

17 April 2024

Our ref: 23SYD4783

Statewide Project Management Pty Limited 79 Alexander Street CROWS NEST NSW 2065

Attention: Brent Jones

Dear Brent,

Response to Northern Beaches Council (NBC) Request for Further Information (RFI) Development Application No: DA2023/1224 –Alterations and additions to the existing garden centre at 62 Myoora Road, Terrey Hills

It is understood that NBC has requested further information (dated 14 December 2023) to confirm that the requirements of an IPA have been met by the landscape proposal as outlined below:

The site has been identified as an Inner Protection Area (IPA) for its entirety. Please provide more information outlining that the requirements of the IPA are being met by the landscape proposal e.g., 15% tree canopy cover (proposed trees and existing trees to be retained) etc.

This landscape bushfire compliance assessment is based on a desktop assessment of the Landscape Plan prepared by Site Image Landscape Architects (SS21-4790, Revision F) dated 10 April 2024 (Appendix A) against the recommended Conditions 1 and 5 (identified in Table 1) of the RFS Bush Fire Safety Authority (reference number DA20230922004243-Original-1, dated 3 October 2023).

With regards to the identified Conditions 3 and 5, the following was observed:

Table 1: Landscape plan compliance certification assessment

Requirement	Requirement number	Compliance	Comments
Condition 1 : From the start of building works the entire property must be ma Appendix 4 of <i>Planning for Bush</i> When establishing and maintair	naged as an inner protection Fire Protection 2019.	area (IPA) in accordance w	
Tree canopy cover should be less than 15% at maturity;	1a	Complies	Proposed tree canopy cover achieves less than 15 % cover across the site.
Trees (at maturity) should not touch or overhang the building	1b	Complies - ongoing management requirement	Trees located within boundary plantings greater than 15 m from buildings. Small trees adjacent to buildings to incorporate formative pruning within landscape management plan to maintain separation that canopy does not touch or overhang building. <u>Recommendation</u> : Add ongoing pruning and tree maintenance to Landscape Plan to ensure trees do not overhang buildings
Lower limbs should be removed up to a height of 2 m above ground;	1c	Ongoing management requirement	Recommendation: Add ongoing pruning and tree maintenance to Landscape Plan to ensure trees do not overhang buildings
Canopies should be separated by 2 to 5 m; and	1d	Does not comply	Landscaping shows some trees are planted in pairs or small groups within boundary planting areas to the north, south and west. <u>Recommendation:</u> Trees planted in pairs and small groups to be separated from other pairs/small groups so that canopies at maturity are separated by 2-5 m and no shrubs planted under this canopy.
Preference should be given to smooth barked and evergreen trees	1e	Does not comply	Recommendation: Remove the following tree species from the Landscape Plan – Melaleuca decora, M. quinquenervia, M, stypheloides and Angophora floribunda.

Requirement	Requirement number	Compliance	Comments
Create large discontinuities or gaps in the vegetation to slow down or break the progress of fire towards buildings should be provided;	1f	Complies	Vegetation is separated from buildings by open car park areas and access roads. Planting areas do not provide direct fire paths to buildings.
Shrubs should not be located under trees;	1g	Complies	Shrubs are not located under trees
Shrubs should not form more than 10% ground cover;	1h	Complies	Shrub planting areas are less than 10% ground cover for the entire APZ.
Clumps of shrubs should be separated from exposed windows and doors by a distance of at least twice the height of the vegetation.	1i	Complies	Shrubs are not proposed to be planted against any buildings and achieve this separation distance.
Grass should be kept mown (as a guide grass should be kept to no more than 100 mm in height)	1j	N/A	No lawn areas. <u>Recommendation</u> : Remove <i>Poa</i> <i>labillardieri</i> from the Landscape Plan as it's highly flammable.
Leaves and vegetation debris should be removed	1k	Ongoing management requirement	Recommendation: Add requirement for ongoing removal of leaves and vegetative debris to Landscape Plan.
Condition 5: Landscaping within the required a 2019 (PBP) In this regard, the follo The Landscaping proposed within the following principles below.	wing principles are to be in	corporated:	
Minimum 1 metre wide area, suitable for pedestrian traffic, must be provided around the immediate curtilage of the building;	5a	Complies	Area around building comprised of access roads and car parks provides for a 1 m wide area suitable for pedestrian traffic.
Planting is limited in the immediate vicinity of the building;	5b	Complies	Only planting in the vicinity of the building are isolated tress within the parking areas.
Planting does not provide a continuous canopy to the building (i.e. trees or shrubs are isolated or located in small clusters);	5c	Complies	No continuous canopy towards the building – separation provided by access roads and car parks.
Landscape species are chosen to ensure tree canopy cover is less than 15% (IPA), and less than 30% (OPA) at maturity and trees	5d	Complies	As for requirement 1a above.

Requirement	Requirement number	Compliance	Comments
do not touch or overhang buildings;			
Avoid species with rough fibrous bark, or which retain/shed bark in long strips or retain dead material in their canopies;	5e	Does not comply	Recommendation: Species selection for plantings under trees and shrubs consists low flammability groundcovers only. Landscape management plan is to include annual removal of bark and vegetation debris in August and December each year or as required in response to local weather/growing conditions.
Use smooth bark species of trees species which generally do not carry a fire up the bark into the crown;	5f	Does not comply	See recommendation in requirement 1e above to remove more flammable species from Landscape Plan. <u>Recommendation</u> : Either remove <i>Westringia spp</i> from the Landscape Plan or include a clause ensuring ongoing management of these shrubs for removal of deadwood at least annually in August.
Avoid planting of deciduous species that may increase fuel at surface/ ground level (i.e. leaf litter);	5g	Complies	Proposed species selection does not include deciduous species.
Avoid climbing species to walls and pergolas;	5h	Complies	No climbing species proposed to walls or pergolas within APZ.
Locate combustible materials such as woodchips/mulch, flammable fuel stores away from the building;	5i	Complies	Combustible materials within the APZ are located away from the building. <u>Recommendation</u> : Mulch material is not outlined in the Landscape Plan and in accord with the RFS document 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones' (RFS 2005) that is referenced in Appendix 4 of PBP, all mulch within an APZ should be inorganic – e.g. pebbles or scoria,
Locate combustible structures such as garden sheds, pergolas and materials such as timber garden furniture away from the building; and	5j	Complies – ongoing management requirement	Combustible structures within the APZ are located away from the building. <u>Recommendation</u> : Include in the Landscape Plan a comment that all combustible structures must

Requirement	Requirement number	Compliance	Comments
			be kept away from the building including (but not limited to) garden sheds, pergolas and timber garden furniture.
Low flammability vegetation species are used.	5k	Does not comply	Recommendation: Higher flammability species as outlined in requirements 1e, 1j and 5f are to be removed from the Landscape Plan.

Conclusion and Recommendations

This report provides an assessment to issue a bushfire compliance certificate of the landscape plan (SS21-4790, Rev. F) for the proposed alterations and additions to the existing garden centre at 62 Myoora Road, Terrey Hills in line with the recommended Conditions 1 and 5 (identified in Table 1: Landscape plan compliance certification assessment

) of the RFS Bush Fire Safety Authority (reference number DA20230922004243-Original-1, dated 3 October 2023).

In the author's opinion, plans SS21-4790, Rev F, dated 10 April 2024, including planting schedule, comply with the relevant APZ specifications of PBP 2019 and RFS Standards for APZ, as outlined in Table 1, provided that the following recommendations are implemented within the Landscape Plan:

1b and 1c. Add ongoing pruning and tree maintenance to Landscape Plan to ensure trees do not overhang buildings.

1d. Trees planted in pairs and small groups to be separated from other pairs/small groups so that canopies at maturity are separated by 2-5 m and no shrubs planted under this canopy.

1e. Remove the following tree species from the Landscape Plan – *Melaleuca decora*, *M. quinquenervia*, *M, stypheloides* and *Angophora floribunda*.

1j. Remove Poa labillardieri from the Landscape Plan as it's highly flammable.

1k. Add requirement for ongoing removal of leaves and vegetative debris to Landscape Plan.

5e. Species selection for plantings under trees and shrubs consists low flammability groundcovers only. Landscape management plan is to include annual removal of bark and vegetation debris in August and December each year or as required in response to local weather/growing conditions.

5f. Either remove *Westringia spp* from the Landscape Plan or include a clause ensuring ongoing management of these shrubs for removal of deadwood at least annually in August.

5i. Mulch material is not outlined in the Landscape Plan and in accord with the RFS document 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones' (RFS 2005) that is referenced in Appendix 4 of PBP, all mulch within an APZ should be inorganic – e.g. pebbles or scoria,

5j. Include in the Landscape Plan a comment that all combustible structures must be kept away from the building including (but not limited to) garden sheds, pergolas and timber garden furniture.

5k. Higher flammability species as outlined in requirements 1e, 1j and 5f are to be removed from the Landscape Plan.

Regards,

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Melinda Losh Senior Bushfire Consultant

Susan Courtney Senior Bushfire Planner FPAA BPAD Accredited Practitioner No. BPAD23573-L2

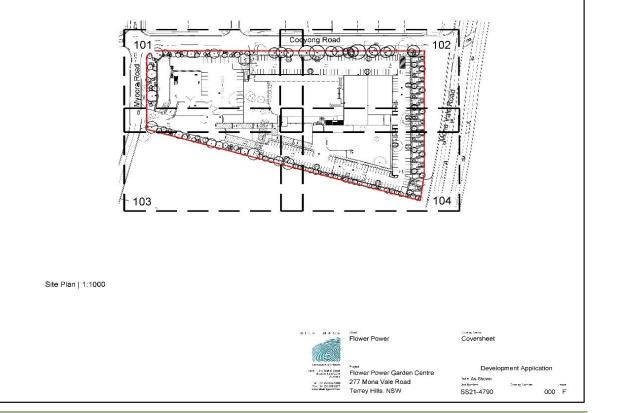


Flower Power Garden Centre

Landscape Development Application Flower Power Garden Centre, 277 Mona Vale Road, Terrey Hills, NSW

Drawing Schedule

Drawing Number	Drawing Title	Scale
000	Landscape Coversheet	N/A
001	Landscape Plan	1:500
101	Landscape Plan - 1	1:200
102	Landscape Plan - 2	1:200
103	Landscape Plan - 3	1:200
104	Landscape Plan - 4	1:200
501	Landscape Details	As Shown
502	Landscape Details	As Shown



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NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

