

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2023/0509
Date:	15/05/2023
Proposed Development:	Alterations and additions to a dwelling house including a secondary dwelling, swimming pool and spa
Responsible Officer:	Michael French
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 2 DP 1009503 , 16 Gertrude Avenue 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

The proposal is supported with regard to landscape issues.

Council's Landscape Referral section have assessed the application against the Pittwater Local Environment Plan, and the following Pittwater 21 DCP controls (but not limited to):

- B4.22 Preservation of Trees and Bushland Vegetation
- C1.1 Landscaping
- D10 Newport Locality

One tree is proposed to be removed and is exempt by height thus does not require consent for removal. All trees and vegetation shown to be retained shall be protected in accordance with the requirements outlined in the conditions of consent.

The landscape proposal is generally supported, subject to the imposed conditions, and all *Rhaphiolepis* species shall be substituted with a suitable alternative as Council deems this species an environmental threat.

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**

Tree Protection Plan

a) a Tree protection plan shall be submitted to the Certifier for approval prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate, demonstrating tree protection measures in accordance with AS4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, to protect the following trees:

i) T01 as shown on the Landscape Plan (drawing L02).

b) the Tree Protection Plan shall be prepared by an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture, incorporating the following:

- i) location of all trees identified for retention, including extent of canopy,
- ii) access routes throughout the site for construction activity,
- iii) location of tree protection fencing / barriers,
- iv) root protection in the form of mulching or boards proposed within the tree protection zone,
- v) trunk and branch protection within the tree protection zone,
- vi) location of stockpile areas and materials storage,
- vii) other general tree protection measures.

Reason: Tree protection.

On Slab Landscape Works

Details shall be submitted to the Principal 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 Principal Certifier prior to the issue of the Construction Certificate indicating the proposed soil type, planting, automatic irrigation, and services connections.

The following soil depths are required to support landscaping:

- i) 300mm for groundcovers, perennials, grasses and lawn,
- ii) 600mm for shrubs.

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 secure waterproofing and drainage is installed.

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.

Condition of Trees

During the construction period the applicant is responsible for ensuring all existing trees required to be retained are maintained in a healthy and vigorous condition. This is to be done by ensuring that all identified tree protection measures are adhered to or by seeking arboricultural advice from an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture during the works.

In this regard all protected trees shall not exhibit:

- i) a general decline in health and vigour,
- ii) damaged, crushed or dying roots due to poor pruning techniques,
- iii) more than 10% loss or dieback of roots, branches and foliage,

- iv) mechanical damage or bruising of bark and timber of roots, trunk and branches,
- v) yellowing of foliage or a thinning of the canopy untypical of its species,
- vi) an increase in the amount of deadwood not associated with normal growth,
- vii) an increase in kino or gum exudation,
- viii) inappropriate increases in epicormic growth that may indicate that the plants are in a stressed condition,
- ix) branch drop, torn branches and stripped bark not associated with natural climatic conditions.

Any mitigating measures and recommendations required by the Arborist are to be implemented.

The owner of the adjoining allotment of land is not liable for the cost of work carried out for the purpose of this clause.

Reason: Protection of trees.

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(s) (drawing L02 by Reece Nicholas Design dated 28/02/23), and inclusive of the following conditions:

- a) landscape works are to be contained within the legal property boundaries,
- b) all tree planting shall be a minimum pre-ordered planting size of 75 litres or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size; meet the requirements of Natspec - Specifying Trees; 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 located either within garden bed or within a prepared bed within lawn,
- c) two (2) native trees shall be located at least 3.0 metres from buildings or more, and at least 1.5 metres from common boundaries,
- d) mass planting shall be installed at minimum 1 metre intervals for shrubs of a minimum 200mm container size at planting or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size, and at 4 plants per metre square for groundcovers of a minimum 140mm container size at planting or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size, and shall be in a garden bed prepared with a suitable free draining soil mix and minimum 75mm depth of mulch,
- e) 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,
- f) where swimming pools are part of the development works, selected planting shall comply with the planting and care requirements of AS1926.1 for a non-climbable zone,
- g) substitute all *Rhaphiolepis* species with a suitable alternative (although a cultivar is chosen Council deems this species and environmental threat).

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 qualifications 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.

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.

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

Reason: To maintain local environmental amenity.