

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2020/1187
Date:	12/02/2021
Responsible Officer:	Ashley Warnest
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 6 DP 263921 , 5 Bushrangers Hill NEWPORT NSW 2106

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 proposed subdivision of one existing vacant lot, into two lots each with room to house a future residential dwelling. Construction works specific to this application include the construction of a driveway providing access to both lots, as well as the preparation of site for future dwelling construction.

Councils Landscape Referral section has considered the application against the Pittwater Local Environment Plan, and the following Pittwater 21 DCP controls:

- B4.22 Preservation of Trees and Bushland Vegetation
- C1.1 Landscaping
- C4.7 Subdivision - Amenity and Design
- D10.13 Landscaped Area - Environmentally Sensitive Land

The Statement of Environmental Effects provided with the application notes that a total of twelve trees are located on the proposed site, with four trees to be removed as a result of the proposed works. This is confirmed in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, with Trees No.7, 9, 10 and 12 being noted as removed. Trees No.7, 9 and 10 are located centrally to Lot 22 and are within the proposed building footprint of the future residential dwelling. Both Trees No.7 and 10 are of high landscape significance and are in good health, with Tree No. 9 having low landscape significance and poor to moderate health. Tree No. 12 is located close to the northern boundary of the site and the proposed driveway will necessitate the removal of this tree. Tree No.12, as described in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, is almost dead with significant die-back and dead foliage, and as a result, has a low landscape significance. Through the retention and protection of the remaining vegetation on site, controls B4.22 and C4.7 are satisfied as this vegetation helps soften the built form, whilst preserving the scenic and ecological value and character that this existing vegetation provides.

It is recommended that these four trees be replaced to compensate their removal as each tree was significant in height, and provided valuable shading and amenity. These trees would also help provide adequate screening to mitigate and reduce the bulk of built form, which are key components of control C1.1 and D10.13.

The landscape component of the proposal is therefore acceptable subject to the protection of existing trees, and the addition of four native canopy trees to compensate those lost as a result of proposed works.

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 to provide tree protection measures in accordance with Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites. The Project Arborist is to specify and oversee all tree protection measures such as tree protection fencing, trunk and branch protection, and ground protection.

The Project Arborist is to supervise all demolition, excavation and construction works near all trees to be retained, including construction methods near the existing trees to protect tree roots, trunks, branches and canopy. Where required, manual excavation is to occur ensuring no tree root at or >25mm (Ø) is damaged by works, unless approved by the Project Arborist.

Existing ground levels shall be maintained within the tree protection zone of trees to be retained, unless authorised by the Project Arborist.

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 Certifying Authority that all 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:

- i) A separate permit or development consent may be required if the branches or roots of a protected tree on the site or on an adjoining site are required to be pruned or removed.
- ii) 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 the following trees within the property (as recommended in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment):

- i) *Eucalyptus paniculata*, located centrally within Lot 22, Tree No. 7,

- ii) *Eucalyptus punctata*, located centrally within Lot 22, Tree No. 9,
- iii) *Eucalyptus punctata*, located centrally within Lot 22, Tree No. 10,
- iv) *Eucalyptus haemastoma*, located close to the northern boundary, Tree No. 12.

Note:

- i) Exempt Species as listed in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment or the Development Control Plan do not require Council consent for removal,
- ii) Any request to remove a tree approved for retention under the development application is subject to a Section 4.55 modification application, or an assessment by an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture that determines that the tree presents an imminent risk to life or property.

Reason: to enable authorised building 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 not approved for removal.
- 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.

c) Tree protection shall specifically be undertaken in accordance with the recommendations in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, as listed in the following sections:

i) Section 5 - Tree Protection Measures

The Certifying Authority must ensure that:

d) 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

Condition of retained vegetation - Project Arborist

Prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, a report prepared by the project arborist shall be submitted to the Certifying Authority, assessing the health and impact on all existing trees required to be retained, 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 protection.

Required tree planting

At minimum, an additional four trees shall be planted on site to replace those removed during construction.

Tree planting shall be located within a 9m² deep soil area within the site and be located a minimum of 3 metres from existing and proposed buildings, and a minimum 2m from boundaries.

Tree planting shall be a minimum planting size of 25L, and shall meet the requirements of Natspec - Specifying Trees.

Tree planting shall be located to minimise significant impacts on neighbours in terms of blocking winter sunlight, or where the proposed tree location may impact upon significant views.

Native tree planting species shall be selected from Council's list, specifically the *Native Plant Species Guide - Pittwater Ward*: www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/environment/native-plants/native-plant-species-guide

Details demonstrating compliance are to be submitted to the Certifying Authority prior to the issue of the Occupation Certificate.

Reason: to maintain 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.