



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Northern Beaches Council
PO Box 882
MONA VALE NSW 1660

Your reference: (CNR-47027) MOD2022/0509
Our reference: DA20210902003764-S4.55-1

ATTENTION: Northern Beaches Council

Date: Tuesday 6 December 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

Integrated Development Application
s100B – SFPP – School
41 Cook Street Forestville NSW 2087, 2754//DP752038

I refer to your correspondence dated 18/10/2022 seeking general terms of approval for the above Integrated Development in accordance with s4.55 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The New South Wales Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has reviewed the submitted amended information. General Terms of Approval are now re-issued, under Division 4.8 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, and a Bush Fire Safety Authority, under section 100B of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*, are now issued subject to the following conditions.

Asset Protection Zones

Intent of measures: to provide suitable building design, construction and sufficient space to ensure that radiant heat levels do not exceed critical limits for firefighters and other emergency services personnel undertaking operations, including supporting or evacuating occupants.

1. From the start of building works, and in perpetuity to ensure ongoing protection from the impact of bush fires, the entire property must be managed as an inner protection area (IPA) in accordance with the requirements of Appendix 4 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*, except where the slope is greater than downslope 18 degrees and where remnant vegetation is located.

. When establishing and maintaining an IPA the following requirements apply:

- tree canopy cover should be less than 15% at maturity;
- trees at maturity should not touch or overhang the building;
- lower limbs should be removed up to a height of 2m above the ground;
- tree canopies should be separated by 2 to 5m;
- preference should be given to smooth barked and evergreen trees;
- large discontinuities or gaps in vegetation should be provided to slow down or break the progress of fire towards buildings;
- shrubs should not be located under trees;

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- shrubs should not form more than 10% ground cover;
- clumps of shrubs should be separated from exposed windows and doors by a distance of at least twice the height of the vegetation.
- grass should be kept mown (as a guide grass should be kept to no more than 100mm in height); and
- leaves and vegetation debris should be removed.

Construction Standards

Intent of measures: to provide suitable building design, construction and sufficient space to ensure that radiant heat levels do not exceed critical limits for firefighters and other emergency services personnel undertaking operations, including supporting or evacuating occupants.

2. Proposed new construction and new construction on existing buildings must comply with Section 3 (excluding section 3.5) and Section 9 (BAL FZ) of Australian Standard AS3959-2018 *Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas* or the relevant BAL-FZ requirements of the *NASH Standard - Steel Framed Construction in Bushfire Areas (incorporating amendment A - 2015)*. New construction must also comply with the construction requirements in Section 7.5 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*.

3. Proposed construction of the covered outdoor learning area structures, must be undertaken using non-combustible materials.

4. The existing buildings must be upgraded, to improve ember protection by enclosing all openings (excluding roof tile spaces) or covering openings with a non-corrosive metal screen mesh with a maximum aperture of 2mm. Where applicable, this includes any sub floor areas, openable windows, vents, weep holes and eaves. External doors are to be fitted with draft excluders.

Water and Utility Services

Intent of measures: to provide adequate services of water for the protection of buildings during and after the passage of a bush fire, and to locate gas and electricity so as not to contribute to the risk of fire to a building.

5. The provision of water, electricity and gas must comply with the following in accordance with Table 6.8c of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*:

- reticulated water is to be provided to the development where available;
- fire hydrant, spacing, design and sizing complies with the relevant clauses of Australian Standard AS 2419.1:2005;
- hydrants are and not located within any road carriageway;
- reticulated water supply to urban subdivisions uses a ring main system for areas with perimeter roads;
- fire hydrant flows and pressures comply with the relevant clauses of AS 2419.1:2005;
- all above-ground water service pipes are metal, including and up to any taps;
- where practicable, electrical transmission lines are underground;
- where overhead, electrical transmission lines are proposed as follows:

a) lines are installed with short pole spacing (30m), unless crossing gullies, gorges or riparian areas; and

b) no part of a tree is closer to a power line than the distance set out in accordance with the specifications in ISSC3 Guideline for Managing Vegetation Near Power Lines.

- reticulated or bottled gas is installed and maintained in accordance with AS/NZS 1596:2014 and the requirements of relevant authorities, and metal piping is used;
- reticulated or bottled gas is installed and maintained in accordance with AS/NZS 1596:2014 - The storage and handling of LP Gas, the requirements of relevant authorities, and metal piping is used;
- all fixed gas cylinders are kept clear of all flammable materials to a distance of 10m and shielded on the hazard side;
- connections to and from gas cylinders are metal; polymer-sheathed flexible gas supply lines are not used; and
- above-ground gas service pipes are metal, including and up to any outlets.

Landscaping Assessment

The intent of measures is for landscaping. To achieve this, the following conditions must apply:

6. Landscaping within the required asset protection zone must comply with Appendix 4 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*. In this regard, the following principles are to be incorporated:

- A minimum 1 metre wide area, suitable for pedestrian traffic, must be provided around the immediate curtilage of the building;
- Planting is limited in the immediate vicinity of the building;
- Planting does not provide a continuous canopy to the building (i.e. trees or shrubs are isolated or located in small clusters);
- Landscape species are chosen to ensure tree canopy cover is less than 15% (IPA), and less than 30% (OPA) at maturity and trees do not touch or overhang buildings;
- Avoid species with rough fibrous bark, or which retain/shed bark in long strips or retain dead material in their canopies;
- Use smooth bark species of trees species which generally do not carry a fire up the bark into the crown;
- Avoid planting of deciduous species that may increase fuel at surface/ ground level (i.e. leaf litter);
- Avoid climbing species to walls and pergolas;
- Locate combustible materials such as woodchips/mulch, flammable fuel stores away from the building;
- Locate combustible structures such as garden sheds, pergolas and materials such as timber garden furniture away from the building; and
- Low flammability vegetation species are used.

Emergency and Evacuation Planning Assessment

Intent of measures: to provide suitable emergency and evacuation arrangements for occupants of SFPP developments.

7. Bush Fire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan is prepared consistent with the NSW RFS document: A Guide to Developing a Bush Fire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan; and, NSW RFS Schools Program Guide << and/or Australian Standard AS 3745:2010 Planning for emergencies in facilities.

- The Bush Fire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan should include planning for the early relocation of occupants, and
- A copy of the Bush Fire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan should be provided to the Local Emergency Management Committee for its information prior to occupation of the development. An Emergency Planning Committee needs to be established to consult with residents (and their families in the case of aged care accommodation and schools) and staff in developing and implementing an Emergency Procedures Manual. Detailed plans of all emergency assembly areas including on site and off-site arrangements as stated in AS 3745:2010 are to be clearly displayed, and an annual emergency evacuation exercise is to be conducted.

General Advice - Consent Authority to Note

- Council is advised that in matters of material and or construction/ techniques, that in issues of certification compliance, the NSW RFS, unfortunately plays no statutory role in these areas, and that it is up to the relevant officers within the Local Consent/ and or other certifying authority to determine.

This letter is in response to an assessment of the application based on the submitted further information and supersedes our previous general terms of approval dated 11/10/2021.

For any queries regarding this correspondence, please contact Craig Casey on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours sincerely,

Nika Fomin
Manager Planning & Environment Services
Built & Natural Environment



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

BUSH FIRE SAFETY AUTHORITY

SFPP – School

41 Cook Street Forestville NSW 2087, 2754//DP752038

RFS Reference: DA20210902003764-S4.55-1

Your Reference: (CNR-47027) MOD2022/0509

This Bush Fire Safety Authority is issued on behalf of the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service under s100b of the Rural Fires Act (1997) subject to the attached General Terms of Approval.

This authority supersedes the previous Bush Fire Safety Authority DA20210902003764-Original-1 issued on 11/10/2021 and confirms that, subject to the attached reissued General Terms of Approval being met, the proposed development will meet the NSW Rural Fire Service requirements for Bush Fire Safety under *s100b of the Rural Fires Act 1997*.

Nika Fomin

**Manager Planning & Environment Services
Built & Natural Environment**

Tuesday 6 December 2022