

Steven Head
General Manager
Hornsby Shire Council
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9th May 2018

Dear Mr Head,

Re: Hornsby Shire Council Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2019 - 2021

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Hornsby Shire Council's Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2019 – 2021.

Health Promotion (Northern Sydney Local Health District) is committed to ensuring that the built environment has a net-positive impact on the health and well-being of individuals and the wider community. The purpose of this submission is to commend and support Hornsby Shire Council's delivery of active and healthy living actions, transport and active travel projects and place-making initiatives.

In particular, we commend the Council for developing and delivering the following operational projects:

- Active living Hornsby Strategy 2016
- Walking and Cycling Plan (underway)
- Public Domain Strategy (underway)
- Bike Plan (under review)
- Public domain plans – Hornsby Town Centre (underway)
- Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-20
- Community and Cultural Facilities (under review)
- Play Plan (underway)
- Urban Heat Mapping (underway)

There is a growing body of evidence that the built environment has a strong influence on the health of the community.¹ Health enhancing urban designs – active travel (such as walking or cycling), efficient public transport systems, energy-efficient housing, availability of green space, location of recreation facilities, parks and public buildings, availability of healthy food, and reduced carbon-based pollution – not only encourages physical activity but also has an effect on reducing health inequalities, and will also benefit the sustainability agenda.

We would like to provide some specific recommendations on key initiatives and the possible Healthy Built Environment performance measures to incorporate which are outlined in Table 1 over page. These examples have been identified through the North District Plan², the Centre for Urban Research³ and the Premier's Council on Active Living (PCAL)⁴ Integrated Planning and Reporting framework guide.

¹ AIHW (2011) Health and the environment: a compilation of evidence. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2011. Cat. no. PHE 136. Canberra:

² Greater Sydney Commission (2019) North District Plan <https://www.greater.sydney/north-district-plan>

³ Giles-Corti B (2016). The Australian National Livability Study final report: Development of policy relevant liveability indicators relating to health and wellbeing and recommendations for their dissemination. University of Melbourne <https://preventioncentre.org.au/our-work/research-projects/creating-liveable-and-healthy-communities/>

⁴ Premier's Council on Active Living (2015) Addressing active living and healthy eating through local council's Integrated Planning and Reporting framework: A Guide prepared by the NSW Premier's Council for Active Living <https://www.nswpcalipr.com.au/the-integrated-planning-and-reporting-ipr-framework/>

Table 1. Recommendations from NSLHD Health Promotion on Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2019-2021

Council's Service/Action	Suggested changes or possible additions to key initiatives	Suggested examples of indicators or long term measures
<p>1C - Manage and administer the provision of community and cultural facilities to promote the physical, cultural and emotional wellbeing of our community</p>	<p><i>Add under key initiatives</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of Community and Cultural Facilities Review Survey of active living program needs (and current provision) by community group/ location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of active living programs delivered in council venues Number of council website hits for Healthy Active Living related pages
<p>1H - Manage parks and sporting facilities, plan future improvements and identify areas for future green space or open space acquisition and protection</p> <p>We commend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> encouraging multi use by ensuring accessible and inclusive design for all new and refurbished playgrounds Develop Walking and Cycling Plan for commuter and general recreation activities (Action of Active Living Hornsby Strategy) Develop a Shire-wide Play Plan to identify opportunities for renewal of existing playgrounds (Action of Active Living Hornsby Strategy) 	<p><i>Nil</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycling infrastructure: kilometres of continuous cycleway, total length of cycleways, bicycle parking facilities at major destinations and end-of-trip facilities at major destinations Total amount of open space per head of population Percentage of residents within 400m to 800m of a neighbourhood park
<p>1J. Deliver projects that involve significant landscape/urban design and civil design components</p> <p>We commend:</p> <p>Public Domain - Develop public domain plans in accordance with adopted community and stakeholder engagement for the following priority areas: Asquith-Mount Colah corridor, Galston Village, Waitara, Thornleigh, West Pennant Hills and Beecroft</p>	<p><i>Nil</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of Public Domain Plans which incorporate active transport including significant pedestrian routes/cycleways as per the walking and cycling plan Take-up rates of mixed use developments in Centres Walkscore/Pedshed analysis of key destination such as public transport hubs, town centres, target of 70 and above (HBE) Implementation rate of Public Domain Plan measures: landscaping, presence of grass, trees and shade Resident satisfaction surveys on amenity of local public domain
<p>2F -Protect and conserve trees on public and private lands</p> <p>We commend:</p> <p>2F.1 Investigate options to re-establish tree canopy on streets and within parks across the Shire in conjunction with public domain improvements</p> <p>2F.2 Commence tree planting around playgrounds to enhance shade cover</p>	<p><i>Green Streetscape and interface guidelines incorporated within local council Development Control Plans (DCPs)</i></p> <p><i>Tree canopy and shading guides are incorporated in Play Plan, Public Domain Strategy</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation rate of Public Domain Plan measures: landscaping, presence of grass, trees and shade Increased urban tree canopy % of playgrounds, outdoor gyms provided with adequate shading from tree canopy

Council's Service/Action	Suggested changes or possible additions to key initiatives	Suggested examples of indicators or long term measures
<p>3D- Manage traffic flows, parking, access to public transport and road safety</p> <p>We commend:</p> <p>3D.4 Undertake safety audits around schools in conjunction with NSW Police</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate and implement local Integrated Transport Plans into public domain and town centre plans • Jointly develop and implement travel plans with priority schools and employment centres e.g. • Prepare and implement Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plans (PAMPs) • Develop local directories or travel access guides include local transport information, location of recreation facilities and walking/cycling networks and trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of the local population within walking distance of public transport stops (400m) • Frequency of public transport to major destinations • Number of council website hits on travel access guides • % of residents travelling to work by private vehicle, active transport • Count of public transport stops within an SA1 • Public transport frequency within an SA1 • % of key destination such as schools and parks with adequate traffic calming infrastructures installed e.g. pedestrian crossings, traffic islands
<p>3H. Develop a place-management / place making function for spaces the community values and build prosperity</p>	<p>Amend:</p> <p>Develop a place-based approach by identifying and balancing the delivery of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • economic, social, health and environmental benefits <p>Add:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and promote agriculture land for local food production e.g. Dural, Middle Dural, Glenhaven • Support and encourage regional food-based events, farmers markets and fresh food markets as a tourism strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walkscore/Pedshed analysis of key destination such as public transport hubs, town centres, target of 70 and above • Street connectivity (pedshed ratio within an SA1 or intersection density) 3 Statistical area level 1s • Number of fresh food markets or food related events • Increase in number of community gardens • Increase in farmers' markets/ roadside stalls
<p>Collaborative</p> <p>4J - Lead integrated planning and reporting, strategic studies associated with active transport and embed sustainable action across the organization</p> <p>We commend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2D.A20 Implement energy conservation initiatives to achieve Council's carbon reduction targets • undertake strategic studies associated with traffic, parking and active transport • Investigate options for smart transport, eg. car sharing, alternative fuel and report to Council • Undertake a review of the Integrated Land Use and Transport Strategy • Urban Heat Mapping Plan - Environmental Sustainability Strategy • 2D.A19 Implement Street Lighting Improvement Program and accelerated LED replacement program • 3D.A8 Encourage and facilitate active transport such as cycling and walking 	<p>Amend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3D.3 Investigate options for active smart transport, eg. Bicycle or car sharing, on-demand transport, alternative fuel and report to Council <p>Add</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and delivery of shared walking/cycling paths and provision of bike storage facilities as per Bike Plan once complete • Linkage or reference 1H.1 - Develop Walking and Cycling Plan for commuter and general recreation activities (Action of Active Living Hornsby Strategy) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling infrastructure: kilometres of continuous shared vs separated cycleway, total length of cycleways, bicycle parking facilities at major destinations and end-of-trip facilities at major destinations • Number of dwellings within 800m of a railway station / all dwellings (%) • Number of dwellings within 500m of a bus stop / all dwellings (%) • Percentage of the local population within walking distance of public transport stops • Frequency of public transport to major destinations • % of people travelling to work by (ABS Census data) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public transport ○ Active Transport ○ Private vehicles

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on the Hornsby Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2019-2012. Should you have any queries about this submission please contact me at Ryde Hornsby Health Promotion Unit on 8877 5148 or email queenystafford@health.nsw.gov.au. We look forward to continuing our work with Hornsby Shire Council to support projects that benefit the health, wellbeing and safety of the community.

Yours sincerely,

Queenystafford
Health Promotion Officer – Healthy Ageing, Health Built Environments
Northern Sydney Local Health District