

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2024/1160
Date:	09/01/2025
Proposed Development:	Alterations and additions to a dwelling house including a detached garage and home office
Responsible Officer:	Brittany Harrison
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 72 DP 11462 , 19 Dress Circle Road AVALON BEACH NSW 2107

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 09/01/25:

The amended reports and plans are noted.

The Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) identified 34 trees. Four trees are nominated for removal in the AIA, trees 3, 17, 31, and 32. Trees 3 and 31 are exempt and as such may be managed or removed at the discretion of the applicant without consent. Tree 17 is not near the proposed works but is a weed species so it may also be removed. Although tree 32 is a council street tree its removal can be supported too due to its species. One native replacement tree shall be installed within the property boundary to offset any canopy loss.

A Project Arborist will need to be engaged to supervise all works in the tree protection zone of trees to be retained, and in particular the works near tree 2.

An on slab landscape planter is shown above the garage and 600mm soil depth shall be provided to support shrub and groundcover planting.

Original Comment:

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 Preliminary Arboricultural Assessment Report submitted with the application identifies trees within and surrounding the site, and although it is very useful for site planning it does not assess the impact of the proposed works on the existing trees to be retained. An Arboricultural Impact Assessment, prepared by an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture, is required to determine the impact the proposed works will have to existing trees and the appropriate tree protection measures. The proposed stormwater works appear to encroach into the structural root zone of tree 2 and the Arborist shall provide comment on this.

Landscape referral can continue their assessment upon receipt of an Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

Note: tree 3 and 31 are exempt and no concerns are raised with their removal. Although tree 32 is a council street tree its removal can be supported too due to its species.

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

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.

b) The following soil depths are required to support planting: 600mm for groundcovers and shrubs.

c) 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

Project Arborist

a) 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 AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, and any recommendations of an approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

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

i) tree protection measures and works under sections 9 Recommendations (9.5 regarding tree 2), 10 AMS and Tree Protection Requirements, and 11 Hold Points.

c) All tree protection measures specified 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.

d) the Project Arborist shall provide certification to the Certifier that all tree protection measures under AS 4970-2009 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 Road Reserve

a) this consent approves the removal of existing trees within the road reserve as listed below:

- i) tree 32 - *Nerium oleander*.

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

c) removal of the approved tree/s by the applicant in the road reserve shall only be undertaken by a Council approved tree contractor. Details of currently approved tree contractors can be obtained from Northern Beaches Council's Trees Services business unit prior to removal.

Reason: Public liability.

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 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.

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

Required Tree Planting

- a) one native tree shall be planted within the property boundary to achieve at least 6 metres height at maturity, and in accordance with the following:
i) tree planting shall be a minimum pre-ordered planting size of 75 litres; generally selected from Northern Beaches Council's Native Planting Guide, or Council's Tree Guide; meet the requirements of AS2303 – Tree Stock for Landscape Use; 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.
- b) 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.
- c) details demonstrating compliance are to be submitted to the Principal Certifier prior to the issue of any Occupation Certificate.

Reason: To maintain environmental amenity.

Landscape Completion

- a) landscape works are to be implemented in accordance with the following conditions:
i) landscape works are to be contained within the legal property boundaries,
ii) a suitable mix of shrub and groundcover planting shall be installed in the on slab landscape planter

above the garage, and the species selected shall be installed at minimum 1 metre intervals (or less) for shrubs of a minimum 200mm container size at planting, and at minimum 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.

b) prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, details 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

a) 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:

- i) compliance to any Arborist recommendations for tree protection generally and during excavation works,
- ii) extent of damage sustained by vegetation as a result of the construction works,
- iii) 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

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 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.