

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2023/0696
Date:	04/03/2024
Proposed Development:	Construction of a dwelling house including swimming pool
Responsible Officer:	Gareth David
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 16 DP 200638 , 60 Castle Circuit SEAFORTH NSW 2092

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 proposal is supported with regard to landscape issues.

Additional Information Comment 04/03/24:

The neighbouring tree removal consent and amended plans are noted.

The Arboricultural Impact Assessment identified 24 trees for removal. Trees 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 are exempt or dead trees and as such may be managed or removed at the discretion of the applicant without consent. Trees 9, 10, and 12 are 75% dead and as such can be supported for removal. Trees 11, 13, 22, 24, 25, and 26 are in locations that would limit development potential and can be supported for removal subject to native tree replacement. Tree 1 is a weed species located in a neighbouring property and owners consent has been received so its removal is supported.

The landscape proposal is generally supported; however, amended Landscape Plans shall be submitted prior to issuing a Construction Certificate outlining all species quantities and locations. All on slab landscape planters must meet Council's minimum soil depth requirements.

The landscape works under the development application are permitted only within the legal property boundaries, and the proposed landscape works within the road verge shall be part of a section 138 and 139 (of the Roads Act) application, for approval or otherwise.

Original Comment:

The Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) assessed 32 trees of which eight trees (trees 1, 23, and 27-32) are located outside the property boundary. Trees 27-32 are located on public land, and as such must be retained and protected during works. Trees 1 and 23 are located on private land, and also

must be retained and protected during works. It is noted tree 1 is a weed species proposed for removal and Landscape Referral raises no concerns with its removal; however, as it is located on the neighbouring private property written consent must be received from the neighbouring property owner and provided to Council before it can be removed.

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

Amended Landscape Plan

a) amended Landscape Plan(s) shall be issued to the Certifier prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate to include the following details:

- i) include quantities and locations for all plant species,
- ii) selected planting to the north and west of the elevated pool and deck must be suitable species capable of attaining a mature height of at least RL 35.60 to ensure all undercroft areas are adequately screened,
- iii) all canopy tree planting must be installed lower than RL 37.00,
- iv) delete 1 x *Phoenix canariensis* in the south-eastern corner.

b) certification shall be submitted to the Certifier that these amendments have been documented.

Reason: Landscape amenity.

On Slab Landscape Planters

a) details shall be submitted to the Certifier 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 Certifier prior to the issue of the Construction Certificate indicating the proposed soil type, planting, automatic irrigation, and services connections. The following soil depths are required to support landscaping: 300mm for groundcovers, perennials, and grasses; 600mm for shrubs; and 1m for small trees.

b) design certification shall be submitted to the Certifier 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 ensure waterproofing and drainage is installed.

CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED PRIOR TO ANY COMMENCEMENT

Tree Removal Within the Property

a) this consent approves the removal of existing prescribed trees on the subject site as listed below:

- i) tree 9 - *Angophora costata*, trees 10 and 11 - *Casuarina cunninghamiana*, tree 12 - *Glochidion ferdinandi*, tree 13 - *Casuarina cunninghamiana*, tree 22 - *Eucalyptus piperita*, tree 24, 25 and 26 - *Angophora costata*.

b) a qualified AQF level 5 Arborist shall identify these trees on site and tag or mark prior to removal.

Reason: To enable authorised development works.

CONDITIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH DURING DEMOLITION AND BUILDING WORK

Protection of Rock and Sites of Significance

a) all rock outcrops outside of the area of approved works are to be preserved and protected at all times during demolition, excavation and construction works.

b) should any Aboriginal sites be uncovered during the carrying out of works, those works are to cease and Council, the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council are to be contacted.

Reason: Preservation of significant environmental features.

Tree and Vegetation Protection

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

- i) all trees within the site not approved for removal, including trees and vegetation nominated for retention on the approved Plans,
- ii) all trees and vegetation located on adjoining properties,
- iii) all trees and vegetation within the road reserve.

b) tree protection shall be undertaken as follows:

- i) tree protection shall be in accordance with AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, and any recommendations of an approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment,
- ii) existing ground levels shall be maintained within the tree protection zone of trees to be retained, unless authorised by an Arborist/Project 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/Project 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/Project 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/Project 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/Project 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/Project Arborist to the Principal Certifier,
- 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 AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites,
- ix) the activities listed in section 4.2 of AS 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 AS 4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees,
- xi) the tree protection measures specified in this clause must: be in place before work commences on the site, be maintained in good condition during the construction period, and remain in place for the

duration of the construction works.

c) the Principal Certifier must ensure that:

i) If activated, the arboricultural works listed in a) and b) are undertaken and certified by an Arborist/Project Arborist as complaint to AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, and any recommendations of an approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

Reason: Tree and vegetation protection.

Condition of Trees

a) 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/Project 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.

b) any mitigating measures and recommendations required by the Arborist/Project Arborist are to be implemented.

c) 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

a) landscape works are to be implemented in accordance with the approved amended Landscape Plan(s), and inclusive of the following conditions:

- i) landscape works are to be contained within the legal property boundaries,
- ii) planting shall be installed as indicated on the approved Landscape Plan(s) unless otherwise imposed by any conditions,
- iii) all tree planting shall be a minimum pre-ordered planting size of 75 litres or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size; meet the requirements of Natspec - Specifying Trees; planted into a prepared planting hole 1m x 1m x 600mm depth generally, 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 other trees or more, at least 1.5 metres from common boundaries; and located either within garden bed or within a prepared bed within lawn,
- iv) mass planting shall be installed at minimum 200mm container size at planting or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size, and at minimum 140mm container size at planting or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size, and shall be in a garden bed prepared with a suitable free draining soil mix

and minimum 75mm depth of mulch,

v) all proposed tree planting shall be positioned in locations to minimise significant impacts on neighbours in terms of blocking winter sunlight to living rooms, private open space and where the proposed location of trees may otherwise be positioned to minimise any significant loss of views from neighbouring and nearby dwellings and from public spaces,

vi) where swimming pools are part of the development works, selected planting shall comply with the planting and care requirements of AS1926.1 for a non-climbable zone,

vii) where the property is certified Bush Fire Prone Land, any new planting may be managed in accordance with Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019.

b) prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, details (from a landscape architect, landscape designer or qualified horticulturalist) shall be submitted to the Principal Certifier, 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

a) if any landscape materials/components or planting under this consent fails, they are to be replaced with similar materials/components.

b) 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.

c) 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 amended Landscape Plan(s) and any conditions of consent.

d) a maintenance activity schedule for on-going maintenance of planters on slab shall be incorporated to monitor and replenish soil levels as a result of soil shrinkage over time.

e) the approved landscape planted areas, whether containing lawn, gardens or planters shall in perpetuity remain as planting under the development consent, and shall not be replaced with any hard paved surfaces or structures.

Reason: To maintain local environmental amenity.