

# WEST WARD MONTHLY ROUND-UP

*The WW Monthly Roundup combines the Agenda for our meetings with the former WW Bytes. We have included summary information on each item as well as fuller details in the Appendix.*

**Chatswood West Ward Progress Association  
Monthly ZOOM meeting - 7:30 PM Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

*The meeting is open to members only.  
If you wish to join CWWPA follow instructions on the bottom of our email*

**Acknowledgement to country:** "We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and show our respect to their elders past and present".

**Some changes:** The Secretary recently proposed some changes that the Committee has agreed to. These include the cessation of the monthly WW Bytes replaced by the WW Monthly Roundup. The Roundup also serves as the Agenda for our monthly meeting and subsequently the basis for the Minutes of the meeting. The Monthly Roundup will be placed on our website as the Latest News. Minutes are only sent to members of the Association.

The Monthly Roundup includes a summary statement for most matters for those similar to what was in the WW Bytes. Fuller details on matters are included in the Appendix of the Agenda.

**Declarations of interest:**

**Members Present:**

**Apologies:** Consistent with 'Members Present' only the number of apologies will be minuted.

**MOVE that the MINUTES** of the September meeting be adopted. Moved: Secretary, Seconded: President.

**Treasurer's report:** The Treasurer to speak to his report. Move that the September 2020 Treasurer's reports be accepted. Moved: Treasurer. Seconded: Secretary.

## REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

**Written reports have previously been requested from Councillors. Any received late will be distributed with the minutes. Otherwise they are incorporated in the Roundup.**

## FEDERATION OF WILLOUGHBY PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS

**The Federation is the peak body of the nine Progress Associations active throughout Willoughby City. It lobbies Council on matters that affect local communities.**

Detailed responses from Council of matters raised by the Federation at its last meeting with Council are included elsewhere in this Roundup.

## MEETING WITH MAYOR

Once a quarter, the Presidents of Federation Progress Associations meet with the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer for an update.

The last meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> September. The following matters were discussed. Details responses received from Council on many of these matters are included in this Roundup.

- COVID 19 recovery has consequences. 3 times more staff needed for library. Closures for cleaning.
- Willoughby Leisure Centre redevelopment proceeding. Currently only 20 a time. Extra small pools are better option than 50m pool operationally. e.g when a pool needs to be closed down (Code Brownout).. Webinar available.
- Staff have developed an 11-step community engagement procedure
- Mayor met Minister for Health: LG key part of COVID response. Still need caution e.g. no meeting longer than 1 hr.
- Consultative committees being contacted about preferred meeting mode
- Council uses a hybrid meeting mode - in chamber plus some by ZOOM. More Councillors seem to be engaging in briefing via remote access
- Meeting with Transport NSW re Harbour Tunnel and Northern Beaches EIS (no firm date for release). Concerns expressed about privatisation of buses. Assurances given Information imminent.
- Transport NSW no thinking about Interchange. Mayor agreed to work with CWWPA when a response is received from the Minister.
- New LG EPA reference Group for northern rea chaired by CEO. Looking at the waste stream
- Review of notifications policy starting shortly. Driven by community participation plan (policy link to be sent by CEO). Community engagement after October
- Council claims to be part of NSW Planning portal but conceded problems because Council's Pathway system is not compatible.
- Crows Nest/St Leonards plan. Some concerns.
- Possible high rise school on RNSH site. Concern re impact on Gore Hill Oval. Concern re use of RNSH land for commercial use
- Northbridge PA is undertaking a local centres consultation for the Plaza and carpark
- Questions regarding the future status of government bus depots. Taken on notice'.
- Contract for recladding The Concourse let (\$8m) funded from sinking reserve fund of \$15m.
- An economic development manager has been employed. Initial focus on COVID recovery.
- Chatswood East PA has no officers, just a committee. Phil Dunbar is stepping down.
- It was pointed out that all traffic management on local streets is controlled by RMS (Transport NSW Roads) not Council (refer Willoughby Traffic Committee). 40kml zones used in high pedestrian usage areas



## GOVERNANCE

### ADVISORY COMMITTEES:

**For many years Council relied on a number of community advisory committees for feedback on many issues such as bushland, heritage, bicycles, cats and dogs etc, Since the arrival of the new CEO there were proposals to disband the committee. We have been strenuously advocating their retention.**

At its last meeting on September 14, Council resolved to discuss the recommencement of Advisory and Reference Committee meetings with community members, but without any timeframe. Have these timeframes now been set, and if so, what would they be?

Subsequently, Council Officers have canvassed Committee members asking their preferred mode of meeting.

### Ease of use of Council's website.

**There is a wealth of information on Council's website. Sometimes it is difficult to find information or in a timely matter.**

We recently wrote to Council asking for a more user friendly approach. We received the following response:

Just letting you know that we have enhanced our web page and now have a subscribe feature.

If you go to the Council meetings page <https://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-meetings/General-Council-Meetings>

There is a subscribe button at the bottom of the page which you'll need to click and enter your email address. You will receive an email immediately which you will need to press the 'confirm' button to finalise the process. Once this is done you should receive notifications every time the page is updated.

We should be able to introduce this feature for some of the other committee meeting agenda's too.

## MAJOR LEGISLATION CHANGES

**Councils are constituted by the NSW State Council has to seek approval from the government before enacting their policies.**

### Chatswood CBD Urban Design Strategy:

**The Chatswood CBD is the land and development on both sides of the railway line at Chatswood Station – west to the Pacific Highway and east to Chatswood Chase. The strategy will form the basis for the next Local Environmental Plan (LEP). The LEP is the planning instrument that defines what types of development can occur. The western CBD is largely commercial whereas the east CBD has a large amount of retail premises. We understand that the CBD LEP will be part of the wider whole of Willoughby LEP currently in preparation.**

The strategy was adopted by Council but a rescission motion has been lodged that includes inter alia:

**Reviewing the interface area bounded along the Chatswood CBD – South Chatswood Conservation Area until such time as Council with the concerned residents of the South Chatswood Conservation Area have had an opportunity to further refine the potential development controls and a report tabled to Council by December 2020.**

## **Industrial lands strategy - Epping Road, Lane Cove North**

**There is a small section of land zoned industrial use in West Ward facing Epping Rd.**

The key recommendations in the final ILS for the Epping Road Lane Cove North industrial area is to retain the existing zoning and to work with Lane Cove Council to prepare specific Development Controls for the site at 170 Epping Road, which has been decommissioned as a starch mill. The final ILS supports the proposed Lane Cove River Foreshore Link at 168-170 Epping Road, which is designed to provide a safe linkage between the north and south of Epping Road. It is intended to develop a riparian protection area in conjunction with pedestrian access improvements. This will assist revegetation and foreshore rehabilitation along parts of this River frontage, while optimising some existing infrastructure to enhance community access and site amenity. Links to the Lane Cove Council reserves will also be strengthened. Specific points along the River have been assessed to ensure the continuation of safe and ecologically sensitive links.

### **DEVELOPMENT**

**In conjunction with the Federation of Willoughby Progress Associations we have been working with Council on updating their community notification process when development proposals and applications are lodged. We have received additional clarification information from Council.**

Please refer to details in the Appendices.

### **Chatswood Education Precinct**

**The Department of Education is upgrading facilities at Chatswood High School and Chatswood Public School.**

The Department's Response to Submissions is available at: <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/10561>

Due to the complexity of submissions it is difficult to provide a synoptic analysis of the responses.

### **HERITAGE**

**We have four Conservation areas - Blue Gum; Findlay and Wyvern; North Chatswood and South Chatswood. We also have over fifty heritage listed buildings.**

Currently the heritage listed property at 9 Centennial Ave is being restored and developed.

### **OPEN SPACE**

#### **Community Use of Sports Facilities Policy**

**Many sports facilities operate on a shared use basis with the local community able to access them under certain conditions. For example, walking dogs or other recreation on the perimeter of a sporting fields. The Draft policy fails to enshrine such rights.**

The draft policy went to Council last Monday prior to exhibition. We petitioned our Ward Councillors, the Mayor and the CEO for changes to the policy before exhibition. (Refer Appendix for details) The changes included additional definitions and a request to enshrine the local communities' right to use facilities where appropriate.

We received the following from Clr. Saville:

I thank former councillor Mr. Terry Fogarty to writing to council regarding 15.7. I note he makes a number of requests including clarification before the draft goes on public exhibition. IMO his suggestions are extremely helpful and very reasonable.



Please advise, before the meeting on Monday, how these amendments can be made to the document before it comes to council and/or public exhibition?

I would be happy to move/support the inclusions at council if needed.

We then received a response from a Council Officer who said that additional definitions would be included in the policy. However, the policy was still silent on enshrining the local communities' right to access sporting facilities (such as ovals) when they are not being used or partially when they are being used. So wrote back to Clr. Saville requesting such an inclusion (refer Appendix).

### **Chatswood Rotary athletics field**

**The field is on the Lane Cove River near the Epping Highway. It was originally constructed with support from local Rotary. It includes a specialised athletics track and a pontoon for access to the river.**

The draft Master Plan has been on exhibition. The comments and changes are outlined below:

No.	ISSUE	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	DESIGN RESPONSE
1	A larger boat storage facility with good access.	20	This can be considered in the design of the new single structure to replace the three existing buildings.
2	Improved and larger shower and change room facilities.	13	
3	Improved pontoon access.	10	The existing pontoon can be accessed by the boardwalk and by stone steps. Any improvements or alterations to the pontoon require the approval of the Roads and Maritime Services and is out of the scope for this plan. Changes to the pontoon can be applied for separately by the kayak club or other water craft users.
4	Increase the size of the pontoon.	7	
5	Make the 400m track synthetic.	7	The 400m track will remain as a natural turf surface as supported by the athletics club as the track is a district sports facility.
6	Provide a larger car park to accommodate Athletics and paddlers simultaneously and for athletics carnivals.	15	There are currently 91 spaces in the car park with little option to expand the car park area.
7	Improved lighting in car park.	10	Additional car park lighting is proposed in the <i>Master Plan</i> .

### **TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT**

**Apart from road maintenance and the installation of parking signs by Council, it is the State Government which is responsible for the majority of transport and traffic infrastructure. All traffic matters are handled by their Willoughby Traffic Committee comprising Council, the Police and Transport representatives.**

**Local pedestrian safety:** We recently wrote to Council regarding pedestrian Safety at Southeast and Southwest corner of Albert Ave and Archer St – awaiting response.

**Chatswood Transport Interchange:** We are awaiting a response from the state government on their plans for the Interchange. When this is received, the Mayor has agreed to meet with us to discuss the issue.

**Shared pathway bridge Mowbray Road: This related to a condition of consent that requires the creation of a shared path on the Mowbray Rd rail bridge.** We have written to Sydney Metro seeking an update on their plans for the bridge. We received the following response:

Please be advised the CWWPA motion is noted.  
Council is advocating for the provision of a new shared path bridge across the rail corridor along the northern side of Mowbray Road to replace the Nelson Street bridge removed to support the construction of the Sydney Metro City and Southwest project. Council is liaising with Sydney Metro City and Southwest and promoting the provision of this new facility as part of a package of active transport improvements to support the future bicycle and pedestrian demands in the locality. Council would participate in a design process for this new shared path bridge should it be requested.

**Planning Proposal amendment 1A-29 Bowen St & 6-18 Moriarty Rd, Chatswood. Major increases in height and residential density are being sought for this site.** We wrote to Council for clarification and received the following response:

Council considered this PP in May 2019, when it was endorsed for sending to the DPIE seeking Gateway approval.

Gateway approval was finally granted in May 2020 allowing the proposal to be placed on public exhibition. It is currently on exhibition with the period extending until 8 Oct 2020.

Following exhibition, the matter will again be reported to Council, outlining submissions received and recommending whether the proposal should continue to re-zoning.

At this stage no Council meeting date for this has been agreed.

**Chatswood Golf Club: The club is proposing to build seniors apartment and reconfigure the course. Unfortunately, due to bushfire threat, 255 trees will need to be removed.** We wrote to Council expressing our concerns.

We received the following response from Council:

After careful consideration, this email has been lodged as a submission, from the Progress Association, for DA 2020/117 and forwarded to the Development Assessing Officer for their attention when assessing the viability of all aspects of the DA.

I trust this is a suitable plan of action for the Association.

I will file this email under Submission for DA 2020/117 and this will put the Association on the list for notification of any changes. Please also check Council website and DA tracking for any updates.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

### Long Day Care

**Council runs a number of day care facilities. There are always questions as to why Council competes with the private sector. Often the private sector will not provide all the services needed by the community at an acceptable price.**

Council is to endorse recommended changes to the provision of Council's Childrens' Services which seek to secure the long term viability of services.

2. OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION - That Council:



1. Adopt a phased increase to Devonshire Street Children's Centre Long Day Care fees in the 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years as outlined in section 4.2 of the report in order to support the long term viability and equitable provision of the service.
2. Place the proposed fee changes Chatswood CBD – Long Day Care Fees and Proposed Fee Increase on public exhibition for 28 days.
3. Receive a report on the outcomes of the public exhibition.
4. Endorse the cessation of Before School Care at Artarmon Kids Cottage due to low patronage and projected further reduction in demand.
5. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make any necessary

Correspondence **OUT/IN** – handled in Agenda.

**Our scheduled ZOOM member meetings are:**

- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020
- Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Meeting closed:**

# APPENDICES

## ADVISORY COMMITTEES:

For many years Council relied on a number of community advisory committees for feedback on many issues such as bushland, heritage, bicycles, cats and dogs etc, Since the arrival of the new CEO there were proposals to disband the committee. We have been strenuously advocating their retention.

At its last meeting on September 14, Council resolved to discuss the recommencement of Advisory and Reference Committee meetings with community members, but without any timeframe. Have these timeframes now been set, and if so, what would they be?

Subsequently, Council Officers have canvassed Coomittee members asking there preferred mode of meeting.

At the 14 September meeting officers advised Council that we would do what we could to facilitate committee meetings to commence as soon as possible but that adherence to the Public health orders still needed to be followed. This is likely to mean that in most cases face to face meetings may not be suitable. To this end Council's governance team are contacting committee members to identify their capacity for video conferencing. Once we understand committee member's technological capability or constraints we can identify how each committee can meet without breaching public health orders. We are committed to reporting to Council within a month.

As further advised by the Mayor at the meeting, in accordance with advice from the Health Minister meetings should be less than one hour in duration to reduce the risk of infection and to avoid the compulsory lock down of all committee members should someone in the group test positive. Video conferencing is the preferred method but if meetings are conducted face to face (which is not desirable) then the 4 square metre rule and 1.5metre distancing measures must be observed.

In addition Council has explained the status their community engagement policy:

The Willoughby Community Engagement Procedure (WCEP) is an internal operational process which guides staff through eleven steps to design, implement and evaluate a community consultation plan appropriate to the engagement needs of a project or decision. The procedure is electronic (rather than a document) and resides on Council's intranet. It is used for staff training and development purposes. Public documents, which have been the subject to community consultation and Council endorsement are on the Council's website, namely:

- Willoughby Community Engagement Policy
- Willoughby Community Participation Plan WCPP (mandatory timelines, engagement methods and notifications for planning functions under the EP&A Act)

Council Officers are now in the process of contacting committee members regarding the recommencement of advisory committee meetings.

## DEVELOPMENT NOTIFICATION PROCESSES

### 1. The scope of the review (i.e. will it be broader than the DA notification process)

The Review of Planning Notification Procedures has just commenced. It's a 2020/21 Business Improvement Project scheduled for completion in June 2021. Key steps and milestones in the review include:

The **Review of Planning Notification Procedures** is in its early scoping and legislative review phase. The review is not limited to the notification of DA's and DA modifications. It



will also will consider the adequacy of current notification processes and recommend opportunities for improvement for other planning matters including:

- Local Strategic Planning Statement
- Willoughby LEP
- Development Control Plans
- Planning Proposals subject to gateway determination
- Infrastructure contributions policy and plans
- Environmental impact statements
- Reclassification of public land
- Draft Planning Agreements
- Major planning strategies

**Review of Planning Notification Procedures - Project Objective:**

- Reduce time delays associated with over-all notification processes
- Maximise easy access to relevant documents for community
- Digitalise notification processes as far as possible
- Satisfy all legal requirements
- Encourage community use of digitally based consultation methods
- Automate notification process as much as possible
- Efficient and cost effective use of Administration resources

**2. Could Council please send a link/copy of WCC's DA policy, process and officer procedures?**

The current procedure, the *Willoughby Community Participation Plan* is accessible on Council's website at

[https://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/files/sharedassets/public/ecm/willoughby-council-website/publications-reports-master-plans-strategies-action-plans/publications-reports-master-plans-strategies-action-plans/wcc\\_community\\_participation\\_plan\\_25june2020.pdf](https://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/files/sharedassets/public/ecm/willoughby-council-website/publications-reports-master-plans-strategies-action-plans/publications-reports-master-plans-strategies-action-plans/wcc_community_participation_plan_25june2020.pdf)

You may also be interested in the Community Information Seminar held on 26 August 2019, where Greg McDonald presented 'Planning Made Easy'. You can watch the full presentation here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=171&v=3U8G6gtJ9\\_M&feature=emb\\_title](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=171&v=3U8G6gtJ9_M&feature=emb_title)

**3. Given Council is thinking of changing the process, has Council considered/identified best practice from other Australian local governments?**

Yes, undertaking the review, Council will consider best practice and will be researching, and be informed by, notification systems used by other councils.

**4. The FWPA is keen to be actively engaged in the review given members have raised numerous issues with the DA process. Could we please discuss how the Federation can be involved?**

After completion of the legislation review at the end of October, consultation with stakeholders, including the Federation of Willoughby Progress Associations, will be undertaken in late November/early December to consider notification needs and opportunities. Our Planning Process and Contributions Specialist, Sylvania Mok will contact the FWPA to arrange an appropriate meeting/webinar format to gather input and discuss opportunities.

Issues with individuals in their DA process were raised. Any issues with the DA Process should be referred to the appropriate Planner/Assessment officer. If the outcome is felt to be unsatisfactory their Planning Manager, Ian Arnott should be contacted. By Presidents referring these matters to our attention, we are given the opportunity to address them.

A further matter was raised relating to the DPIE portal (please refer to the Additional Information section for more details).

**Additional Information on Planning and Planning Portal:**

WCC is on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) portal which has applied to all Metro Councils since July 2020.

All information on lodgements – DA's, (including modifications) CDC's, Sydney North Planning Panel SNPP, concurrence and referrals is available through this portal. However officers are still

accepting paper-based DA's until the end of 2020 to enable those without technology skills to become accustomed to the new process. Planning Proposals are not currently online at this portal but are expected to be available in the near future.

All paper and electronic based DA's are put on Council's website on a regular basis. You can use this link to access Council's ePlanning system  
<https://eplanning.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/pages/xc.track/searchapplication.aspx>.

Under DA Tracker on the website Landing Page, under Application Search, there is an option in the menu to find out what is currently on Exhibition. Clicking this takes you to another list of options including search by suburb – see screenshot below. More fulsomely, you can search for applications by suburb, address, DA number, what's on exhibition, DA's received and DA's determined. You can also search for applications about tree removal.

The screenshot shows the 'ePlanning Portal' interface. At the top left is the Willoughby City Council logo. The main header is 'ePlanning Portal'. Below this is a green bar with the text 'Applications on Exhibition'. The main content area is titled 'Applications on Exhibition' and includes a search sidebar on the left and search results on the right. The sidebar has sections for 'Find an Application' (By address, By number), 'Find a Property' (By address), 'On Exhibition' (On exhibition), 'Received Applications' (This Week, Last Week, This Month, Last Month), and 'Determined Applications' (This Week, Last Week, This Month, Last Month). The search results show '2 applications found' for the suburb 'Naremburn'. The first application is 'DA-2019/264/A' with details: 'Section 4.55 - Modification of Consent - Modify original proposal to enlarge pool and decking, changes to carport, removal of brick chimney, landscaping, addition of fence and sliding gate and associated works. Address: 65 Mitchell Street NAREMBURN NSW 2065. [More]'. The second application is 'DA-2020/218' with details: 'Notification (Category A/B) - Alterations and additions to garage to convert roof space to studio/rumpus room. Address: 2 Grandview Street NAREMBURN NSW 2065. [More]'. The footer contains copyright information and links for 'Legal | Email'.

We appreciate the interest in being able to get alerts about development applications for properties in your area. The GIS component of the portal is not currently available to WCC due to compatibility and functionality issues with our current IT systems. However, we are rolling out a new corporate system in stages and the GIS component will be integrated at this time.

Another way to get information is via a platform called Planning Alerts which can be accessed at <https://www.planningalerts.org.au/> It's a free service and once you've subscribed, it will automatically send you email alerts about DA's in areas defined by you.

### Item 15.7 Community Use of Sports Facilities Policy

The draft policy went to Council prior to exhibition. We petitioned our Ward Councillors, the Mayor and the CEO for changes to the policy before exhibition. (Refer Appendix for details) The changes included additional definitions and a request to enshrine the local communities' right to use facilities where appropriate.



The CWWPA has concerns regarding the lack of basic clarity in the Draft Community Use of Sports Facilities Policy (Item 15.7 12 October 2020 meeting of Council).

**We ask that the policy be amended to address the concerns expressed below BEFORE PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

The policy lacks crucial definitions such as:

Community – residents and ratepayers of Willoughby?

Currently we understand that Willoughby sports facilities are hired and used by organisations external to the Willoughby community.

So is policy about really the wider community use of Willoughby Sports facilities?

There is a need to define subsets of communities. For example non-organised use of sports facilities. Such as casual use of facilities by residents and ratepayers when public facilities are not alienated by private sporting organisations. So perhaps there needs to be a section on Use of sporting facilities by residents and ratepayers.

What is a 'local' community?

What is a 'district' community? What district(s)

Definition of 'region'?

Definitions of 'recreation' and of 'sport' also are lacking. (Sport being one subset of recreation).

The definition of a 'sports facility' is so wide that it covers every form of open space in Willoughby e.g. a recreational playground, walking trails through bushland, footpaths. Is this intended and appropriate.

It is stated that the Policy applies to:

- the Leisure Centre
- additional synthetic sportsgrounds
- Gore Hill Sports Centre
- Renewals of existing sports facilities

This implies that the Policy does not apply to all other sporting facilities including other additional facilities. Is this the intended application of the policy?

There is no definition of 'community' provided. What community? What subset communities? For instance, we know that communities external to Willoughby can hire Willoughby facilities.

Public sporting facilities occupy land either owned or managed by Council. As such they are ONE FORM of recreation that may utilize these lands. With many of these facilities there is demand, and expectation that non-organised recreational users should also have equitable access to these lands. This precept should be enshrined in the policy.

The policy should allow for additional state government lands to be managed by Council (not just the Department of Education).

**The policy claims to be Honest, transparent and accountable (p.113)** how is this strategy outcome assured where the recommendation is that procedures be developed without community participation? In particular, the Line Marking Policy is crucial to the provide access to non-sporting individuals or groups on the perimeter of playing fields.

The Policy should overtly enshrine the right of non-organised residents and ratepayers to have an equitable right to use facilities without paying a fee.

**Council policies**

What is the relationship between the draft policy and

- Council's Asset Management Policy?
- Community facilities hire policy?
- Lease of Tennis Courts policy
- Sporting fields policy
- Other aspects of the sporting ovals policy
- Tennis courts policies (various)
- Use of council sportsgrounds, parks and reserves policy

The relative weight to be given to policies, plans of management, plans, management plans, action plans cited on page 4 of the policy is unclear in the documentation. Which takes precedence?

### Response from Council

Casey, Angela

Fri, Oct 9, 2:00 PM (4 days ago)

to Secretarycwwpa@gmail.com, COUNCILLORS, Debra

Dear Terry,

Thank you for your email concerning Item 15.7 of the 12 October Council Agenda.

A review of Council policies is currently underway to ensure all policies are consistent with the Council's Community Strategic Plan and policy framework. The draft policy is proposed as a high level statement of intent as the management detail concerning sports facilities in the City is contained in *the Sports Facilities Plan of Management 2020*.

Given the feedback from the CWWPA, it is reasonable that the draft policy could include more definitions in the Appendix- four examples of definitions follow:

- a) With respect to a definition of 'community':  
The Council's CSP 2028 refers to 'residents, visitors and workers' (pg 4 , 2<sup>nd</sup> para) as the group that was consulted over many months to develop the CSP.
- b) Community sport: means organised sport activities that cater to local and district sport clubs and associations - as opposed to premier league and state level sport activities.
- c) Local and district level: means the sports users within the Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils.
- d) Sports facilities: the definition on page 5 of the Policy can be expanded to include the wording indoor and outdoor facilities that facilitate the playing of a sport.

An expanded list of definitions will be included in the Councillors' Pinks.

Please find responses to your additional questions below.

1. It is stated that the Policy applies to:
  - the Leisure Centre
  - additional synthetic sportsgrounds
  - Gore Hill Sports Centre



- Renewals of existing sports facilities

This implies that the Policy does not apply to all other sporting facilities including other additional facilities. Is this the intended application of the policy?

*The policy states at 3. Application- to all sport facilities – both indoor and outdoor- in the WLGA*

2. Public sporting facilities occupy land either owned or managed by Council. As such they are ONE FORM of recreation that may utilize these lands. With many of these facilities there is demand, and expectation that non-organised recreational users should also have equitable access to these lands. This precept should be enshrined in the policy.

*‘Sport facilities’ such as playing fields were developed for organised sport. As such, organised sport groups have priority over non-organised recreation users. When many of our ovals and sportsgrounds are not in use by organised sports hirers, the community makes great use of these sites for a large variety of passive and informal recreation activities.*

3. The policy should allow for additional state government lands to be managed by Council (not just the Department of Education).

*Currently Department of Education Land is the only State Government managed by Council that is available for sport. The policy will be updated should this change.*

4. The policy claims **to be Honest, transparent and accountable (p.113)** how is this strategy outcome assured where the recommendation is that procedures be developed without community participation? In particular, the Line Marking Policy is crucial to provide access to non-sporting individuals or groups on the perimeter of playing fields.

*The current Line Marking Policy refers to sports clubs (not Council) line marking fields hired for sport. As per operational procedures, Council would remain responsible for marking a field perimeter for use by non-sport users eg the lines at OH Reid Oval delineating the dog walking area.*

5. The Policy should overtly enshrine the right of non-organised residents and rate-payers to have an equitable right to use facilities without paying a fee.

*Council’s Fees and Charges are reviewed and publicly exhibited each year, before being adopted by Council. This includes the fees for use of Council’s sports facilities. There are no fees for casual community use such as walking and dog walking and this is intended to remain.*

### **Council policies**

What is the relationship between the draft policy and

- Council’s Asset Management Policy? *The draft policy supports the Sportsgrounds Asset Management Plan (updated annually)*
- Community facilities hire policy? *No direct relationship as it doesn’t relate to sports fields*
- Lease of Tennis Courts policy *Separate stand - alone policy for tennis court leasing only*
- Sporting fields policy *For clarity, is your reference to the Sports Facilities Plan Of Management 2020? If so, then the draft policy supports the Plan Of Management.*
- Other aspects of the sporting ovals policy *see comment above.*

- Tennis courts policies (various) *The draft policy supports the Tennis Court Strategy 2020*
- Use of council sportsgrounds, parks and reserves policy. *For clarity, can you please provide the name of this policy so a response can be provided.*

The relative weight to be given to policies, plans of management, plans, management plans, action plans cited on page 4 of the policy is unclear in the documentation. Which takes precedence?

*A policy should provide a high level but specific framework that reflects the Council's CSP. All other plans, POMs, management plans, action plans etc must be consistent with the CSP and the associated policies which provide more detail on the objectives for the individual subject matter.*

Kind regards,

Angela

**Angela Casey - Culture and Leisure Manager**

**WILLOUGHBY CITY COUNCIL**

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[willoughby.nsw.gov.au](http://willoughby.nsw.gov.au) | [visitchatswood.com.au](http://visitchatswood.com.au) | [theconcourse.com.au](http://theconcourse.com.au)

#### **Response back to Council**

It is good to see that some definitions will be included. The only one that seems to be missing is the definition of 'region'. Will this term be redacted in the Policy?

Thanks also for the other clarifications provided.

There are two aspects in the response that should be included in the policy. These relate to the right of the local community to use sporting facilities for recreation under certain conditions when they are not being utilised for sporting events. These are:

*Sport facilities' such as playing fields were developed for organised sport. As such, organised sport groups have priority over non-organised recreation users. When many of our ovals and sportsgrounds are not in use by organised sports hirers, the community makes great use of these sites for a large variety of passive and informal recreation activities.*

*The current Line Marking Policy refers to sports clubs (not Council) line marking fields hired for sport. As per operational procedures, Council would remain responsible for marking a field perimeter for use by non-sport users eg the lines at OH Reid Oval delineating the dog walking area.*

An introduction to the above two clause could be::

*The Policy enshrines the right of non-organised residents and ratepayers to have an equitable right to use sporting facilities for recreational use, where appropriate.*

#### **Electric vehicles re-charging points**

**Whilst there are some public electric vehicle charging points in the Central Business District it is extremely costly to retrofit them to existing residential flat buildings.**



Council needs to ensure building regulations change to facilitate their inclusion in new buildings. We received a response from Council on their plans for this issue. (Refer Appendix)

**We received the following response from Council:**

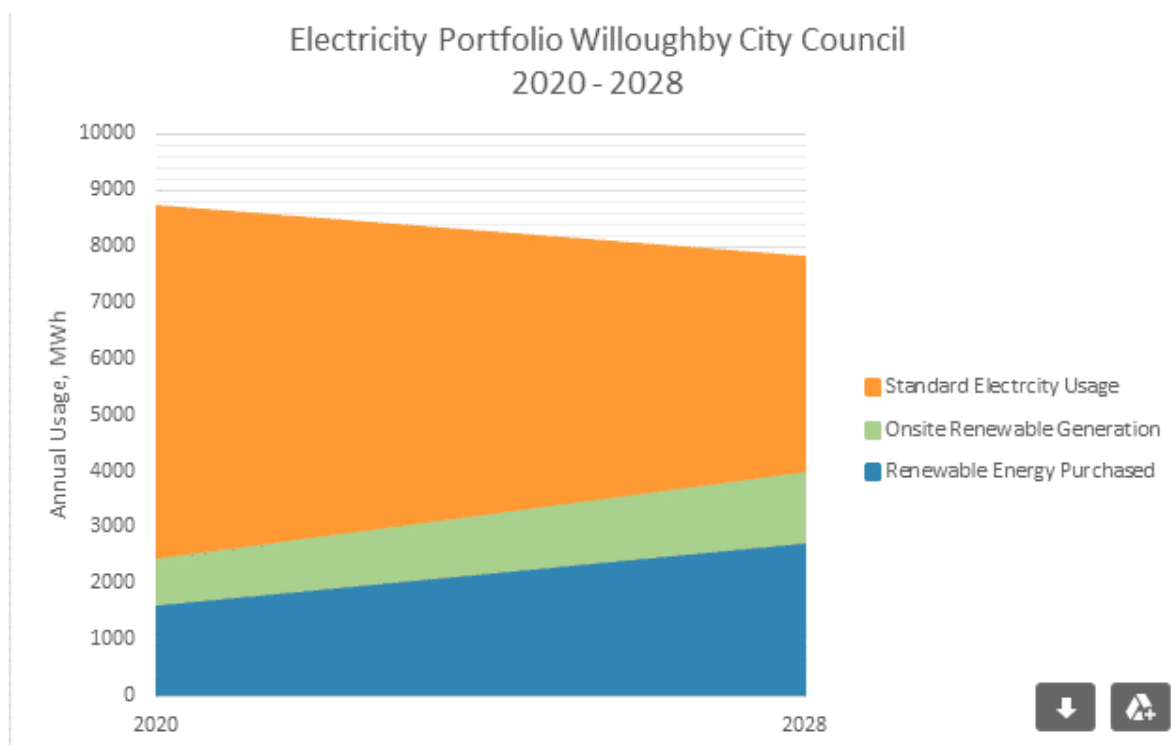
As outlined in [Our Green City Plan 2028](#) (OGCP) Council currently aims to achieve a 50% renewable energy target and reduce our overall GHG emissions by the same amount by 2028. We currently stand at 28% of our electricity being sourced from renewables (8% from council PV systems, and 20% from a power purchase agreement) and we've reduced our GHG emissions by 19% from the 2008/09 baseline. We have also committed to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

Given Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency last October we are currently working on plans to achieve or exceed these targets sooner. These plans include investigating the viability of increasing our current 20% renewables power purchase agreement to a higher percentage.

Amongst the other community targets outlined in the OGCP we will also assist the Willoughby community in doubling the amount of solar PV generating capacity by 2023 (compared to 2017/18). Seeing as though the community has recently achieved this target we are aiming for a tripling of capacity by 2023.

- Council produce a simple chart of the metrics of annual renewable energy usage planned vs actual out to 2030.

As Council continues to reduce its proportion of grid power used we intend to increase the amount of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems we have on our buildings' roofs and are looking into, increasing the amount of renewables we purchase as part of our retailer supply.



- Asking what proportion of the Council's vehicle fleet has been converted to EV? Where are the recharge points located? What is the rollout plan for recharge points from 2020 to 2030.

Council's vehicle fleet approximates 80 vehicles (not including works vehicles). This number includes staff leasehold vehicles and pool cars. Of the pool cars we currently have 2 EVs (a Nissan Leaf used for Rangers patrol, and a Renault Kangoo small van for library delivery

purposes). Three new Nissan Leafs have been ordered for replacements for pool vehicle use at the Gibbes St depot. We are currently reviewing the composition of our fleet with a view to reduce costs and environmental impact.

By the end of the year we will have 11 EV charging bays available for council EV use. These will be situated at the Main Administration Building, Dougherty Community Centre, and the Depot. As the size of our EV fleet expands we intend to increase the number of EV charging bays.

Additionally we currently provide 7 EV charging bays for public use. More are in the pipeline for the coming years.

- Asking what is Council doing to convince owners and Owners' Corporations that it is in their interests to retrofit all apartments for EV charging? Council currently offers an advisory service for building owners and tenants who are considering the installation of EV charging stations and other energy efficiency and solar PV related systems
- Asking what is the Council doing to ensure all future dwellings (conventional and high-rise) are configured for EV recharging? Council staff are currently considering the options to amend our Development Control Plan so that the needs for EV recharging are adequately catered for in the design and construction phase of new building development
- Will Council amend the DCP by end 2020 to achieve the required 2050 outcomes. Council are currently liaising with other councils to determine optimal DCP provisions regarding supporting EV charging infrastructure and intends to put all new DCP provisions on public display for comment early next year.