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22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019

Dear Ms Miscamble,

**Hunter's Hill Council Draft Local Strategic Planning Statement  
(Northern Sydney Local Health District Health Promotion Submission)**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on Hunters Hill Council's draft Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS). Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) Health Promotion commends Council's strong focus community participation and consultation to inform future planning and place-making.

NSLHD Health Promotion 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. There is a growing body of evidence<sup>1</sup> linking the built environment and the health of its community, by influencing:

- Physical activity
- Healthy eating
- Tobacco use and alcohol consumption
- Community strength, social cohesion and mental wellbeing
- Planetary health

We look forward to further collaborations with Hunter's Hill Council on a range of health promotion and strategic planning projects. Health Promotion will be happy to assist with additional health-related indicators to assist future planning.

Please find attached a detailed list of comments and recommendations on the Statement. If you require any further information, please contact Queeny Stafford, Health Promotion Officer, on 8877-5184 or [queeny.stafford@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:queeny.stafford@health.nsw.gov.au).

Kind regards,

Paul Klarenaar  
Director Health Promotion, Population Health

<sup>1</sup> L. Kent, J & Thompson, S (2019). Planning Australia's Healthy Built Environments. 10.4324/9781315524573.

## Recommendations for Hunters Hill Council's LSPS.

### Vision Statement (page 28)

#### Recommendation:

1. We recommend that the vision statement provides a community puts people at the heart of this vision. For example, incorporating concepts such as 'health and wellbeing' and 'social connectedness' of residents, to inform land-use and transport planning policies.

### Map of Open Space – Page 9

#### Recommendation:

2. Use more contrasting colours to differentiate private space and public space on the map as the shades of green currently used are quite similar.
3. Map could include an overlay of transport and active travel networks, schools and local centres to highlight potential for better connections between transport and open space.

### Town Centres

#### Recommendation:

4. All town centre maps could have additional detail to clearly highlight key amenities such as the library, shopping centre, supermarket, transport routes to demonstrate current assets and gaps for town-centre planning.
5. Consider expansion of Gladesville Town Centre Study Area for future housing plans in collaboration with Ryde Council to ensure housing targets can be met.
6. Map for Boronia Park and Gladesville town centre should also highlight which part of the centres belongs to Ryde Council, for those without local knowledge.

### Structure Plan

#### Recommendation:

7. **Map 16 – Page 43** – Provide a more detailed legend and include ferry wharfs to highlight potential public transport connections to local centres. Ferry destinations should also be included to demonstrate commuter routes to other parts of Sydney.

### Infrastructure and Collaboration

*Priority 1. Provide services and facilities within Hunters Hill to meet community needs and aspirations of the community now and by 2040.*

*Priority 2. Provide infrastructure to support community needs and aspirations.*

#### Recommendation:

8. Include a map of existing social infrastructure such as community centres and facilities with potential for joint use agreements to illustrate its locations in relation to transport routes, population growth and other facilities e.g. parks, schools.
9. Identify opportunities to work with adjoining Councils such as planning of Gladesville Town Centre and Boronia Park which border with Ryde Council. This will ensure that planning processes meet the needs of the community.

### Liveability

#### Priority 3.

*Undertake a Housing Strategy to anticipate and provide for the residential growth of Hunters Hill by 2040.*

#### Recommendation:

10. Address the provision of fresh food outlets within local centres to ensure the community has access to nutritious foods within walking distance as per Action 11d of North District Plan.
11. Provide more details on where additional dwellings could be provided to meet the needs of ageing population which the housing strategy would provide further details on.
  - a. Disperse social housing within new developments and the community in general, ensuring it remains close to public transport.

12. Ensure affordable housing, social housing and higher density residential developments located are within 400m of a bus stop which provides a service at least every 30 minutes.
13. Ensure new and existing neighbourhood designs provide a well-connected street pattern which supports walking and cycling aiming for 400m to 500m (a five-minute walk) between destinations. This should include i) site links through larger blocks ii) Footpaths and cycleways that are shaded with substantial tree canopies iii) Mid-trip facilities (seats, shade, water) iv) Footpaths wide enough for a diversity of users and enjoyment v) Paths and cycleways between Hunter's Hill Council and its adjoining councils vi) Convenient pedestrian crossing opportunities.
14. Highlight what the current (and planned) upgrades to local schools will achieve in terms of capacity and how that relates to planned growth.

**Priority 5.** *Provide a caring and safe community where healthy activities are encouraged and promote a strong sense of community and connection among residents by 2040.*

**Recommendation:**

15. Include a map of existing social infrastructure such as community centres and potential facilities for joint uses to illustrate its location in relation to transport routes, population growth and other facilities e.g. parks
16. Cluster and co-locate social infrastructure (e.g. libraries, cultural facilities and sporting fields) and green infrastructure (e.g. parks) near public transport.
17. In accordance with the NSW Premier's Priority, increase the proportion of homes within ten minutes' walk of quality green, open and public space by ten per cent by 2023.
18. Prioritisation of pedestrians and cyclists in streetscape designs and ensure the needs of older people and those with disabilities are met (e.g. wide footpaths and disabled parking).
19. Highlight current and future active travel routes on a map.
20. More details on improving access to waterways for recreation and physical activity.

**Priority 6.** *Work with community and local stakeholders to develop places for business and community interaction.*

**Recommendation:**

21. More detail on how a sense of place and belonging will be achieved in public spaces. For example public art, seating, performance spaces and greening of public spaces which is an aspiration identified by community consultations.

**Productivity**

**Priority 7.** *Encourage the development of local centres to support business and provide focal centres for the community.*

**Recommendation:**

22. Provide diverse late night attractions such as night markets, lit parks and public spaces.
23. Planning controls should support co-working spaces which allow residents who work from home access meeting and office spaces locally and minimise their commute (7.8% of residents work from home in this LGA which is above North District average).
24. Use place making approach to create mixed use centres which are attractive and walkable to support small businesses, co-working spaces, fresh food outlets and local employment. Reducing car dependency can activate centres by increasing foot traffic and time spent at local centres by residents and visitors.
25. Identify opportunities to reduce car use for travel to work and schools, in collaboration with Transport for NSW.

**Sustainability**

**Goal.** *Facilitate and undertake sustainable practises.*

**Recommendation:**

26. Add a priority or action which addresses changing the community's travel behaviour through sustainable transport, promoting active travel modes to minimise CO2 emissions from private vehicles.

27. Provide baseline of urban tree canopy and whether the Council intends to increase or maintain.
28. Address actions mitigate urban heat particularly in local centres, schools, aged care retirement villages, social housing developments.
29. Address sustainable practices for key community events such as New Year's Eve celebrations and festivals.

## **Measuring Performance**

'The Pulse of Greater Sydney'<sup>2</sup> outlines performance indicators developed by the GSC which address healthy urban planning. We understand that the following indicators will be reported through an online dashboard, which align with the 10 Directions.

The indicators pertaining to health include:

### **Performance Indicator 2 - 30 minute city**

- Percentage of dwellings within 30 minutes of the nearest metropolitan and strategic centre using the public transport network and/or walking during the morning peak

### **Performance Indicator 3 - Walkable Places**

- Proportion of trips by walking
- Travel mode to work
- Access to open space

### **Performance Indicator 4 - Addressing Urban Heat**

- Tree canopy cover in urban area
- Number of hot days (>35oC)
- Urban Heat

### **Recommendation:**

30. We recommend these Performance Indicators be included as a new separate section under Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation of the LSPS or be incorporated into Section 5, Plan Summary.
31. Provide short term and long term actions and set measures accordingly.

<sup>2</sup> The Greater Sydney Commission (2019) The Pulse of Greater Sydney. Available from: <https://www.greater.sydney/pulse-of-greater-sydney>