

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION ASSESSMENT REPORT

Application Number:	DA2021/1126
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Responsible Officer:	Stephanie Gelder
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 7 DP 236912, 13 Willow Tree Crescent BELROSE NSW 2085
Proposed Development:	Subdivision of an existing dual occupancy (attached) into two (2) Strata Lots
Zoning:	Warringah LEP2011 - Land zoned R2 Low Density Residential
Development Permissible:	No
Existing Use Rights:	Yes
Consent Authority:	Northern Beaches Council
Land and Environment Court Action:	No
Owner:	Nazik Shirvanian
Applicant:	Rachel Fares

Application Lodged:	20/07/2021
Integrated Development:	No
Designated Development:	No
State Reporting Category:	Subdivision only
Notified:	Not Notified
Advertised:	Not Advertised
Submissions Received:	0
Clause 4.6 Variation:	Nil
Recommendation:	Approval

Estimated Cost of Works:	\$ 7,000.00
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PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT IN DETAIL

The proposed development comprises of the strata subdivision of an existing attached dual occupancy. Specifically, the application seeks to subdivide Lot 7 DP 236912 into two (2) strata titled allotments with shared common property. There are no physical works proposed under this application.

ASSESSMENT INTRODUCTION

The application has been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and the associated Regulations. In this regard:

- An assessment report and recommendation has been prepared (the subject of this report)

taking into account all relevant provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, and the associated regulations;

- A site inspection was conducted and consideration has been given to the impacts of the development upon the subject site and adjoining, surrounding and nearby properties;
- Notification to adjoining and surrounding properties, advertisement (where required) and referral to relevant internal and external bodies in accordance with the Act, Regulations and relevant Development Control Plan;
- A review and consideration of all submissions made by the public and community interest groups in relation to the application;
- A review and consideration of all documentation provided with the application (up to the time of determination);
- A review and consideration of all referral comments provided by the relevant Council Officers, State Government Authorities/Agencies and Federal Government Authorities/Agencies on the proposal.

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT ISSUES

Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 - Zone R2 Low Density Residential

Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 - 4.3 Height of buildings

SITE DESCRIPTION

Property Description:	Lot 7 DP 236912 , 13 Willow Tree Crescent BELROSE NSW 2085
Detailed Site Description:	<p>The subject site consists of one (1) allotment located on the western side of Willow Tree Crescent.</p> <p>The site is regular in shape with a frontage of 22.4m along Willow Tree Crescent and a depth of 31.39m. The site has a surveyed area of 701.9m².</p> <p>The site is located within the R2 Low Density Residential zone from WLEP 2011 and accommodates an attached dual occupancy on the site.</p> <p>The site slopes gently from the eastern front of the site downwards towards the western rear.</p> <p>The site contains maintained lawned areas, hedging and plantings. There are no details of any threatened species on the site.</p> <p>Detailed Description of Adjoining/Surrounding Development</p> <p>Adjoining and surrounding development is characterised by single and double storey dwelling house ranging in architectural style and design.</p>

Map:



SITE HISTORY

The land has been used for residential purposes for an extended period of time. A search of Council's records has revealed the following relevant history:

Development Application No.1994/117

Detached dual occupancy and subdivision of one lot into two.
Refused on 27 June 1994.

Development Consent No.95/542

Alterations and additions to existing dwelling to create an attached dual occupancy
Approved on 16 October 1995.

Development Consent No.95/569

Strata Subdivision of a Dual Occupancy.
Approved on 8 November 1995.

Building Approval No.1573/97

Alterations and additions to existing dwelling to create an attached dual occupancy
Approved on 30 October 1997.

Occupation Letter for Building Approval No.1573/97

A letter from Council dated 17 February 2000 stated the dual occupancy development (Building Approval No.1573/97) has been completed to Council's satisfaction and permission is granted to occupy.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT, 1979 (EPAA)

The relevant matters for consideration under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979, are:

Section 4.15 Matters for Consideration'	Comments
Section 4.15 (1) (a)(i) – Provisions of any environmental planning instrument	See discussion on “Environmental Planning Instruments” in this report.
Section 4.15 (1) (a)(ii) – Provisions of any draft environmental planning instrument	Draft State Environmental Planning Policy (Remediation of Land) seeks to replace the existing SEPP No. 55 (Remediation of Land). Public consultation on the draft policy was completed on 13 April 2018. The subject site has been used for residential purposes for an extended period of time. The proposed development retains the residential use of the site, and is not considered a contamination risk.
Section 4.15 (1) (a)(iii) – Provisions of any development control plan	Warringah Development Control Plan 2011 applies to this proposal.
Section 4.15 (1) (a)(iiia) – Provisions of any planning agreement	None applicable.
Section 4.15 (1) (a)(iv) – Provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 (EP&A Regulation 2000)	<p><u>Division 8A</u> of the EP&A Regulation 2000 requires the consent authority to consider "Prescribed conditions" of development consent. These matters have been addressed via a condition of consent.</p> <p><u>Clause 50(1A)</u> of the EP&A Regulation 2000 requires the submission of a design verification certificate from the building designer at lodgement of the development application. This clause is not relevant to this application.</p> <p><u>Clauses 54 and 109</u> of the EP&A Regulation 2000 allow Council to request additional information. No additional information was requested in this case.</p> <p><u>Clause 92</u> of the EP&A Regulation 2000 requires the consent authority to consider AS 2601 - 1991: The Demolition of Structures. This clause is not relevant to this application.</p> <p><u>Clauses 93 and/or 94</u> of the EP&A Regulation 2000 requires the consent authority to consider the upgrading of a building (including fire safety upgrade of development). This clause is not relevant to this application.</p> <p><u>Clause 98</u> of the EP&A Regulation 2000 requires the consent authority to consider insurance requirements under the Home Building Act 1989. This clause is not relevant to this application.</p> <p><u>Clause 98</u> of the EP&A Regulation 2000 requires the consent authority to consider the provisions of the Building Code of Australia (BCA). This matter has been addressed via a condition of consent.</p> <p><u>Clause 143A</u> of the EP&A Regulation 2000 requires the submission</p>

Section 4.15 Matters for Consideration'	Comments
	of a design verification certificate from the building designer prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate. This clause is not relevant to this application.
Section 4.15 (1) (b) – the likely impacts of the development, including environmental impacts on the natural and built environment and social and economic impacts in the locality	<p>(i) Environmental Impact The environmental impacts of the proposed development on the natural and built environment are addressed under the Warringah Development Control Plan 2011 section in this report.</p> <p>(ii) Social Impact The proposed development will not have a detrimental social impact in the locality considering the character of the proposal.</p> <p>(iii) Economic Impact The proposed development will not have a detrimental economic impact on the locality considering the nature of the existing and proposed land use.</p>
Section 4.15 (1) (c) – the suitability of the site for the development	The site is considered suitable for the proposed development.
Section 4.15 (1) (d) – any submissions made in accordance with the EPA Act or EPA Regs	The proposed development application involves the strata subdivision of an existing attached dual occupancy, with no physical works proposed. Applications involving strata subdivision with no physical works are not required to be notified, in accordance with the Northern Beaches Community Participation Plan.
Section 4.15 (1) (e) – the public interest	No matters have arisen in this assessment that would justify the refusal of the application in the public interest.

EXISTING USE RIGHTS

- Does the existing use satisfy the definition of "existing use" under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the 'Act')?

Section 4.65 of the Act defines an existing use as:

"(a) the use of a building, work or land for a lawful purpose immediately before the coming into force of an environmental planning instrument which would, but for Division 4A of Part 3 or Division 4 of this Part, have the effect of prohibiting that use, and

(b) the use of a building, work or land:

- (i) for which development consent was granted before the commencement of a provision of an environmental planning instrument having the effect of prohibiting the use, and*
- (ii) that has been carried out, within one year after the date on which that provision commenced, in accordance with the terms of the consent and to such an extent as to ensure (apart from that provision) that the development consent would not lapse."*

This necessarily requires the following questions to be answered:

1. Was the use of the building, work or land a lawful purpose immediately before the coming into force of an environmental planning instrument which would, but for Division 4A of Part 3 or Division 4 of this Part 4 of the Act, have the effect of prohibiting that use?

Comment:

The Applicant has provided evidence in the form of previous Development Consent No.95/542 dated 16 October 1995 and Building Approval No.1573/97 dated 30 October 1997, which reveals that the construction and use of the building was approved and commenced as a lawful purpose on 17 February 2000 prior to the coming into force of Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 on 9 December 2011.

2. Was the use of the building granted development consent before the commencement of a provision of an environmental planning instrument having the effect of prohibiting the use?

Comment:

The use of the building was lawfully approved by Council on 16 October 1995, prior to the coming into force of Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 on 9 December 2011.

3. Has the use of the building been carried out within one year after the date on which that provision commenced, in accordance with the terms of the consent and to such an extent as to ensure (apart from that provision) that the development consent would not lapse?

Comment:

The Applicant has provided evidence in the form of a letter from Council dated 17 February 2000, which reveals that the Building Approval was granted on 30 October 1997 and the final inspection for the use of the building was carried out on 17 February 2000. The building has been used as a dual occupancy since its approval and has not changed its use since this time.

- **What is “the land on which the existing use was carried out” for the purposes of cl 42(2) (b) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 (“the Regulation”)?**

Meagher JA in *Steedman v Baulkham Hills Shire Council* [No. 1] (1991) 87 LGERA 26 stated (at 27) the rule to be applied as follows: “if the land is rightly regarded as a unit and it is found that part of its area was physically used for the purpose in question it follows that the land was used for that purpose”.

Comment:

Having regard to the above case law, it is noted that the whole of the area of the land was physically used for the purpose in question and therefore, it is considered that the land was used for that purpose and that existing use rights apply to the whole of the subject site.

- **What are the planning principles that should be adopted in dealing with an application to alter enlarge or rebuild and existing use?**

The judgement in *Fodor Investments v Hornsby Shire Council* (2005) NSWLEC 71, sets out the planning principles that should be applied in dealing with development applications seeking to carry out

development on the basis of existing use rights.

The following four principles adopted by the NSW Land and Environment Court in this case will have general application in dealing with development applications that rely on existing use rights:

1. How do the bulk and scale (as expressed by height, floor space ratio and setbacks) of the proposal relate to what is permissible on surrounding sites?

While planning controls, such as height, floor space ratio and setbacks do not apply to sites with existing use rights; they have relevance to the assessment of applications on such sites. This is because the controls apply to surrounding sites and indicate the kind of development that can be expected if and when surrounding sites are redeveloped. The relationship of new development to its existing and likely future context is a matter to be considered in all planning assessments.

Comment:

There are no physical works proposed. The existing attached dual occupancies are of similar bulk and scale to adjoining development on surrounding sites.

2. What is the relevance of the building in which the existing use takes place?

Where the change of use is proposed within an existing building, the bulk and scale of that building are likely to be deemed acceptable, even if the building is out of scale with its surroundings, because it already exists. However, where the existing building is proposed for demolition, while its bulk is clearly an important consideration, there is no automatic entitlement to another building of the same floor space ratio, height or parking provision.

Comment:

There are no physical works as part of this development application.

3. What are the impacts on adjoining land?

The impact on adjoining land should be assessed as it is assessed for all development. It is true that where, for example, a development control plan requires three hours of sunlight to be maintained in adjoining rear yards, the numerical control does not apply. However, the overshadowing impact on adjoining rear yards should be reasonable.

Comment:

There are no physical works as part of this development application. Existing levels of amenity to adjoining land will be retained.

4. What is the internal amenity?

Internal amenity must be assessed as it is assessed for all development. Again, numerical requirements for sunlight access or private open space do not apply, but these and other aspects must be judged acceptable as a matter of good planning and design. None of the legal principles discussed above suggests that development on sites with existing use rights may have lower amenity than development generally.

Comment:

There are no physical works as part of this development application. Existing levels of amenity will be retained.

Conclusion

The use has been approved under a previous environmental planning instrument (Warringah Local Environmental Plan 1985) and, therefore, is a lawful use. Subsequently, the use can be retained under the current environmental planning instrument (Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011).

BUSHFIRE PRONE LAND

The site is not classified as bush fire prone land.

NOTIFICATION & SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED

The subject development application was not notified.

REFERRALS

Internal Referral Body	Comments
Building Assessment - Fire and Disability upgrades	The application has been investigated with respect to aspects relevant to the Building Certification and Fire Safety Department. An Occupation approval letter was issued for BA1573/1997 by Warringah Council on 17/2/2000. There are no objections to approval of the development.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING INSTRUMENTS (EPIs)*

All, Environmental Planning Instruments (SEPPs, REPs and LEPs), Development Controls Plans and Council Policies have been considered in the merit assessment of this application.

In this regard, whilst all provisions of each Environmental Planning Instruments (SEPPs, REPs and LEPs), Development Controls Plans and Council Policies have been considered in the assessment, many provisions contained within the document are not relevant or are enacting, definitions and operational provisions which the proposal is considered to be acceptable against.

As such, an assessment is provided against the controls relevant to the merit consideration of the application hereunder.

State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs) and State Regional Environmental Plans (SREPs)

SEPP 55 - Remediation of Land

Clause 7 (1) (a) of SEPP 55 requires the Consent Authority to consider whether land is contaminated. Council records indicate that the subject site has been used for residential purposes for a significant period of time with no prior land uses. In this regard it is considered that the site poses no risk of contamination and therefore, no further consideration is required under Clause 7 (1) (b) and (c) of SEPP 55 and the land is considered to be suitable for the residential land use.

Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011

Is the development permissible?	No
After consideration of the merits of the proposal, is the development consistent with:	
aims of the LEP?	Yes
zone objectives of the LEP?	Yes

Principal Development Standards

There are no physical works involved in this development application.

Compliance Assessment

Clause	Compliance with Requirements
2.6 Subdivision - consent requirements	Yes
4.1 Minimum subdivision lot size	N/A
4.3 Height of buildings	N/A
5.3 Development near zone boundaries	N/A
6.4 Development on sloping land	Yes

Detailed Assessment

Zone R2 Low Density Residential

The dual occupancy (attached) relies upon Existing Use Rights as outlined within this report.

4.1 Minimum subdivision lot size

Minimum subdivision lot size does not apply for strata subdivision in accordance with Clause 4.1(4)(a). Therefore, this development standard does not apply.

4.3 Height of buildings

There are no physical works as part of this development application.

Warringah Development Control Plan

Built Form Controls

There are no physical works involved in this development application.

Compliance Assessment

Clause	Compliance with Requirements	Consistency Aims/Objectives
A.5 Objectives	Yes	Yes
C1 Subdivision	N/A	N/A
C3 Parking Facilities	Yes	Yes
D14 Site Facilities	Yes	Yes

THREATENED SPECIES, POPULATIONS OR ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES

The proposal will not significantly affect threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats.

CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

The proposal is consistent with the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design.

POLICY CONTROLS

Northern Beaches Section 7.12 Contributions Plan 2021

As the estimated cost of works is less than \$100,001.00 the policy is not applicable to the assessment of this application.

CONCLUSION

The site has been inspected and the application assessed having regard to all documentation submitted by the applicant and the provisions of:

- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979;
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000;
- All relevant and draft Environmental Planning Instruments;
- Warringah Local Environment Plan;
- Warringah Development Control Plan; and
- Codes and Policies of Council.

This assessment has taken into consideration the submitted plans, Statement of Environmental Effects, all other documentation supporting the application and public submissions, and does not result in any unreasonable impacts on surrounding, adjoining, adjacent and nearby properties subject to the conditions contained within the recommendation.

In consideration of the proposal and the merit consideration of the development, the proposal is considered to be:

- Consistent with the objectives of the DCP
- Consistent with the zone objectives of the LEP
- Consistent with the aims of the LEP
- Consistent with the objectives of the relevant EPIs
- Consistent with the objects of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

It is considered that the proposed development satisfies the appropriate controls and that all processes and assessments have been satisfactorily addressed.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council as the consent authority grant Development Consent to DA2021/1126 for Subdivision of an existing dual occupancy (attached) into two (2) Strata Lots on land at Lot 7 DP 236912, 13 Willow Tree Crescent, BELROSE, subject to the conditions printed below:

DEVELOPMENT CONSENT OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS

1. **Approved Plans and Supporting Documentation**

The development must be carried out in compliance (except as amended by any other condition of consent) with the following:

a) Approved Plans

Architectural Plans - Endorsed with Council's stamp		
Drawing No.	Dated	Prepared By
Ground Floor Plan - 20/2774 SP	20 January 2021	Geoffrey Francis Gallen
First Floor Plan - 20/2774 SP	20 January 2021	Geoffrey Francis Gallen

b) Any plans and / or documentation submitted to satisfy the Conditions of this consent.

In the event of any inconsistency between conditions of this consent and the drawings/documents referred to above, the conditions of this consent will prevail.

Reason: To ensure the work is carried out in accordance with the determination of Council and approved plans.

CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE COMPLIED WITH PRIOR TO THE ISSUE OF ANY STRATA SUBDIVISION OR SUBDIVISION CERTIFICATE

2. **Provision of Services for Subdivision**

The applicant is to ensure all services including water, electricity, telephone and gas are provided, located and certified by a registered surveyor on a copy of the final plan of subdivision. Details demonstrating compliance are to be submitted to the Principal Certifying Authority prior to the issue of the Subdivision Certificate.

Reason: To ensure that utility services have been provided to the newly created lots.

3. **Subdivision Certificate Application**

The Applicant shall submit a Subdivision Certificate Application to Council, which is to include a completed Subdivision Certificate form and checklist, a final plan of subdivision prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Conveyancing Act 1919, four copies of the final plan of subdivision and all relevant documents including electronic copies. This documentation is to be submitted to Council prior to the issue of the Subdivision Certificate. All plans of survey are to show connections to at least two Survey Co-ordination Permanent Marks. The fee payable is to be in accordance with Council's fees and charges.

Reason: Statutory requirement of the Conveyancing Act 1919.

4. **Compliance with Relevant Legislation**

Prior to the issue of the Strata Plan of Subdivision (including any Stratum), all relevant matters pertaining to this Plan, are to be satisfied to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority, and evidence provided that the Plan complies with Clause 17 Strata Schemes Development Regulation 2016 and the relevant parts of Section 58 Strata Schemes Development Act 2015.

Reason: To ensure compliance with the Consent issued, compliance with relevant legislation,

and to ensure adequate provision is made, where required for fire safety, occupant safety, egress, access and appropriate facilities in the premises for building occupants.

In signing this report, I declare that I do not have a Conflict of Interest.

Signed



Stephanie Gelder, Planner

The application is determined on 23/08/2021, under the delegated authority of:



Rodney Piggott, Manager Development Assessments