

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2023/0333
Date:	03/05/2023
Proposed Development:	Alterations and addition to dwelling house and including a swimming pool
Responsible Officer:	Jordan Davies
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 57 DP 6195 , 5 Surfview Road MONA VALE NSW 2103

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

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

- B4.22 Preservation of Trees and Bushland Vegetation
- C1.1 Landscaping
- D9 Mona Vale 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 alterations and additions do not improve the existing non-complying landscape area to any notable extent, and this matter shall be assessed and determined by the Assessing Planning Officer. Landscape Referral note that non-complying landscape areas, as required under D9.11 Landscaped Area - Environmentally Sensitive Land, limit the capability of a property to achieve the landscape objectives of the C4 zone.

It is noted that the proposal does not satisfy the landscape area requirement of the C4 Environmental Living zone, and this matter shall be assessed and determined by the Assessing Planning Officer.

A Arboricultural Impact Assessment is submitted with the application and proposes the removal of two trees within the front of the property identified as tree 4 and tree 5. Based on the arboricultural assessment no objections are raised to the proposed tree removal subject to canopy tree replacement within the front setback. Exploratory excavation for a tree root investigation for tree 1 (Norfolk Island Pine located with adjoining property No. 7) has been undertaken to map roots to inform the site planning process in terms of structural root locations and depths to allow a design that would avoid severing large roots growing across the boundary, and the report identifies that the proposed

development works minimise impact to the Norfolk Island Pine with no significant impact, and conditions shall be imposed for tree protection.

A Landscape Concept Plan is submitted that includes retention of existing trees within the property, new tree planting, and other vegetation planting, and is generally acceptable except for the following:

- the proposed tree planting (x 2) of *Eucalyptus maculata* (Spotted Gum) is not appropriate to the seaside and conditions shall be imposed for appropriate tree species and location across the front setback, and conditions shall be imposed.
- the front boundary planting is not nominated and to satisfy PDCC control C1.1 mass shrub planting to achieve a mature height of 2.5 metres shall be provided, and conditions shall be imposed.

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

Project Arborist

A Project Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture shall be engaged prior to any commencement of works on site to provide tree protection measures in accordance with AS4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, and any recommendations of an approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

The Project Arborist shall be in attendance and supervise all works as nominated in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, and in particular:

- a) section 6 - Recommendations, for works to tree 1 and tree 2.

All tree protection measures specified must:

- a) be in place before work commences on the site, and
- b) be maintained in good condition during the construction period, and
- c) remain in place for the duration of the construction works.

The Project Arborist shall provide certification to the Certifier that all tree protection measures under AS4970-2009 have been satisfied, and the recommendations listed for the protection of the existing tree(s) have been carried out satisfactorily to ensure no impact to the health of the tree(s). Photographic documentation of the condition of all trees to be retained shall be recorded, including at commencement, during the works and at completion.

Note:

Any potential impact to trees as assessed by the Project Arborist will require redesign of any approved component to ensure existing trees upon the subject site and adjoining properties are preserved and shall be the subject of a modification application where applicable.

Reason: Tree protection.

Tree Removal Within the Property

This consent approves the removal of existing trees on the subject site as identified in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, approved Plans, or as listed below:

- a) tree ID number 4 and tree 5,
- 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

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 AS4970-2009 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 AS4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites,
- ix) the activities listed in section 4.2 of AS4970-2009 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 AS4373-2007 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 Principal Certifier must ensure that:

- c) The arboricultural works listed in a) and b) are undertaken and certified by an Arborist/Project Arborist as compliant to AS4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, and any recommendations of an approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

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 Plan, and inclusive of the following conditions:

- a) landscape works are to be contained within the legal property boundaries,
- b) the nominated Spotted Gum trees are to be replaced with the following suggestions: *Banksia integrifolia*, *Glochidion ferdinandi* or *Podocarpus elatus*, and planted as per the requirements of the below condition,
- c) all tree planting shall be a minimum pre-ordered planting size of 75 litres; 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 other trees or more, at least 2.0 metres from common boundaries; and located either within garden bed or within a prepared bed within lawn,
- d) the front boundary garden planting within the property shall consist of mass shrub planting to achieve a mature height of 2.5 metres,
- e) mass planting shall be installed at minimum 1metre intervals for shrubs of a minimum 200mm container size at planting, and at 4 plants per metre square for groundcovers of a minimum 140mm container size at planting, and shall be in a garden bed prepared with a suitable free draining soil mix and minimum 75mm depth of mulch.

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.

Condition of Retained Vegetation

Prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, a report prepared by an Arborist/Project Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture shall be submitted to the Principal Certifier, assessing the health and impact on all existing trees required to be retained on the approved Plans or as listed in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, including the following information:

- a) compliance to any Arborist recommendations for tree protection generally and during excavation works,
- b) extent of damage sustained by vegetation as a result of the construction works,
- c) any subsequent remedial works required to ensure the long term retention of the vegetation.

Reason: Tree and vegetation protection.

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(s) and any conditions of consent.

The approved landscape area shall in perpetuity remain as planting under the development consent.

Reason: To maintain local environmental amenity.