

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2022/0793
Date:	02/08/2022
Responsible Officer:	Thomas Prosser
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 289 DP 16362 , 12 - 14 Rock Bath Road PALM BEACH NSW 2108 Lot 290 DP 16362 , 12 - 14 Rock Bath Road PALM BEACH NSW 2108

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

The development application is for the construction of a swimming pool and associated works, as described and illustrated in the reports and plans. A Landscape Plan and an Arboricultural Impact Assessment accompany the application and are assessed as part of this Landscape Referral.

Council's Landscape Referral is assessed against the Pittwater Local Environment Plan clause C4 zone Environmental Living, and the following Pittwater 21 DCP controls (but not limited to):

- B4.22 Preservation of Trees and Bushland Vegetation
- C1.1 Landscaping
- D12 Palm Beach Locality

The site is located in the C4 Environmental Living zone, requiring development to achieve a scale integrated with the landform and landscape, and to minimise impact on the natural environment, including the retention of natural landscape features and existing trees, to satisfy the landscape objectives of the C4 Environmental Living zone.

The proposed development works include the removal of one native tree and four shrub hedge species. The Arboricultural Impact Assessment report determines that existing tree number 1 (*Banksia integrifolia*) will be required to be removed to facilitate the proposed development. The report findings are based on a short useful life expectancy rating, extent of previous lopping, and the extent of tree protection zone encroachment. Should the application be approved, no alternative option is available and consent conditions for tree replacement with two *Banksia integrifolia* trees within the property shall be imposed.

It is noted that the proposed pool, decking and structure is located above natural ground and in proximity to the boundary. The landscape strip along the boundary is proposed at 1200mm wide and thus may support only shrub hedge planting. The proposed planting over time will achieve a height to soften the proposed works along the boundary. The Assessing Planning Officer shall determine the

merit of the proposed works along the boundary.

The Landscape Plans include replacement screen planting along the boundary where the existing *Banksia integrifolia* and shrub hedge species are required for removal to facilitate the pool construction works, as well as other landscape hardscape works and planting, and no objections are raised subject to conditions including number of tree replacement and container size installation for proposed screen planting. The screen planting shall be maintained for the life of the development to ensure the physical screen to the pool and decking, which is elevated above the ground level, is softened by the hedge 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 THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED PRIOR TO ANY COMMENCEMENT

Tree Removal Within the Property

This consent approves the removal of the following tree within the property (as recommended in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment):

- i) tree 1 - *Banksia integrifolia*, subject to replacement within the property.

Reason: To enable authorised development works.

CONDITIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH DURING DEMOLITION AND BUILDING WORK

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) or vi) 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) 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, and should additional pruning be required an application to Council's Tree Services shall be submitted for approval or otherwise.

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.

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

Landscape Completion

Landscape works are to be implemented in accordance with the approved Landscape Plans, and inclusive of the following conditions:

i) two *Banksia integrifolia* (no cultivars or hybrids) tree species shall be planted within the property, at a minimum pre-ordered planting size of 75 litres, and shall meet the requirements of Natspec - Specifying Trees, planted into a prepared planting hole 1m x 1m x 600mm depth, backfilled with a sandy loam mix or approved similar, mulched to 75mm depth minimum and maintained, and watered until established, and shall be located at least 3.0 metres from buildings, and at least 1.5 metres from common boundaries, and located either within garden bed or within a prepared bed within lawn.

Prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, details from a landscape architect 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.