Field and lighting reconfigurations and reallocations Upgrade ancillary facilities and amenities Develop field layouts to - 4 -alston- 4 - functionality
8. JFP (Fields 3, 4 & 5)	3-5, Abbott Rd	Reduce level of use on these fields as soon as practicable. Other development subject to outcome of JFP Sports Complex master plan (refer recommendation 7 above)

9. Killarney Heights Oval	All	Assess the condition and functionality of the amenities block and upgrade if considered necessary.
RESERVE NAME/ LOCATION	FIELD/ FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
10. Lake Park Oval Reserve	All	Audit booked hours versus actual hours of use to assess opportunities for increased use/ capacity.
11. Sydney Academy of Sport	All playing areas	Advocate for upgrading of track and field area as part of master planning to address quality/ safety concerns of athletics groups. Seek potential use of playing fields for training.
12. North Narrabeen Reserve	All fields	Prepare a Master Plan to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review field layouts and lighting plan to - 5 -alston- 5 - opportunities for shared use • Investigate installing 90 degree parking along Walsh St. • Investigate rectangular playing field on existing market area • Upgrading of drainage/ irrigation
13. Tania Park	All fields	Audit booked hours versus actual hours of use to assess opportunities for increased use/capacity
14. Terrey Hills Oval	Whole area	Audit booked hours versus actual hours of use to assess opportunities for increased use/capacity
		Review existing agreement with rugby union to investigate opportunities for shared use of amenities. Alternatively provide additional amenities/storage to service multiple user groups.
		Investigate reconfiguration of nets and hard courts in order to enhance utilisation of available space.
15. Golf Course Analysis	n/a	Undertake a detailed analysis of public golf courses to assess the most suitable location(s) for conversion to sportsfields. This analysis should incorporate consideration of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential useable land area • Topography • Accessibility • Traffic and car parking considerations • Environmental and engineering considerations • Neighbouring resident considerations • Planning and development constraints • Capital and operational cost considerations
16. North Narrabeen	Golf Driving Range	Investigate the conversion of the existing golf driving range to sportfields and identifying a suitable site for the relocation of the driving range (eg existing golf course).
17. School sites	n/a	Investigate opportunities for joint use/ development, or greater use, of school grounds for community and school use. In the first instance, focus on schools with larger playing fields.

18. Synthetic Hockey Surface Feasibility Study	n/a	Liaise with Hockey NSW and local hockey associations to undertake a feasibility study into the potential funding, location, management and viability of developing 1 - 2 dedicated wet surface synthetic hockey fields.
RESERVE NAME/ LOCATION	FIELD/ FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
19. Policy Review	n/a	Review current Jan-March restriction on no 'high impact' activities at some locations to enable pre-season and other sports use.
20. Cricket Fields Reconfiguration	n/a	Liaise with NBC cricket associations to identify opportunities for reconfiguration of grounds to accommodate additional junior cricket facilities (based on Cricket NSW guidelines) without adversely impacting on shared use with other codes.

21. Multi-Use Synthetic Surfaces	n/a	<p>Apply the following criteria to assess potential sites for conversion to, or provision of, additional synthetic surfaces beyond 2021.</p> <p><u>Primary Selection Criteria</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Size of site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the site large enough to accommodate required facilities, parking and future expansion? 2. Accessibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the site easily accessible by car and public transport? 3. Topography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the site relatively flat, not flood prone, have stable soil conditions, and not have a previous landfill history? 4. Catchment Population <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the site well located to service the intended catchment population? 5. Land Ownership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the site owned or controlled by Council or does the site need to be purchased <p><u>Secondary Selection Criteria</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Planning/ Zoning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the site capable of complying with planning requirements? 7. Site Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are services on site or nearby? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ - Electrical ○ - Water ○ - Sewer ○ - Storm water 8. Impact on Current Users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the development impact on or displace current site users? 9. Neighbourhood Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the site likely to exacerbate neighbourhood impacts i.e. noise, traffic, lighting and amenity. 10. Expansion Capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the site have capacity for future expansion of synthetic fields?
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RESERVE NAME/ LOCATION	FIELD/ FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
22. Allocation Process	n/a	Review sportsground allocation processes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure maximum use is effectively balanced against equity of access principles • Establish a range of pricing strategies (e.g. link cost of use to field booking hours) • Establish appropriate summer and winter usage benchmarks for each field • Undertake regular monitoring of actual use and associated impacts
23. New Technology	n/a	Consider and evaluate new technology options including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging roll out synthetic cricket pitch technology • Booking software to - 8 -alston- 8 - efficiency
24. Demand Management	n/a	Liaise with the Northern Beaches sports sector to assess the opportunity to manage demand which could mitigate pressure on existing facilities by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging greater use of small sided fields • Utilising technology such as roll out cricket pitches • Adopting uniform practices for season overlaps • Ceasing blanket/ historic bookings of fields • Introducing an on-line booking system • Investigating alternative fee structures including charging for grounds based on hours booked • Encouraging use of remote training locations where possible • More evenly distributing training and competition times, draws and schedules • Sharing clubhouses among multiple sports
25. Manly Oval	All	Undertake an engineering analysis to determine the most appropriate approach to upgrading sub-surface drainage and irrigation.
26. Dog Park Strategy	n/a	As part of the forthcoming Dog Park Strategy, review the appropriateness of providing dog parks at sports field locations.
27. Detailed Review of Strategy #1	n/a	By the end of 2021 complete a detailed review of Strategy progress and reassess the appropriateness and priority of unimplemented recommendations to 2026 and 2031.

7.2.2 Recommendations to Increase Capacity

RESERVE NAME/ LOCATION	FIELD/ FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
1. Warriewood Valley Land Release	Future Expansion Site (Acquisition)	Continue with action to acquire land through s94 plan and implement development of sportsfields.
2. Careel Bay	Mini Fields	Convert to full size field (incorporating minis) in order to expand the capacity of the area. Include cricket pitch if no impact on playing area.
3. Cromer Park	Cromer 1	At the expiration of the current lease term, renegotiate lease terms with MWFA for Cromer 1 in order to facilitate better access and cost sharing.
4. Forestville Park	Field 1	Pursue discussions with Forestville Junior Rugby League to amend the existing lease to cover the building only and enable greater use of Field 1. Upgrade lighting to 100 lux. Monitor future intensity of use to determine if drainage improvements are necessary.
	Field 2	After the lease is amended, install lighting, irrigation, drainage and ground improvements to Field 2 in order to improve capacity.
5. Forestville War Memorial Playing Fields	Synthetic Fields	Modify the design and/ or management of the cricket practice nets to facilitate greater use of synthetic field. If unsuccessful, investigate the relocation of cricket practice nets.
	MOU	Review existing MOU to ensure facility achieves maximum use.
6. JFP Frank Gray	All fields	Install competition level lighting (100 lux) and monitor impact on surface quality for hockey.
7. JFP Mike Pawley Oval	All fields	Install competition level lighting (100 lux) and monitor impact on surface quality for hockey.
8. Kitchener Park	All	Prepare a Master Plan to address commuter and user group car parking. Include in assessment of potential sites for synthetic surfaces (refer recommendation 21 at 7.2.1)
9. Lionel Watts Reserve	Fields 3 and 4	Proceed with proposed synthetic surface installation as contained in existing capital budget projections.
10. Narrabeen Sports High	Synthetic field	Review the allocation and booking process and current fee structure to ensure full utilisation during peak periods.
11. North Narrabeen Reserve	Overflow car park area	Subject to outcome of the Master Plan (refer recommendation 12 at 7.2.1) provide rectangular playing field on existing market area.
12. Passmore Reserve	Fields 1 and 2	Install lighting (100lux) and investigate need for drainage improvements.
13. Tristram Reserve	Fields 1 and 2	Install lighting to 100 lux.
14. Waldon Road Reserve	All	Amend new lease with Wakehurst Rugby Union to cover the building only and enable greater use of playing field.

RESERVE NAME/ LOCATION	FIELD/ FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
15. School sites	n/a	Upgrade identified school facilities to cater for training and competition (Phase 1)

7.2.3 Service Level Recommendations

RESERVE NAME/ LOCATION	FIELD/ FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
1. Allambie Heights Oval	All	Undertake irrigation and drainage improvements in order to improve field resilience. Assess the condition and functionality of amenities/ storage and upgrade if considered necessary.
2. Beacon Hill Reserve	Field 2	Upgrade drainage and irrigation to improve field resilience.
	Field 1	Upgrade lighting to 100 lux
	All fields	Assess the condition and functionality of the amenities block and upgrade if considered necessary.
3. Boondah Reserve	Grass Courts	Develop up to 6 hard surface netball courts once land has been acquired as part of S94 Plan.
4. Careel Bay Reserve	Mini Fields	Install drainage
5. Condoover Street Reserve	All	Utilise as a non-sport specific training space. Investigate low cost improvement to car park and low cost relocatable amenities.
6. County Road Reserve	All	Investigate options for long term tenure with RMS.
7. Cromer Park	Amenities (Field 2-5)	Proceed with upgrade of amenities in capital works program
	Field 2	Proceed with installation of synthetic surface
8. Dee Why Park	All	Investigation the potential for additional mini fields
9. Forestville War Memorial Playing	Netball area	Convert 3 grass courts to hardcourts and install lighting (as per draft capital works program)

RESERVE NAME/ LOCATION	FIELD/ FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
Fields	General	Investigate the need for drainage improvements.
10. James Morgan Reserve	All	Assess the condition and functionality of the amenities block and upgrade if considered necessary.
11. JFP Reub Hudson Oval/Denzil Joyce	All	Proceed with proposed rectification of playing fields and upgrading of lighting.
12. Nolan Reserve (District Park)	All fields	Proceed with amenities upgrade (southern end).
		Undertake an engineering analysis to investigate viable options to improve drainage system in order to reduce field down time.
		Upgrade lighting to improve field coverage to 100 lux.
13. North Narrabeen Reserve	Eastern Rugby Fields	Proceed with lighting upgrade to 100 lux as per current capex program.
		Upgrade amenities building between rugby union and baseball fields.
	All fields	Implement other improvements consistent with outcome of Master Plan (refer recommendation 12 at 7.2.1)
14. St Matthews Farm Reserve	n/a	Reallocate some football fixtures to Cromer Park (current and future synthetic surfaces) to reduce over-use of this facility.
	All	Implement Master Plan improvements including field rectification and reconfiguration (including for a new field), and upgrading lighting to 100 lux
15. Warriewood Valley Sportsground	All	Investigate drainage improvements and implement turf monoculture in order to improve field resilience.
16. Manly Oval	All	Assess the condition and functionality of the amenities block, scoreboard and pavilion and upgrade if considered necessary.
17. Seaforth Oval	All	Complete irrigation, drainage and lighting upgrade
	All	Reconfigure grounds to amend cricket layout and re-orientate football fields.

7.3 Medium Term Recommendations (2022 – 2026)

7.3.1 Planning and Management Recommendations

RESERVE NAME/ LOCATION	FIELD/ FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
1. Careel Bay Reserve	Field 1	Include in assessment of potential sites for synthetic surfaces (refer recommendation 21 at 7.2.1).
2. Miller Reserve (District Park)	All Fields	Review utilisation and consider installing drainage system to improve field recovery times.
		Include in assessment of sites for potential synthetic surfaces (refer recommendation 21 at 7.2.1)
		Assess the condition and functionality of the amenities block and upgrade if considered necessary.
		Investigate repositioning of light towers to enable greater utilisation of field area.
2. Narrabeen Sports High School	n/a	Liaise with DoE, Cricket NSW and Baseball NSW to evaluate the schools' proposal for a potential indoor training facility for these sports.
4. Detailed Review of Strategy #2	n/a	By the end of 2026 complete a second detailed review of Strategy progress and reassess the appropriateness and priority of unimplemented recommendations.

7.3.2 Recommendations to Increase Capacity

RESERVE NAME/LOCATION	FIELD/FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
1. Ingleside Land Release - south	n/a	Develop stage 1 fields in accordance for proposed timing for development and provision of land
2. Golf Course Conversion	n/a	Develop new sportsgrounds on a golf course site(s) subject to outcome of investigation. Incorporate shared use for summer/ winter sports and informal recreation opportunities as primary planning principles.
	n/a	In master planning the redevelopment of a golf course for sports fields include consideration of relocating softball from Abbott Rd Softball Grounds to enable compliant full size diamonds, cricket fields, and access to playing fields for touch.
3. North Narrabeen	Golf Driving Range	Subject to outcome of investigation (refer recommendation 16, at section 7.2.1) develop new sportsgrounds on the golf driving range. Incorporate shared use for summer/ winter sports and informal recreation opportunities as primary planning principles.
4. School sites	n/a	Upgrade identified school facilities to cater for training and competition (Phase 2)

RESERVE NAME/LOCATION	FIELD/FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
5. Dedicated Synthetic Hockey Surface	n/a	Develop new hockey synthetic hockey facilities subject to outcome of feasibility investigation (refer recommendation 18 at 7.2.1)

7.3.3 Service Level Recommendations

RESERVE NAME/LOCATION	FIELD/FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
1. Balgowlah Oval	All	Upgrade drainage and irrigation to improve field resilience. Assess the condition and functionality of the amenities block and upgrade if considered necessary.
2. Beacon Hill Reserve	All	Reduce current usage hours to manage impacts (subject to increased capacity at other sites).
3. Beverley Job Park	Lower fields	Upgrade drainage and lighting of lower fields.
4. Boondah Reserve	Field 2	Upgrade lights (100 lux)
5. County Road Reserve	All	Consider installation of low cost relocatable amenities and lighting.
6. David Thomas Reserve (District Park)	All	Upgrade drainage. Change turf cultivar to improve field resilience.
7. Dee Why Park	All	Upgrade drainage and irrigation. Assess the condition and functionality of the amenities block and upgrade if considered necessary.
8. JFP Mike Pawley Oval	All	Assess the condition and functionality of the amenities block and upgrade if considered necessary.
9. Keirle Park	All	Consider establishment of cricket nets in south west corner. Review turf management to improve ability to cope with current use.
10. Newport Oval		Establish turf monoculture to improve playing surface resilience.
11. Tania Park	All	Install irrigation, drainage and lighting in order to improve field resilience and functionality.
12. Wyatt Reserve	All	Assess the condition and functionality of the amenities block and storage areas - upgrade if considered necessary.

7.4 Long Term Recommendations (2027 – 2031)

7.4.1 Planning and Management Recommendations

RESERVE NAME/ LOCATION	FIELD/ FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
1. Belrose Oval	All	Audit booked hours versus actual hours of use to assess opportunities for increased use/ capacity
2. LM Graham Reserve	All	Demolish the southern amenities building and return the area to open space. Expand and enhance the northern amenities building to cater for sport and recreation needs
3. Manly West Park	All	Review usage and assess need for lighting upgrade.

7.4.2 Recommendations to Increase Capacity

RESERVE NAME/LOCATION	FIELD/FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
1. Ingleside Land Release - north	n/a	Develop stage 2 fields in accordance for proposed timing for development and provision of land
2. Multi-Use Synthetic Surfaces	n/a	Install 1 synthetic surface (location to be determined subject to further investigation)

7.4.3 Service Level Recommendations

RESERVE NAME/LOCATION	FIELD/FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
1. Belrose Oval	All	Consider additional lighting to achieve 100 lux across the entire field.
2. Boondah Reserve	Field 2	Assess the condition and functionality of the amenities block and upgrade if considered necessary.
3. Boondah Reserve	Fields 2 - 7	Upgrade drainage and irrigation in order to improve resilience of fields.
4. Collaroy Plateau Park	All	Upgrade drainage to improve field resilience

RESERVE NAME/LOCATION	FIELD/FACILITY DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDATION
5. Forestville Park	All	Upgrade car park
6. Wyatt Reserve	All	Install irrigation and drainage to improve field resilience.

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B INVITATIONS FOR PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS BY COUNCIL

B.1 Media release

Council releases Sportsground Strategy

Thursday, 1 June 2017

Northern Beaches Council has released a 15 year strategy to meet the shortfall of sportsgrounds, with community comment now invited.

Council Administrator, Dick Persson AM said it is clear from submissions the community supports the need for more sports fields on the Northern Beaches to meet an increasing demand for fields.

In response, Council has developed a 15 year strategy to improve and increase capacity.

The Strategy includes a plan to provide certainty to Warringah Golf Club by seeking tenders for a new 20 year lease for the southern half of Warringah golf course, together with the Warringah Recreation Centre and North Manly Bowling Club (District Park), and a separate but linked lease to 2022 over the northern nine holes, with three, five yearly extension options at the discretion of Council.

Visit: yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au Submissions close on 3 July 2017

A final Draft Sportsground Strategy report is to be presented to the July Council meeting.

[<< View all news](#)

B.2 Notices in the Manly Daily

NORTHERN BEACHES NEWS

HAVE YOUR SAY

Council believes in strong community consultation and has a number of items open for feedback at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au:

- Operational Plan and Budget 2017-18 (Draft) closes Sun 4 Jun
- Section 94A Plan 2017 (Draft) closes Sun 4 Jun
- Bulky Goods Collection closes Sun 18 Jun
- Long Reef Surf Life Saving Club Renewal closes Thu 22 Jun
- Mona Vale Surf Life Saving Club Renewal closes Sun 25 Jun
- Unleashed Dog Exercise Areas Review closes Wed 21 Jun

There are also a number of leases and licences open for comment.

DRAFT CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE STRATEGY

We would like to understand your experience as customers of Northern Beaches Council and also your expectations for Council services.

Make a submission at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au or in writing marked 'Draft Customer Experience Strategy' to Northern Beaches Council, 1 Park St, Mona Vale.

Come along to a drop-in session: Wed 14 Jun, 5 - 7pm Manly Town Hall, 1 Belgrave St

Enquiries: Gabrielle Angles, 9970 1117. Submissions close Sun 2 Jul.

MANLY ANDREW 'BOY' CHARLTON AQUATIC CENTRE NOTICE OF PROPOSED DEED OF LEASE TO SILO (KIOSK) PTY LTD AS TRUSTEE FOR SILO (KIOSK) UNIT TRUST

Under Section 47A of the Local Government Act 1993, Northern Beaches Council is considering a three year lease with a two year option for the café premises within Manly Andrew 'Boy' Charlton Aquatic Centre, L.M. Graham Reserve, Kenneth Rd, Balgowlah, being Part Lot 46 Sec 9 DP939916.

The purpose of the Deed of Lease is for the fit out and operation of a café within the Aquatic Centre.

Make a submission at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au or in writing marked with the name of the exhibition to Northern Beaches Council, 725 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why.

Enquiries: Council's Property Officer, 9976 1500. Submissions close Sun 2 Jul.

DRAFT TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY

Council's draft Digital Transformation Strategy: Naturally Connected is open for comment. The Strategy provides a guide to Council in the strategic use of digital processes, technologies, values and culture to move to a digital operating model.

Make a submission at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au or in writing marked 'Draft Digital Transformation Strategy' to Northern Beaches Council, 1 Park St, Mona Vale.

Come along to a drop in session: Wed 14 Jun, 5 - 7pm Manly Town Hall, 1 Belgrave St

Enquiries: Claire Chaikin-Bryan, Project Manager, 9970 1279. Submissions close Sun 2 Jul.

DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLANS AND POLICIES FOR FLOOD PRONE LAND

Council is seeking comments on draft amendments to its Development Control Plans and Policies. The draft amendments will change the way development on flood prone land is managed in each of the three former Council areas to produce a more consistent approach across the Northern Beaches. The changes will ensure flood risk is managed, ensure residents and businesses are only affected when the flood risk requires it, and ensure development on flood prone land is not unnecessarily restricted.

The documents can be viewed at Council's Customer Service Centres and Libraries or at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au.

Make a submission at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au or in writing marked with the name of the exhibition to Northern Beaches Council, 725 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why.

Enquiries: Stormwater and Floodplain Team, council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au or 1300 434 434. Submissions close Sun 2 Jul.

DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLANS FOR TREES AND BUSHLAND

Council is seeking comments on draft amendments to its Development Control Plans. The draft amendments will align the way trees and bushland on private property are managed in each of the three former Council areas to produce a more consistent approach across the Northern Beaches.

The documents can be viewed at Council's Customer Service Centres and Libraries or at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au.

Make a submission at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au or in writing marked with the name of the exhibition to Northern Beaches Council, 725 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why.

Enquiries: Tree Services, council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au or 1300 434 434. Submissions close Sun 2 Jul.

DRAFT NORTHERN BEACHES SPORTSGROUNDS STRATEGY

Council is seeking feedback on the Strategic Implementation Plan proposed in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy.

Visit yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au to view the Draft Strategy, find out about our community engagement activities and make a submission. Submissions close Sun 2 Jul.

DRAFT PALM BEACH PARKING DEMAND MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The draft Palm Beach Parking Demand Management Strategy is on exhibition and looks at parking in Pittwater Park and surrounding streets, Palm Beach. For more information and to make a submission visit yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au Submissions close Wed 28 Jun.

PLANNING PROPOSAL AND VOLUNTARY PLANNING AGREEMENT: RALSTON AVE BELROSE

Council is exhibiting a Planning Proposal to rezone land owned by the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) at the western end of Ralston Avenue, Belrose (Lot 1, DP 1139826).

The intended outcome is to amend Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011) to rezone 136.62 hectares of land at the western end of Ralston Ave, Belrose to:

- R2 Low Density Residential 11.27 hectares (12.6%) with a yield of 156 lots, based upon a minimum lot size of 600 square metres and a maximum building height of 8.5 metres
- Zone RE1 Public Recreation 0.3 hectares (0.2%)
- Zone E3 Environmental Management 119.05 hectares (87.2%)

The public exhibition of this Proposal is in accordance with the Gateway Determination issued by the Department of Planning & Environment.

COUNCIL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF ROAD RESERVE, 196 HARBORD RD FRESHWATER

Under Section 154 of the Roads Act 1993, Council is considering a lease for a term of five years to the owner of 196 Harbord Rd, Freshwater, for an area of approximately 564.8 square metres of road reserve adjacent to 196 Harbord Rd, Freshwater (Lot 11 DP 622750).

The purpose of the lease is for car parking.

Submissions may be made in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Northern Beaches Council, 725 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why or council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Enquiries: Council's Property Officer, 9942 2111. Submissions close Mon 3 Jul.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF ROAD RESERVE, 39 LINDLEY AVE NARRABEEN

Under Section 154 of the Roads Act 1993, Council is considering a lease for a term of five years to the owner of 39 Lindley Ave, Narrabeen, for an area of approximately 19.2 square metres of road reserve adjacent to 39 Lindley Ave, Narrabeen (Lot A DP 376604).

The purpose of the lease is for car parking.

Submissions may be made in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Northern Beaches Council, 725 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why or council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Enquiries: Council's Property Officer, 9942 2111. Submissions close Mon 3 Jul.

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS 4 TILLEY LN FRENCHS FOREST

Council is in receipt of Application No. Mod2017/0127 for Modification of Development Consent DA2016/0187 granted for construction of a child care centre at Lot 4 DP 270323, 4 Tilley Ln, Frenchs Forest.

The proposal does not constitute designated development. Northern Beaches Council is the consent authority. The applicant is Rocker Holdings Pty Ltd.

The proposal is 'Integrated Development' under Section 91 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 and requires a Bush Fire Safety Authority from the NSW Rural Fire Service under Section 100B of the Rural Fires Act 1997.

Enquiries: Alex Kallier, Senior Planner, 9942 2111 or council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Exhibition: Mon 5 - Wed 21 Jun.

During the exhibition period, any person may make a submission or inspect application plans and related documents via northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Alternatively, documents can be viewed at Council's Dee Why Customer Service Centre during business hours. Written submissions marked with the application number may be sent to the Chief Executive Officer, Northern Beaches Council, 725 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why.

21-25 KING ST MANLY VALE

Council is in receipt of Application No. DA2017/0490 for subdivision of an existing seniors housing development at Lot 1 DP 835902, 21-25 King St, Manly Vale.

The proposal does not constitute designated development. Northern Beaches Council is the consent authority. The applicant is Stewards' Foundation of Christian Brethren.

Enquiries: Adam Mitchell, Planner, 9942 2111 or council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Exhibition: Mon 5 - Wed 21 Jun.

During the exhibition period, any person may make a submission or inspect application plans and related documents via northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Alternatively, documents can be viewed at Council's Dee Why Customer Service Centre during business hours. Written submissions marked with the application number may be sent to the Chief Executive Officer, Northern Beaches Council, 725 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why.

62 & 85 HILLSIDE RD NEWPORT

Council is in receipt of Application No. N0317/16 for subdivision of 62 Hillside Rd into four residential lots plus civil and landscaping works to 62 and 85 Hillside Rd to facilitate the subdivision.

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [in](#) @beachescouncil

24 MANLY DAILY, Saturday, June 3, 2017

figures for the Northern Beaches Council (NBC) and compare them to the non-merged council average you see a very different picture:

OVERALL PERFORMANCE FOR NBC 65

OVERALL PERFORMANCE FOR NON-MERGED COUNCILS 58

This clear eight point advantage over the long established councils came after only four to five months of operation for the newly merged council. This story was accurately reported by the *Manly Daily* months ago.

I have no doubt we have improved since then and I thank our dedicated council staff for their hard work and initiative to deliver such a strong result.

We know that we have further improvements to go and we will continue to strive for excellence.

Dick Persson AM
dick.persson@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

HAVE YOUR SAY

Council believes in strong community consultation and has a number of items open for feedback at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au:

- Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden (Manly) Draft Landscape Masterplan closes Mon 12 Jun
- Pittwater Rd Conservation Area Review (Manly) closes Mon 12 Jun
- Long Reef Surf Life Saving Club Renewal closes Thu 22 Jun
- Mona Vale Surf Life Saving Club Renewal closes Sun 25 Jun
- Planning Proposal and Voluntary Planning Agreement - Ralston Ave (Belrose) closes Sun 25 Jun
- Palm Beach Parking Demand Management Strategy closes Wed 28 Jun
- Amendments to Development Control Plans for Trees and Bushland closes Sun 2 Jul
- Amendments to Policies and Development Control Plans for Flood Prone Land 2017 closes Sun 2 Jul
- Customer Experience Strategy closes Sun 2 Jul
- Digital Transformation Strategy (Draft) closes Sun 2 Jul
- Sportsground Strategy closes Sun 2 Jul**

There are many more projects and a number of leases and licences open for comment and available on our Your Say page.

MANLY DAILY, Saturday, June 10, 2017

HAVE YOUR SAY

Council believes in strong community consultation and has a number of items open for feedback at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

- Bulky Goods Collection - closes Sun 18 Jun
- Unleashed Dog Exercise Areas Review - closes Wed 21 Jun
- Planning Proposal and Voluntary Planning Agreement Ralston Avenue (Belrose) - closes Sun 25 Jun
- Planning Proposal - Myoora Rd (Terrey Hills) - closes Mon 26 Jun
- Palm Beach Parking Demand Management Strategy - closes Wed 28 Jun
- Amendments to Development Control Plans for Trees and Bushland - closes Sun 2 Jul
- Digital Transformation Strategy (Draft) - closes Sun 2 Jul
- Customer Experience Strategy - closes 2 Jul
- Policy Reviews - Public Exhibition 2017 - closes 2 Jul

There are also a number of leases and licences open for comment and available on our Your Say page.

PROPOSED RENEWAL OF LONG REEF AND MONA VALE SURF LIFE SAVING CLUBS

We're seeking community input, in the early planning stages, for the renewal of Long Reef and Mona Vale Surf Clubs.

Come to a drop-in session this weekend and share your ideas with our project team:

Mona Vale Surf Life Saving Club:
Sat 17 Jun, 11am - 1pm

Long Reef Surf Life Saving Club:
Sun 18 Jun, 9 - 11.30am

Join a working group - register at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Nominations close:
Long Reef, Wed 21 Jun
Mona Vale, Sun 25 Jun

Share your ideas at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Comments close:
Long Reef, Thu 22 Jun
Mona Vale, Sun 25 Jun

Enquiries: 9942 2111.

DRAFT NORTHERN BEACHES SPORTSGROUNDS STRATEGY

Council is seeking feedback on the Strategic Implementation Plan proposed in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy.

Visit yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au to view the Draft Strategy, find out about our community engagement activities and make a submission.

Submissions close Sun 2 Jul.

DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLANS AND POLICIES FOR FLOOD PRONE LAND

Council is seeking comments on draft amendments to its Development Control Plans and Policies. The draft amendments will change the way development on flood prone land is managed in each of the three former Council areas to produce a more consistent approach across the Northern Beaches. The changes will ensure flood risk is managed, ensure residents and businesses are only affected when the flood risk requires it, and ensure development on flood prone land is not unnecessarily restricted.

The documents can be viewed at Council's customer service centres and libraries or at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Make a submission at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au or in writing marked with the name of the exhibition to Northern Beaches Council, Civic Centre, 725 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why.

Enquiries: Stormwater and Floodplain Team, council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au or 1300 434 434.

Submissions close Sun 2 Jul.

MANLY DAILY, Saturday, June 17, 2017

Council's commitment to improving sporting facilities is evident with almost \$7.6M allocated to sportsgrounds improvements in the Draft Budget and Operational Plan for the next financial year. This includes works for new synthetic pitches at Cromer Park and Lionel Watts and other upgrades at Forestville and Warriewood.

Council will undertake infrastructure improvements for sporting and surf lifesaving clubs to increase accessibility, participation and inclusiveness. There is also funding for sportsfield renewal, sport buildings works and sports club capital assistance programs.

Let's not forget the spectacular coastal walkway and cycleway from Palm Beach to Manly. There is also extensive investment in our playgrounds with two major new inclusive playgrounds at Manly Dam and Lionel Watts Reserve and we're looking at 40 playgrounds to ensure we create fun, safe and accessible playgrounds for everyone.

Council will continue to listen to the community and I encourage people to get involved.

Dick Persson AM
dick.persson@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Bookings: 9970 1600

participation.
All ages
Cost: \$5
Bookings: 9970 1600

HAVE YOUR SAY

Council believes in strong community consultation and has a number of items open for feedback at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

- Mona Vale Surf Life Saving Club Renewal closes Sun 25 Jun
- Planning Proposal - Myoora Rd, Terrey Hills closes Mon 26 Jun
- Palm Beach Parking Demand Management Strategy closes Wed 28 Jun
- **Sportsgrounds Strategy closes Sun 2 Jul**
- Amendments to Development Control Plans for Trees and Bushland closes Sun 2 Jul
- Amendments to Policies and Development Control Plans for Flood Prone Land 2017 closes Sun 2 Jul
- Digital Transformation Strategy (Draft) closes Sun 2 Jul
- Customer Experience Strategy closes Sun 2 Jul
- Policy Reviews - Public Exhibition 2017 closes Sun 2 Jul

There are also a number of leases, licences and road reserve projects open for comment and available on our Your Say page.

PLANNING PROPOSAL AND VOLUNTARY PLANNING AGREEMENT RALSTON AVE BELROSE

Comments on the Ralston Avenue Planning Proposal and draft Voluntary Planning Agreement close tomorrow. This proposal aims to rezone land owned by the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) at the western end of Ralston Ave, Belrose (Lot 1, DP 1139826).

The draft documents can be viewed online or at Council's libraries (Glen Street, Forestville, Warringah Mall, Dee Why).

Written submissions should be marked 'Ralston Ave PP (PEX2013/0003)' and/or 'Ralston Ave VPA (VPA2015/0001)' and can be made online at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au, by email council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au or by post to Northern Beaches Council, Strategic Planning, 725 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why.

Enquiries: Suzy Lawrence, Senior Strategic Planner, 9942 2111 or council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Submissions close Sun 25 Jun.

@beachescouncil

northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

08 MANLY DAILY, Saturday, June 24, 2017

MANE01Z01MA

For me this was not so much about which is the best model, but more about who should make the decision to give the people the choice and whether it would be a divisive issue at a time when people are still 'finding their way' with one larger Council.

I consulted widely, particularly with people knowledgeable about the implications of the *Local Government Act*. There is no doubt that as Administrator I have the authority to make the decision to put on a referendum on this matter. I have decided however, that given this issue will be hotly debated, it would be better left to the elected body.

The other factor in my thinking is that having worked hard over the last 15 months to bring the three communities together, it would not be helpful to bring forward an issue that could dominate the election and divide the community.

Dick Persson AM
dick.persson@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

HAVE YOUR SAY

Council believes in strong community consultation and has a number of items open for feedback at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

- **Sportsground Strategy closes Sun 2 Jul**
- Amendments to Development Control Plans for Trees and Bushland closes Sun 2 Jul
- Amendments to Policies and Development Control Plans for Flood Prone Land 2017 closes Sun 2 Jul
- Digital Transformation Strategy (Draft) closes Sun 2 Jul
- Customer Experience Strategy closes Sun 2 Jul
- Policy Reviews - Public Exhibition 2017 closes Sun 2 Jul

There are also a number of leases, licences and road reserve projects open for comment and available on our Your Say page.

PALM BEACH (SOUTH) LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

The Masterplan aims to enhance the unique natural setting and heritage values of the location with minimal interventions.

Come along to a drop-in session at the Pavilion on the Beach (Ocean Road, Palm Beach) on Saturday 15 July, 1 - 4pm or Tuesday 18 July, 10am - 1pm.

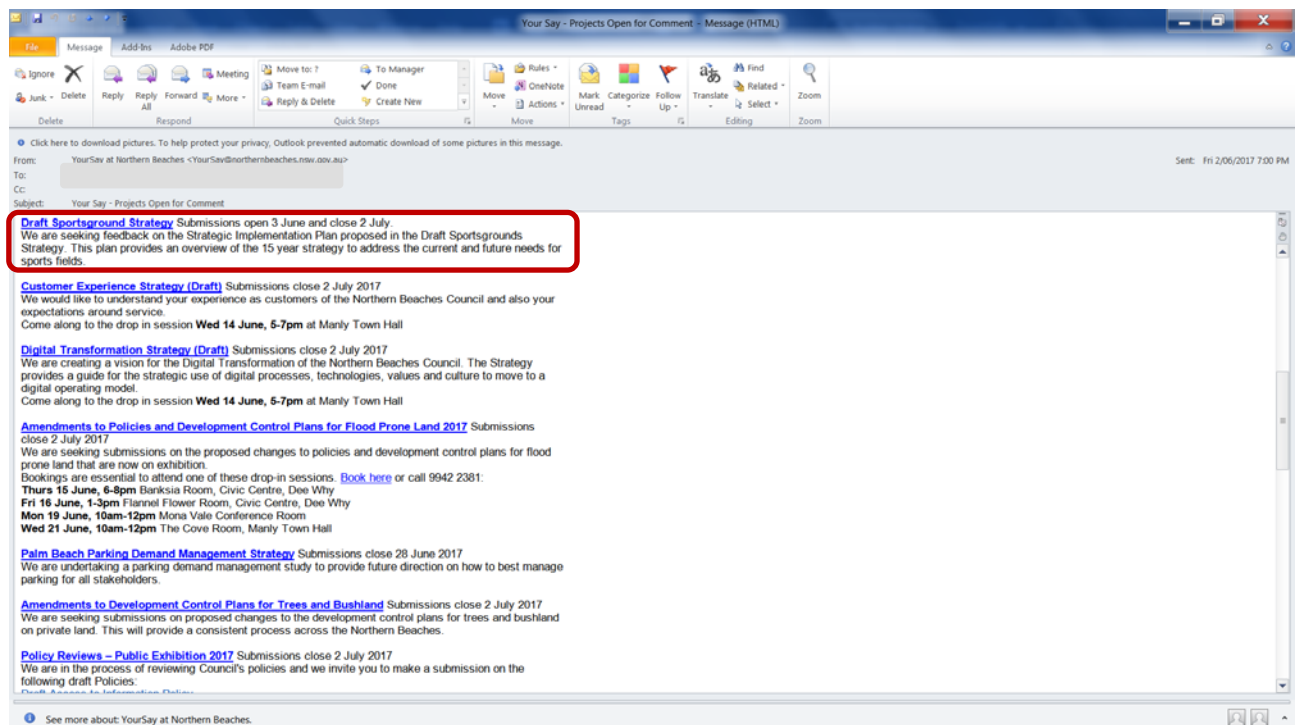
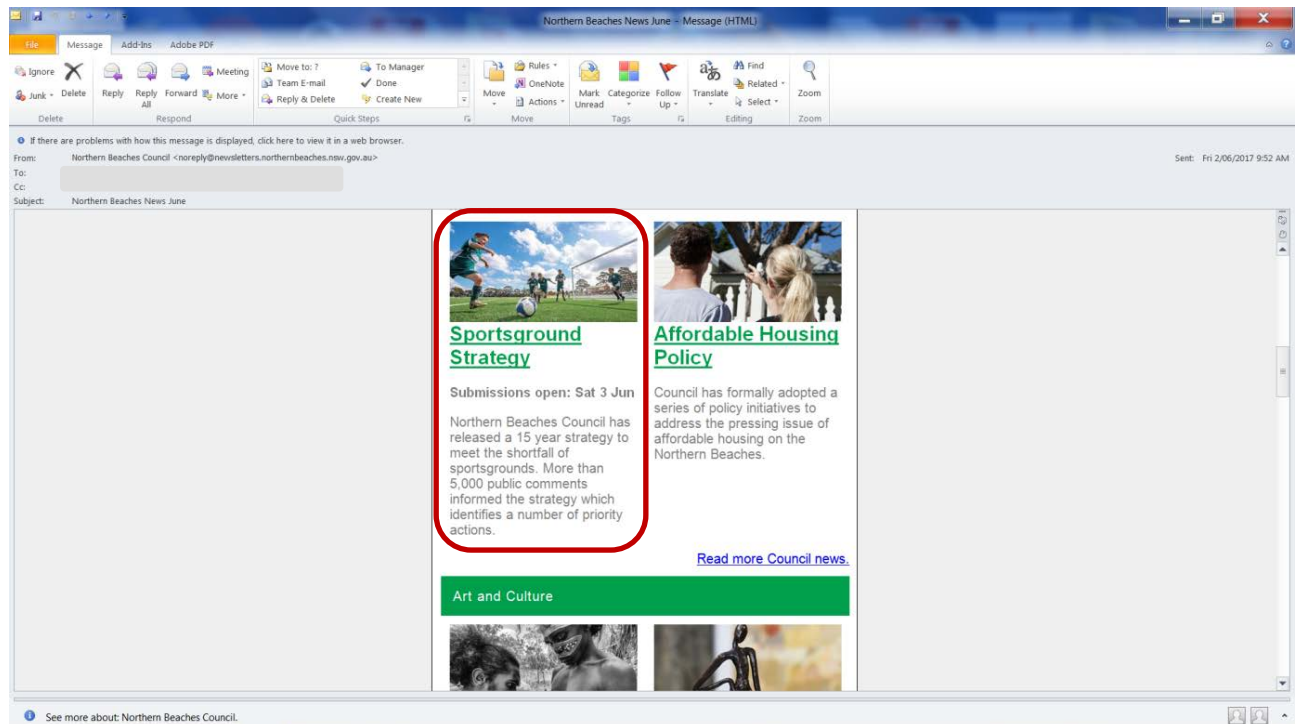
To view the documents or make a submission go to yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/palmbeachmasterplan

Submissions close Sun 30 Jul.

@beachescouncil

10 MANLY DAILY, Saturday, July 1, 2017

B.3 Emails sent by Council



From: YourSay at Northern Beaches
To: .
Subject: Your Say - Projects Open for Comment
Date: Friday, 2 June 2017 7:00:28 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL

northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Dear

As a member of our community engagement email list we would like to let you know about a number of opportunities for input.

[Draft Sportsground Strategy](#) Submissions open 3 June and close 2 July.

We are seeking feedback on the Strategic Implementation Plan proposed in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy. This plan provides an overview of the 15 year strategy to address the current and future needs for sports fields.

From: YourSay at Northern Beaches
To: .
Subject: your say - projects open for comment
Date: Thursday, 22 June 2017 9:03:16 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL

northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

Dear

As a member of our community engagement email list we would like to let you know about a number of opportunities for input.

Many of these projects have been included in previous emails and close in the next few days:

[Planning Proposal – Myoora Road \(Terrey Hills\)](#) Submissions close 26 June

We have received a planning proposal to amend the Warringah Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2011 to include a 'Transport Depot' as an additional permitted use on part of the land at 30 Myoora Rd Terrey Hills.

[Mona Vale Surf Life Saving Club Renewal](#) Comments close 25 June

As part of the forward four-year capital works program, we are developing a concept plan to renew the Mona Vale Saving Club and café.

[Planning Proposal – Ralston Avenue \(Belrose\)](#) Submissions close 25 June

The draft Planning Proposal and [Voluntary Planning Agreement for Ralston Ave Belrose](#) are now on exhibition.

[Sportsground Strategy](#) Submissions close 2 July

We are seeking feedback on the Strategic Implementation Plan proposed in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy. This plan provides an overview of the 15 year strategy to address the current and future needs for sports fields.

C WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS FROM SPORTING GROUPS

Submissions made by authorised representatives on behalf of their sporting groups are set out below in alphabetical order of sports.

Manly Warringah Pittwater Sporting Union

The Manly Warringah Pittwater Sporting Union appreciates all the time and effort put in by the staff and the consultants to reach this stage in the project.

We would like to acknowledge that if what has been planned for the next 5 years is implemented, then together we will have improved the number and quality of sportsfields for both training and competition games across the northern beaches council area, while providing greater accessibility and choice in sporting activities for our community. Something we could not have been achieved without the amalgamation.

The following 10 years of the plan will be just as impactful if all parties remain willing and focused.

On consideration of the strategic implementation plan we offer the following feedback in the style of the priority actions identified through the community engagement:

A, Allocation of sportsfields based on needs and growth.

This implies an improvement of the current allocation system or an allocation priority based on player numbers and field usage options.

The MWPSU is supportive of changes to the allocation process to increase usage numbers and a better utilisation of the available fields. This may require reconfiguration of fields and relocation of historical users; however historical users need to be included in the negotiations regarding reallocation of fields & facilities.

B, Improve capacity and resilience of existing sportsfields.

The report provides a couple of location examples, Allambie Heights & John Fisher Park which suggests some decisions have already been made. Balgowlah Oval is noted for the next 5 years, after 2022. What is unknown is what the actual plans for implementation of improvements are?

The MWPSU is supportive of improving the capacity & resilience of existing sportsfields and sees it has local knowledge of fields and value to add to the identification and prioritising of the implementation of improvements.

We see the quickest way to increase capacity and reduce wear on fields is to implement a program of installing competition lighting (100 lux) on fields that are not currently lit. This will allow distribution & management of training loads over a wider range of fields.

Having the light poles wired at time of installation for separate control will also allow for greater flexibility in load management on the fields during training.

Engagement with the major users of the fields with regards to Drainage, sand slits & topdressing can provide staff & contractors with firsthand experience and engage the user clubs in the maintenance and upkeep of the fields.

C, Build new sportsfields in new housing developments.

The plan for the next 5 years is to continue to acquire land through s94 and to build new fields in Warriewood Valley & plan for Ingleside.

The MWPSU fully supports this part of the plan and would welcome inclusion in the planning process of the sportsfields and facilities in these areas to ensure the sporting community has input into the development and intended use. Our preference would be to proceed with a synthetic surface in the first instance and discussions need to take place in the planning stage to determine if funding contributions may be forthcoming from local clubs, state or national, sporting organisations towards a showcase sporting facility.

D, Partner with schools

The plan for the next 5 years refers to "plan & negotiate" with schools with action to improve school facilities not proceeding until after 2022.

The MWPSU understands progress is being made with negotiations and would welcome action be taken to improve school facilities, especially access to toilets/ female change rooms to increase accessibility by sporting clubs to school ovals sooner than 2022.

E, Install synthetic surfaces

The MWPSU supports the installation of synthetic surfaces at Cromer 2 & Lionel Watts (as planned for 2018/ 19).

We support the undertaking of a feasibility study into Hockey fields and are of the opinion that a couple of synthetic Hockey fields are to be viewed as a priority for this sport on the Northern Beaches.

However according to table 9 (page 26) there is no expectation to develop new synthetic fields during 2022 - 2026, so the earliest for any further synthetic fields beyond Cromer 2 & Lionel Watts is one of 1.3 Ha during the 2027 - 2031 periods.

F, Convert Suitable open space including golf course land.

The MWPSU acknowledges the shortfall in sportfields can only be fully met with the acquisition of additional land, be it purchased/ donated/ leased or converted public land including golf course land.

The MWPSU's position on the conversion of Warringah golf course to sportsfields remains as was fed back to council in the District Park review of March 2014. If and only if the 18 holes are reduced to 9 holes, the MWPSU would like to have a say in what this land is used for.

The MWPSU supports that all alternatives to increase supply and improve capacity are to be explored and implemented where feasible, prior to proceeding with the conversion of Warringah Golf Course.

The MWPSU appreciates that the splitting of the lease on Warringah Golf course leaves open the option for conversion of the golf course for the future councils to decide and we also

appreciate that a future council may choose to disregard this plan or reissue a different lease agreement.

We share the concerns of the golf club that the split lease will impact of the future operational planning of the golf club as a business and this may inhibit them from investing in a new club house or improving the overall facility for our community. It will also keep the issue of conversion of the golf course in the media for the next 5 years or until the elected council makes a decision one way or the other.

Regarding the potential layout/ artists impression of the conversion of the northern half of Warringah golf course. We appreciate that field sports would not be the only beneficiaries within the community of the conversion of this golf course land; however from a sportsfield point of view this plan is an inadequate use of the available space and we would welcome input into any future plan, should one eventuate.

With 5 rectangular sportsfields end to end, there is limited use as a multi sports venue.

With no fields side by side there is no scope for competition Cricket or AFL, baseball or softball. Leaving Soccer, League & Union to share it in the winter, touch football in the spring and unless you drop a concrete cricket wicket in the centre of each field for junior cricket in the summer, no regular summer users. Although the fields could be utilised for *off* season training and winter preseason training begins in late February /early March.

Crown land - Although the report talks about three (3) Crown land sites (2 x 1 full size field & 1x some mini fields) have be identified for further investigation. No time frame has been attributed to obtaining and converting these.

With regards to conversion of land to sportsgrounds, the plan identifies the next 5 years to be a time for-

- ☐ developing a master plan for the conversion of the northern 9 holes of Warringah golf course
- ☐ continue to review potential opportunities
- ☐ Undertake a feasibility study for conversion of Balgowlah Oval So no conversion is planned before 2022.

The MWPSU would also like to make note that Cricket nets do not need to be located on or adjacent to cricket fields to be utilised as training venues, however they do need to be located in walking distance of water, toilets and parking.

Thank you again for your support of our request for a 15 year plan.

AFL NSW/ACT

AFL NSW/ACT is very supportive of Council's strategies. Keeping up with the demand for our sport is being comprised by the current allocation and availability of facilities. Access to new and improving current facilities – lighting/amenities/oval expansions, will greatly assist our services matching demand.

Manly Warringah Basketball Association

Having read everything Council has published on the topic we would like to make the following points regarding the Sportsground Strategy.

First, the decision to stage the leasing of Warringah Golf Club is probably an imperfect outcome, as we expect the site will never be needed, but it is not unreasonable. We suspect that a 10 year lease with 2 5 year options would be better but there is no perfect near term outcome and Council has come up with a sensible compromise.

Second, the emphasis on pricing, particularly differential pricing, is essential to a practical and affordable solution. We suspect that the present allocation methodology and use of bookings as an approximation for demand are both fundamentally flawed.

With a pricing mechanism for the first time real demand can be measured, and we suspect it will be appreciably lower (probably 20-25% in some instances) than what is presently presented. With pricing we suspect that there will in fact be a modest surplus of fields rather than a large deficit.

Third, we generally agree with the focus on installing synthetic fields and doing joint ventures with schools. We are very concerned that none of the documents discuss the issue of the Narrabeen Sports High School synthetic field. This is a JV with a school. It is the most expensive multi user field Council has invested in. It is the most underutilised field covered in the Sportsground Needs Analysis document, being booked for 55% of available hours.

Why this is ought to be discussed before doing similar investments. We suspect the issue is poor marketing and mispricing of the asset but this ought to be discussed and some data obtained. At present this investment appears to be a disaster.

Fourth, we believe that there should be more emphasis on co funding of capital and allowing the sports groups to manage the assets. There is a reason NBISC is self funding. There is no reason sports fields, particularly the major centres, cannot be.

Finally, there is no clear discussion of operating costs and the share borne by rate payers across various sports. It appears that there is considerable difference between field sports, water sports and indoor sports. Now would be an excellent time to discuss the issue.

In conclusion while we find some areas of disagreement with the analysis we believe that Council has made a major first step by providing a clear and evidence based approach to the issue. We doubt this could have been done in the absence of amalgamation.

Cricket NSW

Congratulations on the process and work put in to developing the Northern Beaches Sportsground Discussion Paper and submissions in to the Northern Beaches Sportsground Draft Strategy (Draft Strategy). We are pleased to see that the Discussion Paper feedback and submissions have now been reviewed and analysed, and that this further supports the need to provide additional sportsgrounds and improved sporting facilities, as well as highlighting the support from the local community.

Cricket NSW would like to express their support for the Draft Strategy, and endorse the submission in response to the Draft Strategy made by the Northern Beaches Cricket Council (Cricket Council). The submission supports the future direction of cricket at both a local and national level, as after undertaking extensive research and pilot studies, Cricket Australia has revised junior cricket formats and updated their National Cricket Pathway. Cricket Australia and Cricket NSW are committed to making cricket Australia's favourite sport and growing the game at all levels. The pathway is to ensure girls and boys are playing a fun, fast, and engaging game that is best suited to the player's ability. This has seen a change in the number of players per team, length of pitch, reduced game time and the opportunities for the participants to improve their cricket skills. With the reduction in the number of players per team, there will be an increase in team numbers in the Manly Warringah Junior Cricket Association (MWJCA) and although shorter game times will in effect allow more matches to be played per day, one of the consequences will be an increased demand for grounds.

The Draft Strategy identifies the shortage of cricket facilities, and the need for utilising the current facilities to ensure they are updated, used to their capacity and maintained in good condition. Continuing to be able to grow sport across the community allows collaboration and growth in schools, and female and junior participation. With participation numbers growing on the Northern Beaches, the need for facilities will continue to increase. It is vital for Council to ensure that the current grounds are utilised to their best capacity, which includes reconfiguring grounds, developing new facilities and that summer and winter sportsground bookings are appropriately allocated across the sports to meet the growing demand.

Cricket NSW expresses strong support for the short-term strategy of cricket field reconfiguration, liaising with the Northern Beaches cricket associations and identifying potential grounds such as Seaforth and other grounds outlined in the Cricket Council submission. Upgrading current facilities and lighting capacity will also provide a better user experience and ensure grounds are not becoming unavailable regularly due to maintenance and works. Evaluating and working on school ground availability and partnerships is key to the strategy, as is looking at potential indoor facilities as set out in the medium-term recommendations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback and input to this discussion paper. Cricket NSW looks forward to collaborating with the Cricket Council and the Northern Beaches Council to continue the ongoing engagement to implement the recommendations and strategic priorities for the region.

Northern Beaches Cricket Council (NBCC)

Cricket Update

Like many other sports on the Northern Beaches, Cricket has a current and growing need for more grounds for competition games and practice facilities.

New Junior Cricket Formats

Cricket Australia are introducing new Junior Formats, reducing the number of players per team by as much as 5 players. These revised formats are intended to further increase participation and will be phased in over the next 3 seasons.

These formats changes will have a big impact on the junior competition, as it will create more teams, greatly increasing the number of cricket grounds and training facilities required.

Extending Competition Times

Traditionally junior cricket on the Northern Beaches has been run on Saturday mornings. Junior games are now be run on Friday nights and Saturday afternoons.

Currently we do not schedule junior cricket matches on Sundays, as this will conflict with representative cricket and players involved in nippers.

Projected Growth

Below is an updated growth projection for junior cricket team numbers taking into account the new junior cricket formats and extending competition times to Friday nights / all day Saturdays:

Season	Teams	Increase	Reason	Additional Grounds
2012-13	108			
2013-14	127	18%	Double Ashes	
2014-15	149	17%	World Cup in Australia	

2015-16	158	6%		
2016-17	163	3%		8
2017-18	216	5%	Ashes in Australia	2
2018-19	234	4%		5
2019-20	262	15%	Ashes in England	9
			TOTAL:	24

Actual 
Projected 

Conclusion

Without additional cricket grounds, we estimate there will not be enough pitches, grounds and training facilities on the Northern Beaches to run all required cricket games within the next two to three years. We will have to turn players away.

Sportsgrounds Strategy Response

The NBCC have the following comments and responses to the Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy (Draft) dated May 2017.

Ground Reconfiguration (7.2.1 point 20.)

The NBCC would like prioritise the reconfiguration on grounds to increase the number and size of cricket fields on the Northern Beaches.

Master Plan Locations

The NBCC would welcome the opportunity to be consulted on the following areas identified for master plans to maximise the number of cricket facilities, for both games and practice:

- ☐ JFP Sports Complex (7.2.1 point 7.)
- ☐ North Narrabeen (7.2.1 point 12.) – Refer Appendix A for example
- ☐ Kitchener Park (7.2.2 point 8.)

School Grounds and Toilets (7.2.1 point 17.)

Currently a number of school grounds are used for junior cricket. However, we do not get and would like access to toilet facilities in the schools.

Synthetic Surfaces (7.2.1. point 21.)

The NBCC would like the NBC to investigate synthetic surfaces that do not radiate heat and cause a cricket ball to bounce much higher than normal. This is the case with the current materials and technology in use at Forestville Park (Melwood Oval).

Season Change Over (7.2.1 point 19.)

Winter sports do not use all grounds at the end of their season when they are playing finals. The NBCC would like to investigate the opportunity for some grounds to be made available and cricket pitches uncovered for preseason use.

Cricket could also look at releasing some ground at the end of the summer season for winter sports to use in their preseason.

This practice would give Council more time to prepare the grounds at season change over and greatly assist sports in preseason.

Drop In / Rollout Pitches (7.2.1 point 23.)

The NBCC would welcome the opportunity to trial drop in or rollout cricket pitches for junior cricket games.

CNSW Centre of Excellence

Narrabeen Sports High School is a possible location for the CNSW indoor facility (7.3.1 point 3.)

Golf Course Conversion

Table 5 on Page 19 of the Sportsground Strategy (Draft) assesses the suitability of the public golf courses on public land.

The NBCC has the following comments on this assessment:

Avalon

Topography = 1. We question this rating as there are large parts of this golf course that are relatively flat and suitable for sporting fields. Other fields could be staggered down the slope. Changing the topography rating would increase the total and make this location viable for sporting fields

Location. There are few sports fields up the peninsular and conversion of Avalon to sporting fields would address this issue

Wakehurst

Accessibility of Location = 2. With the proposed Northern Beaches Tunnel, Wakehurst would become much more accessible. This location could be a suitable site for a “Park and Ride”

Topography = 1 We question this rating as there are sections of this golf course that are fairly flat and fields could be staggered down the slope. Spill from the proposed Northern Beaches Tunnel could be used to level out sections of this golf course

The potential layout for sporting fields the northern 9 holes of Warringah Golf Course on pages 24 and 25 does not indicate any cricket grounds would be constructed. If the Warringah Golf Course was to have a change of use, cricket grounds should be part of the plan.

Additional Facilities

Cricket Nets

Many cricketers do not get access to cricket nets for practice. In conjunction with the Northern Beaches Council, the NBCC would like to determine suitable locations for new cricket net enclosures and an upgrade program for the existing cricket nets in the area.

Any new net locations must be suitable for use all year round and not restricted by the layout of the nets sending balls onto winter sports fields, as is the case at Forestville Park (Melwood Oval).

Turf Pitches

The NBCC would like to work with the Northern Beaches Council to investigate potential locations for grounds to install turf cricket pitches for use by local juniors, local seniors and both junior and senior representation cricket.

Appendix A

Possibly master plan layout for North Narrabeen including the driving range. This layout includes 4 x full size and 3 x small cricket pitches.

Football NSW

At the NSW Facilities and Advocacy Unit, our job is to grow, develop and promote the game by building, protecting and enhancing sustainable football facilities. It is exciting that the newly formed Northern Beaches Council has taken the initiative to develop a sportsground strategy for the future of sport in the Northern Beaches.

From a football perspective, a strategy to resolve the issue of under supply of sporting fields in the Northern Beaches is critical to the future of football in the region. Football has been experiencing an under supply of football fields for many years now. Football participation numbers can no longer be ignored in the Northern Beaches, with 40% of the active playing members of sport participating in football. The quality and quantity of facilities across the Northern Beaches needs to match the current and expected growing demand of football now and in the future.

Manly Warringah Football Association (MWFA) is the second largest association in NSW and the second largest football association in Australia with 17,648 active playing numbers (2016). In addition, a further 3,775 registered players are participating in summer soccer also known as six-a-side soccer, totalling 21,403. These figures are growing every year with the popularity of football across the state and country.

Female football has grown incredibly in recent years, in 2016 female participation represented 27% of the MWFA which is above the state average of 22%. The facilities across the Northern Beaches have not matched the increase in female participation. Women and girls in some areas don't have a change room to get changed in, with players having to change in cars. We know the female numbers are large, therefore it is now time to act.

The sportsground discussion paper provides several actions items to address the shortfall in sportsgrounds and facilities across the Northern Beaches, our comments concerning each of the action items are as follows:

Action Item 1: Make better use of existing sportsgrounds to increase availability and resilience

Floodlighting

Upgrading/renewing floodlighting on all sporting fields in the Northern Beaches is a key way to improve the capacity of footballing fields. Many of the football fields across the Northern Beaches do not meet the minimum Australian Standards for training and or competition. By improving lighting across all sporting fields (including football fields) will assist in allowing more people to use a sporting field. There are fields in the Northern Beaches where the floodlights only light up sections of a football field, therefore leaving sections of the football

field unused. If the entire football field is lit up it would allow more participants to use each venue.

Surface quality

Surface quality is a key ingredient to the game of football, without a good surface the quality of football starts to decrease and turns players away from participating. Turf quality and the type of turf is another item that can be improved upon to assist in carrying capacity of a field. Studies have shown that couch turf provides a higher resistance in term of carry capacity compared to kikuyu turf. Therefore, it would be in Council's interest to transform fields from kikuyu to couch turf species to assist in carrying capacity of fields.

Reconfiguration of fields

To gain maximum usage of football fields across the Northern Beaches area, fields need to be configured in the best orientation possible. As much of the open space that is available at each site needs to be used whether that is off or on a marked field. Configuration of fields also relates to floodlighting as well. Floodlighting at football fields should light up not only the football field but areas outside the field to ensure maximum usage of open space. Lighting areas outside the traditional white lines of a football field can create additional space for training or move players off high traffic areas (i.e. goal mouths) to alternate spaces at a venue. One thing to consider is moving goal posts during the week to the sides of the field that are least used to help with general wear and tear of the field.

Demand

Council needs to determine how existing grounds can best meet users' needs in the long term. By allocating grounds to sports depending upon the demand (number of participants) of the sport is one way to help suit the needs of the community. In the coming years MWFA will have to turn people away from participating in football and therefore the community will be worse off when it comes to their health and wellbeing.

Schools

Partnering with local primary and high schools is another option that needs to be explored. To gain access to these facilities will help towards easing the demand on current council fields. With a policy being reviewed by the NSW Department of Education regarding local communities having access to school facilities, council should approach the local schools to see how sporting clubs could gain access to fields after school hours and on the weekend.

Action Item 2: Convert more existing sporting fields to synthetic to increase sustainable capacity

Synthetic fields are becoming ever so popular for sporting codes and local councils across the state. The carrying capacity of synthetic fields certainly outweighs natural turf fields. It is exciting that Northern Beaches area has already implemented a few synthetic surfaces in the area. The usage benefits for football have been astronomical, the number of people and the number of hours that surface allows has benefited football immensely in the Northern Beaches.

It is encouraging that council have plans to convert Lionel Watts Oval and Cromer Park #2 into synthetic in the coming years. Football NSW and MWFA fully supports and encourages this trend to continue well into the future. Synthetic surfaces create a safe and level playing field every time participants step onto the field, not like natural turf fields which are severely

hampered when wet weather arrives or in some instances heavy use of a field has required a field to be closed because the surface becomes unsafe to play on.

The number of games and training sessions that are lost each year due to wet weather can be reduced with more and more synthetic surfaces being constructed across the Northern Beaches area.

Council should also consider new playing fields being made synthetic rather than turf fields to help support the demand and allow for opportunities for participation. This option is recommended at the new developments at Ingleside and Warriewood.

Action Item 3: Acquiring or securing additional private land as part of new housing developments.

This action item is vital; it is noticeable across the state of NSW wherever new housing developments are being placed that sporting fields are not being thought about in the development of the area. Unfortunately, a few pockets parks in a new development area is not going to cater for the demand to participate in sport. Perhaps incorporating a planning process of where new facilities could come available into this strategy and by using section 94 funds to purchase additional land could be an option.

For example, Ingleside is a new development in the Northern Beaches area which is expected to receive a population boost from 349 in 2011 to a staggering 3,114 in 2036. If today's football participation figures are used to estimate the number of people participating in football in Ingleside (5% of population) football would have an additional 176 participants in MWFA in 2036 as a minimum. We estimate that figure would be much larger in 20 years.

Action Item 4: Converting existing open space to sport fields, e.g. golf courses

Converting golf courses to sporting fields is a fantastic initiative for sports across the Northern Beaches. As the discussion paper states, Northern Beaches has double the courses per head of population compared to other areas of Sydney. Converting a golf course in the Northern Beaches would create several additional fields for the area which would be ideal for football.

The respective participation figures for football and other sporting codes compared to golf clearly shows that demand must be taken into consideration when converting existing open space such as a golf course to playing fields. Participation figures and statistics paint a clear picture on what is required for football moving into the future.

There may be scope to possibly co-share a golf course between football and golf if the complete conversion of a golf course to open is not possible. For example, football could use the fairways of the golf courses on weeknights, i.e. 5pm to 10pm for training with golf using the facility during the day on weeknights. With this scenario, the need to install floodlights would be crucial so the area on the fairways could be used to their full potential in the winter season.

There is also another option where reconfiguring the golf holes to allow space for additional fields has proven to be good practice as seen in the case study in the northern suburbs at North Turrumurra Recreation Area. This project saw developments of a new synthetic field with turf fields adjacent including floodlights and a new amenities building being provided. The key here was both football and golf were winners as the golf course also received new playing holes and additional upgrades that will provide a better playing experience. By clicking [here](#) you can view further details of project.

Action Item 5: Acquiring additional land by purchasing Crown, private or other land

This item will be hard to fulfil with cost of land in Sydney and Northern Beaches being quite expensive, resulting in the top 4 items being priority for the Council.

Action Item 6: Do nothing and accept the shortfall in supply

Doing nothing and accepting the shortfall in sporting fields in the Northern Beaches would be detrimental for all sporting codes in the Northern Beaches for the future. With the pressure of demand already causing issues for football now, doing nothing would certainly hamper the growth of the sport in future years.

Council has an important role in addressing the childhood obesity that exists in NSW and Australia. By not providing the relevant facilities to encourage sport the Northern Beaches area would suffer immensely in health ratings in the future.

Sport is a way of life in the Northern Beaches area, some drastic changes need to take place in the coming years to ensure that sport in the Northern Beaches continues to thrive and prosper for the next 20 to 30 years.

Below are some suggested fields that are both overused and need upgrades and improvements moving forward to assist football in creating a safe environment for training and competition.

Football fields that are overused include:

- ☐ Seaforth Oval
- ☐ Lionel Watts Oval
- ☐ Kitchener
- ☐ David Thomas
- ☐ St Mathews

Suggested synthetic

- ☐ John Fisher Oval

Floodlight Upgrades

- ☐ Boondah
- ☐ Passmore Reserve

Football NSW's congratulates Northern Beaches Council for taking a step in the right direction and creating a sportsground strategy the will shape the future of sport in the Northern Beaches.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Facilities and Advocacy Unit if you require any further information related to football facilities in the Northern Beaches to assist with your sportsground strategy. Football NSW in conjunction with Manly Warringah Football Association looks forward to working with council to improve the football fields in the Northern Beaches and ensure that football remains the number one participated sport in the Northern Beaches.

Manly Warringah Football Association

Council's plan needs to be implemented in full and now.

Manly Allambie United Football Club

This submission is made by the Manly Allambie United Football Club (the Club) in response to the Draft Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy prepared by the Northern Beaches Council. The Club congratulates Council on the preparation of this well considered and much necessary draft Strategy and the opportunity for sporting clubs and the general community to participate and provide feedback.

Manly Allambie United Football Club

Manly Allambie United Football Club is a locally based sporting organisation with strong ties to the local community, schools and local businesses. The Club encourages participation in football across a wide spectrum of our local community which is represented in our club membership.

Response to the Strategy

The Club congratulates Council on the consultative manner in which the draft Strategy has been developed. The consultation and strategy development process has been thorough, comprehensive and demonstrates a high level of credibility.

Actions 1-3 are strongly supported and represent a significant level of support from respondents to the previously released discussion paper. It is recognised that Action 4, whilst strongly supported by the Club, carries with it potentially significant levels of community resistance, albeit by a particular and relatively small segment of the sporting community. Even though the Club supports any future decision to convert nine holes of the Warringah Golf Course to more generic sporting fields, it is recognised as a politically difficult one for Council. The realisation of that conversion may see the foundation of a significant and exciting sporting precinct for the Northern Beaches with the conglomeration of Nolans, Miller, Passmore and David Thomas Reserves combining with the new sporting fields proposed as a result of the conversion of the Warringah Golf Course. Notwithstanding this, it is recognised that for the reasons outlined in the draft Strategy, this may be a longer term proposition.

Miller Reserve

The Sportsground Strategic Directions Analysis identifies that Miller Reserve has the necessary attributes and characteristics to be considered a candidate to accommodate a synthetic playing surface. This analysis identifies a 2022-2026 timeframe for this to occur.

It is well documented that synthetic playing surfaces extend playing times, improve participation and quality of experience and represent much lower cost and maintenance regimes for Council in the long term.

Whilst there is no doubt a variety of environmental factors and community input that needs to be fully and carefully considered in taking such a decision, there is little doubt that with the scarcity and cost of land, converting sporting fields in this manner provides an enormous increase in capacity and support to organised sport and casual recreation.

Costs and technologies associated with synthetic playing surfaces are constantly improving and the early issues associated with prohibitive costs and environmental impacts are being better addressed.

Millers Reserve offers a central location, accommodating three full playing pitches and associated smaller fields with good access and parking. Along with Narrabeen High School, Cromer Park and Melwood Oval, this would provide a great network of synthetic pitches that would serve the soccer and wider sporting community of the Northern Beaches extremely well into the future.

The Club welcomes the identification of Miller Reserve as a candidate for conversion in the 2022-2026 planning period. It is considered, however, that with collaboration, this timeline can be accelerated. The Club Committee has coverage of planning, fund sourcing and other areas of expertise, albeit on a voluntary basis, which can assist with the coordination of seed funding, mobilisation of the local community and local consultation to assist Council in delivering an accelerated delivery of a synthetic playing surface. The Club is a willing partner in this process and is prepared to take a level of responsibility to see the Miller Reserve vision come to fruition. We are happy to discuss this with Council in further detail at Council's convenience.

Golf Australia

Golf Australia, as the governing body for golf in Australia, has as its main goal to raise the level of interest and participation in the game from grassroots golfers through to elite levels, spectators, volunteers and associated industry bodies.

Working in a commercial and inclusive manner with government, business, and the community, Golf Australia seeks the value of golf to be understood and supported in policy and business decisions.

Golf Australia does not support Northern Beaches Council Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy and 15-year Implementation Plan, **Priority F: to *"Convert suitable open space to sportsgrounds including some golf course land as needed."***

The broad community outcomes generated by golf can only be achieved with adequate golfing facilities and this is under threat.

Executive Summary:

Golf Australia appreciates the rationale for Northern Beaches Council's efforts to improve the sport and recreational opportunities of its residents, however, we strongly believe the potential conversion of golf course land is short sighted.

There is a fundamental alignment between the community benefits that golf delivers to the population aged 45+ and the significant trend in the ageing of the population. This alignment is particularly evident in the Northern Beaches Council.

Golf Australia supports Warringah Golf Club's position that the Council, in seeking more space for sporting fields, should further consider alternatives such as the acquisition or lease of Crown or other land. We believe this can produce a much better community outcome than acquiring land enjoyed by current and future golfing communities.

Golf Australia believes there is a compelling case to retain golf land in metropolitan districts such as Northern Beaches council and indeed to invest in the upgrade of golfing facilities so they meet the needs of golfing populations in the future.

Golf course spaces are important community assets:

Golf is a large sports market with growth prospects

Golf is a remarkably stable sport but as with other sports and recreational pursuits, is in a state of change. The traditional market is 393,975 affiliated playing members. (Source: 2016 Golf Club Participation Report)

The golf participation market is also much broader than that.

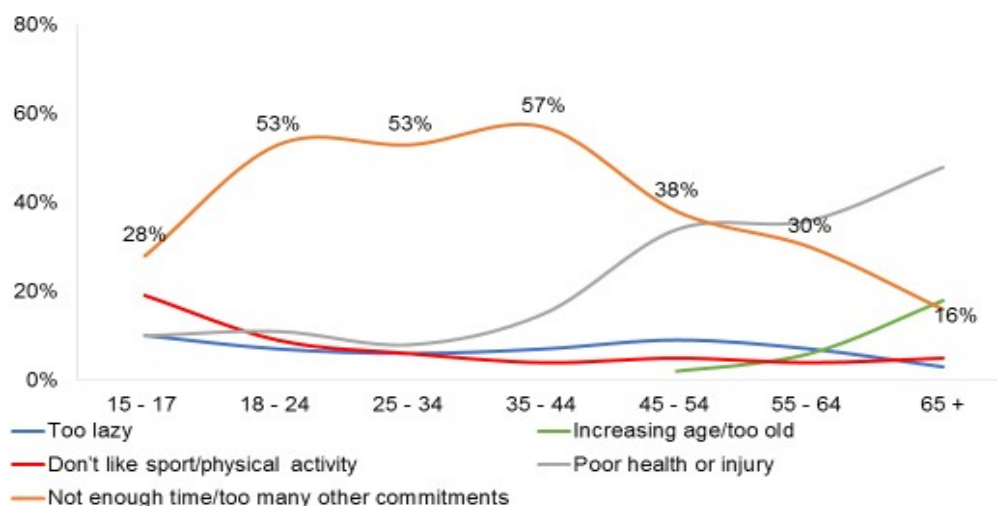
- The number of Australians 18+ who have played golf in a year is 1.15 million.
- The number of Australians 18+ who pick up a club for some form of golf * is 2.1 million.
- The number of Australians 18+ who have not played any form of golf in the last 12 months and would not reject playing golf in the future is 6.91 million.

Source: Repucom Golf Landscape Research (Now Nielsen Sports), September 2015

* Some form of golf calculated as: play, practice or some other form of golf

The reality is that the major barrier to sport for most age groups is time

Barriers to participation (for all sports/physical activities)



ausport.gov.au

Source: ASC AusPlay Participation Data for the sport sector Oct 2015 to September 2016 data

As the chart shows, the orange line barrier “not enough time/too many other commitments” reduces significantly by the age of 45+.

In the case of most sports, once the barrier of time is overcome, another impact preventing participation takes over, as shown in grey – “poor health or injury”, later to be joined by the green line “increasing age/too old”.

Golf is distinguished from most other sports in that it’s barriers to participation stays low once the major barrier of time is overcome.

Golf is a sport where participation increases with age

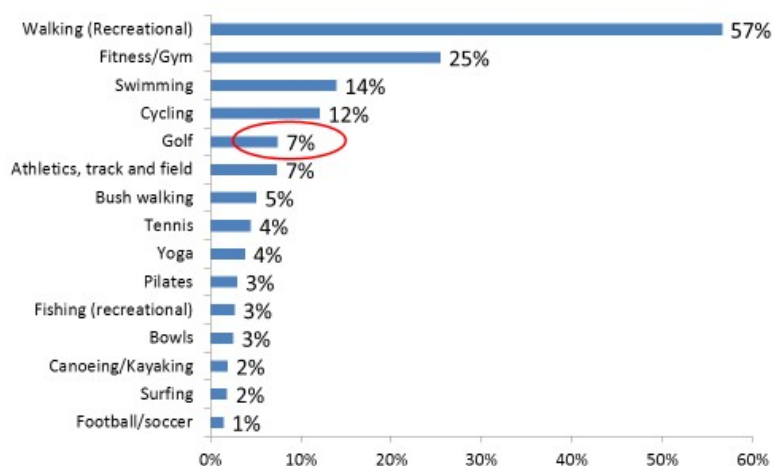
Source: ASC AusPlay Participation Data for the sport sector Oct 2015 to September 2016 data

Golf participation rates increase with each age group beyond 18-24.

Many sports have high participation by children only. Golf is a sport for all ages and often the preferred sport, whether regular or casual, for people in adult life.

Golf is a significant activity for the 45+ age group

Top activities for 45+



ausport.gov.au

Source: ASC AusPlay Participation Data for the sport sector Oct 2015 to September 2016 data

1. Golf is the #1 club sport for adults

Top club sports - adults

Ranking	Sports	Club participants	All players	Conversion rates
1	Golf	666,349	1,022,127	65%
2	Football/soccer	536,174	1,142,125	47%
3	Tennis	394,713	946,791	42%
4	Cricket	359,500	643,918	56%
5	Netball	354,161	630,638	56%
6	Australian football	307,087	496,828	62%
7	Basketball	280,728	667,006	42%
8	Touch football	208,708	402,755	52%
9	Bowls	195,479	258,907	76%
10	Rugby league	131,933	176,989	75%

ausport.gov.au

Source: ASC AusPlay Participation Data for the sport sector Oct 2015 to September 2016 data

Golf club memberships remain the highest category of membership for adults.

Golf is a particularly strong club sport for adults 45+

Top 10 club sports for 45+

Total		Men		Women	
	Participation estimate		Participation estimate		Participation estimate
Golf	504,435	Golf	395,185	Golf	109,250
Tennis	189,190	Bowls	113,575	Tennis	96,366
Bowls	184,235	Tennis	92,824	Bowls	70,660
Cricket	68,576	Cricket	66,512	Netball	21,521
Football/soccer	64,055	Football/soccer	54,488	Swimming	18,438
Touch football	35,343	Touch football	30,141	Badminton	11,563
Swimming	33,227	Sailing	28,755	Croquet	11,373
Sailing	32,477	Cycling	25,855	Hockey	10,917
Cycling	29,779	Australian football	24,816	Football/soccer	9,567
Australian football	26,273	Basketball	20,517	Athletics/running	8,033

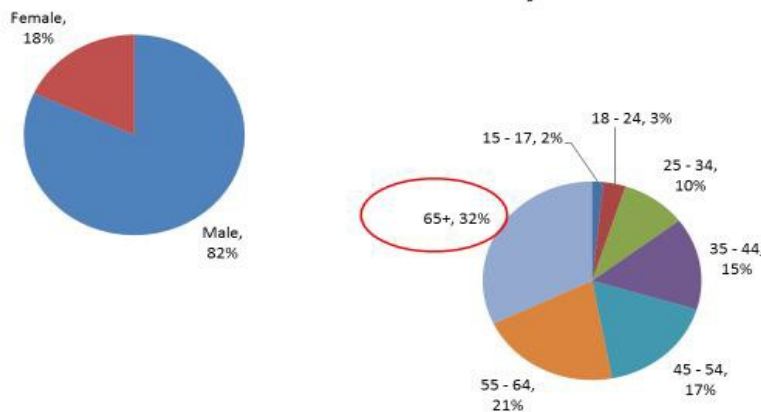
ausport.gov.au

Source: ASC AusPlay Participation Data for the sport sector Oct 2015 to September 2016 data

Golf club membership is still the most significant form of sporting club membership for the 45+ age group.

2. Golfers are predominantly male and 32% of golfers are 65+

Who are they?



ausport.gov.au

Source: ASC AusPlay Participation Data for the sport sector Oct 2015 to September 2016 data

3. Club golfers are playing more and more competition golf

The competition rounds played by club members nationally, continues to rise annually.

	Club competition Rounds: Nationally
2012	12.8 million
2013	13.34 million
2014	14.3 million
2015	14.54 million
2016	14.85 million

Source: Golf Australia Annual Golf Participation Reports

“Rounds played are a key indicator to overall club health and are an indicator to overall levels of facility utilisation.” 2013 National Golf Participation Report

4. Golf creates strong Sporting Communities

It is perhaps not a surprise that golf, being a sport played across many age groups and at many standards, creates strong communities.

Golf Australia has recently commissioned a report on the community impact of golf in Australia, in particular the economic, social and health impact. It is understood that a similar report is being commissioned by Golf NSW.

A report published in Victoria in 2016 titled “The Community Impact of Golf in Victoria” (prepared for Golf Victoria by SBP and Street Ryan) calculated the community contribution of Victorian Golf at \$883,594,884.

The key highlights were that golf provided:

- ☐ Lifelong reduction on healthcare burden
- ☐ Growth and maintenance of strong social capital (personal networks)
- ☐ Significant local businesses
- ☐ Regular and enduring social interaction
- ☐ A culture based on respect, etiquette and self-discipline
- ☐ A sanctuary (both physically and mentally) from the hustle of modern life

A typical round of golf sees a golfer walk approximately 6-9 km, having a significant positive impact on a player’s physical and mental health.

5. Golf is a strong sport in the Northern Beaches Council

The Golf Market Assessment into Northern Beaches Council (GBAS November 2016) indicates that of the golf clubs within Sydney’s North district, the North Beaches Council clubs have performed stronger than clubs in the North-West region.

In the 2006 – 2015 data set, the Warringah Golf Club in the Northern Beaches Council has performed second best of all the Public owned courses in the Council in terms of membership retention, with a modest 4% decline over the period.

It is perhaps no surprise that at Warringah golf course, despite the slight reduction in actual members is a thriving golf course. The WGC reports that up to 65,000 rounds are played annually.

6. Golf and Age Demographics of Northern Beaches Council

Northern Beaches Ageing Population

Census data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics shows that the ageing of the population continues to occur, which is also the case within the Northern Beaches Council, with greater population in the 45+ range than the rest of Sydney. Our reading of the recently released ABS data suggests that there are now 42.9% of people who reside in Northern Beaches council of the age of 45+. No doubt Council will be acutely aware of this.

Northern Beaches Council	2016	2011	2006
Population – ABS Census			
45-49 years	7.7	7.6	7.2
50-54 years	7.1	6.7	6.3
55-59 years	6.1	5.8	6.1
60-64 years	5.2	5.4	5.1
65-69 years	4.8	4.5	4
70-74 years	4.1	3.4	3
75-79 years	3	2.6	3
80-84 years	2.2	2.3	2.6
85 years and over	2.7	2.6	2.4
	42.9	40.9	39.7
	%	%	%

Source: ABS data

Golf is clearly a sport that meets the needs and drivers of this age group given that it is the number 1 club sport for the 45+ market.

Conclusion:

Golf courses in the Northern Beaches Council's contribute significant economic, social and health benefits to the community. Golf is a sport that is strongest in the 45+ ages and the continued growth in this age demographic within the Northern Beaches Council suggests that any decision to convert golf course land to other sporting grounds will come with a negative community impact and a negative impact on golf.

Golf Australia strongly urges Council to reconsider the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy and 15-year Implementation Plan, Priority F.

We welcome any opportunity to discuss this issue with you.

Golf NSW

The proposal to convert some (9 holes) or all of the Warringah Golf Course is a poor and ill researched one. The reports I have read in regard to the golf course are embarrassingly flawed, and in many cases do not provide the necessary information for the administrator, or the newly elected Council, to make an informed or impartial decision on the matter.

The option to utilise school sports grounds has been sadly under investigated by all reports that have been conducted to date.

Once again the recommendations in this report in regards to the golf course have been made using flawed and inaccurate data and information.

The golf report from GBAS was also supposed to also research the “future needs” of golf on the Northern Beaches, but there is no reference to this?

The same report focuses on the decline in club membership, yet Warringah Golf Club is predominantly a public “pay for play facility”, a market within the golf sector that is growing.

The biased nature of all the reports unfortunately casts many dispersion on the brief that was given by the Council/Administrator to these "independent" consultants.

Warringah Golf Club

On May 7, 2017 Warringah Golf Club Ltd (WGC) made a submission to the Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds and Golf Courses Discussion Paper (Discussion Paper).

In that submission we brought to your attention the following matters that brought into question the very substance of the Sportsgrounds Report in that it relied heavily on what we believe to be a severely flawed Golf Course review.

We restate the points made in that submission in relation to the Discussion Paper as, by extension, the Draft Strategy also suffers as a direct result: A full explanation of these points can be found in our initial submission.

The Golf Report November 2016

1. The age demographic data relating to the future growth of population on the Northern Beaches in that the greatest increase will be in the 50+ age bracket. The submissions that has been sent to you by GolfNSW and Golf Australia further emphasise the growing Golf requirement for this age demographic, particularly on the Northern Beaches.
2. The growth in population that will occur is predominantly north of Collaroy and North West of Allambie (63%).
3. The Golf Report utilises a mixture of Public and Private Courses when sourcing and presenting data.

Member Numbers - 18 hole courses only

	2006	2009	2012	2015	Overall %11	Annual %11
Long Reef	849	826	817	791	-7.0%	-0.8%
Mona Vale	967	1151	1142	1029	6.0%	0.7%
Wakehurst	1275	1251	1068	970	-24.0%	-3.0%
Warringah	697	661	608	667	-4.0%	-0.5%
		-5%	-8%	10%		

Total	3788	3889	3635	3457	-8.7%	-0.9%
		3%	-7%	-5%		
GBAS report	6101	5756	5496	5137	-16.0%	-1.9%
		-6%	-5%	-7%		

The Golf Report failed to address adequately the Social Golf component of rounds played on the Northern Beaches. It is not co-incidental that we are classified as Public Golf Courses, that classification goes to the very core of our business.

As reported in our submission; of those 118,000 rounds Warringah, from the figures submitted to GBAS, contributed 41,424 or 35%. Removal of Balgowlah & Bayview would undoubtedly increase that percentage.

Therein lies one of the major faults with the Golf Report. It deals almost entirely with Memberships and Member rounds. It was remiss of the writer not to consider the total rounds played at each Course when determining the usage of Courses

The Golf Report does not adequately deal with the repercussions of closing either part or all of any Golf Course.

We have tested the market and our findings are in our previous submission. The result showed that there was insufficient capacity at other Course to absorb our Members and Social rounds.

GBAS in compiling their report have consistently ignored the growth in rounds being experienced presently by Golf. This is despite their participation in the reports that outline this growth.

Community Engagement Report

The data contained in the Community Engagement report was in our opinion irrelevant as it was based on biased and flawed questioning in that it completely omitted to include an option whereby the participant could elect for an action that included the inclusion of converting crown land or purchasing land for use for sports fields.

Council have taken the position that they did not believe this to be a viable option. With due respect this was not their decision to make. It was for the community to decide!

The phone survey should therefore fail by the same test. Additionally the phone survey, prior to being conducted, should have asked the question **"have you read the discussion papers"?** If not the respondent was not able to make an informed decision and their views were not relevant.

The Community Engagement Report relied on 5,000 submissions during the period and places great emphasis on those flawed responses.

Over 10,000 signatures on a petition to "retain Warringah Golf Course as an 18 hole course and not convert it to sports fields" were submitted but received no weight in the review, just a passing mention.

This would, we believe, support our belief that the surveys were written and conducted to achieve a clearly desired end result for Council.

Other Land Options Crown Land

In the Discussion Paper Council stated that these lands "are not considered affordable". We questioned that statement in our response.

It is now becoming apparent that this option was not fully explored by Council given the reports in the Manly Daily where the Aboriginal Land Council is offering certain flat land parcels for conversion to sports fields.

Additionally it is a fact that the State Government will lease their Crown Land for community use at little or no charge.

Why have these options not been fully explored BEFORE resuming other community open space?

Purchase of Land

Whilst we agree that to purchase land for development would be an expensive option it should be remembered that this is an intergenerational issue. Low interest loans are available for this purpose and this option should not be discounted before being fully explored.

Conversion of Existing open space to Sportsfields e.g. Golf Courses

The strategy deals with the conversion of Golf Course land and in particular Warringah Golf Course without properly dealing with the future needs of those facilities due to the aforementioned failings of the Golf Report.

However, leaving those concerns aside we would ask the following in relation to why certain other courses, apart from Warringah, were simply dismissed in the Strategy.

Whilst not supporting the conversion of any Golf Course we would pose the following in relation to each Course.

Palm Beach - This option was dismissed due to it being **"too far from everything, difficult to get to and people would have to contend with the Bilgola bends"**. We would contend that if you live in that region you have to contend with the travel to the southern end of the Peninsula which would incorporate contending with those bends. Additionally should you live in Avalon, Newport or Mona Vale it is not too far to travel. The fields at Careel Bay and Hitchcock Park are amongst the most over utilised on the northern end of the Peninsula. Locating additional fields in the old Pittwater region should be of the highest priority so we fail to see why this course has been omitted.

Avalon - This course is managed for Council by an external contractor and as such is a loss making entity for Council. Studies by the local Cricket Association have shown that at least 2 fields could be achieved on the northern section of the Course with some levelling. Again given the need for fields in this region we fail to understand why this option has been ignored. The top southern section where the topography is sloped could be given over to community use in a "Centennial Park" style.

Mona Vale - Not considered due to its "iconic location". Why is this a factor in determining the suitability of a Golf Course for conversion? If you extend this factor surely it would be favourable to site sports fields in an "iconic location". Mona Vales Lease expires in October 2020 so it falls well inside of the initial review period.

Long Reef - No reason is given for excluding Long Reef from the review. Given that their lease expires in August 2026 and their topography on the western end of their course is relatively flat perhaps it should have been considered or mentioned as longer term solution

Wakehurst -As their lease expires in April 2034 the Course falls well outside of the review period. However, in a longer term review the western section of their course closest to Wakehurst Parkway is suited to playing fields.

Balgowlah - The topography of the Course is cited as the determining factor for it to be reviewed again in 5 years ' time. With respect, if it is thought that it would be suitable in 5 years ' time it is suitable now. The Northern area of the Course is relatively flat and with some levelling would no doubt yield 3 playing fields.

We also understand that there are moves to extend Balgowlah Oval for AFL which would impact on their 9th hole. Further shortening an already short Course.

It is common knowledge that Balgowlah has been in financial troubles for quite some time, their member numbers are low as are their social rounds.

Additionally plans show the entrance and slip road for the proposed Northern Beaches tunnel being sited adjacent to the 1st hole green plus the probable disruption to the Course during construction it would seem that they should be an obvious choice for conversion to sports fields. Again the hillier sections of the course could be given over to community use or sold to fund the purchase of land in other areas.

Warringah - Over the past 5 years WGC has endured two reviews of its operation and value to the community. During the review of the District Park Plan of Management (DPPM) the then Warringah Council, to their credit, carried out an exhaustive review of the precinct and the need for an 18 hole Golf Course.

Following a long and detailed review they identified that Warringah Golf Course should be retained as an 18 hole complex and that the clubhouse, that is situated adjacent to the course and owned by WGC, should be relocated onto the District Park precinct.

A tender for the provision of a lease encompassing the Golf Course, Bowling Club and Recreational Centre were about to be released when the Sportsfields and Golf Course review was commissioned.

During this process we have again demonstrated our value as the second largest public access course in NSW with over 60,000 public & member rounds. Far more than any other course on the Northern Beaches.

As Council would be aware WGC was proposing to sell its Freehold premises to invest upwards of \$5m into building a community sports club to service not only the Golf Course but also the District Park precinct.

The proposal by Council in the strategy to award only four five year leases , at their discretion, for the northern half of the Course falls woefully short of providing adequate financial surety for such a capital input. Council would be aware of the financial difficulty to run and maintain a 9 hole golf course which is demonstrated locally by the financial position of Balgowlah and Avalon. We can also assure Council that Castle Cove and Cammeray find trading difficult and we submit that the reason is relatively simple in that the membership of clubs supports the financial structure and prospective members predominately prefer 18 hole course configurations. WGC have considerable difficulty in finding a financial model supported by a 9 hole golf course that would encourage its membership to support the sale of its current clubhouse. If our clubhouse is not to be sold the community will be not gain the benefit of a significant aged care facility that was proposed for our site or the \$5m+ that would have been injected into community land.

Additional Matters for Consideration

During the recent presentations by Council of the Strategy staff were questioned as to the ability for the other actions to increase sports fields usage via allocations, better booking systems and the provision of synthetic fields etc to be achieved within the five year period set aside for the first review of the lease for the northern section of Warringah Golf Course. Their response was that it would be difficult and when pressed further they agreed that it would be unlikely to be finalised within that time.

This then begs the question as to why five years was selected. If there needs to be any consideration of Golf Course land conversion then surely at least an initial 10-15 years should have been the option to give any entity the economic surety to make sound business dealings.

Parking and traffic impact is proposed to be reviewed during the initial 5 year term of the northern section lease. Surely a preliminary impact study could or should have been conducted during the review period. This would have clearly shown that we would have been heading towards a situation equal to or worse than the "Netball" situation at Curl Curl. Traffic congestion is already a huge problem in this area and it is clear to all that the proposed B-Line is not the solution to the problem.

Whilst environmental issues will occur wherever trees need to be removed WGC provides the buffer between the industrial areas of Brookvale and Manly Vale. It is the lungs of the region providing refuge for local flora to exist and thrive.

Finally we understand that it is Council's current intention to proceed with the tender process for the Golf Course, North Manly Bowling Club & the Warringah Recreation Centre during July 2017.

We fail to see how this is possible as the entire matter as to the lease terms for the Golf Course are currently part of the Draft Strategy. To proceed with a tender that contains those terms would be presupposing that the Draft Strategy will be adopted when the elected Councillors consider it. We would appreciate your clarification on this matter.

Warringah Golf Club, as we have stated on numerous occasions, agrees with Council's review of Sporting Fields. However, we cannot support any strategy that includes the conversion of all or part of any Golf Course.

From the outset we have said that we would work with Council on this matter provided the review was not a means to support a predetermined result.

Sadly we believe that our worst fears have been proven by the continued ignoring of facts that bring into very question the Golf Study, comments attributable to the Administrator in meetings and in the media & the undoubted bias of the Discussion paper and associated surveys and reports.

Unfortunately we do not expect the current Council to alter this predetermined outcome. We do however hope that the incoming Council will see the shortcomings in the process and manner in which this review has been conducted.

Northern Beaches Hockey Facility

Accelerate the proposal to approve land allocation for new Synthetic Hockey Facility

Implement action 2 – synthetic hockey field facility for all 6 Northern Beaches hockey clubs with priority.

Manly Warringah Netball Association

The Association appreciates all the time and effort put in by the staff and their consultants to reach this stage in the project.

On consideration of the main points:

- A. MWNA on behalf of its over 5,000 members agrees that allocation should be based on needs and growth of each sport even if that results in reconfiguration and re-allocation of some fields.
- B. In thinking of John Fisher Park where netball has its headquarters more sealed netball courts would improve capacity as limited games can be fixtured on the grass courts otherwise they become dust bowls. The hard surface netball courts are very popular with the local children for skateboarding and other activities. You rarely see any locals on the grass courts.
- C. In new housing developments (Warriewood, Ingleside and elsewhere) there needs to be netball courts preferably sealed where local clubs can train even after rain.
- D. The biggest problem with partnering with schools for outdoor areas is the lack of amenities for players and spectators. If this problem can be overcome by Council financing the building of separate amenities this is a good option.
- E. MWNA is most concerned that hockey does not have any synthetic fields on the Northern Beaches and the sport should not be expected to wait until after 2022. The provision of this basic requirement should be a much higher priority. To improve the capacity as suggested in Point B (Allambie Heights and John Fisher Park) necessitates more synthetic fields as that increases sustainable capacity.
- F. This should be a last resort but acquiring additional land by purchasing Council, private or other land for sporting fields is a good option.

A point that has not been addressed in this draft strategy concerns MWNA wanting an indoor complex of preferably four (4) netball courts where teams can train and the Association can hold competitions. The location of this complex should be as close as possible to our netball headquarters at John Fisher Park, North Curl Curl. The Association has spent vast sums of money with some Council support to improve the lighting, remove ugly overhead wires and make the netball courts at John Fisher Park a pleasant place to visit.

Wakehurst Netball Club

Wakehurst Netball Club supports the need for more sportsgrounds on the Northern Beaches, to meet the current and increasing demand across all sporting codes. It is critical to actively plan now for the future needs of the community for all sports, and we support the fair and equitable use of public space for the entire community.

After reviewing the Sportsground Strategy Draft published by Northern Beaches Council, Wakehurst Netball Club stands by its original feedback in our previous submission, of supporting the proposed actions 1-4 (Option A), as we believe this is the best combination of options to achieve the desired outcome in a reasonable and cost effective timeframe.

Action 1- great benefit can be seen by improving existing sportsgrounds by improving playing surface quality, use of school grounds and allocation of sportsgrounds based on the needs and growth of each sport. Also, netball could benefit from more sealed netball courts at John Fisher Park to improve its capacity(as it is difficult to conduct a fair competition on grassed courts that are in poor condition

Action 2 - converting more sportsgrounds to synthetic will increase capacity of use, require less maintenance, and provide Hockey with a much needed facility on the Northern Beaches

Action 3 - acquire more land through new housing developments (Ingleside & Warriewood) to create new playing fields, with a request for sealed netball courts for training by local clubs

Action 4- clearly the greatest benefit in this action will be the result of significant increased land to reconfigure to sportsgrounds, reducing the overall shortfall

It is important to take into consideration factors such as parking, traffic flow and amenities when planning the above actions. It is great to have a wonderful area to play sport, but there needs to be adequate parking and amenities for participants and supporters to attend these games.

The implementation plan (first 5 years) is also supported by Wakehurst Netball Club, which will result in an increased capacity of existing fields and provide much needed supply. Continuing to keep the community informed on the progress of the implementation plan, budget and timing of the actions is important to enable the community to continue supporting the Council on this project.

We thank the Northern Beaches Council and their consultants in preparing, researching and notifying the community on this very important and critical decision, which impacts the future growth of the Northern Beaches.

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D COMMUNITY SUBMISSIONS

D.1 Introduction

Three questions were asked on the Your Say Northern Beaches online platform:

How supportive are you of the Implementation Plan?

How supportive are you of the recommendations in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Analysis Report to address the current and future needs for sportsfields?

Do you have any comments about any of the recommendations in this report or any additional ideas for our sportsgrounds?

The community submissions are set below in terms of the stated level of support for the Strategic Implementation Plan and/or Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Analysis Report and by priority strategies/actions of the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy.

The stated level of support is:

vs	Very Supportive
s	Supportive
ss	Somewhat supportive
nvs	Not very supportive
nas	Not at all supportive

Comments received for all questions are combined in the table below, because many respondents provided the same answer to one or more questions and appeared not to understand the difference between the Strategic Implementation Plan and the recommendations in the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategic Directions Analysis Report. Also it was clear that the stated level of support often did not match the comment, for example stating “not at all supportive” for supporting synthetic fields for hockey.

D.2 Written submissions from the community

All submissions received from the community via Your Say Northern Beaches, emails and letters are set out below.

Level of support	Comments
General support for the Strategy	
vs	Council's plan needs to be implemented in full and now.
Vs	Please get it going asap !
vs	It's a good plan as we need more sportsgrounds in our area
vs	The strategy looks great and support the ongoing development
vs	More facilities will get more action
Vs	I think its great that you are recognising the lack of sports fields available in the area. It needs to be sorted and asap!
Vs	Put simply we need more grounds, so that kids and adults don't miss out on playing their favourite sports on the Northern Beaches. It is critical that we are allocated more fields for sports.
Vs	I agree that more sports grounds need to be sought with the growing sport population
vs	The initiatives are excellent and much needed. Organised sport leads to healthy mental and physical outcomes and costs the community far less in the long run. My only question is – are

Level of support	Comments
	the initiatives enough and why does it take 15 years to accomplish what has been proposed?
Vs	As a medical practitioner in the local area I would strongly recommend the development of further playing fields for our young children to increase the amount of physical activity that they can be involved in.
Vs	I strongly support the recommendations made in the draft sportsgrounds strategic directions analysis report.
Vs	It is most important that the sports ground strategy is carried through for the full 15 years. The first 5 years set up the foundations for improvements to present fields but the most important part of the strategy is to increase the number of sport fields in the Northern Beaches to cope with the population growth and expected usage requirements. I strongly support all the recommendations in the report.
Vs	The policy recognises the need for sporting facilities for youth within NBC. The exclusive allocation of large areas of public land to those few in the community who play golf is not equitable or fair use of these resources. It is important that the health and needs of youth is given priority over those like me who are in the senior age brackets.
Vs	Any improvement would be welcome, so thank you for looking at these facilities. You did a marvellous job at Forestville Oval.
Vs	I think as a nation we are proud of our sports ability on a global scale, and to continue to deliver such a high calibre of world class athletes we must be able to provide the resources for our children, grandchildren, and beyond.
S	The strategy does not really address the short term shortage of fields. At best it will provide a better playing surface for some sports.
S	The principles seem sound to me
ss	Well done for organizing the review, it is really needed and very difficult to please all.
Ss	Support growing sports
ss	I totally support the need for more sports grounds and recreational space. The more we have the more it will be used. Current estimates are only designed to satisfy the projected need. These numbers will be greatly exceeded if good facilities are available.
Nas	The shortage of land for recreational purposes on the northern beaches should also be seen in the wider context of population policy for Sydney, NSW and Australia.
	Attract co-funding for new and improved sports facilities by compiling a list of potential projects and broad 10-year capital costs and inviting competitive tenders. If the tenders propose covering a substantial proportion of the project cost that project is implemented earlier than planned.
More fields for rugby	
vs	Newport Rugby Club has a lot of players and only has one home ground, Porters Reserve, why does Mona Vale Raiders have their home ground at Newport. More Rugby fields required.
Vs	There is only one field for Newport Rugby Club, please add more rugby fields.
More fields for soccer	
vs	I want it to be democratically representative of Manly Warringah. Soccer is by far the largest participation sport in MW but it does not have proportional representation in sporting fields or facilities. I have lived across the road from the soccer fields at Curl Curl (Abbott Rd) for over 50 years. The fields are worn down, in poor condition due to the amount of training, weekend games, mid week games and school sport that occur every single day of the week. No amount of ground-keeping can help keep the grass cover in place. This same process is being

Level of support	Comments
	replicated on every soccer field in the district. Conversely, rugby union, Australian rules and Rugby fields seem to be in much better condition.
Vs	Football (soccer) is woefully under-resourced with field availability and appropriate field amenities (synthetic turf, sufficient parking, lighting etc). This is clearly the largest participation sport and growing each year, it must be well accommodated for!
Ss	They are still inadequate to accurately reflect the proportion of soccer players as a representative of Manly Warringah.
More fields for touch football	
vs	My touch football team missed out on joining the competition last season as there was a cut off and too many teams for the amount of fields, please make more space for touch football.
More netball courts	
	Netball in MW is vastly under-supported. The Curl Curl courts /parking situation is a farce. Another netball court facility is of urgent need.
Ss	Netball needs to decentralise like other sports have had to do. There is no logical reason why they have to play all their games in one location. The arguments they put forward for this could equally apply to any other sport.
Retain sportsfields	
	Retaining parkland and trees. For instance, don't carve up a football/cricket ground at Mona Vale for the b line, use the disused telephone exchange on the corner of Bunyan lane and Pittwater Drs for the bus stop.
Retain baseball fields at Aquatic Reserve	
s	Don't get rid of the aquatic centre cause it will kill baseball on the northern beaches. With the implementation of baseball in the Olympics, it would be very unwise to cancel all funding for it. Especially being a 21 year old male on the northern beaches the sport has died due to non expansive methods by both the government and clubs.
Ss	I'm a 21 year old. I'll be living in this community for the remainder of my life and the idea of my children not being able to play a sport like baseball deeply saddens me. By not changing aquatic centre or improving its facilities you'll ensure a steady flow of members of the community playing baseball
	If baseball grounds are taken away due to development of the aquatic centre/new school it would adversely impact the ability for all ages to participate and train in that sport. We need more grounds and if any current grounds are removed they must be replaced nearby.
Nas	I have significant concerns that an administrative council is making policy based decisions. The potential loss of unique sporting facilities does not appear to have been addressed including the baseball field losses at Aquatic as a result of high school relocation. Much of the process appears to be in the format of "selling off the silverware" (perhaps more giving up the silverware) to meet short term goals in spite of irrevocable changes in land use and facilities.
More baseball grounds	
Vs	Improve access and ground availability for baseball
ss	Please consider all sports, particularly growing sports such as Baseball where Australia has potential to build on its existing presence on the world stage, and become a leader.
Neutral / negative comments about the Strategy	
	I play in and watch sport on the northern beaches regularly. Aside from a few specific fields (e.g. Netball in curl curl), the fields manage quite well with the level of current activity. With an aging population and property prices through the roof (pushing young people out of the area), one must question what stats have been relied upon to determine the draft proposal. It seems

Level of support	Comments
	excessive.
	I cannot see how this is a fair and inclusive plan. I don't believe the Council has provided sufficient evidence to conclude the need for more sports fields is as urgent and significant as they make out.
	Sporting groups also need to accept some user pays input as do the members of Warringah Golf Club.
	Serious questions must be asked regarding the accuracy of the assertion that there is currently a 26 hectares shortage of playing fields on the northern beaches. Equally, serious questions must be also asked regarding the accuracy of the assertion that this shortage will increase to 41 hectares by 2031. These assertions must be reviewed and challenged for accuracy as it lays at the heart of the initial Review, the Discussion Paper and the Draft Strategy. It has provided the basis for the unbalanced and prejudiced stance adopted by the Administrator against Warringah Golf Club throughout the entirety of Council's expensive consultation process which has been designed to convert nine holes of Warringah Golf Course into playing fields.
	Remember that not everyone plays sport. While more sports fields are required, this should not come at the expense of those who are not interested in sport. Replacing golf courses with sports fields is fine, that's sport for sport. Encroachment of sports fields into any existing open spaces/parks/reserves should be taken off the table for people to enjoy without the intense nature of sport right nearby.
Nvs	Yes, I DO NOT accept that current sporting field are insufficient to the needs of sporting Clubs on weekends. Since this whole issue has been raised, I have spent a considerable amount of time when driving around the Northern Beaches taking note of whether the sporting grounds are used to their optimum on weekends. In this regard, there is fairly clearly a need for all the ground on Saturdays, especially for winter sports. However, the same is definitely not the case on Sundays, with quite a number of grounds not being used at all.
Nvs	We do not require so many sporting fields. There are a number I see always empty.
Nas	There needs to be a complete reassessment of the spread of sportsgrounds right through the NB Council area
nas	The council does not have a current sporting strategy. The most recent I could discover on your web pages was for Warringah but this is about 9 years old > You have the cart before the horse.
Nas	Over the last 2 years all the sports clubs put in submissions to the council for the strategic management plan held drop in meetings which cost rate payers and sporting club unknown amount of dollars which were completely wasted since the administrator came in and threw it all out to start again to suit his agenda
nas	This entire review is based upon the false assumption that sports are growing in the country and especially this area, when the opposite is actually happening and the young are leaving sports. This fact was reported in the Sunday Telegraph on May 28 under the heading PM, sport chiefs hold war talks on obesity. Australia's top sports bosses have held a secret war council with the Prime Minister to fight obesity in the young and stop the exodus of children from exercise. It was then reported that the NRL's Todd Greenberg, soccer's David Gallop, Gillon McLachlan of the AFL, Bill Pulver from the ARU, cricket's James Sutherland and netball head Name Fechner spent Wednesday with Malcolm Turnbull and Sports Minister Greg Hunt in Canberra talked strategies for shifting children off their devices and onto sporting fields. This should be proof enough to consign this fake report to dust bin of history. Shame upon all who took money to prepare this report that is at odds with all the evidence reported in the National Press My comments about the recommendations in this report are that they are skewered to bring about a desired result by the manipulation of "fake news" and selective questions that must

Level of support	Comments
	point one in one direction.
Nas	Scrap it and start again. Start listening to the community.
	The initial actions proposed in the document will take more than 5 years to indicate whether more fields are required.
Support Priorities A-F	
vs	I strongly support the plan and priority actions A to F and the initiative that Northern Beaches Council is taking in this area. I also agree that we need to provide more sporting fields and allocate areas to people that need it more. Keeping people active is something that is very important due to the obesity epidemic experienced in Australia.
Vs	All strategies from A to F need to be implemented asap to solve the critical capacity crisis with local playing fields.
Support Priorities A-E and oppose priority F	
ss	Council should do as much as possible from Priority Actions A – E; then review.
Ss	I only support Priorities A–E in the Strategic Implementation Plan. I do not support Action F – the conversion of north section Warringah Golf Course. That site is in a very busy location, bounded by 2 main roads. Placing sportsgrounds there will be traffic nightmare – don't do it.
Nvs	I support a, b,c,d, e but to destroy a well used golf course its not on
Nas	I agree with points A-E but NOT F with the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy.
Nas	I do not agree with the acquisition of golf course land where the golf course is popular, self-supporting and used nearly every day of the year. I agree with actions A to E. I can't agree with the destruction of a successful facility to assist other sports that do not pay their way.
Nas	Options A – E are reasonable and sound. Optional F is a backwards, short sighted step.
Nas	I am supportive of priority actions A,B,C,D,E, but not of F taking land from the Warringah Golf Course.
Nas	I support A to E but cannot support any plan which includes destruction of any part of Warringah golf Course!
Nas	I support A to E but object strongly to recommendation F above. I object to this survey question as put as it is deceptive in not specifically stating that Council's strategy is conversion of Warringah Golf Course to 9 holes. As a result, given that few will read the full detailed list of proposed actions, ANY views expressed supporting F above CAN BE CONSIDERED INVALID as the question is deceptively worded. There are so many errors and omissions in Council's analysis that they cannot all be listed here. But they include ignoring social golfer numbers (at least 50% of golfers), ignoring that rounds played each year is increasing most likely due to social golfers, ignoring that more people play golf than any other field-based sport, exaggerating member numbers decline by including 9 hole courses when these have 6 to 7 times the member loss compared to 18 hole courses in the Northern Beaches. Further, I object strongly to Warringah Golf Course being converted to playing fields. Council's report shows that 9 hole courses in Northern Beaches are losing members at 6 to 7 times the rate of 18 hole courses. Creating another 9 hole course plainly doesn't make sense.
Nas	I am fully supportive of the above points A, B, C,D,E & understand the need for more space to be allocated for sportfields but to take away the needs & allocated area of one sport to provide additional space for other sports (Point F) makes it all to me to be not at all supportive
Nas	I am very supportive of all but point F
Support Priorities A-D	
ss	I agree with A, B, C and D however do not support the conversion of current open spaces or

Level of support	Comments
	golf courses as we need to maintain what we have and recognise that we have not kept up with having more fields with the increasing population, particularly in the Northern area.
Support Priorities E and F	
vs	I believe that the plan should speed up E & F, as the solutions of A-D will not meet the expected need, which is likely to be an under-assessment.
Priority A – Allocate sportsfields based on needs and growth	
vs	Council must address current ratepayer demand for facilities, not just lazily fall back on historical incumbent usage.
Vs	Strict control is required that ALL sports submit correct registration numbers. Just accepting numbers submitted without external verification is not acceptable.
Ss	<p>The data that you have included from sports clubs or state bodies, ie Football NSW and the growth that has occurred over the past three years, and the high number of 6-a-side futsal players.</p> <p>Football NSW recently entered into an agreement (last year) with Futsal NSW who manages the majority of the sport on the Northern Beaches. From my understanding is that Football NSW has included these numbers into their total registered players to increase the number of registered players within this district.</p> <p>It might be worth clarifying the data that has been provided, potentially an excel spreadsheet from each sport, and completing a quick analysis of the data.</p>
S	Whilst better use of the existing sportsgrounds (and schools options) is commendable in the first instance, my personal experience at the various grounds is that they are more heavily used than ground allocation would suggest. The introduction of new fields within 5 years should be a priority rather than just relying on better use.
s	A, we support changes to the allocation process to increase usage numbers and a better utilization of available fields. This may require the reconfiguration of existing fields and the relocation of historical users, however the historical users need to be included in the negotiations regarding reallocation of fields & facilities.
ss	Has the council investigated the current and obvious underutilisation of the many open space sporting grounds on the peninsula,
nas	Part of the solution would be to more efficiently schedule usage of the available fields in this southern part of the LGA
s	*reconfiguration of Balgowlah Oval into a full size AFL oval.
Ss	While I do love our Saturday Afternoon hockey comp at Frank Gray Reserve, this year the fields have been in a very poor state, becoming dangerous for our game. Sharing the fields with the AFL players is not working. Their boots are causing divets, holes and lots of sandy areas in the grass, causing our hockey players to roll ankles, and balls to fly up dangerously far more often. The grass is dying. The fields have been beautiful since being refurbished a few years back. Unfortunately this season they were in a terrible state since week 2 of our competition. Hockey and AFL just do not mix when sharing the fields. Cricket works fine with our competition.
Ss	Sporting codes should be required to put forward submissions like that submitted by hockey to justify their demands for additional fields. It should also be noted that in requesting three synthetic fields, the hockey sector made it clear that they were looking at repurposing and reallocation of fields.
Ss	I do not accept that existing sports fields are being used to their optimum – especially on Sundays.
Nas	Existing sports fields in Manly Vale area are hardly ever used during week days.

Level of support	Comments
Nas	Play soccer during the week
nas	Make better use of the existing grounds by removing some sports from just Saturday & Sunday.
	Push the sporting codes to start addressing how they run their competitions and training schedules. It should not be Council that has to do all the heavy lifting while the clubs do nothing.
	Develop a pricing mechanism so demand can be managed away from peak times (weekend mornings during the school year) and to presently unused times (school holidays) or underused (evenings, weekend afternoons).
Nas	Make better use of existing sports fields. This is a good idea although it would appear the previous council did not take notice of the 2004 Regional Sportsgrounds Analysis, by Thompson Tregear Pty Ltd, Leisure Management Consultants which found that bookings were done by MWP Sporting Union, managed by a committee of volunteers, which in recent years has accepted responsibility for allocation of the seasonal use of sports fields in the Manly, Warringah and Pittwater Council areas. Councils allocate significant budgets to recurrent costs associated with provision of sports fields; and recover only a small fraction of those costs in user charges (in the case of Manly, Warringah and Pittwater Councils, nothing from regular users). The average income received from 2001 to 2004 from the use of sports fields amounted to only 3.4% of the outlay to maintain these fields in Manly, Warringah & Pittwater Council areas. Whilst other Councils recovered; Randwick 20%, Hornsby 24% and Willoughby 27%. So some improvement still could be made as I see bookings go through the Council; however I just spent over thirty minutes trying to see if I could book Nolan Reserve for sports without success.
Nas	District Park at North Manly most Saturdays is only half full don't know why it is not been used more if there is a shortage of playing fields.
Nas	Soccer is played only 2 days per week
nas	I support the Improvement in the capacity and resilience of existing sportsfields.
Nas	Make better extended use of existing fields many do not have a high utilisation weekday daytime or evening and use on weekends is problematic when all sports fields including Warringah golf course is at capacity.
Nas	Get much better utilisation and scheduling of the existing sportgrounds in the area by using a computer program that allocates available timeslots to teams that want to make a booking. The various team members could then be notified by mobile phone where their upcoming game will be held in the area that week.
vs	Re-allocation of sports to recognize seasonal needs and suitability e.g. cricket on poor quality grounds with good quality synthetic wickets in summer.
Vs	More attention to developing "mini pitches" for 5-a-side and 7-a-side soccer and junior soccer as well as hockey.
S	The council to oversee how current fields/matches are allocated to ensure that all available fields are in use at any one time. Modification of long standing match times may free up extra field time.
Nas	<p>The sports fields are largely only used during peak hours such as after school or weekends, why not first spread sports field usage out over the day to more fully utilise them over the full day instead of carving up the golf course to only create another peak usage problem for sports fields.</p> <p>Try this first before cutting up my golf course, which is used every day all day long, whereas sports fields are largely used in peak times only.</p> <p>How about partnering with schools and clubs to get their schedules changed to more fully utilise the fields over the day in instead of cutting up my course and ruining my golf day completely.</p>

Level of support	Comments
	Change the schedules of other sporting times to make proper utilization of what is available.
Nas	Get rid of Rat Park and clubhouse. Do not upgrade like council has said they will do. Get rid of the Driving Range. Have the Polo share and then you have a huge area for grounds.
nas	more night soccer games scheduled.
Nas	Yes, utilize existing grounds, especially those not fully used (sample – Nolan Reserve – max use 2 days per week).
nas	I suggest that there needs to be some “logical” thinking to go into the above reports. I live near a local sports field and on any given day can drive by to see that there is no-one using the fields apart from on a Sat morning and the odd Sunday – maybe there should be more thought into the utilisation of these fields by dividing games between Sat and Sunday rather than most codes trying to get all games over with on a Sat.
Nvs	Perhaps many of the Sporting Organizations need to spread their schedule matches more evenly over both Saturday & Sunday, as opposed to heavily utilizing Saturdays.
Nas	(2) The following options may be considered, subject to no environmental impact or impact to wildlife: A. Re-allocating grounds to maximise use.
	Currently Rugby do not share the clubhouse at Terrey Hills Oval and longer term a multi-use facility that could be shared by soccer, cricket, rugby and other users would be a beneficial to all users have a better experience. With a good storage element and possible canteen facility this will be income producing for the users.
Priority B – Improve capacity and resilience of existing sportsfields	
vs	Agree current facilities require upgrade and to be used properly.
Vs	I also support the upgrading of existing ovals.
S	Maybe encourage sports as a result of improved facilities and access to facilities to invest in sport for those with disabilities or other less advantaged groups – if there is more space there is more scope to ensure everyone is offered an opportunity to use them.
S	With 2 children aged 10 and 12 I know the importance of sport for social engagement – a great way for kids to expand their friendship circle and for parents to meet new local people, physical reasons – it would be really hard to get children to have sufficient physical activity (especially my daughter) if it were not for their sports – training, games, gala days etc. My husband has also taken up baseball as a result of our son’s involvement and when I get more time I can see myself taking up something too. It is vital as our local population increases that the availability of sporting options is also increased – that means improving current grounds so they can be used more – e.g. lighting, drainage, new grounds
vs	Clubs required to provide infrastructure in addition to the basic change rooms and lighting/surface provided by Council. (i.e. Councils should not fund clubhouses etc. except through loans or incentive grants such as \$1 for every \$5 raised)
S	By playing away games of baseball I note how the facilities at Abbott Road could be improved – more storage space/club house improvements would make a difference.
Vs	I’m supportive of upgrading the existing grounds, including widening and resurfacing (artificial in the longer term) Balgowlah Oval
S	I think the Balgowlah Oval and surrounding area could become a great community facility, offering options for multiple sports and recreation activities, including walking parks and kids playgrounds and as the president of the AFL club establishing Balgowlah Oval as our home ground, I’m happy to work with the council and other sporting clubs to maximize the benefit of the area. Given the option, I would be happy to discuss funding options with the council, AFL, other sports and the community as this would be a great improvement to the Balgowlah Oval facility (as one example).

Level of support	Comments
	An audit of all council owned land should be completed to better utilise the small pockets for individual fields for training and competition.
	An audit of any council owned land needs to be done as a matter of urgency to utilize all resources in the northern beaches.
Vs	The building of suitable amenities at Newport Oval such as a club house
s	<p>I think there's a number of ideas and of course plenty of discussion will take place in the future. Newport Oval is what I believe one of the most multi/sport field on the beaches. It has during the Winter both Rugby League & Rugby Union using the 1 ground and then during the summer the cricket club have the use of the ground.</p> <p>The park is a true local ground that accommodates for a large number of children and adults. Peninsula Cricket Club and Mona Vale Raiders proposal for a Clubhouse is such a positive community project. Both clubs have been without a clubhouse since they were formed and it would be special to help the players & parents feel they have a home.</p>
Vs	<p>Priorities – B- Improve capacity and resilience of existing sports fields</p> <p>I have been involved at the Mona Vale Raiders Rugby League football Club for the past 7 years, Newport Oval being our home ground. Currently my roles at the MVJRLFC are ground manager and committee member. I personally know that Newport Oval is used to its full capacity throughout the year. Newport Public school use the oval at least 3 to 4 times a week with various sports training:- rugby league, rugby union, softball, cricket, touch football etc. Newport Oval is Newport Public School's home ground for their PSSA home games. Mona Vale Raiders Rugby League and Newport Rugby share Newport Oval throughout the winter months training 5 nights per week plus games over the weekend. Through the summer months Peninsula Junior Cricket use Newport Oval for training and as their home ground for games.</p> <p>As a local resident and being a member of the Mona Vale Raiders I am at Newport Oval on a regular basis and see that there is no shortage of use from the local residents, be it people walking, fitness groups and families and children enjoying the Oval /park.</p> <p>Over the past 10 years I have seen no upgrade or improvement to the Oval or amenities. The MVJRLFC have had 2 broken ankles due to the cricket pitch being raised above the ground level and sink holes appearing around the cricket pitch.</p> <p>Water /drainage issue on the western side of the fields</p> <p>A sewerage issue behind the amenities block which flows down towards the pathway around the amenities block.</p> <p>Due to the high pedestrian access to the Oval from Bishop Street (high side closest to Bardo Road) as there are no steps or pathway the grass slope is heavily eroded, dangerous and an extreme slip hazard.</p> <p>Timber fence is falling apart and in a state of neglect.</p> <p>In summary for the amount of use this Oval has from various sporting groups, schools and the community and being one of the first things you see entering Newport it really deserves more attention than it receives.</p>
Vs	Sporting clubs have an opportunity for further development and support of clubhouses for events and fundraising. The Mona Vale Raiders & Peninsula Cricket Club are looking to build a clubhouse to ensure the kids have a base to engage with the sporting club going forward.
Vs	Priority to be placed on building a club house for the Mona Vale Raiders. The club has been a breeding ground for NRL stars like the Trbojevic brothers and Clint Gutherson and is continuing to achieve a lot with very little. The club is growing every year and needs a clubhouse to provide better facilities for members and allow the further development of this great club
s	Newport Oval needs a club house for the Mona Vale Raiders Rugby League club. The amenities are inadequate for this growing club. The toilet cubicles are ridiculously small. This club is an important feeder club for the Many Sea Eagles and we should be encouraging local young talent, and providing something that is of value to the club and the local community.
S	Funds and or cooperation for the construction of a clubhouse at Newport Oval. This oval is the home ground of the Peninsula Cricket Club in Summer and the Mona Vale Raiders Junior

Level of support	Comments
	Rugby League Club in Winter. It would kill two birds with one stone, so to speak.
Vs	A club house for peninsula cricket is so important to the kids, community and to have a home to be able to fundraise and continue the 30 yrs as a club with a Club house.
S	Peninsula Cricket club has reached a 30 year milestone and has been a very important and positive outlet for junior sport on the peninsula. It has grown to over 200 junior players and is now the most significant junior club partner of the Sydney Sixers T-20 team. Having been involved with the club for nearly 10 years, I fully support the current plan to provide a meaningful home for the club (the first ever tangible home), in the form of the collaboration with the Mona Vale Raiders junior rugby league team at Newport Oval. This relatively simple addition to the existing structure will be a fantastic opportunity for junior support in the peninsula.
Vs	Terrey Hills Oval could be reconfigured to add another small sided soccer field where the unused netball grass courts are located. This could be multi-use field, even though it doesn't get used currently by anyone.
Vs	Improve drainage at existing fields then we wouldn't have so many closures & shortage of sports facilities.
nas	Perhaps the Strategic plan should look at better utilising the existing playing fields eg improving drainage
nas	Attention also needs to be given to drainage on the rugby union fields. Many of them have insufficient drainage and can't be used after light rain.
Ss	Attention also needs to be given to drainage on the rugby union fields. Many of them have insufficient drainage and can't be used after light rain.
Vs	For Wyatt Oval, better drainage would be useful to this use being available more and ultimately a synthetic surface would make this even more available to more users as it has everything else to make this a high use venue, lights, storage, toilets, seating etc
vs	We are keen to see the addition of lights installed at more grounds around the Northern Beaches, to a standard that allows baseball to be played at night. Implementation of these initiatives will assist in increasing the training times available on the current fields as well as facilitating growth of both junior and senior competitions by allowing additional games to be run in the evenings as well as on weekends.
	Upgrade ovals adjacent to Warringah Aquatic Centre as a high priority.
Vs	<p>*the quickest way to increase capacity and reduce wear is to implement the installation of competition lights (100 lux) and lighting upgrades to (100 lux) on existing fields. This will allow associations to relocate team training off existing over used fields and share the load with those fields that until now have not had lights.</p> <p>*our priority is lights on Frank Gray & Mike Pawley.</p> <p>*A new rectangle field with lights at North Narrabeen</p> <p>*lights on Tania Park would allow soccer to train there at night, thus taking load /wear off Balgowlah Oval & more importantly Seaforth Oval</p>
nas	Perhaps the Strategic plan should look at better utilising the existing playing fields eg providing lights for later games.
Nas	Install adequate lighting for night training and competitions
nas	Provide lighting so fields can be better used.
Nas	make better use of existing sportsfields, particularly with lighting
Vs	The addition of lights to the Aquatic Reserve main diamond baseball field has enabled new competitions (over 35s) to be created mid-week but the field is heavily utilised. Additional lights on outer fields would enable many more fields to be utilised in the evenings greatly enhancing the growth of the sport as well as the utilisation of the remaining four diamonds.

Level of support	Comments
S	Extend the use of current football fields by providing appropriate lighting to allow as many games to be played on a Saturday and Sunday as possible.
S	B, fully supportive of lights on additional fields. Frank Gray & Mike Pawley
nas	Lights and night games is one way of better utilising existing sporting facilities.
vs	<p>*upgrade of Lionel Watts facility in line with the field upgrade to synthetic</p> <p>*realignment of ground levels at cricket nets (top dress), Frank Gray reserve, in conjunction with works at Lionel watts.</p> <p>*Top dress & maintain the surface & grass mowing on Stirgess reserve Curl Curl, so it can be used as a day light warm up / training field.</p>
S	Synthetic surfaces could be used as drop-in cricket pitches and they could be place onto various areas of the field, this would hopefully allow for better designed winter and summer sports fields.
Vs	Also useable cricket nets at existing fields on northern beaches are in short supply.
S	The 2 small training nets at Newport Oval are also used all year round and I very really don't see a child in one of the 2 nets having hit or a bowl. The nets do need a good look at for safety reasons.
S	I would also like to see the pitching area at Abbott Road softball grounds updated to be longer and a roof placed over the area to allow training when wet. We currently have 2 players in the Australian U19 team, approx. 4 players in the Australian U17 squad. With softball back in the Olympics, these players need an area to continue to train despite the weather. With no indoor facility available on the beaches, options are very limited to train.
Vs	Hard surfacing of the grass netball courts at John Fisher Park should be revisited, even reviewing the Plan of Management – it's time
ss	We need to escalate making better use of existing sportsgrounds – B: Improve capacity and resilience of existing sportsfields. John Fisher Park Netball courts Improvements including urgently needed car parking as we have lost use of the school grounds, lighting, more hard surface courts to cater for growth and use of fields in wet weather. Also support C, D and E. This issue has been neglected for a long time and Pittwater area in particular has less provision for sportsfields than other areas.
Vs	Parking often gets over looked. There is never adequate parking to cope with the amount of cars – usually enough spots are provided for the parents/players of the game – but it seems to be forgotten that there is an overlap of teams arriving to warm up and teams leaving – so there are never enough spots. The parking needs to be increased.
vs	One point not mentioned and I think very relevant is to increase cyclepaths, bike lanes and bike storage to and from sports grounds. I always try and cycle with my kids but can be dangerous to certain places. I think this would make a material difference to car parking concerns and keep already sporty kids healthy – who mostly like cycling. I'm thinking particularly around the high density suburbs like Manly, Freshwater, Curl Curl, Dee, Why, Balgowlah, Allambie etc. where you could do with a little help cycle to around 10 different sports pitches
vs	Toilet facilities often get over looked and the toilets are generally badly serviced and horrible to use. Please provision for better quality bathrooms and enough funds to keep them clean and serviceable.
Ss	To conclude, the state of the Frank Gray fields at Curl Curl where field hockey is played says volumes about the need for the Council to apply their mind to options A-E, especially B
Nvs	I can only support items B and C
nas	(2) The following options may be considered, subject to no environmental impact or impact to wildlife:

Level of support	Comments
	B. Installing, drainage, lighting and reconfiguring grounds
nas	The council should focus on existing sport fields and improvements.
Nas	If we need more fields, use some of the 150 million in the bank to build new ones or improve the existing ones.
Nas	Improve Brookvale Oval (LottoLand) and have Manly League plus the Rats and Marlins and also topline Soccer play there.
Priority C – Build new sportsfields in new housing development areas (Warriewood and Ingleside)	
Support	
vs	Strongly in favour of C & E
vs	I fully support new grounds at Cromer and Belrose and new possibilities in Warriewood Valley.
Vs	I feel the Council could find quite a few places to build new sports fields in the places where they are most needed which is not around Warringah Golf course which is already surrounded by fields which are hardly used mid week and has constant heavy traffic and few areas for parking. The areas that need sports fields are the developing areas and council should step in and make allowances for sports fields before the areas are overdeveloped.
Vs	Use of land in new developing areas instead of playgrounds which are plentiful... sporting grounds which are multi purpose.
Vs	More attention to developing sports facilities as [part of the planning process with developers required to provide pools and indoor centres as part of their commercial development.
Ss	I support the planning for ovals to be incorporated in all land releases.
S	C, fully supportive
S	<p>The strategy should be implemented sooner since there is already a shortage of sportsgrounds for the many different sports in this large area where there are many parcels of vacant or unused land, such as in Ralston Avenue, Belrose.</p> <p>Past Councils have failed to attend to this, and Warriewood is one such example where it appears poor planning was to blame for not incorporating new sports fields.</p> <p>The number of people, particularly children, who are participating in sports is growing and therefor planning should also assess future requirements for the Northern Beaches Council area. There could be a new field(s) in the proposed development at Ralston Ave, Belrose.</p> <p>The process needs to be completed ASAP to avoid any further delays in catering for the many sports played in the region.</p>
	<p>NEEDS BASED : Providing playing fields on a projected needs base over the next ten years logically will allocate playing fields within the newer proposed growth areas. This has been poorly planned in subdivision development over the past two decades.</p> <p>Current fields cater for current demographics. Town Planning policy for future demographics should outline and or pass policy for position, purchase, and build playing fields as needed within the planned and approved subdivisions.</p> <p>BUDGET: Proposal point 3 indicates an option for 3.6 hectare at Warriewood and additional 7.8 hectare at Ingleside. This at no cost to ratepayers is a sound proposal. It meets Council budget feasibility. It responds to a needs based solution. It minimizes traffic congestion.</p>
S	With 2 children aged 10 and 12 I know the importance of sport for social engagement – a great way for kids to expand their friendship circle and for parents to meet new local people, physical reasons – it would be really hard to get children to have sufficient physical activity (especially my daughter) if it were not for their sports – training, games, gala days etc. My husband has also taken up baseball as a result of our son's involvement and when I get more time I can see myself taking up something too. It is vital as our local population increases that the availability of sporting options is also increased – that means ensuring all new housing developments include green space adequate for sport teams to use as well as general public

Level of support	Comments
	use and playgrounds.
	<p>Enough is not being done to ensure that new developments like Ingleside pick up the slack with provision of sports fields. I understand that Metricon Homes paid off the state government to ensure only the minimal amounts of sports fields were considered in the plans for Ingleside. Full transparency of what happened here should be instigated. This is a missed opportunity to meet demand, especially given how crippling the addition of these homes will to our already struggling infrastructure.</p> <p>The option to “Acquire and embellish additional private land as part of new housing developments” makes sense and appears by your own reports to be the most practical and cheapest option available;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * This sounds like the cheapest option according to your own studies. * Doesn't this option also allow for purpose built, modern thinking and design on fresh ground, rather than making some sort of half baked conversion of an existing facility? * Develop these more appropriate sites now, like Warriewood and Ingleside, before the housing goes in and cut the developers some slack on reasonable density if that works better for them. Other local and international developments have benefited the community in creating much more liveable places where account has been made for recreation and living. Not one or the other. * Developing these sites afresh sounds like it would be as quick as re-purposing sites like Warringah Golf Course, but with a more appropriate result. * Both options need work and in the end you would still need far more space in the near future than the conversion of Warringah Golf Course. Spend the money wisely now, instead of having to spend it again to make up for political expediency. * De-centralisation of sporting facilities would be desirable in alleviating traffic and parking issues. * De-centralisation allows for more business surrounding these facilities to benefit somewhat, especially in the food and drink area. * Sporting fields would be available where there is population growth and either reduce traffic and/or reduce travel time.
S	All planning developments in future MUST have room set aside to be used for sporting fields make new accessible areas with parking available plan for the future have the infrastructure in place don't try and make good from erroneous previous situations by robbing Peter to pay Paul eighty years down the track.
Ss	All new land released for developments should be forced to provide sports fields. The Warriewood area has shamefully been allowed to develop into a dense family housing estate without any new fields and as much as I enjoy the warriewood wetlands, nature is not a showcase. It needs untouched land connected to other undeveloped sites and I'm sad to see so little consideration taken in all these new fancy reports and developments.
ss	I believe allocating land for sports fields in new developments is key
Ss	Whilst Warriewood and Ingleside are mentioned why has other areas suitable for extension or creation of playing fields been excluded, eg. Narrabeen, Terry Hills, Manly Dam reserve, Belrose, to name a few?
Ss	I am supportive of acquiring additional land as part of new housing estates.
Ss	New land releases must have a greater emphasis on appropriate playing fields. The number of playing fields per area must be increased in new land releases
Ss	It is very clear in recent state gov announcements that the road tunnel will enable them to introduce more land releases. Currently we are seeing major changes in Frenchs Forest to include high rise housing, and land releases in Ingleside, without any detail of infrastructure, including open and sporting field requirements. The council needs to oppose these proposals and should not need to purchases land for these needs: it should be part of the state gov planning and land releases that in the case of open or sporting fields, are catered for, along with all other required infrastructure.
Nvs	Developers who are effectively bringing more people into the area, thus leading to increased

Level of support	Comments
	playing field pressure, should be mandated to include playing field contributions (be it land or money) in their development plans.
Nvs	I suggest that Council return to a time when infrastructure was considered and planned AHEAD of development (and I don't mean just sports facilities but also schools, hospitals etc). I have watched in amazement as the Evergreen Tennis and Squash Centre was closed down and replaced by houses. So too the Warriewood Valley which has been turned into a small city but without any playing fields or schools. All Council had to do was to insist that no new development was approved without the accompanying infrastructure. I am sure that the mega corporations developing these sites would quickly have found the money!
Nvs	New sports fields could be developed in Ingleside, Belrose, and perhaps Warriewood at the golf driving range.
Nvs	It would be helpful if part of the soon to be released Ralston Ave Aboriginal Land Council land, or similar land holdings, could be used as sports fields. That would alleviate pressure to take away some of Warringah Golf Course.
Nvs	Priority should be IT'S A Build new sportsfields in new housing development areas or other green space areas. [there is not enough open space being allocated to these developments. They are jampacked with housing];
nas	More land needs to be made available in the growth areas , such as Warriewood, Terrey Hills rather than causing even more congestion in the Dee Why, Brookvale, Manly areas.
Nas	New fields should and could be built on land that is available in many areas within Northern Beaches Council with consideration for population expansion and future traffic congestion. Sites should be found closer to the extremities of our area where the impact is not so great ie the Forest area, Ingleside, Oxford Falls etc.
nas	Sportsfields instead be included as an essential and major inclusion by the developers when building all the new residential dwellings in Ingleside. The same should have been part of the Warriewood Valley development.
nas	Also make sure all new developments include sports fields. Especially in northern areas. No new sports fields were provided when the new developments were built in Warriewood. The old Pittwater council is responsible for this failure.
Nas	Make sure you plan for fields in your land release areas.
Nas	look at Warriewood for sporting fields
nas	Surely new sportsgrounds would be better included in newer areas eg. Warriewood where there would be younger families. Sufficient parking spots could also be included.
Nas	Plus new fields should be compulsory in new developments – as should have been happening for last 20+ years.
Nas	Acquire land in new developments get rid of existing facilities, create new ones
nas	There should be a requirement by Council that any future developments should include grounds for sporting facilities especially towards the northern end of the Peninsula.
Nas	New housing estates should have sports fields included – can be maintained by funds from developers! For what are these funds currently used?
Nas	Making sporting field land as part of land released to developers. Eg, Warriewood Valley, no sporting field, yet hundreds of new homes, developers must just love it. Ingleside, just recently announced as a new sub division, yet not a word of land for sports. This problem is the fault of current and past councils who to readily sold off land to developers without any provision (or vision) for population growth associated with home expansion.

Level of support	Comments
Nas	I suggest you forget this stupid idea and instead demand developers release some of their land for community use as part of the deal for development of Ingleside and Warriewood instead of existing ratepayers paying through loss of existing amenities such as golf courses. We own this land and not fat cat public servants pandering to developers
nas	New residential developments should include appropriate sporting grounds as they should have been in the past.
Nas	any new fields need to be located in the growth areas of the Peninsula like Warriewood and Terrey Hills.
Nas	New sports fields should be located where the population growth is greatest – Warriewood, Ingleside and Terrey Hills
nas	Build them at Terrey Hills and Ingleside where newer & younger families are.
Nas	They should be built where new subdivisions are being planned not taking over existing sports facilities
nas	Use the land at Ingleside- get them all driving up the (one day) upgraded Mona Vale Rd and Forest Way and off the congested Pittwater Rd route
nas	Families travel from Avalon, Newport, Forestville to Curl Curl for netball every Saturday – the congestion and parking are well known problems – traffic getting through Dee Why is abysmal. Netball courts, and new sports fields need to be built to service existing residents and the massive new planned population expansion in Warriewood, Ingleside and Frenchs Forest. Existing golf courses and sport fields should NOT be touched.
Nas	(2) The following options may be considered, subject to no environmental impact or impact to wildlife: C. Building new fields in Warriewood Valley and planning for Ingleside.
Nas	New grounds are needed so buy them or make it happen on parcels of land that are available. Try - 65 -ralston avenue for one
nas	Force developers to include sports areas when building high rises and high density living.
Nas	Councils need to address the problem by only approving new housing building developments (usually for young families) if the development provides sporting facilities for the new development I.e. Warriewood.
Nas	Additional sporting fields should be in new population areas such as Warriewood.
Nas	There is ample land west of the new northern beaches hospital around Belrose etc which also is a growing area for young families that will need additional sporting fields.
Nas	I support the building of new sportsfields in new housing development areas (Warriewood and Ingleside).
Nas	No new large developments should be approved without some land being put aside for playing fields or similar community amenities. For example proposals currently under consideration for Ingleside, Belrose and particularly Frenchs Forest must address this issue. It is such short term thinking to reduce the size and space of golf courses. It's akin to previous generations ripping up tram lines. Yes the Council purchasing land may be necessary and some of these costs could be recouped over the long term by charging the sporting clubs higher fees for use of facilities. But overall the requirement to reserve space for sporting fields should be addressed by making this a mandatory requirement of large development projects.
Nas	Why as in Warriewood's expansion did the Council not include one sports field but now want to take away a well supported golf course because of its very bad management. Always telling us of your good ideas but no one owning up to this great balls up. And it is an ongoing problem for the 35 years I have lived in Mona Vale.
Nas	I believe shortfalls in land should be addressed by making sure property developers contribute from large scale projects.

Level of support	Comments
Nas	The only way to go is to implement acquire and embellish addition land as part of new housing developments
nas	It is apparent to even an untrained eye that residential development of Warriewood and nearby areas has proceeded without adequate consideration of open space and playing fields.
Nas	Council should be looking at providing courses in high growth areas such as Belrose, Terrey Hills etc.
Nas	As a young (20yo) NB resident there are much better ways to raise space than converting Warringah golf course. Obvious bias as a member of the club, but I've been playing cricket, rugby league, rugby union, and football (your survey calls it soccer...) on Beaches sports-grounds since I was 5. The amount of land you grant to developers etc and the amount of free space that's on the beaches that you clearly aren't considering for sports grounds is a joke.
Nas	The council should focus on insisting on sport field allocation with new developments.
Nas	<p>Council had a duty to plan for sportsfields in the first development in Warriewood years ago, and all the subsequent developments since. Nothing happened!! The \$\$\$'s came the priority, not the open area for sportsfields. Land sizes were reduced to push more and more houses in. SHAME! SHAME! Get it right this time and plan what land remains in Warriewood and Ingleside. Hands off the golf courses. Decentralise. We don't want another ridiculous, extremely busy venue like Curl Curl netball courts. Have you tried getting through the traffic on Pittwater Rd on Saturdays?</p> <p>Plan for sportsgrounds around the area where new housing development is taking place ie Warriewood and Ingleside. No sense in taking golf course land.</p>
nas	When the newly elected Council is formed one of their first priorities is to earmark other land for sporting grounds where the future housing estates will be built e.g. Warriewood/Terrey Hills/Ingleside.
Nas	New fields should be allocated in conjunction with new developments.
nas	Focus first on developing new fields in conjunction with development of increased residential housing or density eg Warriewood, Ingleside, Dee Why and Terry Hills. new sportsfields should have been, and still ought be built by developers and located to support growth areas, Warriewood, Ingleside, Dee Why and Terrey Hills.
Nas	Council has failed to plan for sporting fields as the population has grown over many years. All new developments should have mandatory allocations for sporting fields.
	I believe that Council receives an amount that is meant to be used for sports field development for every new DA – How has this money been used? I am loss to understand why no new fields were built in the Warriewood Valley when the thousands of residences were built. I recently saw plans for a 250 odd housing estate at Belrose, with no plans for any sporting fields.
	All new housing developments should provide large sporting areas.
Oppose	
Nas	<p>There is an abundance of land on the northern beaches for community use. I object to option C re purchasing private land from S94 funds. Be creative. Leave private land alone because it is not viable as the remaining lands in Warriewood are potentially the most valuable and sought after and should provide future accommodation and employment generation, like every other shopping precinct in Sydney. Hands off private landholdings.</p> <p>I object to Option C. Hands off private lands. That's the most expensive option and some landowners didn't agree to be included in this strategy, and have no intentions to sell. So this option should become redundant.</p>
Nas	I do not support option C. Hands off my private property. There is an abundance of land on the Northern Beaches for increasing fields and upgrading existing sportsfields. Leave private properties out of the equation.

Level of support	Comments
Nas	<p>I strongly totally object to option C. "Build new sportsfields in new housing development areas (Warriewood and Ingleside)."</p> <p>Our land in Boondah road has been unfairly targeted by council for sportsfields. This is our private land and it has been wrongly targeted for sportsfields. So NO to option C, No No No. Our permission has not been given for this terrible injustice. Leave us alone.</p>
Nas	<p>We own land in Boondah Rd Warriewood and we totally object to our lands being included as point C of the Strategy. These are private lands that are being sterilized by Council's actions and this is a deplorable state of affairs when councils is simultaneously running a commercial golf driving range on 5 hectares of flat land next to Rat Park. Wait till the golf course users realise this fact!</p> <p>It seems to me that this whole public exhibition is very badly run and is totally skewed to provide answers that the Council wants.</p>
Nas	<p>Strongly object to action 3 on page 9. Hands off Boondah Rd lands. Leave us alone. Object to priority no. C. Short term strategy involves action to acquire land in WW Valley. Again, confirm very strong objection. You have no right to offer this as an option to the public. I reconfirm my strong objection to purchase of private land under S94. Get your threatening hands off the private landholdings in Boondah Road.</p>
Nas	<p>I strongly object to priority Action C. Money should not be spent on buying private land. No to Priority Action C.</p> <p>Do not take land from private land owners!</p>
Nas	<p>I strongly object to priority action c! No to action c.</p> <p>I am a land owner at boondah road and absolutely object to the action c. This is private land!</p>
nas	<p>I strongly object to option 'c'. Private land is private. I cannot believe that council have put this option c to the public when this earmarked land at boondah is not up for sale.</p>
Nas	<p>I object to option C above. Buying private lands is very expensive option and gives Council opportunity to upzone and resell for huge financial gains in the future, whilst pretending to be planning for fields. A very good example is 9 Fern Creek Road Warriewood. The residents were deceived.</p>
Nas	<p>I strongly object to action c – as I am one of the landowners in Boondah Road and council threatens our home and livelihood. We did not agree to being put out there in public submissions.</p> <p>Council should buy land that is freely offered for sale in areas yet to be developed rather than threaten resumption of privately owned lands from families that have lived and worked their land for generations and are not willing sellers.</p>
Nas	<p>I strongly object to Action C.</p> <p>I am a landowner in Boondah Road Warriewood. I have not agreed to sell my land to Council which wants to seize my land for a fraction of its real worth. Council has manipulated the Warriewood land use over a number of years unconscionably to land grab and callously impoverish my family. What council has been doing to seize my land is unconscionable.</p>
Nas	<p>I strongly object to Action 3. "Action 3: Acquiring or securing additional land as part of new housing developments.....While this is funded by section 94 funds it is dependent on current property owners wanting to sell. Therefore it could be a long time before the appropriate land becomes available."</p> <p>Is this a veiled threat to the private property owners? "a long time"? "becomes available"? Does this mean that Council intends to "acquire" my family land irrespective of whether other appropriate land becomes available such as Council-owned golf course land? Does Council intend to continue oppressing the land owners as it has been doing for the over a decade? All the private land owners in the Southern Buffer know that Council has been restricting the land uses progressively to be able to seize the land for virtually nothing.</p> <p>Why would Northern Beaches Council target 4-5 hectares of formally designated and still potential employment generating land next to an existing shopping centre, in a local centre (Southern Buffer) for new open space? Maybe we should stick employment –generating land in the middle of one of the under-used golf courses instead of next to Warriewood Square?</p>

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	My calculations indicate that by converting some of these lands to playing fields more than 11 hectares of playing fields would be added, and the Northern Beaches would still have well over the provision per capita for Sydney general.
Nas	Council should NOT be seeking to buy lands from private owners when the owners have stated they are not interested in selling their property – especially when there are other options regarding public lands.
Priority D – Partner with schools to provide additional sportsfields for the community	
vs	The construction of sporting facilities on school grounds is a wonderful idea. The synthetic pitch at Narrabeen Sports High has seen the collaboration of DET & Council funds to provide an excellent resource for both school & out-of-school hours. There should be more of this happening where possible.
	So many schools have sports grounds that are not used on the weekends or evenings. Council should spend some money to upgrade and maintain these sportgrounds and then open them to the public over the weekend and evenings.
	Utilise more school sports grounds.
S	D, access to toilets & change rooms for girls / women needed.
S	The need for Department of Education to allow schools to be used on weekends for sport. Many schools could accommodate the mini games to allow the full size games to be played on the district fields. Co-location and after hours activities on Dept of Education land is happening in the growth centres (north west and south west). There is no reason why this model can't be used in urban areas.
	Building synthetic pitches in schools to maximise their use
Ss	The idea of approaching schools and turning their sports fields into synthetic grounds is a good one, do this and you will have enough sporting facilities without taking away the golf courses.
	Look at school grounds
	Opening up of parks and schools for playing fixtures.
Ss	I also recall school sports grounds were used, is this no longer the case? I know Frenchs Forest Public host cricket on their sports field, I see no reason why these grounds cannot be used at weekend for competitive games, and include private schools as well.
Ss	Have after school sports. Do not support using existing facilities that are sorely needed especially for seniors to remain active.
Ss	On that basis hard courts that are unused at weekends in schools could be converted for use by netball (and basketball). This would eliminate the need for more hard surfaces and destroying Warringah golf course
Nvs	I can only support items B and C
nvs	I think partnering with schools to identify available sporting fields is better than taking away an iconic golf course that is much loved by its members and local residents.
Nas	Alternative venues should be considered such as school fields.
Nas	(2) The following options may be considered, subject to no environmental impact or impact to wildlife: D. Working with schools to seek to provide use of school fields for community sports.(THIS SHOULD BE A PRIORITY)
Nas	Use the empty sports area at all the local schools. They are empty every weekend. Cromer High, Wheeler Heights and Narrabeen High are schools I drive past every weekend with empty

Level of support	Comments
	sports fields. Private schools that receive government funding could also be used.
Nas	I support the partnering with schools to provide additional sportsfields for the community.
Nas	You should make more use of school playing fields rather than use land currently used for golf courses.
Nas	Start using school grounds for sportsfields
nas	the possible use of unused school sports ground
nas	Open up school facilities to no school use. Do not try a blanket approach but look to facilities where it is practicable and easy to administrate, even if new lighting needs be added.
Nas	make use of Public School grounds.
nas	School sport grounds should be utilised more fully
nas	Yes, there are a number of schools sports fields that lay dormant on weekends. It's time to use existing facilities already built.
Nas	As well, the School ovals are lying vacant at weekends when they should be used for childrens' sports
nas	Better planning and use of School Sports grounds that are mostly under utilized.
Nas	Share under used fields e.g. schools.
	Utilise existing school sporting spaces. There are plenty of public and private schools which have sporting facilities which should be used after school and on weekends.
	There are many public schools lands which warrant investigation for their greater potential.
	More school fields could be used.
	Better use of school grounds is essential.
	I think it is a great idea to partner with schools and use the facilities they have on weekends.
	A lot more work needs to be done in negotiating with the Dept of Education regarding unused school grounds.
	Under-utilised school playing fields?
	Urgent negotiation and resolution of use agreements with Dept Education, Catholic and Private schools for access to Sports grounds.
	Using school fields is beneficial to all.
Priority E – Install synthetic surfaces on some existing sportsfields to enable greater use	
Support for synthetic surfaces – unspecified sports	
vs	Strongly in favour of C & E
vs	Bringing forward the resurfacing of the ovals, whilst more expensive will offer more sports to play on the existing / expanded grounds, as there will be more time available, less time lost due to bad weather and the wear & tear that happens in winter will be eliminated.
Vs	Build synthetic and water based fields and run the facility like a business renting them out to other clubs, schools etc.
	I also support the upgrading of current sporting fields with synthetic surfaces.
Vs	I also support more synthetics being put in place which will give these venues more use and

Level of support	Comments
	less wear and tear. (player safety is something that has been overlooked as these fields get overused they are dangerous to play on and with no grass cover the surface changes to have holes and undulations)
Vs	All weather surfaces are just fantastic with most grass ovals suffering after any rainfall and matches subsequently called off. I realise that there is an expense involved, but I'd like to see synthetic surfaces installed at all fields that struggle through winter – for example Abbott Rd Curl Curl. The benefits of such expenditure (higher participation rates) will far outweigh the costs in long term health care of less active people on the Northern Beaches.
Ss	Put your dollars into turning the grass sporting fields into synthetic fields and you will get more use out of these grounds.
	identify 6 sports fields each year to develop as synthetic multi-use playing surfaces.
Ss	Only somewhat supportive as Synthetic at E is too far down the list. I think you have the correct options just in wrong order. My view is synthetic is top priority – on 30% of fields – fields that have already good parking and have several fields eg – John Fisher, Millers, Cromer, Boondah, Lionel Watts, Mike Pawley oval (Hockey), St Mathews Farm, David Thomas, Beverly Job. Logically make greater use of existing grounds via installing Synthetic surfaces. Games can be spread across days and times, also eliminates local traffic congestion at some fields by spreading out timing via greater use. Also consider: 1) reduces wear and tear allowing great use. 2) Also safer for participants 3) less maintenance for council? Eg mowing I am unsure of cost installing synthetic.
Vs	More emphasis on introducing synthetic fields that allow multi-purpose sport use (see recent synthetic surface at Abbotsleigh School Wahroonga). Synthetic hockey pitch (wet) to be developed at Narrabeen Lakes Institute of Sport rather than take up existing oval. Other synthetic surfaces (dry) suitable for A grade hockey, soccer, touch, and other sports to be a priority. Cost benefit analysis of developing existing sports grounds to be undertaken with poor drainage/retention basin fields requiring most cost to be low priority over good quality sites suitable for synthetic a higher priority.
S	We need some more artificial grass grounds too which can handle lots of games
s	E, fully support – Lionel Watts & facility upgrade.
S	I feel that Porters is a very good candidate for a synthetic surface, it always seems to be in need of a repair job every year. Improving this ground would possible help with the younger age groups playing cricket.
	Existing facilities can have synthetic surfaces installed as this will enable them to be much more consistently and heavily utilised, Narrabeen High School is a wonderful example of what can be achieved.
S	I would like to see Abbott Road 3.4.5 explored more for synthetic surface. This area is flat, the grounds are used for soccer, cricket & junior baseball – all which can be played on a synthetic surface, it would allow multi use of the area and I massive space able for teams to use/share during wet weather for training and games. It has lighting at the moment and would be able to be upgraded. It may also stop the general public from using the area as an off leash dog area (prohibited)
S	I do believe we can have a better sharing system. We need to put the sports that coincide together. Some sports just don't do justice to the playing surfaces if you are going to supply more grass fields. Building more Synthetic fields for sports that can work together is a great option, but we also need to consider at the moment sports that are being to forced to share just isn't an option.
	There is considerable latent capacity at Warriewood Valley Sportsground (used for 20-25 hours a week for soccer in winter) and the Narrabeen Sports High School synthetic field (55%

Level of support	Comments
	utilisation). Upgrade the Warriewood Valley Sportsground/Narrabeen Sports High School/Northern Beaches Indoor Sports Centre to a regional facility. NBISC and its partners propose converting the two fields at WVS to synthetic, providing two hardcourt netball courts east of the WVS, and expanding the NBISC (with \$3 million contribution from Council).
	Redevelop and reconfigure grounds as was done at Cromer park.
Nvs	First off you would all weather surface existing sports grounds to get more use out of existing fields.
Nas	(2) The following options may be considered, subject to no environmental impact or impact to wildlife: E. Installing synthetic surfaces at Lionel Watts and Cromer 2, and investigating options for further synthetic fields including synthetic hockey fields.(subject to dogs being allowed outside of sports in progress or that suitable areas are allocated for dogs
nas	Many existing fields should be converted to all weather surface – which in the long term is not expensive due to savings on maintenance.
Nas	Convert existing sports fields with astro turf
nas	Conversion to all weather fields should happen where possible.
Nas	Improve existing sportsgrounds with all weather surfaces and lighting – concentrate on supplying in areas with increasing numbers of younger people, eg Warriewood and Ingleside
nas	resurface existing fields in less residential areas
nas	Upgrade existing fields with lights, synthetic surfaces.
Nas	The only way to go is to implement CONVERT MORE TO SYNTHETIC
nas	Ten thousand people answered a specific question about the future of Warringah Golf Club. They were treated like an unruly pet – patted on the head and kicked out the door. Five thousand people answered general questions about future directions and those answers were interpreted as support for actions the Council wants to take. There are only two real actions being proposed plus a mix of “ifs” and “maybes” and optimism (for example Warriewood and Ingleside). The idea that traffic issues at Manly Vale will be fixed by the B Line buses has to be a joke and I will believe Ingleside as a venue when instead of stories in the MD about sellers not wanting to wait 20 years to sell I actually see reports of the Council being in the market buying land. The two serious actions are bulldozing half of Warringah GC and rolling out synthetic surfaces and the commitment to the latter seems less than total. The costs quoted in the report say that building new ovals at Warringah is 40% cheaper than resurfacing existing fields. Why would the Council ignore one of its main strategies and build traditional fields with all the shortcomings attached. Why wouldn't the strategy clearly state that all new fields will have synthetic surfaces.
Nas	I support the installation of synthetic surfaces on some existing sportsfields to enable greater use
nas	convert existing sportsfields into artificial surfaces where possible
nas	Do not convert any golf course to playing fields. Make them all synthetic
	High priority for more hard surfacing/synthetic fields with lighting is paramount for all sports.
	If the Council was truly concerned it would make more fields weatherproof and provide lighting so that the fields could be used in all weather and of a night.
Support for synthetic surface for hockey	
vs	(6) Synthetic fields for hockey
vs	(5) Turf fields for hockey please

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vs	(5) Synthetic fields for hockey please
vs	(2) Synthetic fields for hockey on the northern beaches
vs	Synthetic hockey field
vs	Synthetic turf field for hockey please.
Vs	Please build a turf hockey pitch
vs	The requirement for hockey facilities must be prioritised. A suitable location for future home needs to be identified urgently so that the hockey community can commence fundraising.
Vs	Please do the feasibility study for a hockey turf pitch I as soon as possible, and implement it sooner! I play junior hockey now and it would be awesome to have turf pitches built near home. Our rep team has to train at Pennant Hills and our normal weekly training for turf is on a futsal court. I love hockey and want to continue to play it both on grass (socially with my school friends) and on turf (more competitive with school and hockey friends). I think we would get so many more boys and girls playing if we had some really good competition level turf pitches that we can train, play and have carnivals on.
Vs	Hockey really needs synthetic turf fields for locally. We have one lot of grass fields and there aren't enough nor are there any synthetic ones.
Vs	It is good to see hockey finally getting some attention. I travel 1-1.5 hours in one direction for games and training 3x a week. A facility that includes 3 synthetic fields (and at a push indoor facilities), whilst is costly for initial outlay, can only reap benefits by attracting tournaments – both State, Interstate and International (e.g. masters World Cup) and drive revenue for a large number of businesses. It will also increase participation rates.
Vs	(2) I strongly support converting more sportsfields to synthetic, specially for hockey players. It is really hard to motivate kids to play this sport if they have to commute for at least one hour – each way- to play or train. On the northern beaches, when committed parents try to move their kids away from screens and promote outdoor living, sports and team play, there aren't many options for group sports, specially for girls. The Department of health is investing huge amounts in promoting the "Girls Make your move" campaign but we feel that our daughter really has no option for a team sport here. She doesn't like contact sports like rugby or soccer. She signed up for hockey and this season her team has had just 3 weeks (days) training, as all the other weeks the sportsground (Frank Gray) was closed due to wet weather. And the three times we got to train we had to stop at 5pm because it was so dark that it wasn't safe, as there are not lights in the grounds. How can she engage in a sport if she cannot even train? She keeps saying it's not fair! And of course it's not fair. If we don't invest in grassroots soon Australia won't be part of the elite of this sport. Other third world countries, such as Argentina, have invested in synthetic fields decades ago and the results are there. Lots of players and many cups won. The northern Beaches are not only about surf!
Vs	I strongly support converting more sportsfields to synthetic, specially for hockey players. It is really hard for me to play this sport I love if I have to commute for at least one hour –each way- to play or train. My parents want me to play sports and be outdoors but there aren't many options for group sports, specially for girls. I don't like contact sports like rugby or soccer. I signed up for hockey and this season I only got to train 3 times because all the other weeks the sportsground (Frank Gray) was closed due to wet weather. And the three times we got to train we had to stop at 5pm because it was so dark that it wasn't safe, as there are not lights in the grounds. It's not fair! The northern Beaches are not only about surf!
Vs	I strongly support converting more sportsfields to synthetic, specially for hockey players. It is really hard to motivate kids to play this sport if they have to commute for at least one hour – each way- to play or train. On the northern beaches, when committed parents try to move their kids away from screens and promote outdoor living, sports and team play, there aren't many options for group sports, specially for girls. The Department of health is investing huge amounts in promoting the "Girls Make your move" campaign but my sister really has no option for a team sport here. She doesn't like contact sports like rugby or soccer. She signed up for hockey and this season her team has had just 3 weeks (days) training, as all the other weeks

Level of support	Comments
	the sportsground (Frank Gray) was closed due to wet weather. How can she engage in a sport if she cannot even train? She keeps saying it's not fair! And of course it's not fair. If we don't invest in grassroots soon Australia won't be part of the elite of this sport. Other third world countries, such as Argentina, have invested in synthetic fields decades ago and the results are there. Lots of players and many cups won. The northern Beaches are not only about surf! Even if I love surfing.
Vs	Please add a synthetic grass field for hockey. All other Sydney and regional NSW areas have synthetic hockey fields, please consider at least adding one to our LGA. We have already lost 3 rounds this season from too wet fields.
Vs	<p>Generally I support the recommended actions. I play hockey, as does my daughter, and our needs are currently not met in our area. This is limiting our participation in sport. A 2 or 3 turf hockey facility would be a real asset to our area, located maybe at the top of Forest Way/Mona Vale Road. There is huge support for this at grassroots level in the hockey community, currently we need to travel across Sydney. Or in the case of my daughter she is not playing hockey on turf because I haven't got time to drive for 45 mins + on a week night to take her to a hockey turf for training or game.</p> <p>The inclusion of hockey fields (artificial surface) is imperative for the growth of this sport in our area. We have NO proper hockey field on the northern beaches or lower north shore. This is limiting participation in the sport and definitely limiting the development of our junior players, as it is too far for many parents to drive to take their children to Homebush or Ryde or Pennant hills where the turfs are.</p>
Vs	<p>As far as hockey is concerned the 3,000 plus players, coaches, refs and - 73 -olunteers who help foster this great game on the Northern Beaches would benefit so much from having a local synthetic turf to play on.</p> <p>As you are aware there is a fantastic grass hockey competition at Frank Gray fields in Curl Curl which runs on Saturdays from April to September every year and is supported by a large group of volunteers and parents.</p> <p>This competition fosters the game for many young children but unfortunately when the time comes for them to improve their skills and switch to playing on a synthetic turf (which is the International Game) many do not because it means they have to commit to playing on turf fields in Kuringai, Ryde, Pennant Hills, Sydney Uni, Cintra and Homebush. As you can appreciate getting to Ryde in Friday night traffic is often a one way 2 hour experience.</p> <p>If there was a synthetic hockey turf on the Northern beaches it would mean that all those children who play the grass game in primary school but quit in high school simply because they are unable to travel to turf games would be able to continue their sport.</p> <p>Also when you have more than one child per family playing turf the fact that we have no local turf to play on makes it extremely difficult for families to commit to teams and keep Manly and Northern Beaches turf teams competitive.</p> <p>Ive also seen talented hockey players choose not to play representative hockey because of the time it takes to travel to training which is usually in Pennant Hills or Homebush.</p> <p>If you build a synthetic hockey turf on the Northern Beaches it would give many more local teenagers a great sport to continue to play, a local club with club facilities for them to hang out in and become more involved in umpiring, coaching, admin and socialising. It would give more opportunities for the club to get together as a club and to build and foster a hockey 'community'. At present even with the efforts of many individuals these basic facilities that many other sports on the beaches enjoy have been denied to hockey.</p> <p>We certainly hope that our time has come and the Northern Beaches Council will approve a synthetic turf for one of Australia's most loved sports and for our local hockey community. I would love to see a synthetic hockey pitch be realised and implemented within the first 5 years – 2017 – 2021 rather than the second. I'd like to see council work with the Northern Beaches group of Hockey Representatives and Hockey NSW to make a synthetic pitch a priority and a reality.</p>
Vs	Having lived and played hockey in other countries and cities in Australia I returned to Sydney 8 years ago with two very small children, initially living in the Eastern suburbs. Six years ago I moved to the Northern beaches and my youngest began playing hockey 2 years ago. It is disappointing and a significant disadvantage to the children and to hockey nsw not to have suitable facilities for Northern beaches players to further increase the standard and the

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	participation levels. Australia is one of the leading nations in the sport however the investment is so tiny when compared to the resources of the other major sporting codes. Investing in hockey facilities in the Northern Beaches should be a priority for strategic direction of sports in our local community.
Vs	We really need a proper hockey facility in our local area like everybody else in Sydney and the rest of NSW! My daughter LOVES hockey and it is so hard to develop skills on the sub-par fields that we have at the moment. They are frequently closed and they can't learn the fast paced turf skills that they need if they play hockey anywhere else. I am convinced that a well managed artificial turf facility could be self funding once built. My nieces and nephews live in rural NZ with a much lower population than the northern beaches and their astro-turf facility is self funding while still being financially accessible to all players.
vs	It's not clear from the documents how priority for different projects / sports might be set. I coach 2 club hockey teams and a representative team, for club training we use a futsal field but it's not ideal, I is synthetic but the construction is different to hockey synthetic fields and of course the size is much smaller which makes it impossible to set up full width tactical drills. For representative teams, we are training at pennant hills, which is 45 minutes travel without traffic and \$7 in tolls each way for all concerned. Having hockey facilities in the local area will be a big advantage and will help get more boys playing hockey.
Vs	I am very happy to see that the implementation plan includes the addition of turf pitches to support hockey. I am just hoping that the medium and long term strategies can be sped up to a shorter term implementation as I currently have children playing hockey for clubs in the northern beaches and would love to have a turf field for training and games sooner rather than later. I would love for them to continue to play into adulthood and to stay with their childhood club (assuming they remain in Sydney!), which I think can certainly occur if we get local turf pitches. It would be simply amazing to host a state competition in this area.
vs	Synthetic hockey turf fields on the northern beaches are essential to the growth of hockey in the northern beaches. 3 times a week, we are FORCED to drive hour after hour just to play a game of hockey. This is atrocious. We are the only region in NSW with no synthetic turf fields. Every other sport on the northern beaches is provided with adequate sports grounds and synthetic fields, yet hockey, one of the most rapidly growing sports is left out.
Vs	Hoping for new turf fields as there has been discussion over the years of land set aside near Mona Vale & Forest Way roads. Wet weather has meant closed fields and many missed matches. Our vets comp is run on the turf at Kuring-Gai High School, having a field closer would be wonderful.
Vs	Both my daughters and myself play hockey and soccer. We need more all weather sporting fields. Sport gets cancelled with the smallest amount of rain. I also have to drive over half an hour to play in a turf competition. Northern Beaches needs to start modernising its sports fields. I feel it is key to ensure some all weather turf fields are built for hockey in the northern beaches area.
Vs	We need more hockey players in the world and more kids off their backsides enjoying the fresh air. If I had to travel over an hour to get my child to hockey – I just wouldn't do a 2 hour round trip!
Vs	<p>I am a mother of four daughters who play netball, soccer, touch football and hockey. I grew up locally and have personally been heavily involved with Manly & Queenscliff Netball. However, I submit this perspective on behalf of hockey.</p> <p>We have now had training and playing on Saturday cancelled some 3 times already this season. It doesn't take much to work out that this preference to close the grounds, versus other years, come off the back of AFL & Hockey sharing the same fields and an obvious & legitimate concern over the future state of the ground if AFL were to play. Why should hockey be penalised for this ?</p> <p>Either send AFL back to the grounds they were using prior, or even better, give Hockey dedicated fields – preferable water based turf fields.</p> <p>Our daughters all play rep hockey and the facilities at the various Carnivals we attend are</p>

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	incredible and the community utilises them. Our facilities for hockey are abominable and an embarrassment for an area with one of the highest enrolments of players in NSW. We pay rates. We pay playing fees of which a large portion goes to Council. These kids should be able to play & an improved pitch surface would be a huge benefit to all involved.
Vs	Water based synthetic turf fields are needed urgently. Do not push them into Phase 2 or 3.
Vs	By creating a new hockey pitch on the Northern beaches this would significantly reduce the travel that we do 2/3 times a week which would save upwards of 6 hours a week on the Sydney roads.
Vs	As a parent of 4 children who play hockey and a player myself it would be great to see a synthetic turf facility on the Northern Beaches. It is a sport that has strong female participation whilst also affording the opportunity for both sexes to play together. Currently families have to travel great distances to play.
vs	We desperately need a synthetic turf pitch on the Northern Beaches. Currently juniors and seniors have to travel large distances to both play and train and yet the sport is still growing. Hockey is a sport we have particular success at nationally. If we were to have this available to us we would be able to run events locally which currently are only held in NSW regional areas and bring in income and exposure to our region. L It is a junior sport that has strong female participation rates (75%) but is also a mixed sport so allows the kids to mix through their teenage years. Imagine how much the sport could grow if we had the facility.
vs	Would be great to get turf hockey fields. There are not any other turf grounds for Hockey on the lower North Shore or Northern beaches. Little kids can do the grass comp but after that they have to travel as far as Ryde/North Turramurra or Pennant Hills to play hockey. There are no other facilities anywhere.
Vs	Note that Hockey specific facilities can also be used for OzTag, Touch Football, Gridiron. This would make the feasibility of a Hockey specific turf comply further with Councils objectives. Hockey desperately needs action quickly to ensure players do not leave the sport.
Vs	From a total of 122 playing fields on the northern beaches there is NOT ONE synthetic hockey field. My daughter plays with the Manly Hockey club and our "home" game is deep in North Turramurra (27 kms from Manly). We have also played other clubs from the northern beaches at the synthetic grass fields in Pennant Hills! Why 2 northern beaches clubs need to drive so far to play a game of hockey is beyond me. Driving to games on a Friday night takes 1.5 hours in peak hour traffic.
vs	Many councils have installed artificial turf that is not suitable for hockey. Juniors especially need the chance to train and up-skill on turf.
Vs	Please please please include hockey fields. Northern Beaches desperately needs its own hockey fields. I have been playing hockey since school and ever since the Manly Club started in early 1990s. Hockey on the peninsula has grown and would be even more popular with players and families if we had our own facilities nearby. I've always had to travel to play and it's difficult with families to put in the extra travelling time. A lot of players have not continued with this great team sport for that very reason. Northern Beaches has facilities for every other sport except a decent hockey field/ centre. It's a great family friendly team sport and Australia is a top hockey nation. We need to support and help develop a growing hockey community on the beaches. There are also a lot of European/ British immigrants on the beaches who come from strong hockey communities. They are looking for clubs to join but are put off by the lack of local facilities. Manly club loses its junior plays to other clubs who have decent grounds to train/play on. Please let us play turf hockey on the beaches.
Vs	My three children play hockey and we drive all over Sydney to play club. We don't have a home ground and desperately require a synthetic field/s. Unbelievably this is an Olympic sport where our Oz teams are one of the best in the world. We need a synthetic purpose built hockey pitch to grow the sport and hold state, national & international sport

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vs	I am very supportive of the proposal to build a synthetic turf hockey pitch as my children currently have to play all over Sydney and I know many people do not participate because of the commute. My son in year 12 commutes an hour to Pennant Hills just for training every week. The provision of hockey fields in addition to communal space are important and will be utilised more efficiently than having so many golf courses.
Vs	I think synthetic fields with lights are a priority – they can be used by all ages, for so many sports, by kids and adults and in wet weather.
Vs	Would love to see synthetic hockey fields on the beaches. Whilst I have spent the last decade travelling to other areas of Sydney to play, I hope my children don't have to.
Vs	I suggest that synthetic Olympic sized hockey fields are made so that the sport of hockey can continue to grow.
Vs	More synthetic surfaces for other codes eg hockey
vs	There has to be a synthetic pitch for hockey on the Northern Beaches. We are losing good hockey talent to other sports because there are no facilities. Hockey is played by Men, Women, Children young and old.
Vs	Allocate land with priority to new synthetic hockey field facility
vs	Local Astro turf for our hockey would be fabulous, we travel so far to get our children to matches and have no local artificial surface training facilities, so our team trains on grass but competes on turf. The players' skills cannot develop to their potential without proper facilities.
vs	I fully support the idea of several synthetic hockey fields in Northern Beaches Area. Hockey is a growing sport and in order for us to do better the synthetic fields will encourage more children to play sport and join a great community.
Vs	We are in real need of synthetic playing surface for our hockey players. I have 2 children already playing, 1 representing the area all over the state, with a 3 rd child to start next year. I also manage a junior side each Saturday morning. I am very concerned that the children of our area are at a distinct disadvantage to children in many other areas both in Sydney and across the state who have access to TURF facilities. The competitive disadvantage is clear on the field. I am also concerned that kids in our area will drift away from the sport if they are required to travel through Sydney traffic to Ryde, Pennant Hills and Ku-ring Gai in order to get access to proper synthetic playing surfaces. Note, all senior rep hockey, all over the world, is played on a synthetic surface. Why do we continue to place the children of the Northern Beaches at such a disadvantage? We can fix this easily. Please make the right decision for our kids.
Vs	I would like to suggest a turf hockey field. I have been playing hockey for a number of years now and I absolutely love it. However, having to travel up to two hours on Friday nights or Saturday mornings after school and work is very tiring and annoying. I cannot make every game because of the travelling and traffic and my parents cannot get home from work to drive me to fields hours away. A turf hockey field would be ideal for the thousands of hockey players on the Northern Beaches. I am not sure if I can continue playing hockey at this level because there are no available turf fields to play on and because of the hassle it is to get there. It takes me an hour to get to training after school and for competitions I have to leave school early because of the travelling time. Personally, I think this is ridiculous. Netball, soccer, rugby, tennis and swimming, just to name a few sports, have easy access to playing fields. Why not hockey? By installing a turf hockey field, not only will it encourage others to take up the sport, but it would make life a lot easier for players just wanting to play hockey.
Vs	I would like priority to be given to installing a synthetic hockey field in the northern beaches area. Manly Warringah Hockey Association is the second largest Hockey Club in NSW, however as noted in your Sportsground Strategy Document, further growth in membership and in the sport is restricted by the lack of a local home ground synthetic hockey field. Local games for the Manly club are played on fields that are located some 30 kilometres away in Kuring-gai, Pennant Hills and Lidcombe. Due to the limited availability of fields, all of these games are played on Friday nights just after work at either 6.30 or 7.30 PM – and are very

Level of support	Comments
	<p>difficult for working parents to get to.</p> <p>Hockey is a sport in which Australia has done very well at on the international stage. The men's team have won the world Hockey Champions Trophy an incredible 14 times and have placed in the top four in every Olympics since 1980. They also won the Hockey World Cup in 1986, 2010 and 2014, and gold at the Olympics in 2004. The Australian women's team is currently ranked 2nd in the world. They are one of Australia's most successful sporting teams, boasting three Olympic Gold Medals from the past six Games as well as winning two World Cups (1994, 1998) and four Commonwealth Games Gold Medals. They have been crowned Australia's Team of the Year five times and were awarded Best Australian Team at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games. Installing a synthetic hockey field in the northern beaches area will ensure that young players remain involved in the sport and help contribute to our country's proud international record in Hockey.</p>
Vs	Please consider hockey needs
vs	<p>Hockey fields are lacking in this area with some children having to travel to the Western Suburbs on the weekends to play this sport. My child took up hockey this year with Seaforth Hockey Club and is loving it. It would be great to see more hockey fields in the area so that families do not have to travel far to play the game. It would impact my child's ability to keep up this sport if we had to travel too far to get there.</p>
Vs	<p>Hockey has a limited future on grass. It's future is on turf. My children play at school on a Friday, then on turf on Saturday mornings, then on grass on Saturday afternoons. I play on grass on Saturday afternoons and my children frequently join in too. It is a great game for skill, fitness and social life and there is a national team. I find it hard to believe there would not be space for a turf hockey pitch on the beaches and fully support any moves to introduce one.</p>
Vs	<p>With regards to hockey, we have no turf fields on the Northern Beaches that our kids can play and train on and the only grass field at curl Curl are in really bad condition. Our national hockey teams are regularly first or second in the world, yet we have so few good training and playing fields here and an over abundance of soccer and football fields.</p>
Vs	<p>The northern beaches needs a turf field for hockey. At the moment we have to travel to play and train on turf!</p>
Vs	<p>I would line to have the opportunity to play in my local area turf hockey for not only myself but also my 3 children. I sincerely hope the council responds to the need for upgraded sports facilities to match those of other council areas.</p>
Vs	<p>I fully support the recommendation of several synthetic hockey fields. My parents take me almost 3 times a week to either Pennant Hills or Ryde to train for hockey. Having local fields would spare me and my parents many hours of valuable family and study time.</p>
Vs	<p>love to see a synthetic full size hockey pitch for the Northern Beaches area. We have 4 kids all of who have played hockey on Frank Gray Oval. Pretty hit and miss with the wet weather a lot of games have been cancelled over the years. We have our last one playing now and she is dead keen to move up and onto turf (synthetic) pitch and of course with 4 kids all playing sport, time and taxi driving is a difficult thing to juggle, honestly if she wants play on turf and we have to travel to North Ryde and Kuringai High, she probably won't be able to play anymore. Our other kids play AFL and travel a lot out to the Western Suburbs and their grounds and facilities are amazing. We had visitors from US come along to our training a few years ago at the Calabria Club frankly it was a little embarrassing as a facility. New sometimes is just simply better. Hockey is a growing sport with little to no facilities in the area. Manly Warringah Hockey Club is a vibrantly and incredibly well run operation. Imagine the possibilities with a fabulous ground to match the fabulous team behind it. It's time for a change, please, a tier one facility for the hockey kids of the Northern Beaches.</p>
Vs	<p>Northern Beaches needs a synthetic turf hockey field. Hockey, as in the report, is at capacity and that does not take into account the growing number of players who would be keen to play if they didn't have to travel so far for a game. Hockey will continue to grow if a synthetic field is available on the northern beaches.</p>
Vs	<p>Ensure priority to synthetic sport ground upgrades to meet the needs of Turf hockey as quickly</p>

Level of support	Comments
	as possible.
Vs	I'm so happy to see hockey being considered in the draft strategic plan, I hope that it will stay on there for the final document. It would be amazing to have a synthetic field in the northern beaches area. This will allow more people to be able to play hockey.
Vs	I would like to see a Astro turf appropriate for field hockey
vs	Hockey is a very popular sport in the area but with no available facility for the premier skill game.
Vs	We desperately need hockey turf fields. Our local clubs (Manly, Seaforth, Terry Hills, Mosman) have no artificial turf facilities and must travel enormous distances to access fields, already shared by many other clubs so access is tough! Please, this is a great opportunity to meet the needs of a rapidly growing sport.
Vs	I have played hockey for the last 25 years since being involved in Manly Warringah juniors. In previous years I have travelled to play on synthetic surfaces. This involved travelling to Homebush and Ryde up to 3 times per week – at 40-50 mins each way. This was a significant amount of travel to play the game that I love in a quality competition. At the moment I play on the grass fields at Frank Gray on Saturday afternoons. The quality of the playing surface is very poor – and results in games of a lower standard. A synthetic turf is much needed on the northern beaches. I would love for my sons to grow up playing hockey and to be able to develop their skills on turf – a totally different experience to learning on grass – without needing to travel for hours each week to do so.
Vs	It is essential that the number of sports grounds be increased on the northern beaches to cater for existing and projected populations. This should include a range of facilities, including a synthetic turf hockey complex. If able to be used for carnivals, this facility could also bring considerable benefits to the area through visitors spending money on accommodation and using local businesses during their visit.
Vs	A multi purpose turf is necessary on the northern beaches.
Vs	<p>Currently there is a complete lack of hockey fields on the northern beaches; hockey has no current base on the northern beaches, if players want to play competitively on turf, the closest pitch is at Concord, the next closest Ryde after that Homebush and Pennant Hills.</p> <p>Manly women's hockey club are currently training at 9pm – 10pm on a Tuesday night at Ryde with an hour drive home to get home because of a lack of facilities on the northern beaches. This is incredibly disruptive to family & work life – it means that participating in recreational sport – for which there are many benefits – comes at a big price & requires a huge commitment, which many are either unable or unprepared to take. This doesn't also doesn't bode well for future adult players & for the longevity of ten game.</p> <p>The fields currently allocated to Hockey are the most flood prone, and therefore always the first to be closed – the hockey fields at Frank Gray Curl Curl were the only fields closed last weekend due to excess water, and even this week after a week of no rain, the fields were incredibly wet.</p> <p>Field condition plays an integral part in volume, frequency & severity of injury. Wet, muddy, potholed & uneven fields increase the risk of falls that result in both upper & lower limb fractures. Furthermore, a field with these properties reduces the predictability of the game, also increasing the risk of injury. Whereas a turf field allows for better ball control and reduces the risk of lifting the ball, both of which increase the risk of head injuries, including concussion, because of the hard nature of the field hockey ball.</p> <p>Lastly, hockey may not be the most popular winter sport or have the highest membership numbers, however given our international success in both mens and womens hockey it seems a shame not to invest in a sport that clearly Australians excel at. Many states, particularly Victoria and Western Australia, have invested in developing their hockey program for juniors as a way of investing in the pool of talent available to hockey Australia. It is such a shame that NSW, and particularly the Northern Beaches here in Sydney, seems to have the poorest facilities available for playing competitive field hockey. Both my son & I play hockey, however I won't play in the Northern Beaches competition because I refuse to pay \$480 to play just to have games cancelled due to closed fields, and because I can't afford to get injured – which is</p>

Level of support	Comments
	more likely to happen on uneven & potholed fields than turf. The limited number of turf fields on the Northern Beaches are currently reserved for premier players, but surely everyone deserves to play on a quality surface.
Vs	Start it soon. It is going to rain in winter and that's a fact that no one can change. We need turf fields on the Northern Beaches because so far there is none! Hockey players are continually missing their weekly game due to the bad fields which we play on. We need turf on the Northern Beaches.
Vs	Please add a synthetic grass field for hockey, my wife and daughter both play hockey and travel great distances to get to synthetic grass fields.
Vs	My daughter would love to play turf hockey to avoid missing so many matches because of weather.
Vs	We need all weather synthetic grounds with lights our nearest is ryde
vs	We need all weather synthetic turf fields with lights on the northern beaches
vs	Synthetic hockey fields are urgently needed on the northern beaches and the development of these facilities should be considered as a short term strategy together with the feasibility study. Very supportive of recommendation 18.
	In affirmation new sports grounds with artificial surfaces in new areas would be AMAZING. We currently travel to Ryde, Cintra, Pennant Hills and Sydney Olympic Park to access hockey turf. It adds unnecessary cars to the roads, pollution etc and is stressful when trying to get my 3 children to different grounds for matches scheduled at the same or similar times. We need local facilities for our hockey teams. Hockey is currently ranked 3 rd most popular spectator sport in the world, yet we have the fewest facilities. Our membership numbers grow annually- it's time for the Northern Beaches have its own turf facilities!
vs	It would be extremely beneficial to many sports teams on the lower & upper north shore to create an artificial turf locally. There are a large amount of Junior & senior hockey clubs as well as soccer clubs that would benefit from having local playing fields without the long distance travel.
Vs	Please add a synthetic grass field for hockey, I am unable to play turf hockey it is too far to drive for matches.
Vs	Yes I believe Hockey needs better facilities for its growing population
vs	I am a life-long Northern Beaches resident (44 years), and have played hockey since I was 12. I have wasted countless hours over the years, travelling to Olympic Park, plus other venues around Sydney (Sutherland, Moorebank, North Ryde, Narellan, Bankstown, Pennant Hills, Concord, North Turramurra, Lidcombe, Little Bay, Daceyville), to train and compete on proper synthetic surfaces. Its hard to believe that a sport-loving area of Sydney, the Northern Beaches, has failed to support the requirements of an Olympic, world-wide sport that Australia excels at. Synthetic hockey fields can cater for more players on a weekend than any other sport, with equal usage for men, women, boys, girls and Masters players (many of whom play well into their 60s and 70s). Its time that the Northern Beaches had its own hockey facility, so that our local kids have the opportunity to become future Kookaburras and Hockeyroos.
Vs	I am only concerned with hockey pitches being built. I am very keen to see 2 water based synthetic hockey pitches on the Northern Beaches!
Vs	As a long suffering and travelling player, husband of and father of hockey players, I am very supportive of the recognition that hockey is in need of a proper facility in the area.
Vs	I would highly recommend the development of further playing fields for our young sports people. Particularly hockey and AFL as at present they have limited grounds and an increasing number of players.
vs	In super strong favour of the addition of hockey pitches on the northern beaches as right now the local hockey club must trek to RYDE at 9 pm at night to train.

Level of support	Comments
Vs	HOCKEY HOCKEY HOCKEY. There is not enough hockey fields on the northern beaches. And there are NO synthetic hockey fields on the northern beaches. Its time for hockey.
Vs	Both our children have enjoyed learning and developing their hockey skills at Manly – a game which was totally new to our family and which has become a fun, interactive club for us all. Our eldest child is getting the stage where in terms of his ongoing development in the game, progressing to a turf pitch is the only real option. With Ryde being the nearest current option for us not being feasible with our other commitments, a local turf pitch would probably be the difference in whether he continues with the sport or not.
Vs	The only comment I have is to say that sport is an important activity for everyone to be involved in and in particular my youngest daughter loves her hockey. If we had fields closer it would mean we could be more active participants. As it is the distance we have to cover just to get to practice is prohibitive as the kids need to get to bed and be ready for school the next day and we are travelling some distance and having to practice after 7pm at night. We also battle to enter enough teams as the kids eventually pull out as it is too much with all the school work and other things they need to do.
Vs	Please consider a turf that suits hockey
Vs	I definitely approve of the push for more grounds for other sports including hockey, and I think golf has more than enough space, I wouldn't say take any land away in the short term, but they don't need any more land, and depending on if the decrease continues, maybe in the long term it's popularity can be revisited, and perhaps then some land can be accommodated for fields for other sports.
Vs	Anything that can be done to further assist Hockey would be greatly received. At this time the numbers are strong but without a Hockey specific facility there is real jeopardy in Hockey numbers diminishing on the beaches. For an Olympic sport and one that Australia have always been very strong at this is very important.
Vs	Implement action with priority to provide three synthetic fields for hockey as no alternative fields available and I want to commence playing again!
Vs	An artificial turf in Mosman or Warringah/Balgowlah area would be highly beneficial for my teams and family, but many many local teams to cut down on travel time as well as building up a sense of pride having a local home ground for games.
Vs	Please note that a synthetic hockey pitch can be used for juniors football or 5-a-side when not used for hockey. A dedicated football pitch cannot be used for hockey. I fully agree that the current grass pitches are over used. Most of the lower or older footballers would very happy to play on synthetic pitches are for the older divs 035 / 045 would be happy to play weekday evenings.
Vs	I am particularly concerned about the facilities provided for field hockey. The growth in field hockey has been phenomenal in the 7 years since my children started playing. While the increase in the number of players is fantastic, the quality of play is only really able to improve on synthetic turf fields. Grass is a good type of field to begin playing the game (if nothing else is available), but the game goes to a much higher level when played on turf. Indeed, countries such as the Netherlands ONLY play the game on synthetic turf! If hockey is to get even better we need a full size synthetic pitch (two would be wonderful, just like the two at Pennant Hills), with parking to stop people having to travel outside our Council area to play a wonderful game.
Vs	I do understand the points of view of the golfers at Warringah (I am a golfer) but I also see the dire need to provide more sports fields for children. This is so important these days to encourage more children to play sport and lead healthy lifestyles. Hockey is loved by our children. Not having access to hockey fields in the local community would be devastating. There is a great history of hockey in this country that we need to continue to foster. As a father of 2 girls I implore the council to make a courageous decision and provide some more sports fields for the children in our community.

Level of support	Comments
Vs	My children have played the above listed sports in Curl Curl/ Harbord over the last 15 years. As a family we are currently enjoying field hockey with my daughter playing under 15 for UTS. We really appreciate that we have the ability to participate in this sport at a local facility as we would not participate if it involved travelling to our clubs home facility at Homebush. Please continue to consider hockey field/court requirements in your plan. Thankyou
Vs	As Manly Hockey club member we are desperate for a hockey astro turf on the Northern Beaches. I have two young boys that I would love to introduce to the game, but can't travel the long distance required to the nearest astro turf.
Vs	We need some dedicated hockey synthetic field. We have great talent in the area but they are driven away at an early age because of the travel to get to games. Hockey needs to be heard. My daughter plays under 11 reps but has to travel to Ku-ring-gai to train. We have attended some great hockey carnivals which the northern beaches team dominate and if we had the facilities we could run a very successful carnival.
Vs	We need synthetic turf at Harbord.
Vs	My daughter plays hockey and utilizes the fields at Frank Gray. Hockey is something that our whole family enjoy doing together – we play once a week at Frank Gray and will typically arrive early and stay later to watch other games. It is always disappointing when the fields are closed for a variety of reasons. I fully support any action taken to improve hockey fields in the Northern Sydney area including the beaches. Should conditions continue as are, or worse degrade, we would be forced to travel to other parts of Sydney to find appropriate facilities.
Vs	I am also very supportive of a synthetic hockey field anywhere on the northern beaches. Currently, we travel to Kuringai, Pennant Hills, Concord or Ryde each Saturday morning for games. Representative carnivals are held in other municipalities as far afield as Liverpool, Lithgow and Sutherland. All of these locations have more than one synthetic field in their hockey complexes. We currently train on futsal pitches at Warringah recreation centre so it is possible to share the fields with at least this sport, if not others in the off season.
Vs	Very good idea! Just build the hockey pitches! Just build them! Great idea!
Vs	Need synthetic fields suitable for hockey so we don't have to travel to Homebush or further to play. Get synthetic fields as soon as possible
vs	Many of our sporting codes in some areas of the northern beaches have not been able to train or play on their allocated fields in weeks (Nolans, Frank Gray for example). This is unbelievable – we pay good money for our kids to do the sports and then we don't play so this is not good value for money and does not aid the obesity issues in our country. It is obvious that some fields drain better than others and this needs to be addressed as some kids are training in bright sunshine and others are not. Synthetic turf for sports that use this are an easy option – hockey is an obvious one
vs	We need a synthetic AstroTurf hockey field on the Northern Beaches. There is a huge hockey community (both WHA and Manly Hockey Club) on the Northern Beaches with cannot grow without the implementation of a synthetic field.
Vs	Manly Vale golf course should be transformed into a sports facility. It is more important for younger generations to become active and they growing number of active children's participating in hockey means that we need synthetic hockey fields on the northern beaches. We are the only region in nsw without synthetic home fields. Every Friday we are forced to travel for 1 hour each way to play. This is disgraceful
vs	Hockey needs synthetic fields on the Northern Beaches, we have a huge representation in NSW, and the closest synthetic fields are in Macquarie Park
vs	We need a hockey field please it is very important. Hockey fields are in dire need
vs	I would love to see a synthetic turf hockey field on the Northern Beaches so we wouldn't have

Level of support	Comments
	to travel so far on a Friday night and so I could also persuade more of my mates to play as would be more local!
Vs	I would really like to see a synthetic turf pitch on the northern beaches as I play a lot of hockey and spent a lot of time travelling to games which makes juggling my school work difficult. It would be great to have a local field as then we could hold tournaments and competitions locally too.
Vs	We need a synthetic turf pitch for hockey.
Vs	Give the hockey organisation the land that was originally identified for a hockey field – on the Cnr of mona vale road and forest way importantly there is no residential development so no residents will be annoyed by lights and or noise and there are no fields being taken off another sport
Vs	Hockey synthetic fields are much needed. Hockey synthetic fields on our Northern Beaches
vs	We play hockey and would love to have a synthetic turf field near us so we don't have to travel in the traffic on a Friday night for 1-2 hours to play. We love hockey but it would be great to have more time and still be able to play!
vs	Desperately need a synthetic field for hockey. Need a consistent plan for prioritizing use so no one code or gender is disadvantaged.
Vs	I would love to play turf hockey but I can't as mum can't drive all over Sydney as I can only play on grass at Curl Curl. It gets cancelled a lot when it rains. A turf field on the northern beaches would be great
vs	I get really frustrated by missing out on training and matches when the fields are wet. I wanted to play turf hockey this year but mum can't get me to the trainings as they are too far away and my sister has to get to dance too. It would be so good to have a local turf pitch!
Vs	Hockey on the northern beaches has had exponential growth over the past 5 years. It is a sport which can be played by both males and females from junior to elite level. The only sports fields allocated to hockey are inadequate for current and future use. They are grass fields in poor condition located at Frank Gray Fields Curl Curl. All other areas of Sydney and regional NSW have synthetic hockey fields, which is required for junior and senior competitions. At the moment our players have to play their home games at Turramurra, Pennant Hills and Ryde and either travel to those venues for training or use tennis courts and futsal fields in the local area. This is clearly both inadequate and unequitable for the participants when compared to other sports on the northern beaches.
S	There needs to be a definite focus on providing a good hockey turf facility. to have to drive up to kuring-gai, north ryde and homebush to play hockey for 2 family members is very time consuming and sad we have any decent Astro turf facilities for hockey in the beaches .
s	We need some all weather turf hockey pitches immediately on the Northern Beaches. Why? Last weekend was a classic example for my family. On Friday night I spent 1.5 hours traveling to Pennant Hills for my son to play U13 hockey starting at 6.30pm. It was miserable sitting in traffic all this time. I got back stupidly late for a 1 hour game and he went to bed too late for an 11 year old boy. It has made our family consider that hockey on turf may not be an ongoing option for our family if we do not get turf hockey pitches soon on the Northern Beaches. On Saturday morning my husband spent over 1 hour travelling to Cintra so our daughter could play in the U11 turf hockey league. However, due to the recent rain ALL the grass games were cancelled on Saturday. If we had not travelled so far the kids would not have played hockey at all which is not acceptable if we are to grow the next generation of hockey players here on the Northern Beaches. I was not clear why local soccer games on council pitches were allowed to continue but all hockey was called off. Perhaps because we now share pitches with the AFL – so, in effect, hockey is being marginalised more and more every year. Please ensure your new strategy includes at least 2 all weather turf hockey pitches and some dedicated grass pitches.
S	We need a synthetic turf for hockey on the northern beaches. The playing fields are often

Level of support	Comments
	closed due to heavy rain eg yet again tomorrow. Warringah golf course is not a suitable choice to cut in half for other sports, as there is already too much traffic congestion in the surrounding roads. Also our 15 year old says 'Let the oldies have their thing'. Very important to give opportunity for people of all ages, interests and fitness levels to be able to participate in a sport of their choice.
S	My 11 year old son plays hockey in the "local" turf competition. At the present time this requires us to drive him to pennant hills, lidcombe, Concord, Ryde and Kuring-gai every week often on Friday evening spending several hours in traffic. It is also very difficult for the 4 local clubs to find training grounds and have to train on small futsal pitches. I played hockey 20 years ago and the number of synthetic fields in Sydney has grown enormously with the exception of the northern beaches. It is extremely difficult to continue playing due to the lack of local fields and the need to travel so far. I believe the sport loses many children to other games they can play more locally. Please consider putting a hockey centre with a synthetic field on the northern beaches.
S	I believe we need to provide more sporting facilities for children and women in particular, Hockey has children from 4 years and women up to 70 years playing. We could combine Hockey and Tag fields together. We have many girls and women playing that too.
S	We need turf hockey fields. A lot of the games get called off because we play on grass and with synthetic turf, rain does not affect whether we can play or not. We also need turf hockey fields to support players wanting to achieve higher levels in the sport. The closest fields to the Northern Beaches are at Pennant Hills and Turramurra causing people to have to drive 40 minutes or more for them to train or play.
s	More hockey fields in the northern beaches and because I am only 10 our fields are always the first to get rained out. I think it is a great idea to get more turf and grass hockey fields on the Northern beaches.
S	Synthetic hockey fields need to be prioritised. Spent the long weekend in Canberra supporting North Sydney & Beaches Hockey teams – great turnout and success for the NSB teams. Loads of talent and enthusiasm across gender and age. Canberra has 3 state of the art fields and great facilities – NSB has one past its use by date field in Turramurra. What could NSB kids achieve if they had the same facilities as Canberra – or most regional cities? Spent Friday night driving for 1:30 mins to Lidcombe (start at 6:30) for the Manly vs Mosman U15 hockey match. The new field is awesome but why the hell should Manly and Mosman have to travel for 1:30 mins to play at Lidcombe? If NB Council cannot go it alone on hockey fields please liaise with Mosman / North Sydney and the North Shore private schools to get something happening. The commute to games will strangle hockey growth and in an era where we are aiming to encourage female sport this would be a travesty.
S	I think above all the need for synthetic turf for hockey needs to be a major item. This will stop the over use of Frank Gray. Families are not continuing with turf hockey due to the travel times and costs. An adult pays upwards of over \$600 to play for the season, not including petrol & tolls & of course travelling time. The fields would generate income as well.
S	My son plays turf hockey for a Manly team and we would greatly appreciate it if we did not have to travel so far to each and every game. It is very disappointing that they do not have a close home field To see a hockey field in our area would be wonderful.. TURF HOCKEY FIELDS PLEASE
s	Focus to start on the sports groups that do not have anything or adequate facilities/grounds – i.e Hockey I really enjoy playing, but the constant travel for games and training (which is at a silly late time) is really pushing the enjoyment
s	Please focus on getting a proper hockey set up as a priority,

Level of support	Comments
	As much as I love the sport and would love to play more competitively, the long travel and late nights for training just doesn't make it worth it.
S	I coach kids hockey and play for Manly. I would say synthetic hockey pitches are essential for continued growth into adult hockey. There is little support currently and we lose a large number of kids from the sport as a result
S	I'm excited to see the plans for a synthetic hockey pitch in the area. As a playing member of Manly Hockey Club for many years, and a previous coach of our Under 15 team, it has been incredibly frustrating seeing juniors move to other clubs so that they can train regularly on their pitches e.g Ryde, or just give up the game altogether. Our club has an extensive junior section and I have an overwhelming need for this sort of facility on the Northern Beaches if the sport and our club has any chance of growing. Many thanks.
S	We are desperately in need of synthetic hockey fields on the northern beaches. As a player myself of many decades I was astonished to find my daughters needed to play on grass. I love the fact they play locally but I am very disappointed that the poor quality of the fields compromises their enjoyment and hampers their development. They also regularly miss games due to the fields being unplayable even many days after rain – the drainage being so poor. Please can we catch up with the rest of Sydney and install synthetic playing fields for this hugely popular sport?!
S	I also have friends who play hockey and it seems there are very few local facilities for that sport – by ensuring all sports have grounds/space it ensures choice in the community about which sports to play – we all have different strengths.
Ss	The needs of hockey players are under represented on the Northern Beaches. On Friday night I sat in traffic for almost 2 hours to drive my daughter to her club turf match. She was playing at Lidcombe, we were playing Mosman. It is ridiculous that we do not have ANY turf hockey facilities on the Northern Beaches. It also means that lots of children do not get to play turf hockey as parents cannot commit to the driving times involved, EVERY week. My other two children enjoy playing grass hockey but are unable to play turf due to the travel time and the fact that we do not have a local pitch. Hockey is a growing sport on the beaches and I am sure the numbers playing turf would grow if we had a local pitch. I do not think we should be taking space off another sporting club, the council should endeavour to find some space that is not currently occupied by another sport. Thank you
ss	Let's not forget to put at least two hockey pitches in your submission, one will not suffice.
Ss	Synthetic fields for hockey- kids have to travel up to 1 hour to access this from the northern Beaches
Ss	My daughter really enjoys her hockey and we really need astro turf pitch facilities on the Northern Beaches. We have had to cancel two weeks of training and matches as the fields have been so affected by the weather. This wouldn't happen with a proper hockey facility on the Northern Beaches which seems to be standard for everywhere else in Sydney. Ryde is too far to travel for training as well as matches so she would probably end up giving up which is not what we want her to do. It's so important for girls to keep up their physical activity when they get to their teens as we all know. Please can you take all this into consideration.
Ss	Some issues of the lack of sports grounds could be addressed by the addition of "all weather" grounds such as have been built in Kuringai to address the overuse of soccer fields. These grounds do not suffer overuse issues, especially when teamed with good lighting to allow training and matches at night. They also serve to decrease overuse issues on existing grass fields.
	Synthetic Hockey fields needed in the Northern Beaches area. Closest fields are currently at Ryde & they are already at maximum capacity. Latest synthetic field installed in Sydney Lidcombe in Mar 2017 (Syd Uni). For junior players this can be at least 90min one way drive on a Friday night to play matches. In addition the grass fields at Frank Gray are often closed on Saturday for matches if there is heavy rain midweek.
	I have played hockey for over 15 years and would have loved to have the opportunity to train

Level of support	Comments
	<p>play closer to home – this would eliminate travel time and allow me to put more time into the sport & administration – my son played junior hockey whilst we would drive him around although once he got his licence he is not bothered with the driving and quit the sport. I have been to numerous state championships and see the revenue that can be made from hosting these events.</p> <p>If administrators took the time to assess the usage of the current hockey turfs would see that they would never be free with clubs schools etc usage</p>
vs	(2) Need synthetic fields for hockey
vs	(2) We need turf hockey fields
S	A turf hockey facility is long overdue on the Northern Beaches – I have children who enjoy & love to play hockey but I struggle having to drag them all over Sydney so they can play .. try travelling to Olympic Park, Pennant Hills or to the other facilities on a Fri night through rush hour traffic! A hockey turf would not be a ‘white elephant’ & would see the growth of local clubs.
S	Think of the talented children now playing hockey on the peninsula, when they currently come of age they are forced to leave and join an inner city club, not fair!!
S	I as a 47 year old am still a hockey player. I play on the grass in a Saturday and have to drive to Kurringai High school to play on a Monday night, the other option would be Homebush or Ryde. My daughter plays hockey and has done for 5 years. She has now reached Rep level which involved trailing and training again at Kurringai, for future player development I believe an Astro turf for hockey is essential for player development and to continue the love of the game.
S	Would be great to actually have a clubhouse / set up to make the hockey club feel more like a club, rather than just a team.
S	<p>I would like to see a water based hockey turf prioritised – as it currently stands we have no facilities at all on the northern beaches.</p> <p>I agree with the idea of converting half of the Manly Vale golf course into turf and grass fields for other sports. I would really like to see a water based hockey pitch included either there or in one of the new development areas of Ingleside. At the moment turf hockey players have no facilities at all on the northern beaches. We are in the top 3 teams in the world for both men’s and women’s hockey and anyone wanting to progress in this sport has no opportunity at all to train within a reasonable distance from home. The only grass hockey fields that are available are the most poorly drained – nearly always the first to be closed when raining. Inclusion of turf hockey fields is long overdue.</p>
S	It would be nice to have a hockey field closer to home so my mum and sister don’t have to spend their time travelling instead of watching me play my sports.
S	Both football and hockey need synthetic surfaces. These both increase the usage time (wet weather / evenings available) for no additional land. Costs recovery should be considered via clubs (Manly hockey & BH Hill football would pay for useage)
S	Within our family of 5, we cover a lot of sports – touch football, netball, hockey and soccer. I have always felt the grounds the children play on are above average and – in some cases – some of the best facilities in Sydney. However the same cannot be said for our local hockey fields. To play on decent hockey fields, we have to travel much further afield which is very difficult with three young children. If the rain comes, we are always washed out. It would mean a great deal if my hockey playing child was given the same opportunities that my netball, touch and soccer children are. There is a mismatch in the quality here. Every week I see more and more families join the hockey community. It is a growing sport and it is time to meet the demand head on!
S	My family participates in a number of sports on the Northern Beaches – isn’t that what growing up on the Beaches is all about ? getting out and about in the sun and having fun ! But over the last couple of years we have seen the sporting fields deteriorate and the time clashes between and within sporting codes become quite the allocation and negotiation exercise as all the clubs are growing. My children participate in a number of sporting codes where they

Level of support	Comments
	represent the Northern Beaches but unfortunately training for these sports must happen outside of the Northern Beaches as we don't have adequate facilities. It is getting to a point that my kids can no longer participate in these sporting codes because the travel to the adequate facilities it too time consuming and frustrating in peak hour traffic. Also, a number of players families discount trying out for Beaches representation teams because the facilities are too far away. Given the growth of the community and thus our sporting codes it would be wonderful to have adequate facilities on the Northern Beaches so we could train our kids just like every other area of NSW
s	As a priority we need a turf hockey pitch in the area. There is currently none and Manly Warringah Hockey families have to travel far and wide to take their children to games.
S	I think the Manly area needs a turf hockey field. The distance needed to travel to train and play makes it hard for my kids.
S	We need to have better sporting hockey facilities in our local community. We currently have to travel for at least an hour and a half to get to an all weather pitch facilities. Hockey is a hugely growing sport on the beaches, and has potential to grow further with better council support
S	As a priority we need a turf hockey pitch in the area. There is currently none and Manly Warringah Hockey families have to travel far and wide to take their children to games.
S	This weekend, hockey was again cancelled as the grounds at Frank Gray are still soggy after the recent rain. This is the 2 nd or 3 rd time this season that the grounds have been unusable due to being too wet to play on. An all weather surface is desperately needed in order for hockey games to be played and the season not disrupted by the weather. Kids will lose interest in the sport if they are not able to play the game they love. If we are going to promote sport in order to maintain a healthy lifestyle, we have to be able to readily play the sport. Highly support a purpose built synthetic hockey field/s.
s	Hockey – Pennant Hills and Ryde are the closest fields for anyone in the area. We need a few competition ready fields in the area. There are none.
S	I coach kids hockey and play for Manly. As you have seen in previous submissions, kids hockey is at capacity and there is little opportunity to move kids through into adult leagues without further support. I would suggest viability of a synthetic hockey turf should be a greater priority
Ss	Can we kindly have synthetic hockey fields on the Northern Beaches? The closest hockey field is at Ku-ring-gai, Ryde and then in Pennant Hills and Sydney Olympic Park. We have no synthetic fields here. I don't think it is fair on hockey players not to have the same facilities than other sport. The current hockey facilities at Frank Gray Oval in Freshwater are shocking,. The fields are totally uneven and it feels if one is playing uphill one half and then down hill the second half or vice versa. Sometimes the grass is long too. The toilets are always disgustingly dirty with no soap at the wash basins and sometimes no toilet paper too. I think hockey players deserve better than this. We pay just as much tax as people playing other sport yet we don't get the same quality facilities. Please upgrade toilet facilities at the current sport grounds.
ss	AS above – we need turf hockey pitches please.
Ss	Convert one of existing sports fields to a hockey Astro turf facility
Ss	Greater focus on multi-use synthetic pitches for hockey
Ss	Better surfaces longer lasting and less travel
Ss	Embarrassing that an area this size and with the number of players there is no turf field. We have some extremely passionate and talented players as well as very hard working committed club organizers.
Ss	I will like to raise my support for hockey facilities. With the level of rain fall (i.e. weeks cancelled) and the lack of artificial surfaces hockey suffers on the northern beaches. I cannot think of an

Level of support	Comments
	<p>area even remotely similar in size that lacks proper hockey facilities.</p> <p>Also please remember the council area is not the coastal strip – and think about Belrose, Davidson, Frenchs Forest as options.</p>
Ss	<p>I am supportive to a point. But not overall happy. Why should hockey players have to wait until 2022 before synthetic hockey facilities might be developed? Why does Lionel Watts and Cromer Park gets priority (2017-2021)? I know why, because it is used to play soccer and AFL on! Hockey players must take a backseat as usual! Soccer and other sports have already synthetic fields on the Northern Beaches but there are no Synthetic hockey fields. Not fair at all. We pay just as much tax as everybody else on the Northern Beaches. We appreciate it that you are attempting to improve sport facilities, but PLEASE, we urgently need synthetic Hockey fields. I am considering to quit playing hockey as I've sustained a lot of injuries whilst playing on grass at Frank Gray Oval this year due to the uneven surface. I'll rather join other Council's Hockey clubs in order to play on synthetic fields. A lot of Northern Beaches hockey players travel 45 minutes or more to play on synthetic fields. If we have synthetic fields here, the number of players will increase. The current numbers is not a true reflection of the amount of people who are playing hockey on the Northern Beaches as a lot is registered with clubs in other Council's areas.</p>
Ss	<p>As a hockey player of almost 40 years, Warringah Hockey Association desperately needs a synthetic turf field in our area. I have spent many years driving all over Sydney to play on turf fields, as hockey is not played on grass these days, except at a very low level. We have lost many players to other associations as travel becomes more difficult for some families it is hard to maintain teams from Warringah. Or they just give up hockey. We have the largest and best junior competition in Sydney, however once the kids get to a level where they need to be playing on turf, they leave us to join other clubs, or they move on to new sports due to our lack of facilities. Our open competition consists only of a small number of teams of mostly older players, and some young ones who cannot travel to other areas, again due to our lack of facilities. Ours is the only Olympic sport played on the sports fields of Warringah. Australia are Olympic and World Champions many times over, Please give our young Warringah players a career path in hockey by giving us the facilities we need. I don't mind whether it is at Frank Gray Reserve, Terrey Hills or anywhere else, as long as it is local.</p>
Ss	<p>There is a strong need for a hockey turf on the Northern Beaches. Too many of our good players are leaving the northern beaches clubs to seek a higher standard of hockey on the artificial turf.</p>
Ss	<p>Need a (water based) synthetic hockey field.</p>
Ss	<p>As an active player and member of manly for the last 15 years we would love to have the facilities on the beaches the travel to other venues is ridiculous. I now have two children and want them to play hockey but with the growing traffic around Sydney we may consider another sport. Please construct some pitches over this side please.</p>
Ss	<p>We really need a synthetic turf facility for hockey on the Northern Beaches. Currently players have to travel at least 30 minutes, and often more to play on synthetic turf.</p>
Ss	<p>We are a hockey playing family. My husband plays in a senior fun league on grass on a Saturday and my kids aged 10 and 11 play in grass teams at the Frank Gray Fields on a Saturday morning – all for Manly hockey club.</p> <p>In order to have a future in hockey it was imperative this year that both kids play TURF as well as grass. The future of hockey for good players is Turf – this is the surface used in all major hockey meets. They play for Manly Turf teams on a Saturday and Friday night. This has turned out to be a nightmare for the family. We train at the turf soccer pitches at Pittwater RSL on a Tuesday and are there for 3 hours coming home late on a school night. I drive my son and his friend to their turf game on a Friday night – often involving travel up to 2 hours in bad traffic just to get there. We get home late on a Friday and then I am off again early Saturday morning to a similar far off venue for my daughters hockey game on turf.</p> <p>This situation will not encourage Northern Beaches kids to take up hockey or learn the game properly. I hope the SIP quoted above will incorporate at least 1 or 2 TURF hockey pitches to encourage the growth of this sport across all the Northern Beaches.</p>

Level of support	Comments
	Water based synthetic turf fields at Frank Gray oval, including undercover spectator areas and drinking water taps!!! There is no fresh drinking water at the fields at the moment.
	The Frank Gray fields are consistently closed due to rain. There doesn't seem to be a drainage system for them and we often wait weeks until they are dry enough to use. I understand we cannot change the weather, however it is a shame when we pay a considerable amount of money to use good quality fields, and cannot use them. Having a turf field would eliminate the weekends where hockey is cancelled. It would also allow the sport to grow especially via schools and educating students about hockey. It could bring larger competitions to the beaches and place Warringah as a reputable association. Having no turf field when all other associations do makes us look incompetent and amateur. The field also has no fresh tap water. This is a must. Thank you for reading all these submissions and I hope the fields are replaced with turf to become ready for next season.
	Northern beaches needs an all weather hockey turf that can be used for hockey and other sports. There are so many cancellations each winter due to wet weather for hockey players, it would be great to have an all weather turf. As children want to move from grass hockey to turf hockey which is a natural progression, children are being stopped due to the fact that there is no turf hockey field on the northern beaches so in order to play turf hockey we have to travel to places such as Moorebank, Sutherland, Pymble which can be a 4 hour commute on Saturdays. This discourages a lot of kids parents so they drop out of the sport. We are trying to raise healthy active kids and anfootball all weather turf for the northern beaches would be utilized a lot.
Nvs	As a long term sports administrator, the challenges of current registration/participation demand vs demographic shifts is challenging. Hockey is a long term Olympic sport (amateur) that relies on school and community clubs to participate in local competitions to stimulate interest and health. It is also the pathway for representative players. Hockey is also one of the major sports for girls within the current school sports curriculum. The lack of hockey grounds in Sydney is problematic, for our local area to reduce or remove our existing allocation of grounds will not realistically force people out of areas to compete, they will stop playing sport or choose an alternative sport within the local area. Neither outcome is beneficial to the sport or members who live in the Northern Beaches.
Nas	Why can't you build multi-purpose all weather surfaces like they have in England where BOTH hockey and soccer can play on the same pitches with night lights to enable longer availability?
Nas	Turf Hockey field required ASAP. Both my children have played hockey and represented the area. My son now at STATE this weekend for Turf at Taree. We live at Newport and travel to Pennant Hills, Moorebank for training! We need our own facilities.
	We are working hard to secure the future of hockey on the northern beaches. Currently there are 8 hockey clubs playing trass on the northern beaches, with a total of approximately over 60 teams. Three of these teams also have turf teams playing in both the Swell-Homebush and Northern Sydney competitions as well as others. Players, men/women and children travel as far as Bankstown, Penrith, Ryde and Homebush to name a few places and they also play Masters competitions 1-2 time a week). We need a turf field on the northern beaches, we need 2 if you want me to be honest to help grow and secure our players and help them continue to play. How much children enjoy your hockey - our growth shows kids want to play (over 50 teams) More people would play if you didn't have to travel so far We have many high level players and would get more if we had the facilities. Homebush games sometimes means 2 hours in traffic. Please consider hockey for the northern beaches, especially 1 or 2 much needed turf fields. Hockey is a very well-known sport where Aussie men and women are top 5 in the world.
Support for synthetic surface for football	
vs	I think if we concentrate on the fields we have, and improve those that are extensively used ie change to synthetic pitches for all codes of sports to use, this will be a cost effective solution.

Level of support	Comments
	There can be a review in XX amount of years if we need more grounds. eg. If Abbott Road and Adam Street (all John Fisher Park) were transformed to synthetic pitches then football can be played in most conditions without losing time, therefore the council will have a better time frame to organise all other codes of sport on in the off season. Maintenance of watering the fields and ground control will be reduced saving the council fund in the long term.
Vs	There are a large amount of Junior & senior soccer clubs that would benefit from having local playing fields without the long distance travel.
Support for synthetic surface for baseball	
	Baseball is extremely supportive of synthetic fields to increase the efficiency of use of existing fields (particularly baseball fields).
Oppose synthetic fields	
nas	In addition, converting sports grounds to synthetic means will exclude dogs (outside of times when sports are in play). Given the high incidence of dog ownership on the Northern Beaches, who use sports fields after hours to exercise, this is not a viable proposition.
Priority F – Convert suitable open space to sportsgrounds including golf course land	
S	All suggestions are sound but I would like to see option F explored more. It is a very accessible location and would really help for mid week sport.
	Strategy 4 looks at converting existing open space and gives golf courses as an example but it seems to be the only option under consideration.
Support conversion of Narrabeen Golf Driving Range to sports fields	
	There is no mention of converting open space such as the Golf Driving Range to sports fields and introducing a Golf Driving Range at one or more golf courses.
	The Narrabeen Golf Driving Range can be converted to playing fields. This land is community owned and already has amenities, parking (with more already in the pipe-line for the B-line). It was in the past used for sport and should be again.
	Nth Narrabeen golf driving range used to be community sportsfields and can easily be utilised again as sportsfields. It is community land.
	Rather than destroying Warringah Golf course the driving range at Narrabeen could be converted to 4 playing fields at far less cost, and the range is used by far less people than Warringah Golf Course.
	The Narrabeen Golf Driving Range would only take a few months to level for playing fields. It is right there with Rat Park. It has all the amenities required. That is the perfect place for the extra sports fields.
	Reconfigure Nth Narrabeen Golf Driving Range and surrounds for sportsfields.
	W support the golf driving range at Warriewood for development. There are no memberships involved. The land is fairly flat, there is lighting and parking available close by.
	Reconvert the golf driving range to community sportsfields.
Nas	Develop existing open space opposite Rat Park
	Council also owns the land of the Narrabeen golf driving range and adjoining Rat Park which would be absolutely perfect for the sporting community needs. This is another option that Council fails to mention in this report.
	Council does not need to grab my private land, it already has the Narrabeen golf driving range which already has the parking facilities and despite the lower figure council asserts, it can accommodate four full size sports fields. Just because council get rent from the driving range

Level of support	Comments
	does not mean it is justified in further enriching itself by grabbing my land for a fraction of its real value as potential commercial, retail and residential land.
	Council should convert the North Narrabeen Golf Driving Range on Pittwater Road, it has all the facilities which we do not, parking, and transport. Council's argument that they derive an income there is an abuse of power when they don't take into consideration that they are willing to destroy our homes and livelihoods in order for them to keep their income stream going.
	Council already have community land available at the Warringah golf driving range.
	Council has a ready made solution to providing additional four or five full size fields by simply converting the existing golf driving range which is located next to rat park. That land is community land. This area was originally used as playing fields and it has the necessary infrastructure to once again revert to the usage for which it was originally intended. The car parking facilities at the driving range will be increased significantly with the b-line.
	I would like the following to be seriously looked at as a solution to providing active sportsfields in a very short time and minimal cost to the community and not disrupting the current community that use the golf courses in the Northern Beaches. I am talking about the 'commercial golf driving range' located at North Narrabeen next to Rat park MUST be SERIOUSLY included as being used as active sportsfields. Everyone knows this golf driving range as they drive by it weekly or daily. This commercial golf driving range is owned and operated by the Northern Beaches Council. It says it right there on the large sign fronting Pittwater Road. This land is zoned for active recreation already, is of sufficient size to accommodate at least 4 level playing fields and of course is provided already with great car parking and amenities. The land can easily and at low cost be converted back to playing fields. Measurements using SIX MAPS (NSW GOVT SITE) confirm that the Golf Driving Range at Narrabeen is 4.18 Hectares which excludes the amenities associated car park and putt putt golf area!). The well maintained field directly south of the driving range is measured at 1.2 Hectares excluding the commuter parking area to its west and including that fields sidelines. The Actual 'Rat Park' area of its active field including sidelines is 1.07 Hectare) Why then is a commercial golf driving range allowed to take up all this valuable playing area? Why is an area of 4.18 Hectares located adjacent to Rat Park and all the other playing fields of the North Narrabeen Reserve still allowed to exist when there is a demonstrated need as outlines in this discussion paper yet it is not canvassed? Why? This land was originally used as a tip like the rest of the North Narrabeen reserve and was originally used as playing fields before being converted to a commercial golf driving range thereby depriving the local community of playing fields in favour of a golf driving range. As anyone would be aware the land is also on the Pittwater road thereby being easily accessible by public transport as a bus stop is directly outside and there is also plenty of other car parking available. If the Northern Beaches Council is adamant that a 'commercial golf driving range' be continued to be located on the best sportsfield land on the peninsula then they should reconsider their allocation of uses again and if need be locate a golf driving range on to a golf course! Or just be happy that there is a private owned golf driving range at Terry Hills. So we have a neat solution right in our midst but it's being passed over, not discussed and this really needs to be out there.
Support use of land at Fern Creek Road, Warriewood for sports fields	
	Council already have community land available at fern creek road, warriewood
	There is also the land area of 9 fern creek road which council had purchased with section s94 funds for a district park. Fern creek land is capable of two to three kids' playing fields or a full size adult field including side lines and parking.
	Nearly 10 years ago, Council purchased with S94 funds land earmarked for recreation in Fern Creek Road Warriewood. What has happened is that Council instead decided to profiteer by doing a land swap with a developer! Why has this land not been considered for playing fields In this report? Why else?
	Also council has Fern Creek Road land which was bought with S94 funds to create a district park but instead converted it to relatively high density residential and passive recreation. I regard this as a gross manipulation done with the intention to profiteer. Why is this land not

Level of support	Comments
	suitable for sports fields? It was and still is a large rectangular area suitable for park and sports fields.
	There is also Fern Creek Road, Warriewood. That land was purchased for sport.
	The next area already available for active playing fields is a little known 1 hectare vacant flat land bought by Council a decade ago for open space at the location 9 Fern Creek Road in Warriewood Valley. This site again has not been discussed in the discussion paper and really needs to be looked at by sporting groups as it could provide overflow playing fields or several smaller grounds for half sized or one third sized for younger players of soccer in particular. Why is this 1 hectare site being considered currently for medium density housing when it exists in its current state as a perfect additional sportsfield? Thank you for the opportunity to have this properly looked at. The solutions are already in front of you!
	Council purchased 9 Fern Creek Rd Warriewood with WWV s94 funds as a district park. Stick to that Plan.
Use market and equestrian land at North Narrabeen Reserve	
s	F, fully support conversion of land used for markets at North Narrabeen reserve to be converted into a rectangular fields with 100 lux lights.
	Perhaps there is the opportunity to integrate with Rat Park. the equestrian area in the same complex appears to be underutilised also.
Support conversion of golf course land for sportsfields – general	
vs	I agree that there is an oversupply of Golf Courses and an undersupply of fields for soccer. Golf is a wasteful use of scarce resources.
Vs	I fully support reallocating existing space such as golf courses to sports fields
vs	Sportfields are important assets both in open space that all in community are free to use. To fence off golf courses for the exclusive use 7 days a week is not a fair use of public land where the majority of the community are excluded access.
Vs	Open up fenced off golf courses to general public access
Vs	I support council making more land available for sporting grounds. I also think we have far too many golf courses in our area and all the other sporting codes are struggling for space while this game has suffered a large decline in membership numbers but haven't given up any of their under utilised space.
S	We really need to get more sports grounds space for team sports. There is too much space for golf which is hardly used.
S	With 2 children aged 10 and 12 I know the importance of sport for social engagement – a great way for kids to expand their friendship circle and for parents to meet new local people, physical reasons – it would be really hard to get children to have sufficient physical activity (especially my daughter) if it were not for their sports – training, games, gala days etc. My husband has also taken up baseball as a result of our son's involvement and when I get more time I can see myself taking up something too. It is vital as our local population increases that the availability of sporting options is also increased – that means converting a 9 hole golf course
S	I support building more sports fields and publicly accessible parks on current under utilised golf courses, but only if all the land remains in public ownership and none is given for private development. The nine holes at Warringah would make a sensational public multi-use park and should also provide a network of cycleways to ease local congested roads. It's a shame council didn't have the balls to implement this strategy immediately as it's clear only a mix of all proposed strategies from A to F would truly solve the critical capacity issues and make sensible use of council owned land.
	Use golf courses for high density public housing with surrounding parkland if you must tinker

Level of support	Comments
	with them.
	It is unacceptable for public land such as the Manly Golf Course to be wasted on the older generations. There are plenty of golf courses on the northern beaches and manly golf course is frankly an eyesore and a waste of public land. The land would be more widely used as a sports facility containing synthetic hockey fields, soccer fields and other sports utilities.
	I am very supportive of the repurposing of Golf Courses into parklands and some ovals, as I have felt they have been a huge burden on much of Sydney, with large fences and small memberships. I would love to see half of them turned into large public parks with paths, new facilities for kids and sports facilities, including cycling infrastructure for kids.
	If you are going to reduce public golf access then the private clubs need to help take some of the burden. I would suggest raising their rates unless they make their courses more accessible (does not have to be public but could at least have more open days).
Support conversion of all of Warringah Golf Course to sportsfields	
vs	Hi Northern Beaches Council and well done on this initiative to refurbish existing and source new sports fields. With respect to the golf users at Warringah Golf Course, I recommend converting all 18 holes to sports fields, park lands and recreational facilities as suggested and preferred in the report. The analogy to Centennial Parklands is perfect for this central northern beaches location and has the potential to be a world class community sports and recreation precinct. Please use this opportunity to make a visionary decision to convert the entire 18 hole golf course space and not take the easier compromised option of retaining 9 holes. This would be an iconic sport and recreation hub for all northern beaches residents; maximising space for AFL/Cricket ovals, Rugby/ League fields, Soccer fields, Netball courts, indoor basketball/netball stadium, synthetic fields for hockey/soccer/futsal/touch rugby, etc. This could be the benchmark community, club, school sports and recreation park in Australia.
S	I'd like to see Warringah Golf course completely converted to sporting grounds.
Support conversion of part of golf course(s) for sportsfields	
vs	No problems with a 9 hole golf course!
Vs	Fully support the idea of reallocating portions of golf courses for the development of wider sports facilities.
	Get rid of 1 or 2 loss making golf courses. Best and cheapest option is to reconvert existing community lands into fields to accommodate the various growing sports.
Support converting 9 hole golf courses to sportsfields	
	Consider converting existing 9 hole courses into playing fields.
Nas	Convert Avalon Golf Course
s	I'm also supportive of the review of Balgowlah Golf course and potential reuse of that land for a multi-purpose sporting & recreational facility.
	Balgowlah Golf Club should be the preferred option for conversion to a park and three full sized fields because member numbers have declined by 46% over a decade, its location on major transport arteries, proximity to Balgowlah Oval, a pedestrian overpass, and an expired lease.
	What about Palm Beach Golf Course not even considered, flat, parking minimal conversion
Support conversion of part/all of Warringah Golf Course to sportsfields	
vs	I am in support of utilizing part of Warringah Golf Club land for sports fields.
Vs	Re: the golf course – reduce it from an 18-hole course to a 9-hole course like the one in Castle Cove. This would free up half the land for alternate use AND somewhat appease the golfers.

Level of support	Comments
Vs	I suggest the proposal to convert the northern nine holes of Warringah Golf Course should happen as soon as possible, I fantastic proposal. I have lived in this area for over 30 years and that piece of land should be made available to the whole community not a select few golfers it is under-utilised at the moment.
Vs	<p>The proposal to offer a 5 year lease on the northern half of Warringah Golf Club which may be subject to development from 2022. Why not start this development now as the lease is up and the need for fields is immediate? By allowing a 5 year lease we literally can't action anything until 2022. It feels like council is delaying a hard decision.</p> <p>The proposal to allow a 20 year lease over the remaining southern half of the Warringah Golf Course site. This will effectively limit the council's rights for any future development when it is inevitably required in the future. Considering there is still an expected shortfall of space by 2031 under the current plan, this appears counter-intuitive. I don't believe a lease of this length is appropriate.</p> <p>The proposal to develop a precinct on the current site of Warringah Golf Course should be pursued immediately and fully (not just half the course). This resolves the shortage of sports fields for the entire Northern Beaches at the expense of a very small minority of golfers who can play at any of the many other local courses. I don't believe council should be pressured by a 10,000 signature petition – as they invariably aren't legitimate or worth the paper they are written on...particularly when submitted by a lobby group trying to prolong their existence. Tough decisions often need to be made by those in power – but to be honest, I don't see this as a tough decision. It is common sense. 50,000 happy sporting participants vs 1,000 unhappy golf members...that's a no brainer.</p>
Vs	Whilst sorry to see such a lovely green space that is Warringah golf club changed, I totally applaud the idea of using half of its beautiful land as the basis for a public park with some new court facilities. A golfer myself, however there are other courses to play in the area.
Vs	Convert nine holes of Warringah Golf Course as proposed immediately.
S	Warringah Golf course, we appreciate the split lease is to provide options for future councils to decide the fate of this land. we do not support the current artists impression of the sportsfield lay out as there are no fields side by side or large enough to accommodate an AFL field.
S	The figures indicate golf is getting more than its fair share of council land. Warringah golf course should be converted into multi sport.
S	Ditch the golf course and build sports fields. I am a golfer but I also have small children that will one day need fields for various sports – and I would hate to see the interests of a small but vocal minority of golfers overwhelm the mostly passive but broader voice of parents who want appropriate facilities for their children
	Re Warringah golf course – fully supportive of this option. (Synthetic 1 and Warringah Golf course 2) Wonderful creation and being a golfer and user of fields, running and cycle paths and family picnics, my sense this is a great win win options and should suit more of the community as the design caters for lots of different users - only using the nine holes for the new park and keeping the other nine holes across kentwell rd for Golf. Well done.
S	I'm supportive of the strategy, but don't think it goes far enough in relation to the conversion of golf courses. The strategy falls short in solving for the needs of sports ground users, yet maintains 9 holes at Warringah Golf Course. There are far more people who will benefit from the conversion of Warringah Golf Course to sports fields, compared to golfers who use the golf course, and there is another golf course a few suburbs away.
S	Sooner rather than later for the conversion of the golf course northern end as personal experience suggest that ground usage is higher than allocations would suggest. The transition from winter to summer sports is already only 2 weeks and the grounds never have time to recover.
Ss	If it's golf courses now what will it be next? I'm in favour of optimising resources and if the golf courses are truly not being used then a culling is fine – but if they are just low hanging fruit then more thought needs to be given – once lost it would be hard to get back.

Level of support	Comments
	<p>I wholeheartedly support the proposal to reduce or better yet) close Warringah Golf Course and convert the land to a Centennial Park type area with multiple sports fields.</p> <p>Making this change will be a great step towards ensuring the next generation of the Northern Beaches population (including my kids) will be active, healthy and develop a lifelong love of sport.</p> <p>Golfers on the northern beaches are spoilt for choice and the current members of Warringah will smoothly transition to one of the many golf courses currently on public land in the area, two of which are only a few kilometres away.</p> <p>Please do the right thing and provide more recreational opportunities for the active residents of the Northern Beaches.</p>
Support conversion of other golf courses to 9 holes	
vs	I note that Balgowlah and Mona Vale GC also have an 18 score, perhaps 9 holes could be left at Mona Vale near the ocean side and 9 holes converted on the B line side
Oppose conversion of golf course land to sports fields	
vs	The assumption that golf needs to be sustainable with higher profits when other sports are not allocated resources on the assumption of 100% cost recovery is not acceptable.
S	Still concerned where we take away space from one sport to service another. More priority should be given to supplying new areas and developing existing areas where we can.
Ss	Golf is also an important sport just as important as football no new golf courses are possible now , due to land shortages so this is not a long term solution, just like selling off beacon hill school, only to be sorry later
ss	The proposal tries to put parties in opposition to each other rather than a coherent strategy. If the Northern Beaches is lucky enough to have more golf courses than other areas (noting the very exclusive nature of some of them) then great! It is a positive, not a negative.
Ss	Don't take away golf course land that is being used by all ages and all abilities. The lack of sports fields is in the northern/Pittwater area. This has been the case for the past 30 years & is a growing problem brought about by lack of planning, new housing developments, increase in population & an increase in participation of team sports.
Ss	I totally oppose taking over any existing recreational facilities such as golf courses. Only develop new ones.
Ss	<p>I am in disagreement that current sports facilities such as golf courses should be repurposed as sports grounds.</p> <p>I am in strong favour of finding other ways to increase the supply of sporting and recreational grounds.</p>
ss	<p>Don't sacrifice one sport's facilities to make way for others.</p> <p>Improve existing sports fields and create new ones when the need has been properly assessed.</p>
Ss	<p>Keep all present open areas for public use for what they were intended.</p> <p>Do Not convert/destroy or any detriment from one sport for another.</p> <p>The present sportsfields are utterly underutilized, (- 94 -ntensi. 20 out of a possible 70 daylight hours weekly & that is excluding night usage !) The increased upkeep should be taken up by council if they are serious about a solution if necessary.</p> <p>I am appalled that removal/destruction of year-round all-day public spaces are being considered removed for seasonal sport which are completely mismanaged.</p> <p>Another factor is age, these public areas/golf courses are for 'whole of life' (essential exercise), the sportsfields are a window of perhaps 20 years activity</p>
ss	Proposed reuse of golf courses is short term thinking. With the expected population increase as well as a larger aging population especially in the area, we will need affordable golf courses in the area. The drop in current player numbers will eventually plateau and probably re-surge as many cyclists switch with road congestion and poor infrastructure back to golf and other

Level of support	Comments
	suitable sports.
Ss	Don't take from one to give to another
ss	I am opposed to resuming any council golf course to provide sports fields. I also believe that sports fields provide valuable and essential green space in our suburbs, so should be mostly left as grass.
Ss	<p>The draft report is very light on environmental impacts concerning Option F and would require a more thorough investigation should this option be decided on. Reading the preliminary investigation of "natural environmental impacts" on public golf courses one is left with the impression that the authors have adopted an engineering approach as to suitability for removing existing golf courses. For example only examining slope and earthworks. The report is also open to misinterpretation, for example stating that Balgowlah GC is "largely flat" with only "minor" impacts.</p> <p>A report which proposes the loss of half of the existing Warringah GC would need to examine fully the downside resulting from the destruction of hundreds of native trees in this green belt. And all this disruption would result in a small outcome –five sportsfields.</p>
Nvs	I don't want any existing public golf course land to be converted to playing fields.
Nvs	<p>You are destroying two Golf clubs that have existed for the last 90 years and have paid their way. The idea of limiting their lease provides a self fulfilling Prophecy of the clubs failing as new members want some assurance of the club continuing.</p> <p>You lose the clubs and they will never be replaced. These are Public courses not Private ones. They cater for the general public with an affordable option.</p>
Nvs	I am not supportive of taking away any sports usage of existing facilities to give to another sport. That to me is very short sighted especially with our population on the beaches growing.
Nas	(87) I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course land to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown land or other land.
nas	To suggest that any existing golf course be converted to playing fields is sheer lunacy. There will never be an opportunity to develop another golf course on the Northern Beaches, but there are ample opportunities to develop more sporting fields. Cast your net wider. Otherwise we will look back in 20 years time and wonder how some seemingly intelligent people were so destructive to allow golf courses to disappear.
Nas	How can anyone support the taking of golf course for playing fields? There is plenty of Crown land which needs to be made available for new sporting fields in the exact area which needs them.
Nas	<p>Golf was there first</p> <p>Failure to provide sports fields for the community is not a golf course issue</p> <p>Go away from corrupting the golf course in the area</p> <p>Please develop alternative grounds if there required</p>
nas	I'm playing golf when I'm 30. Do not let politicians touch what's there. Leave golf alone Use school grounds – Section 94 has funds surely
nas	No to destroying any 18 hole golf courses
Nas	I cannot support any Plan which includes the conversion of golf course lands to sports fields.
Nas	<p>This plan is biased Towards converting golf course land into playing fields.</p> <p>I do not support the plan because it seeks to convert golf course land and not convert Crown land / purchase other land</p>
Nas	I can not support any plan that supports the conversion of a golf course to sports fields
Nas	(4) I cannot support a proposal that includes the conversion of golf course land and not the acquisition of crown or other land
nas	(7) I think the change to any golf courses on the northern beaches would be wrong for so

Level of support	Comments
	many reasons, golf should be supported equally among sports not less and therefore look else where for land that could be used for sports fields if needed at all.
Nas	Golf courses provide green space and I will not support any removal of trees or green spaces at any time whatsoever
Nas	Remove the conversion of Golf courses and I would be supportive.
Nas	I do not support any ill founded conception to destroy established sports fields eg golf course which is used by young and old people.
nas	I will support if you do not destroy established amenities
nas	The report is entirely biased against golf clubs as part of the finding is to take back land used by golf clubs. When mentioning participation in sports it does not mention participation in golf. As such the does not reflect an accurate and even handed view of the numbers of people affected on both sides of recommendations. The sole intention of the report is make it seem acceptable to take land off golf courses, but says nothing of the impact to other Northern Beaches residents if this does occur. Not just golfers but residents living adjacent to the land in question, commuters and businesses.
Nas	I do not support any plan that includes the conversion of golf courses to sports fields. Acquire or lease crown or other land and utilise more school sports grounds.
Nas	(11) I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course lands to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land.
nas	I oppose any plan that includes the conversion of golf course land to sports fields and the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land.
nas	Have seen various golf courses converted to other uses over the last 50 years in Sydney and the change is permanent – the course is lost to golf forever! One example is the old Roselands Course at Wiley Pk – now a major shopping centre and unlikely to change.
Nas	Alternative venues should be considered such as school fields and better use of available spaces, not at the expense of golf courses which can be played on by young and old persons, both men, women and the young.
Nas	I cannot support any plan that destroys a golf course for sporting fields
nas	better use of available spaces...Not at the expense of a public golf course. Golf is played by people of ALL AGES not just the young and very active every day of the year.
nas	I am not at all in favour of converting existing golf facilities to sportsfields.
Nas	Any plan to acquire golf course land is a “band aid” solution and will not solve the reportedly great demand for fields. I’m at odds with the statements of too few sports Fields and too many golf courses in comparison with other Councils. Surely this demonstrates that these Councils look after their sportspeople whilst this Council has made absolutely no effort to acquire land to cater for a population increase in over 50 years. The last Golf Course lease was granted 45 years ago. Why now to decide too many courses?
Nas	This plan has been drafted with the end result in mind rather than looking at the facts and the entire needs of the community. I suggest you do it again. Taking away golf courses and removing this asset from a community is not a solution to a problem, but simply creates a new problem for the growing number of active retirees in the area. Very short sighted.
Nas	I cannot support any plan that is based on converting existing green space or public golf courses into sports fields, this shows a lack of vision by those in public office.
Nas	It strikes me that favouring development of sportsgrounds over golf courses is not a wise strategy as it is clearly being non supportive of a sport which is keeping older Australians

Level of support	Comments
	active. As a ratepayer I can see all sorts of legal challenges coming the way of the council and I DO NOT want my money spent on legal fees.
Nas	I support taking away public golf courses without other options being ruled out!!
Nas	Too much focus on Warringah Golf course as demonstrated with the outline. Council motto 'Trust' does not exist. This was all about acquiring Warringah Golf Course for a park. This was not about play grounds yet this report seems to pride itself on the plans for the North end with Play grounds. Seriously this this exercise was a complete waste of public money not about sportsgrounds. A complete bias against Golf and ageing community.
Nas	New sports field should be built, without taking existing infrastructure such as golf courses. The council via Mr Persson seems intent on sacrificing golf courses to address short falls in other sporting codes creating a them & us situation. The council should be creating new sports fields without affecting golf courses
Nas	I am completely opposed to the conversion of Warringah and Balgowlah golf courses partially or wholly to sports fields.
Nas	Why isn't financial viability of Golf Clubs one of the assessment criteria. The authors might think that there are successful nine hole courses out there somewhere but they aren't on the peninsular. The three nine hole courses are barely viable and the Strategy proposes to make it four by crippling one of the more heavily used and successful operations.
Nas	<p>I have been a resident of the Northern Beaches for 56 years. During that time I have played sport continuously (cricket, soccer, golf, squash) and represented the district at junior and senior level in cricket and soccer. I now play golf but am also involved in watching grandchildren play sport and wanting them to have the same sporting opportunities I did growing up.</p> <p>I do not deny there may be a shortage of playing fields on the Northern Beaches for the growing population. Those who know the area well, understand participation of sport through the ages, and have spent time in planning of infrastructure would tell you that (1) maximise the use of existing assets, (2) understand where the demand is coming from (geographically) and plan accordingly (3) do not rob one sport for another when there is a natural progression through life from sports like soccer and cricket through to golf.</p>
Nas	I do not support at all the acquisition of any golf course land for sports fields or crown land. I live in Kurnell but play golf on the Northern Beaches and have an investment property in the area.
	I do not support the conversion of golf course land for other sporting uses or the lease or acquisition of Crown lands for this purpose.
Oppose conversion of Warringah Golf Course to sports fields	
	Surely there must be Crown or other land which can be acquired for sports fields, and as much as I support the idea of additional playing fields for younger people, I cannot support the alteration of our golf course for this purpose. Our club supports the membership of all ages, young and old, seven days a week. I feel there are other areas which could be considered for new sports grounds without affecting the future of Warringah Golf Course.
Ss	I strongly object to the conversion of Warringah Golf course to sporting fields. This course if financial, used every day of the week is heavily used by public players as well many social groups. It is a beautifully kept course with many trees so necessary with the number of home units under construction. Warringah golf course is a beautiful amenity which has been in our area for many years. It needs to be kept as an 18 hole course to keep it viable. I request that you do not destroy this green space which is regularly used by so many golfers. Many of the Warringah golfers are older residents who enjoy a more level course.
Ss	I support efforts to increase access, quality and availability of sports grounds. I support the need for synthetic hockey fields in this region, however I am 100% opposed to making this happen at the expense of a golf course that has been flagged as appropriate due to topographical, and transport access as it is these qualities that make it such a heavily used

Level of support	Comments
	and accessible golf course within a reasonable price range in the region. Utilising land elsewhere that will not disadvantage an important group of sports people (golfers) must be an alternative solution. Golf is a lifetime game enjoyed by families and all ages of all abilities. It can be played when physical injury and age prevents other sporting activities. Reducing to 9 holes is equivalent to making Brookvale oval half size. It simply reduces the interest and variety of the course, skill set of players, advancement of the game and will add pressure to those 9 holes and most likely increase costs to users.
Ss	<p>I refer to my earlier submission to the Initial Discussion Paper. My main comments relate to the future of Warringah Golf Course which my late father played on for many years.</p> <p>I am appreciative of the need to meet the shortfall in sporting fields across the whole Northern Beaches and the generally comprehensive nature of the various documents and options.</p> <p>However, in effect cannibalising a full 18 hole golf course, being Warringah, to meet the bulk of the area shortfall after other actions is not supported.</p> <p>Apart from the disruption to members in their future playing games on a nine hole course and the associated cost, it appears the significant local traffic issues have not been taken into account. Those familiar with area including the golf course, former tennis complex, North Manly Bowling Club and Nolans Reserve would already identify traffic/parking/ safety problems. Some examples include flooding from the adjacent creek onto the access route behind Nolans Reserve from Kentwell Rd as well as significant illegal and dangerous parking at times on Wakefield Rd and Austral Avenue north of Nolans Reserve. The only safe option would be to encroach on the suggested golf course land to build off street parking which defeats the idea of opening up the space to grounds.</p>
ss	<p>I support efforts to increase access, quality and availability of sports grounds. I support the need for synthetic hockey fields in this region, however I am 100% opposed to making this happen at the expense of a golf course that has been flagged as appropriate due to topographical, and transport access as it is these qualities that make it such a heavily used and accessible golf course within a reasonable price range in the region. Utilising land elsewhere that will not disadvantage an important group of sports people (golfers) must be an alternative solution. Golf is a lifetime game enjoyed by families and all ages of all abilities. It can be played when physical injury and age prevents other sporting activities. Reducing to 9 holes is equivalent to making Brookvale oval half size. It simply reduces the interest and variety of the course, skill set of players, advancement of the game and will add pressure to those 9 holes and most likely increase costs to users.</p>
S	<p>I do not think Warringah golf course should be converted to open space. District park is already available and there doesn't need to be any more cars in a location so close to Warringah mall. Council should have used allocated funds from development contributions in Dee Why to address the problem before it occurred.</p>
Ss	<p>The council still has this maniacal focus on taking away golf courses, with Balgowlah being added to Warringah.</p> <p>It's not just young female footballers that live on the Beaches, older people live here too and have just as much right to exercise by playing golf. You have already taken pleasant walking tracks and turned them into bicycle race tracks with hard cement like soil and concrete.</p> <p>Please leave these golf courses alone! Take notice of the "silent" majority for once.</p> <p>Leave Warringah golf course as an 18 hole course, we have an ageing population and more people are going to want to move into golf.</p>
Ss	<p>I am NOT in favour of cannibalising any existing operational golf courses and would wish to see all other avenues pursued on an ongoing basis prior to taking such drastic action. The voices of 10,000 plus petitioners must be listened to.</p>
Ss	<p>I am totally against taking over the Warringah Golf Course for sporting grounds. This course will not survive if converted to nine holes only. It is one of the most used courses on the Northern Beaches – why attempt to kill off this course? Traffic is already heavy in the area; just imagine the traffic problems the COUNCIL would cause if the golf course was taken over. The Council Administrator has no right to spend ratepayer's money investigating this proposal when Council elections are coming due.</p> <p>Sports grounds need to be developed where population growth is planned taking into account</p>

Level of support	Comments
	traffic access points and parking.
Ss	I am still not convinced that the cutting up of an existing sports facility (golf) is the only long term way to provide sufficient facilities for other sports.
Ss	<p>ISSUES related to the Draft Sportsground Strategy Plan</p> <p>PARKING : The restricted location by absorbing the northern end of Warringah Golf Course into playing fields cannot cater for the number of parking spaces which would be required for five playing fields. For any one allocated game fielding approximately 26 players and 3 officials the average is 28 vehicles. This is actually 56 as parking is required for firstly the allocated game in play and then the next allocated game players who need to be present before kick off.</p> <p>TRANSPORT : As proposed that the B-Line is an option. I think NOT. Weekend services are staggered. Parents nor players will not be using this service when they are sweaty, muddy.. "respect the buses keep them clean" and when often parents move off to another game for sibling players at other fields within a short turn around time.</p> <p>TRAFFIC CONGESTION : The Pittwater Road and Condamine Street corner which is being up-graded and is a centralized bus stop for both north and south services will become a bottleneck. Similarly Kentwell Road between Pittwater Road and Condamine Street is too narrow and too short to allow for safe and timely entry and exit from parking spaces and into the traffic flow. Second bottleneck.</p> <p>RECREATIONAL BENEFITS : The initial inquiry targeted availability of playing fields this proposal outlines a dual target of playing fields and recreational use. Aesthetically this dual usage is pleasing. It does ignore that Manly Dam is such a recreational venue and in very close proximity. Additionally recent rezoning of Crown Land at Narrabeen Lakes is another recreational option available. Beaches and National Parks within the Council area offer recreational options.</p> <p>Community attitude has been reported in the Manly Daily newspaper over several weeks in a balanced manner. I recommend the planning committee take note of these opinions. Among the opinions is that golf courses cater for enthusiastic and regular sport participants over the entire year. These participants pay their dues, do not impact on the environment nor on traffic flow nor on Council budget. Their numbers may not be hordes or threatening lobby groups but they are rate payers who value their local community and the quality of service that they deserve.</p>
Nvs	I do not support the plan to take space from manly Warringah golf course
nvs	I know it is a golf course but it is an attractive feature in the North Manly landscape with lots of fauna living in and around the creek. Why rip it up for dry bland soccer fields?
Nvs	I don't understand why you would take a golf course that is generating revenue and turn it into a sports field that will get used occasionally on weekends.
Nvs	<p>The second nine at Warringah is an old market farm/swamp and during periods of rain would be unplayable for many weeks. It is only kept in use by the employment of at least 8 green staff.</p> <p>Also traffic between the courses is already very dangerous with cars racing overtaking on the nearside. I have previously reported this to local police and Council without real action. Someone will be injured if proper action is not taken>this could include prohibited signage and enforcement.</p> <p>Also a current extension of 5 years lease for the second nine does not give the golf club proper tenure to make an informed business decision.</p> <p>Warringah is the second busiest course in Sydney and provide a healthy outlet for thousands of locals and visitors of all ages 7 days a week.</p>
nvs	<p>The Golf Market Assessment Report and the Sports Ground Needs Analysis were both deeply flawed, based on invalid assumptions, and basically a waste of ratepayers money.</p> <p>There seems to be an overwhelming lack of common sense driving this particular initiative. Who in their right mind would consider interfering with one of the most successful sports facilities in NSW (Warringah Golf Club) to add a couple of new sports fields. This whole issue has caused needless anxiety to a large section of our community, and has tried to cause division where none existed before. I DO NOT support any initiative which involves the dismemberment of ANY golf club on the Northern Beaches.</p>

Level of support	Comments
	I do not support any initiative which attempts to divide the community, to rob Peter to pay Paul ie destroying an existing and very successful sports facility like Warringah Golf Club to rectify the mistakes and glaring lack of thought and planning by the Council over the past ten years.
Nvs	<p>Leave the Warringah Golf Course as it is. A golf course consists of 18 holes, not less. As a kid I learnt to play on that course and council should listen to its residents not dictate what they consider appropriate. How would kids learn to play golf is there is not a proper golf course! Golf is a disciplined sport and we all need exercise.</p>
Nvs	<p>In your Draft Strategy you indicate that the 'Convert existing open space to sportsfields e.g. golf courses' action was opposed by 35% of respondents in written submissions and some 73% were somewhat supportive in a phone poll. A phone poll is an invasion of privacy and cannot possibly carry the same weight as a written submission. I cannot see any weightings applied to these results.</p> <p>To state that the Sports Forum indicated 'Support' for this action is ludicrous as I am sure that it was heavily attended by supporters of this action. Again an un-meaningful statement. It is clear that Council has already decided the preferred option is to turn Warringah Golf Course into a 9 hole golf course and install playing fields on the other 9 holes because of the detailed concept plan included in the strategy. There are no other designs for areas of Crown or private land that are supposed to be also considered. If it is decided to destroy Warringah Golf Course to satisfy the sporting field 'alleged' shortfall then where will participants and their families park their cars? This area of Brookvale is already jam packed with car parking problems every day of the week let alone a concentrated influx for 4 or 5 hours on a Saturday morning – we see it at the Abbot Road fields. I can't see this issue considered in the strategy. The loss of open space is something Council should be opposed to. To state the obvious, the game of golf requires large areas because of the distances that a golf ball can be hit and the challenges of differing terrains is the attraction of the sport. The course itself offers opportunities for players to get some exercise, enjoy the outdoors and reflect, away from their busy working lives. The course also affords valuable corridors of bush and water features for wildlife refuges in a suburban setting. None of these essential and valuable attributes are accommodated by installing sporting fields on golf course land. I cannot support any strategy that proposes the sacrifice of golf course land for a short term gain to console a group of vocal sporting clubs that have players, many of which are only there for a few years while the children grow up and then leave the sport. Once Council goes down this path of golf course conversion, a precedent will be set and Council will be unable to backpedal and in a few short years our precious golf courses will be gone forever as the very vocal sporting groups get their way. This is clearly demonstrated in the SPORTSGROUNDS STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS ANALYSIS (DRAFT) Section 7.5 Supply and Demand Model, Action 4 where the figure of 11ha of additional playing field is the 'yield' proposed by the sacrifice of Warringah Golf course. Then the only option for residents will be to join unaffordable private golf clubs or fight through traffic to play at a course in another LGA.</p> <p>This report is unashamedly biased towards the conversion of Warringah Golf Course to playing fields as demonstrated by the plethora of graphs, charts, tables that all indicate that the conversion is the only option to achieve a shortfall which is not accurately quantified. This collection of data can be massaged whichever way and give the appearance of being statistically derived. It doesn't matter how the data is analysed as all public consultation exercises are inherently flawed and cannot possibly represent the desires of the community now and into the future as the community are not experts in recreation planning or intergenerational equity. The proposed loss of Warringah Golf Course and the exponential loss of all our public golf courses would be a tragedy that can be stopped right now.</p> <p>Remove items 15 and 16. From 7.2.1 Planning and Management Recommendations Remove items 2 and 3 from 7.3.2 Recommendations to Increase Capacity, and be smarter about usage and maintenance of our existing playing fields and the answer will be right there.</p>
	I would definitely prefer not to take the northern half of Warringah Golf Course away from Golf. This is a much needed level area for golfers with limited mobility.
Nvs	I cannot support any proposal to remove all or part of a well patronised golf course
ss	I appreciate there is only a limited amount of land on the northern beaches and everyone wants their piece. However I don't believe we should be taking from one sport i.e golf to give

Level of support	Comments
	to others. I think the concept for the layout of fields on Warringah golf course is well designed but it just shouldn't go there.
Ss	I am NOT in favour of cannibalising any existing operational golf courses and would wish to see all other avenues pursued on an ongoing basis prior to taking such drastic action. The voices of 10,000 plus petitioners must be listened to.
Ss	The report fails to acknowledge that population increases are well north and west of Manly Vale, North Manly. In fact north of Dee Why & west of Allambie Heights. The age bracket of the population increase is well 45 years, again the report fails to mention this rather it implies that the increase is across the board in all areas. A 5 year lease on a portion of Warringah golf course is ridiculous when you consider that the administrator expects WGC to spend well in excess of 5M on a new community sports venue and then wants to take away a major portion of the golf course which would seriously effect WGC revenue stream. Would you commit to such a venture with your money? The current sporting fields are not used to their full potential no where in the strategy does it mention better management or re scheduling of sports. No one uses public transport to attend matches let alone training sessions yet the strategy suggests everyone would be using the "B" line service, get real. So parents will expect their children to be on buses on week day afternoon, probably peak hour, to travel from North Manly, site of WGC, to travel to Mona Vale & beyond. Where in the strategy does it mention new sporting fields towards the northern end of the northern beaches, there is a non specific comment about new estates, no number of proposed sports fields. The initial report was to investigate "Under Utilised Golf Courses" could you please supply a definition for this statement as Warringah GC is the second most used public golf course in Australia (Moore Park ahead of WGC). Balgowlah, Avalon & Palm Beach don't even come close but you choose to ignore "facts" . Back on transport there seems to be absolutely no consideration for the traffic management or parking in or around WGC. Which is already choked every week. Now where in the strategy is this topic mentioned. I viewed the Warringah Golf Club submission but you haven't addressed one of their points, which were very well constructed. While I do support the requirement for more sporting fields, but not at the expense of WGC, I have found the strategy to be very general in descriptions, exactly where are the new land releases, not just the suburb but street or bush boundaries. Where are the tracts of Crown land currently available for lease. Not a map insight in the strategy.
Ss	The options that have surfaced to date are too focused in their intent to reduce the land size of Warringah Golf course and thus severely compromise a public facility that boasts one of the most played on PUBLIC golf courses in NSW. Surely there is in enough wit solve the purported issue of lack of sporting amenity, without sacrificing an amenity that is accessed by thousands locals & visitors. I am all for renewal, but not at the diminishment and possible demise of the highly regarded Royal Warringah Golf Club.
nas	use new crown land rather than take from one sport to give to another
nas	Leave Warringah Golf Course alone... you are destroying it due to the uncertainty. You have been false in your predicted figures to suit your claim. Be honest with the public... Warringah Golf Course is fully utilised 7 days a week and provides a sporting activity for people from all over Sydney. You wanted the back nine holes but now decide you want the front nine.... Leave it alone and let the club grow and improve to continue to be a very important part of our lives.
Nas	There is no need for additional sporting fields in an area that already has an influx of fields. These areas are deserted throughout much of the day and traffic would be chaos. No one on the northern beaches is going to put their kids in a B Line bus to send them to sport. We need to address the problem elsewhere. Additionally what is the point of having two 9 hole golf course within 2kms of each other? Isn't golf an 18 hole game??
Nas	I support the identified need for more sports fields at the northern end of the Northern Beaches Peninsular but certainly not at the expense of reducing the Warringah Golf Course, the most popular, reasonably priced golf course in Sydney that caters for all age groups both male and female for 12 months of every year and has been doing so for more than 80 years.

Level of support	Comments
Nas	don,t remove existing sporting facilities for a few grounds and a duck pond like this blow in administrator wants to !
nas	<p>I have played sports for 50+ years on the northern beaches this lack of sports fields has existed for a long time with no planning by any council to correct it. The taking of golf courses is a knee jerk reaction, with a result that already is outdated, the future can only be to lease crown or council land for sports fields. Sports fields can be created from smaller areas of land, golf courses need the area they are played on for the structure of the game, once we lose a golf course, in the future how do we replace it. Golf is the second largest sport played on the northern beaches yet we are so willing to destroy the most popular course within the area. Land should be sort in the northern end of the peninsula where all the new housing is occurring so to relieve the traffic congestion that does and will only increase with more sports fields added to the southern end.</p> <p>I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course land to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land. Please release the traffic, environmental study, and local resident survey results if they have been done thru the manly daily where this debate is most heard. The community is being asked to make a decision with little or no impact information, yet again the slant of this decision is biased to a preordained result. Maintain the golf course for the future so we don't end up with high density housing replacing the sports fields, with the course lease removed it is only a matter of time for a rezoning. The long-term lease guarantees open grassed areas for our future children to choose a sport they may want to play.</p>
nas	Leave the golf course alone
nas	I do not support the destruction of successful golf courses resulting from council's failure to provide for sports field in their planning controls.
Nas	(2) Just hands off Warringah Golf Course. Such a busy and constantly used golf course that allows our ageing population to continue physical exercise weekly in various golf competitions and recreational games of golf as it is level, green, has beautiful trees and greenery and flora, and just so many different kinds fauna that bring joy to all who enjoy their golf there .
nas	I cannot support any strategies that involve reducing golf courses to provide land for additional sports grounds.
nas	(2) I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course land to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of crown and other land.
nas	Unfortunately I cannot a strategy that is ill conceived in that it compromises one of the busiest golf courses in Australia and prejudices an older age demographic.
Nas	<p>Like the Abbott Road complex of netball fields etc these are overrun for several months of the year for one or two days a week... all other times these fields are EMPTY.</p> <p>When the fields do have people on them the traffic is a nightmare... its bad enough now getting along Condamine st and Pittwater roads on the weekends, it will be impossible if your sports fields are increased.</p> <p>Warringah Golf Course is the second busiest public course in Sydney after Moore Park.. 65,000 games a year... a facility that is used all day every day of the year. Look at the cars parked in Kentwell Road at any time to gauge the players on the course at any time.</p>
NAS	<p>I cannot support any plan to take golf courses away for sports fields when there are other options such as Crown land, new developments and school fields.</p> <p>Why deprive one group of sports people for the benefit of another?</p> <p>The suggestion of having sports grounds on the north end of Warringah Golf Course is ludicrous. There are major roads either side, a creek through the middle and no parking options. Centennial Park indeed!! Surely a joke.</p>
Nas	<p>I have been active in Sports mainly Soccer and Cricket for over 40 years. Any Plan to rob "Peter to Pay Paul" by destroying a 18 hole golf course e.g. Warringah is totally unacceptable. Council neglect should not be rewarded by at the cost of the golfing community particularly those who cannot afford to join/play a/at Private golf Course.</p>

Level of support	Comments
	However Public Golf Courses are full. Thus to displace Warringah Golf Course users ,Members and Public Players,(over 60,000rounds pa) including many of the older residents of the Northern Beaches would deny them the opportunity to play at all.
Nas	I support the improvement/increase of sportsgrounds on the Northern Beaches. However it must be understood that golf courses are in fact sportsgrounds and courses such as Warringah are accessible and extremely popular with members and public players of all ages, genders and level of ability. While the Sportsground Strategy includes the closure of all or part of a golf course/sportsground, I cannot give it my support.
Nas	Any strategy that precludes one group of sportspeople (golfers) reasonable access to their chosen sport simply to accommodate other groups of sportspeople increased access to their chosen sports is very unfair and even discriminatory.
Nas	The idea of taking half of Warringah golf course for sports fields does not make sense. It will increase traffic density in an already busy area, cause the loss of 100s of trees and take away the only public 18 hole golf course at the southern end of the Northern beaches area. This is an area where there is a growing older population, ie those who play golf, as is evidenced by the increasing number of casual players at Warringah – one of the busiest public golf courses in the state.
Nas	Purchase alternate land for proposed sporting fields other than Warringah golf course. The potential traffic problems/chaos around the existing golf course & other sporting fields in that area will be unbelievable. Retain the existing 18 hole golf course (the most used course on the peninsular) for the elderly patrons/public.
Nas	under no circumstances should - 103 -intensifi golf course be subject to change. The council are required to provide for all sports group not detract from the most popular golf course venue for the past 80 years
nas	Warringah 18 hole golf course should not be part of the Draft Strategy
nas	(10) The Warringah Golf Club has an 80 year heritage as a community 18 hole golf course and should not be part of the “Draft Strategy”.
Nas	There are many older residents as well as young that enjoy this golf course and what it has to offer. Wakehurst the nearest is too hilly for a lot of older people that want to maintain levels of fitness and keep us out of hospitals. There are plenty of sports fields already in the area that are only used at weekends not 7 days as the golf course.
Nas	I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course land to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown Land or other land.
nas	I am 79 years old and the retention of Warringah Golf Club as an 18 hole course in its current location is essential for my physical, social and mental well being and for the other members of my club. My club has been in existence for 40 years and has provided level golf facilities easy of access for older women. The loss of the front 9 in particular would deprive us of an essential exercise and social opportunity.
Nas	I have grandchildren playing sports on different sports grounds. I realize that we need more areas for them, but to take part or all of Warringah Golf Course is ludicrous as so many people play there. It's so busy.
Nas	To take away half of any golf course is mindless and short sighted as it ultimately means the demise of the remainder as no-one wants to play 9 holes only. Once gone this land and its long heritage in the area will be lost forever for future generations and the environment. Finally one can only think there is another agenda here and that is more houses/units for developers resulting in more heavy traffic on the Pittwater and Condamine roads.
Nas	As parking & destruction of many trees is necessary, use of school ovals or create new ovals with more parking available would be preferable.
Nas	I cannot support destroying a sports complex that serves the community so well. Also

Level of support	Comments
	destroying the green space that we will certainly need for future generations. Seek other alternatives for more sports fields
nas	Not supportive of a strategy that includes the conversion of golf course land. Do not support conversion of Golf Course land but do support the needs of other sporting bodies.
Nas	Leave Warringah Golf Course as is your proposed strategy makes absolutely no sense destroying one sports field to build another.
	I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf courses to sports fields the acquisition of other land is a must I have read all your reports and I find them very biased. There surely can be a better solution than taking away a beautiful well used golf course that benefits the welfare of ALL ages and will do so for many more years
Nas	Get your figures correct and let the people know true facts ie demographics etc. Do include Warringah golf course as an option and I will support initiative
nas	Why would you want to halve Warringah Golf Course when there are not many 18 hole courses on the peninsular. There is a large playing field strip close by near the bowling club which I have never seen anyone use except on an occasional weekend. Our golf course is used EVERY day.
nas	Not at all supportive of halving M,W. golf course.
Nas	Warringah Golf Course, I will be very upset if this course is cut up and will let it be known at the next council elections...I am 100% against it..! I won't be able to play there at my current day times as the course will be limited to members – competitions will need to do 2 rounds of 9 holes instead of 1 round of 18 holes, so social play will be out. In NSW 30% of play is non-member social play. Warringah does 65,000 rounds per year and is use all daylight hours of all days of the year other than when stopped by rain. Some people play in the rain. It is a great course for seniors as it is flat. Far better than hilly courses where motorised carts must be used. 9 hole courses are far less attractive to players and less viable. The course and the commercial viability of it will wither and die if it is cut up to only 9 holes. The idea is short-sighted. Council should be providing for the future of golf as well as other sports. Trashing a great course is not a sensible plan for the future. What about the sporting needs of older people.? Golf is one of the few outdoor sports older people can play. Young people today will be the older people of tomorrow. Golf returns a profit to council through rents and is self funded.
Nas	Turning Golf Courses into other public use fields is too easy. But, when the time comes to provide new Golf Courses and with population growth it will come, the task of providing these will be almost impossible. Please look further ahead to future needs.
Nas	I think you should revert to the draft management plan that was in place prior to the merger of councils. I do not agree with Warringah Golf Course being divided.
Nas	Why why why would you take the busiest golf course and increase ovals and traffic in an already congested area.
Nas	I disagree with Point A as it does not acknowledge the number of people using Warringah Golf Course, and bases its statistics on registered members rather than players. I don't believe it is a fair or sensible option to take from one sport to give to another ...it is not smart and very divisive. I agree with all other points.
Nas	I'm 83 yrs old why do I need to play a sport ? My interest is the beauty of the area and that is provided by the open spaces which include parks and golf courses. You have no right whatsoever to change the use of Warringah Golf Course. Take some to GET AROUND and look at all sportfields which are under utilised, also GET AROUND and use land that is sitting there waiting to be utilised and don't put all fields in the one spot and so eliminating travel by players resulting in the number of cars on the roads.

Level of support	Comments
Nas	I am disgusted that the proposed solution takes much needed sporting facilities for older residents (i.e Warringah golf course) away. The young soccer players will one day be older and looking to stay healthy by walking the flat course.
Nas	The council has conducted a placebo consultation and are bulldozing their biased views through showing complete contempt for the community. Leave the golf course alone, buy land back that you sold or spend our rates on assets instead of selling them. The fields are needed in other areas. Take this golf course and in ten years you will be back to take more of another one. The northern beaches are full so stop over development.
Nas	<p>I am dumbfounded that despite seeking consultation and knowing that the majority of rate payers and residents do not want any area of Warringah Golf course converted to playing fields this is still being considered and recommended.</p> <p>I am not a golfer and have no interest in the sport whatsoever. I am a local resident and find travel in my own community difficult on weekends</p> <p>Adding more playing fields in the area between Pittwater Rd and Condamine St will only add to this congestion</p> <p>The argument that the fields will be on the B- Line route is also ridiculous</p> <p>I am yet to meet a sporting family who takes their children to games via public transport. You can't even get parents in this area to put their precious bundles on the bus to go the school in the mornings let alone Weekend sport.</p> <p>I am flabbergasted that turning this area into more sports fields is an option. Ridiculous!</p>
Nas	The concept to convert Warringah Golf Course to playing fields will cause traffic mayhem. No families will use the B Line to take children to and from sports games.
Nas	<p>I can not go along with any plan that includes taking all or any part of the Warringah Golf course.</p> <p>I am aware that we need more sports fields in this area but not by taking away from another fully functional sporting facility. Seek out Crown land for the new fields.</p> <p>Why wasn't this situation foreseen in the 2001 15 year plan?</p>
nas	Do not use golf courses for sporting fields , there are enough alternatives available to use without sacrificing our much used golf courses, in particular, Warringah Golf Course which is the most used and popular course in the area.
nas	Do not sacrifice our golf course for sporting fields.
Nas	I support need to provide more sports fields but not at expense of existing golf courses.
Nas	<p>It is not clear about leasing crown land. yet it is very clear about destroying Warringah Golf Course which I strongly object too.</p> <p>This questionnaire is extremely biased as if you support the Plan you are giving permission to destroy a golf course without defining any other options</p>
nas	The Warringah golf course was built 80 years ago and should not be part of the "DRAFT STRATEGY"
Nas	(5) I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course land (especially the 2 nd most popular golf course in NSW and the most affordable and accessible to the over 60's age group) (especially a golf course which has a healthy membership and is very popular with social players as well) to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land.
nas	<p>Proposed car park on Warringah golf course is smothering green space</p> <p>Do not put any more bitumen over green space</p>
nas	Under no circumstances can I support the draft Sports Field Strategy that the northern end of the golf course be divided up amongst sporting bodies. It is inconceivable that this non elected Council would wish to destroy the 2 nd most used public golf course in NSW to satisfy the Administrator's perceived plan to destroy the Warringah Golf Course.
Nas	<p>Information provided are not facts. Council are telling the public wrong information.</p> <p>Council should be honest and not be biased against Warringah Golf Course. I would support</p>

Level of support	Comments
	motion if it was not at the detriment of Warringah Golf Course.
Nas	Council clearly plans to acquire all or part of Warringah Golf Course. Our area of the Northern Beaches already has more than its fair share of sporting fields, the traffic congestion that comes with them and the litter that the users leave behind. In particular Nolan Reserve which all too often is a bog and when it is not never appears to be in full use. Acquire new land(s) for the required playing fields, create all weather playing fields and spread them out to different areas on the Northern Beaches.
Nas	(2) The cost to the environment, trees and wildlife habitat is unacceptable, specifically with the proposed sportfields conversion on the Warringah Golf Course and the proposed use of Crown Land. Northern Beaches simply cannot accept this environmental impact. Throughout this process, there has been a noticeable lack of transparency on the environmental impact and none of the environmental studies have been made available to the public. Cutting down mature trees which are long established habitat for native wildlife is unconscionable.
Nas	Leave Warringah as an 18 hole golf course, as it is a heavily used economical course suitable for members and the general public, especially older players.
nas	There is plenty of crown land which could be leased or acquired for sports grounds. I can't imagine what the traffic will be like in the surrounding area if you convert the WARRINGAH Golf Course to playing fields. It is already at a crawl for some reason.
Nas	<p>The just released Govt Census Report highlights how the population is aging and the new State Govt budget will give \$100 to encourage children into sport because "numbers are dropping". Both these facts point to the folly of closing a golf course. An even bigger folly is closing one (Warringah) that is the 2nd most used in the state – this alone says something about the need for this course? Other courses are either too steep or too expensive for senior citizens.</p> <p>Furthermore, traffic has not been addressed : there are four sets of playing fields in the immediate vicinity of Warringah Golf Club + Warringah Mall. To add further traffic into this area on a weekend would be a disaster greater than the Curl Curl netball fiasco as this traffic overflow would impact a major arterial road.</p> <p>Playing field requirements are greater at the Northern end of the area where most population growth is to occur and to keep traffic off Pittwater Rd which on a weekend is worse than weekday peak hours and regularly at a bumper to bumper standstill. Sports people DO NOT travel to games by bus! – so do not use the B Line as an excuse. The proposed car parking at the new fields will commence to fill from sunrise by golfers arriving for the remaining 9 hole course and near the end of sports field game times there will be as many cars arriving as are already in the car park – this will ensure a traffic fiasco!</p>
Nas	Waste of money as it is structured all the way thru to get rid of Warringah Golf Course. Push polling on the telephone, No consideration of any other golf course for destruction just Warringah GC. Shows how biased the Administrator is, as he tried once before to put the new Hospital on the front nine. Do some real work and consider all options don't just set your sights on one site i.e. Warringah GC.
Nas	(5) I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course land (especially the 2 nd most used course in NSW and the most affordable and accessible for the over 60's age group), to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown or other land.
nas	(2) I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course land to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land.....Especially a golf course with a healthy membership and very popular with social players.
nas	At least the Warringah Golf Course is in use every day of the week and even sometimes when wet plus the fact that a golf course is used by all ages, not just the young. Take away an 18 hole golf course (that is a pleasure to walk where you don't have to be a mountain goat or an elite athlete to play there) and once again it's the elderly that are being penalised. Time for some rational and logical thinking not "knee-jerk" reactions as we seem to be getting at the moment.
Nas	A Golf Club to be popular and successful needs 18 holes. I would have liked photograph to

Level of support	Comments
	be taken two weeks ago with two visiting clubs, Mona Vale and Balgowlah hitting off early in competition with Warringah ladies. Then Forestville RSL ladies to hit off, followed by senior school boys. Busy to say the least. Open space, trees, beautiful for everyone in an ever increasing crowded area. To reduce it so dramatically – gone forever. Gone to all those who, as they grow up would certainly look to golf. I absolutely love the game of golf, and can't say strongly enough "leave it alone".
Nas	I cannot support on a plan that takes sportsground from one sport to allocate to another, particularly when the proposed ground is being used on a constant basis. As a resident in close proximity to the District Park area, I feel disappointed that the impact on local traffic and stress on the local environment due to tree loss and hard surface runoff into creeks needs to be addressed.
Nas	I cannot support any plan that requires the acquisition of the golf course in order to provide more sporting fields. This golf course is the second most used course in NSW and is the most affordable and user friendly on the peninsula especially for the older people.
nas	I cannot support any plan that includes the destruction of a golf course in order to convert same to sports fields. The council should acquire vacant land or crown land in order to provide further sports fields. The council's lack of planning in the past has contributed to the indicated shortage of playing fields. The proposed acquisition of a very successful golf course I believe is ludicrous. The golf course provides exercise and recreation for thousands of golfers throughout each year at no cost to the council. It is the second most used course in NSW.
Nas	I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course land to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land.....especially the 2 nd most popular public course in NSW and the most affordable and accessible to the over 60's age group. I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course land to sports fields (especially a golf course with a healthy membership and one that is very popular with social players), and not the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land.
nas	I will not support a plan that destroys a golf course to change to sports fields that will destroy 1000s of trees. Should be acquiring land or be leasing Crown land.
nas	The proposal to reduce Warringah Golf course to 9 holes is totally unacceptable given that it is one of the most popular golf courses in NSW. Personally, I first played on this course some 50 years ago, and hope to continue to do so for many years to come. Putting more sports fields in the area would create significant traffic and parking issues. There is already a concentration of fields in adjacent streets – Nolan Reserve, Miller Reserve, Passmore etc. The latest suggestion of turning some of the northern part of the golf course into a "Centennial Park" like area beggars belief. We already have a delightful picnic area, walking tracks at Manly Dam!!
Nas	We are in favour of more Sports grounds but not at the expense of existing important facilities like the Warringah Golf Course (northern section) being hived off. I believe that it is within Councils reach to acquire Crown land for Community purposes as outlined in the Crown Land Management Act 2016. The Council should not be taking away from the community and already established sporting facility such as the Warringah Golf Course (northern section). This facility is very important the young and aging residents in the area. This green area is also the home of various plants and animals and provides a 'green space' for future generations.
Nas	It is a ill informed and divisive notion that includes the conversion of golf course land to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land.
nas	Killing off Warringah Golf Course is absolutely ridiculous. Very little investigation into new areas just hollow comments about Ingleside and Warriewood. No suggestion of purchasing land or investigating more open space in new development areas. Implementing a plan that destroys other sporting facilities i.e. Warringah Golf Course is

Level of support	Comments
	plainly stupid. Nowhere does parking or road management get a mention in the strategy around the North Manly/Manly Vale area.
nas	Under no circumstances should any golf course be closed to make new sports field despite the fact they are urgently needed. If Warringah Golf Course was partly or completely converted to sporting fields the traffic problems in an already congested area would become intolerable on the weekends.
Nas	To destroy a successful, full time sporting facility to accommodate a seasonal , primarily weekend sport - highly inappropriate
nas	I believe golf courses SHOULD NOT be reduced as ageing population. We moved to Beaches from north shore and as a retiree need to remain active however also to meet and mix with people as not easy when older and no avenues like school gates to meet new people. I only started golf 2 years ago and so been a saviour to us to engage in community after work life. Massive number of retirees moving from North shore to Beaches. To keep retirees in their own home, sport like golf is critical to well being and very short sighted to decrease courses as population ages. Not interested in Wakehurst or any hilly course. Golf course is available for play from 6.45 am to 6 pm, 7 days a week. Learning golf has been an absolute life line for us moving from work suddenly to full days to fill. Very grateful for having opportunity to be able to have a public golf course this end of beaches.
Nas	The previous elected Council did a lot of work on how best to structure the management of the sporting precinct between Condamine St and Pittwater Rd including the golf club and adjacent sporting facilities. The idea of using the size and financial strength of the golf club as the main player made sense. This strategy blows all that away, cripples the golf club, adds five more sports fields and just hopes that the golf club might still be able to do it or that another player might show up. It might be planning for sports fields but its short term planning and short term thinking for this part of the beaches.
Nas	I also cannot support any plan that will worsen traffic on Condamine St/Pittwater Road.
Nas	This site is not suitable for this sports ground draft. Look somewhere that does not take exercise and enjoyment from men ladies and youth at improving their skills. Who knows? They could be future champions
nas	you going about the wrong way look to other areas instead of destroying the golf club. this area is very congested with traffic
nas	The proposals re the lease of Warringah Golf Club are unreasonable. If the council goes ahead and eventually reclaims the northern 9 holes where can the club facilities (buggy store, pro shop, toilets etc) be replicated on the southern side, bearing in mind the main sewer line and electrical easements run through the course. Does the club get compensated for loss of facilities? What plans are there to protect wildlife?
Nas	The 18 hole Warringah Golf Course is a wonderful golfing facility for residents of the northern beaches. It is in use from dawn to dusk 7 days a week. To destroy it by cutting 9 holes will severely impact the sporting lives of the many golfers like me who use the facility.
nas	Yes. Be honest and also say you want to destroy one of the best golf clubs in the area. 9 holes is not a golf course. 18 is and Warringah Golf Club is enjoyed by a huge number of people. I play there many times a week and it is always busy. Stop messing with what is a great facility. DO whatever you want but don't destroy a great golf club I do not support the proposal at all and I wish you would be creative not destructive. Stop interfering.
Nas	The strategy and implementation plan are heavy biased towards the Administrator's pre conceived conclusion that Warringah Golf course should be converted to some additional playing fields. This is wrong. Converting Warringah Golf course is not part of the solution.
Nas	I object to item F "Convert suitable open space to sportsgrounds including golf course land)" in the implementation plan. The retention of an 18 hole course at Warringah is paramount to its

Level of support	Comments
	<p>future long term viability. If any golf course should be converted then it should be the Balgowlah 9 hole course.</p> <p>While I strongly object to conversion of Warringah golf course, if it was to proceed I do think conversion of the northern 9 holes as presented in the May 2017 Report is far better than conversion of the southern 9 holes as the northern section possesses far more buffer land to residents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - creek + Pittwater road - Condamine Street - Kentwell road <p>whereas the southern nine holes has many home units in Campbell Parade directly facing the golf course.</p>
Ss	<p>If the council is help addressing obesity with its strategy, what is the obesity rate in the Northern beaches and amongst which age group?</p> <p>How is getting rid of half a golf course to replace it with sports fields/tracks going to reduce the obesity amongst the group that needs help with obesity issues?</p> <p>Is the money being spent on changing a golf course the best use of funds to help obesity?</p> <p>If our population is growing and a greater need for outdoor sporting activities, why would we get rid of half a golf course? All the other options are fine, but getting rid of half a golf course is not</p>
ss	<p>I would like to place my support for the retention of the Warringah Golf Course as it adds significantly to the general environment of the area as well as allowing a venue for recreation thru playing golf. The general environmental impact of the golf course grounds and vegetation provides wonderful landscape to reduce the housing impact on the area, the general ambiance available to residents.</p>
Ss	<p>I can see no justification for halving the size of Warringah golf course to 9 holes thus taking away its presence as a real golf course, remembering it is an 18 hole game. There are 3 examples of 9 hole courses in the region, Palm Beach, Avalon and Balgowlah and none of them have the participation rate anyway near that of Warringah. It has already been published that WGC has one of the highest utilisation rates in New South Wales and most certainly on the Northern Beaches. It well serves the expanding participation rates of the “baby boomers” who don’t have the funds from retirement income to be a member of the several private courses in the area, nor are there many courses where senior players can enjoy the relatively level walk without forking out extra \$ to hire a golf cart.</p> <p>Furthermore WGC is utilised 7 days a week not one or two weekend days plus maybe some after school or evening training.</p> <p>Surely the planners can remove the blinkers and think creatively about other locations where the only inconvenience would be in relocating some native wildlife.</p>
Ss	<p>I am not at all supportive of changing the current layout of Warringah Golf Course identified as Step 7 on page 22 of the Strategy. This golf course provides valuable environmental benefits in addition to being a very well used public golf course</p>
ss	<p>I support the need to proactively build or improve sports fields on a needs basis. I do not however support or agree that it is appropriate or smart to build a sports grounds on any part of Warringah Golf Course. Indeed I consider that destruction of any part of the course would be reprehensible and a catastrophic blunder that would be remembered for a very, very long time.</p>
Nas	<p>I cannot support any plan that includes the destruction of a golf course in order to convert same to sports fields.</p> <p>The council’s lack of planning in the past has contributed to the indicated shortage of playing fields. The proposed acquisition of a very successful golf course I believe is ludicrous. The golf course provides exercise and recreation for thousands of golfers throughout each year at no cost to the council. It is the second most used course in NSW.</p>
Nvs	<p>It is rare in today’s world with mobile phones , iPad and laptops to find a sanctuary away from hustle and hassle of daily life.</p> <p>I attain a great piece of mind and comfort seeing, knowing and being able to walk a golf course without excessive undulation and sporting fields clutter.</p>

Level of support	Comments
	<p>Recently I received a letter from Dr. Rachael Murrehy Director of UTS Health Psychology Unit about the “significant issue that has been a point of discussion in recent months (about) young men ..at major risk (of) depression, anxiety and suicide.” The Banksia Project run by The St Ignatius Alumni Association is as I understand rolling out male support groups, I myself have recently reengaged with my UTS Alumni as a regular (monthly) golfing group in order to find refuge from the pressures of parenthood, middle age and work.</p> <p>The group’s members all have children, we all have children whom play sport and we dedicate our time and resources to them. This support group of peers have also recently joined Warringah Golf Club to find this haven. This is not political, this is a question of soundness and peace of mind that I write and say that I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course lands to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land.</p>
nvs	Strongly against F. Converting golf courses is depriving men, women & children of exercise in the “game for a lifetime”. Converting Warringah golf course would cause horrific traffic chaos when added to the queues already in existence with Warringah Mall particularly weekends. Also destroys 2000 trees. Watch out for Greenies.
Ss	<p>Environmentally a golf course creates “wildlife corridors”. What we mean by this is often misunderstood to mean “something green to cross safely” when our main focus is on insects that cannot/will not cover open spaces and nesting habitats.</p> <p>As proposed, the northern half of the Warringah golf course development has inadequate continuous foliage. One less sports field to create corridors of ground and tree foliage between would solve this. Thanks for listening!</p>
Nvs	I disagree strongly with strategy F and with the sentiment that conversion of golf courses would be supported by the community if needed. This is far too general a statement. If conversion of golf courses are discussed it needs to be detailed and specific. Any golf courses targeted must be under utilised. I strongly oppose the conversion of the highly utilised Warringah golf course.
	<p>As a rate payer in Warringah I can not support the destruction of Warringah golf course for playing fields.</p> <p>Also the sporting fields that are required should be north, beyond Narrabeen or in the Forest – Belrose area where sporting grounds would be better utilised because of young population growth in these areas . All new developing areas should supply playing fields. Not Strategy F as outlined above by you.</p>
Nvs	<p>As a resident who lives adjacent to the present northern end of Warringah Golf Club, I am very concerned about the possibility of that section turned into sports playing fields for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) If it goes ahead, there will be the removal of hundreds of trees and these are the only homes for thousands of birds and animals. We have no right to do this to animals and birds. 2) If the sports fields do go ahead, then it will cause major parking problems on the streets near the northern end of the golf course. Cars will be parked across our driveways, which is very unfair. Therefore, hundreds of car parking spaces need to be installed within the grounds of any development of the golf course. Condamine Street is choked with traffic not moving much at all, for some of each weekend and week day, as it is. This area can’t cope with more traffic coming into it. There has been a sharp increase in the amount of traffic in this particular suburb in the last two years. I see it everyday and that is why I make mention of the problem. <p>I would be happier if the land could be used for passive recreation and for a children’s playground to be installed there. No trees would need to be removed and I don’t think there would be parking problems, as the volume and intensity of use would be less than if used by team sports.</p>
Nvs	Leave the golf courses as they are. Converting the northern 9 to playing fields and leaving one carpark at the southern end will be a traffic congestion disaster. Even if more parking was made available the traffic going to these fields would gridlock the area on a Saturday / Sunday. The B-line will provide no additional benefit over and above what current public transport is already available.
Nvs	I strongly oppose the conversion of the northern 9 holes of Warringah Golf Course at any time in the future – it is a prized community asset. Spending more ratepayer funds on investigating

Level of support	Comments
	a 'Centennial Park' style area is a disgraceful attempt to manipulate the outcome – we have passive open space minutes away at Manly Dam. Expecting Warringah Golf Club to commit to funding a new facility on District Park as part of a tender – with only 5 years certainty on its business model as a 18 hole course – is farcical. I have never been more disappointed in my council.
Nvs	<p>Anyone thinking that conversion of Warringah Golf Course to a 9 hole course will be viable does not understand golf. The impact on 9 hole courses is well evident if you look at the financial position of both Balgowlah and Avalon golf courses.</p> <p>Proposed parking is hardly adequate</p> <p>There is already major recreational space at Manly Dam which is close by.</p> <p>The current lack of space is the result of Council not requiring developers to allow for it. A good example of this is the Warriewood basin area.</p> <p>More playing fields located in an already busy and well catered for playing field area is a mistake.</p>
Nas	I cannot be supportive of any recommendations which include the conversion of golf course land to sporting fields. There is no joy in offering a 20 year lease for the southern night & possibly a series of 5 year leases on the front nine. In the long term this is effectively splitting the golf course in two & then hopefully expect the golf club to invest \$5M of funds into a communal clubhouse, based around a nine hole course is dreaming
nas	<p>I cannot support a Strategy that steals from one sport for another.</p> <p>Golf is played all year round other sports are seasonal, Strategy [F] should be removed, than you would get 100% agreement</p>
nas	<p>TRAFFIC is already so congested at all times of day in the triangle of roads around the golf course. People use the side street between the courses to go to work.</p> <p>Therefore, it is irresponsible of Council to consider the golf course as a community park. I cannot support any plan for sporting fields on the golf course. Parents will not drive the distance to this very congested area.</p> <p>Leave Warringah Golf Course at 18 holes for the wider ageing community to play level golf. Council should look to buy or lease of Crown and other land. Why have no fields been provided in the huge Warriewood housing development where thousands of children will live? I think they are unrealistic. Traffic and parking does not seem to be addressed properly.</p> <p>KENTWELL Road is always congested most of the day, Pittwater Road has a creek parallel and Condamine Street carries heavy traffic, buses and the new B-Line.</p> <p>Parents rushing their kids to a sport and people who do not pay for golf are likely to take the nearest parking along Kentwell Road and this will add to unsafe crossing of the road to get to the "community park".</p> <p>LEAVE Warringah alone. The population increase is north of Narrabeen.</p>
Nas	Local resident that enjoys 18 holes at the local!! Use crown land..not already established land for recreation...in years to come all those sporting club members will want more golf clubs
nas	<p>We clearly need more playing fields but not at the cost of existing facilities. Buy new land, enforce new fields being part of all new developments. You cannot overcome years of bad government by taking away existing facilities that are working well.</p> <p>Don't make any decisions until you have a properly elected council.</p>
Nas	<p>More fields are needing to be built but not at the expense of golf courses or other sporting sites that are running efficiently.</p> <p>Let the properly elected council get on with its job come September. Buy new ground, takeover crown land, include fields into any development that gets approval, but don't take away existing facilities.</p>
Nvs	Look for further options to satisfy need rather than knee jerk reactions.
Nas	Not at all supportive of the destruction of the most popular 18 hole golf course in the Northern Beaches. I cannot support the destruction of Warringah Golf Club.
nas	I live in Campbell Parade in an apartment directly facing the golf course and have first hand experience of the extensive flora and fauna that exist across this area. I also face a fig tree

Level of support	Comments
	<p>that is said to be about 200 years old. I note the golf course conversion has now shifted to the northern half.</p> <p>I want the 18 hole golf course to remain as is. My observation is that the course is in use 7 days a week while I see Millers Reserve unused Mon-Fri during the day! I fear a 9 hole golf course will be less than viable over time.</p>
Nas	<p>The population on the Northern Beaches is aging. Golf, particularly on a flat course, such as Warringah Golf Course, is a great way of ensuring an active community, especially for older residents. Aussports data shows 9.3% of Australians over 65% play golf, with only swimming having a higher participation rate (comparing sports requiring allocated fields/areas). Existing sports fields should be better utilised. Presently, they are only used some afternoons and Saturdays. Your proposal to convert golf courses to additional sporting fields is misguided at best, considering the golf courses such as Warringah are utilised seven days a week during daylight hours.</p> <p>The Australian Government (aussports.com.au) shows golf as the seventh biggest outdoor participation sport by Australians and second most organised/club sport, beating football and cricket.</p> <p>Golf is the second biggest club sport in Australia for adults and children and is the top club sport for adults.</p> <p>Council's proposal appears incredibly short sighted in removing a significant ability for adults to be active, as children, when they get older, become adults and are likely to require MORE golf courses.</p> <p>Given the physical, mental and social benefits of golf, particularly to older Residents on the Northern Beaches, the aging population and the level of underutilisation of ovals in the area, Council should NOT consider converting golf courses to other playing fields, particularly courses such as Warringah which is flat and readily utilised by older golfers, profitable, heavily utilised and has served the community for over 80 years.</p> <p>Converting Warringah to 9 holes from 18 is likely to mean only members can play, rather than social golfers. This is likely to increase the cost to individual golfers (requiring membership or having to travel further afield to play).</p>
Nas	The idea that a golf course be destroyed is criminal.
Nas	Why demolish the most popular golf venue catering for tourists.
Nas	Don't disadvantage elderly pensions by taking away the only inexpensive Golf Course in the area. It is interesting to note that existing sports grounds have a much higher periods of inactivity than Warringah Golf Course which has activity all day seven days a week except under very adverse conditions.
Nas	There are enough sports fields and no need to take 9 holes from Warringah golf course
nas	Leave Warringah Golf Course alone
nas	The more I read and understand of your intentions on taking the easy way out by taking 9 holes of Warringah golf course for sports fields, shows very poor management skills. Up coming would be councillors need to make their intentions known, BEFORE the elections, the golf course should not be an option.
Nas	I do not support any plan that includes the conversion of golf courses to sports fields. Crown land and other land should be procured or leased. Golf courses should not be changed to sports fields. Once a golf course disappears, there is little chance that it will be reinstated. The needs off younger, developing golfers as well as those of more mature golfers need be considered.
Nas	This strategy is unsatisfactory if it affects Warringah Golf Club. This club provides for those, both young and older residents from the area, who may not have the time or be in a position to afford the expense of upfront fees to join another club. The facilities are used seven days per week, unlike sporting fields, and council could lease Crown land or other land it currently maintains in the area for sporting grounds.
nas	As an ex board member of Mosman Soccer Club, I fully understand the problem of sports ground shortages. However, to convert land currently used by Warringah Golf Course to

Level of support	Comments
	sports fields makes no sense at all. It is simply robbing Peter to pay Paul.
Nas	There are many other alternatives to achieve the sports field objectives but I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course lands to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land. Warringah golf course is an integral part of staying fit for all residents
nas	I think Warringah golf club should stay as it is. It is a very important club to the community and is a sport for all ages. Golf courses are full from sunrise to sunset 365 days a year. Soccer fields are not. I am a School PE teacher and believe soccer clubs are acting poorly. They are bullying people into signing this sale proposal. Most people love the golf course with the trees etc. I don't want another Nolan reserve. I believe soccer can change its strategy and game times.
Nas	leave the Warringah golf course for the member. Look to other land for sports grounds
nas	leave the Warringah golf course alone & leave it as an 18 hole course
nas	I strongly believe that the Warringah golf course should stay in its present form as an 18 hole golf course.
Nas	I am horrified that council is considering reducing the current size of golf courses especially Warringah Golf course. This is such short term thinking. You are asking the community to cut of its nose to spite its face.
Nas	Maintaining the 19 hole golf course at warringah
nas	Retain 18 hole golf course at Warringah. The heritage should not be destroyed. Well established venue particularly for the older player playing on fairly level ground – really important for an ageing population of golfers.
Nas	I find it interesting that when I'm playing golf over a weekend at Warringah, that playing fields nearby are quite often not in use, even during dry weather conditions. Warringah is one of the busiest courses in the Sydney Metropolitan and due to the flat layout, is an easy walking course for the older population.
Nas	I can't see why a well used golf course should even be considered to be involved in the plan. By halving course & adding only adding 2-3 extra playing fields, how will that improve the overall situation. Why won't the council listen to the 10k plus locals who supported golf clubs petition. Or the letters sent to Manly Daily Being a resident of Manly. This is not the answer for the lack of playing fields. I dare say from my observation the District Park precinct has playing fields underused as it is.
Nas	Warringah Golf Club provides an older population with excellent exercise. It is always busy and well used. Warringah Golf Club is situated between 2 very busy roads and I think we do not need more congestion in that area.
nas	I Do NOT support the conversion of any golf course land for playing fields. The Council's focus on this issue seems solely with providing sports grounds for children. In this area (Allambie Heights, Manly, Brookvale, Harbord, Dee Why, mainly) the majority of the population seems to be in the middle age/senior group. What about us??? We need a golf course to play our sport to keep fit as well as the younger people who also enjoy playing golf.
Nas	Warringah Golf course is one of the most used golf courses in NSW. If it is reduced to 9 holes only it will put additional pressure on the other local public golf courses.
Nas	Cannot agree to use 9 holes of Warringah golf course the 2 nd most used course in NSW, for additional sporting fields. Purchase additional land.
nas	It is currently a perfectly good facility returning funds to council. The area, which is already stretched, will not cope with the extra traffic. There is already a mass of sports fields in the area

Level of support	Comments
nas	Do not demolish any sports fields such as golf. Warringah golf club will need more land in 15 years
nas	(2) Warringah Golf course is great for older people as it is relatively flat. Warringah course does 65,000 rounds per year played by all people 365 days per year in daylight hours. Golf provides a return to council through rents and is self funded, and maintenance is administered by the course. There will be an environmental impact by clearing of trees as well as increased traffic congestion. Non members will not be able to access the course as priority is given to members... 30 percent of golfers are non members.
Nas	Totally disagree with utilising - 114 -ntensifi golf course as a means of additional space for sports fields
nas	To remove a golf course, or half a golf course that is widely used by all ages in the community is outrageous. This 18 hole golf course is used 7 days a week, not just on weekends and gives all ages an opportunity to keep a level of fitness that they would otherwise be deprived of. This alone assists in keeping health care costs down. I strongly do not support the change of use of Warringah Golf course to another sporting field use.
nas	I cannot support any plan to convert the golf course to sports fields. It is far too valuable to me and many others and should remain as it is, a viable 18 hole course
nas	Warringah Golf Club is the 2 nd busiest NSW and provides an affordable 18 hole course. The demographic in this area should be supported with the continuation of this club and facilities.
nas	I can not support this very bias plan. it appears you only want to destroy the most used golf course in the shire
nas	Do not destroy - 114 -ntensifi golf course, this is a very short term fix. If new fields are definitely needed build them, but stop trying to destroy current fields.
Nas	I do not feel existing popular sports fields should be desecrated.
Nas	Warringah Golf course is used every day of the week and by thousands of people every year. Other sports would use the acquired area for perhaps 4 months per year with absolutely no financial contribution to the council or community. The proposed acquisition is entirely unjustifiable.
Nas	why wreck a golf course it is the only relative flat golf course around this area
nas	I play golf pretty well every week at Warringah Golf Course and say it should be retained as an 18 hole course. Whilst there are many private golf courses on the Northern Beaches I cannot afford to join them. Warringah Golf Course seems to be very popular as it is often necessary to wait to get on and play can be quite slow because of the numbers on the course. I also think when driving along Condamine St it is such a relief to see a nice treed area as opposed to the all the development that has taken place along Condamine St Pittwater Rd etc. It would environmentally destructive to remove all this vegetation for sports grounds. I hope that my comments are taken into account notwithstanding that I am not a Northern Beaches resident. I do however travel regular to this area in addition to playing golf and it would be such a pity to have further development along the main access road.
Nas	I live near Warringah golf course and play golf there. It provides an extremely valuable social resource, particularly for older golfers (both men and women) due to its flat topography. It is used 364 days of the year. Conversion of half the course to playing fields will have a range of social and environmental consequences, e.g. loss of recreational opportunity for numerous residents of the Northern Beaches, added traffic issues for Condamine Street, Pittwater Road and surrounding street systems, and loss of hundreds/thousands of trees and associated birdlife.
Nas	It will take away the simple please that retired people have in playing 9 alternate holes of golf or

Level of support	Comments
	18 holes. I come especially from the inner west to play golf with a group of friends for your area council. You proposed development will completely disrupt our weekly golf fun.
Nas	The northern beaches has an aging population and surely the loss of available golf course land would adversely impact this demographic. Golf is also a sport played by all ages and I think it would be unfair to assume more sporting fields in place of a golf course is simply 'good for the young'.
Nas	Why take part of a beautiful open space like the golf club, cut down more very much needed trees when there is already many unused areas that could be utilized.
Nas	Why would you consider the destruction of a perfectly good money making golf course, which costs the ratepayers nothing to maintain and gives the council - 115 -ntensi \$80,000 pa in revenue for the sake of - 115 -ntensi 4-5 playing fields and a duck pond which the council will have to maintain itself at the ratepayers expense in an area which is definitely not needed in the first place – ABSOLUTE STUPIDITY
nas	<p>Specifically re - 115 -ntensifi golf course closure of holes 1-9 for developer use, sorry more fields and support of an administrators desire for a duck pond and related developments (which surely falls outside of a sporting field review):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan to close will eliminate social use as members will do two rounds of nine holes and leave no room for social play - (in nsw 30% of play is non-member social play). - Warringah does 65,000 rounds per year and is use all daylight hours of all days of the year other than when stopped by rain, this is hugely better utilisation than existing other sports' fields. - It is a great course for seniors as it is flat. Far better than hilly courses where motorised carts must be used. - The idea is short-sighted. Council should be providing for the future of golf as well as other sports. Trashing a great course is not a sensible plan for the future. - What about the sporting needs of older people. Golf is one of the few outdoor sports older people can play. Young people today will be the older people of tomorrow. - Golf returns a profit to council through rents and is self funded, compare this with other short sighted costly ideas of council such as aquatic centres
nas	I cannot support a strategy that includes the compromise of Warringah Golf Course
nas	Please allow Warringah Golf Course to remain as it is and give them security for the future. I support all other suggestions in the report.
Nas	Absolutely, we need the Warringah Golf Course left as it is. We have been there for over 85 years. It is only fair we keep our beloved golf course. The council needs to spend time looking at alternatives. Research needs to be carried out to find more land for sports fields.
Nas	I think the Warringah Golf Club should be left alone, elderly members like myself and others the same age, also young people as well. Why shouldn't we have our sport too I would suggest that you use school playing fields that don't get used on weekends, buy more land where possible for other sports. Any new areas that you open up you will have to allow for sports grounds.
nas	I am a social golfer and I play at Warringah Golf Club, I can't believe that the Council would want to close down this beautiful area for playing fields. The traffic is bad enough now around the Mall area, don't make it worse.
Nas	<p>find other areas you can't put them all in one place and don't steal from one sport to support another</p> <p>traffic congestion is horrendous in this area on weekends.</p> <p>By putting more football grounds on the golf course its going to be a nightmare for us residents even to go to Warringahi mall</p> <p>you have to decentralize think outside the square</p> <p>we have enough sportfields in this area</p> <p>I believe the golf club as a lot of seniors playing golf what are they going to do if you take their golf course sit at home and wait to die</p>

Level of support	Comments
nas	<p>Do not touch golf courses in your strategy</p> <p>Golf is the most popular single sport for 45 years and over</p> <p>Build more golf courses</p>
nas	<p>Firstly I would like to say I have no connection nor have I had any connection with any Sporting Groups on the Northern Beaches as I am not able to participate due to health nor do I play Golf. My concerns are for the future planning on Sportsgrounds and the increase in costs to the rate payers when it is realized the Golf Course should have remained 18 holes in the future. I think the council is taking the wrong view and appears to be a bias regarding point 4 which involves Warringah Golf Course. In the Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy (Draft) May 2017 the message by Administrator Dick Persson AM, refers to converting the Warringah Golf Course on four occasions yet not once does he mention point 5 in the Executive Summary, Acquire and embellish additional land. Also in the choice to put you opinion down the options were bias either A (Actions 1, 2, 3, 4,) B (Actions 1, 2, 3) Action 5 was not included and had to be noted after.</p> <p>Why not conduct a survey asking people "Do you want the golf course converted to playing fields? When the Council Election is held ensuring they are informed of the proposed rate changes \$15.40 per year if the course is converted and \$70.60 per year to Acquire additional land. I feel most people when question, if simply put to them without the options will say no to converting the golf course. From comments made when I attended the presentation briefing on the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy at Dee Why Civic Centre, Flannel Flower Room, on Monday 19th June members other Sporting Bodies in attendance were 100% in favour of not converting the Golf Course.</p> <p>My reasons for not converting the Golf Course are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Economic loss 2. Not enough parking 3. Safety of people attending sportsgrounds if converted. 4. Projected figures show there will be an increase in people wanting to play golf 5. Discrepancy in number of persons playing golf now. 6. The golf course costs the council nothing to maintain against proposed sports fields 7. The previous council appears to not have implemented the 2004 regional sportsgrounds analysis, by Thompson tregear ply ltd, leisure management consultants 8. The loss of facilities proposed by - 116 -ntensifi golf club in the course is converted. 9. Loss of a proposed aged care facility. <p>The Warringah Golf Club contributes \$80,000 each year to the Council and the Club maintains the course at no cost to the Council. They have invested up to \$90 million in maintenance. If the Council converts nine holes to sports fields then they will not receive as much from the Golf Club. The \$80,000 could be utilized in maintain other sports fields thus saving money. At the presentation briefing on the Draft Sportsgrounds Strategy at Dee Why Civic Centre, Flannel Flower Room, on Monday 19th June your representatives said the five sports fields would run at a loss.</p> <p>There will not be enough parking provided for users if the Golf Course is converted to five fields. Just take ball sports say ten a side gives you one hundred people, and then add teams just finished plus teams waiting to play it will be three hundred people not including officials and spectators. You are going to have to provide at least two hundred parking spaces. You cannot park along Condamine Street and most of the parking along Pittwater Road near the proposed site is taken up by workers from Warringah Mall who park there all day.</p> <p>It will be dangerous for people trying to enter the fields crossing over Pittwater Road and Condamine Street. So the Council will have to provide a safe way of entering the fields. If the Council does this by restricting entry to a couple of points then it would put people in danger if an incident took place and the three hundred people panicked. Contrary to Mr Persson's comments about being serviced by a "B" line bus service people will not catch a bus with all their gear if they can drive straight from home. Not all people live near a bus service.</p> <p>From projected figures on the Council web site from 2001 till 2031 the population on the Northern Beaches will increase by 54,987, 33,470 of those will be aged over 50. What do a lot of 50 + people do? Play Golf, so there will be a requirement for additional Golf Facilities.</p> <p>You cannot take figures about declining membership of the Golf Club; you have to look at the</p>

Level of support	Comments
	<p>number of rounds played each year. Over 65,000 rounds of golf per year up to 180 males and female players per day seven days a week</p> <p>There are 72 social sports clubs play at Warringah Golf Course and rely on Course availability. Many social players and clubs travel from outside the Northern Beaches Council area to play golf at Warringah because it is a 18 hole course. They will drive past nine hole courses to get to Warringah. I know of several people who do this.</p> <p>The annual \$1.2 million cost associated with the upkeep and maintenance of Warringah Golf Course is currently 100% underwritten by the club</p> <p>The Club is ready to invest \$5 million of its own funds into a new club house and community sports facility as part of the District Park Plan of Management tender</p> <p>As part of its proposed tender, Warringah Golf Club has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mark Moran Group for the sale of the current Golf Club site. Mark Moran Group plans to build a \$50 million Aged Care facility on the site. The proposed new Golf Club and Aged Care facility will be built without Council paying one cent towards their construction.</p>
Nas	That the original recommendation be implemented, which was the consolidation of the Bowls Club, Tennis Club and Golf Club into a sporting club that continued to get facilities for the demographic of this area.
nas	<p>The Warringah Golf Course should be excluded from the strategy. Focus on actions B,C,D, and E.</p> <p>Warringah Golf Course is extensively used by middle age and seniors (men and women) and provides significant outdoor sport for that age group which includes myself. The course is used for 65,000 rounds per year and busy every day. Whereas the nearby playing field is only busy on weekends. Better utilization of existing playing fields should be investigated.</p> <p>Warringah Golf Course is very successful course that is cheap enough to be used by all parts of the community. And it pays the council \$80,000 per year, and covers all costs for maintaining and improving the grounds. No cost to tax payers.</p>
Nas	do not vandalise the golf course beautiful trees. Find new areas to put more football fields this area is already congested
Nas	<p>Conversion of Warringah Golf course is not only economically unviable but also is a poor utilisation of space that is not only currently used heavily as a golf course but also surrounded by numerous sporting fields. I would think it is one of the largest sporting field areas on the northern beaches. The demand is clearly in other areas to the north and west of this facility where development has been allowed to occur without the provision of sporting fields.</p> <p>Warringah Golf club will contribute - 117 - ntensi \$700k in funding to council over a 20 year lease based on current leasing, along with all maintenance of the grounds. What will sporting bodies contribute?</p> <p>Not only would the conversion of the golf course create traffic chaos it would strip the local community of a locally funded and run, new sporting club. The golf club is the only club in the local area with any real assets to contribute to a new facility meaning council will need to accept a third party tender. Perhaps we will be in for a new Mounties or Revesby Workers casino style club?</p>
nas	I believe you were looking at under utilised golf courses... Warringah is 2 nd busiest course in NSW. The demographic at Brookvale will grow in the 55yrs and over bracket... golfers... you have not taken this into account.
Nas	I cannot support a strategy that takes away Warringah golf course
nas	I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course lands to sports fields. I feel that the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land should be preferable to the conversion of golf course land. This especially applies to that golf course land which is already highly utilised e.g. Warringah Golf Club which is one of the busiest golf courses in NSW
Nas	Absolutely appalling. I don't play golf, but I want the golf course to stay. There are plenty of fields in this part of the community. Take the yuppy expensive manly golf course if you need one.

Level of support	Comments
Nas	The conversion of the Warringah Golf Course to playing fields will have a major detrimental impact on local traffic and access to the sport of golf for older people. Under no circumstances should such conversion occur.
Nas	I cannot support any plan that includes the conversion of golf course land to sports fields and not the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land... Especially a golf course with a healthy membership and very popular with social players, and the 2 nd most popular golf course in NSW and the most affordable and accessible to the over 60's age group).
nas	In an age when older people are encouraged to maintain an active lifestyle golf is the ideal sport to encourage activity, socialisation and general wellbeing. The Warringah course is the most popular course in the area with in excess of 50,000 rounds a year. It is not the underutilised golf course being sought by some sporting bodies. The Strategic Plan must address parking and access both of which would present difficulties at Warringah Golf course. Golf course land is some of the most used land for Sport in the area. Golf courses are used seven days a week from dawn to dusk. In comparison, most other playing fields are used at the weekends and possibly a Friday afternoon if they are near a school and if lights are available after hours for practise.
Nas	Keep the golf course as it is.
Nas	You are destroying a perfectly good golf course for no good reason.
Nas	I cannot support a strategy that promotes the destruction of Warringah Golf course.
Nas	I can not support the destruction of Warringah Golf Course in any way.
Nas	Leave Warringah Golf course alone.
Nas	Warringah golf course is not the place for sporting fields. Leave the course alone
Nas	<p>Leave Warringah golf course alone. I play softball & have connections with netball & tennis & appreciate the need for further grounds. But not at the expense of another sporting code. WGC is the 2nd most used course in NSW makes no sense to destroy it.</p> <p>Environmentally the area is sensitive so removing all the trees necessary for sporting fields would be a disaster.</p> <p>The impact of greater people numbers will also impact. The rubbish factor into the waterways will be much greater.</p> <p>I live near beverly job park & after weekend games the area is left in a mess.</p> <p>Bottles bags food lay around everywhere. It's usually the local residents who pick it up the next day.</p> <p>Also fat from their sausage sizzle bbq is poured around the light pole at the end of the day increasing the risk of vermin in the area.</p> <p>So they obviously have no care for the environment & this would probably be the same result at the proposed new grounds.</p> <p>Traffic is already congested in this area. By placing more sporting fields there the increase in traffic volume would be diabolical.</p> <p>As for parents & players catching public transport – that just doesn't happen. Be realistic.</p> <p>Council is in dreamworld if they think it will.</p> <p>Older people & not just "northern beaches players" will be adversely affected by this decision as the course is much more user friendly for their age group because it is flatter.</p> <p>Come on council get your act together. So many more viable options.</p>
Nas	<p>Warringah golf course is flatter than other courses, and is widely used by seniors – many of whom have health issues, or finances which preclude the membership of other courses. With a huge increase in an ageing population, this course needs to be retained as an 18 hole course to provide healthy exercise and socialising options for seniors.</p> <p>I am a resident living across the road from the Warringah Golf Course and I applaud the Council for exploring what can be done to provide for new sporting facilities, but as a local resident I object vigorously to converting the current Warringah Golf Course into other kinds of sporting facilities. I don't purely object because I don't want this in my back yard and because I don't want even more trees in the area cut down (Westfield have been terrible in this regard).</p>

I'm not even a golfer. You have to be practical about human movement (traffic) and habit and also how much the people local to this can bear too.

The option to convert Warringah Golf Course into other playing fields would be a disaster for everybody involved for some of the following reasons;

- * Current traffic levels have increased massively over the nearly fifteen years I have lived here, largely due to the population increases, - 119 -ntensified usage of Nolan Reserve and the Warringah Mall expansion.

- * Nolan Reserve, Warringah Recreation Centre (Tennis), Warringah Golf Course, Westfield's Warringah Mall and soon the Brookvale/Southern Community Health Centre are all packed together in one condensed space already making traffic congestion and management a very big problem and which will only be worse by carving up the Golf Course and encouraging even more traffic and parking into this small area.

- * Parking at the nearby Nolan Reserve fields already spills into and fills one lane of traffic on Warringah Road particularly on weekends. There isn't enough onsite parking available as there is. Surely we also don't want to make sporting space into more car park either. The cars have to park somewhere, but they currently impede traffic flow travelling on the western side of Pittwater Road.

- * Nobody takes public transport to sporting facilities. Not in this area anyway. Families pile themselves into cars because it is easier to haul the kids and all of the sporting paraphernalia to and from the event even if they have to subject themselves to finding somewhere to park. What would you do?

- * Traffic is long lined and heavy approaching the mall, especially on weekends. It already makes local side road traffic entering and exiting Pittwater Road tedious. The intersections of Pittwater Road and Condamine Street, as well as Condamine and Street and Kentwell Road are horrible in particular on the weekends. Even the creation of more parking off Kentwell Road is realistically, hardly likely to alleviate the demand all that much.

- * Please don't tarmac the already green space if your decision has already been made to carve it up. That would be even worse than converting it and chopping down the existing trees.

- * Converting this facility would only be a stop gap anyway. You will still need to find and appropriate more land for sport facilities.

- * We have an ageing population who won't all be able to kick footballs and run around fields as they get older. Golf is an excellent option for seniors to remain involved in a form of activity. Let's look at the future of sport for all ages, not just the younger members of the community.

- * Unless rates become extreme, the senior population in the Northern Beaches are the ones that will still be able to afford living here as they already own land. Younger families will be looking for cheaper options. Seniors will also need recreational spaces.

- * The Brookvale Creek is already stressed from having the Mall built over the top of it (despite the recent efforts to rejuvenate it).

- * Flood prone. Westfield's Warringah Mall have had to do a lot of expensive work regarding flood mitigation in this area.

- * Has anyone studied how much animal and bird life lives in this space and what kind of impact turning this into a barren space would have? As neighbours, we constantly see all manner of birds, water birds, possums, flying foxes and tortoise.

- * I don't want even more trees cut down. Old trees take a long time to grow. Saying you'll put in even more trees (as Warringah Mall claims on their monstrous development), doesn't help them grow into hundred year old trees over night. It'll be a long time before they are useful trees.

I cannot support the latest proposal of the lease splitting of Warringah Golf Course. It does not give the club any confidence to invest or improve the course or facilities. Golf is an 18 hole game not 9. Warringah thrives while the local 9 hole courses do not. To limit Warringah to 9 holes would be the kiss of death.

I do not agree with penalising one group of sportsmen in favour of others, particularly as the members have contributed significantly over the years. I am sure soccer players would feel the same if you took half their playing field to build 2 tennis courts.

The Australian Golf Industry Council/Golflink reported the number of rounds of golf played nationally increased by 2.1% in 2016 compared to 2015, and 3.0% in NSW, and 3.4% in the Sydney metropolitan area. These numbers are in direct contrast to the numbers in the GBAS report and Discussion Paper reporting declines in golf club membership in Sydney and the northern beaches. If the number of rounds of golf being played are increasing, why propose

Level of support	Comments
	to reduce the Warringah Golf Club to only a 9 hole course, limiting a successful golf club in our community.
	I strongly oppose .any changes to Warringah Golf Course. The council not only gets income from the course but it is also maintained at no tax payer expense. The current sporting fields yield no money and are obviously too expensive for the council to maintain. What happened to all the money collected from · developers to build new infrastructure. No new fields have been built in thirty years. Where is the money? No golfer would ever support a nine hole course (they all struggle).If you want nine holes for development take Balgowlah. Warringah Golf Club would not be interested in putting in \$5 MILLION to build a multi sport development freeing up our current club house for a seniors development/medical facility for a 5 year lease.
	There is very little comment given about the displacement of existing members and social golfers when some of the golf course is converted to sporting fields. Where do they go if they wish to remain competitive as public/private golf courses are already in high demand and at what costs. Membership to a private club is expensive whilst WGC annual fees are very competitive, if not cheaper than other 18 hole public/private golf courses on the peninsula.
	There is a reference to a shortfall of 24 hectares of playing area, equivalent to 24 playing fields, yet by converting the front nine of WGC, providing an extra area of 11 ha, yet the proposed layout in the report only shows 5 playing fields for this area. Is this conversion worth destroying a sporting facility that has serviced the community for the past 80 years without any cost burden to the Council for only 5 fields.
	Converting this beautiful piece of tranquil land into something else? You must be out of your minds!
	I am vehemently opposed to any Council Strategy which includes converting part or all of Warringah Golf Course into sports playing fields.
	<p>The history of this course goes back to 1935. It is in constant use, being the second most used public course in NSW. It caters for men and women of all ages, including many in their eighties.</p> <p>Before the Council amalgamation plans were passed for WGC to build a local sports club with the North Manly Bowling Club on the bowling club site. Destroy our club and this will not happen.</p> <p>Over the years since the club's inception members have contributed millions of dollars in creating and maintaining the course and in lease payments to the Council. The responsibility for ongoing maintenance rests with the club, not the council.</p> <p>How much will it cost to remove the trees, roots, drainage systems etc.? plus the ongoing care for the grounds. surely there is vacant land available to create the new playing fields without destroying this asset to the community.</p>
	I am definitely not supportive of turning Warringah Golf Course into playing fields. I am in my seventies and enjoy playing golf with my friends of similar age. Warringah Golf Course is relatively flat and is easy to walk, making it popular with older golfers. Warringah is constantly in use by social clubs and the public players being one of the least expensive on the peninsula. I hope to be able to see out my golf playing days at Warringah. Please do not change it.
	<p>If half of Warringah Golf Course becomes playing fields there will be detrimental effects to the surrounding areas. Access to the playing field carpark in Kentwell Road will worsen the existing traffic gridlock between Condamine Street and Pittwater Road.</p> <p>Players using the northern end playing fields will be inclined to park in the side streets west of Condamine Street or in Warringah Mall rather than walk up to half a kilometre from the new playing field carpark.</p> <p>After the danger of children crossing six lanes of Condamine Street from side streets to access playing fields becomes apparent it is likely that pedestrian crossings and traffic lights will be installed at Fishbourne Road and Old Pittwater Road. This will cause further congestion of Condamine Street and encourage more Allambie traffic to use the rat run up Fishbourne Road and along Smith Avenue. New playing fields should be built where safe pedestrian and vehicular access can be provided, not on half of WGC.</p>

Level of support	Comments
Support conversion of Balgowlah golf course to sports fields	
	I would suggest the further review of other smaller courses such as Balgowlah, which is also near the proposed B line transit route, be more comprehensive than to date.
Ss	I am somewhat supportive of the overall strategy BUT with one major variation. I would implement recommendations 1-4 where 4 only includes conversion of Balgowlah Golf Club, not Warringah.
	There is no logical reason given on why, if you are going to convert 9 holes to playing fields you would not start with Balgowlah which scored almost the same in the assessment. Instead the plan is to do a feasibility study on Balgowlah "in case its needed".
Other options	
Purchase or lease Crown land	
vs	There is obvious concern regarding the loss of golf facilities to make way for sporting fields. The use of Crown Land has been raised, however much of that land is too hilly for beneficial sporting field use. Could NBC consider a new 18 hole golf course on Crown Land, that might then allow existing golf course land to be used for sporting fields. Ideally the Crown Land would need to allow for a new Golf Course: Embraces Natural Features; 6000 – 6800m; 18 Hole; Par 72 course; 2 x 3000m – 3400m loops; 50-60m wide fairways; Clubhouse; Parking Practice Range 300m x 75m wide; 1000m2 practice putting green; Chipping Green
Ss	Use new Crown land. Do not support using existing facilities that are sorely needed especially for seniors to remain active.
Nvs	We have a lot of bush land / crown land on the beaches so why not use some of it for more sports fields?
Nas	I suggest leasing crown or other land in areas needing sports fields further up the peninsula and not converting golf courses
nas	Where necessary consider purchase or leasing of Crown land or other land.
nas	The purchase or lease of crown land should be the focus to grow the facilities of all sports into the future.
Nas	Look at other areas, eg. Crown land
nas	Crown land and other land, especially in the northern part of the Northern Beaches, should be acquired for sports fields, where there would be less disruption to traffic and more open spaces available.
Nas	look at an area that would be able to handle the traffic, purchase crown land, Belrose, Davidson, Ingleside, the easy way is not always the best way.
Nas	The strategy should also consider the purchase or lease of crown land, perhaps with a levy imposed on all sports, including golfers, to finance the purchase or lease.
Nas	Crown land should be made available for more playing fields, if necessary, in the areas where the shortage becomes apparent.
Nas	acquisition of Crown land to rapidly construct new fields in the North should proceed NOW.
	The council should acquire vacant land or crown land in order to provide further sports fields.
	There are other options that should be taken into account such as purchasing crown land.
	The alternative of purchasing other land is a far more ideal option as far as I am concerned.
	Buy, lease or ask to be given Crown land
	The Council MUST proceed with a plan to acquire Crown Land for Sports Fields.

Level of support	Comments
	Crown land further up the beaches would've a better option to stop the traffic heading to the manly area.
	are you going to ask for more crown land
	Plenty of Crown land to lease or acquire.
Acquisition of additional land for sportsfields	
vs	Suggest strongly that Northern Beaches Council puts aside additional funds to purchase additional suitable land to convert to additional sports fields and parking for users.
Vs	As a grandparent with 4 young grandsons I can see that in the future these boys may not be able to play the sport of their choice as there will not be enough sports fields for them to be able to use. This is the opportunity to rectify this lack of playing fields for kids and adult sports people in the future. Funds need to be put aside for acquisition of land.
vs	I feel Point F should be a last resort. It would be better to purchase suitable land for sports fields rather than change existing sporting facilities such as golf courses. Existing sporting fields should be retained wherever possible rather than upsetting regular users of golf courses unless amalgamation of golf clubs proves to be feasible.
Ss	Spend some of the Developers money and buy and develop new sporting fields for all. Look to expand for future generations and not short sidedness that Council is now displaying.
Ss	Has the council investigated the acquisition of new open space from state & federal government.
	I support recommendation 5 to purchase additional land and would be prepared to pay the additional rates required to do so. We need more open space on the Northern beaches and this strategic plan provides a valuable opportunity to achieve so.
	Proposal point 5 , Acquire and Embellish is within reason. However at Council and Local Government expense. Rate payers have been told that Council Amalgamation to a Northern Beaches Council projected a cash saving of several millions over a finite period. That Period coincides with the timeline of the Draft Sportsfields management plan. Rate payers of the Northern Beaches Amalgamated Council deserve that respect and service.
Ss	I support the purchase of private land for additional fields.
Nas	Acquire additional land that is currently not utilised.
Nas	Build new sportsfields by purchasing land
nas	We should make up for past failures and acquire new land and more effectively utilise existing land
Nas	The Northern Beaches has large tracts of undeveloped land that should be used for community playing fields. To destroy a successful 18 hole facility is a short term knee jerk solution that is highly problematic. Other solutions offer far more longer term sustainability and community amenity.
Nas	Council denied the Community the opportunity to have a say on the most appropriate action that being the purchase of additional land
nas	How about taking more land for sports instead of building so many units and houses. It would be a much better lifestyle for all of us.
Nas	sportsgrounds have been neglected by successive councils, land should be acquired specifically for this purpose- not take away our golf courses and therefor our green spaces for this purpose.
Nas	Buy some ground somewhere that wont impact the traffic in this local area, there is heaps of land available, don't be undoing something that is there because it is needed just to satisfy another sporting group.

Level of support	Comments
nas	Buying land, for the sole purpose of use as sporting fields. Buy land for the purpose of sportsfield rather than continually selling land to developers. Buy crown land for the community purpose of sporting fields.
Nas	Need to consider the acquisition or lease of Crown and other land.
nas	Do not touch Warringah golf course but instead create more playing fields by using crown land. This was successfully done at Pennant Hills and is not a blight on the environment. Look outside the box. All these young people are all going to grow old and want golf courses in the future. Protect what you have don't just have a knee jerk response to the problem.
Nas	Speak to the State Govt. about leasing more Crown land in the northern or western part of the northern beaches
nas	The only way to go is to implement ACQUIRE AND EMBLISH ADDITIONAL LAND.
Nas	What does make sense is buying more land in the north of the LGA where population is expanding. I have no problem with paying \$70 per annum for 15 years to facilitate this if needed. A fairer way would be a percentage on rates that provides the equivalent amount. Extra payment as above is my preference, but I note Council's contention that Avalon and Balgowlah courses are less suitable than Warringah due to costs of earthworks. That is irrelevant. It is fairly obvious that the alternative is to sell one or both of these and use the money to buy suitable land at Ingleside or Terrey Hills. Why is this obvious alternative not in the Reports? Probably this will be a nett zero cost or may be cost positive. Destroying an 18 hole course when other simple options are available is short sighted in the extreme.
Nas	I believe shortfalls in land should be addressed by purchasing crown or undeveloped land.
nas	Use land that is already owned by council or purchase land that is being developed as part of the development.
nas	Consideration must be given to acquiring additional available land, of which there is plenty, for more sports fields but in locations where data shows the population growth to be, such as the north and west of the council area, not to the south which will only cause more traffic disruption and congestion.
Nas	All monies from the amalgamation of councils should be directed to purchasing land for sports grounds
nas	Yes to purchasing land or allocating more in new areas
nas	Buy or resume land for more sporting spaces.
	My view is new land should only be acquired in new areas of building that do not have sufficient fields. Developers should pay for these fields which should be Synthetic and take on multiple uses , like Warringah Golf course proposed design does
	I would suggest that Council revisit Action 5 of purchasing more space which it appears the consultants have ruled out due to cost. However, in doing so this is inconsistent with Action 3 of requiring developers to contribute to the cost of open space in new land release areas. Specifically, I would suggest that all developers of new medium and high rise residential accommodation be subject to a Sportsground levy. This could go into a special fund to help meet the shortfall in demand which is contributed to by the new accommodation. This would mean broadening the Funding Principles to include external funding from certain residential development. This fund could provide solutions such as strategic site purchases for future sports grounds well as purchasing industrial sites for either conversion to indoor facilities for say netball or open space.
Provide sportsfields in the northern LGA	
	There is a total lack of suitable sports fields in the northern end of the council areas which should be addressed.

Level of support	Comments
	Given the number of fields already around Manly, Curl Curl/Freshwater and Brookvale traffic from across the northern beaches is being dragged to the southern end. More playing fields up the northern end of the beaches would help traffic congestion and prevent more bottlenecks.
Ss	Finally only build new facilities where they are needed which is from Dee Why north. Not only is this where the facilities are missing but where the growth in demand will come. Plus the road network around Manly and Brookvale is just not able to support more traffic at the weekend.
	We need more fields spread out around the peninsula for all sports especially for hockey. Ingleside and Warriewood are good suggestions. Belrose, Davidson, Terry Hills should also be considered.
	New playing fields should be built further north in growth areas to prevent further excessive concentration of playing fields in North Manly and Allambie with the unsafe traffic and pedestrian access that results.
	Playing fields are needed North & Western areas of Peninsula
ss	Disappointed with the notion of the 5 year extension only for the northern half of the Warringah golf course. Turning this area into playing fields is not the answer as it will create traffic gridlock which we already have on winter Saturdays. It is at the wrong end of the peninsula. New fields should be established at the northern end and competitions for all sports should be split into northern and southern zones or possibly three zones to reduce the need for teams to travel the length of the peninsula every weekend.
Ss	Sporting grounds are needed further north up the coast where the population growth is at the highest. Parents don't wish to travel large distances on training night or weekends for sport. Large areas have been opened up for housing, Council did nothing to include sports fields, they should have, so don't say you can fix the COUNCIL PROBLEM by redesigning Warringah golf course.
Nvs	Further construct them on parts of the beaches where there is a shortage which I have found to be north of Dee Why.
nvs	The growth areas are to the north of the Council areas. That is where the council should be looking for more space and fields
	Relook at geographically sports grounds are needed. Mona vale hinterland
nas	More playing fields must be established in the growth areas in more northern and western locations.
Nas	All these new sporting fields should be built north of Warriewood where population is going explode in years to come,
nas	Create sports fields on unused Council land toward the northern end of the peninsula where the density of housing is increasing which would likely be the area most young people/children will need it.
	The northern part of our peninsula is where grounds are required. Council has been short sighted in planning in the past
nas	Look in the northern end of peninsular where fields are needed.
Nas	It is the responsibility of the Council to source other areas on vacant land that is situated on the northern part of the Peninsula.
Nas	More sport grounds are required in the Northern part of the Northern Beaches
nas	Why aren't you looking far more closely at the northern end of the peninsular that's where grounds are needed.
Nas	Go further north that's where you need the playing fields, and fix up the existing fields

Level of support	Comments
nas	More sports fields are needed north of Narrabeen, not adjacent and or near to multiple existing sports fields in the south of the area. The traffic and parking along the southern corridor is already over its capacity.
Nas	By all means provide the necessary additional sporting fields, but look carefully at where they are needed (likely to be north of Narrabeen).
Nas	More sporting fields need to be established further to the north of the peninsular to cater for the proposed additional housing.
Nas	Find the solution in the north where the ovals are needed most, e.g Ingleside not where it will only add to the central traffic congestion and degenerate the available green sporting facilities.
	There is so much land in the Forest that could be used. Buy one 5 hectare property in Duffy's Forest and voila you have fields to serve everyone from Mona Vale to Palm Beach with no parking problems which turning Warringah Gold Club into fields would cause.
	A golf course shown adjacent to the coastal walk has only, from what can be seen, about 4 golfers in the picture, whereas the Warringah Golf Course would have a minimum of 40 to 60 golfers on the course at any one time. This surely indicates that there is a strong demand for an 18 hole public golf course in the Manly Warringah area, which is also an area with sufficient playing fields, as compared to the Warringah-Pittwater area which has a shortage of playing fields and an oversupply of private golf courses. Would suggest NBC leave the Warringah Golf Course alone and concentrate on improving the supply of playing fields in the northern NBC region.

Multiple use of sporting land

vs	I think with the shortage of space, we need to think a little more about using land for multiple purposes, not just multiple sports. Car parking under playing surfaces frees up current parking areas for playing surfaces while also taking pressure off the local street parking shortage. https://uqsport.com.au/facility/uq-synthetic-fields-precinct
Ss	When considering what to do with existing sportsfields, and building new, take a good look at how you can create versatile fields that can accommodate multiple sports. For reference, take a look at the USA and Canada where professional sports stadiums and amateur fields are multipurpose. Baseball teams, American football, soccer, and rugby share the same grounds and are easily converted. There is no reason why a cricket ground can not be shared by AFL, footy and baseball, and soccer. As a new resident to Australia from Canada, one thing I know for sure is that Australians are incredible athletes who enjoy a wide range of sports. In order for Australia to compete on the world stage for summer sports, we need to consider the development of our youth from the grass roots and the development of less common sports such as Baseball which has one of the largest participation rates of any sport in the world. With development, Australia can compete on the world stage as many Australians possess the innate skills Baseball requires – running, throwing, batting and team play.
	One thing that has not been considered is the use of other facilities to take pressure of sportgrounds. For example why does not council not renovate both Harbord Bowling Club and the Calabria club and part of the new lease be that the synthetic pitches be used for Saturday games for U6/U7 kids soccer. Doing that alone would add the equivalent of 2 sportgrounds to the beaches on Saturday morning. I am sure that other facilities could be used in the same way (le Pittwater RSL but that would require a negotiation with them)

Provide for mountain biking, skating and other non-standard sports

vs	Link up with mountain bike groups like trail care to talk about building trails
s	Build more mountain bike tracks
s	A bike pump track or tracks to complement skate park facilities would see significant use!
s	People will have a strong desire to participate in sports. The demand will not be met via traditional sports, due to lack of ability to provide sportsfields. Any long-term solution must

Level of support	Comments
	include measures to reduce reliance on sportsfields by getting behind other sports without the same infrastructure challenges. Cycling and mountain biking are massively popular on the beaches and should be nurtured and encouraged. The health and environmental benefits are huge. The busiest congestion of the week on the roads is when rugby, netball and soccer parents drive their kids to the sportsgrounds. With an extensive cycle and trail network, we could move away from the traditional sports and see people enjoying the bushland locally. As a school teacher, I know this would be popular in the Narrabeen area (look at the success of the lagoon trail).
s	<p>I see a fundamental problem with the pursuit of aimless acquisition of flat land and repurposing it into sports fields; the northern beaches has so much land unsuitable for fields, but very suitable for unstructured forms of recreation able to be far more diverse, cater to more people and serve your own residents that have no facilities. I think mountain bikers are one of these groups, as the northern beaches has tens of thousands of riders, but only unsanctioned trail. I would really like to see this council work with riders to form a comprehensive northern beaches mountain bike trail strategy to formalise, build and connect trails. Given so much has already been built for you, this should present to be an extremely cost effective way of implementing sporting infrastructure to serve far more residents, at a much smaller cost than even building just 1 artificial pitch.</p> <p>Additionally, as part of this plan or any kind of MTB strategy plan, it should properly consider providing facilities for kids in their local suburbs, to allow them to get out and undertake unstructured exercise that will allow them to progress over time. An oval only helps kids have so much fun, but only with a ball or with other people. Facilities such as pump tracks, skate parks, skills tracks and slalom tracks provide kids with somewhere that they can go to every single afternoon, and improve their skill. I believe the northern beaches has a huge problem with both kids building illegal jumps for themselves, or just being too lazy and not going outside at all. As a council, I realise that sporting club numbers are the only really defining factor in building facilities, but as you can see with the recent opening of the Mona Vale Skate park, you just cannot account for the amount of kids and young adults that will love and use a facility like that unless it is built. Kids all over the northern beaches are into 'extreme' sports, such as surfing, diving, skateboarding and mountain biking, and these kids deserve to have facilities they can ride/skate to from home or school, every single day of the week. A good example, however horribly it has been built, is the Seaforth Grove Bike Park. There are kids there every single day; before, after school, and on weekends with their families. There needs to be facilities just like this all over the beaches, because there are kids I have met that have ridden all the way from Frenchs Forest, Narrabeen or Beacon hill just to ride there. For the seriously low cost of providing dirt and approval to local builders, you could have facilities like that all over.</p> <p>We have been calling for skills parks, pump tracks, dirt jumps and legalization of trails for decades, and with the newly council we believe that you have a very unique opportunity to deliver them really, really well. I wholeheartedly ask you to work with Trail Care, and the other mountain bike clubs to fix this problem.</p>
ss	Council needs to look further afield at other sports such as mountain biking. The sport is massive on the beaches but on trails that are not legal. Northern Beaches Council needs to all proper tracks to be built for all levels of riding and this would take some of the stress of the sporting fields. I have two daughters and we have to drive to Westleigh to ride as there are no kid friendly tracks on the beaches. Sure there is Narrabeen lakes track but that is very basic and full of walkers. We need proper legal tracks. Build proper All mountain and downhill trails
ss	The mtb community of the northern beaches is a vast community. A small allocation of land with suitable gradients would grow the sport massively and allow current riders to participate in the sport on sanctioned trails in the area.
ss	Include mountain bike trails.
ss	Build sustainable Mountain Bike trails for all disciplines of Mountain Biking.
Ss	(2) The biggest challenge faced by Council in the context of sportsfields seems to be the amount of flat open space required to construct a sportsfield. Meanwhile, the Northern Beaches is home to vast amounts of other land, which is ideal for other forms of active recreation. The strategy should include embracing, promoting and popularizing other forms of

Level of support	Comments
	<p>active recreation that is able to be more readily provided on the Northern Beaches. Mountain biking is a prime example; this is an already-popular sport on the Northern Beaches, although currently predominately on unsanctioned trails. There is potential to for Council to significantly increase numbers in the sport of mountain biking by providing formal facilities of adequate scope via low-impact sustainable trails in bushland, allowing for true promotion of the sport, and in doing so reduce future demand for sportsfields.</p> <p>Ultimately, people will have a strong desire to participate in sports. The demand will not be met via traditional sports, due to lack of ability to provide sportsfields. Any long-term solution must include measures to reduce reliance on sportsfields by getting behind other sports without the same infrastructure challenges.</p>
ss	<p>Have a forward view to developing and providing well integrated recreational facilities for non standard sports.</p> <p>These type of facilities are really important for families that find it difficult to participate in organised sports. ie single parent families, separated families where one parent lives out of area or families with multiple kids.</p> <p>Please provide facilities for non formal sports like mountain biking and bush walking, orienteering, etc.</p> <p>Provision for and provide multi use tracks and mountain bike tracks in loop formats for novices, intermediate and advanced riders.</p> <p>Let artists install sculptures along the bike trails for points of interest.</p> <p>Also provide pump tracks, skills areas.</p> <p>Provide enough parking that accommodates cars fitted with bike racks.</p> <p>Provide bike racks at the entrances/picnic areas so families can rest, eat, play and not worry about bike security so much.</p> <p>Open up opportunities for local business to open a cafe and bike hire shop at the facilities. See how well these types of facilities provide for locals and tourists at bicentennial park in homebush and centennial park.</p> <p>Also look at opening up areas for tree top activities.</p>
ss	<p>There seems to be no inclusion/ allowance for mountain biking. This appears to be at odds with section F listed above. volunteer mountain biking groups would welcome the opportunity to work with council on the use of suitable open space for the pursuit of bike riding.</p>
ss	<p>Mountain bike pump track and accessible mountain bike trails for kids, beginners, intermediate and advanced mountain bikers. Dirt jumps and skills courses can be located on, at and/or adjacent to sports fields.</p> <p>Unsure as to why mountain biking and its various disciplines are not acknowledged or accounted for in the report or planning. Given that so many people - young and old - ride bikes, you seem to be missing a large part of the community.</p>
nvs	<p>Flat land is a premium on the beaches. Golf courses take most of it already. How about promoting alternative sports like mountain biking which require zero flat land. The current use of illegal trails is not a solution. A healthy alternative sport that should be promoted. Maybe focus on promoting alternative sports that the area can cater for - surfing/ mountain biking - the area is perfectly suited to sustainable mountain bike trails.</p>
nvs	<p>Due to the biggest growing recreational activity in Australia. Also due to the available terrain it would be ideal to consider investing in providing sanctioned mountain biking facilities. It is already a very popular activity in the northern beaches</p>
nvs	<p>Make existing mountain bike trails legal, and build more mountain bike trails. Open existing national parks and existing bushland to the ever growing sport of mountain biking, instead of giving it away to groups that eventually sell it to developers.</p>
nvs	<p>The damage done flattening the land for sports fields is vast. The natural landscape can be used to provide for the large and under supported riding community with minimal environmental impact. In doing this the natural beauty of the northern beaches is preserved.</p>
nas	<p>CALL TO ACTION!!</p> <p>The Northern Beaches Council has released a Strategic Implementation Plan for their</p>

Level of support	Comments
	<p>sportsfield strategy. Basically, Council has identified a shortfall in fields, based on demand anticipated growth in demand.</p> <p>We encourage all mountain bikers to comment, for example based on TrailCare's observation below:</p> <p>Times are changing and traditional sports are not growing with the same speed as new sports. Mountain biking is a perfect example of this and a very popular sport on the Northern Beaches. Communities around Australia are embracing mountain biking with very positive effects on the community. There is already a huge mountain bike following around the Northern Beaches. A lot of families and affluent community members are avid mountain bikers. The Northern Beaches is home to vast amounts of land which is ideal for other forms of active recreation. The strategy should include embracing, promoting and popularizing other forms of active recreation that is able to be more readily provided on the Northern Beaches. Mountain biking is a prime example; this is an already-popular sport on the Northern Beaches, although currently predominately on unsanctioned trails. There is potential to for Council to significantly increase numbers in the sport of mountain biking by providing formal facilities of adequate scope via low-impact sustainable trails in bushland, allowing for true promotion of the sport, and in doing so reduce future demand for other sports fields.</p>
nas	Considering the number of mountain bike riders exceeds most sport user group numbers, I would like to see my tax payer dollars spent on mountain bike riding as opposed to sports fields.
Use Belrose Waste management Centre for sports fields	
s	<p>As the council has recently expressed their support for the Belrose Tip Bike Park facility, It would be a good idea to work with riders to build parking, toilets and parkland infrastructure around the site, as well as put in one or two sporting grounds on the top of the hill that won't be in use by the riders. We would love to see this built in conjunction with a larger remediation plan for the whole site, with descending, and looping trails all around in addition to the relatively small plan that is being pursued now.</p> <p>Currently, the proposal is for only 5 acres of the 35 acre site. However, the top acre or two on the hill is flat and perfect for sports fields. With the council's help, we could build a shared club house on the hill for both riders and players of whatever sport, with toilets and a place for clubs to use for club events. We expect tens of thousands of riders would use this facility, as well as parking there and using it as a base for longer rides into the Garigal National Park. With another few thousands of sports ground users, it will need more parking and amenities. Again, if this project is something you would like to pursue, please keep Trail Care and the people behind the Belrose Bike Park part of the planning.</p>
s	Don't support the closure or reduction to 9 holes of Warringah golf course. Turn Belrose tip into sporting fields [have a synthetic hockey field included]
nas	Surely the answer is to make more land available. For example, the old Belrose tip.
Nas	Is there any reason why the Belrose tip site cannot be utilised as sports grounds? Why not use the site of the Belrose Tip in Crozier Rd for future sports grounds?
Use Metropolitan Aboriginal Land Council land	
	<p>The aboriginal residents (16000) indicated in a recent Manly Daily article that they have the right to claim any Crown Land on the peninsula for their own use ? I'm am certain those people would be happy to claim Crown Land and provide same for sporting fields – problem solved Council should write and commence negotiations</p> <p>I am supportive of the Aboriginal Land Council releasing more of their land for Sportsgrounds.</p>
Ss	I would like to see more information and investigation about the possible offer by the Aboriginal Land Council to provide land for sports facilities
S	There are several tracts of land which would be suitable for sportsgrounds but have not had native title extinguished. Historically exorbitant prices have been asked by the Land Council or whoever for these lands to be released. Case in point Belrose. Land around Ararat Reserve has not been developed to the full extent of the original plans. I told Mike Regan about this,

Level of support	Comments
	but the slope of the land and the native title made it uneconomic at that stage. Could Council talk to the aboriginal people and propose some sort of joint venture where these lands are developed at a reasonable cost and will be available to all people. They could be leased if money is required. It would be a great reconciliation project. They could have hand over ceremonies and the land kept its aboriginal name. Land south of Ararat Reserve was sold to a developer who has not been able to do the development. Such land would be better as sporting fields which allow for rain in and are generally better than housing for the environment.
nas	More consultation with the Aboriginal council, as they have indicated they would be prepared to release their land for sporting fields in the area.
Consider other sites for sports fields	
	Why cannot the Council use land that was looked at for Netball Courts in Belrose to build new fields.
	Why weren't areas like Brookvale Oval and Warriewood Rugby Park (including adjacent areas) worth looking at. Maybe it's too hard - like Crown Land and getting real results from developers in major developments.
	Why can't the area along the western side of Wakehurst Parkway be made into sporting fields from Seaforth Oval to Bantry Bay?
nas	While provision of new sporting fields is important, other areas should be sought. This could include fringe areas of Garigal national park e.g. near Seaforth Oval along Wakehurst Parkway.
	I believe that sports grounds and facilities are important to the community. There are other solutions to the reduction of capacity of Warringah golf course including land at Bantry Bay/Seaforth and at the Dee Why Lagoon area.
	look at belrose or terrey hills to relieve the traffic in this area on weekends
nas	Still plenty of space available in Terry Hills to be used for sport fields for all codes.
nas	There are a range of alternatives such as the development of the old tip at Belrose and land at Terrey Hills which after all is where it is planned that new housing developments are to go.
nas	Why don't you use Red Hill as it was originally was for sports fields.
	Red hill picnic reserve is an example. The area is in total disrepair & never used by the public. The road always appears to be closed. There is quite a sizeable area of land, access road & parking. Why isn't council looking at these areas Belrose is another area not being considered.
ss	There must be a better alternative. How much land do we have on the northern beaches that could be used for sporting fields – what about Red Hill, Oxford falls, Terrey Hills, Belrose? I would like to see more options
ss	<p>The Northern Beaches Council is to be congratulated for highlighting the shortage of playing fields . Unfortunately the issue has now developed into a Save Warringah Golf Course. Clubs cannot continue to grow and expect to use the limited amount of grounds in their local residential area. CODES MUST EXPAND INTO NO RESIDENTIAL AREAS</p> <p>Sutherland and Hills Shire councils have had plans for new grounds for over 20 years and have now invested \$100M's on new sites. The Northern Beaches have invested nothing. To get anywhere near the number of grounds of the smaller Sutherland Shire we need another 50 - 80 playing fields.</p> <p>I am convinced despite the many bureaucratic road blocks sites can be found over time at Belrose Terrey Hills Duffys Forest St Ives & Ingleside. Recently North Turrumurra Golf Course has had ten holes greatly improved into the adjacent bushland to allow Council to develop new Soccer fields on part of course.</p> <p>To get the ball rolling with womens Soccer growing quickly what's wrong with using the site corner of Myora & Mona vale Road Terrey Hills was reserved for womens sport 40 years ago. 8 Soccer fields on this site would be a good start</p> <p>The only sport that really needs new grounds is Soccer. They have grown far more</p>

Level of support	Comments
	<p>than any other sport in the last 20 years.</p> <p>ALL grounds are being over used and damaged. It was pleasing that Soccer finally agreed to play Soccer on Sunday but that is still limited to mainly Ladies.</p> <p>Soccer Clubs with 1500 players are too big. NEW Grounds can be established in non residential areas with young players playing local and Senior players moving out</p>
	<p>Look at Red Hill. Terrey Hills. Surely there is somewhere that you can find land. This would make everyone happy.</p>
	<p>There has been an area on Red Hill (Beacon Hill) that has been set aside for Sports facilities. There is even an asphalted parking area. Why this has not been considered for development confounds me.</p>
Support use of bushland	
ss	Perhaps some bushland could be utilised for sportsgrounds
nas	To cater for the growing population we must be able to convert some relatively unusable bushland into sporting fields.
	<p>There needs to be a balance between “wilderness” and useful land – for example double / triple the size of Seaforth Oval – and plant an equivalent number of trees lost somewhere else.</p>
nas	Surely the answer is to make more land available. For example, scrub on both sides of the Wakehurst Parkway
nas	Council can acquire BUSH LAND in the Pitt Water area, this would reduce traffic congestion, parking problems and would be central for parents living north and south to Sports Fields.
Oppose use of bushland	
	<p>I am sure there must be other areas within the Council boundaries which could be developed for sporting activities but this might involve the removal of trees and bushes. I suppose this is strictly taboo.</p>
	<p>Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon support the protection of Crown and other land with environmental values, such as bushland, and are pleased that conversion of Crown land to sportsfields will not be pursued as an option.</p> <p>We do not support the suggestion that bushland areas, whether on private or public land, be cleared and converted to sporting fields. Bushland areas provide an important resource for the environment and recreation.</p> <p>We support the view that Crown and private land with environmental values such as bushland is not suitable for playing fields.</p> <p>However, we acknowledge that private land could be suitable for acquisition for sportsfields if there are no adverse environmental impacts.</p>
Other suggestions	
	<p>I would also suggest Council more fully explore with adjacent Councils the lease of their sports grounds.</p>
nas	Multilevel playing fields
Ss	Have indoor sports. Do not support using existing facilities that are sorely needed especially for seniors to remain active.
	<p>Provision of an indoor facility for Netball.</p>
	<p>The Report has taken a traditional approach of only exemplifying supply to meet demand. Why not look at how demand can be modified by promoting other forms of sports that can be accommodated more readily. For example indoor soccer, hockey and basketball or swimming. The conversion of warehouses or use of existing community/school halls and pools. If the report had considered demand as more flexible then a different set of recommendations may have emerged. Bearing in mind the sporting bodies have strong vested interests which need to be recognised and counterbalanced and I also note any</p>

Level of support	Comments
	Council cost is socialised across all rate payers, like me.

While it is pleasing Council is looking to implement actions to provide additional supply of sportsfields other than the conversion of golf courses, I submit that the assessments undertaken by consultants, Otium Planning Group (OPG) and GBAS, are each fundamentally flawed as they rely on inaccurate data. Council has taken this flawed data and other selective data to present a manipulative, unbalanced and biased Discussion Paper which was specifically designed to sway community sentiment to reach a pre-determined outcome.

Council's prejudice's views have now carried through to the Draft Strategy.

Outlined in this submission are some areas which highlight flaws in Council's Draft Strategy.

SPORTSFIELDS SHORTAGE

Introduction

Serious questions must be asked regarding the accuracy of the assertion that there is currently a 26 hectares shortage of playing fields on the northern beaches.

Equally, serious questions must be also asked regarding the accuracy of the assertion that this shortage will increase to 41 hectares by 2031.

These assertions must be reviewed and challenged for accuracy as it lays at the heart of the initial Review, the Discussion Paper and the Draft Strategy.

It has provided the basis for the unbalanced and prejudiced stance adopted by the Administrator against Warringah Golf Club throughout the entirety of Council's expensive consultation process which has been designed to convert nine holes of Warringah Golf Course into playing fields.

Booking data

Council's consultant, Otium Planning Group (OTP) states in 5.3 of its Report "booking data may not always accurately represent utilisation".

OPG then goes on to state bookings at schools were excluded from the analysis "because it was not available for all fields and there are varying bookings anomalies and impacts caused by school use."

So, if booking data doesn't represent utilisation and school fields were excluded, it can only be assumed that the claim of a 26-hectare shortage in playing fields has been grossly exaggerated. Given these admissions by OTP, why has flawed data continually been used? Why did Council not question this data from the outset?

Does Council accept flawed data from engineers and architects when construction building, roads and other infrastructure?

Why were these key points from conveniently omitted from Council's Discussion Paper and the Draft Strategy? Was Council trying to paper over the cracks of the flawed data?

And why did the Administrator state in his Discussion Paper Message that the information was "reliable" when it is instead clearly inaccurate and flawed?

Participation and Field Allocation

Council states in the Administrator Minute No 05/2017 that the Manly Warringah Pittwater Sporting Union claims that "thousands of would-be participants" are being turned away because of the shortage of sportsfields.

Let's take a closer look of this alarmist and sensationalised claim, published widely by Council, remembering OTG's stated "booking data may not always accurately represent utilisation."

Further, it must be remembered that there are, as stated by Council, currently 122 sportsfields on the Northern Beaches.

This figure also excludes school grounds, so the total of 122 sportsfields should be considered as a minimum total.

Cricket

In Table 2 in item 3.6 of the Draft Strategy, cricket claims it only has 48 grounds for 68 junior games on weekends. The facts are that junior cricket has, for decades, traditionally been played on Saturday mornings.

However, if cricket followed the example of other sports such as of football, rugby league and others and played junior games over Saturday and Sunday, there would be up to 96 grounds available for 68 junior games.

If cricket unshackled their thinking and reviewed playing days to include games played on Sundays, their field allocation problem would be comfortably resolved.

This would lead to less sportsfields being dormant, as is the case, on Sundays during summer.

Six-a-Side Soccer

Table 2 states that Six-a-Side Football is "unable to get sufficient ground allocation to meet demands and that "players are being turned away".

Let's examine this spurious claim.

Council advises (see appendix 1) that for the 2016-17 summer season, games were held at only four locations namely:

. Brookvale Oval

David Thomas Playing Fields

North Narrabeen Reserve (Pittwater Rugby Park)

Forestville War Memorial Playing Fields

So, if there is an insufficient ground allocation, why has Council not provided more when there is a surplus of available fields throughout the northern beaches?

To state that players are being "turned away" when only four sportsfields are being used is grossly misleading and utterly false.

Touch Football

Table 2 also states that touch football is "unable to get sufficient ground allocations to meet demand for evening competitions" and that it had to "turn away 20 teams at North Narrabeen Reserve and 30 teams at Nolans Reserve."

However, Council advises (see appendix 1) the following fields were only used for the 2016- 17 summer season;

Bantry Bay Reserve

Beacon Hill Reserve

Careel Bay Playing Fields

Hitchcock Park

James Morgan Reserve

Lionel Watts Playing Fields

Nolans Reserve

North Narrabeen Reserve

Passmore Reserve

St Matthews Farm Reserve

Truman Reserve

Tristram Road Reserve

Only four fields were used for the 2017 winter season, namely;

James Morgan Reserve

Nolan Reserve

North Narrabeen Reserve

Lakeside Park

Again, if there is an insufficient ground allocation from Council's supply of 122 sportsfields, why has Council not provided more to meet this demand?

Based on Council's own booking advice, there are dozens of available sportsfields to meet team demand if only Council would have the foresight to provide more grounds for play .

Therefore, Council has grossly misled the community that there are not enough playing field when, clearly, there is ample supply to meet the demand.

1.4 Conclusion

Council has deliberately misinformed the community by stating in Section 3 "Current Situation and Future Needs" that there are a "shortage in sports fields" for Touch Football, Six -a-Side Football and Cricket.

As demonstrated above, there is ample supply with a minimum of 122 sportsfields on the Northern Beaches to meet the demand for these sports.

Based on the evidence supplied by Council, the problem is that Council has failed to provide these sports with enough supply or availability to meet their demand - and not that there are not enough sportsfields.

As a result , available sportsfields such as Keirle Park, Seaforth Oval, Griffith Park, Millers Reserve, Lake Park, Careel Bay and a myriad of other sportsfields are sitting idle over summer weekday evenings period when they could be used to meet player demand.

PUBLIC GOLF COURSE LAND ASSESSMENT

Assessment criterion

The Strategy's assessment of public golf course land (page 25) has been designed by Council to ensure Warringah Golf Course achieves the highest total figure to support Council's aim to convert nine holes of Warringah Golf Course to playing fields.

Questions must be asked whether any independent body was responsible for this Assessment, or was this conducted by Council paid staff? One can only assume the latter .

If there was to be a proper independent and fulsome analysis conducted, why did the Assessment not consider;

Annual playing rounds

Green fees

Financial performance

Surely playing popularity, affordability and profitability are critical in any detailed and balanced assessment.

2.2. Assessment scoring

The scoring across the assessments topics is flawed with little detail sitting behind these evaluations.

2.2.1 Topography

If Council is seeking to turn nine holes at a public course into playing fields, one can understand why Warringah is rated 5 for topography.

However, Mona Vale and Long Reef should also **receive the same rating as five sportsfields (as proposed for Warringah) can easily be accommodated at the flat sections of these courses.**

2.2:2 Natural Environment Impact

There is no definition or explanation of "natural environment impact". What are the impacts and how are they assessed and evaluated?

2.1.3 Community Impact

Unlike, Natural Environment Impact, there is at least some small explanation behind the scoring.

However, to score Warringah on par with every course except Long Reef and Mona Vale is laughable given the loss of trees to accommodate playing fields, which will severely impact visual amenity, and the massive traffic impact additional sportsfields will have in an already highly congested precinct.

SURVEYS AND SUBMISSIONS

The Draft Strategy states Council received 5,228 responses as part of the community engagement.

Warringah Golf Club received 10,353 signatures (almost double the number of total responses received by Council) on a petition in favour of retaining the course as an 18-hole course.

Yet, Council has totally disregarded the views of these 10,353 people and wishes to press ahead with converting nine holes at Warringah Golf Course.

Telephone Survey

Council undertook a telephone survey of 402 residents and claims in Section 5 of the Draft Strategy that this survey "delivers a high level of confidence that responses reflect the wider views of NBC residents". Really?

How can this view be seriously considered this reflective of NBC residents when online survey responses (4152 responses) and written submission (634 responses) were far greater than the online survey?

This is an absurd claim by Council, particularly when respondents were faced with blatant and highly emotive push polling tactics with respondents told "this will mean etc." for both Option A and B.

At no time during the phone survey were respondents asked if they had read the Discussion Paper.

Respondents who has not read the Discussion Paper should have been immediately excluded from the survey as they had little or no background information in which to form a reasonable opinion in support of either Option.

Petition

In relation to Council's recommendation to convert part of Warringah Golf Course to playing fields, the community has spoken via the petition and the verdict is an overwhelming, loud and resounding NO.

However, and unsurprisingly given its biased stance throughout this process, Council has ignored the wishes of the community in relation to Warringah Golf Course further underlining the dictatorial leadership currently in place at Council.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Council's claim that the suggested current shortfall in playing fields will increase by 17 sportsfields from 24 to 41 between 2016 and 2031 defies logic and published research.

Council's own Community Strategic Plan states the northern beaches has, currently, an ageing population with 69% aged 25 and over. Future projections indicate this percentage will be higher over the next 15 years.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics forecasts that the 45 plus demographic will grow at a significantly faster rate than the 0-44 bracket over the next 10 years.

Furthermore, Council and OPG have failed to consider that the 50-84 age group is projected to increase by 29,410 between 2011-2031- far greater than the 25,578 of all other age categories combined.

With the northern beaches undisputedly coming an increasingly older population, Council Administrator, Dick Persson, admits younger people cannot afford to buy a home on the peninsular.

Mr Persson said in the Manly Daily on May 20 that; "The next generation has to come to terms with the idea of never owning a home on the northern beaches".

So, if we are becoming an older local population and the next generation cannot afford to live on the northern beaches, where are the additional players coming from to use these fields to justify a further 17 sportsfields by 2031?

The demographic evidence suggests that 17 additional sportsfields are, at present, unwarranted.

SUMMARY

Council's Strategy is yet another expensive step, funded by ratepayers, towards attempting to destroy Warringah Golf Course.

With the northern beaches community becoming an older community, Council should be looking to provide additional recreational facilities for the 44+ demographic rather than destroying one of NSW's most highly used golf courses.

It is illogical to convert nine holes of Warringah Golf Course into playing fields, where an undersupply of playing fields has been previously identified by the former Pittwater Council at the northern end of the peninsula.

Yet Council is determined to press ahead with a decision to 'strip away part of Warringah Golf Course which will:

Lead to massive traffic congestion

Create significant community divisions and discord

Deprive the residents of a multi-million sport community facility to be partly funded by Warringah Golf Club and other private backers

The most contentious issue fairly obviously is Council's strategy is the conversion of half of Warringah golf course to playing fields. My initial impressions were that this is an error of judgement and short sighted when it is such a good golf course, well patronised and a gem for older golfers in the area.

As a result I decided to look more carefully at Council's analysis to see how a conclusion of effectively destroying such a great community facility could have been arrived at. I have thus reviewed Council's documentation based on this part of the Strategy.

I have identified a number of omissions discrepancies inaccuracies and potentially unreasonable report bias which in total call the analysis totally into question.

I have also identified concerns with the overall sports fields analysis.

It is my view that the analysis done by Council is not sound and should be redone on a defensible basis. Addressing points made in this submission would lead to a better strategy which most likely would include preservation of Warringah Golf Course as an 18 hole facility.

Any pre-emptive spending of ratepayers' funds on parkland design at Warringah, or calling of tenders based on the current strategy are matters that must be strongly resisted until proper analysis is undertaken.

I note that the current analysis has been undertaken under direction of an unelected administrator who may have the right intentions to solve the perceived problem but does not have to directly face strong challenges and debate to the strategy proposed that comes from democratic processes. Should it be intended to pursue the current strategy in relation to Warringah golf course, in my view it is vital that this be fully deferred, including future tenders, until a democratically elected Council is in place.

Executive Summary

The Northern Beaches Council Sports Ground Strategy (Draft) - May 2017 relies on the supporting document Strategic Directions Analysis Draft- May 2017 which in turn relies on the Northern Beaches Council Golf Market Assessment November 2016.

If these underlying documents are in error or misleading then Council's strategy becomes questionable.

Comments on these documents follow. The conclusion that flows from reviewing Council's documents and Strategy is that Council's analysis lacks robustness in many areas, is flawed by confusing comparisons. As a result, the Strategy is flawed and proceeding further on the current strategy heightens the risk of destroying an excellent community facility due to analysis error.

Council's analysis is seriously flawed by effectively comparing apples and oranges:

by using historical trends for golf but not other sports,

by not looking behind the Northern Beaches memberships for the real trends particularly the obvious differences between 9 and 18 hole clubs. Better analysis will show that golf in Northern Beaches is only in decline on 9 hole courses, with 18 hole courses maintaining membership

by tracking golf club membership only and ignoring social players who constitute 45% to 60% of golf players

by ignoring that golf across Australia is growing in rounds played. It is not declining.

by ignoring the future demographics which indicate that the golf-playing population is expected to increase faster than the non-golf playing population.

There are also further questions that need to be addressed before a sensible decision can be made:

For fields demand Council relies on hours booked. Can Council be sure that fields are used when booked.

What has been done to check this. A simple check revealed some 75% of fields not in use on Sunday morning in the southern area of the LGA. Surely this is valuable time for playing fields sport. Such vacancies does not indicate that more fields are required, let alone destroying a perfectly good and well patronised 18 hole golf course.

There is no analysis of when peak demand is for sports fields and the strategy does not look at that.

Understanding peak demand is fundamental to the number of fields required.

That is not to say that more sports fields are not needed, but the analysis conclusion that 41 fields are required by 2032, when it could well be less based on demographic trends, and that golf is not growing and will not grow in the future is a potentially catastrophic basis for the Northern Beaches and Council's sportsground strategy.

We know that the population is ageing, that golf is a sport for all ages but that it is predominantly played by older citizens, that activity for older citizens is important to mental and physical health as it is for young citizens. Golf is one of the few active outdoor sports older people can play socially and in competition.

There is no doubt that population will grow. There is no doubt that more fields will be required.

There is however a totally inadequate analysis of either current golf demand, the differing performance between 9 and 18 hole courses and the future demand given changes in demographics with population increases.

There is however a strong case that golf demand will grow in the future, and thus for retention of the four public 18 hole golf courses including Warringah as a sound basis for providing for and encouraging golf within the Northern Beaches for the future.

In summary, Council's current analysis is no basis for progressing with Council's proposed strategy F in relation to golf courses reductions.

Specific points are set out below.

Strategic Directions Analysis Draft - May 2017 - Otium and

Northern Beaches Council Golf Market assessment by GBAS, November 2016

Golf Market Assessment - Number of people playing golf

Golf in Northern Beaches public courses is alive and well when properly analysed, and is not declining at anything like 1.9%, 1.6% or 1.2% per annum. In fact for 18 hole public courses membership has been steady for the last 9 years and could have increased but for Council's inaction preventing Warringah course from progressing.

Evidence supporting this is as follows:

Club Membership Analysis

The table of memberships of various courses at page 17 of GBAS's November 2016 report

"Northern Beaches Council Golf Market Assessment" is a key table in Council's analysis. The way it is set out and analysed gives a totally biased and incorrect view. Key point are:

Firstly Balgowlah, Avalon and Palm Beach are nine hole courses. The figures for Avalon are obviously suspect so should be ignored, but the figures for Balgowlah and Palm Beach show clearly that nine hole courses in the area are losing members at a substantial rate.

Inclusion of Bayview course is not relevant as it is a private course.

When these are taken out the analysis shows that membership total for the 4 public 18 hole courses in the Northern Beaches has declined from 3788 to 3757, a drop of 31 in 9 years, or 0.09% per year which is negligible, and totally different to the 1.2% per annum stated by Council.

Any quick look at this table can identify these errors. They should be correct ed.

It is noted that the table includes a stated deterioration of 24% in members at Wakehurst golf club, which has a high membership. This is strange in itself as from a quick informal phone enquiry I was advised the course is as busy as it has ever been. This appears to be an error and should be checked as it affects the overall conclusions and strategy.

Further, Warringah is currently disadvantaged by its clubhouse and the clubhouse's location. Every other public course in the Northern Beaches has a magnificent clubhouse with views either to the ocean or over the course itself. Warringah's clubhouse can't even be seen from the course and is across the busiest road in the Northern Beaches which is six lanes of traffic.

I am aware that Warringah Golf Club has advised Council it has funds to build a new clubhouse on the course giving Warringah members and guests the same modern facilities and tie to the golf course that all other 18 hole courses have. That Warringah's membership has not declined significantly is testament to the robustness of player loyalty to the course and its attractiveness to members.

These matters should be noted in the analysis.

Nine hole courses

While public 18 hole courses have steady membership, the figures provided for Balgowlah and Palm Beach courses, both 9 holes, show deterioration in membership over 9 years of 500 in 1757, which is 28% over 9 years or 3.1% per year.

It is noted that Council makes a statement that 9 hole courses are viable. No evidence of this is provided by Council. The deterioration in membership of these two 9 hole courses is an indicator of the opposite to Council's unsubstantiated view.

This does not support creation of another 9 hole course at the expense of a perfectly good 18 hole course and should be stated in the analysis and strategy.

Social Golfers Are Not Considered in Player Numbers

Notwithstanding an inadequate analysis of golf club membership as set out above, there is a major error in analysis on a membership basis in that the analysis ignores social golfers. Social golfers are around 60% of golf players and play about 30% of golf rounds. Ignoring these invalidates the analysis further.

For many players, social play is their preference and also suits their hip pocket. Others playing social golf are on waiting lists to join limited-member clubs. Other players have joined 'internet' clubs

which allows them to obtain a Golfink handicap and play in competitions or within their own social groups or clubs without being a member of any course

ABS and Golf Australia statistics show that between 45% (ABS) and 67%(Golf Australia/GBAS) of golf players are social players. Ignoring these players in the analysis is clearly a nonsense, thus the analysis as it stands must be rejected by any sensible person.

Golf Australia's annual golf participation reports are readily available on the internet. They were prepared by Council's consultants GBAS.

The Increase in Golf Rounds Played is not factored into the analysis

Golf Australia's annual participation reports identify that the number of rounds played by social golfers are about the same as rounds by members.

Rounds played have increased for the last 4 years 2013 4.2% increase nationally

2014 7.2% increase nationally

2015 1.9% increase nationally

2016 2.1% increase nationally

Total 16.2% when compounded or about 4% per year.

This is not a pattern of decline. Either members have increased the number of rounds they play per year (unlikely) or social golfers are expanding more than members are declining giving an ongoing increase in player participation which is the more likely scenario;

This is an essential statistic which needs to be recognised in the analysis

Future Demand for Golf

Council's report looks at future demand for sports other than golf by projection from population growth estimates, but for golf it assumes no future growth or a decline. (a) to (d) above show the errors in Council's assumption of decline with a conclusion that relevant statistics show golf is steady or increasing.

To then not project golf's demand to take account of population growth compounds the error.

The projection for the future population is that the proportion of the population over 65 is increasing. This is important for golf as a sport as 75% of golfers are over 65. This is not to say it is only an old peoples sport, as 50% of new club members are under 45. Its just that golf is one of the few outdoor competitive sports that older people can play. It is very likely that golf participation will increase in the future, at least at 18 hole courses

Analysis of Sports Fields Demand

The analysis does not address demand peaks during the week

Council has relied on hours booked for sports fields as an indicator of demand.

This has not been separated into various sports so there is no real knowledge of which sports need how many fields and where that might be required.

Notwithstanding the rudimentary nature of Council's analysis of sports field demand, in any analysis of demand, projections need to take into account the demand peaks in addition. In public transport the demand peak in the morning and afternoon on weekdays. Buses and trains and roads must be designed for the peak, not the average for the week. In sport it is reasonable to assume the peak is at the weekend, most likely Saturdays but maybe also Sundays.

Council's analysis is based on hours of use of sportsfields which appears reasonably valid as one factor but peak demand analysis may identify a completely different driver of sportsfield requirements and a different strategy, which may include better peak period spreading strategies.

It is also likely to identify that golf demand peaks are Saturdays and Sundays just the same as other sports due to the working week inhibiting working players and students. This may or may not be significant in the analysis but should be investigated.

When is the peak? Can the peak be spread to other days?

Council should also look at whether fields booked are being used.

On Sunday 2 July 2016, an informal survey was undertaken of fields being used between 10.30am and 11.45 am between Narrabeen and Seaforth. The results were that of 36 fields checked between Narrabeen and Seaforth, only 8 fields were in use of at what I would have expected would be a peak time. It is certainly a busy time for golf courses. Why would that be?

It could be that fields booked are not being used. This needs to be checked.

It could be that peak demand is on Saturdays and insufficient effort has been made to transfer play to Sundays.

Council has to some extent considered this but the lack of use of fields at a very suitable time was surprising and indicates a peak demand analysis should be undertaken before finalising the Strategy.

Viability of nine-hole courses

Council states there are many examples of successful nine-hole ventures. That is a sweeping statement that is not supported by any detail within the body of the report. However, in the table on page 17 of GBAS market demand analysis there is an analysis of the changes in golf club membership over time which shows that the largest deterioration in membership is at Balgowlah and Palm Beach golf courses, both being 9 holes. Thus the detail does not support the conclusion.

Facts and analysis should be provided to support such a statement or it should be deleted as unsupportable.

In the absence of back-up detail and analysis of nine hole courses generally the conclusion that should be stated is that the greatest deterioration in membership in the Northern beaches is in 9 hole courses .

Warringah (and Balgowlah) Course Contracts Strategy

Council puts forward the view that as the existing contracts are expiring there is need for urgent action to progress its golf courses strategy. That is totally unnecessary. Existing golf course contracts for Balgowlah and Warringah courses can be readily extended to allow the matter to be considered by an elected Council. There is no excuse for pre-emptive action. Golf course contracts can be readily extended for a further year, or yearly for five years, or five a fixed year term for that matter by direct negotiation. During that time an elected Council can decide, on a democratic basis, which way to progress with golf course conversion, and in the event that the decision is to convert golf courses, there is still the same time available to progress the matter in a timely manner.

Further, given that the existing Warringah golf course contract can be readily extended for five years, it is not logical to go to tender for a 5 year period for holes 1 to 9 and 20 years for holes 10 to 20. That puts the whole golf course tender in 'no man's land'. How can a tenderer plan and price not knowing whether the course will be 9 or 18 holes? This is a recipe for poor pricing, another senseless hit on ratepayers' pockets.

If the Warringah course contract is extended for 5 years or other suitable time by negotiation, there is ample time to put in place a longer-term contract, either 9 or 18 holes, with tenderers knowing the future of the course and being able to plan and price accordingly. In terms of Council's long term finances, this is the only logical course of action.

There is a temptation to say that as the golf course contracts are coming to an end there is a need to go to public tender. I am well aware through my professional experience that that sort of logic does not stand up when a better outcome can so obviously be achieved by a sensible extension of an existing contract on commercial terms through negotiation. Government supports sensible approaches to maximising Community outcomes. Independent parties can readily compare the market and advise if current course 'rentals' are appropriate or not, and there are plenty of specialist independent contract negotiators available to assist Council if needed.

The great risk and indeed likelihood is that the decision will be overturned by a democratically elected Council, thus ratepayers' funds should be preserved and no further expenditure should be incurred until an elected Council is in place .

Options for golf courses if the strategy proves sensible when analysed properly.

Once the demand for golf and other sports is properly analysed, the result might be that Northern Beaches can manage with 18 holes less than currently. In this case there are two basic ways of dealing with that.

It is unlikely that given proper analysis that changing Warringah to 9 holes would rate at all as a sensible option. There is no point creating another 9 hole course when evidence is that they do not attract patronage. The most likely scenario is that Balgowlah and Avalon courses could be sacrificed .

There are 2 options on how this can be done. Council has only considered 1. The first is to convert the courses to fields.

The second is to sell the course land for development, and buy additional land for playing fields.

There are under-developed areas in Ingleside, Terry Hills, Belrose and Oxford Falls that could readily be purchased at acreage prices for playing fields. Disposing of Balgowlah and Avalon and purchasing acreage land or crown land could be financially beneficial to Council, and could provide playing fields closer to where they are needed.

This has not been included in Council's strategy and appears to be a significant omission.

letter to the Editor Manly Daily

Is Northern Beaches Sports Strategy Analysis Correct?

Warringah Council Draft Sportsground Strategy argues oversupply of golf courses amid declining golf club membership. Well maybe the Strategy paper has that all wrong. Maybe golf is actually on the increase and the supply of golf courses is about right and a good base for the future. How could that be?

Firstly, is membership really declining at 1.6% per annum. No. Golf Australia reported in 2016 that there has been a decline of only 0.5% per year in course based clubs across Australia over the last 5 years. Further, 36% of golf clubs in Australia increased membership last year. But the statistics in Council's report do show clearly that membership is declining fast at 45% per annum on local 9 hole courses. So why create another one?

But is golf club membership the right statistic anyway? No. ABS publication "Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation, Australia, 2011-12" states as its lead statement "The shift away from organised sport and physical recreation has been identified as one of the trends likely to shape the Australian sports sector over the next 30 years". Golf Australia has identified that two thirds of golf

players are not club members. ABS has the figure at around half. So Council's analysis based on golf memberships is ignoring around 50% or more of golfers.

Golf Australia has identified that the number of rounds played declined 5.6% in 2011 but increased 7.2% in 2014, 1.9% in 2015 and 2.1% in 2016, and membership in social golf clubs has increased at 8% per annum. These are not reductions. 50% of new golf club members are under 45 years of age. Golf is not in a major decline.

Some 75% of golfers are over 45 years old. 14% of the Australian population is currently over 65 years of age. This is forecast to reach between 23% and 25% by 2056. Life expectancy is increasing. Fitness and sport for the elderly is important and increasingly recognised as the key to a longer and fulfilling life. Golf is one of the few sports older golfers can play. The Warringah Course is the jewel in the crown of Northern Beaches golf due to its level playing area being so friendly for older golfers. The young sports players of today will be the older golfers of tomorrow.

ABS identified that golf is the most popular field-based sport based on club membership. When casual or social players are added in golf is unmatched in popularity by a factor of close to 2 against the next field-based sport which is soccer.

And what about the other factors - sports grounds should be where the growth is to the north - traffic congestion will be created in an already congested area which will need millions to solve - destruction of superb mature trees - creating an unviable 9 hole course.

The current rush makes it look as though there is a belief that destroying Warringah Golf Course won't get through a properly elected Council. At least that analysis is probably correct.

Don't waste any more taxpayer money on an idea that is based on questionable analysis and likely to be overturned by an elected Council. Please focus on what everyone agrees really needs to be done

- getting hold of more land in development areas to the north before it is too late, not reducing a superb and well patronised 18 hole golf course at Warringah that we already have.

D.3 Other comments

Do you have any comments about any of the recommendations in this report or any additional ideas for our sportsgrounds?

Support women's sport. Hockey is dominated by women in this area and is very poorly served.

How about letting the kids play PSSA sport and stop closing the grounds.

I have read the document and I am very supportive of the clear way the priorities and actions have been identified.

Trash it and do a professional study. This "study" is amateurish and disgracefully biased

Manly Dam Mountain bike trail needs to be improved.

Only comment on working to increase cycle options to sports pitches as cars and parking already a nightmare (eg at Curl Curl netball courts)

At current sport grounds, (e.g. Frank Gray oval where current grass hockey is located), there is nowhere for public (parents/kids) to fill up water bottles (even out of bathrooms). Not a good way to teach kids about hydration!

Council's suggestion for Action 5 that 72% of 401 phone respondents is a significant number is absurd when compared to the 4,152 online respondents for which you conveniently neglect to offer specific numbers for just vague "Although more strongly supported" comments. Whether intended or not the entire report reflects a skew towards the outcome council desires.

There is no discussion on who is paying for this. The ratepayer should not bear the cost solely. The sports that want fields etc should have a user pay principle for their expansion. Eg \$100 levy per player per year.

The administrator should not be making any determination this issue.

People need safe access to sports fields, both as pedestrians and as motorists. Having witnessed the chaotic conditions in the roads surrounding the Abbott Road playing fields and also at Millers Reserve on Saturday mornings where my grandchildren play sport it is a very unsafe environment for parents and children to move about.

I find this report entirely puzzling and question its validity. As a Northern Beaches ratepayer I am perplexed that the Administrator has been allowed to spend my rates on the GBAS and OTIUM surveys.

I cannot support a flawed strategy that is so biased and unfair.

Actually consider being an unbiased entity and consult the community for feedback in ways that aren't confined to terribly designed, loaded surveys on a website with atrocious UI.

This should be voted for by the people of Northern Beaches and wait until after the Election of a New Council in September. These decisions should wait until after the September council Election for the people of the Northern Beaches to decide.

The Administrator has got it wrong and should leave it to a democratically elected council to make the right decisions.

I think it is disgraceful that an unelected council feels it has the mandate nor right to make such decisions that will have long term implications on the area and community. Have prospective councillors take this policy to the elections and let the people vote for what is important to them.

Not that this matters, I assume the decision will be made by a group of out of touch bureaucrats serving their best interests, and that sort of person isn't usually too keen on changing their mind on this sort of thing. Also how can you not offer anonymity on this survey? Why is the UI so clunky and dated? Why is the wording of this survey so loaded? Why didn't you, instead of getting people to read the report then answer vague questions about parts of the report, transcribe the contents into a more detailed survey that could actually be used as data? You come across as so inept to anyone who can use computers/understand anything about statistics and data.

Environmental responsibility of all users of sportsgrounds, including golf courses, should be one of the priorities and conditions of use. eg removal of rubbish, & where appropriate sensitive maintenance & stewardship of the grounds under the users responsibility.

I would suggest that all those involved in the drawing up of the Northern Beaches draft plans read the latest report from the Australian Sports Commission relating to the future of sports in this country.

Another weakness is that this is a \$50M+ strategy and there is no financial assessment of any sort. This is not a user pays model it is a ratepayer pays model. Golf clubs pay for all operational and improvement costs and if they are on public land they pay rent on top of that. Fees for sports fields are set at recovering 15% of costs with ratepayers covering the rest. The ongoing costs associated with 30 extra playing fields don't even rate a mention in this strategy. Maybe when we get our next rate notice with the latest increases and when the emergency levy eventually gets added and when the next increase in valuations take effect we might question the assumption that the costs of these strategies aren't important.

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