

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2025/1263
Date:	03/10/2025
Proposed Development:	Demolition works and construction of a residential flat building
Responsible Officer:	Kye Miles
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot B DP 393276 , 14 Gladys Avenue FRENCHS FOREST NSW 2086 Lot A DP 393276 , 12 Gladys Avenue FRENCHS FOREST NSW 2086

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.

The application is assessed by Landscape Referral against SEPP (Housing) 2021, Warringah Local Environmental Plan (WLEP) 2011 and the Warringah Development Control Plan (WDCP) 2011.

The Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) identified 65 trees. Within the property boundaries 44 trees are proposed to be removed of which 39 are exempt. Exempt trees may be managed or removed at the discretion of the applicant without consent and as such no concerns are raised with their removal. Within the property boundaries 15 trees are to be retained, and of these 15 trees 12 are category AA or A. As a proportion of the trees within the site boundaries, majority of the category AA and A trees are to be retained, which is supported. Five prescribed (protected) trees are proposed to be removed and their removal can be supported subject to native tree replacement planting. Works are required in the tree protection zone of trees to be retained and as such a Project Arborist shall be engaged.

The landscape proposal is generally supported and all proposed planting shall be installed in accordance with the requirements outlined in the conditions of consent. The landscape proposal satisfies the Tree Canopy Guide for Low and Mid Rise Housing with regard to tree canopy coverage and deep soil. It is noted the landscape plans show a different driveway alignment when compared to the architectural plans and this shall be coordinated prior to issuing a Construction Certificate.

The significant area of rock outcropping has been shown to be retained. All rock outcropping outside the approved construction footprint shall be protected during the 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 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) coordinate the driveway alignment with the architectural plans (waiting bay etc.),
- ii) ensure any proposed trees displaced by i) are located elsewhere on site.

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.

b) The following soil depths are required to support planting: 300-450mm for groundcovers; 500-600mm for shrubs; 800mm for small trees; 1000mm for medium trees; and 1200mm for large trees.

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 4970-2025 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 section 4 Arboricultural Method Statement, Appendix 8 and Appendix 9,
- ii) the stormwater swale and above ground OSD basin works within tree protection zones of existing trees to be retained.

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 4970-2025 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

a) This consent approves the removal of existing trees on the subject site as identified in the approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

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 the area of approved works are to be preserved and protected at all times during demolition, excavation and construction works. No excavation/removal of rock is to occur in the areas of rock outcropping shown as retained on the approved plans.

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,
- 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 4970-2025 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 the Project Arborist,
- iii) removal of existing tree roots at or >25mm (Ø) diameter is not permitted without consultation with the Project Arborist,
- 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 the Project Arborist on site,
- vi) excavation for stormwater lines and all other utility services is not permitted within the tree protection

zone, without consultation with the Project Arborist including advice on root protection measures, vii) should either or all of v) or vi) occur during site establishment and construction works, the Project Arborist shall provide recommendations for tree protection measures. Details including photographic evidence of works undertaken shall be submitted by the 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 4970-2025 Protection of trees on development sites,

ix) the activities listed in section 4.2 of AS 4970-2025 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 the Project Arborist as compliant to AS 4970-2025 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

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 as shown in the approved planting schedule; 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 either within garden bed or within a prepared bed within lawn,

iv) mass planting shall be installed 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.

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.

Condition of Retained Vegetation

a) Prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, a report prepared by the Project Arborist 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 the approved 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.