

## Landscape Referral Response

<b>Application Number:</b>	DA2021/2282
<b>Date:</b>	02/12/2021
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Stephanie Gelder
<b>Land to be developed (Address):</b>	Lot 14 DP 36678 , 22 Gloucester Street NORTH BALGOWLAH NSW 2093

### 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 alterations and additions of an existing residential dwelling. Alterations include the minor demolition of site structures in order to facilitate internal layout re-configurations, with additions inclusive of a new outdoor entertaining area and new landscape works.

Councils Landscape Referral section has considered the application against the Warringah Local Environmental Plan, and the following Warringah DCP 2011 controls:

- D1 Landscaped Open Space and Bushland Setting
- E1 Preservation of Trees or Bushland Vegetation

The Statement of Environmental Effects provided with the application notes that no trees are to be removed or impacted as a result of proposed works. This statement is largely supported by the Architectural Plans provided as it is clear no trees are shown to be removed.

Upon further review of the site, it is evident that a large number of existing trees are within the site, the adjoining property to the east, as well as the road reserve to the south. Considering proposed works are largely confined to the existing building footprint, the likely impacts of works on these trees is to be minimal. In conjunction with a number of existing structures like retaining walls and paved areas, these trees are largely isolated and are further not expected to be impacted. Although this is the case, care must still be taken during construction and the delivery of materials to and from the site, as any negative impacts towards these existing trees shall not be supported. The retention of these trees is vital to satisfy control E1, as key objectives of this control include "to protect and enhance the urban forest of the Northern Beaches", as well as "to protect and enhance the scenic value and character that trees and/or bushland vegetation provide".

It is noted that the Architectural Plans provided indicate some soft landscaping is to be provided, however no details of this planting has been provided. In order to ensure this planting provides privacy, built form mitigation as well as improve overall landscape amenity, a combination of shrubs and low lying vegetation is to be incorporated. Specifically, it is recommended that shrubs be planted along the

northern boundary at a minimum, with the low lying vegetation beneath this as well as adjacent to the pool fence and eastern boundary. Rather than the need to provide a Landscape Plan, this need for planting can be addressed through conditions of consent. This vegetation is necessary to satisfy control D1 as key objectives of this control include "to enable planting to maintain and enhance the streetscape", "to provide for landscaped open space with dimensions that are sufficient to enable the establishment of low lying shrubs, medium high shrubs and canopy trees of a size and density to mitigate the height, bulk and scale of the building", as well as "to enhance privacy between buildings".

The landscape component of the proposal is therefore supported subject to the protection of existing trees and vegetation, as well as the completion of the required landscape planting.

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 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 Architectural Plan, inclusive of the following conditions:

- i) at minimum, 7x native shrubs along the northern boundary adjacent to the existing swimming pool, minimum 200mm pot size. Suggested species include: *Acmena smithii* 'Firescreen', *Acmena smithii* 'Minor', or *Syzygium* 'Cascade',
- ii) understorey and low-lying planting areas are to utilise a combination of low shrubs, grasses and groundcovers, minimum 140mm pot size. Suggested species include: *Banksia spilulosa*, *Dianella caerulea*, *Grevillea sericea*, *Hardenbergia violaceae*, *Lomandra longifolia*, and *Westringia fruticosa*.

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

Shrubs are to be installed at minimum 1 metre intervals 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 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.