



Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve Plan of Management



Version: November 2005
Adoption date: 28 November 2005

Woollahra Municipal Council

Executive Summary

The Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve Plan of Management (2005) has been prepared by Parkland Environmental Planners on behalf of Woollahra Municipal Council, as Reserve Trust Manager, for the Parks and Reserve. The Parks and Reserve are Crown Reserves, the parks reserved for the purpose of public recreation, and Plantation Reserve reserved for access and plantation. The plan of management has been prepared in accordance with the *Crown Lands Act 1989* at a cost of \$30,000.

Introduction

This Plan of Management has been prepared to guide the Reserve Trust/s, and Woollahra Council as Trust Manager, in the care, control and management of Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve (the Parks and Reserve) at Darling Point, in accordance with the provisions of the *Crown Lands Act 1989 (CLA)*.

Under Section 92 of the *CLA* the Minister for Lands has appointed the reserve trust for these Crown reserves. The reserve trusts are charged with care, control and management of the reserves to which they are appointed trustee. Woollahra Council has been appointed to manage the affairs of the reserve trust for these reserves under Section 95 of the *CLA*. Under Section 112, a reserve trust may with the Minister for Land's consent, prepare a draft plan of management for a reserve.

Review of the previous Plan of Management

This Plan of Management is a review, update and replacement of the previous Plan of Management prepared in 1998. That plan focused on use of the Parks and Reserve for Olympic-related activities. Preparation of this Plan of Management involved further consultation with stakeholders (government, residents and neighbouring land users), and an interview survey of 300 park visitors.

History and Current Status

Rushcutters Bay Park (P500097) is located on a former foreshore wetland. It was dedicated for public recreation in 1878. Yarranabbe Park (R76319) was reserved for public recreation in 1953.

Both parks are located on the Sydney harbour foreshore. Sydney Harbour is a world-famous waterway that has helped shape Sydney's history and character. The harbour is a working harbour and a spectacular natural and historical resource. It is a valuable economic asset that, along with foreshore parks and reserves, offers a tranquil haven for locals and tourists alike.

The parks are characterised by significant mature trees, open grassland and recreational facilities including a kiosk, two sporting fields and fitness station in Rushcutters Bay Park, and a playground in Yarranabbe Park. Recent improvements to footpaths and lighting have been completed in Rushcutters Bay Park. The parks are well used by local and Sydney-wide residents and other visitors enjoying the harbour views, a variety of informal recreation and sporting activities, and occasional special events.

Plantation Reserve (R47337) was reserved for plantation and access in 1912. It is a narrow strip of land connecting the two parks and provides pedestrian and vehicle access.

Basis for Management

The Parks and Reserve are Crown reserves, so the provisions of the *CLA* apply. Other relevant legislation includes State and regional planning policies and the Woollahra Local Environmental Plan (1995) under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Community values of the Parks are related to:

- ☐ Gateway to Woollahra.
- ☐ Harbour-side setting.

- ☐ Open parkland.
- ☐ Public recreation.
- ☐ Access.
- ☐ Safety.

Key objectives for the Parks and Reserve include;

- ☐ preserve and extend access to the foreshore.
- ☐ minimise built structures to preserve views to the harbour.
- ☐ minimise impacts of use of the Parks on local residents.
- ☐ keep the Parks well maintained and visually attractive.
- ☐ minimise conflicts between Park users.
- ☐ preserve the ambience of the Parks.
- ☐ maintain access to the Parks.
- ☐ protect and enhance the tree canopy.

The key future roles of the Parks and Reserve are:

- ☐ a regional open space.
- ☐ foreshore access.
- ☐ an informal meeting place.
- ☐ a venue for sport.
- ☐ a green expanse of open space bounded by trees.

Key issues

A number of key issues were identified through preparation of this Plan of Management:

- ☐ limited recognition of the Park's history and heritage items.
- ☐ declining health of some trees in the parks.
- ☐ balancing dog exercise with other park uses.
- ☐ conflicts between some groups of park users and residents.
- ☐ litter disposal.
- ☐ vehicle access and parking in New Beach Road.
- ☐ need for shaded playground facilities.

Strategies and Actions

This Plan of Management has been prepared with a series of Action Plans linked to the values. Strategies, actions, priorities, responsibilities, costs, and performance measurement are outlined, which will be incorporated into budgets and work programs. The key actions in this Plan of Management include:

Short Term

- ☐ upgrade the children's playground in Yarranabbe Park.
- ☐ improve pedestrian and cycle access to and within the Parks and Reserve via footbridges across the stormwater channel in Rushcutters Bay Park, and via footpaths.
- ☐ install a children's playground in Rushcutters Bay Park.

Medium Term

- ☐ investigate a foreshore link between the two parks.
- ☐ enhance entry points to Rushcutters Bay Park with signage, lighting and landscaping.
- ☐ carry out tree planting in accordance with the Landscape Masterplan.
- ☐ provide shaded and unshaded seating.
- ☐ Install floodlighting to facilitate night use of sporting fields.
- ☐ improve pedestrian lighting in both Parks and rationalise lighting in Yarranabbe Park.
- ☐ improve irrigation and drainage in Yarranabbe Park.
- ☐ provide bubblers for drinking water.

Long Term

- ☐ install a fitness station in Yarranabbe Park.

Ongoing

- ☐ coordinated management of Rushcutters Bay Park with City of Sydney.
- ☐ coordinated management of Sir David Martin Reserve.

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Acknowledgements

The consultants particularly wish to thank the following people who contributed towards the preparation of this Plan of Management.

Department of Lands

John Filocamo	Manager – Land Management and Planning
Ian Ferguson	Natural Resources Project Officer

Woollahra Council

David Sheils	Manager, Public Open Space
Scot Hedge	Parks and Recreation Coordinator
Rod Ward	Project Manager Public Open Space
Nicola Winfield	Recreational Bookings Coordinator

Chris Bluett	Manager, Strategic Planning
Libby Maher	Strategic Heritage Officer

Librarians	Local History Collection
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Other government organisations

City of Sydney
NSW Maritime
Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources

Resident groups

Morris Seamonds	Rushcutters Bay Foreshore Protection Association
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Neighbours

Mark Woolf	Cruising Yacht Club of Australia
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 What is a Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management is a document that outlines how a park or reserve will be used, improved and managed in the future. A Plan of Management is typically accompanied by a Landscape Masterplan (refer to **Section 6.1**) that shows proposed on-the-ground changes to a park or reserve.

1.2 Land to which this Plan of Management applies

This Plan of Management applies to Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park, and Plantation Reserve (the Parks and Reserve) adjoining Rushcutters Bay at Darling Point.

Refer to **Figure 1.1** for the location of the Parks and Reserve.

The Parks and Reserve are Crown land and therefore managed in accordance with the *Crown Lands Act 1989* (CLA). The Parks and Reserve are managed by Reserve Trusts appointed under the CLA. The preparation of this Plan of Management has been undertaken in accordance with Section 112 of the CLA (refer to **Section 3.2**). The Reserve Trusts for both Parks and the Reserve are managed by Woollahra Council as Trust Manager, appointed under Section 95 of the CLA. The CLA can be viewed at www.legislation.nsw.gov.au.

1.3 Why prepare a Plan of Management for the Parks and Reserve?

Reserve Trusts are not obliged to prepare a Plan of Management for Crown reserves under their care, control and management. However, Woollahra Council as the Trust Managers has, in accordance with Section 112 of CLA, proposed the Plan of Management for the Parks and Reserve to:

- ❑ review and update the previous Plan of Management for the Parks and Reserve that was adopted in 1998. Council prepared the Plan of Management in 1998 because of the importance of the recreational opportunities afforded by the Parks, and the importance of the two Parks and the Reserve to the staging of significant events of recreational, cultural, social and/or economic importance. That Plan addressed short-term and long-term management of the Parks and Reserve. Short term use of the Parks included the shore base for sailing events associated with the 2000 Sydney Olympic and Paralympic Games. The 1998 Plan of Management specified that the Plan was to be reviewed within 7 years.
- ❑ address recent management issues and outline planned improvements consistent with the values of the Parks and Reserve.

This Plan of Management does not propose any significant changes for uses or management direction for the Parks and Reserve. It does recommend management actions aimed at meeting current demands of park users, and highlighting the parks and reserve's significance in a local and regional context.

Figure 1.1: Location of Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve



1.4 Objectives of this Plan of Management

This Plan of Management aims to:

- ❑ provide Woollahra Council as Trust Manager with a sound basis and strategic direction to guide decisions for the ongoing care, control and management of Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park, and Plantation Reserve.
- ❑ meet all relevant legislative requirements, particularly the *Crown Lands Act 1989*.
- ❑ be consistent with the Plans of Management for the adjacent land in Rushcutters Bay Park within the City of Sydney, and for Sir David Martin Reserve.

This Plan of Management recognises the intrinsic values of the Parks and Reserve, as well as the values the community currently places on the Parks and Reserve along with their respective reserve purposes. It provides Council with a framework within which proposed changes to the use and management of the Parks and Reserve can be evaluated against the values identified in the Plan of Management. A decision can then be made on whether the proposed changes are compatible with the defined values of the Parks and Reserve. The Plan of Management, once adopted, binds the Trust and its successors to the objectives set and the progressive implementation of the strategies listed.

1.5 Process of preparing this Plan of Management

The process of preparing this Plan of Management, consultations with stakeholders and the community, and documents produced at each stage, is shown in **Figure 1.2**.

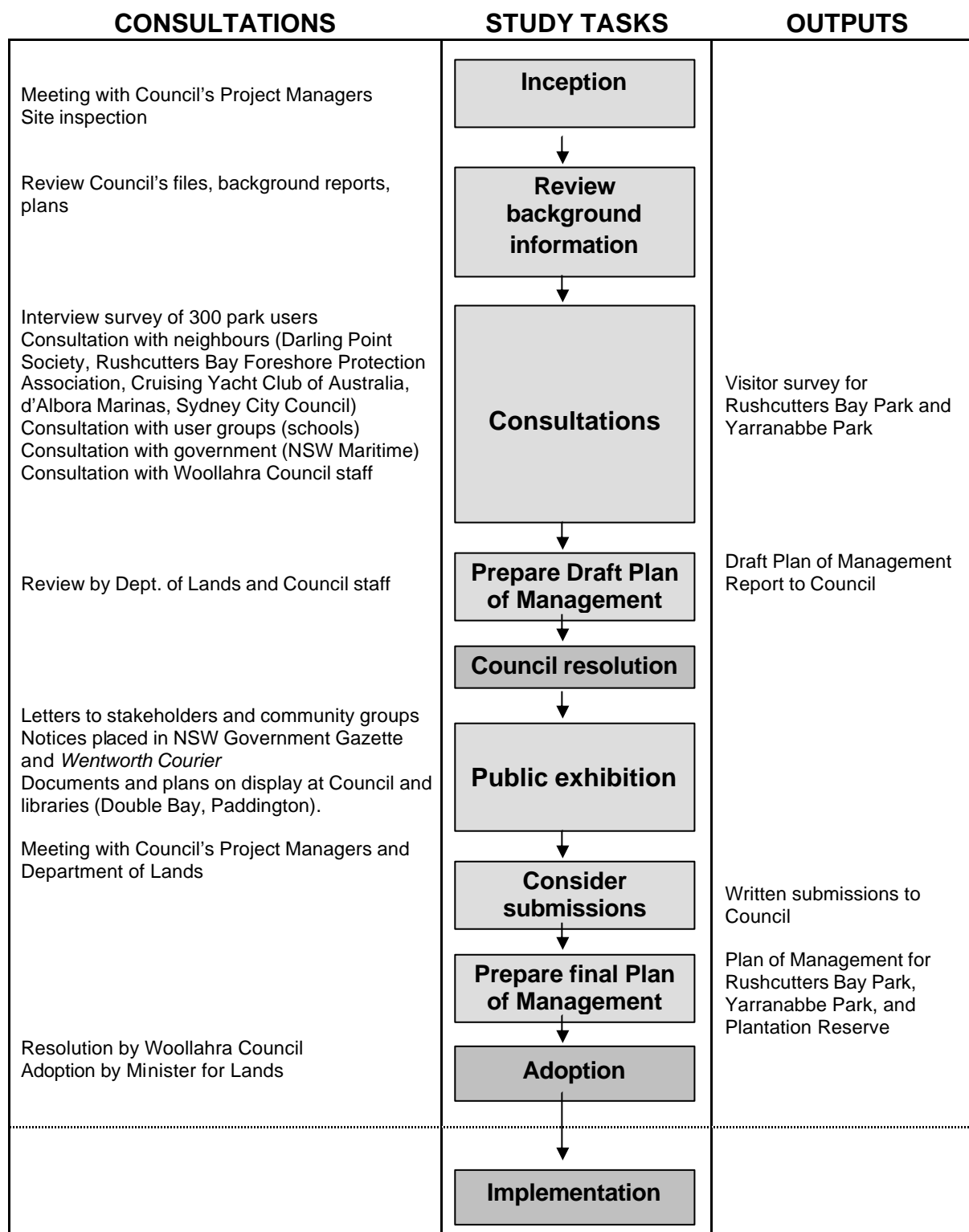
A broad-ranging community consultation program was undertaken as part of preparing the 1998 Plan of Management for the Parks and Reserve. This included:

- ❑ advertising in local newspapers advising of the preparation of the Plan of Management.
- ❑ holding a workshop in November 1997 to which all Councillors and senior staff were invited.
- ❑ holding two community workshops in November 1997. Approximately 1,800 invitation letters were sent to residents, community groups, recreation groups and commercial interests in the area. The workshops were attended by 96 people in total.
- ❑ consulting with a range of commercial users, neighbours, recreation and sporting groups.
- ❑ consulting with relevant State government departments and the former South Sydney Council.
- ❑ consulting with event organisers (Tropfest and the Olympic Co-ordination Authority).

Preparation of this Plan of Management involved:

- ❑ reviewing the 1998 Plan of Management.
- ❑ interviewing 300 users of Rushcutters and Yarranabbe Parks.
- ❑ consulting further with stakeholders, including government (Department of Lands, NSW Maritime, City of Sydney Council); local residents' groups (Darling Point Society, Rushcutters Bay Foreshore Protection Association); and neighbours (Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, D'Albora Marina).
- ❑ community comment on the draft Plan of Management during the public exhibition in June-July 2005.

Figure 1.2 – Process of preparing this Plan of Management



The process required by the Department of Lands for preparation of the Plan of Management is:

- ❑ referring the draft Plan of Management to the Department of Lands for comment prior to the public exhibition under Section 112 of CLA.
- ❑ placing a public notice in the NSW Government Gazette and in local newspapers advising the public of the public exhibition under Section .
- ❑ publicly exhibiting the draft Plan of Management for not less than 28 days to allow for submissions to be made on the Plan of Management under Section 113 of the CLA.
- ❑ referring public submissions regarding the draft Plan of Management to both the Minister for Lands and Woollahra Council as Trust Manager for consideration by the Minister prior to adoption.
- ❑ making any alterations to the Plan of Management as required by the Minister under Section 114 of the CLA.
- ❑ adopting the Plan of Management by Woollahra Council, and by the Minister for Lands under Section 114 of the CLA.
- ❑ following the adopted Plan of Management, with all operations (activities, uses and developments) being in accordance with the adopted Plan.

1.8 Structure of this Plan

This Plan of Management is divided into the following sections, as outlined in **Table 1.3**.

Table 1.1: Structure of this Plan of Management

Section	What does it include?
1 Introduction	Background to the Plan of Management
2 Description of the Parks and Reserve	History, facilities, uses, physical description, maintenance
3 Basis for Management	State government planning legislation, local planning context Values of the community and users, vision, roles, management objectives
4 Planning Issues	Discussion of current issues and options, strategies and actions to resolve issues
5 Action Plan	Landscape Masterplan, issues, desired outcomes, actions required to implement management strategies
6 Implementation and review	Leases and licences, future uses and developments, maintenance, review

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE PARKS AND RESERVE

2.1 Location and context

Figure 2.1 shows the location and context of the Parks and Reserve.

Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park are located on the foreshores of Rushcutters Bay on Sydney Harbour. Plantation Reserve is a narrow 4.6 metre wide strip covering 0.08 hectares, which abuts New Beach Road between Rushcutters Bay Park and Sir David Martin Reserve. Plantation Reserve adjoins the CYCA and d'Albora Marinas special leases and the south-eastern part of Sir David Martin Reserve.

Rushcutters Bay Park is located in both Sydney City Council and Woollahra Municipal Council areas. The part of Rushcutters Bay Park that is managed by Woollahra Municipal Council, is bounded by:

- ❑ Rushcutters Bay to the north. The northern boundary of the Park is mean high water mark, marked by the outer face of the sea wall.
- ❑ The Sydney Water-owned stormwater drainage channel to the west. Rushcutters Bay Park further extends on the western side of the drainage channel. The channel has been excised from the Park and is the administrative boundary between Woollahra and City of Sydney Councils. City of Sydney Council manages the western section of Rushcutters Bay Park, which includes Reg Bartley Oval, a tennis complex, kiosk and childcare centre. A separate Plan of Management has been prepared by the former South Sydney City Council for the western section of Rushcutters Bay Park.
- ❑ New South Head Road to the south.
- ❑ New Beach Road to the south-east.
- ❑ The Special Lease of the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia (CYCA) on the north-eastern boundary.

Further to the north of the CYCA, D'Albora Marina provides 102 floating berths, a 20 ton vertical lift slipway served by 7 cradles, a fully equipped workshop, and boat fuelling facilities.

Sir David Martin Reserve adjoins D'Albora Marina and the southern boundary of Yarranabbe Park. The Reserve includes a number of buildings of various ages dating from the late 19th century clustered around a former Parade Ground. The Reserve was used as the base for sailing competition during the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The reserve is Crown land reserved for Public Recreation and Public Maritime purposes. Uses on the reserves must be ancillary and supportive of public recreation and maritime.

Existing uses of Sir David Martin Reserve include:

- ❑ use of the boat shed by the Royal Australian Naval Sailing Association Sydney Squadron Limited (RANSA) for boat storage, and a clubhouse including outdoor eating facilities and a bar; and organising sailing activities.
- ❑ St Vincent's Community Care uses The Cottage.
- ❑ Performance Development Centre for theatre and dance, arts and cultural activities in the Drill Hall and Extension.
- ❑ passive recreation, such as walking, running, picnicking, and viewing the harbour.

None of these uses conflict with uses of the adjoining Yarranabbe Park.

Yarranabbe Park is bounded by New Beach Road to the east, Sir David Martin Reserve to the south. Mean high water mark, marked by the outer face of the sea wall, forms the seaward boundary of Yarranabbe Park.

The predominant character of the Parks is grassed parkland characterised by large mature trees and wide expanses of open space. The generous and attractive open space of the three reserves make this a popular and heavily used public recreation area by walkers, dog exercisers, joggers, picnickers and sporting users.

The Parks and Reserve adjoin the residential area of Darling Point.

2.2 Land ownership and management

The three subject reserves are owned by the State of New South Wales as Crown land and administered by the Department of Lands under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. The parks and reserve are managed by three separate Reserve Trusts with Woollahra Council as Trust Manager. Land ownership and management details are outlined in **Table 2.1** and the relevant lot numbers for the land parcels is shown on **Figure 2.1**.

Table 2.1: Crown reserve details

	Rushcutters Bay Park	Yarranabbe Park	Plantation Reserve
Crown Reserve no.	Part P500097 ⁽¹⁾	R76319	R47337
Area (hectares)	6.4 ha	2.592 ha	0.080 ha
Lot / Deposited Plan	WH 7081 // 752011	WH 208 // 752011 WH 1666 // 752011 WH 7042 // 752011 WH 7043 // 752011 WH 7044 // 752011 WH 7045 // 752011	WH // 7039 // 752011
Easements	Drainage easement 3.05 metres wide (DP 222327) which crosses the park west to east.	None	None
Reserved / date of gazettal	Proclaimed a public park on 11 Dec 1885	23 Oct 1953	3 Jan 1912
Public Purpose	Public Recreation	Public Recreation	Access Plantation
Reserve Trust	Rushcutters Bay Park (P500097) Reserve Trust	Yarranabbe Park (R76319) Reserve Trust	Darling Point (R47337) Reserve Trust (named but not appointed)
Trust Manager	Woollahra Council Appointed 19 Nov 1999	Woollahra Council Appointed 20 Nov 1959	Woollahra Council Appointed 31 Jan 1912
Native Title	Extinguished 30 Aug 1994	Extinguished 29 Apr 1998	Extinguished 29 Apr 1998
Leases	Tarcorp Pty Ltd (kiosk) From 12 November 2003 to 3 March 2011	none	none
Licenses ⁽²⁾	none	none	none

Note: (1) Woollahra Council and City of Sydney share trusteeship of Rushcutters Bay Park based on Local Government boundaries.

Note: (2) Under Section 108 of the CLA a reserve trust may grant temporary licences for grazing or other prescribed purposes. The purposes are prescribed in Clause 32 of the Crown Lands Regulation 2000 and include entertainments and sporting and organised recreational activities. Under Section 106, proceeds from leases and licences are to be applied in accordance with directions given by the Minister or for the general purposes of the reserve trust in the absence of a direction.

Rushcutters Bay Park includes a drainage easement 3.05 metres wide (DP 222327) which crosses the Park from west to east.

Figure 2.1 Lot and DP Numbers for Land Parcels for the Parks and Reserve



2.3 History

2.3.1 Indigenous history

As Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park are reclaimed land, there are no historical remains relating to the area the Parks now occupy.

The indigenous inhabitants comprised members of at least two Aboriginal clans – the Cadigal on the southern shore of Sydney Harbour, and the Birrabirralah of South Head and nearby coastal areas. In 1789, approximately half of the known local Aboriginal population was killed by disease. Subsequent occupation and clearing of land through land grants and settlement hastened the demise of traditional Aboriginal land use within the Sydney area.

The Aboriginal association with Sydney Harbour for fishing and its foreshores for hunting and food gathering is well documented through the presence of rock engravings, shelters, middens, burials and art within Woollahra Municipality. The Aboriginal association with the land away from the harbour foreshores is less clear.

2.3.2 European history

Historical events

Rushcutters Bay was named after the rush cutters who harvested the wetland reeds for thatched roofs in the early days of the colony.

The name Yarranabbe possibly originated from the Darling Point area, which was originally known as Yaranabe; or after a Sydney-based clan of that name; or after an Aborigine by the name of Yeranibe who assimilated into the European settlement during the early days of the colony.

Key dates and events in the European history of the Parks and Reserve are outlined in **Table 2.2** below.

Table 2.2: History of Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve

Date	Explanation
Pre 1788	Rushcutters Bay is a swamp area, with the high water mark on the east side running approximately along the present line of New Beach Road.
1788	Two convicts cutting rushes at the head of the Bay were killed during an altercation with certain Aborigines, whose canoe they appear to have taken from one of the fishing places. (This account has been challenged by some, who say the incident took place in Cockle Bay.)
Late 1700s	Through common usage the Aboriginal name, Kogarah, changes to Rushcutters Bay.
1812	Thomas West obtains a grant from Governor Macquarie and built the first mill on Rushcutters Creek, producing most of the settlement's flour.
1812	The western portion of the foreshore is almost at the corner of Bayswater and New South Head Roads.
1817	Forty acres of land extending south in a wedge-shaped parcel from Rushcutters Bay to Old South Head Road was granted to William Thomas. The low-lying part proved ideal for market gardening, conducted by lessees.
1818	First detailed land survey of the area.
1830	New South Head Road was built, running through William Thomas's land.
1833	John Eyre Manning, Registrar of the Supreme Court, established a vineyard with grapes believed to supplement those from the Vaucluse House vineyard.
1834	A wooden trestle bridge was built near the foreshore across the creek to west Rushcutters Bay Park.

Table 2.2: History of Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve (cont.)

Date	Explanation
1839	The wooden bridge was replaced by a stone arch bridge.
1842	Sydney Town was incorporated and the creek flowing into the western side of the head of Rushcutters Bay is fixed as the boundary of the municipal area. This boundary remained when Woollahra was incorporated.
1844	Thomas West was granted 71 acres, with the northern boundary extending to the Rushcutters Bay waterfront.
1849	A toll was imposed on New South Head Road at the bridge to meet road maintenance costs. Tolls were collected until 1894.
By 1860	The land adjacent to Rushcutters Bay was under intense cultivation, with leases having gradually been taken over by Chinese people from European settlers.
1860s and 1870s	The area was considered unhealthy and unsightly. The foreshore was particularly offensive at low tide, becoming a large swampy waste of muddy dirty reeds, sandbanks and aquatic plants grazed by cattle and horses.
Late 1870s	Rushcutter residents complained of foul and polluted drains from Glenmore emptying into the Bay, and the stench and filth.
1875	Petition from people requesting reclamation of the Bay.
1878	Rushcutters Bay Park was dedicated for Public Recreation on 20 May 1878 under the <i>Rushcutters Bay Act 1878</i> .
Late 1870s – 1890s	Eastern suburbs residents requested the government to consider resumption of the land to prevent building, afraid of the consequences of the sewage from developments up the valley being deposited on the Rushcutters Bay land. Representations were unsuccessful.
1880s and 1890s	The Rushcutters Bay foreshores (including land now known as Yarranabbe Park) was reclaimed by extending the land into the Bay about 200 metres, up to the present sea wall. Native rushes gave way to cultivated crops.
1882-1898	The Rushcutters Bay stormwater channel was constructed.
1885	Rushcutters Bay Park was proclaimed as a Public Park on 11 December 1885 under the <i>Public Parks Act 1884</i> .
1885-1894	Three house boats and associated skids were constructed.
1889	The water frontage in the area was designated as a public landing place, and a slip was provided for public use.
1890	The sea wall was built.
1904	First swimming sports were held in public baths in Rushcutters Bay, with separate men's and ladies' baths.
1920	Football was played at Rushcutters Bay Park.
1944	The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia (CYCA) was formed.
1945	The first of the annual 680 nautical mile Sydney to Hobart yacht races were run by CYCA, starting on Boxing Day.
1951	CYCA acquired a boatshed at Rushcutters Bay, and opened its club house to the east of Rushcutters Bay Park in 1958.
1950-1965	Construction of Eastern Suburbs Railway Line to the west of Rushcutters Bay Park. After considerable debate from 1946-1950 about the alignment, Rushcutters Bay Park was mostly protected and the Rushcutters Bay Stadium was demolished to make way for the line.
~1957	Plans for the kiosk were lodged with Council in September. It is likely construction of the kiosk occurred soon after.
1960s	Circuses were held at Rushcutters Bay Park.
1966	Royal Navy Sailing Association formed to promote sailing in the Royal Australian Navy, operating out of a boatshed in HMAS Rushcutter, located immediately to the south of Yarranabbe Park. Their lease permits storage, slipping and maintenance of boats, associated clubhouse and organising sailing activities.
1968	HMAS Rushcutter was decommissioned on 29 July. Commonwealth land transferred to State

Table 2.2: History of Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve (cont.)

Date	Explanation
1974	Woollahra Council resolves to demolish the public baths in the Bay.
1983	Rushcutters Bay Park was being used by fishermen, joggers, and people playing field sports.
1991	HMAS Rushcutter was renamed Sir David Martin Reserve.
2000	Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Sir David Martin Reserve were used as the Olympic Sailing Shore Base for the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games.
2001	A new public jetty for water taxis and a new pathway along the seawall was constructed at Yarranabbe Park with the winding up of the Olympic Co-ordination Authority.

Heritage items

There are two listed heritage items located adjacent to the Parks and Reserve.

1. The Rushcutters Bay Stormwater Channel adjoins the western boundary of Rushcutters Bay Park, and forms the boundary between Woollahra and City of Sydney. The Channel is owned and managed by Sydney Water.

The channel is listed on the State Heritage Register (listing No. 003313), and Sydney Water's Heritage Register.

According to the State Heritage Inventory, the channel was built between 1882 and 1898 of predominantly reinforced concrete and vitrified clay. Some portions also have stone lying over the concrete. At Rushcutters Bay the channel is open, with dimensions of 11.5 metres x 2.3 metres. This narrows to approximately 7.1 metres x 1.8 metres at New South Head Road.

The State Heritage Inventory notes that the channel is historically significant because it was one of the first stormwater drains built in Sydney. The channel is considered a good example of its type in Sydney and has remained largely unaltered. It is a significant feature through Rushcutters Bay. It is socially significant in that it helped improve public health in the 1890s. Prior to this stormwater channels were constructed unlined, which led to unsanitary public health conditions. The system of stormwater channels was an important feature in reducing illness in the area. It was one of the first canals for the rational disposal of stormwater and effluent and is tangible evidence of that historically successful method of collection and dispersal. It is representative of what became a standard method of stormwater disposal.

Sydney Water has listed the site of the stormwater channel on its Heritage Register in recognition of its significance to the people of NSW.

The NSW Heritage Office recommends that the stormwater channel be managed in accordance with the State Owned Heritage Asset Management Guidelines, contained in *Management of Heritage Assets by NSW Government Agencies*, published by the Heritage Office, January 2005. Works to the stormwater channel site may require additional assessment and approval.

2. Portion of Plantation Reserve adjoining portions 1141 and 1142 of Sir David Martin Reserve. Woollahra LEP (Amendment 38) refers to uses permitted on Sir David Martin Reserve, which is listed as a heritage item in Schedule 3 of the Woollahra LEP 1995. It appears that the significance of the portion of Plantation Reserve relates to it being adjacent to Sir David Martin Reserve and thereby influencing use of Sir David Martin Reserve.

Significant trees

Woollahra Council has compiled a register of significant trees throughout the municipal area, providing data on their species, significance, size, age and health. All the large trees lining the boundaries of the Parks with New South Head and New Beach Roads, as well as those lining the diagonal path through Rushcutters Bay Park, are identified in the Register.

The Register lists the following trees in Rushcutters Bay Park:

- ❑ Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus macrophylla*) along the park boundary with New South Head Road, the south western corner beside the stormwater canal, and along the central diagonal footpath.
- ❑ London Plane Trees (*Platanus x hybrida*) located along the central diagonal footpath and along the western boundary of the Park, and an individual in the row along New South Head Road.
- ❑ Port Jackson Figs (*Ficus rubignosa*) in the south-west corner of the Park and on the central diagonal footpath.

The statement of significance for the trees in Rushcutters Bay Park states that the rows of huge Moreton Bay Figs along New South Head Road form a distinctive entry to the municipality, and provide a dense green foil to the city traffic. This stand of trees is the first major green belt experienced by through traffic after Hyde Park. The Plane Trees are co-dominant with the Moreton Bay Figs, and to a lesser extent the Port Jackson Figs have also been incorporated in the park design. Rushcutters Bay Park is the only park in the Woollahra municipality that contains London Plane Trees as a co-dominant species with the Figs, and together these trees are culturally and visually significant.

The Register lists the following trees as significant in Yarranabbe Park:

- ❑ Hill's Weeping Figs (*Ficus hillii*) located in a row in the lawn adjacent to New Beach Road.
- ❑ Washington Palms (*Washingtonia robusta*) remnant planting located within the row of Figs in the lawn adjacent to New Beach Road.

The statement of significance for Yarranabbe Park states that the Hills Weeping Fig is a dominant component in many street planting schemes in Woollahra, and these trees are a continuation of the New Beach Road and Rushcutters Bay Park plantings. Originally a continuous avenue of trees extended along New Beach Road. The stand in Yarranabbe Park forms a strong visual statement on the border, with under-pruning creating a magnificent sculptural element. These Figs have a history of vandalism by people wishing to preserve or create water views, and the current management practice is to retain existing views with directional pruning. Gaps in the avenue of trees now exist. The Washington Palms are historically and visually significant in terms of continuing the common thematic palm plantings on the Darling Point peninsula.

While there are no explicitly specified implications for care, control and management of a tree once it has been listed in the Register, management of the trees should take into account that Council considers them to be significant, and the character provided by the trees should be maintained in new or replacement programs.

2.4 Physical characteristics

2.4.1 Microclimate

The Parks have a northerly and western aspect. Shade is provided by the large fig trees along New South Head Road, New Beach Road, along the central diagonal path in Rushcutters Bay Park, and by trees along the eastern side of Yarranabbe Park. The open grassed sections of the Parks, particularly along the foreshore and in the centre of the Parks, are particularly exposed to direct sunshine. Cooling breezes originate from the harbour.

2.4.2 Landform, soils and drainage

Landform and topography

The topography of the Parks and Reserve is generally flat, with gently to steep sloping grassed banks in Rushcutters Bay Park adjoining New South Head Road and New Beach Road.

Geology and soils

Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks were formerly estuarine marshland. In 1878 the land was resumed by the NSW Government and was reclaimed from Sydney Harbour by draining and levelling it.

Hydrology and drainage

The Parks appear to be well drained, with little or no ponding of water after rain.

Recently-completed sportsground renovation works have improved drainage of Oval No. 2 in Rushcutters Bay Park.

Bore water is used to irrigate both playing fields in Rushcutters Bay Park. An irrigation system is available in Yarranabbe Park, but as this site does not have access to bore water the irrigation system is turned off during periods of water restrictions.

2.4.3 Flora and fauna

The draft Development Control Plan for *Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004* (referred to as the draft SREP 2004) identified that the Parks are classified as a Grassland ecological community, which has a low conservation status. An area of seagrass beds adjacent to the southern half of Yarranabbe Park has a high conservation status.

Flora

As the Parks and Reserve are reclaimed land, they contain no remnant vegetation. However, the Parks do contain a variety of vegetation, including groves of mature trees in generally good health (Moreton Bay and Port Jackson Figs, Hill's Weeping Figs, London Plane Trees, and Washington Palms), garden beds and open grassed areas.

Almost all the trees in the Parks are considered significant by Woollahra Council and have been listed on the Significant Trees Register (refer to **Section 2.3.2**).

Fauna

The Parks provide refuge for birds, as well as lizards, possums and other small fauna that live in trees and grass. Flying foxes use the mature fig trees for foraging.

2.5 Visual assessment

The dominant visual elements of Rushcutters Bay Park are the mature fig trees, open grassed areas, and the kiosk building. Trees enclose the Park on its southern and eastern sides.

Views into the Parks are available from Sydney Harbour and filtered views from surrounding high density residential development on the Darling Point ridge. Views from the Parks are framed by the masts of yachts moored in Rushcutters Bay to the north, and by dense mature trees to the south.

Yarranabbe Park is largely an open, grassed area that allows views of the harbour from most points within the Park. Dominant views from Yarranabbe Park include Garden Island, the Sydney Harbour Bridge, and the North Shore.

2.6 Access and circulation

2.6.1 Access to the Parks and Reserve

The Parks and Reserve are easily accessible by foot, bicycle, private vehicle, bus and train.

A regional cycleway route identified in the Woollahra Bike Plan (2000) links Rushcutters Bay Park with Vaucluse. The shared pedestrian/cycle path identified in the Bike Plan has been constructed through Rushcutters Bay Park from the timber bridge to New Beach Road.

Vehicles can access the Parks and Reserve from surrounding streets. No public vehicle parking is provided for in the Parks and Reserve, except for the start of the Sydney-Hobart yacht race on Boxing Day each year. On-street parallel parking is available in surrounding streets.

Emergency and maintenance vehicle access to the Parks is available via Rushcutters Bay Park (2 points off New Beach Road) and Yarranabbe Park (1 point off New Beach Road). Plantation Reserve facilitates vehicle access to the Cruising Yacht Club, d'Albora Marina, and Sir David Martin Reserve in numerous places.

The Parks and Reserve are directly serviced by bus routes, with bus stops on Bayswater Road, New South Head Road and New Beach Road. Major State Transit bus routes to the eastern suburbs operate along New South Head Road. The Bondi and Bay Explorer stops outside the Cruising Yacht Club near Loftus Street. A local bus stop is located south of the New Beach Road / Yarranabbe Road roundabout.

Edgecliff railway station on the Eastern Suburbs line is 400 metres away from Rushcutters Bay Park.

A ferry operates between Circular Quay and Darling Point, 700 metres walk from Yarranabbe Park, on weekdays.

2.6.2 Circulation within the Parks and Reserve

Pedestrian

Pedestrian entry points to the Parks and Reserve are via:

- ❑ two footbridges (one timber, one concrete) across the stormwater channel from Reg Bartley Oval.
- ❑ footpaths along New Beach Road and New South Head Road.
- ❑ steps at the corner of New Beach Road and New South Head Road.

Concrete and bitumen pathways within the Parks are shown on **Figures 5.1 and 5.2**. The pathway along the foreshore in Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park is wider than other paths in the Parks to accommodate high levels of use and allows promenading. The central pathway in Rushcutters Bay Park was upgraded in late 2004 providing improved access to the kiosk from New Beach Road and Bayswater Road.

People with disabilities

The Woollahra Disability Access Policy and Action Plan (Woollahra Council, 2001) aims to provide for use of open space by people with disabilities. The Parks and Reserve allow use by people with all levels of physical ability.

Access points and footpaths in the Parks and Reserve comply with the requirements of the *Disability Discrimination Act* and AS 1428 – Design for Access and Mobility. Two parking spaces are reserved

for people with disabilities off New Beach Road in front of the Cruising Yacht Club. However, level access to the footpath in Plantation Reserve is not available from the car spaces.

Accessible toilets are provided behind the kiosk in Rushcutters Bay Park.

Vehicles

The entry of unauthorised vehicles on to the Parks is prohibited through signage. Authorised maintenance and emergency vehicles use limited designated access points and pathways within the Parks.

2.7 Built facilities and park furniture

2.7.1 Rushcutters Bay Park

Built structures in Rushcutters Bay Park are:

- ❑ a kiosk with associated outdoor seating area and toilets, located in the centre of the park. The kiosk serves snacks, light meals and non-alcoholic beverages to take away or be consumed on the premises consistent with the Department of Lands' Food and Beverage Outlets Policy.
- ❑ two sporting fields. Soccer (Oval No. 1) and rugby (Oval No. 2) goalposts are provided for winter sport. One synthetic cricket wicket is provided next to Oval No. 2 for cricket in summer.
- ❑ an exercise station in the north-western section of the Park.
- ❑ a sandstone sea wall.
- ❑ an observation bay on the foreshore.
- ❑ two footbridges (one timber, one concrete) over the Sydney Water drainage channel.
- ❑ seating along the foreshore.
- ❑ pathways, some of which were recently upgraded.
- ❑ lighting along footpaths, which has also been recently upgraded.

The open grassed areas in the Park, including the sporting fields, are in good to excellent condition. Shading of grass by the mature fig trees has resulted in bare patches under the trees.

2.7.2 Yarranabbe Park

Structures in Yarranabbe Park are:

- ❑ an unfenced children's playground, which is in reasonable condition, but requires upgrading of equipment and softfall, and shade.
- ❑ two rows of lighting.
- ❑ a pathway along the foreshore, which is in excellent condition but narrows in the northern section of the Park.
- ❑ a Sydney Water sub-station and sewage pumping station

Turf coverage in Yarranabbe Park is in fair to good condition.

2.7.3 Plantation Reserve

Built structures in Plantation Reserve are the footpath and vehicle driveways, and planter boxes outside the Cruising Yacht Club.

2.8 Services and infrastructure

Electricity, gas, sewage, drainage and irrigation connections are available in the Parks.

2.9 Use of the Parks and Reserve

2.9.1 Park user profile

A survey of visitors to Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park was undertaken in March 2005 (Integrated Open Space Services, 2005). Refer to **Appendix A** for a summary of the survey results.

The survey results showed that a high percentage of visitors use both Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park in the same visit.

Survey results:

- ☐ 60% were aged between 25 and 44 years.
- ☐ 52% were male and 48% were female.
- ☐ 60% were employed full-time.
- ☐ 62% lived within approximately 1 kilometre of the park. The parks also attracted overseas visitors (9% of users).
- ☐ visited regularly (69% visited at least once a week).
- ☐ 55% visited on any day of the week, 22% on weekends, 20% on weekdays and 2% on holidays.
- ☐ 40% visited by themselves, 34% with another person. Each visitor was with a group of an average size of 2.6 people.
- ☐ 66% walked to the park.
- ☐ 40% entered the park from New Beach Road or 29% from Reg Bartley Oval.
- ☐ Walked / strolled / walked the dog (51%), used the kiosk (40%), relaxed / slept (27%), and children's play (19%).
- ☐ mostly visited the foreshore areas (50% of Rushcutters Bay Park users, 28% of Yarranabbe Park users), followed by the kiosk area in Rushcutters Bay Park.
- ☐ used the footpaths in the parks (83%), followed by seats (41%) and the kiosk (40%).
- ☐ stayed between half an hour and two hours (62%).
- ☐ most liked the scenic landscape (74%), followed by the tranquil, relaxing atmosphere.
- ☐ did not dislike any aspect of the Parks (66%). The key issue raised by other park users was dog management (12% of users).
- ☐ suggested improvements or changes to the Parks mostly in the form of dog and litter management.

2.9.2 Uses of the Parks and Reserve

The visitor survey and observations found that popular recreational activities undertaken in either of Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park were on that occasion:

Major activities

using the kiosk in Rushcutters Bay Park
walking / strolling
relaxing / sleeping
walking the dog
children's play
socialising
training / exercising
reading / writing
sunbaking
sightseeing
picnicking
playing ball games / sport
watching people
passing through
jogging / running
watching sport

Minor activities

fishing
cycling
parties
lunch break
working / studying
kite flying
painting
riding scooters
playing volleyball

Further details about proposed management of these activities are in **Sections 4, 5 and 6**.

Rushcutters Bay Park

Informal activities

Most, if not all, informal activities listed above take place in Rushcutters Bay Park.

Unleashed dog exercise is permitted in the Park between 4.30pm and 8.30am. Leashed dogs are permitted at other times.

Organised activities

Rushcutters Bay Park is also used for numerous activities, including:

- ☐ Australia Day celebrations
- ☐ Social gatherings
- ☐ Social cricket games
- ☐ Weddings and ceremonies
- ☐ Corporate staff picnics and games afternoons
- ☐ Corporate sport – touch football and cricket
- ☐ Fun day for local residents
- ☐ Helicopter landings
- ☐ End of year school and corporate picnics
- ☐ Radio station promotions
- ☐ School fun runs and walkathons
- ☐ School softball games
- ☐ Film shoots
- ☐ School physical education classes.

Seasonal bookings of the two sporting fields in Rushcutters Bay Park by schools in 2004 are shown in Table 2.3 overleaf.

Table 2.3: Organised sporting use of Rushcutters Bay Park in 2004

Time	Day						
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
Winter							
Morning	-	-	-	Scots Prep (soccer)	-	Sydney Grammar (soccer, rugby)	-
Afternoon	Sydney Grammar (soccer, rugby)	Scots Prep (soccer); Sydney Grammar (soccer, rugby)	Sydney Grammar (soccer, rugby)	Scots Prep (soccer); Sydney Grammar (soccer, rugby)	-	Sydney Grammar (soccer, rugby)	-
Evening	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Summer							
Morning	-	-	-	-	-	Sydney Grammar cricket	-
Afternoon	-	Scots Prep cricket	-	Scots Prep cricket	-	Sydney Grammar cricket	-
Evening	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Rushcutters Bay Park Bookings 2004 - Woollahra Municipal Council, and from schools.

Note: Night use for sports training is prevented by the absence of sports lighting.

SCEGGS Darlinghurst use the fields casually for physical education classes during school time in summer and winter.

Sports organisers from schools using Rushcutters Bay Park for sport were asked about their usage of the Park, their impressions of the Park, and how it met their needs for school sport. The most common reasons for use of the Park is because of the proximity of the fields to their school, insufficient or inappropriate facilities at the schools, and the good standard of maintenance of the fields.

Yarranabbe Park

Yarranabbe Park is used for a wide range of public recreational activities including walking, dog walking, exercising, picnicking, children's play, and accessing Sydney Harbour from the jetty. With dramatic views of the Sydney City skyline, the Park is used by spectators during festivities on the Harbour and for fireworks events.

Off-leash dog exercise is permitted in Yarranabbe Park 24 hours a day.

Yarranabbe Park is used for events such as Australia Day celebrations, weddings, and children's birthday parties.

Plantation Reserve

Key uses of Plantation Reserve are walking and cycling along the footpath, and gaining pedestrian and vehicle access to the Cruising Yacht Club, d'Albora Marina and Sir David Martin Reserve.

2.9.3 Leases and licences

One lease applies to use of facilities within Rushcutters Bay Park as follows.

Table 2.4: Current lease in Rushcutters Bay Park

Lease / licence	Lease
Lessor	Rushcutters Bay Park (P500097) Woollahra Reserve Trust
Lessee	Tarcorp Pty Ltd
Facility	Shop premises known as Rushcutters Bay Park Kiosk (54m ²)
Permitted use	Kiosk and outdoor eating area
Term	7 years, 3 months, 22 days 12 November 2003 to 3 March 2011.
Lessor responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Oversee operation of the kiosk and lease. <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance of the remainder of the building not occupied by the kiosk.
Lessee responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet all relevant health and hygiene standards in food preparation, serving and other working areas. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide all services in a prompt, courteous and efficient manner. <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure the premises are not used for any purpose that unreasonably interferes with the amenity of the Park or the neighbourhood. <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain the premises and fixtures in good condition.

Temporary licences are granted by the trust/s for prescribed purposes under Section 108 of the CLA. The purposes are prescribed in Clause 32 of the Crown Lands Regulation 2000 and include purposes such as entertainments and sporting and organised recreational activities. These activities and organised sporting uses as described in Table 2.3 are managed via a booking system and are subject to temporary licences issued by the reserve trust. Licences contain conditions for minimising any impacts.

2.10 Maintenance

Maintenance tasks in the Parks include:

- ☐ collecting and removing rubbish
- ☐ mowing grass.
- ☐ horticulture (maintenance of garden beds).
- ☐ arboriculture (trimming trees, removing dead branches).

Ovals No. 1 and 2 are closed for intensive maintenance in the first two weeks of April.

The playground in Yarranabbe Park is inspected twice a week for faults, and is inspected quarterly by an external consultant.

Under normal circumstances, maintenance of the sea wall would be divided between Council (above high water mark) and NSW Maritime (below high water mark). For the sea walls bounding Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks it has been agreed that Council should carry responsibility for maintaining the sea wall above and below high water mark (NSW Maritime, pers. comm.).

2.11 Financial management

Under Section 106 of the CLA income generated from a Crown reserve must be spent by the reserve trust/s on improving reserves. Income from use of the Parks is derived from the kiosk lease, and activities such as vehicle parking (Boxing Day event), ceremonies, social events, playing field hire, and corporate events. Total income received from park use in 2004-05 was \$27,200. A breakdown of these incomes is included below.

❑ Ceremonies	\$1,475
❑ Social Events	\$742
❑ Playing Field Hire	\$590
❑ Corporate Events	\$300
❑ Parking of Reserve	\$2,100
❑ Lease/ Rental	\$22,000

Costs associated with management of the Parks include staff maintenance, plant and equipment, product (such as turf and plants), irrigation, topdressing, weed spraying and playground inspections. The estimated annual maintenance cost for Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks in 2004-05 was \$140,800.

Based on the information above, cost recovery of maintenance expenditure in Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks is 19%. Council, as Trust Manager, provides the majority of funding for management and maintenance of the Parks and Reserve as well as capital works projects. Expenditure on open space and capital works projects for 2004/2005, undertaken by the Public Open Space Department, was approximately \$460,000. This included works such as surface improvements, landscaping and path upgrades.

Funding is discussed further in **6.3 Funding Sources**

3 BASIS FOR MANAGEMENT

3.1 Introduction

This section comprises the basis for management of Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve. It describes the legislative and policy framework applying to the Parks and Reserve, and the community's aspirations and direction for them.

Full versions of the legislation summarised below can be found on-line at www.legislation.nsw.gov.au.

3.2 State and regional planning context

3.2.1 *Crown Lands Act 1989*

Introduction

As the Parks and Reserve are Crown public reserves, the *Crown Lands Act 1989* applies to their management.

The *Crown Lands Act 1989* governs the planning, management and use of Crown land, including reservation or dedication for a range of public purposes, and leasing and licensing. The Department of Lands, together with Reserve Trusts appointed by the Minister for Lands, are responsible for management of the Crown reserve system throughout New South Wales. They are to ensure that "Crown land is managed for the benefit of the people of New South Wales" (S10, CLA), and has regard for the principles of Crown land management (refer to **Section 3.5.1**).

A Reserve Trust is a corporation established and appointed to manage a Crown reserve. Trusts are nominated by the Minister for Lands (Section 92 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*). A Trust Board has functions conferred on it under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*, including being responsible, under the oversight of the Minister for Lands, for the care, control and management of a specific reserve consistent with the public purpose of its reservation or dedication. Woollahra Council manages the affairs of the Trusts applying to the Parks and Reserve under Sections 92-95 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. The Department encourages the community to be either directly involved in, or contribute to, the planning and management of the system as trustees of reserved and dedicated land.

Requirements of a Plan of Management for a Crown reserve

This Plan of Management has been prepared according to the requirements of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. A Plan of Management will satisfy the *Crown Lands Act 1989* if the following points are addressed:

- ☐ The Plan of Management is prepared by the Reserve Trust (Section 112).
- ☐ the Plan of Management and its outcomes must incorporate the principles of Crown land management (Section 11).
- ☐ the Plan of Management must address any matters required by the Minister responsible for the Crown Lands (Section 112). No such requirements have been received from the Minister.
- ☐ any proposed uses, developments and management practices must conform to the public purpose for the reserved or dedicated lands, and any particular policies of the Department of Lands regarding Crown reserves.

Use and management of Crown land

The use and management of Crown land is determined or influenced by:

- ❑ **the objectives of the Crown Lands Act 1989**, particularly that Crown land is managed for the benefit of the people of NSW.
- ❑ **the Principles of Crown land management.**
- ❑ **the public purpose(s) of the land**, in this case Public Recreation (Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks), and Plantation and Access (Plantation Reserve). Crown land is reserved or dedicated for a public purpose, which means the reserve must provide a public benefit. Uses, activities, developments and agreements in a Crown reserve are defined by the public purpose of the reserve. All uses of Crown reserves must be acceptable according to their public purpose(s). The definition of Public Recreation for the purposes of this Plan of Management is “informal, passive recreational, low-key sporting, social and cultural activities”.
- ❑ The Department of Lands Policy **Food and Beverage Outlets on Crown Reserves (2004)**
- ❑ **native title legislation.** Native title has been lawfully extinguished over the Parks and Reserve.
- ❑ **rental from leases or licences** 15% of the rental received from new leases and/or licences is to be placed in the Public Reserve Management Fund. This fund is a State government initiative that raises funds to assist reserve trusts in NSW.
- ❑ **case law judgements**, which influence the policy and practice of the Department of Lands and trust managers, and provide the following guidance:
 - use of the reserve must be consistent with the public purpose for which the land is dedicated or reserved. Uses must be ancillary to or supportive of the reserve purpose.
 - improvements and developments to land which is reserved or dedicated are confined to those which support, or are ancillary to, the public purpose of the reservation. Such improvements and developments would include a kiosk on a Public Recreation reserve.
 - a reserve cannot be used for a purpose relating to an activity that is occurring off the reserve and that is not consistent with the reserve purpose. For example, car parking on a Crown reserve for Public Recreation that serves an adjoining land use would not be acceptable.
 - land reserved or dedicated for public recreation must be open to the public generally as a right. Exclusive use of the reserve should be minimised to avoid sections of the community becoming alienated from using the reserve. The public may only be restricted from access to parts of the reserve and buildings if it is necessary for the public's enjoyment of the reserve or for health and safety reasons to be excluded, for example from a workshop, equipment storage or operational facilities.
 - access as of right does not mean entirely free access. Reasonable entry fees and charges may be imposed, as well as other legal constraints to entry such as those relating to health and safety for example.
 - a lease or licence must be consistent with the reason or purpose of the land's reservation or dedication.

- ❑ **any conditions and provisions within the zoning** in the Council's Local Environmental Plan (Section 3.2.2).
- ❑ an adopted Plan of Management, a contractual agreement (lease or licence), or a combination of both to more specifically define the permitted uses.

3.2.2 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Introduction

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EPA Act) establishes the statutory planning framework for environmental and land use planning in NSW through State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs), Regional Environmental Plans (REPs) and Local Environmental Plans (LEPs). The EPA Act also sets out processes for approving development applications for structures and works as set out in the Woollahra LEP (Refer to Section 3.3.3).

State Environmental Planning Policy No. 56 – Sydney Harbour Foreshores and Tributaries

State Environmental Planning Policy No. 56 – Sydney Harbour Foreshores and Tributaries (SEPP 56) was prepared to co-ordinate the planning and development of land comprising the foreshores of Sydney Harbour and its tributaries. SEPP 56 does this by providing guidelines for any development, formulation of Master Plans, identifying areas of State significance, and providing clear consultation procedures for planning and development of all foreshore locations. Both Parks are on the waterfront and therefore SEPP 56 applies, however, SEPP 56 will be repealed when the *Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004* comes into force.

The Guiding Principles of SEPP 56 include the following:

Promoting public access and use

- ❑ increasing public access to, and use of, land on the foreshore and links between existing foreshore open spaces.
- ❑ putting foreshore land that is available for public access, or use, in public ownership wherever possible; to safeguard public access and public use, and public authority rights to control the use and development of land.

Conserving open space and heritage

- ❑ conserving significant bushland and other natural features along the foreshore and ensuring their public availability.
- ❑ identifying significant open space that will enhance the foreshore open space network.
- ❑ protecting significant natural (including marine) and cultural heritage values.
- ❑ conserving items of heritage significance.

Enhancing visual quality

- ❑ protecting and improving unique visual qualities of the Harbour.

Other guiding principles for planning and development include: the scale and character of the development within the site context and when viewed from the foreshore, ecologically sustainable development, co-existence of different land uses, and increasing opportunities for water-based public transport.

Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No. 23 – Sydney and Middle Harbours

Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No. 23 – Sydney and Middle Harbours (SREP 23) covers Sydney Harbour, and therefore applies to the Parks and Reserve. SREP 23 provides the regional planning framework and process for Plans of Management and assessing development relating to the waterways, islands and foreshores of Sydney and Middle Harbours. However, SREP 23 will also be repealed once the *Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004* comes into force.

This Plan of Management has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of SREP 23 as set out below.

Table 3.1: How this Plan of Management satisfies SREP 23

A Plan of Management needs to:	How the Plan of Management satisfies SREP 23:
Be prepared in respect of land within Council's area	Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve are within the Woollahra local government area
Be in the form of a written statement and may include plans etc.	This Plan of Management
Describe the land to which it applies	Section 2
Identify any local environmental plan (LEP)	The Woollahra LEP applies
Identify any deemed planning instrument applying to the land	No deemed planning instruments apply to the Parks or Reserve

SREP 23 requires that a draft Plan of Management be referred to the Foreshore and Waterways Planning and Development Advisory Committee for its consideration and advice. Council must consider the representations made by the Committee before adoption.

In terms of SREP 23, local Councils are the consent authority for land-based development, and the Marine Ministerial Holding Company for water-based development, including charter boating facilities. Any development proposed to occur within the Parks and Reserve must therefore comply with SREP 23.

Both Parks and Plantation Reserve are subject to the provisions of SREP 23, but the land is not zoned under SREP 23. Only the water is zoned under the Waterways Zoning Scheme in SREP 23: one portion abutting the eastern foreshore of Rushcutters Bay which is zoned W4 Naval Waters, and the remainder is zoned General Waterways.

A portion of the water in Rushcutters Bay to the south of Yarranabbe Park is zoned W4 Naval Waters. On the SREP 23 map this area of water appears to adjoin the western boundary of Sir David Martin Reserve. It is approximately four to five times the area of the Reserve.

The objectives of Zone W4 – Naval Waters are to:

- ☐ identify the areas of the waterway required for naval activities.
- ☐ ensure that other activities and facilities are compatible with naval uses.

The W4 Naval Waters zoning permits navigation aids, maintenance dredging and uses or activities conducted by the Royal Australian Navy to take place without development consent. Prohibited are large marinas and any use or activity prohibited under the *Control of Naval Waters Act 1918* – which includes many aspects related to the movement, location, cleaning and anchoring of boats and could also include construction. With development consent a use for any purpose other than the first two can take place. NSW Maritime is of the opinion that, for all practical purposes, non-naval activities in Naval Waters are very restricted. However, two factors should assist in maintaining a land-water interface that is compatible with recreation uses in Yarranabbe Park and Rushcutters Bay Park. Sir David Martin Reserve was dedicated in 1979 'for public recreation and public maritime purposes' and Woollahra Council has responsibility for care, control and management of the Reserve.

The remainder of Rushcutters Bay is zoned General Waterways. The objectives of this zone are to permit activities, facilities and development that:

- ❑ maintain or enhance natural and visual attributes of the harbour.
- ❑ are compatible with the character of the waterway and adjoining foreshores.

Uses permitted without development consent are navigation aids, maintenance dredging and single moorings. Large marinas are prohibited. Any other purpose is permitted with consent.

Thus, the General Waterways zoning permits uses and activities that are compatible with recreational activities in the Parks.

Draft Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004

The *Draft Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004* (referred to below as the Draft SREP 2004) consolidates the provisions of SREP 23 and SEPP 56, which will be repealed once the draft SREP 2004 comes into force (expected to occur within the life of this Plan of Management). The *Draft Development Control Plan for Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004* (referred to as the Draft DCP 2004) accompanies the Draft SREP 2004. Further information is included in **Appendix B**.

State Environmental Planning Policy No. 55 – Remediation of Land

Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park are both on reclaimed land. In terms of risk management, provision should be made for the possibility of contamination even though at present there is no such evidence.

State Environmental Planning Policy No. 55 – Remediation of Land (SEPP 55) provides for a State-wide planning approach to the remediation of contaminated land. It promotes the remediation of contaminated land to reduce the risk of harm to human health or the wider environment. Any development within the Parks and Reserve must be in accordance with SEPP 55 to eliminate or reduce any hazard arising from land and/or the removal, dispersion, destruction or mitigation of the contaminated land.

State Environmental Planning Policy No. 64 – Advertising and Signage

State Environmental Planning Policy No 64 – Advertising and Signage (SEPP 64) aims to ensure that signage (including advertising) is compatible with the desired amenity and visual character of the area, provides effective communication in suitable locations, and is of high quality design and finish.

SEPP 64 applies to signage in Woollahra because it is not exempt development under the Woollahra LEP. Therefore, signs are permitted only with the consent of Council.

Advertisements are prohibited in areas including environmentally sensitive, heritage, natural or other conservation areas; open space; waterway; residential; or scenic protection area. Advertisements in the Parks and Reserve are therefore prohibited.

3.2.3 Fisheries Management Act 1994

The *Fisheries Management Act 1994* applies to all waters within NSW. Objectives of this Act include to conserve, develop and share the fishery resources of NSW for the benefit of present and future generations; conserve fish stocks and key fish habitats; conserve threatened fish and marine vegetation; promote ecologically sustainable development; promote quality recreational fishing opportunities; appropriately share fisheries resources between users; and provide social and economic benefits for NSW.

Recreational fishing is classed as a designated fishing activity under the Act. This requires the preparation of fishing management strategies, which includes the preparation of an environmental impact statement prepared in terms of Part 5, Division 5, of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*. These fishing management strategies for recreational fishing are in preparation, but do not yet include locations such as Rushcutters Bay or Yarranabbe Parks. Once prepared, they could influence the manner in which the parks are used or managed because they are adjacent to the fisheries management area and because some recreational fishermen use the Parks as their base from which to launch their lines.

3.2.4 Companion Animals Act 1998

The *Companion Animals Act 1998* aims to promote responsible animal ownership in NSW. Under the Act, dogs in public places must be on a lead under the effective control of a competent person, except in a declared off-leash area. Dogs are prohibited within 10 metres of children's play areas, food preparation / consumption areas, and recreation areas where dogs are prohibited by the local authority. If a dog defecates in a public place, the dog owner must remove and dispose of it in a rubbish receptacle.

3.2.5 Heritage Act 1977

The NSW Heritage Act 1977 aims to conserve the environmental heritage of NSW. It requires the protection of non-Aboriginal heritage items. The disturbance of significant sites and the management of archaeological and maritime archaeological sites are covered by this Act. Refer to **Section 2.3.2** for discussion of cultural heritage items in the Parks.

The stormwater channel is listed on the State Heritage Inventory. To meet heritage requirements the Inventory makes a number of recommendations. It recommends managing the place and its significant components in accordance with the State Owned Heritage Asset Management Guidelines. These are contained in Management of Heritage Assets by NSW Government Agencies, published by the Heritage Office, January 2005. Management in terms of these guidelines includes a preference for management via a conservation management plan and continued use of the channel for its original purpose; conservation works should follow the Burra Charter principle of 'do as much as necessary, but as little as possible'; maintenance should occur regularly to retard or prevent deterioration; repairs should conserve the heritage significance of the asset.

Further management guidelines that the Inventory specifies are that where there is no Conservation Management Plan, Heritage Assessment or Statement of Heritage Impact, or where the works are outside the scope of existing heritage documentation, the heritage impacts of proposed works are assessed in accordance with *Sydney Water Environmental Impact Assessment* procedures. Necessary procedures are:

- ☐ undertake a Heritage Assessment and/or Statement of Heritage Impact as required by environmental impact assessment procedures.
- ☐ undertake archival and photographic recording before major changes, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines.
- ☐ lodge copies of the archival record with the Sydney Water Archives and the NSW Heritage Office.

3.2.6 Disability Discrimination Act 1992

The *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* aims to eliminate, as far as possible, discrimination against people with disabilities in many areas, including access to premises. The Act also aims to promote recognition and acceptance in the community that people with disabilities have the same fundamental rights as the rest of the community.

3.2.7 Native Title Act 1993

As a result of the High Court Mabo Decision the Commonwealth Government enacted the *Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993*, which recognised the interest that indigenous Australians may still hold in some areas of Crown land. The Act makes provisions for:

- ❑ Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders to lodge native title claims.
- ❑ the determination and validation of extinguishment of native title.
- ❑ the dealing with land and waters where native title may not have been extinguished.
- ❑ establishing the existence of native title.

The requirements of this legislation must be followed by Reserve Trusts when dealing with Crown reserve where it has not been established that any native title interest that may have existed in the land has been lawfully extinguished. However, native title has been extinguished over the Parks and Reserve.

3.2.8 Other relevant legislation

Other legislation that may address specific issues in the management of the Parks and Reserve is listed below.

Table 3.2: Other relevant legislation

Issue	Legislation	Responsible agency
Air, water and noise pollution	Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997	Department of Environment and Conservation Woollahra Council
Waste disposal	Waste Minimisation Act 1995	Department of Environment and Conservation
Building above Mean High Water Mark	Local Government Act 1993	Woollahra Council
Building below Mean High Water Mark	Maritime Services Act 1935 (Management of Waters and Waterside Land Regulations – NSW)	NSW Maritime
Dredging	Fisheries Management Act 1994	NSW Fisheries, NSW Maritime
Planning control of development on Sydney Harbour foreshore	SEPPs 55 and 56 SREP 23 Draft SREP 2004 and draft DCP 2004 Sharing Sydney Harbour NSW State Rivers and Estuaries Policy Sydney Harbour Catchment Blueprint	Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources; Woollahra Council
Assessment of Development Applications	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	Woollahra Council DIPNR

3.3 Local planning context

3.3.1 Planning framework

Woollahra Council's planning framework guides this Plan of Management as follows:

- ❑ Council's Management Plan, which sets overall objectives and performance targets for activities, budgets and other issues relating to open space and recreation management.

- ❑ The *Woollahra Local Environmental Plan 1995* and various Development Control Plans govern uses of and development of facilities within the Parks and Reserve.
- ❑ Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Strategy (1992).
- ❑ Draft Recreational Needs Assessment and Strategy (2005) provides recommended actions.
- ❑ Social and cultural plans.
- ❑ Register of Significant Trees.

3.3.2 Woollahra Council Management Plan

Council's Management Plan contains a strategic overview of Council's proposed activities, budgets and other issues relating to community and the environment.

A vision for Woollahra and objectives for parks and open space in Woollahra as set out in the Management Plan are in **Section 3.5.3**.

3.3.3 Woollahra Local Environmental Plan 1995

Zoning and development controls

One key aim of the *Woollahra Local Environmental Plan 1995* is to provide for an appropriate balance and distribution of land for commercial, retail, residential and tourist development and for recreation, entertainment and community facilities in Woollahra.

Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve are zoned 6 – Open Space under the Woollahra Local Environmental Plan. This zone applies to public or private land used or intended to be used for recreational purposes.

The relevant objectives of the 6 – Open Space zone are to:

- ❑ identify existing publicly and privately owned land used or capable of being used for recreational purposes.
- ❑ identify areas which are reserved for future public open space.
- ❑ increase the provision of public open space within the Council's area to meet the needs of the population.
- ❑ enable development for the purpose of public and private recreation and community facilities sympathetic to the environmental characteristics of the land and surrounding areas.
- ❑ protect the visual and environmental attributes of the foreshores.

The LEP identifies development in the 6 – Open Space zone that may be allowed with or without development consent, or is prohibited as outlined in **Table 3.3**.

Table 3.3: Zoning table for 6 – Open Space zone

Without development consent	With development consent	Prohibited
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Bushfire hazard control ❑ Drainage ❑ Maintenance of gardens and structures ❑ Development pursuant to, or approved in accordance with, an adopted Plan of Management under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> applicable to the subject land. 	Development for the purpose of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Community facilities ❑ Recreation areas ❑ Recreation facilities ❑ Roads ❑ Uses or buildings associated with development in the zone without development consent ❑ Utility installations (other than gas holders or generating works) 	Any other development.

Notes: (1) Recreation Areas as defined in the LEP means a children's playground, or parks and gardens, or an area used for sporting activities or sporting facilities, or an area used to provide recreation facilities which promote the physical, cultural or intellectual welfare of persons within the community. Such facilities may be provided by Council or a body of persons associated for the purpose of physical, cultural or intellectual welfare of persons within the community. Recreation areas do not include marinas, racecourses and showgrounds.

Notwithstanding the permissible developments and uses listed above, **the public purpose nominated under the CLA of the Crown reserve determines acceptable developments and uses on the reserve.** The zoning of No. 6 Open Space should be ancillary and supportive of and complimentary to the public purpose of Public Recreation for Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Park, and Plantation and Access for Plantation Reserve.

Council will refer to this Plan of Management as well as the LEP, SEPP 56, draft SREP 2004, SREP 23 and other relevant legislation in assessing development applications relating to the Parks and Reserve.

Heritage

Part 4 of the LEP deals with heritage provisions. This requires Council to take into account the impact of any proposed development on the heritage significance of a heritage item when assessing an application to carry out development in the vicinity of such an item.

Schedule 3 prepared by Council lists the part of Plantation Reserve adjoining portions 1141 and 1142 of the Sir David Martin Reserve as a heritage item, and where certain development is permitted with the consent of Council. Permitted uses include:

- ☐ necessary management and operational support facilities for the Olympic legacy marina, subject to the marina and hardstand being used only for community purposes, and used to advance community access to sailing, in particular to people with a disability.
- ☐ a café and kiosk.

The other relevant heritage item is the State-significant Rushcutters Bay Stormwater Channel, but it is not listed in the LEP.

Harbour Foreshore Scenic Protection Area

The Parks and Reserve lie within a designated Harbour Foreshore Scenic Protection Area, for which special provisions have been specified in Clause 19 of the LEP. Before granting consent, Council is required to assess the visual impact of any proposed development when viewed to and from Sydney Harbour, and assess the impact of the proposed development on the natural landform and topography.

3.3.4 Development Control Plan – Exempt and Complying Development

Development Control Plan (DCP) – Exempt and Complying Development establishes the development type, location and criteria for exempt and complying development within the meaning of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. Under this DCP, the following items are exempt (subject to certain criteria):

- ☐ landscape works on public land.
- ☐ basketball hoops and backing boards.
- ☐ events.
- ☐ flagpoles.
- ☐ street and park furniture, including lighting.

3.3.5 Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Strategy

An Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Strategy for Woollahra was prepared in 1992. It has little direct relevance to the Parks and Reserve, except to highlight issues such as the need for regional co-ordination of public foreshore open space linkages, and identify that shade in the Parks is limited.

An updated Recreational Needs Assessment and Strategy will be completed in 2005.

3.3.6 Social Plan 2002-2005

The Social Plan contains information on the Woollahra community and its needs to enable Council to make decisions on the planning and provision of community services. The Social Plan was prepared in consultation with the community, community service agencies, Councillors and Council staff. The Social Plan is an important way in which Council will strive to achieve its vision to support and promote active community participation to achieve a healthy social environment, appropriate cultural services and an efficient infrastructure.

The aim of the Social Plan is to:

“Create a social environment characterised by the strength of its community spirit and the quality of its community facilities, services, resources and initiatives.”

In its *Social Needs Study* (January 2005) Woollahra Council identified that over the next 10 years the Woollahra population will increase slightly from 49,944 in 2001 to 50,161 in 2016 – an increase of 0.4% over 15 years.

Most age cohorts are likely to remain stable over the 15 years, but:

- ❑ the proportion of young people aged 15 to 24 years will decrease slightly.
- ❑ people aged 65 years and over will increase significantly from 15% of the population in 2001 to 21% in 2016. This will place pressures on services and activities for the “young-old” (55-64 years) and in particular on the “old-old” (75+ years) age groups.

The proportion of children aged 0 to 5 years in Woollahra has increased 1996-2001 and is expected to remain stable over the next 10 years.

3.3.6 Cultural Plan

The Cultural Plan provides information, direction and links to other key areas of Council activity. It ensures an integrated approach to planning and priority setting which will result in community benefits, including enrichment of peoples' lives, informal learning and skills development, improved tolerance and understanding of diverse cultures, as well as an enhanced sense of local identity and community.

3.4 Community values

3.4.1 The local community

The suburbs immediately surrounding the Parks are Darling Point, Edgecliff, Paddington, Rushcutters Bay, Darlinghurst and Elizabeth Bay. Over 50% of visitors to Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks live in those suburbs. As an indication of the characteristics of the local community, the Double Bay Ward of Woollahra local government area at the 2001 Census (The Public Practice, 2002) had the following relevant key characteristics:

- ❑ a slight population increase (0.2% per year) between 1996 and 2001 from 9,319 to 9,431 people.
- ❑ an increasing proportion of young dependent people aged 0 to 5 years (4%), and 5 to 17 years (10%).
- ❑ decreasing proportion of adults aged 18 to 74 years.
- ❑ increasing proportion of seniors (particularly women) aged 75 years and over.
- ❑ small average household size (1.47 people) compared with Woollahra (1.84) and Sydney.
- ❑ increasingly transient population. Only 45% of residents over 5 years in 2001 had lived at their current address for 5 years or more.
- ❑ average of 1.2 vehicles per household. 15% of households have no vehicle.
- ❑ over 80% of residents identify with Australian or Anglo-Saxon ancestry, and speak English at home.
- ❑ 33% of the population were born overseas. Less than one-third of the overseas-born came from a non-English speaking country, mainly in Europe.
- ❑ high levels of education, with approximately twice the proportion of Double Bay adults completing Year 12 and holding a bachelor's degree compared to Sydney.
- ❑ Double Bay's occupation structure is skewed substantially more towards the professional and manager/administrator categories compared with Sydney.
- ❑ the median family income of all households was \$1,750 in both Double Bay and Woollahra, substantially more than in Sydney at \$1,000-\$1,199 per week.

3.4.2 Values of the Parks and Reserve

By understanding the reasons why the community and users value the Parks and Reserve, the role that the community expects the Parks and Reserve to play in the future may be determined. Also, as the Plan of Management is based on protecting and enhancing the community's values, management actions and outcomes that are based on these values are recommended.

Using values as the basis of the Plan of Management ensures that this plan will be valid longer than one based on simply addressing issues. Issues-driven Plans of Management can quickly become out of date. Values change at a much slower pace than issues. Values may remain constant for up to a generation, therefore once values are documented, issues can easily be dealt with as they arise consistent with the values. New issues that arise over time very often cannot be dealt with easily unless a new Plan of Management is prepared.

Council and the community has expressed how the Parks are important or special to them during consultation undertaken in preparing the 1998 Plan of Management. A set of values were developed for Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park in 1997 through:

- ❑ a workshop to which all Councillors and senior staff were invited.
- ❑ two community workshops.
- ❑ consultation with a range of commercial users and neighbours, and recreation and sporting groups.
- ❑ consultation with relevant State government departments and the former South Sydney Council.

The community values various general aspects of Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve for different reasons, as outlined in the table overleaf.

Table 3.4: Defined values of the Parks and Reserve in 1998

Core values		Associated values	
Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park			
Major	Reflecting the major role played by the parkland as the gateway to Woollahra – its open space, community and municipality.	Safe	Recognising the need to enhance users' sense of safety.
Harbour-side	Enhancing opportunities for pedestrian access along a continuous length of Sydney Harbour foreshore – to reflect, socialise and absorb expansive views to and from Sydney Harbour. Creating intimate relationships with the harbour and its maritime character. Respecting maritime cultural heritage. Contrasting with surrounding built environment.	Friendly	Enhancing opportunities for friendly, socially cohesive interactions. Encouraging uses that promote pedestrian, collective or public transport access to the parks. Reflecting the need to improve the Park perimeter's 'people friendliness' through improved traffic and parking management.
Open parkland	Enhancing the open, uncluttered and expansive sense of space. Maintaining a grassy expanse with large mature trees along the parks' perimeter and major axes. Maintaining the expansive harbour views from within and through the Parks.	Informal	Reflecting the predominance of informal over formal activities, events and services. Providing food and beverage services which are ancillary to and supportive of the recreational use of the parks.
Public recreation	Maintaining different recreational settings between the two parks and providing the opportunity for a mix of recreational uses: - impromptu, informal and permitted organised sporting activities in Rushcutters Bay Park. - impromptu and informal passive recreation in Yarranabbe Park. Limited approved public cultural events which are ancillary to and supportive of the public recreational use of Rushcutters Bay Park and that have acceptable impacts on public recreational, residential and open space amenity. Minimising intensification of use which has impacts on the community.	Olympic opportunity	Embracing the opportunity to maximise the benefits and legacies to Woollahra's community and the parks from the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and related events, while minimising impacts on recreational users and residential amenity.
Plantation Reserve			
Landscaped buffer	Enhancing the reserve's landscape character and visual screening.	Olympic opportunity	Embracing the opportunity to maximise the benefits and legacies to Woollahra's community and the reserve from the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and related events, while minimising impacts on public access and landscape amenity.
Safe	Recognising the need to enhance users' sense of safety.		
Public access	Maintaining public accessibility to the reserve. Recognising the access provided to the adjoining Special Leases and Sir David Martin Reserve.		

Source:

Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Reserve for Plantation and Access Plan of Management (1998)

Related to the values outlined above are the aspects of the parks that users in 2005 said they most like about the Parks.

Table 3.5: Features of Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks that are liked by Park users

Features and facilities liked	Explanation	% of participants
Scenic landscape	Views, water views, harbour aspect, foreshore, marina, boats	74%
Peace and quiet	Away from traffic and traffic noise, tranquil, relaxing atmosphere, not overcrowded, not too busy	24%
Trees and greenery	Trees, greenery, garden beds, green / soft grass, lawn areas	23%
Informal recreation and exercise opportunities	Park facilities (general, all, variety for all ages), walking and cycling paths (new, along foreshore, clean, wide), lots of activities, exercise equipment, good exercise areas, good for jogging, cycling paths, space for social games, seats, seats along path, playground, lighting, toilets, pontoon, good fishing	22%
Accessibility	General location, close to home / work / city / marina, free / no charge for entry, two hour free parking	19%
Open space	Open space(s), large size, flatness, open space linkage	17%
Social and cultural	Great place for children, friendly place and people, lots of people, different people, high use, lots of social activities, family park, community / local focus, great place to bring visitors	10%
Dog-friendly	Dog friendly park, dog off-leash area	14%
Kiosk	Kiosk, children's toys at kiosk, good coffee, great service	12%
Ambience	Beauty of park, park design / layout, nice / lovely park, pleasant environment, ambience	11%
Natural aspects	Sunshine, birdlife, fresh air, cool breezes, bees	9%
Maintenance and improvements	Clean and tidy, park maintenance, well maintained, good improvements / development	9%
Safety	Safe	3%
Sporting opportunities	Watching cricket, lots of games to watch, cricket space, mixture of sports, big oval	3%
Everything		3%

Source: Visitor Survey for Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park (Integrated Open Space Services, 2005).

Aspects that sporting groups like about Rushcutters Bay Park include:

- ☐ convenience and proximity to the school.
- ☐ the availability of a cricket pitch.
- ☐ fields being well maintained.
- ☐ the nice setting and ambience.
- ☐ the cool breeze in the afternoon.
- ☐ Council's booking service being easy to deal with.
- ☐ the kiosk available to parents for coffee.
- ☐ the fields being more protected from the elements than other locations and the view over the water.

The issues and actions outlined in **Sections 4 and 5** will be presented according to a combination of the values defined in the 1998 Plan of Management, and the liked aspects listed above, as follows:

- ☐ Gateway to Woollahra.
- ☐ Harbour-side setting.
- ☐ Open parkland.
- ☐ Public recreation.
- ☐ Access.
- ☐ Safety

3.5 Objectives and principles for managing the Parks and Reserve

3.5.1 State government objectives

Crown Lands Act

The objects of this Act are to ensure that Crown land is managed for the benefit of the people of New South Wales and in particular to provide for:

- a) a proper assessment of Crown land,
- b) the management of Crown land having regard to the principles of Crown land management contained in this Act,
- c) the proper development and conservation of Crown land having regard to those principles,
- d) the regulation of the conditions under which Crown land is permitted to be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with,
- e) the reservation or dedication of Crown land for public purposes and the management and use of the reserved or dedicated land, and
- f) the collection, recording and dissemination of information in relation to Crown land.

The objectives of the Department of Lands regarding land management directly relate to the principles of Crown land management listed in Section 11 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. These principles, and how this Plan is consistent with those principles, are outlined below.

Table 3.6: Principles of Crown land management

Principles of Crown land management	How this plan is consistent with the principles
Observe environmental protection principles in relation to the management and administration of Crown land.	This plan is supportive of protecting significant trees and habitat in the Parks.
Conserve the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna, and scenic quality) wherever possible.	As above
Encourage public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land.	Recommendations in the Plan encourage public use and enjoyment of the Parks and Reserve, while minimising conflicts between activities.
Encourage multiple use of Crown land, where appropriate.	Recommendations in the Plan would continue multiple uses of the Parks and Reserve.
Use and manage Crown land in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, where appropriate	The Plan contains proposed actions which would help sustain the land and resources, such as managing the type and extent of activities and developments within the Parks and Reserve.
Occupy, use, sell, lease, license, or otherwise deal with Crown land in the best interests of the State, consistent with the above principles.	This Plan contains prescriptions that would ensure that land owners, managers, lessees and licensees deal with the reserve in the best interests of the State.

3.5.2 Regional objectives

The general aims of *Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No. 23 – Sydney and Middle Harbours (SREP 23)* include to:

- ❑ ensure foreshores are developed as community assets, recognising their role as recreation and tourist focal points.
- ❑ fully consider the value of certain foreshore areas as access points to the waterways.
- ❑ recognise, protect and enhance the natural, scenic, environmental, cultural and heritage qualities of the land.
- ❑ ensure appropriate facilities are provided for water based and foreshore recreational activities.
- ❑ encourage balanced multiple use consistent with environmental and cultural attributes and commercial port functions.
- ❑ encourage appreciation of the heritage significance of the harbour, foreshores and heritage items.

In relation to Sydney Harbour, specific aims of SREP 23 provide guidelines for commercial, government, administrative and recreational activities; administration and management; open space and recreation; boating facilities; the natural environment; the visual environment; and environmental heritage.

Open space and recreation

- ❑ recognise the fundamental role that existing foreshore open space areas have in providing access to the waterway and in accommodating water-based recreational activities.
- ❑ give priority to recreational activities which require or are enhanced by a foreshore location.
- ❑ improve access to the waterway and from the waterway to the foreshore parks.
- ❑ encourage, in appropriate circumstances, the provision of additional foreshore open space.

The Visual Environment

- ❑ protect and enhance the landscape and special scenic qualities of the Harbour.
- ❑ ensure that adequate consideration is given to the visual impact of development.
- ❑ preserve the natural foreshore of the Harbour and to ensure development does not detract from their natural character.

The *Draft Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004* sets out various planning principles. The planning principles for the **Sydney Harbour Catchment** include to:

- ❑ protect and improve hydrological, ecological and geomorphological processes affecting catchment health.
- ❑ consider cumulative environmental impact.
- ❑ achieve the targets of the *Water Quality and River Flow Interim Environmental Objectives for Sydney Harbour and Parramatta River Catchments* (published October 1999 by the Environment Protection Authority) while being consistent with the guidelines in *Australian Water Quality Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water* (published November 2000 by the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council).
- ❑ protect the functioning of natural drainage systems on floodplains and comply with guidelines in *Floodplain Management Manual: the Management of Flood Liable Land* (published Jan. 2001 by the former Department of Land and Water Conservation, now Department of Lands).

- ☐ protect and enhance the visual qualities of Sydney Harbour.
- ☐ increase the viewing points accessible to the public.

The planning principles for the **Foreshores and Waterways** include to:

- ☐ maintain and improve public access along the foreshore.
- ☐ increase and improve waterway access for public recreational purposes.
- ☐ enhance the unique visual qualities of Sydney Harbour.
- ☐ provide public access on land used for commercial maritime purposes where such access does not conflict with the use.
- ☐ use foreshore land such that it does not conflict with adjacent land used for commercial maritime purposes.
- ☐ encourage water-based public transport to link with land-based public transport at public spaces along the waterfront.
- ☐ encourage provision and use of public boating facilities along the waterfront.

The planning principles for **Heritage Conservation** include to:

- ☐ recognise and protect Sydney Harbour and foreshores as places of outstanding heritage significance.
- ☐ recognise and protect the heritage significance of particular heritage items and conservation areas.
- ☐ encourage appreciation of the role of Sydney Harbour in Aboriginal and European history.
- ☐ protect the natural, scenic, environmental and cultural qualities of the Foreshores Area.
- ☐ conserve aspects associated with the heritage significance of heritage items and conservation areas.
- ☐ conserve archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal heritage significance.

3.5.3 Local objectives

Woollahra Management Plan

This Plan of Management is consistent with the vision formulated by Woollahra Council in its current Management Plan for the whole of the Municipality:

“We will work together to enhance our harbourside location and achieve an outstanding environment which is characterised by its natural beauty and distinctive and diverse residential, heritage and commercial areas.

The Council will support and promote active community participation to achieve a healthy social environment, appropriate cultural services and an efficient infrastructure.

We will continue to promote the unique and enviable richness and diversity of the Municipality and the Council's commitment to high standards and quality service for the benefit of the community.”

Council's key objectives for parks and public spaces in Woollahra are to:

- ☐ provide safe, convenient, attractive public open spaces which meet the recreation and leisure needs of the community.
- ☐ enhance the visual amenity of the municipality.

Objectives of four sub-activities of park management are outlined below.

Open space management

- ☐ provide open space and recreational facilities which meet the needs of the community.
- ☐ promote appropriate use of open space and recreational facilities for the well-being of the community.

Open space asset management

- ☐ develop strategies and priorities for the maintenance and enhancement of public open spaces and associated structures.
- ☐ upgrade open space facilities and create new facilities in response to changing community needs.
- ☐ explore opportunities for external funding to support improvement programs.

Open space maintenance and construction

- ☐ maintain public spaces and associated buildings, structures, signage and outdoor furniture in a safe, serviceable and attractive condition to meet community needs.
- ☐ develop and implement appropriate cyclic maintenance programs.
- ☐ develop and implement appropriate maintenance standards and service levels.
- ☐ maintain and improve accessibility for all user groups.

Park facilities

- ☐ ensure Council buildings, structures and furniture in open space are maintained in a safe, serviceable and attractive condition.
- ☐ manage cost-effectively Council building construction projects in open space.

Key outcomes for parks and open space that Council wishes to achieve are:

- ☐ a variety of public open spaces provided for different recreation and leisure needs.
- ☐ parks and public spaces are progressively upgraded.
- ☐ a high standard of maintenance is provided to public open spaces.

Local Environmental Plan

The Woollahra LEP sets out a series of objectives for public and private open space, recreation and tourism, of which a number are directly relevant to the Parks and Reserve as follows:

- ☐ to provide for open space which will meet the requirements of the population and which will be developed in sympathy with the existing natural environment of the area of Woollahra.
- ☐ to provide for a diversity of open space types and recreation opportunities.

This Plan of Management addresses each of these objectives through setting specific objectives within the Action Plans in **Section 5**.

3.5.4 Community objectives and management principles

Following on from the values and objectives outlined above, it is important to establish some objectives of the community, and management principles against which recommendations for actions will also be made.

It has been made clear that the Parks in particular and the Reserve are together a valued harbourside regional open space with a pleasant setting and facilities for many forms of recreation.

Other objectives and principles established during the consultations are to:

- ☐ preserve and extend access to the foreshore.
- ☐ minimise built structures to preserve views to the harbour.
- ☐ minimise impacts of use of the Parks on local residents.
- ☐ keep the Parks well maintained and visually attractive.
- ☐ minimise conflicts between Park users.
- ☐ preserve the ambience of the Parks.
- ☐ maintain access to the Parks.

3.6 Future roles of the Park

The Parks and Reserve are largely used by local residents, their families and friends, as well as people from Woollahra and further afield, including from overseas as a regional open space.

Desired future roles of the Parks and Reserve according to their values are:

- ☐ a regional open space.
- ☐ foreshore access.
- ☐ an informal meeting place.
- ☐ a venue for sport.
- ☐ a green expanse of open space bounded by trees.

3.7 Desired future uses and development of the Park and Reserve

Following on from the values, it is important to establish some management principles against which recommendations for uses and development of the Parks and Reserve will also be made. These management principles include to:

- ☐ preserve the aspects of the Parks that are particularly liked, ie. scenic landscape, peace and quiet, trees and greenery, opportunities for informal recreation and exercise, accessibility, and open space.
- ☐ recognise the predominance of informal over formal activities, events and services.
- ☐ provide different recreational settings between Rushcutters and Yarranabbe Parks and provide the opportunity for a mix of recreational uses as follows:
 - Rushcutters Bay Park: impromptu, informal and permitted organised sporting activities.
 - Yarranabbe Park: impromptu and informal passive recreation.
- ☐ allow limited approved public cultural events which are ancillary to and supportive of the public recreational use of Rushcutters Bay Park and that have acceptable impacts on public recreational, residential and open space amenity.
- ☐ minimise intensification of use which has impacts on users and the local community.

The Parks and Reserve will be permitted to be used primarily for informal and passive recreation activities, with limited sporting activities and events.

Prohibited activities in the Parks include:

- ☐ unleashed dog exercise between 8.30am and 4.30pm in Rushcutters Bay Park.
- ☐ fireworks.
- ☐ unauthorised vehicles (other than maintenance and emergency vehicles, and limited public parking on Boxing Day to facilitate the Sydney to Hobart Yacht race)

A children's playground is planned in Rushcutters Bay Park, adjacent to the kiosk. No other large structures are planned in the Parks and Reserve.

3.8 Vision and objectives for the Parks and Reserve

Council has adopted the following vision for Woollahra:

“We will work together to enhance our harbour-side location and achieve an outstanding environment which is characterised by its natural beauty and distinctive and diverse residential, heritage and commercial areas.

The Council will support and promote active community participation to achieve a healthy social environment, appropriate cultural services and an efficient infrastructure.

We will continue to promote the unique and enviable richness and diversity of the Municipality and the Council's commitment to high standards and quality service for the benefit of the community.”

Council's corporate goals, community and user values, and the desired outcomes of the community culminated in goals being defined for the future direction of Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve in 1998.

The goals are:

“Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park – a major harbour-side open parkland – safe, friendly and informal public recreation”.

“The Reserve for Plantation and Access – a landscaped buffer providing safe public access”.

Consistent with the vision, objectives for the Parks and Reserve that relate to the values are outlined in Table 3.8. These objectives are the “guiding principles” for the management strategies and actions in Section 4.

Table 3.8: Objectives relating to values of the Parks and Reserve

Values	Objectives
Gateway to Woollahra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ ensure co-ordinated and integrated planning of Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park, Plantation Reserve, Sir David Martin Reserve and that part of Rushcutters Bay Park within City of Sydney.
Harbourside setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ maintain expansive views from the public domain to and from Sydney Harbour. ❑ provide a continuous, preferably harbour-side, public pedestrian linkage between Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks. ❑ respect maritime cultural heritage values of the Parks.
Open parkland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ maintain the open parkland settings for Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park. ❑ provide a continuous, preferably harbour-side, public pedestrian linkage between Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park. ❑ enhance the landscape character of Plantation Reserve and visual screening of the adjoining commercial uses.
Public recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ provide continued opportunities for impromptu and informal recreation in Rushcutters and Yarranabbe Parks. ❑ provide limited approved public cultural events which are ancillary to and supportive of the public recreational use of Rushcutters Bay Park, and are in accordance with Council's public cultural event management policy. ❑ maintain and improve facilities which support the Parks' informal meeting place functions. ❑ provide continued opportunities for permitted organised sporting activities.

	<input type="checkbox"/> provide for leases and licences in accordance with the public purposes of the Parks and Reserve.
Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> improve safety for Park users.
Access	<input type="checkbox"/> encourage access to the Parks by public transport. <input type="checkbox"/> maintain safe public access to and along Plantation Reserve, and between Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Sir David Martin Reserve. <input type="checkbox"/> provide foreshore access to adjoining lessees.
Energy Efficiency and Water Reuse*	<input type="checkbox"/> apply principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development in management of the Parks and Reserves <input type="checkbox"/> manage existing lighting to reduce energy consumption <input type="checkbox"/> manage bore water use to ensure viability of bore and investigate opportunities for stormwater water re-use

Source: 1998 Plan of Management.

* The Principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development will be applied to all of the values and management objectives as identified. The will aim to ensure the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the Parks and Reserve.

Sections 4 and 5 outline specific management strategies and actions to achieve the above vision and objectives for the Park, consistent with the community's values.

4 PLANNING ISSUES

This section includes a discussion of key issues applying to the Parks and Reserve and proposed actions to address those issues. This information is the basis of the Action Plan and Landscape Masterplan in **Section 5**.

4.1 Issues relating to more than one park

Table 4.1: Issues relating to more than one park

Issue	Background	Actions
Gateway to Woollahra		
Footbridge across stormwater channel	Bridges across the canal between Reg Bartley Oval and Rushcutters Bay Park were considered very important to Park users (rated 4.4/5), but satisfaction was rated lower at 4.1/5. The wooden bridge across the stormwater channel at the confluence of the channel and Sydney Harbour is too narrow to accommodate more than 2 people abreast, and wheelchair and pram users.	<input type="checkbox"/> Liaise with City of Sydney regarding a joint project to widen the northern pedestrian/ cycleway bridge between Reg Bartley Oval and Rushcutters Bay Park, and install.
Heritage stormwater channel	The stormwater channel that divides Rushcutters Bay Park is listed on the NSW and Sydney Water Heritage Registers, but not in Woollahra's Local Environmental Plan.	<input type="checkbox"/> Recognise the heritage significance of the stormwater channel in Council's LEP.
Harbourside setting		
Foreshore link	A foreshore link between Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks was a key objective and desired outcome in the 1998 Plan of Management. Obstacles to a continuous foreshore walk are the boating facilities (slipways, decking etc.) in Sir David Martin Reserve, d'Albora Marina and the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia between Yarranabbe Park and Rushcutters Bay Park. A foreshore link is important to park users (rated 4.0 / 5), and not surprisingly satisfaction with the fragmented foreshore access is rated lower at 3.5 / 5.	<input type="checkbox"/> Investigate options for foreshore access between Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park with NSW Maritime and the Department of Lands .
Interpretation	The rich history of the Parks and Rushcutters Bay would be of interest to visitors.	<input type="checkbox"/> Investigate opportunities for interpretation of the history of the Parks and foreshore.
Open parkland		
Tree Management	Some mature trees in the Parks are dying. Trees planted to replace them are not thriving. Gaps exist in the street tree avenue. Lack of shading along the foreshore.	<input type="checkbox"/> Undertake tree planting in accordance with the Landscape Masterplan.
Plantings	Requests for more shrubs and native plants in the Parks have been made.	<input type="checkbox"/> Implement the Landscape Masterplan.
Garbage	A major issue among Park users is rubbish disposal, particularly on weekends and after major events.	<input type="checkbox"/> Review the number and location of garbage bins (especially along paths and around the kiosk), and the frequency of collecting garbage. <input type="checkbox"/> Clean up as soon as possible after major events.

Table 4.1: Issues relating to more than one park (cont.)

Issue	Background	Actions
Public recreation		
Companion animal management	<p>Council is responsible for administering the <i>Companion Animals Act 1998</i> by ensuring that dogs are not permitted near eating areas and children's playgrounds.</p> <p>Dog owners using the parks appreciate that the parks are dog-friendly, and they are permitted to exercise their dogs on-leash at any time, and off-leash 24 hours in Yarranabbe Park and between 4.30pm and 8.30am in Rushcutters Bay Park.</p> <p>However, dog management is the aspect of the parks that is most disliked by park users (12%). Reasons for some users objecting to dogs in the parks include: dogs are off-leash outside advertised times, dogs around young children and the kiosk, too many dogs (especially around 5pm), dangerous dogs, dog waste not picked up, and dog waste on footpaths.</p> <p>Dog owners consider dog regulations are too strict, and dog off-leash hours are too limited. Lack of dog waste bins was identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain existing dog management times at Rushcutters Bay Park in recognition of the compromise between dog owners and other park users. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase patrols at peak use times such as 5.00pm by Council's Regulatory Officers. <input type="checkbox"/> Install interpretive and regulatory signs consistent with Council's Signage Strategy in the Parks advising dog owners of unleashed exercise times and to pick up after their dogs. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide additional dog waste bins at park entry points. <input type="checkbox"/> Place the onus on dog owners to carry bags for dog waste. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide drinking water / bowl for dogs. <input type="checkbox"/> Install dog 'hitching posts' near the kiosk.
Personal trainers	<p>Personal and group training are popular and growing activities. However, sometimes they conflict with other users of the parks and neighbours. Complaints included too many personal trainers around exercise equipment, and noise from group participants in the early morning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare a municipal-wide policy for commercial use of parks for personal and group training.
Shaded seating	<p>Shade over seating is important to park users (rated 4.1/5), but their satisfaction with current provision of shade is lower at 3.7/5. More seats, both shaded and unshaded, were requested in the visitor survey.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare a Planting Strategy to ensure that some seating is shaded.
Bubblers	<p>There are no bubblers or taps in the Parks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Install bubblers at the exercise station in Rushcutters Bay Park and at the northern end of Yarranabbe Park.

Table 4.1: Issues relating to more than one park (cont.)

Issue	Background	Actions
Access		
Demand for vehicle parking	Neighbours and park users have identified that vehicle parking close to the parks, especially on New Beach Road, is at a premium on weekends. Park users, adjoining residents, and visitors to the CYCA, d'Albora Marina and Sir David Martin Reserve use available on-street parking. 75% of park visitors used public transport, cycled or walked. 75% of park visitors who travelled by car have no interest in using public transport, or walking or cycling to the parks. The remainder suggested improving public transport routes and timetables would encourage them to use it. There is a two hour limit on parking in New Beach Road. 82% of vehicle drivers stay between half an hour and two hours, which is most likely linked to parking restrictions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Liaise with CYCA and d'Albora Marina to raise visitor awareness of public transport options. <input type="checkbox"/> Promote access to the Parks by public transport in published material. <input type="checkbox"/> Police parking restrictions in New Beach Road. <input type="checkbox"/> Investigate opportunity to reduce the number of vehicle spaces taken up by the 'No Standing Area' at the service vehicle entry of Rushcutters Bay Park in conjunction with Council's Traffic Engineer and the Traffic Advisory Committee. <input type="checkbox"/> Liaise with State Transit Authority about rationalising bus stops on New Beach Road.
Energy Efficiency and Water Reuse		
Reduction in energy use	Pedestrian lights are currently maintained on all night. Opportunities may exist to turn off lights after 10.30pm and turn on at 5.00am, therefore reducing energy consumption, depending on concerns such as safety for park users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Rationalise the existing number of lights in consideration of safety.
Water reuse and bore water	Rushcutters Bay Park is used for active sports where quality turf cover is required to be maintained for player safety and the local amenity. Bore water is used to irrigate Rushcutters Bay Park and assist in managing good turf quality and coverage. The turf coverage in Yarranabbe Park is often in poor condition during periods of dry weather. Whilst the Park is fitted with an irrigation system, the water supply is sourced from Sydney Water and therefore is no in operation during water restrictions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Continue to use bore water at Rushcutters Bay Park <input type="checkbox"/> Investigate options for use of bore water or stormwater reuse for Yarranabbe Park

4.2 Issues relating to Rushcutters Bay Park

Table 4.2: Issues relating to Rushcutters Bay Park

Issue	Background	Actions
Gateway to Woollahra		
Co-ordination with City of Sydney	Integrated management of Rushcutters Bay Park between Woollahra Council and City of Sydney is required. This is required to ensure consistent design of furniture, lighting, landscaping and other activities undertaken in both council areas.	<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure continued communication between Woollahra and City of Sydney Councils regarding joint planning issues for Rushcutters Bay Park.
Park entries	The “sense of arrival” to Woollahra and the first impression of the eastern section of Rushcutters Bay Park could be enhanced.	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape the New South Head Road entry, incorporating signage and lighting. <input type="checkbox"/> Install new entry signage and landscape the eastern side of the timber footbridge. <input type="checkbox"/> Upgrade the northern park entry at the cruising Yacht Club with signage and landscaping.
Odour from stormwater canal	Park users have reported that the stormwater canal is odorous.	<input type="checkbox"/> Liaise with Sydney Water regarding water quality in the canal, and reducing the odour.
Harbourside setting		
Access to the foreshore	There are opportunities to maximise the harbour setting in Rushcutters Bay Park.	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide an observation deck in the north-west corner of the Park, with shade, seating, and accent lighting.
Open parkland		
Integration of space along the drainage channel	An opportunity to maximise the usability of Rushcutters Bay Park is to integrate the long north-south space along the drainage channel into the Park, and to highlight it as a feature of the Park.	<input type="checkbox"/> Partially clear shrubs along the eastern bank of the drainage channel to improve views into Reg Bartley Oval. <input type="checkbox"/> Renew the fence along the drainage channel.
Trees	Request for more trees, especially along the waterfront. Plantings should not diminish views from within the park. Desire to fill gaps to reinstate shade to the tree avenue along New Beach Road.	<input type="checkbox"/> Continue Paperbark trees along the foreshore path to improve the amenity of the water's edge and to provide shade. <input type="checkbox"/> Plant an avenue of London Plane Trees (<i>Platanus x hybrida</i>) along the pathway between New South Head Road and the harbour. <input type="checkbox"/> Fill gaps in trees along New Beach Road using Hills Weeping Fig (<i>Ficus hillii</i>) and Washington Palms (<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>)
Grass Cover	Turf coverage to be maintained at an appropriate quality.	<input type="checkbox"/> Review mowing frequency and park use level

Table 4.2: Issues relating to Rushcutters Bay Park (cont.)

Issue	Background	Actions
Open parkland		
Grass cover	Joggers running up Loftus Road may wear turf as following desire lines not covered by pathways	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor condition of turf in area
Public recreation		
Kiosk	The kiosk is important to park users (4.0/5), and users are generally satisfied with the kiosk (4.4/5). Comments from park users regarding improvements to the kiosk included to the range and quality of food, service, extending opening hours, and cost of food and drink. Extending the kiosk hours has been investigated, and is not financially viable. There have also been requests for more public seating.	<input type="checkbox"/> Consider the provision of public seating adjacent to kiosk to supplement the catered seating of the kiosk.
Children's playground	There is support for a new playground in Rushcutters Bay Park, especially among kiosk users and parents with young children. The most favourable location for the playground is near the kiosk so parents can watch their children play in a naturally shaded area, which is fenced from the road.	<input type="checkbox"/> Install a fenced playground with a soft undersurface east of the kiosk. <input type="checkbox"/> Install seating for supervisors near the playground. <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure playground is fixed to prevent children accessing the adjoining roadway.
Seating	More opportunities for formal seating in the Park are desirable.	<input type="checkbox"/> Install seating under the trees along the central footpath.
Drinking fountains	There are limited opportunities to obtain free drinking water in the Park.	<input type="checkbox"/> Install a drinking fountain at the fitness station.
Public Art	Opportunities exist to incorporate public art into the park	<input type="checkbox"/> Install public art in accordance with a Council Public Art Policy.
Sporting activities	<p>Sporting activities, particularly by school groups, are an integral part of the character and use of the Park. However, there are conflicts between sporting activities and other park uses, such as cricket balls being hit towards the kiosk and children.</p> <p>Aspects of the Park that are disliked by the school sport organisers include: the field surface not being maintained to full satisfaction (although the constraints associated with multi-use are acknowledged); lack of parking for cars and buses used to transport students; and the popularity of the Park with many other users; the need to limit cricket to younger players because of the danger of hurting other Park users or damaging the kiosk.</p> <p>Sports organisers feel that, notwithstanding the issues identified above, the Park generally meets their needs. The two exceptions are the desire for a full size soccer field and for a second cricket pitch. However, space constraints preclude extension of the fields.</p> <p>Currently sports ground use for team sports stops at sunset as no sports lighting exists. There is a strong demand for night training venues throughout Woollahra for sports such as soccer and rugby. The installation of sports lighting at Rushcutters Bay park would assist to cater for the local demand for sports training.</p> <p>Lighting would be installed to comply with AS2560.1-2002 Sports Lighting – General, AS250-2.3 Sports Lighting – Lighting for Football (all codes) and AS4282-1997 Control of the Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting. The use of lamp glare shields together with the curtilage of mature trees would ensure surrounding residents are not impacted by light spill. Night training would be restricted to 9:00pm and not include weekend night use.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Install floodlighting on Ovals No. 1 & 2 for sports training. <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain Ovals 1 & 2 for year round organised sport.

Table 4.2: Issues relating to Rushcutters Bay Park (cont.)

Issue	Background	Actions
Pedestrian/ Cycleway	The Woollahra Bike Plan identifies the path in Rushcutters Bay Park from the Footbridge to New South Head Road as a section of the Rushcutters Bay to Vaucluse Regional Bike Route.	<input type="checkbox"/> Support and allow recommendations with Woollahra Bike Plan to be implemented
Amenities	Park users report that the toilets are often dirty and unhygienic, and the toilets are closed too early at sunset. Additional amenities such as a baby change room and showers were requested by users.	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean toilets more frequently. <input type="checkbox"/> Close the toilets later. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider provision of a baby change room and showers / change area when refurbishing the toilet block.
Garbage bins	Bins are moved around by sporting users.	<input type="checkbox"/> Secure the bins in fixed enclosures.
Access		
Footbridge	The timber footbridge is too narrow to accommodate more than 2 people walking abreast.	<input type="checkbox"/> Replace the timber pedestrian bridge with a larger capacity bridge.
Safety		
Use at night	Some Park users perceive the Park is not safe to visit at night. Needles have been found near the kiosk building.	<input type="checkbox"/> Install after-hours security lighting to the kiosk, toilets and playground. <input type="checkbox"/> Install a new lighting system that is connected to a light sensor along the foreshore walkway.
Energy Efficiency and Water Reuse		
Water reuse	Opportunity exists for water savings in the amenities block at Rushcutters Bay Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Install 5,000-10,000L underground rain water tank for water reuse in amenities block.

4.3 Issues relating to Yarranabbe Park

Table 4.3: Issues relating to Yarranabbe Park

Issue	Background	Actions
Harbourside setting		
Viewing area	The northern end of Yarranabbe Park is an informal meeting place and harbour viewing area.	<input type="checkbox"/> Develop a low-key viewing area with interpretive signage at the northern end of Yarranabbe Park. <input type="checkbox"/> Install a bubbler at the northern end of the park.
Open parkland		
Trees	The foreshore of Yarranabbe Park is exposed. An option to provide shade along the foreshore is to plant additional trees along the foreshore path, with limited impact to views from the park and surrounding residences. Gaps exist in the tree avenue along New Beach Road. These gaps have developed over time from amongst a number of causes, trees being poisoned.	<input type="checkbox"/> Plant trees along the foreshore for shade <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstate avenue tree planting along New Beach Road.
Grass Cover and Irrigation	The turf cover in Yarranabbe Park is poor during times of drought. An irrigation system exists, but it has been turned off due to water restrictions.	<input type="checkbox"/> Explore use of bore water for irrigation in Yarranabbe Park. <input type="checkbox"/> Investigate water re-use at Yarranabbe Park using stormwater.
Sydney Water sub-station	The Sydney Water sub-station is visually unattractive, and is located in the middle of a grassed area.	<input type="checkbox"/> Liaise with Sydney Water to relocate the sub-station.
Sewage Pump Station	A Sydney Water Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) is located in Yarranabbe Park. Access is required for maintenance and other possible works.	<input type="checkbox"/> Allow/ provide for access to SPS
Public recreation		
Children's playground	The playground in Yarranabbe Park comprises various pieces of outdated equipment, bark softfall, is not shaded or fenced, and does not meet safety standards. Adults with children using the Yarranabbe Park playground, Rushcutters Bay Park kiosk users (including adults with young children) and people visiting the park with children under 5 years of age rated playground equipment as important, but were less satisfied with its provision. Users of the playground in Yarranabbe Park requested that it be upgraded, shaded, and made safe for children (softfall, fencing, equipment).	<input type="checkbox"/> Redesign Yarranabbe Park playground to minimise its area. <input type="checkbox"/> Upgrade the play equipment accordance with AS/NZS 442 and 4486.1 and Council's Playground Policy and Strategy. <input type="checkbox"/> Replace the bark softfall with rubber material. <input type="checkbox"/> Plant trees to shade the playground. <input type="checkbox"/> Install fencing around playground.
Fitness station	A fitness station in Yarranabbe Park would supplement the fitness station in Rushcutters Bay Park.	<input type="checkbox"/> Install fitness station south of the playground
Garbage	The northern end of Yarranabbe Park is more popular than the southern end for meeting, sitting and picnicking. There is a relative lack of garbage bins at the northern end of the Park.	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide more bins in the northern section of the Park.

Table 4.3: Issues relating to Yarranabbe Park (cont.)

Issue	Background	Actions
Access		
Footpath	The footpath along the foreshore narrows between the southern and northern ends of the Park. This causes conflicts between users, such as fishermen and pedestrians.	<input type="checkbox"/> Widen the northern section of the footpath to 3.8 metres.
SPS 23	Sydney water will require access to the Sewage Pumping Station in Yarranabbe Park for maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure adequate access is maintained
Safety		
Lighting	There are two rows of closely-spaced lighting poles in Yarranabbe Park. The lights are connected to the street light system. Visibility at night is not likely to be compromised by the removal of one row of lights, however park user safety would be monitored. Removal of one row of lights would facilitate more use of the grassed area.	<input type="checkbox"/> Undertake trial of turning off lights late at night and in consultation with park users and residents <input type="checkbox"/> Upgrade the remaining lights to match the light fittings in Rushcutters Bay Park. <input type="checkbox"/> Explore options to reduce energy consumption by turning lights off between 10.30pm and 5.00am.

4.4 Issues relating to Plantation Reserve

Issue	Background	Actions
Open Parkland		
Landscaping	Current plantings in Plantation Reserve require upgrade to improve aesthetics and screen adjoining commercial uses	<input type="checkbox"/> Enhance landscape character of Reserve and visual screening
Access		
Vehicle access	There are numerous vehicle driveways across Plantation Reserve into the Cruising Yacht Club, d'Albora Marina and Sir David Martin Reserve. It is planned to use the former Sayonara Slipway in Sir David Martin Reserve to launch non-motorised watercraft such as kayaks and dinghies.	<input type="checkbox"/> Liaise with the Department of Lands, CYCA and d'Albora Marina to rationalise the number of vehicle access points across the Reserve. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide an access point across Plantation Reserve to the former Sayonara Slipway.
Access for people with disabilities	A kerb in front of two parking spaces reserved for people with disabilities in front of the CYCA require people using wheelchairs to access the footpath in Plantation Reserve from the roadway, not directly from the parking space.	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove the kerb separating the parking spaces for people with disabilities from the footpath through Plantation Reserve or reconfigure parking spaces such that parking spaces are adjacent to access way for CYCA parking. Liaise with Traffic Engineer and Local Traffic Committee in relation to preferred option.

5 ACTION PLANS

5.1 Landscape Master Plan

The proposed Landscape Master Plans for Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park are presented in **Figures 5.1 and 5.2**. The Landscape Master Plans illustrate the works and actions in the following Action Plan that are proposed to be implemented to achieve the objectives and desired outcomes for the Parks.

The area of Rushcutters Bay Park located within the City of Sydney Council area is also subject of a Plan of Management (2000). The Masterplan for this area is provided in Appendix D, and outlines the management actions for this section of the park. Both councils are to work together to ensure consistency of design in works undertaken throughout the park.

Figures 5.3 and 5.4 display the location of proposed tree plantings overlayed on aerial photography.

5.2 Action Plan

5.2.1 Introduction

The management actions to resolve the management issues (consistent with the community's values of the Parks and Reserve) from Section 4 and to implement the Landscape Master Plan over the next 10 years are presented in the following tables. Table headings are explained as follows:

Value – values of the Parks and Reserve, as described in **Section 3.2**.

Strategy – reflects the value and provides direction for the actions.

Action – a specific task required to resolve issues, consistent with the value and strategy.

Priority – importance or urgency of the action, rated as:

Short term	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety issues in which there is a high probability of serious injury occurring. <input type="checkbox"/> Work needed to ensure the essential function of the park is not compromised. <input type="checkbox"/> Work needed to eliminate or reduce severe environmental problems, such as erosion or water pollution.
Medium term	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing preventative and remedial maintenance of existing park assets. <input type="checkbox"/> Work required to resolve a conflict between user groups. <input type="checkbox"/> Work needed to ameliorate adverse environmental conditions such as noise, or poor circulation and access. <input type="checkbox"/> Works aimed at enhancing public enjoyment of the park.
Long term	<input type="checkbox"/> Works aimed at improving the general quality of the park. <input type="checkbox"/> Works aimed at reducing overall maintenance costs.
Ongoing	<input type="checkbox"/> Action to be carried out on a regular basis for the life of this Plan of Management.

Responsibility – section within Council, or another organisation responsible for implementing the action. Responsibilities within Council for implementing actions are:

TS	Technical Services Division
CD	Community Services Division
PD	Planning and Development Division

Cost – capital costs of each action.

Performance target – the desired outcome in implementing and achieving the action.

Means of assessment – how the achievement of the performance target can be measured and assessed.

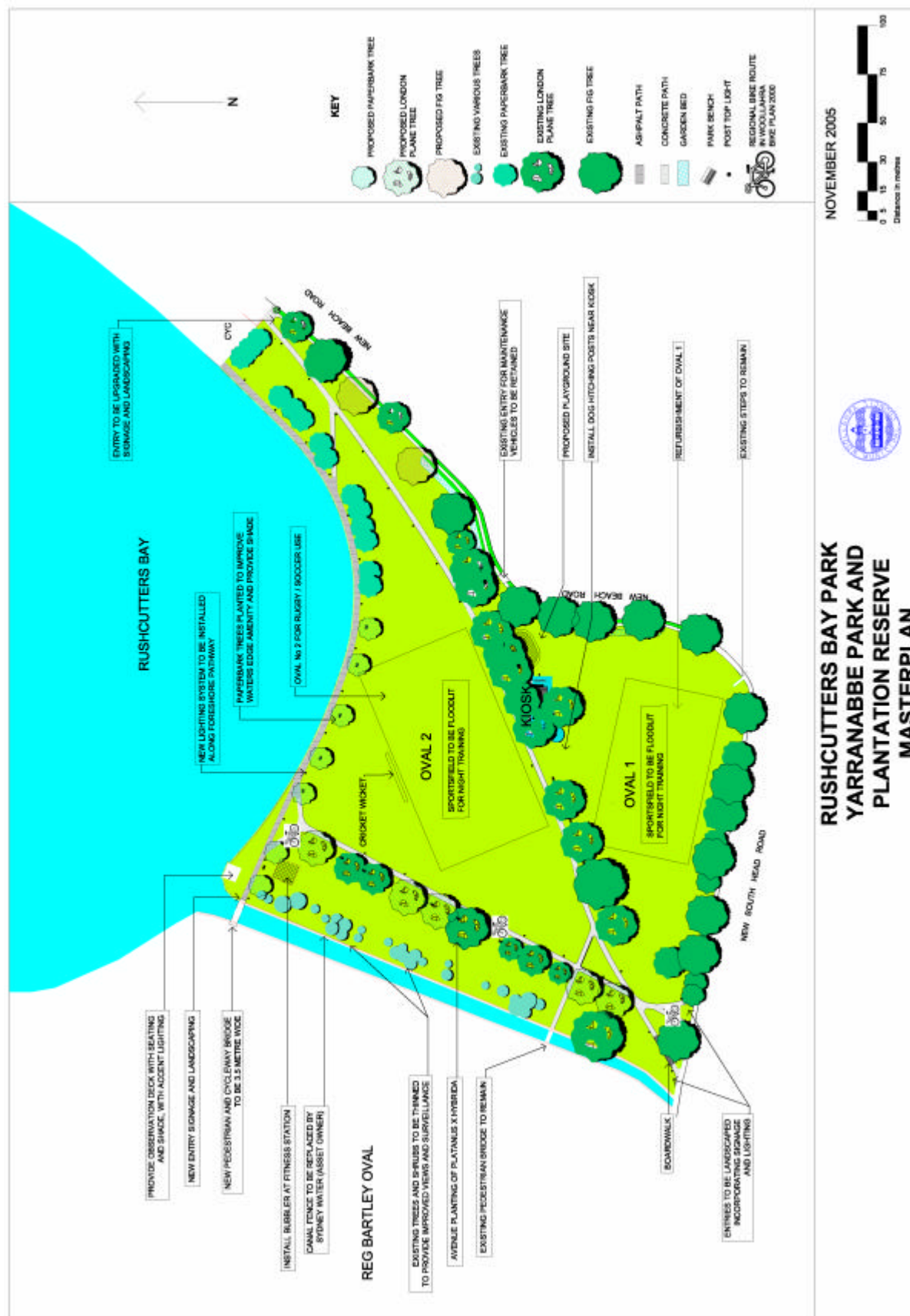


Figure 5.2 – Landscape Master Plan for Yarranabbe Park

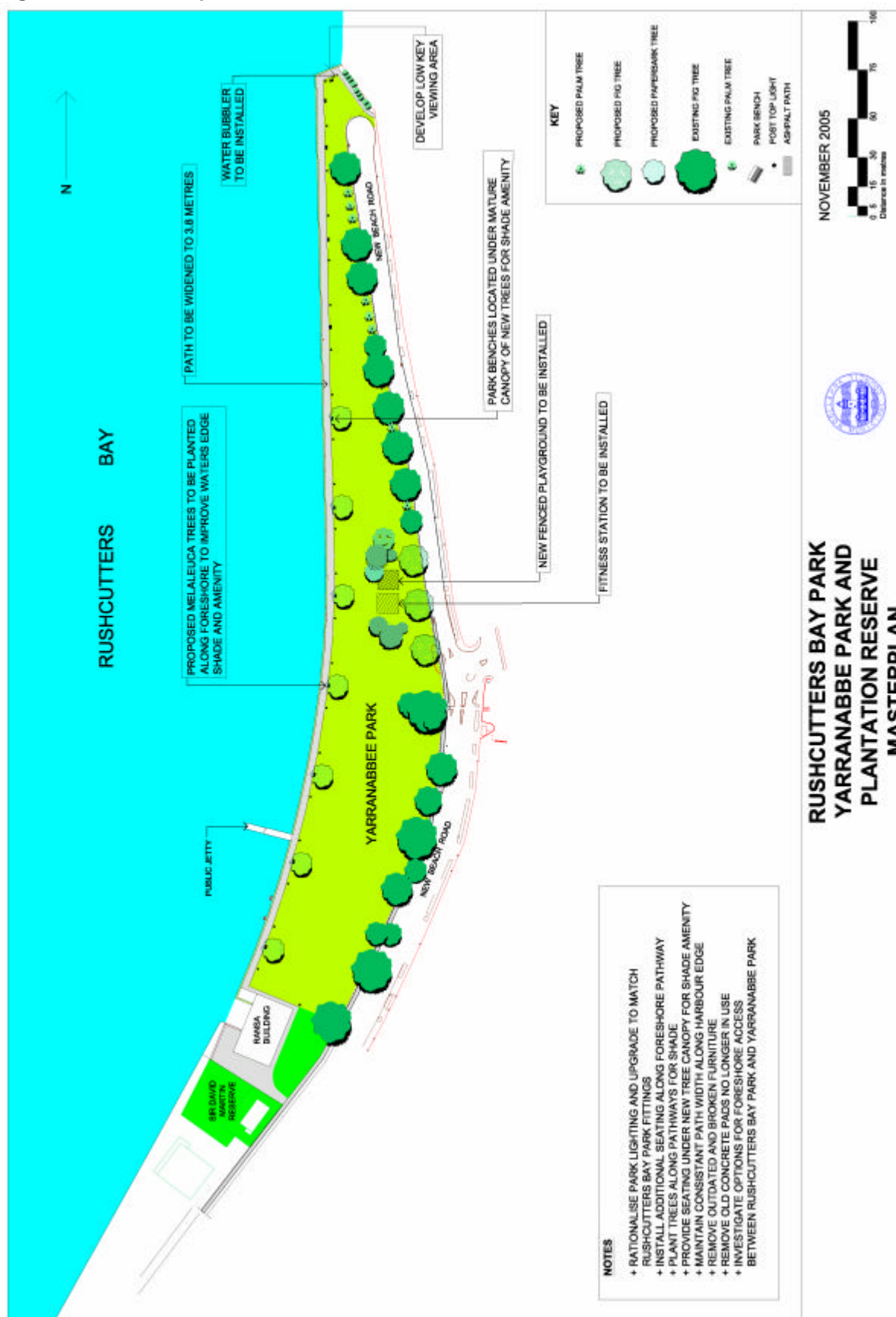


Figure 5.3 Proposed tree plantings in Rushcutters Bay Park



Figure 5.4 Proposed tree plantings in Yarranabbe Park



5.2.2 Action Plan

Gateway to Woollahra

Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Capital cost \$	Performance target	Means of assessment
Work with City of Sydney to manage Rushcutters Bay Park as a whole.	Liaise with City of Sydney regarding a joint project to widen the northern pedestrian/ cycleway bridge between Reg Bartley Oval and Rushcutters Bay Park, and install.	Short	TS	-	Footbridge widened. More efficient pedestrian and cycle traffic across the bridge.	Post construction evaluation. Compliance with Bike Plan objectives.
	Ensure continued communication between Woollahra and City of Sydney Councils regarding joint planning issues for Rushcutters Bay Park eg consistent design standards	Ongoing	TS CS PD	-	Support from City of Sydney regarding joint planning initiatives.	No unresolved local issues between Council's.
Recognise the heritage significance of the stormwater channel	List the heritage significance of the stormwater channel in Council's LEP.	Long	PD	-	Stormwater channel listed in the Woollahra LEP.	Recommendation adopted by Council.
Create a heightened "sense of arrival" to Woollahra and Rushcutters Bay Park.	Landscape the New South Head Road entry to Rushcutters Bay Park, incorporating signage and lighting.	Medium	TS	15,000	Works completed.	Audit of signage, lighting and establishment of landscaping.
	Install new entry signage and landscape the eastern side of the timber footbridge.	Medium	TS	5,000	Works completed.	Audit of signage and establishment of landscaping.
	Upgrade the northern park entry at the Cruising Yacht Club with signage and landscaping.	Medium	TS	5,000	Works completed.	Audit of signage and establishment of landscaping.
Minimise odour from the stormwater channel on the western boundary of Rushcutters Bay Park.	Liaise with Sydney Water regarding water quality in the canal, and reducing the odour.	Medium	TS	-	Odour reduced.	Decreased number of complaints received from community. Park visitor survey.

Harbourside setting

Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Capital cost \$	Performance target	Means of assessment
Maximise opportunities for a foreshore link between Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park.	Investigate options for foreshore access between Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park with NSW Maritime and Department of Lands	Medium	TS	-	Preferred option determined.	Recommended option adopted by Council
Cater for the desire by park users to enjoy the harbour views from the parks.	Provide an observation deck in the north-west corner of Rushcutters Bay Park, with shade, seating, and accent lighting.	Medium	TS	60,000	Observation deck completed.	Audit of works. Visitor Survey of use and satisfaction
	Develop a low-key viewing area with interpretive signage at the northern end of Yarranabbe Park.	Medium	TS	5,000	Viewing area completed.	Audit of works. Visitor Survey of use and satisfaction.
	Install a bubbler at the northern end of Yarranabbe Park and at the exercise station in Rushcutters Bay Park.	Medium	TS	2,000	bubbler installed.	Audit of works. Visitor Survey of use and satisfaction.
Promote the history of the Parks and foreshore to park users.	Investigate opportunities for interpretation of the history of the Parks and foreshore.	Medium	PD	-	Opportunities determined and implemented. Raise awareness of history	Visitor Survey

Open parkland

Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Capital cost \$	Performance target	Means of assessment
Recognise the importance of healthy trees and plantings to the character and amenity of the parks.	Undertake tree planting in accordance with Landscape Masterplan	Medium	TS	3,000	Planting in accordance with Masterplan completed.	Audit of tree plantings
	Plant paperbarks along the foreshore path to improve the amenity of the water's edge and to provide shade.	Medium	TS	3,000	Trees planted and established along the foreshore.	Audit of tree plantings. Visitor Survey to identify use of shade areas
	Plant an avenue of London Plane Trees (<i>Plantanus hybrida</i>) along the pathway between New South Head Road and the harbour.	Medium	TS	1,000	London Plane Trees planted and established.	Audit of tree plantings
	Fill gaps in trees along New Beach Road using Hills Weeping Fig (<i>Ficus hillii</i>) and Washington Palms (<i>Washington robusta</i>)	Medium	TS	2,000	Trees planted and established	Audit of tree plantings
	Enhance the landscape character of Plantation Reserve and visual screening of adjoining commercial leases	Medium	TS	15,000	Landscaping works undertaken and plants established	Audit of plantings
Open up views from the western boundary of Rushcutters Bay Park.	Partially clear shrubs along the eastern bank of the drainage channel to improve views into Reg Bartley Oval.	Medium	TS	1,000	Increase in visibility of Reg Bartley Oval. Views improved.	Shrubs cleared
	Replace the fence along the drainage channel.	Long	TS / Sydney Water	50,000	Fence replaced.	Audit

Open parkland (cont.)

Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Capital cost \$	Performance target	Means of assessment
Protect the grass cover of the Parks.	Review the frequency of mowing in consideration of use patterns and growing season.	Medium	TS	-	Optimum mowing frequency undertaken.	Report from Maintenance Crews
	Explore feasibility of bore water for irrigation in Yarranabbe Park.	Short	TS	-	Use of bore water determined.	Recommendation to Council adopted
	Investigate storm water re-use at Yarranabbe Park.	Medium	TS	-	Preferred option(s) for water re-use determined.	Recommendation to Council adopted
	Review conditions for the use of Rushcutters Bay Park for vehicle parking during major events.	Medium	TS	-	Event parking conditions agreed and impacts minimised.	Inspection of Rushcutters Bay Park following events.
	Monitor condition of turf in area adjacent to end of Loftus Road for wear from desire lines of joggers	Ongoing	TS	-	Grass cover maintained	Observation
Reduce the incidence of rubbish in the Parks.	Review the number and location of garbage bins (especially along paths and around the kiosk), and the frequency of collecting garbage.	Medium	TS	-	Desired number and location of garbage bins, and frequency of garbage collections are determined.	Audit of garbage bins and inspections of park for litter.
	Clean up rubbish as soon as possible after major events.	Ongoing	TS	-	Rubbish is present for minimal time.	Review of complaints received by park users and residents.
Ensure open grassed areas are not obstructed by structures.	Liaise with Sydney Water to relocate the sub-station in Yarranabbe Park.	Short	TS	-	Sydney water sub-station relocated	Contact with Sydney water

Public recreation

Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Capital cost \$	Performance target	Means of assessment
Balance dog exercise with other uses of the Parks.	Retain existing dog management regime.	Ongoing	TS	-	Agreed dog exercise times maintained.	Visitor Survey regarding park user satisfaction
	Increase enforcement of companion animal legislation by Council's Regulatory Officers.	Ongoing	TS	-	Compliance with companion animal legislation.	Review of Penalty Infringement Notices issued and warnings given.
	Install interpretive and regulatory signs consistent with Council's Signage Strategy in the Parks advising dog owners of unleashed exercise times and to pick up after their dogs.	Short	TS	2,000	Signs installed.	Audit of sign installation.
	Provide additional waste bins at park entry points for dog waste.	Medium	TS	5,000	Waste bins installed. Reduction in dog waste in parks.	Audit of bin placements. Survey of park for dog waste.
	Provide drinking water / bowl for dogs.	Medium	TS	2,500	Drinking water provided for dogs.	Visitor Survey to address use patterns
	Install dog hitching posts near the kiosk in Rushcutters Bay Park.	Medium	TS	1,000	Hitching posts installed.	Visitor Survey to address use patterns
Minimise conflicts between personal and group training and other park uses.	Prepare a municipal-wide policy for commercial use of parks for personal and group training.	Medium	TS	5,000	Commercial use of Parks policy completed.	Policy adopted by Council
Provide drinking water for park users.	Install bubblers at the exercise station in Rushcutters Bay Park and at the northern end of Yarranabbe Park.	Medium	TS	2,000	Bubblers installed.	Audit of bubblers
Provide pedestrian/ cycle ways	Support and allow recommendations with Woollahra Bike Plan to be implemented	Short	TS	-	Pathway providing for dual purpose installed and identified appropriately	Audit of path and signage

Public recreation (cont.)

Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Capital cost \$	Performance target	Means of assessment
Increase opportunities for children's play in the Parks.	In Rushcutters Bay Park install a fenced playground with a soft undersurface east of the kiosk.	Short	TS	120,000	Playground installed.	Audit of playground
	Install seating for supervisors near the playground.	Medium	TS	5,000	Seating installed.	Audit of seating
	Redesign Yarranabbe Park playground to minimise its area.	Medium	TS	-	Design completed.	Design adopted by Council
	Upgrade the play equipment in Yarranabbe Park in accordance with AS/NZS 442 and 4486.1 and Council's Playground Policy and Strategy.	Short	TS	25,000	Play equipment upgraded.	Audit of playground equipment for compliance with Australian Standards and Council Policy.
	Replace the bark softfall with rubber undersurface.	Short	TS	15,000	Rubber softfall under play equipment.	Audit of playground
	Install fencing around playground	Short	TS	10,000	Fencing installed	Audit of playground
	Plant trees to shade the playground.	Short	TS	2,000	Partial natural shading of playground.	Audit of tree planting
Facilitate formal sporting activities in Rushcutters Bay Park.	Install floodlighting Oval No. 1 & 2 for sports training. Consider aligning operation times with resident parking scheme.	Medium	TS	-	Floodlighting installed.	Audit of floodlights and review of park bookings
	Allow organised sports on Ovals 1 & 2 all year	Ongoing	TS	-	Organised sports played all year on Ovals 1 & 2	Review of park bookings
Facilitate informal exercise activities in Yarranabbe Park.	Install a fitness station south of the playground in Yarranabbe Park.	Long	TS	15,000	Fitness station installed in Yarranabbe Park.	Audit of exercise station. Visitor Survey to identify use patterns
Improve seating for Park users.	Consider the provision of public seating adjacent to the kiosk to supplement the catered seating of the kiosk. Seating may be installed in conjunction with playground.	Short	TS	6,000	Public seating installed next to the kiosk.	Audit of public seating. Visitor Survey for use patterns and satisfaction.

Public recreation (cont.)

Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Capital cost \$	Performance target	Means of assessment
Ensure amenities meet the needs of park users.	Clean toilets frequently.	Ongoing	TS	-	Clean toilets.	Periodic inspections for compliance.
	Close the toilets later, especially in summer.	Ongoing	TS	-	Toilets closed at sunset.	Audit of closing times. Visitor Survey to identify satisfaction level
	Consider provision of a baby change room and showers / change area when refurbishing the toilet block.	Long	TS	100,000	Additional amenities in Rushcutters Bay Park.	Visitor Survey to identify use patterns
Provide opportunities for public art installations	Install public artwork in accordance with Council's Public Art Policy and Council approved design	Medium	TS / CS	60,000	Artwork installed	Audit of artwork

Access

Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Capital cost \$	Performance target	Means of assessment
Promote the use of public transport to travel to the Parks and surrounding land uses.	Liaise with CYCA and d'Albora Marina to raise visitor awareness of public transport options.	Medium term	TS	-	Increase in use of public transport to travel to the parks.	Visitor survey
	Promote access to the Parks by public transport in published material.	ongoing	TS	-	Increase in use of public transport to travel to the parks.	Visitor survey
Increase opportunities for residents and park users to park in New Beach Road.	Police parking restrictions in New Beach Road.	ongoing	TS	-	Reduction in number of vehicles parked over 2 hours.	Review of Penalty Infringement Notices issued for parking violations
	Reduce the number of vehicle spaces taken up by the 'No Standing Area' at the service vehicle entry of Rushcutters Bay Park in accordance with advice from Council's Traffic Engineer and the Local Traffic Committee.	Medium	TS	-	Reduction in "No Standing Area".	Audit of parking spaces
	Liaise with State Transit Authority about rationalising bus stops on New Beach Road.	Long	TS	-	Reduction in number of bus stops on New Beach Road.	Audit of Number of Bus Stops
Improve pedestrian circulation within the Parks.	Replace the timber pedestrian bridge in Rushcutters Bay Park with a larger capacity pedestrian and cycleway bridge.	Short	TS	60,000	Bridge replaced with wider structure.	Audit to ensure multi-use capability. Visitor Survey to establish use and satisfaction
	Widen the northern section of the footpath in Yarranabbe Park to 3.8 metres to match adjoining path.	Medium	TS	100,000	Footpath widened.	Audit of footpath. Visitor Survey to identify satisfaction of users
Allow maintenance access to SPS 23	Ensure adequate access is maintained for Sydney Water requirements	Short	TS	-	Sufficient access to maintain SPS 23	Contact with Sydney Water

Access (cont.)

Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Capital cost \$	Performance target	Means of assessment
Rationalise the number of vehicle crossing points across Plantation Reserve.	Liaise with the Department of Lands, CYCA and d'Albora Marina to rationalise the number of vehicle access points across the Reserve.	Short	TS	-	Where possible, reduction in number of vehicle crossing points across Plantation Reserve.	Audit of amount of vehicle crossings
	Provide a vehicle access point across Plantation Reserve to the former Sayonara Slipway.	Medium	TS	-	Vehicle access to the former Sayonara Slipway.	Audit of vehicle access
Improve access for people with disabilities to the Parks and Reserve.	Remove the kerb and part of the garden bed separating the parking spaces for people with disabilities from the footpath through Plantation Reserve or locate disabled parking spaces adjacent to existing level access points subject to the approval of the Local Traffic Committee and Traffic Engineer advice.	Short	TS	-	Level access from the parking spaces for people with disabilities to the footpath in Plantation Reserve.	Audit of level access available and Visitor Survey to identify satisfaction

Energy Efficiency and Water Reuse

Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Capital cost \$	Performance target	Means of assessment
Reduction in energy use	Rationalise the existing number of lights in Yarranabbe Park subject to safety considerations	Medium	TS	-	Level of energy used is reduced.	Audit of energy consumption
Water reuse and bore water	Investigate options for use of bore water or stormwater reuse for Yarranabbe Park	Medium	TS	-	Preferred option identified	Recommendation adopted by Council
	Continue to use bore water at Rushcutters Bay Park Install 5,000-10,000L underground rain water tank for water reuse in amenities block.	Ongoing Long	TS TS	- -	Bore water used sustainably Reduction in use of town water supply	Monitor use of bore water and condition of ground Audit of water consumption

Safety

Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Capital cost \$	Performance target	Means of assessment
Facilitate the safety of park users after dark.	Install after-hours security lighting to the kiosk, toilets and playground in Rushcutters Bay Park.	Short	TS	2,000	Lighting installed.	Audit of lighting around area. Review of complaints regarding security issues
	Undertake trial of turning off lights late at night and in consultation with park users and residents	Medium	TS	-	Reduced amount of time for light use	Audit of lighting time and review of energy costs
	Upgrade the remaining lights in Yarranabbe Park to match the light fittings in Rushcutters Bay Park.	Long	TS	-	Lights in Yarranabbe Park are same style as light fittings in Rushcutters Bay Park.	Audit of lighting assets

6 IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

6.1 Permitted future uses and developments

6.1.1 Introduction

It is not possible to forecast every activity, development or structure that may occur in Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks and Plantation Reserve in the future. New activities, developments and structures may be proposed in response to an application for use of the Parks or Reserve, or because funding or another opportunity becomes available, or to address a management issue that may not be evident when preparing this Plan of Management.

There are two components to the permissibility of activities and developments with the parks and reserves. **Firstly, they must comply with the CLA 1989** and in particular with the **public purpose** for the reserve and the need for a lease or licence, and secondly, require approval under the Woollahra Local Environment Plan 1995 and other Environmental Planning Instruments. Guidelines for assessing the appropriateness of new activities, developments and structures in the Parks and Reserve are outlined below.

6.1.2 Permitted activities

Activities that are permitted within the Parks and Reserve should be consistent with:

- ❑ The *Crown Lands Act 1989* (**Section 3.2.1**) and other relevant legislation (**Section 3.1**) (Statutory) The primary act that determines what can and can't be done on reserves.
- ❑ The public purpose of the Parks and Reserve under the CLA 1989 (Statutory)
- ❑ The Basis for Management of the Parks and Reserve (**Section 3**).
- ❑ The objectives of this Plan of Management (**Section 1.4**).
- ❑ The zoning under the Woollahra Local Environmental Plan 1995 (**Section 3.3**).
- ❑ Community values of the Park (**Section 3.4**).
- ❑ Community objectives for the Park (**Section 3.5**).
- ❑ The future roles of the Park (**Section 3.6**).
- ❑ Proposed future uses of the Park (**Section 3.7**).
- ❑ Additional guidelines for assessing future uses and developments (**Section 6.1**).
- ❑ Any appropriate Department of Lands or Woollahra Council Policies.

6.1.3 Proposed developments and building works

Figures 5.1 and 5.2 show the scale and extent of proposed physical changes to the Parks and Reserve.

All proposed development and building works consistent with this Plan of Management (excluding activities which are permitted without development consent under the Woollahra Local Environmental Plan, and a Section 117 Direction of the Director of the Department of Planning) would be subject to normal development applications in accordance with the *Environment Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and the Woollahra Local Environmental Plan. This Plan of Management would be an important supporting document for the required Development Application for the proposed works.

6.2 Authorisation of leases and licences

6.2.1 What are leases and licences?

A Reserve Trust may issue a lease where exclusive use or control of all or part of the Parks and Reserve is desirable for effective management. A lease may also be required due to the scale of investment in facilities, the necessity for security measures, or where the relationship between a major user and facilities in the Parks and Reserve justify such security of tenure.

Licences allow multiple and non-exclusive use of an area. The Trust may issue a licence where intermittent or short-term use or control of all or part of the Parks and Reserve is proposed. A number of licences for different users can apply to the same area at the same time, provided there is no conflict of interest. The Reserve Trust may also issue a temporary licence under Section 108 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. The Reserve Trust is required to obtain consent in writing from the Minister for Lands for leases and licences, however not for temporary licences.

6.2.2 Leases and Licences

This Plan of Management supports the continued leasing of the kiosk. The Plan also supports future leases and licences from time to time in accordance with the *Crown Lands Act 1989* (See **Appendix C**) and the broad objectives outlined in this PoM..

6.3 Funding sources

6.3.1 Introduction

There are a number of approaches the Trusts can take to fund proposals set out in this Plan of Management.

6.3.2 Trust proceeds

Under Section 106 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*, net proceeds from a sale, lease, easement or licence (including a temporary licence) on the reserves shall be applied in accordance with directions (if any) given by the Minister for Lands. This may include:

- ☐ Direction to another Reserve Trust to be used for care, control and management of the other Trust's reserve.
- ☐ Direction to the Consolidated fund or to a Public Reserves Management Fund under the *Public Reserves Management Fund Act 1987*.

In the absence of a direction from the Minister (which is the case with the subject sites), the proceeds from a reserve shall be invested or applied for the general purposes of the Reserve Trust. Under Section 122 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989* Reserve Trusts must report on activities in the reserve as detailed in Clause 33 of the *Crown Lands Regulation 2000*.

Public Reserves Management Fund

The Public Reserves Management Fund provides loans or grants that assists Crown Reserve Trusts in the management, planning and development of Crown reserves. It is accumulated from a 15% levy on the proceeds from new leases and licenses in the Parks and Reserve that can then be applied for the care and maintenance of reserves. Funds are distributed on a merit basis to Trusts that apply for grant funds for specific projects.

6.3.3 Council funding

Woollahra Council, as Trust Manager, is likely to fund most of the proposed improvements to the Parks and Reserve. The implementation of this Plan of Management is achieved through its linkage with Council's Management Plan, Operational Budget, and Capital Works Program. Funding is an integral input required to implement the Plan.

Funding arrangements for the Parks and Reserve need to address recurrent costs of management and maintenance, together with capital costs for new facilities or upgrading works. Council currently funds management and maintenance costs through its annual budget allocation and uses capital funds and Section 94 funding for capital and non-recurrent works.

Funding for construction of new facilities is generally through the annual budgeting process, but special projects may be partly funded through State government grant allocations, which may involve matching funding from Council.

Staging of works will need to occur because Council cannot meet the cost of every single item of work proposed at one time, due to other financial commitments throughout the municipality. Items to be actioned within the Action Plans have been prioritised, which will assist in preparing forward open space work programs and annual budgets. This Plan will therefore provide direction for future works in the Parks and Reserve.

6.3.4 Grants

A number of Commonwealth and State government grants are available to assist with capital works in the Parks and Reserve. While not exhaustive, the following list gives an indication of the range of available grant programs through which improvements to the Parks and Reserve consistent with their size, regional catchment and intended uses could be funded.

Table 6.1: Potential sources of grant funding

Grant	Organisation	Purpose
Commonwealth		
Natural Heritage Trust	Department of Environment and Heritage	Envirofund: projects in coastal and marine areas Bushcare Program: conserving and restoring habitat for native flora and fauna.
Public Art Program	Ministry for the Arts	Grants of up to \$4,000 are available to assist in the commissioning of concept proposals by artists. Matching grants of up to \$20,000 are available for commissioning public art.
Australia Council for the Arts	Australia Council	Community cultural development, visual arts / crafts, theatre, dance, music
Cultural Heritage Projects Program	Department of the Environment and Heritage	On-ground conservation and restoration works for historic or indigenous places on the register of the National Estate, its Interim list or a State heritage list.
State		
Metropolitan Greenspace	Dept. Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources	Planning and improvement of regionally significant open space in Sydney.
Sharing Sydney Harbour	Dept. Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources	Grants for access to the Sydney Harbour foreshore.
Capital Assistance Program	Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation	Community-oriented sporting and / or recreational facilities.
Heritage Study and Promotion Projects	Heritage Office	Studies, promotion, interpretation and presentation, histories and other projects for heritage items in NSW.
Environmental Trust: Integrated Environmental Program	Department of Environment and Conservation	Environmental restoration and rehabilitation to prevent or reduce pollution, waste or other environmental degradation.
Heritage Study and Promotion Projects	NSW Heritage Office	Studies, promotion, interpretation and presentation, histories and other projects for heritage items in NSW.

6.3.5 Section 94 Contributions

Council currently collects funds from developers towards the cost of upgrading facilities, including parks, in Woollahra to meet the needs of new development.

6.3.6 Partnerships

There may be opportunities to develop partnerships in relation to improvements to the Parks and Reserve or ongoing management.

6.3.7 Rental and hiring income

Reserve trust generate income from lease fees, and from hiring fees for approved sporting activities, functions and events.

6.4 Review of this Plan of Management

This Plan of Management will be reviewed in five years, ie. in 2010. It should be updated to reflect changing community and Council priorities and issues, and to recognise completed actions. Review of this Plan of Management should also take into account the outcomes of periodic reviews of Council's strategic and operational plans.

The Action Plan tables have a shorter life and therefore require more frequent reviews and updating. The Action Plan tables will be reviewed and revised yearly in accordance with Council's Management Plan budgets, Capital Works Program and changing priorities.

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8 APPENDICES

Appendix A

**Summary of Visitor Survey for Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park
(Integrated Open Space Services 2005)**

Summary of Key Findings

Parks Visited by Survey Participants

- 57% of all participants visited only Rushcutters Bay Park on the day they were interviewed, and 10% visited only Yarranabee Park.
- 33% visited both Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabee Park on the day they were interviewed.

RUSHCUTTERS BAY PARK

- 77% of participants interviewed in Rushcutters Bay Park, visited only Rushcutters Bay Park on the day of the interview.
- 23% of participants interviewed in Rushcutters Bay Park, visited both Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabee Park on the day of the interview.

YARRANABEE PARK

- 36% of participants interviewed in Yarranabee Park, visited only Yarranabee Park on the day of the interview.
- 64% of participants interviewed in Yarranabee Park, visited both Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabee Park on the day of the interview.

RUSHCUTTERS BAY PARK AND YARRANABEE PARK

- While the majority of participants interviewed in Yarranabee Park also visited Rushcutters Bay Park (64% of Yarranabee Park participants), only 23% of participants interviewed in Rushcutters Bay Park also visited Yarranabee Park.

Survey Participants Frequency of Visitation

- 79% of participants were regular visitors to the parks. 57% of participants visited more than once a week (with 27% visiting daily and 30% visiting several times a week). 12% visited approximately once a week, 6% approximately once a fortnight, and 4% approximately once a month.
- 4% visited two – six times per year, 1% approximately once a year, 0.3% less than once a year, and 6% irregularly.
- 8% of participants were visiting the parks for the first time.

Days of Visitation by Survey Participants

- Of the participants not visiting the parks for the first time, 55% mainly visited the park/s any day of the week, 22% on weekends, 20% on weekdays, 2% on holidays, and 0.4% for special events.

Survey Participants and Group Size

- 40% of participants were visiting the park by themselves, 34% with another person, and 20% in a group of three to five people.
- 4% of participants were visiting in a group of six to ten people, 2% in a group of eleven to fifteen people, 0.3% in a group of twenty people, and 0.3% in a group of 30 people.

Survey Participants and Group Profile

- 40% of participants were visiting the park alone, 23% with family, 17% with their partner, 15% with friend/s, 3% with friends and family, and 2% with an organised group.

Survey Participants and Group Composition

AGE

- 35% of people (participants plus any companions) were aged between thirty and forty-four years, 18% between eighteen and twenty-nine years, 15% between forty-five and fifty-nine years, 14% less than five years old, and 13% above sixty years.
- 4% of people were aged between five and twelve years, and 1% between thirteen and seventeen years.

GENDER

- 52% of people (participants and companions) were male, and 48% female.

Survey Participants Length of Stay in the Parks

- 32% of participants stayed in the park from thirty-one to sixty minutes, and 30% between one to two hours on the day of the interview.
- 19% stayed from sixteen to thirty minutes, and 10% between two and three hours.
- 4% stayed for less than fifteen minutes, 4% from three to four hours, and 1% stayed for longer than four hours.

Activities of Survey Participants

- Using the Kiosk (40% of participants), Walking / Strolling (31%), Relaxing / Sleeping (27%), Walking the Dog (20%), and Children's Play (19%) were the main activities being undertaken by participants.

Areas of the Parks Visited by Survey Participants

- The foreshore areas in both parks were popular places for participants to visit - 50% of all participants visited the foreshore area in Rushcutters Bay Park, and 28% the foreshore area in Yarranabbe Park.
- 42% of all participants visited the kiosk in Rushcutters Bay Park.
- 29% of all participants visited the canal area in Rushcutters Bay, and 24% visited sportsfield 2 in Rushcutters Bay Park.
- 18% visited sportsfield 1 in Rushcutters Bay Park, 11% visited the lawn area in Yarranabbe Park, 10% visited the playground in Yarranabbe Park, and 5% visited the pontoon in Yarranabbe Park.

Parks Facilities Used by Survey Participants during Visit

- The majority of participants used the footpaths in the parks (83%).
- Less than half the participants (41%) used the seats in the parks.
- 40% of participants utilised the kiosk.
- 29% of participants used the toilets, 10% the playground, 9% the exercise equipment, and 5% the pontoon.
- 3% of participants indicated that they had used no facilities.

Mode of Transport to the Parks

- 66% of participants walked to the parks, 24% drove a car, 5% were a passenger in a car, 7% travelled by bus, 1% rode a bicycle, 1% travelled by train, and 0.3% skated.

Change of Transport Mode for Car Users

- 75% of participants who travelled to the park in a car, indicated that they had no interest in using public transport, walking or cycling (for a variety of reasons). 22% indicated that an improved public transport system would encourage its use.

Entry Point to Park/s by Participants

- 40% of participants entered the park/s from New Beach Road, 25% from the Reg Bartley Oval Foreshore Bridge, 15% from Bayswater Road, 12% from the corner of New South Head Road and New Beach Road, 4% from the Reg Bartley Oval Southern Bridge, and 3% from the Marina / Rushcutters Bay.

Aspects Survey Participants Liked about the Parks

- Overall, items collated under the heading 'Location' (97% of participants), 'Park Design & Aesthetics' (46%) and 'Park Ambience' (40%) were the most popular aspects.
- Of the individual items, scenic landscape (74%), tranquil/relaxing atmosphere (20%), open space/s (13%), trees (11%), convenient location (11%), the kiosk (11%), and dog friendly park (10%) were the aspects most liked by participants.

Aspects of the Park Disliked by Survey Participants

- The majority of participants did not dislike any aspects of the parks (66%).
- Overall, items collated under the heading 'Dog Management' (12% of participants) were the most disliked aspects. This was followed by 'Access' (6%), 'Park Management' (5%), and "Aesthetics / Ambience" (5%).

Suggested Improvements - Rushcutters Bay Park

- 99 participants (45%) in Rushcutters Bay Park either had no improvements to suggest or required no changes made to the parks.
- 145 improvements were suggested by participants interviewed in Rushcutters Bay Park / for Rushcutters Bay Park (excluding suggestions relating to specific items that were rated on importance/satisfaction).

Suggested Improvements - Yarranabee Park

- 30 participants (38%) in Yarranabee Park either had no improvements to suggest or required no changes made to the parks.
- 63 improvements were suggested by participants interviewed in Yarranabee park / for Yarranabee Park (excluding suggestions relating to specific items that were rated on importance/satisfaction).

Survey Participants Rating of Importance and Satisfaction of Specific Park Items

IMPORTANCE

- Overall, bridges across the canal (average rating of 4.4), shade over seating (4.1), the kiosk (4.0), and the foreshore link between the two parks (4.0) were rated as important to survey participants.

- Provision of public seating around the kiosk (3.8), and provision of picnic / BBQ areas (3.1) were rated as being moderately important to participants.
- Not so important were the provision of playground equipment (2.8), provision of exercise equipment (2.6), and the location of exercise equipment (2.5).

SATISFACTION

- Survey participants were satisfied with the kiosk (average rating of 4.4), the location of exercise equipment (4.1), and the bridges across the canal (4.1).
- Participants were moderately satisfied with the provision of public seating around the kiosk (3.9), shade over seating (3.7), the foreshore link between the two parks (3.5), provision of picnic / BBQ areas (3.3), and the provision of playground equipment (3.1).

VARIANCE BETWEEN IMPORTANCE AND SATISFACTION

- Participants rated satisfaction higher than importance on a number of items. Location of exercise equipment recorded a satisfaction rating of 4.1, and an importance rating of 2.5, a difference of 1.5 or 38%. Provision of exercise equipment rated a difference of 34% (1.3) between satisfaction and importance; provision of playground equipment 11% (0.3) difference; provision of picnic / BBQ areas 7% (0.2) difference; the kiosk 4% (0.2) difference; and the provision of public seating around the kiosk 4% (0.1) difference.
- Participants rated their satisfaction with three items, lower than they rated their importance: the foreshore link between the two parks (-14%, -0.5 difference); shade over seating (-11%, -0.4 difference); and bridges across the canal (-8%, -0.3 difference).

PROVISION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT – COMMENTS

- 87 comments were received from participants within / or regarding a playground in Rushcutters Bay Park (including 81 comments regarding the need for a playground in Rushcutters Bay Park), and 57 comments were received regarding the existing playground in Yarranabee Park.

PROVISION OF PICNIC / BBQ AREAS – COMMENTS

- Overall, 123 comments were received relating to the provision of picnic / BBQ areas, with 75 comments relating to the provision of BBQs (and picnic facilities); 9 comments regarding provision of picnic tables, but no BBQs; 34 comments stating no BBQs; and 2 comments stating no provision of picnic tables. 3 comments related to the facilities required to accompanying picnics, or BBQ facilities.

KIOSK – COMMENTS

- 69 comments were received from participants in regards to the kiosk.

PUBLIC SEATING AROUND KIOSK – COMMENTS

- 35 comments were received from participants in regards to public seating around the kiosk.

SHADE OVER SEATING – COMMENTS

- 79 comments were received from participants in regards to shade over seating.

PROVISION OF EXERCISE EQUIPMENT – COMMENTS

- 21 comments were received from participants in regards to the provision of exercise equipment.

LOCATION OF EXERCISE EQUIPMENT – COMMENTS

- 7 comments were received from participants in regards to the location of exercise equipment.

BRIDGES ACROSS THE CANAL – COMMENTS

- 70 comments were received from participants in regards to the bridges across the canal, with 63 of these preferring some sort of upgrade.

FORESHORE LINK BETWEEN RUSHCUTTERS BAY PARK AND YARRANABBE PARK – COMMENTS

- 104 comments were received from participants in regards to the foreshore link, with 103 comments relating to improvement of the connection or the creation of a waterfront link.

Place of Residence of Survey Participant

- 33% of participants lived within Woollahra Municipal Council, 53% within other areas of Sydney, 2% within other areas of New South Wales, 2% from interstate, and 9% from overseas.

Age of Survey Participants

- 60% of participants were aged between twenty-five and forty-five years old - with 19% aged between thirty-five and thirty-nine, 15% between thirty and thirty-four, and 15% between twenty-five and twenty-nine.
- 7% were above sixty-five years old, 7% between sixty and sixty-four, 7% between fifty and fifty-four, and 6% between fifty-five and fifty-nine.
- 5% of participants were between twenty and twenty-five, 1% between fifteen and nineteen, and 1% below fifteen years old.

Occupational Status of Survey Participants

- 60% of participants were full-time employed, 13% part-time employed, 12% retired, 7% undertaking home duties, and 4% students.

RUSHCUTTERS BAY / YARRANABBE PARKS VISITOR SURVEY

Hello, my name is [].

I am doing a survey of visitors to Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park on behalf of Woollahra Council to assist them with a Plan of Management it is preparing for the parks.

May I ask you a few questions? (It will take about 7 minutes).

1. On your visit today, are you visiting: (circle more than one if appropriate)?

Rushcutters Bay Park	1
Yarranabbe Park	2

2. How often do you visit Rushcutters Bay Park or Yarranabbe Park?

Every day	1
Several times a week	2
About once a week	3
About once a fortnight	4
About once a month	5
About 2-6 times a year	6
About once a year	7
Less than once a year	8
First visit	9
Irregular (eg holidaying)	10
Not sure/don't know	11

3. When do you mainly visit the Park(s)?

Weekdays	1
Weekends	2
Holidays	3
Special Events	4
Any Day	5
Other (specify:_____)	

4. What was the main form of transport you used to get to the park today?

Car – driver	1	Go to 5
Car – passenger	2	Go to 5
Motor bike	3	Go to 5
Bus	4	Go to 6
Walk	5	Go to 6
Bicycle	6	Go to 6
Train	7	Go to 6
Skating (inline/board)	8	Go to 6
Other (specify:_____)		

5. If came by car or motorbike:

What would encourage you to use public transport, walk or cycle to get here?

6. Where did you enter the park(s) from?

Reg Bartley Oval (foreshore)	1
Reg Bartley Oval (south)	2
Bayswater Road (east)	3
Cnr Bayswater Rd / New Beach Rd	4
New Beach Road	5
Marina / Rushcutters Bay	6

7. Including yourself, how many people are in your group?

8. Which of the following best describes the type of group you are with today?

Alone / self	1
With partner	2
With family	3
With friend(s)	4
With friends and family	5
Organised group	6
Other (specify: _____)	

9. Could you tell me the number, ages and gender of yourself and those who accompanied you to the park(s) today:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
< 5 years	_____	_____
5-12 years	_____	_____
13-17 years	_____	_____
18-29 years	_____	_____
30-44 years	_____	_____
45-59 years	_____	_____
60 years +	_____	_____

10. How long are you planning to stay in the Park(s) today?

< 15 mins	1
16 – 30 mins (half hour)	2
31 – 60 mins (1 hour)	3
1.1 – 2 hours	4
2.1 – 3 hours	5
3.1 - 4 hours	6
More than 4 hours	7

11 What activities are you planning to do (or what have you done) in the park(s) today?

Ball games	1
Children's Play	2.
Cycling	3
Fishing	4
Jogging / Running	5
Passing Through	6
Picnic	7
Playing Sport	8
Reading / Writing	9
Relaxing / Sleeping	10
Rollerblading	11
Sightseeing	12
Socialising	13
Sunbaking	14
Training / Exercising	15
Using Kiosk	16

Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve
Plan of Management

Walking / Strolling 17
Walking the Dog 18
Watching Entertainment 19
Watching People 20
Other (specify: _____)

12 Which areas of the park(s) have you spent time in today?

Canal Area – Rushcutters Bay Park 1
Foreshore Area – RBP 2
Sportsfield 1 – RBP 3
Sportsfield 2 – RBP 4
Kiosk – RBP 6
Foreshore Area – Yarranabbe Park 7
Playground – Yarranabbe Park 8
Lawn – Yarranabbe Park 9
Pontoon – Yarranabbe Park 10

13 Which park facilities have you (and your group) used today?

None 1
Kiosk 2
Playground 3
Exercise Equipment 4
Footpaths 5
Toilets 6
Seats 7
Pontoon 8
Other (specify: _____)

14 What aspects of the Park(s) do you like?

15 What aspects of the Park(s) do you dislike?

16 What improvements or changes could be made to the park(s)?

Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve
Plan of Management

17 Using a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not important and 5 being very important how important is this item to you:

Using a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being not satisfied and 5 being very satisfied, how satisfied are you with this item:

(If satisfaction is < importance rating)

Can you please explain why your level of satisfaction is lower than your level of importance?

Item	Importance	Satisfaction
Provision of Playground Equipment	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Comments:		
Provision of Picnic / BBQ Areas	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Comments:		
Kiosk	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Comments:		
Public Seating around the Kiosk	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Comments:		
Shade over Seating	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Comments:		
Provision of Exercise Equipment	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Comments:		
Location of Exercise Equipment	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Comments:		
Bridges Across the Canal	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Comments:		
Foreshore link between Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Comments:		

Now for some questions about you to help us to interpret the data.

18 Where do you normally live?

Australia 1
Town / suburb / postcode _____

Overseas 2
Country _____

Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve
Plan of Management

19 Which age group are you in?

Less than 15 years	1
15-19	2
20-24	3
25-29	4
30-34	5
35-39	6
40-44	7
45-49	8
50-54	9
55-59	10
60-64	11
65+	12

20 What is your occupational status?

Full-time employed	1
Part-time employed	2
Student	3
Retired	4
Pensioner	5
Looking for work	6
Home duties	7
Refused	8

21 Any other Comments?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE

Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park and Plantation Reserve
Plan of Management

Gender:

Male 1

Female 2

Area of the park interviewed in:

Canal Area – Rushcutters Bay Park 1

Foreshore Area – RBP 2

Sportsfield 1 – RBP 3

Sportsfield 2 – RBP 4

Kiosk – RBP 6

Foreshore Area – Yarranabbe Park 7

Playground – Yarranabbe Park 8

Lawn – Yarranabbe Park 9

Pontoon – Yarranabbe Park 10

Day:

Monday 1

Tuesday 2

Wednesday 3

Thursday 4

Friday 5

Saturday 6

Sunday 7

Time:

6.00 – 8.00 am 1

8.01 – 11.00 am 2

11.01 am – 1.00 pm 3

1.01 – 3.00 pm 4

3.01 – 5.00 pm 5

5.01 – 7.00 pm 6

7.01 – 8.00 pm 7

Weather:

Sunny 1

Cloudy 2

Rain 3

Sun / wind 4

Cloud / rain 5

Cloud / wind 6

INTERVIEWER'S DECLARATION

I have conducted this interview in accordance with my interviewing instructions. It is a full and accurate recording (to the best of my knowledge).

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

SUPERVISOR'S SIGN OFF

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Appendix B

Draft Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004

The *Draft Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004* (referred to below as the Draft SREP 2004) consolidates the provisions of SREP 23 and SEPP 56, which will be repealed once the draft SREP 2004 comes into force (expected to occur within the life of this Plan of Management). The *Draft Development Control Plan for Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004* (referred to as the Draft DCP 2004) accompanies the Draft SREP 2004.

Although there is reference in the Draft SREP 2004 to environmental planning instruments, environmental studies and master plans, there are no specific requirements in the draft for the preparation of Plans of Management.

The Draft SREP is intended to control planning and development in the Sydney Harbour catchment (including the Parks) once it is in force. The objective of the Draft SREP 2004 is to provide a clear set of planning principles to be considered when preparing environmental planning instruments, development control plans, environmental studies and master plans under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*. The planning principles are divided into those for Sydney Harbour Catchment, Foreshores and Waterways area and heritage conservation (see **Section 3.5.2**).

W5 Water Recreation Zoning

The water adjoining Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks are zoned W5 Water Recreation under the draft SREP. The zoning W5 Water Recreation includes objectives to:

- ☐ prioritise and increase water-dependent development that gives public access to the Harbour.
- ☐ permit development only where public use of waters is enhanced and will not be compromised.
- ☐ minimise the number, scale and extent of artificial structures.
- ☐ permit commercial water-dependent development only where it meets a justified demand, benefits the public, and harmonises visually with the present and planned character.
- ☐ minimise congestion and conflict between users of this zone and the foreshore.

The permitted and prohibited uses under the W5 Water Recreation zoning are set out below.

Table B1: Zoning table W5 Water recreation

Without development consent	With development consent	Prohibited
<input type="checkbox"/> Aids to navigation. <input type="checkbox"/> Flora and fauna enclosures. <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance dredging. <input type="checkbox"/> Single moorings, except those associated with a commercial marina or the boating industry. <input type="checkbox"/> Demolition, other than heritage items.	<input type="checkbox"/> Boat launching ramps. <input type="checkbox"/> Boating industry facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> Boatlifts (other than for storage above the water) <input type="checkbox"/> Charter and tourism facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial marinas. <input type="checkbox"/> Community facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> Dredging. <input type="checkbox"/> Private landing steps. <input type="checkbox"/> Public boardwalks. <input type="checkbox"/> Public water recreational facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> Public water transport facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> Skids. <input type="checkbox"/> Telecommunication facilities.	<input type="checkbox"/> Any other uses.

Draft Development Control Plan 2004

Introduction

The *draft Development Control Plan* for the *Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004* (referred to as the Draft DCP 2004) sets out the detailed design considerations for the use and development of land identified in the *draft SREP 2004*. Aims of the Draft DCP 2004 include that all development should aim to:

- ☐ minimise any significant impact on views and vistas.
- ☐ ensure it complements the scenic character.
- ☐ provide a high quality of built and landscape design.
- ☐ contribute to the diverse character of the landscape.

Ecological assessment

The Draft DCP 2004 identifies ecological communities and conservation status for the areas to which it applies. Different statements of intent and performance criteria are set out for each level of conservation status. The Parks are classified as a Grassland ecological community, which has a low conservation status. An area classified as Seagrass beds was also identified adjacent to the southern half of Yarranabbe Park, which has a high conservation status. Even though the Seagrass beds are outside Yarranabbe Park, the draft DCP 2004 specifies statements of intent and performance criteria for development that adjoins high conservation status ecological communities. As these specifications may affect the management of Rushcutters Bay and Yarranabbe Parks, they need to be considered when considering any proposal for Yarranabbe Park that may affect the seagrass beds.

The statements of intent and performance criteria for the low conservation status, terrestrial Grassland ecological communities of the Parks include:

- ☐ conserve and enhance vegetation by preserving mature trees with hollows; and consider incremental and cumulative effects of development.
- ☐ minimise the risk of predation on native fauna by domestic pets by fencing them in.
- ☐ minimise soil erosion, water saltation and pollution impacts by implementing soil erosion and siltation measures during and after construction; preventing pollutants from entering the waterway; ensure any pollutants and any increase in suspended solids is temporary and does not exceed the current pollution and range of turbidity.

The statements of intent and performance criteria for development that adjoins the high conservation status, aquatic Seagrasses ecological community include:

- ☐ minimising impacts from shading by avoiding shading seagrasses; protecting food sources for grazing organisms; maintaining light penetration and algal growth in intertidal zones; maintaining light penetration to seagrass beds.
- ☐ minimising reclamation impacts.
- ☐ minimising urban run-off impacts by on-site control of pollutants, nutrient levels and suspended solids.
- ☐ minimising dredging impacts.
- ☐ minimising physical damage to communities of high conservation value.
- ☐ minimising changes to natural tidal flow and currents.

Landscape Assessment

The draft DCP 2004 identifies sixteen landscape character types, of which the Parks and Reserve are defined as Landscape Character 10. Development should meet the general landscape aims, which include to minimise significant impact on views and vistas; complement the scenic character of the area; protect the integrity of the foreshores with distinctive visual features; provide a high quality of built and landscape design; and contribute to the diverse character of the landscape.

Suitable development in Landscape Character 10 areas gives due consideration to:

- ☐ preserving the special natural features; and
- ☐ recognising the role of commercial activities as an important recreational resource and improving public enjoyment of the harbour.

Development within areas defined as Landscape Character 10 is also required to meet the following performance criteria:

- ☐ it does not obscure, detract from or destroy special natural elements that are significant within the local context of the area.
- ☐ the open nature of the bays is not lost by over development of the foreshore.
- ☐ it has been demonstrated that the commercial activities proposed within and adjacent to the foreshores are necessary and that their proposed use is compatible with existing and likely future land uses.

Water-based and land-water interface developments

The Draft DCP 2004 also provides general design guidelines for water-based and land-water interface developments. They include:

- ☐ access for the public.
- ☐ minimising waterway and foreshore congestion and conflicts.
- ☐ whether the development warrants a foreshore location and demand has been established.
- ☐ development not interfering with navigation, swimming or other recreational activities.
- ☐ that the structure does not obstruct or affect natural flow of tides and currents.
- ☐ development that does not dominate its landscape setting.
- ☐ development minimised to provide access to waterway.
- ☐ development being set back at least 2.5 metres from the waterway.

Specific design guidelines for water-based and land-water interface developments cover topics including foreshore access, siting of buildings and structures, built form, signage, private landing facilities, slipways, swimming enclosures and pools, sea walls and reclamation.

Land-based developments

The Draft DCP 2004 also sets out specific design guidelines for land-based developments, which are those developments located wholly above the Mean High Water Mark. Topics in the specific design guidelines that are applicable to the Parks include:

- ☐ foreshore access to be encouraged and public access along the foreshore to be secured or improved. Desirably join public open spaces or access points with foreshore links, alternatively through adjacent streets.

- ❑ buildings to be set back from existing native vegetation; address the waterway; not obstruct views and vistas from public places to the waterway; and not obstruct views of landmarks and other features. If no foreshore building line, to have regard to neighbouring buildings.
- ❑ built form to be sympathetic to surroundings; ensure contrast will enhance the setting; break up roof lines and facades into smaller elements and use pitched roofs; walls and fences to allow views of private gardens from waterway; direct external lighting downward, away from water; minimise use of reflective materials; colours to be sympathetic with surrounds; mitigate cumulative visual impact of several built elements, using vegetation, articulating walls and using smaller elements; consider cumulative impact, having regard to preserving views of special natural features, landmarks or heritage items.
- ❑ signage to consider guidelines in *State Environmental Planning Policy No. 64 – Advertising and Signage (SEPP 64)*. Signs to be of minimal dimensions and consistent with the commercial and community identity of the premises; not brightly illuminated and lighting directed downward, away from the water; preferably placed on the facades of buildings; and avoid signs that intrude on the skyline.
- ❑ landscaping to incorporate appropriate species from surrounding landscape; endemic native species to be used where native vegetation present or potential to regenerate; no exotic species with potential to escape to bushland; retain mature trees; landscape plan to be submitted with any land-based development.
- ❑ maritime activities: to encourage retention of existing maritime and boating industry facilities; ensure these activities make a positive contribution to the landscape, as viewed from the waterway; avoid large expanses of undifferentiated cladding; when no council controls, an 8 metres maximum wall height; to minimise scale and bulk, use grouped smaller elements; use noise mitigation measures; use the majority of buildings for maritime or boating industry purposes. Any proposal to replace a maritime or boating industry with another use should provide reasons and demonstrate that there are suitable sites available elsewhere for the industry.
- ❑ community boating and water-based recreation facilities should aim to improve community access to the water, maintain views of the waterway, minimise impact on adjacent areas; minimise the size of the development; avoid expanses of undifferentiated cladding; use compatible exterior colours and non-reflective surfaces; consider outdoor cafes.
- ❑ redevelopment sites should invite public access to the foreshore; allow a mix of uses; provide public jetties and wharves where there is demand; identify areas to conserve and be made publicly available; provide public road access to a foreshore park; consider the site context.
- ❑ stairs and driveways should minimise visual intrusion and disturbance to topography and vegetation. In addition to Council controls, locate driveways close to natural ground level as possible; maximum 1.2 metres width for stairs; stairs in timber, masonry, stone or galvanised if painted with colours that blend with setting; site stairs and driveways to maintain privacy of adjacent dwellings; implement soil erosion measures; encourage shared use in sensitive locations.

Appendix C

Authorisation of future leases and licences

All tenures over part or all of a Crown public reserve are made between the Reserve Trust and the lessee / licensee, and are subject to the provisions of Part 5 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*.

Any lease or licence requires the consent in writing of the Minister for Lands and must be consistent with the purpose of the land's reservation or dedication.

Under any lease or licence, the construction of facilities on Crown land will be permitted, provided:

- ❑ the facilities that are proposed to be constructed are in accordance with a Plan of Management adopted for the Reserve under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*.
- ❑ the lessee or licensee will obtain the consent of the Minister and the Reserve Trust for any development applications to enable construction on the reserves.

The Reserve Trusts for the parks and reserve have the power to lease or license uses within a reserve. Leases and licenses can be established by the reserve trusts for public or private purposes, providing they are consistent with the major objectives of this Plan of Management, and that the residential and environmental amenity of these areas is maintained. Any lease or licence must not provide any facilities that create unmovable barriers to entry or other facilities within the reserve.

Leases and licences considered during the life of this Plan must be assessed against the reserve purpose, other legislation and planning documents, and this Plan. In this regard the reserve trust may adopt, in whole or in part, Council's Policy for Leasing and Licensing Council Controlled Land (Woollahra Municipal Council, 2004). Any proposed use of the Parks and Reserve that requires consent from Council will be subject to a Development Application or Activity Approval with appropriate conditions imposed.

The Trust has a responsibility to notify the Department of Lands of any leases. Consent in writing must be obtained from the Minister for Lands before any long term licence on Crown land is granted. Leases greater than 5 years are required to be advertised under Section 34 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. Licence agreements of less than 1 year (temporary licences) do not require the consent of the Minister and may be approved and issued by the Trust. A temporary licence can be granted only for the purposes prescribed under the *Crown Lands Regulation 1990*, which includes activities such as grazing, advertising, camping, catering, hiring of equipment, entertainment, equestrian events, exhibition functions, markets, meetings, sales, shows, sporting activities and stabling of horses.

The Trust may levy fees for short term, casual bookings in accordance with Council's adopted Fees and Charges applicable at the time.

Guidelines for assessing proposed uses under lease or licence

In considering whether to grant any lease or licence, the Reserve Trust should take into account the consistency of the proposal with the values and objectives of this Plan of Management, particularly regarding:

- ☐ whether the use/activity is in the public interest.
- ☐ whether the use/activity would not cause any significant detrimental impact on the reserve or on the local community.
- ☐ the impact of the lease/licence on the public/private space of the reserve.
- ☐ the impact on maintaining the reserve as one cohesive open space.
- ☐ compatibility with zoning and other Council requirements.
- ☐ provision of benefits and services or facilities for the users of the land.
- ☐ responsibility of the lessee/licensee for ensuring the area is maintained to a standard which is acceptable to Council.
- ☐ the need to define the times the land or facility will be available for use by the lessee/licensee.
- ☐ any fixed or temporary outdoor lighting of areas to be allowed only between the hours identified in the lease/licence.

Further considerations that may affect leases and licences are:

- ☐ fees can be charged as part of a lease or licence and can be commercially based.
- ☐ the lessee or licensee should take out public risk insurance and produce notices of the policy as required on renewal.
- ☐ use of the premises by the lessee or licensee is restricted to only those activities authorised in the lease or licence.
- ☐ any alteration, transfer or sub-letting etc should not be permitted without Council's consent.
- ☐ ownership of improvements should be dealt with in the lease or licence.
- ☐ a lease (5 years or more) should be registered on the land title.
- ☐ a licence can be terminated by either party.

The Trust must obtain consent in writing for leases and licences on Crown land from the Department of Lands.

Funds generated from use of a Crown reserve must be spent on improvements to that reserve.

Appendix D

Rushcutters Bay Park Plan of Management (2000) – City of Sydney

The area of Rushcutters Bay Park located within the City of Sydney Council area is also subject of a Plan of Management, adopted by the former South Sydney Council in May 2000. The Masterplan for this area is provided below.

As noted in Table 3.8 of this Plan of Management, an objective relating to the Parks and Reserve is to ensure co-ordinated and integrated planning of Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park, Plantation Reserve, Sir David Martin Reserve and that part of Rushcutters Bay Park within City of Sydney.

5 THE MASTER PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The Master Plan has been developed as shown in Figure 13 in response to the development of the Plan of Management which proposes minimal intervention with the distinctive existing park fabric and retention of core values. Where intervention is recommended a number of elements have been identified which could be upgraded. Essentially the existing spaces function successfully and identified areas for intervention should only be upgraded.

KEY TO MASTER PLAN

- 1 worn grass areas resurfaced with decomposed granite to enable passive recreation
- 2 planted pergola to define major entry to Park
- 3 maintain quality of work area to not detract from entrance to park
- 4 proposed parterre to address level change and introduce more formal connection with Oval and spectators See Sketch 1
- 5 removal of toilets to improve visual connection with Grandstand. Car drop-off area realigned and planting along northern edge
- 6 relocated tennis courts. Kiosk repositioning to Location 11
- 7 carry out actions to regulate use of park area for kindergarten
- 8 traffic calming measures along Waratah Street. Use pedestrian style surfacing and bollards to delineate boundaries
- 9 improve avenue canopy and plant Jacaranda species where possible. Continue planting along entire length of Waratah Street See Sketch 1
- 10 lay new footpaths in children's play area, introduce mounds and provide new children's playground amenity
- 11 relocation of kiosk, adjacent to proposed pergola. Climbing plants cover roof and mesh fences See Sketch 2
- 12 lay new footpath from existing paths to tie in with opening created from removal of tennis courts and cricket nets. New footpath to facilitate access around Oval See Sketch 2
- 13 widen and resurface footpath incorporating sandstone strips at 10m intervals. Infill areas with asphalt. Incorporate step to give clean edge and to resolve level changes. Implement strategy to maintain consistent furniture and lighting details. Widen footpath along Harbour foreshore
- 14 reinstate parapet in place of fence at mouth of canal
- 15 install timber constructed bridge (flat construction) and re-align footpaths on either side to achieve clean sweep on footpaths. Widen bridge crossing to provide better links across canal See Sketch 3
- 16 install 1m side edgings at top of wall to provide landing and define edge and improve visual amenity of the canal. Build new parapet to tie in with existing. Re-grade grassed banks
- 17 extend existing fig tree planting along south-east boundary to complement formal Oval setting See Sketch 3

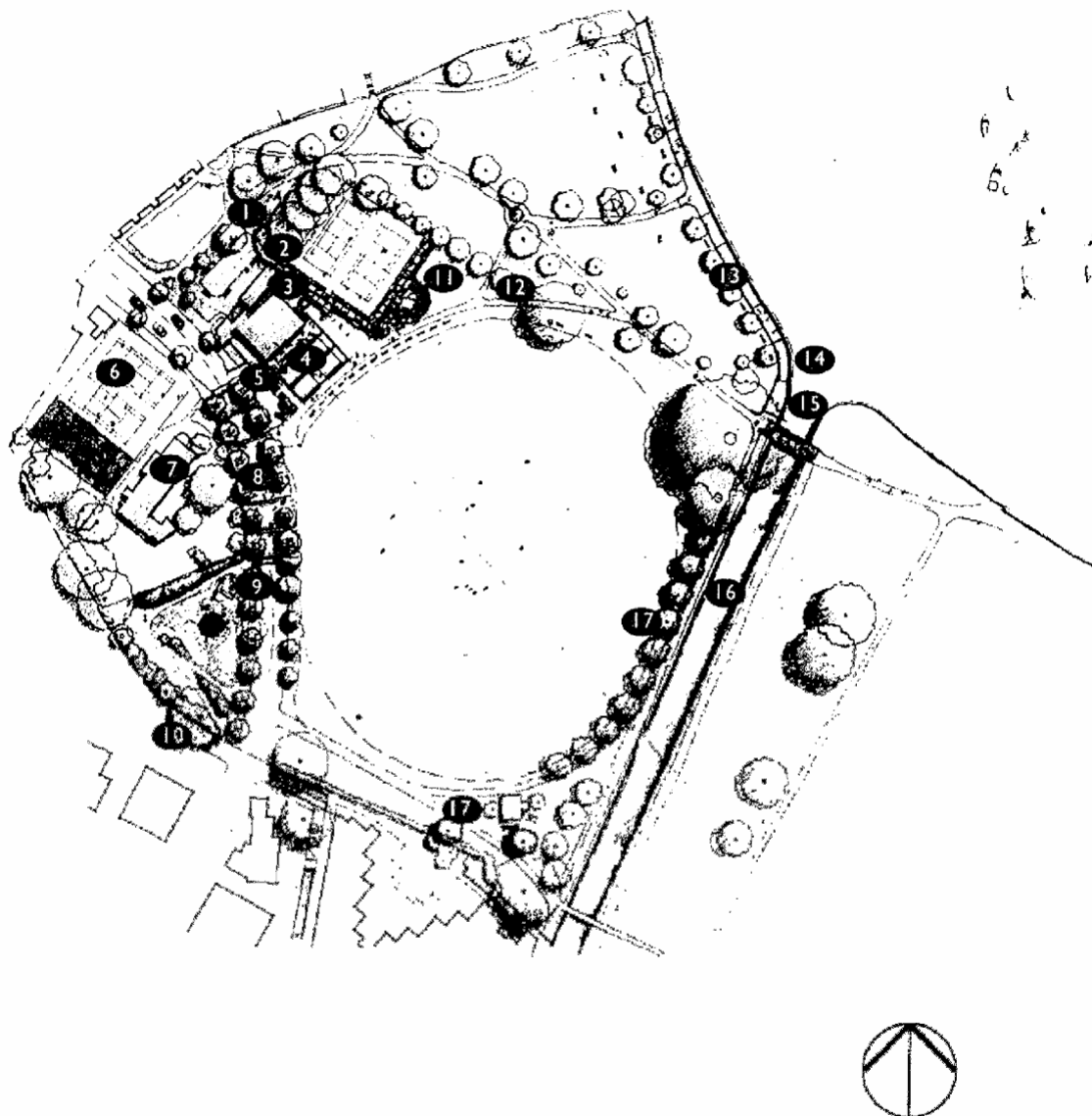


Figure 13
LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN
(see opposite page for key)