

## Landscape Referral Response

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| <b>Application Number:</b>             | DA2021/0404  |
| <b>Date:</b>                           | 26/04/2021   |
| <b>Responsible Officer:</b>            | Jordan Davies  |
| <b>Land to be developed (Address):</b> | Lot 24 DP 9877 , 27 Walworth Avenue NEWPORT NSW 2106 |

### Reasons for referral

This application seeks consent for the following:

- Construction / development works within 5 metres of a tree or
- New residential works with three or more dwellings. (RFB's, townhouses, seniors living, guesthouses, etc). or
- Mixed use developments containing three or more residential dwellings.
- New Dwellings or

### Officer comments

This application is for the demolition of an existing residential dwelling and the construction of a new residential dwelling inclusive of a new double garage and swimming pool.

Councils Landscape Referral section has considered the application against the Pittwater Local Environment Plan, and the following Pittwater 21 DCP controls:

- B4.22 Preservation of Trees and Bushland Vegetation
- C1.1 Landscaping
- D10.12 Landscaped Area - General

The Statement of Environmental Effects provided with the application notes the proposal will not require the removal of any significant trees or vegetation to accommodate the proposed works. This is supported by the Architectural Plans as no existing trees or vegetation has been identified for removal. It is noted that there are two existing trees located within the front yard of the site however these have not been shown on the Architectural Plans or Site Survey provided. As a result of the proposed works, it appears these trees are to be removed. It is noted these trees are exempt as they are below 5m in height, and therefore do not require Council's approval prior to being removed.

All existing trees located within the road reserve, as well as those located in neighbouring properties, are required to be protected and retained accordingly to ensure that the proposed works do not impact the ongoing health and vitality of these trees. The retention of these trees is necessary to satisfy control B4.22 and D10.12, as key objectives of these controls include "to protect and enhance the urban forest of the Northern Beaches", "to protect and enhance the scenic value and character that trees and/or bushland vegetation provide", as well as "to preserve and enhance the rural and bushland character of the area".

The Landscape Plans provided indicate that substantial planting is to take place on site. It is noted that a total of 80% of proposed vegetation shall belong to the Rolling Hills & Lower Shale Slopes Vegetation Community, which is supported. The completion of these landscape works is vital to satisfy control

C1.1, as key outcomes of this control seek to ensure the built form is softened and complemented by landscaping, and that "landscaping retains and enhances Pittwater's biodiversity by using locally native plant species". A key control of control C1.1 also states that at least two canopy trees are required are required in the front yard, with one canopy tree required in the rear yard. The current proposal does not show sufficient tree planting, as it appears most planting is to be screening vegetation. It is therefore recommended that an additional three trees, two in the front yard and 1 in the rear, be planted as part of the proposal.

The landscape component of the proposal is therefore supported subject to the protection of existing vegetation, as well as the completion of landscape works as proposed on the Landscape Plan, including the planting of additional canopy trees.

The proposal is therefore supported.

Note: Should you have any concerns with the referral comments above, please discuss these with the Responsible Officer.

#### **Recommended Landscape Conditions:**

### **CONDITIONS TO BE SATISFIED PRIOR TO THE ISSUE OF THE CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE**

#### **On Slab Landscape Works**

Details shall be submitted to the Certifying Authority prior to the issue of the Construction Certificate indicating the proposed method of waterproofing and drainage to all planters over slab, over which soil and planting is being provided.

Landscape treatment details shall be submitted to the Certifying Authority prior to the issue of the Construction Certificate indicating the proposed soil type, planting, automatic irrigation, services connections, and maintenance activity schedule.

The following soil depths are required to support landscaping as proposed:

- i) 300mm for lawn
- ii) 600mm for shrubs
- iii) 1m for small trees

Design certification shall be submitted to the Certifying Authority by a qualified Structural Engineer, that the planters are designed structurally to support the 'wet' weight of landscaping (soil, materials and established planting).

Reason: To ensure appropriate soil depth for planting and secure waterproofing and drainage is installed.

### **CONDITIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH DURING DEMOLITION AND BUILDING WORK**

#### **Protection of Existing Street Trees**

All existing street trees in the vicinity of the works shall be retained during all construction stages, and the street trees fronting the development site shall be protected by tree protection fencing in accordance with Australian Standard 4687-2007 Temporary Fencing and Hoardings, and in accordance with Section 4 of Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites.

As a minimum the tree protection fencing for street tree(s) fronting the development site shall consist of standard 2.4m panel length to four sides, unless otherwise directed by an Arborist with minimum AQF

Level 5 in arboriculture.

All fencing shall be located to allow for unrestricted and safe pedestrian access upon the road verge.

Should any problems arise with regard to the existing or proposed trees on public land during construction, Council's Tree Services section is to be contacted immediately to resolve the matter to Council's satisfaction and at the cost of the applicant.

Reason: Tree protection.

### **Tree and Vegetation Protection**

a) Existing trees and vegetation shall be retained and protected, including:

- i) all trees and vegetation within the site not approved for removal, excluding exempt trees and vegetation under the relevant planning instruments of legislation,
- ii) all trees and vegetation located on adjoining properties,
- iii) all road reserve trees and vegetation.

b) Tree protection shall be undertaken as follows:

- i) tree protection shall be in accordance with Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites, including the provision of temporary fencing to protect existing trees within 5 metres of development,
- ii) existing ground levels shall be maintained within the tree protection zone of trees to be retained, unless authorised by an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture,
- iii) removal of existing tree roots at or >25mm (Ø) diameter is not permitted without consultation with an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture,
- iv) no excavated material, building material storage, site facilities, nor landscape materials are to be placed within the canopy dripline of trees and other vegetation required to be retained,
- v) structures are to bridge tree roots at or >25mm (Ø) diameter unless directed by an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture on site,
- vi) excavation for stormwater lines and all other utility services is not permitted within the tree protection zone, without consultation with an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture including advice on root protection measures,
- vii) should either or all of v), vi) and vii) occur during site establishment and construction works, an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture shall provide recommendations for tree protection measures. Details including photographic evidence of works undertaken shall be submitted by the Arborist to the Certifying Authority,
- viii) any temporary access to, or location of scaffolding within the tree protection zone of a protected tree or any other tree to be retained during the construction works is to be undertaken using the protection measures specified in sections 4.5.3 and 4.5.6 of Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites,
- ix) the activities listed in section 4.2 of Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites shall not occur within the tree protection zone of any tree on the lot or any tree on an adjoining site,
- x) tree pruning from within the site to enable approved works shall not exceed 10% of any tree canopy, and shall be in accordance with Australian Standard 4373-2007 Pruning of Amenity Trees,
- xi) the tree protection measures specified in this clause must: i) be in place before work commences on the site, and ii) be maintained in good condition during the construction period, and iii) remain in place for the duration of the construction works.

The Certifying Authority must ensure that:

- c) The activities listed in section 4.2 of Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites, do not occur within the tree protection zone of any tree, and any temporary access to, or location of scaffolding within the tree protection zone of a protected tree, or any other tree to be

retained on the site during the construction, is undertaken using the protection measures specified in sections 4.5.3 and 4.5.6 of that standard.

Note: All street trees within the road verge and trees within private property are protected under Northern Beaches Council development control plans, except where Council's written consent for removal has been obtained. The felling, lopping, topping, ringbarking, or removal of any tree(s) is prohibited.

Reason: Tree and vegetation protection.

### Condition of Trees

During the construction period the applicant is responsible for ensuring all existing trees required to be retained are maintained in a healthy and vigorous condition. This is to be done by ensuring that all identified tree protection measures are adhered to, or by seeking arboricultural advice from an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture during the works. In this regard all protected trees shall not exhibit:

- i) a general decline in health and vigour,
- ii) damaged, crushed or dying roots due to poor pruning techniques,
- iii) more than 10% loss or dieback of roots, branches and foliage,
- iv) mechanical damage or bruising of bark and timber of roots, trunk and branches,
- v) yellowing of foliage or a thinning of the canopy untypical of its species,
- vi) an increase in the amount of deadwood not associated with normal growth,
- vii) an increase in kino or gum exudation,
- viii) inappropriate increases in epicormic growth that may indicate that the plants are in a stressed condition,
- ix) branch drop, torn branches and stripped bark not associated with natural climatic conditions.

Any mitigating measures and recommendations required by the Arborist are to be implemented.

The owner of the adjoining allotment of land is not liable for the cost of work carried out for the purpose of this clause.

Reason: Protection of trees.

## CONDITIONS WHICH MUST BE COMPLIED WITH PRIOR TO THE ISSUE OF THE OCCUPATION CERTIFICATE

### Landscape Completion

Landscaping is to be implemented in accordance with the approved Landscape Plan, inclusive of the following conditions:

- i) at minimum, 2x native canopy trees shall be required within the front yard of the property. Suggested species include: *Angophora costata*, *Banksia integrifolia* or *Eucalyptus haemastoma*.
- ii) at minimum, 1x native canopy trees shall be required within the rear yard of the property. Suggested species include: *Banksia integrifolia* or *Elaeocarpus reticulatus*.

Tree planting shall be located within a 9m<sup>2</sup> deep soil area wholly within the site and be located a minimum of 3 metres from existing and proposed buildings, and other trees.

Tree planting shall be located to minimise significant impacts on neighbours in terms of blocking winter sunlight, or where the proposed tree location may impact upon significant views.

Native tree planting species shall be selected from Council's list, specifically the *Native Plant Species Guide - Pittwater Ward*: [www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/environment/native-plants/native-plant-](http://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/environment/native-plants/native-plant-)

species-guide.

Screen planting is to comprise of native species capable of attaining a height of 2 metres at maturity.

Plants are to be installed at minimum 1 metre intervals and be of a minimum container size of 200mm at planting in a garden bed prepared with a suitable free draining soil mix and minimum 50mm depth of mulch.

Prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, details (from a landscape architect or landscape designer) shall be submitted to the Certifying Authority, certifying that the landscape works have been completed in accordance with any conditions of consent.

Reason: Environmental amenity.

### **ON-GOING CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE COMPLIED WITH AT ALL TIMES**

#### **Landscape Maintenance**

If any landscape materials/components or planting under this consent fails, they are to be replaced with similar materials/components. Trees, shrubs and groundcovers required to be planted under this consent are to be mulched, watered and fertilised as required at the time of planting.

If any tree, shrub or groundcover required to be planted under this consent fails, they are to be replaced with similar species to maintain the landscape theme and be generally in accordance with the approved Landscape Plan and any conditions of consent.

All weeds are to be removed and controlled in accordance with the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.

Reason: To maintain local environmental amenity.

#### **Undesirable Trees**

Leighton Green Cypress *Cupressocyparis leylandii* or any of its cultivars, or any other Undesirable Trees identified by Council, must not be planted on the site for the life of the development.

In the event of any inconsistency between this condition and the development application documents, this condition will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

Reason: To reduce the potential for adverse amenity effects such as overshadowing, loss of views and loss of plant diversity.