

Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

Naming proposal – Guganagina (Kookaburra) Lookout, Balgowlah

Consultation period: Tuesday 30 May and Sunday 23 July 2023

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1. Summary

This report outlines the community engagement conducted between Tuesday 30 May 2023 and Sunday 23 July 2023 in response to a proposal to name an unnamed lookout area on the corner of Upper Beach Street and West Street, Balgowlah as the Guganagina (Kookaburra) Lookout.

During the exhibition period 149 people provided submissions. 125 submissions were received through the Your Say online feedback form and 24 submissions were received as emails or via phone.

There was a small majority of submissions that were either supportive of the proposal or supportive with changes (55%). 45% of respondents did not support the proposal.

Respondents that were supportive of the proposal with changes made suggestions such as preferring the name Kookaburra which is itself an Aboriginal word, or dual naming e.g. Kookaburra/Guganagina Lookout. There also appeared to be some confusion in that some respondents thought that the lookout was already named 'Kookaburra Lookout' and they opposed the renaming of the lookout. Of those who were not supportive some indicated that the word was too hard to pronounce, and some objected to using an Aboriginal word.

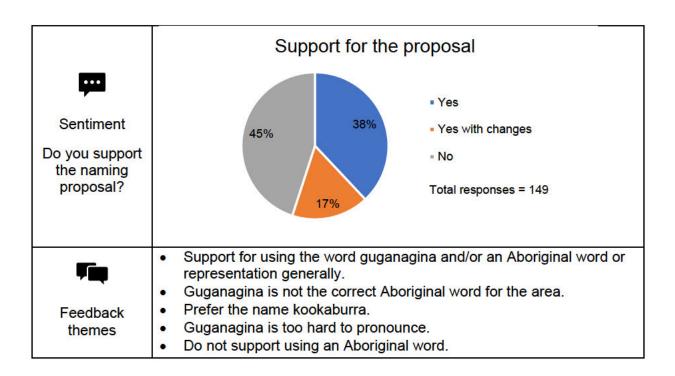
Key Aboriginal stakeholders were invited to provide feedback including local Aboriginal community members, Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, Northern Sydney Aboriginal Heritage Office and the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group. Some Aboriginal stakeholders supported use of the word guganagina while others suggested that kookundi is the local Aboriginal word for kookaburra used on the northern side of Sydney Harbour. There was no consensus from Aboriginal stakeholders who provided feedback. Communication with Professor Jakelyn Troy, linguist and advisor to the Geographical Names Board, confirmed that the coastal language (e.g. guganagina) is the correct Aboriginal language to use on the Northern Beaches.

1.1. Key outcomes

Total unique responses	149*
How responses were received	Your Say online submission form: 125 Submissions outside of Your Say (email/phone): 24

^{*}Not every respondent answered the sentiment question, and not every respondent made a comment. If a person made more than one submission subsequent comments were added to their first submission.





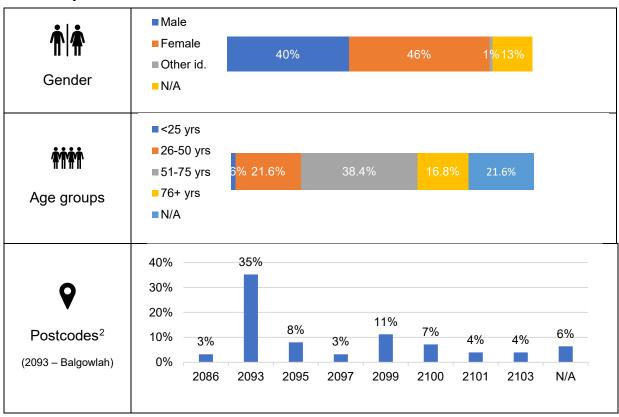
1.2. How we engaged

Have Your Say: visitation stats	Visitors: 1,941	Visits: 1,647	Average time onsite: 1 min 35 secs
Print media and collateral	Council News Story of Letterbox drop: About residences, postcode Site sign		228 views Letterbox distribution: About 200 Number of signs: 1
!	Council's Community (fortnightly) newsletter		Distribution: 22,500 subscribers
Electronic direct mail (EDM)	Council (weekly) e-Ne 2 June 2023: 579 16 June 2023: 26	elicks	Distribution: 61,500 subscribers
	Emails	munity members:	13
Key stakeholder engagement	Aboriginal Horitago Offico.		1
	Metropolitan Local Ab	original Land Council:	2
	Local Aboriginal comr	munity members:	2



Professor Jakelyn Troy: 1

1.3. Who responded¹



2. Background

A request was received from a local resident to name an area of land with extensive views over North Harbour towards Manly. The request expressed a preference for seeking an Aboriginal name. The land consists of a section of road reserve at the corner of West Street and Upper Beach Street, Balgowlah.

The name Guganagina Lookout was proposed. This is the Sydney Aboriginal word for Kookaburra according to the book 'The Sydney Language' by Professor Jakelin Troy (1993). The name is proposed following consultation with and support from the Northern Sydney Aboriginal Heritage Office. The proposed name aims to recognise the area's Aboriginal history and connection to nature, with the kookaburra being commonly sighted in the area.

3. Engagement objectives

Community and stakeholder engagement aimed to:

 provide information on the background of the project and the rationale behind the chosen name for the lookout so the community and stakeholders could participate in a meaningful way;

² Post code responses 3% or higher



¹ Demographic data was gathered by request only. The data represented only includes those respondents who provided this detail via Your Say.

- seek out and facilitate the involvement of those who would be most interested in the project;
- communicate to community and stakeholders how their input was incorporated into the planning and decision-making process.

4. Engagement approach

Community and stakeholder engagement for the Naming proposal – Guganagina (Kookaburra) Lookout, Balgowlah was conducted between Tuesday 30 May and Sunday 23 July 2023, and consisted of a series of activities that provided opportunities for community and stakeholders to contribute.

The engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Strategy (2022).

A project page³ was established on our have your say platform with information provided in an accessible and easy to read format.

The project was primarily promoted through our regular email newsletter (EDM) channels.

A letterbox drop to about 300 residences was carried out from 2 June 2023.

Feedback was captured through an online submission form embedded onto the Have Your Say project page. The form included a question that directly asked respondents for their level of support on the proposal.

An open-field comments box provided community members a space to explain or elaborate on their support, not support or neutral sentiment as well as any other feedback they wished to contribute.

Email and written comments were also invited.

4.1. Reaching diverse audiences

A thorough stakeholder mapping exercise was completed to identify and understand the needs of the whole community.

It was determined for this project that it was particularly important to hear from people living at North Balgowlah as well as local Aboriginal people and groups. Key Aboriginal stakeholders were contacted by phone and/or email and invited to provide feedback.

5. Findings

During public exhibition 149 people provided submissions. 125 submissions were received through the Your Say process and 24 submissions were received as e-mails or phone calls.

There was a small majority of submissions that were either supportive of the proposal or supportive with changes (55%). 45% of respondents did not support the proposal.

³ https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/naming-proposal-guganagina-kookaburra-lookout-balgowlah



The most prevalent reason for supporting the proposal was to support using an Aboriginal word or representation. Other submissions preferred the word 'kookaburra," generally because it is too hard to pronounce "guganagina".

Respondents who did not support the proposal disagreed with using an Aboriginal word, or they felt the proposal was a waste of Council resources.

There was no consensus among Aboriginal stakeholders who provided comment.

Table 1. outlines the key matters raised and Council's responses.

Table 1: Issues, change requests and other considerations

Theme	Issues, change requests and other considerations raised	Council's response
Support for using the word guganagina and/or an Aboriginal word or representation generally.	"It is a wonderful way to recognise Aboriginal heritage in the area" "The names should always be Aboriginal as per Council policy"	The proposal is consistent with Council's Naming our Reserves, Facilities and Roads Policy which adheres to the Geographical Names Board of NSW (GNB) Policy - Place Naming. The GNB Policy states: "Aboriginal names are encouraged as the name to be used for any feature that currently does not have a name recognised by the GNB" Item 9.2. p. 6.
Guganagina is not the correct Aboriginal word for this area.	Some submissions suggested that kookundi is the word for kookaburra north of the Harbour and that Guganagina is for south of the Harbour. Others suggested the word Gugguuburra or Jilling.	There are many contentions regarding Aboriginal languages across Sydney and elsewhere. Guguburra (pronounced kookaburra) is itself an Aboriginal word although from Central NSW and not from Sydney. Kookundi is understood to be the word for kookaburra from further west along the Hawkesbury and north of Broken Bay. According to the GNB website a proposal from 1997 for a cove in North Harbour to be named 'Jilling Cove' has not been approved pending clarification of the meaning of 'jilling.' Communication with Professor Jakelyn Troy, linguist and advisory to the GNB, confirmed that the coastal language, i.e. guganagina, is the correct language for the Northern Beaches.



Theme	Issues, change requests and other considerations raised	Council's response
		In response to feedback, it is recommended to adopt the dual name of Guganagina 'Kookaburra' Lookout.
		It is also recommended to install an interpretive sign to explain the differing Aboriginal words for kookaburra from across Sydney and elsewhere including guguburra, guganagina and kookundi, with the aim of respectfully accommodating various views within the community and in particular our Aboriginal communities.
Prefer the name kookaburra.	"The kookaburra is universally known and is a name people can relate to."	It is recommended to adopt the dual name of Guganagina 'Kookaburra' Lookout.
Guganagina is too hard to pronounce.	Guganagina is too hard to pronounce and remember.	There are already many Aboriginal words in circulation in our vocabulary. The GNB Policy – Place Naming states that "a traditional name may at first appear to be complex but will, over time, become more familiar and accepted by the community" (p. 3). Including pronunciation tips in signage can help and this will be considered as the interpretive sign is developed.
Do not support use of an Aboriginal word.	Australia belongs to all of us. Council is imposing "woke" culture onto the community.	The proposal for an Aboriginal name was requested by a local resident and many submissions were received in support of the proposal. Council's Naming our Reserves, Facilities and Roads Policy and the GNB Policy – Place Naming support the use of Aboriginal names where appropriate. In relation to the selection of names the GNB Policy – Place Naming states that "Aboriginal names are encouraged as the name to be used for any feature that currently does not have a name recognised by the GNB" (p. 6).





Appendix 1 Verbatim community and stakeholder responses*

Number	Submission
1	Sounds like an apt naming choice. Well done.
2	Make it kookaburra point same intent.
3	What about the beautiful nod to Jilling Cove - Jilling seat, Jilling Point.? Jilling something. It has a Aboriginal link - the Balgowlah location of north harbour is Jilling Cove. I work at our wonderful and local and I have been given permission to identify our location as Jilling Cove from the Geographical Names Board of NSW. Apparently Balgowlah was known to the Aboriginals as Jilling. It's very much worth you researching or touching base with the GNB
1	380-00-94-03 € 130-00-95 60 6130 € 60 6130 € 60 6130 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60
4	No comment provided
5	I welcome the use of indigenous name. Thank you for recognising the traditional custodians of the land during national reconciliation week (but also every week).
6	No comment provided
7	No comment provided
8	Fantastic to use local indigenous names and language
9	Just call it Kookaburra Lookout! Everyone can pronounce it and knows what it means.
10	I think this is a great change, reflecting the heritage of the area much better than currently.
11	Great idea.
12	'Balgowlah' is already an aboriginal word meaning North Harbour
	Suggest naming it 'Balgowlah Lookout' and include in the signage that Balgowlah means North Harbour - describing the actual unique area it overlooks- not just a bird common everywhere on the Northern Beaches
13	I live a few blocks from the lookout and think the name is appropriate and helpful recognition of the area's indigenous history.
14	I think this is a wonderful proposal! The name sounds fantastic, and is an apt name for the lookout. What a wonderful way to recognise aboriginal heritage in the area, with a truly unique name. The first time I heard the word "Guganagina" was with the just last week, when we held a smoking ceremony, and recognised those who were on this land before us. One of the speakers, from the which I think this proposal embodies.
15	What significant benefit will be achieved in changing the name - none is the answer - it is a waste of resources which could be better used for the homeless and women's refuge.
16	Surely if it is considered preferable to re-name the lookout other than that reflecting the location, and the proposal is related to the Kookaburra, then it should be re-named after the Kookaburra in a language native to all Australians not just those of Aboriginal heritage.
17	Think of how difficult it would be for people to understand the different pronunciation, to know what and where that place is, change for the sake of change, it doesn't honour anyone. Places have names to make it easy to communicate and explain where to go and what to see. I'm a migrant from Switzerland, I've learnt English here! How would you feel if, say in Switzerland we start to name places from pre roman times, expand that to the whole of the roman world period,

^{*}Personal details and inappropriate language have been redacted where possible. Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused.

Number	Submission
	or the whole world of time past, ridicules isn't it, would it honour anyone? Is any society really worth it? if you have an interest in different names just look it up in google, but do not punish everyone else by confusing and obfuscating places!!!
18	As long as it's supported by an Indigenous person.
	I love the name!
19	Naming the lookout using an Aboriginal word is tasteful and appropriate.
20	No comment provided
21	I grew up in Balgowlah and the kookaburra was always such a notable presence in the parks and backyards so it feels like a very apt choice for the naming of this lookout.
	Wonderful decision!
22	I think it's great to have more Aboriginal names for places. I like the reasoning behind this name also.
	Could I suggest that you put the phonetic way of how to say it on your survey also.
23	As we have lived across the road for a number of years, we have witnessed so many people enjoying this wonderful lookout practically every day. We think it's very positive this important landmark is properly acknowledged.
24	No comment provided
25	Prefer to keep the aboriginal name of Balgowlah meaning north Harbour as a significant Aboriginal place name for this sacred place. Please do not change, thank you
26	The name is too hard to pronounce. I'd prefer Kookaburra Lookout or anything else that's easy to pronounce and also easier to remember.
	If you can't pronounce it then nobody will remember or use the name in which case it'd be pointless to have a name.
27	No comment provided
28	Excellent idea as it is a magnificent view. Please note that access to the lookout for many visitors will be via the lower Beach Street stairs which are a safety hazard with overgrown weeds making them shady, slippery and scary. Regular maintenance is needed if this place is to be celebrated.
29	I suggest the English meaning of Guganagina should be included on the sign either in brackets (kookaburra) or in smaller print underneath. Including the meaning of the Aboriginal word will give it more meaning to non-Aboriginal people and help keep the meaning of the word alive, as well as educating visitors in Aboriginal language.
30	No comment provided
31	I don't think it is appropriate or necessary to change or rename place names with so-called aboriginal names. Kookaburra Lookout sounds just fine to me and is at least familiar to all Australians, easy to pronounce and rolls off the tongue. Presently in my waning years (I'm 84) living in the most beautiful and desirable area in Sydney, I prefer the continuity of names of special places that mean so much to me. I just don't feel that the aboriginal people of this great nation to which we all belong now, have the right to change the names of places to mostly unpronounceable versions of their so-called language. There was no record of a written language apparently!
	They have so much influence for a small minority of the population and sadly not everyone agrees with their ideas and aspirations. My ancestors both Paternal and Maternal were not invaders of this land and came as free settlers in the mid 1800's to build a life for their family and I am a proud fourth generation Australian and love MY COUNTRY!
32	Great idea!
	I .



Number	Submission
33	No comment provided
34	Kookaburra Lookout sounds part of the shared culture as it's a current term. We don't need another impossible to remember/hard to pronounce term
35	There are plenty of issues that need to be addressed on the Northern Beaches
	Support for businesses (particularly hospitality) that are doing it tough with more uncertain days ahead. The disaster of the road signs you have wasted I hate to think how much money on Manly beach front. The failure of Manly food and wine festival. The lack of greenery or shrubbery on the beachfront. Endless amounts of empty shops in Manly. 5pm bin pick-ups. Supporting various community-based groups such as the womens shelter that you don't particularly consider important.
	Changing the name of a headland to comply with your endlessly woke mandate is not a priority nor worth another cent whether it be for paying a staff member to set up this application, send an email, create a new headland sign, drive to have the sign set up, to set the sign in concrete.
	The money this council is wasting for such poor results in mind boggling.
	Councils are for the 3 R's — Roads, Rates and Rubbish. How about you guys master that first.
36	Pleaseand hear me outconsider naming it something that people can actually pronounce. Without fail every year, someone at council decides to rename something to pay homage to an Aboriginal term that hasn't been used in decades and the people who actually use the park are left scratching their heads about how to pronounce and spell it — we ultimately badger it and end up disrespecting the people who use the name. Recently there was another "good idea fairy" where a street name was proposed In Manly and everyone responded appropriately to council's horrible suggestion. This is no different. Stop pandering to people by changing names unnecessarily and spend more of your time making plans to fix infrastructure in this area. This is a change no one asked for. Change it to something we can spell and pronounce easily.
37	It is only morally right that we refer to geographic areas and landmarks using a name that respects the indigenous people who lived in and were guardians of this land before Europeans came to this land and imposed European names. It is also a positive step towards truth, treaty and reconciliation.
38	I support the use of First Nations names but suggest that the naming is done with First Nations word first followed by the English word equivalent as this would help in greater understanding of First Nations languages.
39	Why is this name being proposed? It means nothing to a least 99% of the population.
	If the lookout is to be named after the bird, then call it Kookaburra Lookout, as this is the name the bird is universally known as and is a name people can relate to
40	Many Northern Beaches residents like me are sick to death of Council's woke decision to name every site now with an aboriginal name. This site at Balgowlah should be named after a person who has been a community leader at or around Balgowlah. And by community leader, I particularly mean a volunteer.
41	Kookaburra Lookout is easier to pronounce and it will ultimately be referred to that for ease by locals.
42	Fabulous idea let's do it!
43	My suggestion is to stick to the name of Guuguuburra or even Kookaburra as Guganagina won't be announced adequately by those unaware of the name origin or the proper pronunciation.
44	Kookaburra dreaming
45	No comment provided
46	The word is too difficult for many people to remember and pronounce and for visitors to the area to remember. Use the word kookaburra which everyone knows and understands



Number	Submission
47	No comment provided
48	No comment provided
49	Hello Council,
	I'm concerned that Guganagina is difficult and slow to say. Couldn't the lookout be called Kookaburra Lookout please? Or if it must be an Aboriginal word, Guuguuburra, despite the word coming from the Central Coast.
	Thankyou for offering the public an opportunity to submit its feelings on this lookout name.
50	Great idea, lovely spot.
51	I absolutely do not support the renaming of this lookout.
	This is tokenism gone mad! When the lookouts at North Head were upgraded they were replaced with Aboriginal words. With this proposal we are renaming the lookout from one version of an Aboriginal word with another in a different language.
	In Australia there are more than 250 Indigenous languages including around 800 dialects. Doing this would set a precedent to start renaming all manner of places and things with supposed authenticity. How ludicrous! Is this what a future of The Voice Referendum is going to engineer?
	Thankyou Councillors for unanimously voting to waste our tax payer money with new signage and maps etc
	No thankyou very much, please leave it as it is. A perfectly good word that rolls off of the tongue that we can all relate to.
52	I would prefer that the name be simply Kookaburra Lookout because Kookaburra is an aboriginal word and is understood by everyone. Gugunagina is hard to pronounce, is probably not used by anyone these days and therefore its significance is lost on the general public. Using a local word may be interesting to the scholars but I expect it is not known to any local native people these days.
53	As Kookaburra is also an aboriginal word but commonly known, I support the naming as Kookaburra Lookout. We live a short distance and the kookaburras we hear and see daily are lovely, but we would never call them anything but a kookaburra. I consider the use of Kookaburra throughout Australia more of a show of unity than using a localised unknown name, as Kookaburra is already a word well loved by all Australians.
54	I would prefer that council stop wasting taxpayers money on this sort of unnecessary and 'luxury' items. Clearly council should be spending time, money and resources on tasks that add value or ease burdens. We are so fortunate in Australia and in particular the Northern Beaches area that to be spending money on this sort of thing seems criminal, irresponsible and just morally wrong. There is so much poverty in the world!! Either stop spending, reduce the enormous council tax bills or spend it on more worthwhile causes.
55	A more easily spoken name is preferred, even just Kookaburra Point. It is not necessary to name all the lookouts in Aboriginal language.
56	Great idea
57	No comment provided
58	No comment provided
59	No comment provided
60	We live quite near the site and there seems to be no imperative to suddenly give it a name. I think of this proposal as tokenism. I do not know how many aboriginal languages there are, but I would surmise that this particular word "Guganagina" would be known by very few people, even among the aboriginal community.



Number	Submission
	I do not understand the need to proscribe it a name. Is it to provide directions to people looking for it, or perhaps as a designated meeting place or, as I alluded to, is it tokenism. I have no doubt that the time taken on this could be better devoted to the things that really matter, especially concerning the welfare of the needy and vulnerable in our community, including indigenous residents who may need specific assistance.
61	Why change a adequately described lookout to an aboriginal name - particulalry when only 4% of Australia's population is aboriginal - what a waste of time, effort and money
62	Excellent name for an excellent spot. A big thank you to those who planned & installed the park bench so as to take full advantage of the restful view. I stopped at this spot before on walks but now my dog and I linger.
63	This is an English speaking country. Please keep this lookout as "kookaburra lookout." It is too difficult to remember Aboriginal words, costly replacing them and not in the language of the majority of citizens.
64	We have all had enough with Aboriginal namings. Please consider acknowledging and respecting some of the other heritage (eg European) which came to this area hundreds of years ago and made the area what it is today. Enough virtue signalling. There are so many of us sick to death of this.
65	Great idea.
66	Kookaburra sounds fine to me.
	Guganagina means nothing to most people without an explanation. It may as well be in Russian.
67	I think it should be called Kookaburra lookout as it is an aboriginal name and easy to pronounce and remember and wont get confused with other words
68	I am not in favour of the changing everything in our society to reflect aboriginal affairs.
69	This country was opened up because of the search of Captain James Cook. I vote for the James Cook Park
70	Love the name - feels fitting.
71	I would prefer not to rename the area by using the Aboriginal word for kookaburra.
	I do not see the need to identify the area to give respect to the aborigines of Australia, or to remind us yet again that there were people here before white settlement.
	I believe in one nation, one government, one group which includes all Australians and do not need to have towns or lookouts renamed to show respect to Aborigines of Australia.
72	I do not understand how the renaming of the reserve is pertinent. Kookaburra is iconic enough. It is becoming more and more apparent that harking back to false heritage is being driven by a minority with a louder voice than they deserve.
	We have much more important things to consider, like the disheveled nature of housing development being forced on the beaches, which will have a much more measurable effect on the heritage the minority seem intent on voicing.
73	It already has a name, so I see changing it to an aboriginal name as unnecessary virtue signalling.
74	Yes I support this naming proposal but on any signage or to council information about such naming proposal please include phonetic phonetic way to say the word as well. Reading the Council minutes I note the quote information quoted from Professor Troy re unvoiced consonants but no clue as how to pronounce the word.
	I see at least 3 choices, the correct one displayed at the site would be nice for all who visit it.



Number	Submission
75	I think ALL Australians should be acknowledged. A compromise would be to use English "Kookaburra" so that everyone can feel included and be able to pronounce and remember a name.
76	The name is too difficult to pronounce. Why not just call it Kookaburra lookout?
77	I am of the opinion that the word "Kookaburra" is better known and more reflective of the spot and acceptable to a majority of Australians. It is the primary word for the description of the selected location. An acknowledgment of the Aboriginal word in the local dialect might be printed on any seat plaque in brackets as well as any local signage.
78	No comment provided
79	It's beautiful to see more First Nations representation on the Northern Beaches through place naming. It would be wonderful if words came from more local language groups, Gayamaygal and Garigal, understanding there is difficulty confirming the languages and words used in the Northern Beaches area.
80	Please be advised that I make this comment without rancour or racism intent and, indeed, will be most offended if it is regarded as being underlying racist.
	I am sorry but I am so very, very tired of everything and anything having to have an aboriginal flavour to it: like we have to continually apologise and over compensate on the lot for disposessing them of "their country" in 1788 and beyond.
	When my family and I arrived here in 1950, all we could speak was Dutch. Australians spole English and there were no thousands of government paid interpreters waiting at your beck and call to help you with the Official language spoken here. When I recall those early days, the crystal clear memories are ones of VERY STEEP learning curves for the ClogWogs, Krauts, Greek Spics and Italian Dagos. None of this Multiculturalism. You had the S*#t kicked out of you until you became an Aussie and spoke "Stralian". It never hurt any one of us and, from all the old wogs I still know now, ALL of us are so glad to have been forcibly moulded into Australians and speaking English. My 3 kids don't know a single word of Dutch. I never taught them as WE SPEAK ENGLISH in this country.
	At my last foray into the Internet, it supposed that there were 250 different tribal languages in the aboriginal tribes around the country and some 600 to 800 different dialects of those language stems amongst clans within those tribes. I see no point in trying to maintain and even resurrect any of them.
	Hence, I would instead support the naming of the lookout the Kookaburra Lookout. If you look at Kookaburra as a word and in its structure and syllables, you have to be able to see that it is itself of aboriginal origin. However, that word is common enough to be regarded as the "correct" name for that speies of UNIQUELY AUSTALIAN bird. Every Australian and even a hell of a lot of the current immigrants know what a Kookaburra is. Leave it at that and don't complicate things further. We have far greater things to worry about than looking to plant an arcane name on a lookout.
81	Balgowla is an aboriginal name meaning North Harbour. Seems very appropriate.
82	No comment provided
83	Let's have no more of unpronounceable names.
	Leave names the way they are for the residents who live in our area
84	We already have far too many aboriginal place names. We are an english-speaking multi cultural nation. It does not make any sense to use unpronouncable place names.
85	Please leave name as is.
86	There really is no need to change what is currently a beautiful name to something that the majority of Australians would not understand or find relevant.



Number	Submission
	Please concentrate on the important issues we face, like over development, destruction of our environment, traffic and road issues etc. changing names for a park is petty and inconsequential.
87	I am tired of renaming everything to honouring aboriginals. How about we rename it to a local tax payer who has paid for the upkeep of the thing. All this renaming does 2 things. 1. it reinforces a victim mentality in the aboriginals which is a terrible thing to do to any people and makes them more dependent, 2. it is a waste of money that could be better spent on community housing for all races in this country who are poor not just the aboriginals. Please put the money into something like Old people off the streets, or community housing for aged care workers who have to travel 1.5 hrs each way to get to the beaches because the rents are too high here
88	I believe the name for the lookout should be 'Kookaburra Lookout'. Kookaburra is a word all Australians are familiar with, from early childhood up. It immediately conjures up the kingfisher itself and would assist and challenge persons in the area to be on the lookout for its presence. It is easier to pronounce than 'Guganagina', which probably conjures up nothing to the average person. According to Professor Jakelin Troy 'Kookaburra' is an Aboriginal word for 'Guuguuburra', and is used in Wiradjuri Country in Central NSW. The fact that it is not used in Sydney is, in my opinion, irrelevant.
89	I'm support in principle the naming using an indigenous word. My concern is that the site does not provide for visitors and is situated at the bend of a steep incline. The street location is very narrow and there is no parking within close walking distance. There are no facilities for more than a few people at a time to visit the site with very little standing room and no safety fencing. Simply, the site does not lend itself as a "lookout" and naming it as such reflects poor planning and invites future issues in safety and disruption. There would be many sites overlooking Manly in the area that could be designated as a lookout and named accordingly which arguably would far better provide for casual visitors.
90	Excellent idea as we have families of kookaburras around all the time. It is a lovely spot to relax and I have seen people using the seat already. As well as the aboriginal name please put the meaning on any sign
91	No comment provided
92	Love it! The more aboriginal words as names the better
93	This First Nations word is ideal and would be a great name for this very special place.
94	Excellent idea - I presume there will be some sort of explanatory plaque or the like, to enable viewers to access further information.
	Very appropriate name given the common presence of this great bird in the area ✓
95	Stop wasting money on nonsensical projects.
96	I think this is a wonderful proposal that is thoughtful and improves the area.
97	Kookaburra is a word everyone already knows, so what's wrong it? Not every word in English originates from England, so why does every Aboriginal word have to originate from the local tribe?
	There are over 250 Aboriginal languages, are we heading in a direction where every local area in Australia will have different Aboriginal words for the same thing and no-one will know what anything is?
	What is the actual benefit of choosing an obscure word that is hard to pronounce and nobody knows what it means?
	I've been through this name changing exercise in New Zealand, we did it 30 years ago and it's now a dog's breakfast, and they only have one indigenous language. Most people still don't know what half the words mean nor how to pronounce them, then if you get them wrong you get in trouble. It has just made everything more difficult. Let's try not to repeat those same mistakes.



Number	Submission	
98	No comment provided	
99	Yes!! It's time we recognise First Nations knowledges and language.	
100	No comment provided	
101	No comment provided	
102	The word "Guganagina" has no resonance with 99% of the people who live in the area nor who visit the site to enjoy the views. If the name of the lookout should be associated with the wonderful Kookaburra, why not call it "Kookaburra Lookout", a word that the 99% can relate to?	
103	If we look at the purpose of a name, it is to convey a location to others.	
	Given that the aboriginal languages are regional dialects, they have no inherent meaning, beyond a very small number of local peoples (those who directly speak the language).	
	Further, these words - never designed to be transliterated into English text - are difficult for most people to write and pronounce, thereby creating great difficulty in communicating a location to others.	
	A combination name, such as "Fraser Island (K'gari)" allows all to communicate a place name.	
104	No comment provided	
105	Why do we have to change the names of everything, nothing wrong with what we have and have had these names for ever. I am sick and tired of name changing to Aboriginal names.	
	It is not necessary to change, think of the money wasted when that money could help people in need.	
	I lived in Balgowlah for 24 years.	
106	This is a great idea. The more we replace colonial names with Indigenous ones, the more culturally safe we will make the Northern Beaches, an area with a dark colonial history. A big YES from me.	
107	I personally would like to see a name I can pronounce and spell.	
108	Many Australians are weary of this type of virtue signalling that is saturating our lives prior to the Voice referendum. The ABTI communities make up 3.5 % of our population, yet continually demand recognition, aided by councils & governments to avoid confrontational issues around race. English is our language of communication generally so why not keep the same meaning by naming the lookoutKookaburra View.	
109	I would like to make a suggestion re the naming or renaming of areas. Is it possible to have both the Aboriginal name and the English name used in conjunction with each other.	
110	Why is it that not only are we changing current names to Aboriginal names but it appears that ALL new names have to be Aboriginal. Just name it Kookaburra Lookout and then EVERYONE will know the name and actually be able to pronounce it. Honestly, we are totally over all this Woke Virtue Signalling.	
111	THIS IS JUST STUPID , MOST AUSTRALIANS CANNOT EVEN PRONOUNCE THE PROPOSED NAME .	
112	I strongly disagree with the proposed name for this lookout and it has no meaning in the English language.	
113	This country does not belong to the aboriginals who are less than 3% of the population, it belongs to all the citizens of Australia who know the meaning of 'Kookaburra'. The proposed new name would mean nothing to most people in Australia and to nearly all the people in the world. It is a name that is difficult to pronounce and difficult to remember. Please stop giving preference to the indigenous people of this country. It is time they realised they lost the Australia Wars to the British who had superior numbers and had superior weapons and they are very lucky it wasn't some other country that conquered them as they may not exist today.	



Number	Submission	
114	Why not name it the "Kookaburra" lookout, instead of the Aboriginal name. This would include all Australians in remembering the name.	
115	It's a pointless exercise. Stop wasting our money on stupid things like this.	
116	The name is kookundi for kookaburra I'm a traditional owner of this area please get it right	
117	No comment provided	
118	I am a Garigal man and a direct descendant of Bungaree. I am also an expert on language of the Garigal and write and song songs in language for our people. The Garigal language is part of the GuriNgai language group and the word for Kookaburra in language of the Garigal would be Kookundi - I support the proposal with this important language change to reflect the language of the Traditional owners of the country you are on.	
119	hi love the idea to name it kookaburra point but Gunganagina is the language south side of the harbour and not north. When you look in Jakelin Troy's book page 54 there is two names for kookaburra Gungangina and Kukundi, and Kukundi (Kookundi is the way I known it to be spelt) is the word for kookaburra north of the harbour. Great name but it needs to be correct the name or we are changing history just to have a Aboriginal name. cheers	
120	I support naming areas on the Northern Beaches with First Nations names and I congratulate you on your choice.	
121	I don't support this proposed name. It seems rediculous to me to give it a name that the vast majority of the population can't pronounce. If you wish to give it an aboriginal name give it one that wont be mispronounced as well as misunderstood.	
122	What's wrong with "Kookaburra"? It's Australian as you can get - everything does not need to be renamed for the sake of it.	
123	Submission 1:	
	WHY?????	
	Does it make the Northern Beachs Council feel all warm and cozy inside their WOKE thinking?	
	I've been a Manly Warringah "creature" for 67 yearsit has been "the look out at the end of Westyou know at the end of west st" for centuries and cause this NEW feeling of naming everything Aboriginal from our past and I mean our Australian past which includes ALL Australians be it black, white, yellow, orange or the colour of the rainbow YOU the Northern Beaches Council are taking OUR heritage away from we Australians!	
	HOW DARE YOU!!! Just to make you feel warm and fuzzy insideI KNOWwhat don't you call the Northern Beach's Council "Nimbukkuka Nimwits"then Everyone will know how dimwitted our Northern Beaches Council is!!	
	Submission 2:	
	WHY?	
	Why change the name to Guganagina Lookoutwhy not have Kookaburra Lookout, West St Lookout!	
	DO you think it's going to make this Council any better for the Aboriginal People or make this Council feel better for it, or is it the WOKE FACTOR again! STOP making AUSTRALIA fell guilty about itself and divide the nation into two Racesthem n us!	



Number	Submission	
	I can see we will end into our 2nd Civil War for this Nation since the first landing if this rot of "pacifying" the poor down trodden "First Nation" which is rot again as that comes from Canadajust leave well enough alone will you!	
124	Submission 1:	
	A great thing to do. Naming/re naming of sites on the Northern Beaches should take every opportunity to reflect First Nations heritage.	
	Submission 2:	
	Excellent proposal.	
125	Submission 1:	
125	I love the new name. It is about time we got an Aboriginal name. Aren't Aboriginal names supposed to be the priority when choosing new names as per council policy? Good choice	
	Submission 2:	
	Guganagina is a good name. The names should always be Aboriginal as per council policy which does not always happen unfortunately	
	Submission 3	
	I think the renaming of this lookout is perfect. We should have many more Aboriginal names as council policy says but does not always happen.	

Submissions Received Outside of Your Say

Number	Submission	
126	I absolutely do not want the name to be changed. Please keep the name as is. Regards,	
127	Dear Council, I write to object to the new naming proposal for the seated area in West St Balgowlah. My objection is that the word is too close to 'vagina'. I have said the name to my 3 (adult) children and they all said the same thing, unprompted by me. This has also come up on social media and I feel this needs to be seriously considered. I feel that this will be seen as disrespectful by the community. Please find an other name that cannot be misconstrued, or shortened to the Lookout at Balgowlah'. Why not just call it the West St Lookout, as that is what and where it is, and how it has been referred to by everyone long before there was a seat there. Regards	
128	I am in support of the idea. Think it is excellent, our history should be acknowledged and held on to for future generations.	
129	Hi, As kookaburra is already an indigenous word (Wiradjuri), I respectfully ask that it be called Kookaburra Lookout. A word that all of us can relate to. Thank you	
130	Dear , your plan to name the lookout at the top of Balgowlah with an aboriginal name rather than (Kookaburra); putting it in the simplest terms the Northern Beaches including Balgowlah is not an aboriginal settlement and apart from the fact that Kookaburra is an aboriginal name we/I don't need to have the aboriginal culture jammed down my throat from council do-gooders; I am sick of it! Jenny, if you need more proof have a look at the aboriginal proposed development in Frenchs Forest.	



Number	Submission
131	Where can I see the 34 submissions that have been lodged on this proposal Why not name it Kookaburra Lookout. This would have more recognition and acceptance that a word that most people will not be able to pronounce and will not know the meaning of.
132	Submission 1
	Where can I see the 34 submissions that have been lodged on this proposal.
	Submission 2
	Why not name it Kookaburra Lookout. This would have more recognition and acceptance that a word that most people will not be able to pronounce and will not know the meaning of.
133	Dear Council, I write in response to your letter of 2 June, referenced as above. I wish to make a submission. I respond as a local resident – I live just down the road in almost every day on my way down to Brimbecom Park or North Harbour Reserve. It's a lovely spot, my closest access to a great view of the Harbour.
	concerned with the furtherance of social justice and sustainability in the Northern Beaches LGA –
	Our local specifically supports the rights and aspirations of local First Nations people - including in place naming, as indicated in our meetings with Councillors. I, and specifically supports the rights and aspirations of local First Nations people - including in place naming, as indicated in our meetings with Councillors. I, and specifically supports the rights and aspirations of local First Nations people - including in place naming, as indicated in our meetings with Councillors. I, and specifically supports the rights and aspirations of local First Nations people - including in place naming, as indicated in our meetings with Councillors. I, and specifically supports the rights and aspirations of local First Nations people - including in place naming, as indicated in our meetings with Councillors. I, and specifically supports the rights and aspirations of local First Nations people - including in place naming, as indicated in our meetings with Councillors. I, and specifically supports the rights and aspirations of local First Nations traditional ownership of this land in the naming of the specified location.
	In keeping with what we understand to be the general wish of local First Nations people for such naming to follow a dual strategy to include English-language meanings, I/we propose the lookout should be named either "Guganagina-Kookaburra Lookout" or "Guganagina (Kookaburra) Lookout".
	We hope this can be accommodated in the proposal. As a resident I look forward very much to being gently reminded of our local land's First Nations heritage when I pass by the lookout. I'd be happy to be contacted via my mobile below for further discussion. Yours faithfully,
134	Hi, Why use Guanagina when that is not the local name? PC gone mad? Find out and use the local name, or just call it 'kookaburra'. If using an indigenous name, please put a plaque explaining the name, as most users of the lookout would be unaware of the import of it, and it would add to the ambience. Regards,
135	I do not want that name (can't even pronounce it!) Why not kookaburra?
136	Good Afternoon, I think Council should not be interfering so much with the renaming of streets,
100	parks and other open spaces on the Northern Beaches. The Aboriginal names are hard to pronounce and read and jumping on the woke bandwagon to appease some minorities is not proactive. Leave our long term named spaces and streets alone and perhaps focus on more important issues.
137	Balgowlah was named in 1832 after an 'Aboriginal word' meaning North Harbour That was/is probably more meaningful to the Indigenous people. Why change it?
138	Hi there, the proposed site is a neat little place, indigenous naming is appropriate, I didn't know the local dialect name for Kookaburra. Perhaps the local Aboriginal Heritage Office should choose the name. If someone said meet you at Kookaburra lookout, then I'd likely associate the name with the place whereas I'm going to struggle with the Guganagina association. I can only find the word Kookaburra for "Kookaburra Rock" lookout in SA, so there shouldn't be any confusion locally if you arranged to meet someone at Kookaburra lookout.
139	A step back in history has been achieved by Council's installation of an outdoor seat from which to observe Manly from this scenic spot and for this reason, Council should be congratulated. The area along this ridge of Balgowlah, for many years was known by the theatrical term as "the



Submission Number Dress Circle" having such desirable views over manly. When my family moved here in 1965 to from the newly installed seat) we have the pleasure of enjoying unrivalled views. Since then, trees, shrubs and vines have taken over the area owned by the Council and it has become a wasteland. Council used to carry out regular care with its bushland staff end engage a team of arborists to maintain the area which was appreciated by the public, some even bringing their coffee to eat in lunch breaks. Since then sometimes the steps down to Woodland Street have been so neglected and overgrown, that locals have had to ring Council to clear them and render them safe to use. Attached is a poem I wrote some years ago, to describe and honour the first people who occupied this area, no doubt some would have witnessed Governor Phillip's encounter when he was speared by a local man who Phillip described as of Manly appearance. The large birds like Kookaburras, Magpies and Currawongs have been dominant in this area and naming the seat Guganagina Lookout, to my mind, is a perfect choice. MOONLIGHT OVER MANLY. Manly was indeed, the perfect place Provisioned with seafood and game, A homeland of the Koori Race Its natural beauty is still the same. A bright Full Moon is rising In ethereal majesty, As I look down on Manly And beyond, towards the sea. By ferry, come the revellers To taste of Manly's cheer, The restaurants, choice of hotels And endless mugs of beer. I never hear this cacophony It's all so quiet up here. Where ancient tribes took shelter Carrying Coolamon and Spear. Here on the Heights, their spirits dwell Resting, noble and proud, Secluded, quiet and peaceful Away from the Madding Crowd. 140 I am writing in regard to the naming proposal re Guganagina Lookout, Balgowlah. I refer to the name "Guganagina" which is supposed to mean Kookaburra. The word KOOKABURRA is an Aboriginal word. The word Guganagina is not listed as part of the Aboriginal language. My reference is a book called "Aboriginal Words of Australia" by AH and WA Reed. Why not just call the lookout KOOKABURRA LOOKOUT? That is the real word and it is Aboriginal. It is simple and descriptive. 141 As a ratepayer and long term resident of the Balgowlah /Seaforth area I wish to give my full support to the suggested naming of the West street/Upper Beach lookout - being that of Guganagina Lookout. I think the name is most appropriate in both recognition our original Australians and the native bird life that frequents the area. 142 Online submission not working. This name is impossible to pronounce. My proposal West Seat (play on west street) 143 Thanks for opportunity to comment. The lookout should be named "Kookaburra Lookout" which is already an Aboriginal name. 144 Re: Naming proposal - Guganagina (Kookaburra) Lookout, Balgowlah. Love the name



Number Submission

145 Dear Northern Beaches Council

Thankfully, I have been advised by a neighbour of this proposed renaming proposal and now have the opportunity to lodge a submission in response.

I am opposed to this renaming proposal on the following grounds:

- The Aborigines do not and never have had a written language
- There were a number of aboriginal tribes in the Sydney area one only has to review the number of areas cited by the ABC every evening the news each has a different way of pronunciation, just as there are different ways of pronunciation in every language
- There appears to be no reference to the source of the word 'kookaburra' the name is a loanword from Wiradjuri guuguubarra.onomatopoeic of its call. The loud, distinctive call of the laughing kookaburra is widely used as a stock sound effect in situations that involve an Australian bush setting or tropical jungle, especially in older movies.
- My research from various sources shows that the voice of the kookaburra is a raucous 'kookoo-ka-ka-kook chorus, with a warning call of 'kooaa' (Guuguubarra is a Parna-Nyungan language of the Wiradhuric subgroup. It is the traditional language of the Wiradjuri people of Australia which people are originally from the land that is bordered by the Lachlan, Macquarie and Murrumbidgee rivers in Central NSW. The name Wiradjuri mans 'people of the three rivers' and traditionally these rivers were the primary source of food for the Wiradjuri people.
- The distinctive sound of the laughing kookaburra's call resembles human laughter, is widely used in filmmaking and television productions, as well as certain Disney theme-park atractions, regardless of African, Asian, or South American jungle settings. Kookaburras have also appeared in several video games including Lineage II, Battleloads and World of Warcraft. The children's television series Splatalot includes an Australian character called "Kookaburra" (or "Kook") whose costume includes decorative wings that recall the bird's plumage, and who is noted for his distinctive, high-pitched laugh.
- Olly the Kookaburra was one of the three mascots chosen for the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney. The other mascots were Millie the Echidna and Syd the Platypus.
- The call of a kookaburra nicknamed "Jacko" was for many years used as the morning opening them by ABC radio stations and for Radio Australia's overseas broadcasts.
- Who is going to sit on the 'old gum tree' now or will we now have to change that song
 which is learnt by every child in school? It is a well known children's song written in 1932 by
 Marion Sinclair and I'm sure that Council Members are familiar with it. It was even the subject of
 a copyright court case with the group "Men at Work"
- "Well the kookaburra laughed..." appeared in the song "Old Man Emu" by John Williamson.
- Our postage stamps reflect our heritage and honors the kookaburra:
- A six-pence stamp was issued in 1914
- o A three-pence commemorative Australian stamp was issued for the 1928 Melbourne International Philatelic Exhibition
- A six-pence stamp was issued in 1932
- o A 38c Australian Stamp issued in 1990 features a pair of kookaburras
- o An international \$1.70 Australian stamp featuring an illustrated kookaburra was released in 2013
- o A \$1.10 laughing kookaburra stamp issued in 2020



Number Submission

In sport:

- o the Australian 12 meter yacht "Kookaburra III lost the America's Cup in 1987
- o The Australian men's national field hockey team is named after the kookaburra. They were world champions in field hockey in 1986, 2010 and 2014.
- Australian sports equipment company "Kookaburra Sport" is named after the bird
- The word 'kookaburra' is recognized throughout the world as our kingfisher the 'laughing kookaburra'
- I am proud of my heritage proud of my country proud that I am Australian and proud to be recognized as an Australian whenever and wherever I travel both in Australia and overseas. I want that to continue but I want to be able to pronounce the birds of Australia and tell everyone about them and everyone I meet has heard about our famed 'kookaburra' and knows its call will anyone including Australians recognize of use the nomenclature 'guganagina'?

Our son has worked with the Aborigine community in Western Australia and the Northern Territory for many years and they are not concerned in any way about renaming 'kookaburras' or many other animals or things – they are more concerned with getting on with their lives in a peaceful and harmonious way.

Does this mean that Council will consider renaming the suburbs of 'Manly' will end up being renamed because it doesn't accord with what the Aborigines called it before Captain Phillip named it 'Manly' after the manly aborigines he first caught sight of in the area, the suburb of Brookvale, Dee Why, Palm Beach etc? Or should we rename Sydney or Botany Bay to the names that the Aborigines called them before the First Fleet arrived? I sincerely hope not – in life, we must move forward and learn from the past – not rename so as to dwell in the past. Life does go forward.

Doesn't Northern Beaches Council have better things to do with its time and money than change the name of a lookout?

Simply put – the bird named "Kookaburra" is recognized throughout the world. It has been so named because it is an onomatopeouic name reflecting it's laughing and raucous call and reflects the name given to it by the Aboriginal people who had no written language. "Guganagina" does not appear from my research to be the correct or appropriate name for this world renowned bird. To rename "Kookaburra Lookout" to "Guganagina Lookout" would be insensitive to Aboriginals, to the current residents of the area and to Australians, and to the world in general. It would also represent a waste of money in these harsh economic times.

I am strongly opposed to the renaming of this lookout and wish it to remain as "Kookaburra Lookout", and I feel the kookaburras who reside in this area would as well!

Can I humbly suggest that a better use of money would be to address the crash bar in front of the look out seat which prevents easy access to the seating area. The crash bar has been so installed as to prevent easy access to the public seating by older citizens who, more than likely, are the ones who would use this lookout.

I look forward to your response.

146 Dear

I hope I am not too late to comment on this proposal. I am close to this lookout and would like to have my say.

I feel that the use of this word to name the lookout is not ideal for the following two reasons:

1. Jakelin Troy's book "The Sydney Language" has been updated at least two times since the early edition in the 1930's with the "Sydney" language. The name Guganagina may well not



Number	Submission	
	be the tribal name for that portion of Balgowlah as there we now know that there are three tribal names for what was called the Sydney language by early settlers.	
	2. The word Guganagina is quite close in sound in English to a part of the female genitalia. The sign placed in a prominent area may well encourage graffiti to "correct" the name to its English homophone.	
	The name Kookaburra Lookout may well be the best name for it, as Kookaburra is the aboriginal word for this laughing bird in the biggest NSW tribal language. In Gamilaraay, the language of this area, the word for Kookaburra is "Gugurrgaagaa" which as you can probably guess, is only another spelling for what is the same word.	
	Kind regards	
147	Hi	
	Yes ran the name past my sisters, they are happy with it and yes Jackys book is one of the better references	
	All the best, and thanks for contacting me	
148	Phone submission – file note:	
	Supportive of it's a Darug word.	
	Supportive of more Aboriginal namings and dual namings.	
	Would like interpretive signage to go with it. Not just a QR code.	
149	Phone submission – file note:	
	Support for using the word kookundi which is the Guringai word.	



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Notes	Community and stakeholder views contained in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Beaches Council or indicate a commitment to a particular course of action.	

