

Newcastle Voice Wallsend Park skate park



Let's see some more trees for pedestrian shade

Yes, we think cycle racks will encourage people to leave the car at home

May-July 2010

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	2
Introduction	3
Scope of Consultation	4
Methodology	6
Key Findings.....	8
Project Consultation to Date	8
Site Location	8
Skate Park Draft Designs	9
Exploring the Options	9
Final Design Workshop.....	12
Project Plan	17
Next Steps.....	17
Appendix I - Workshop Materials.....	19
Appendix II - Promotional Materials & Media.....	30
Appendix III - Participant Feedback.....	38

Prepared for: Place Management Services, Newcastle City Council

Prepared by: Newcastle Voice, Newcastle City Council

Executive Summary

This report summarises the public opinion regarding the consultation about the skate facility upgrade to Wallsend Park. The consultation was conducted on behalf of Place Management Services to inform residents and stakeholders about the development of the skate park, and have the opportunity to view the design. This consultation was conducted within the Newcastle local government area, inviting Newcastle Voice community reference panel members and the wider community – including user groups, near residents and local businesses.

Consultation involved two community workshop sessions during May and July 2010, with a total of 80 participants. Participants were keen to discuss the details about the proposal for the skate facility, including the proposed design and possible locations. Discussions revealed the community's wider concerns about flooding, the maintenance and facilities at Wallsend Park and the impact on immediate surrounds.

Community members heard from council staff and a skate park designer and then discussed their specific requirements for the skate park project worth approximately \$499,000.

The consultation was informative and deliberative, open to rigorous discussion. Excellent attendance heightened community interest which led to better outcomes for the draft proposal.

The information contained in this report will guide works towards the final design and project plan.

Introduction

Council's *Newcastle Recreation Plan 2006-2016* gave rise to the following:

1. A review of all skate parks across the city from November 2008 to March 2009;
2. A fresh approach being taken to the management of existing skate facilities; and
3. New ways to embrace skating into the public domain.

The recommendations of that review were presented to Council and the Asset Board early in 2009.

The project to build a federally funded skate park facility at Wallsend Park has been underway for several years. Extensive community consultation about skate parks across the city was undertaken in 2009 before the creation of Newcastle Voice, the Council's co-ordinated consultation service.

Federal funding (RCIP) was successfully awarded to the City of Newcastle to the value of \$399,000, with a Council contribution of \$100,000, which led to the current round of consultation. Workshops were conducted to engage the local community, in the planning stages of the project. Construction of the park must be complete by the end of 2010 to meet funding and reporting requirements.

Report Purpose

This consultation – from May to July - sought to:

- Engage key stakeholders before the construction of the new skate facility,
- Inform residents and stakeholders of what is and what is not included in this construction;
- View previous designs from the skatepark designer, Convic, and view early draft sketches for possible locations;
- Engage the community regarding a site assessment between three potential areas for the skate facility, learn about the construction timeframe and offer suggestions to finetune the draft design plan across the relevant dimensions;
- Inform the community about the selected location, based on the community input and other factors raised (workshop 2); and
- Present the final design and gather a second round of community views to finetune the design details – access, appearance, safety, family friendliness, maintenance (workshop 2).
- Identification of issues raised by the community at present, at the two workshops.

Scope of Consultation

The purpose of the community consultation is to increase the community awareness of the proposed skate park at Wallsend Park and to do so in a public, and transparent way. All promotional tools to encourage involvement and comments are included in Appendix II.

Information Distribution

An invitation card was created and distributed to 300 addresses of most affected people and groups, as listed in the following table:

Organisation	Attended? Y/N
Wallsend Parks Committee	N
Wallsend Mainstreets Committee	N
Wallsend Cricket Club	N
Wallsend Soccer Club	N
Wallsend Touch Football Committee	N
Wallsend Meals on Wheels	N
Wallsend Diggers Club	N
Wallsend High – Callaghan Campus	N
Wallsend Squash and Swim Centre	N
Wallsend Plaza Shopping Centre	N
Participants in 2008/9 Skate Working Party groups: Maryland, Heaton, Elmore Vale and Wallsend	Y

Residents on the streets adjoining Wallsend Park were letterboxed on both occasions with a postcard included in Appendix II; signage was posted at both identified sites within Wallsend Park and at Wallsend Library (also included in Appendix II).

Invitations were e-mailed to all Newcastle Voice members (over 1700 people) via e-mail as well as through the monthly Newcastle Voice (MyVoice) newsletter.

Media

Throughout the consultation program, local media was used to inform the public about the workshop sessions. Specifically 'This Week at Council' included workshop details.

Information on the workshop sessions was provided on Council's website. The weekly Council e-newsletter also had a standing item about the consultation's progress.

In this instance, an interview with the project lead about the project on NXFM on 18 May 2010 generated additional interest.

Promoted the second workshop on the Improve Empire Park (1300 members) facebook page. Also promoted the July workshop session on the Newcastle Voice facebook page.

Paid Advertising

Two variations of an advertisement were run in both the local *Newcastle Herald* and *The Star* free local newspaper on the following dates:

- 1 May (*H2 Herald*), 5 & 7 May *The Star*, 12 and 14 May *The Star*.
- 17 July and 24 July (*The Herald*); 21 and 23 July (*The Star*)

Methodology

Data Collection

Workshop sessions can build a sense of community and are a useful tool to seek the opinions of a small group, allowing many differing contributions. Unlike a survey, they enable the discussion of complex issues and underlying concerns. Due to low registration (1 person) for the morning workshop in round 1, it was cancelled the day before.

Session	Location	Time	Participants
1.	Diggers Club, Tyrrell St, Wallsend	19 May, 10-12 noon	-
2.	Diggers Club, Tyrrell St, Wallsend	19 May, 6-8pm	17
3.	Diggers Club, Tyrrell St, Wallsend	28 July, 6-8pm	63
Total			80

The workshops were semi-structured to allow participants to gain information about the project's progress so far and discuss their requirements to aid project planning. At the outset of the workshop, participants named their objectives for attending the session, as follows:

- Gain information about skate park facility in Wallsend Park;
- Understand if the facility is moving within the park;
- Highlight other facilities in need of work in Wallsend Park; and
- Discuss skate function at the facility.

Consultation Area

Consultation promotion occurred across the local government area, as Wallsend Park is widely used by immediate neighbours and also those further afield

The entire community reference panel was invited.

Promotional activities were aimed at both the residents and ratepayers in the immediate vicinity as well as the entire LGA.

Representation

The views collected in this report are not statistically valid, however they represent the views of some high user groups and nearby residents. Themes presented in this report are derived from workshop contributions and the reliability and validity of these interpretations can be assessed.

Participants

The community workshop was open to all residents and ratepayers of Newcastle. The workshop sessions were facilitated by Newcastle Voice, whose responsibility as researchers is to protect the privacy of individual participants.

The Lord Mayor and a number of Councillors attended the session. All of the participants were community members and key stakeholders.

Participants who registered for the sessions were asked to identify the suburb they live in. Those participants who had not registered prior to the session were only asked their name upon arrival.

- Participants live in Wallsend, Maryland, Cardiff, Adamstown and Merewether.
- 88% of participants were men;
- 47% of participants were under 30 years of age.
- 18% of participants were members of Newcastle Voice.

Data Handling and Analysis

The data handling and analysis was carried out by Council staff in the Customer Service, Communication and Consultation Service unit. The consultation was designed to increase inclusiveness and generate data for analysis into themes.

All participants were informed of workshop objectives and how the information provided will be used. All responses are treated in confidence, to ensure the anonymity of respondents. No identifying information is included with any responses for this report.

At the conclusion of each workshop, participants were asked to provide feedback about the conduct of the sessions. On this occasion, 21% (17 out of 80) of community participants completed the feedback form.

All materials available during the consultations are included in the Appendixes.

Key Findings

Project Consultation to Date

Council’s *Newcastle Recreation Plan 2006-16*, adopted in 2006, gave rise to the city-wide Skate Parks Review late in 2008 and early 2009.

The Recreational Projects Co-ordinator, Liveable City, spoke to the project background, describing the earlier consultation and the source of the current funding which has given rise to this consultation. The results of the Skate Park Review were presented to Council in April 2009, subject to funding being sourced. The authority to seek federal funding was delegated to council administration, resulting in a successful federal grant application for \$807,000. This amount was to be split between two district level skate park upgrades located at Empire Park and Wallsend Park.

Site Location

Three sites were discussed – two which had been identified previously, one which emerged during the consultation. The advantages of each were drawn out from participants, as follows:

Site 1: Current location near Thomas Street Votes: 4	Site 2: Disused bowling green Votes: 11	Site 3: Behind child health centre Votes: 3
Existing access to road	Closer to Wallsend CBD – access to transport, shops	Shade is excellent, space for any design
Long site – easier space for design (flat)	Connected to urban area and pathway network	Close to fields and shops
Visibility increases safety – especially if site is slightly moved from current location (site 1.5)	Passive surveillance - excellent from high pedestrian activity; reduced anti-social behaviour	Parking is good – separate parking exists at baby health centre
Shaped site – ready for expansion	Parking available – may need to re-define some time-limited sites (15 mins only)	Reduce anti-social behaviour at Meals on Wheels building
'Gateway to Newcastle' site – if arriving off F3	Integrated with other recreation areas – passive use of gardens combines with active use at skate facility and sports field	The bus stop is right there
Site exists – no conflicts with neighbours	Aesthetics of site – it looks nicer	
Furthest from local residents?	Existing light pole	
Car parking an issue	Furthest from local residents?	

Skate Park Draft Designs

The skate park designer from Convic Design presented an overview of other skate facilities which had been constructed over the past few years, in a variety of locations worldwide, similar to the Wallsend Park location. He had conducted an audit of the location and explicitly stated that each design is customised to a location, taking its specific geography into account.

The nature of contemporary skate parks was illustrated with a variety of streetscape designs, integrated into broad community usage as opposed to skater-only facilities: walkways, lighting, seating and wall heights appropriate for skating and to reduce anti-social behaviour; a variety of skateable elements including larger sculptural works (perforated steel structures); disability and pram access; and other informal gathering spaces for all ages.

Two sketches based on the actual sites available in Wallsend Park were then presented. These would approximately suit the available location and budget, illustrating some landscape and skating elements, as well as seating, lighting and pathways. These were used as the starting point during table discussions.

During the final workshop, the designer was able to show two perspectives on the final design. All sketches and designs are included in Appendix 1 – Workshop Materials.

Exploring the Options

The various dimensions for the specific design of the skate park were then discussed in table rounds, and collated during the workshop. The following sections record the complete volume of responses received. It was acknowledged that the facility would cater to scooter riders and BMX bikes, as well as skateboard riders.

Overall, participants sought a facility which would make the residents of Wallsend proud and give challenging skating elements to the users of this sporting facility.

Access

Access across the whole area was raised as essential, not just within the vicinity of the skate facility. Goodwill in the community would increase if the following works were completed:

- A median strip on Cowper Street with a refuge area at the centre;
- Improved pedestrian access across Ironbark Creek;
- Improved pedestrian walkways along Metcalfe and Nelson Streets;
- Improved traffic flow through Walford Street –around to the shops.

Parking access for families with children was identified – if this facility was to be expanded to be family friendly, then such parking would be needed.

Others suggested that parking was not needed, as skaters make their own way to a facility, and public transport is already within easy reach – or they could be dropped off from a short-stay parking location.

Appearance

The appearance of the park at present was identified as a concern, with rose gardens not reinstated since the 2007 storms and rubbish accumulating now from late night activities in the park.

Once these issues were covered, discussions centred on the appearance of the skate facility itself. The following comments all reflected the interest of participants to show off this new facility as a source of pride for Wallsend:

- “It should have a wow factor.”
- “Create ‘wow’ by a combination of height and colour – increase visibility this way.”
- “Local artists to assist with sculptural elements.”

Discussions about the materials and colours to be used spanned a modern palette of steel and concrete, the sporting colours of Wallsend (sky blue) and the true historic nature of the area with discussions about coal mining, burgundy and deep green, disused coal carriages for incorporation into the park. The following comments were recorded:

- “Durable – perforated steel, wood.”
- “Coal history – carriage, plaques to describe history, visual elements to tell the history.”

The heights of walls were specifically discussed, as they are a possible source of concern for graffiti. Participants agreed that the heights of walls and other elements should be designed to suit the skating function. The recommendation was made that graffiti be diligently cleaned off the new facility for the first six months – and that this would act as a deterrent in future.

Overall, participants were confident that the appearance could be designed to sit well within its natural environment and also create an attractive, well-functioning location.

Safety

Safety issues spanned two dimensions: safety within the skate facility and safety across the surrounding area where pedestrians share pathways with skaters. Safety within the skate facility would be ensured through high visibility from pedestrians and people passing in cars.

Fast-moving traffic near the facility was considered a risk to skaters and also the possible distraction for motorists.

The different skills of users were to be designed in – ensuring that beginners would not be ‘run over’ by more experienced skaters or scooter riders.

The possibility of emergency vehicles or parents' cars needing access to the site was raised, in case of accidents.

Family Friendliness

The diversity of skateable elements was perceived as increasing the family-friendliness of the park – changing it into a youth park.

The site chosen should be expandable in future, with the following comment:

- “Let’s not have a location which we can’t expand in future, for future generations’ need.”

Seating, shelter, water bubblers and steel bins were all identified as items which increase the family-friendliness of the facility. The possibility of opening up toilets already located in the park was specifically requested.

A stage area could be incorporated at one of the refuge areas, with the suggestion that the Loft may wish to organise open-air music events at the site in future.

Maintenance

The main issue with maintenance was concern about construction of a new facility in a high flooding zone – with the rose garden on Cowper Street not reinstated three years after the storm, cited as evidence of the true pressures on council maintenance staff. It was considered a waste of council resources if the facility had to be excavated after flooding – with particular reference to Site 2 as most flood-prone. Drainage is a consideration in all skate facilities. The final design shows drainage pits in several locations of the site.

The possibility of birds creating maintenance issues in the shelter areas was raised.

Regular rubbish and graffiti removal was requested to ensure that the facility would be well-used and remain a source of pride for Wallsend, with the following specific suggestions:

- “Could Coles sponsor the park to ensure that graffiti could be removed regularly?”
- “They’ll design graffiti out, if it’s well-designed and attractive.”

Final Design Workshop

The final design workshop was held on 28 July. The issues canvassed were of a similar nature to those raised during the first workshop, with the method for site selection coming under some criticism. A participant raised the possibility of including a visitor information centre in Wallsend Park, including public toilets and park management.

Project costs and timeframes were sought – with construction dates and total project cost of key interest. A new local skate business is keen for the facility to open within the current deadline of December 2010, as it has made a significant investment in the area. The management plan for the new facility/Wallsend Park was sought.

Participants raised the need for a facility to cater to all skaters, bike and scooter riders – across skill levels and ages. Participants mentioned the need for a positive community facility which could also be enjoyed by people not engaged in these sports.

Details of the park's new facilities were sought – from bins, lighting and barbeques, to methods to ensure childrens' safety (both within the skate facility as well as across the busy street), to information about the actual skate elements to be built (bowls, boxes, transfers, seating and bins), to the possibility of other Wallsend Park improvements.

Comments to site determination

The choice of site location in Wallsend Park was of enduring interest throughout the workshop.

The following comments were received about the site determination:

- "We were promised a refurbishment, not a relocation."
- "There are pros and cons to every site, that's democracy too. There are many tables of people in the room tonight who want it at the chosen site."
- "Decision on location not made by rate-paying residents."
- "Reasons for not using croquet lawn as location: no room for expansion, heritage listing, do not want to lose this, park already subject to vandalism, toilets are locked because of vandalism; lighting concerns, no parking space, graffiti problems."
- "We fear the noise and anti-social behaviour and graffiti closer to our homes."
- "With the flooding risk, it's a lunatic decision."
- "Skatepark stays where it is and is upgraded."
- "Cart before horse."
- "Site 2 can not be expanded, Site 1 can be."

Comments to site characteristics

Access

The traffic congestion along Cowper Street was commented on – with requests for improved pedestrian crossings and possible changes to make Brooks Street one-way.

The flooding report commissioned by Council from a flooding expert consultant WMB was presented, showing the floodplain during maximum floods across Wallsend Park. It showed that most of Wallsend Park has a high flooding risk, so the risk to life during peak flooding needs to be considered. The recommendation was to support the selection of the site on the disused bowling green, with the added possibility of rapid refuge to higher ground up the stairs.

A concern was raised that the parking at the Stockland shopping centre across the road could not accommodate additional parking for families using the new facility:

- “Have we asked Stockland if they think they can fit all those extra cars?”
- “No parking, except the Stockland car park. Brooks St already parked out all weekend.”

The sculpture entry point was applauded, with the restatement of the interest to engage a local artist to assist with the design of this skateable/sculptural item at the main entry point of the facility.

Participants were keen to ensure that the pedestrian access points across the park be maintained – as the park is already used by a wide range of sporting groups needing to make their way to facilities:

- “Wider footpaths.”
- “Site 1 is close to the servo where kids buy food etc.”

Appearance

There were some concerns that the design was not as interesting to experienced skaters as they may have hoped, with the following comments to the skateable elements emerging from the workshop:

- “Bit boring.”
- “More unique elements please.”
- “Lips on the funbox.”
- “More ‘street’ opportunities built in?”
- “Because of ages obviously the size of the ramps will be disputed but as long as they’re varied and cater to all needs.”
- “Two flat banks – quarter pipe. Make it two sections to decrease congestion.”
- “What about scooters? Bikes?”
- “A good bowl.”

- “A quarter pipe section please.”
- “A snake run as the entry way? The sculpture entry needs to have run opportunities.”
- “A bit tame, was expecting more.”
- “Could the platform space be used for more skateable things too?”
- “Increased heights, for different skill levels, not all one height. Eg 5/6 foot?”
- “Inexperienced skaters or minors to ride smaller section of park.”
- “Different street opportunities at each of the three entry points.”

There was some discussion about the materials and colour palettes to be used in the park, with support for both the Wallsend sporting red/blue and the heritage palette already in use across Wallsend. Steel, timber and concrete are preferred to be used together, with wide-ranging views on colour:

- “Heritage colours are already in use on the corner of Nelson and Cowper Streets.”
- “Wallsend colours good!”
- “Local art/coalmine history would be good!”
- “We have coalmining heritage here, reflect that.”
- “Lots of colour, well set out. Should not be just for pros. Black and yellow?”

These considerations are able to be taken up into the final design, as they will need to be reflected in detailed documentation.

Two participants were concerned at the perceived loss of heritage value in the park, stating that the rose gardens were more aesthetic, though not restored since the 2007 storms:

- “Rose garden heritage 1890’s, in Sydney archives. We would like it to stay for reasons of aesthetics and history.”
- “Rose garden shouldn’t be redeveloped.”

Graffiti was mentioned as spoiling the appearance of several buildings in the park now. Methods to address this are covered at Maintenance, below.

Safety

Lighting was the key issue discussed in terms of safety for skaters and near residents.

The issue of passive surveillance was raised, with a clarification of terms required. Passive surveillance refers to the opportunities for passers-by to view the facility as a deterrent to anti-social behaviours occurring, and as a method to enhance the safety of children within a skate facility.

Lighting was the subject of detailed discussion, with divergent views in evidence. Some workshop participants were in favour of night lighting to allow skate facility use by more experienced skaters, after younger children have left for the day. Near residents were concerned that lighting would disturb their sleep with noise into the evening, with the following comments recorded:

- “Some input into the design, lights!”
- “Opposed to any added lighting, even ambient lighting will encourage noise and action at night.” “Design, lighting, bins.”
- “Lighting at night for use by experienced skaters. We can’t skate in the day time when the young kids are there.”
- “Lighting a concern if left on after 9.30pm.”
- “Lighting in all three corners.”

The Recreation Projects Co-ordinator was able to inform the workshop participants that there are existing rules about lighting on sporting grounds, and that this facility would also be bound by the same rules - 9.30pm is the latest allowable time for lighting on a sports facility.

Family Friendliness

The inclusion of shelters, steel bins and barbeques was welcomed in the design.

The chosen location was queried for its potential for future site expansion. The lead designer was able to show participants how the facility could be expanded in skating terms, without encroaching on cricket nets, sporting fields or pathways in future.

- “Seating on hill.”
- “Wifi free and barbeques.”

The refuges and high spots for viewing are designed to increase family-friendliness – for young people watching or socialising, and other family members. These spaces could be used for music or other activities on the site in future.

Maintenance

Maintenance of the entire park was of interest, with particular concern about the new facility.

The lacking opportunities for young people in the city were again commented on, with this new facility welcomed.

- “Ironbark Creek is already neglected – how are you going to look after it in that site?”
- “What’s the plan for managing the park going forward? There were two gangers on this park, now they fly in and out, and it’s showing in the park maintenance.”
- “Toilets are locked now due to vandalism.”
- “Why can’t those toilets be opened to people using the park during the day now, or to travellers coming in off the F3?”

The Director, Liveable City was able to address the group about park management and facilities. The addition of a line item in the maintenance budget for the two new skate facilities was restated to this group. Council's graffiti management resources have been doubled in recent times, and will be responsible for this new facility.

He was also able to inform them of Council's recent re-openings of toilets in parks, during daylight hours: at Civic Park and in Empire Park. The same steps could be taken for Wallsend Park with the completion of the skate facility.

Project Plan

The following project plan was presented to the group, including major milestones to completion of the project:

August 2010: Report to Council

September 2010: Documentation for construction

October 2010: Tender report to Council

November 2010: Construction commences

March 2011: Construction complete

As the grant funding is to December 2010, skilful project management will be needed and project acquittal will be swift.

Next Steps

The group was informed of the next steps for workshop participants, as follows:

1. Consultation report will be updated: it is online now. (*News and Events/ Newcastle Voice*)
2. Report distribution through Newcastle Voice to Councillors and community, online and through libraries.
3. Further project information: rmaughan@ncc.nsw.gov.au by August 13.

Submission received from Newcastle Voice panellist

	5380-10172872
Date Created:	5/17/2010 5:18 PM PDT
Summary / Sommaire:	RE: Wallsend skate park workshop
Details / Détails:	<p>Dear Newcastle Voice,</p> <p>I will not be able to attend this meeting on Wednesday night due to study commitments. However, I would like to submit my say if possible.</p> <p>The last thing that Maryland needs is funding to upgrade a skate park. Kids will skate regardless of how good it looks or what is there. How about funding for transport or having a youth worker at the local Community Centre. Kids need more than just skating plus not all kids skate.</p> <p>Providing safe public transport to places like Glendale or Charlestown for them to go and see a movie would be money better spent. Hope that all makes sense in what I am saying.</p> <p>Have a great day.</p>

Appendix I - Workshop Materials

Agenda

Wallsend Park Skate Park Workshops 19 May 2010

Agenda: 2 hours

Welcome and Introductions	A Kasper	5 mins
Skate Park Revitalisation	R Maughan	15 mins
Wallsend Park Skate Park	W Trevean	15 mins
Exploring the Options	All	50 mins
Conclusions and Next Steps	A Kasper	5 mins

Ground Rules

- Today is about gathering community perspective broadly, so every contribution is valued.
- Please speak one at a time, so that all can be heard.
- A range of views, perhaps divergent from your own, may emerge today: that's fine. Not every idea will be discussed; it's about gathering information.
- Photographs may be taken and used on the Council's website and to promote future Newcastle Voice events. Please let us know if you would **not** like to be photographed.
- Thank you for your participation today.

Wallsend Park Skate Park Workshop 2

28 July 2010

Agenda: 2 hours

Introduction	A Kasper, 5 mins
Consultation To Date	A Kasper/R Maughan, 30 mins
Site Selection, Site Determination, Site Characteristics	
Final Design	W Trevean, 30 mins
Break	All, 10 mins
Discussion	All, 30 mins
Project Plan and Next Steps	R Maughan, 15 mins

Ground Rules

- Today is about gathering community perspective broadly, so every contribution is valued.
- Please speak one at a time, so that all can be heard.
- A range of views, perhaps divergent from your own, may emerge today: that's fine. Not every idea will be discussed; it's about gathering information.
- Photographs may be taken and used on the Council's website and to promote future Newcastle Voice events. Please let us know if you would **not** like to be photographed.
- Thank you for your participation today.

Feedback Form

Your feedback is important to us - thank you for taking the time to complete this sheet and provide us with your comments.

1. What did you particularly like about this workshop?

2. Please suggest any improvements that could be made to the workshop.

3. Any other comments about this consultation?

4. Please rate your overall satisfaction with the workshop.

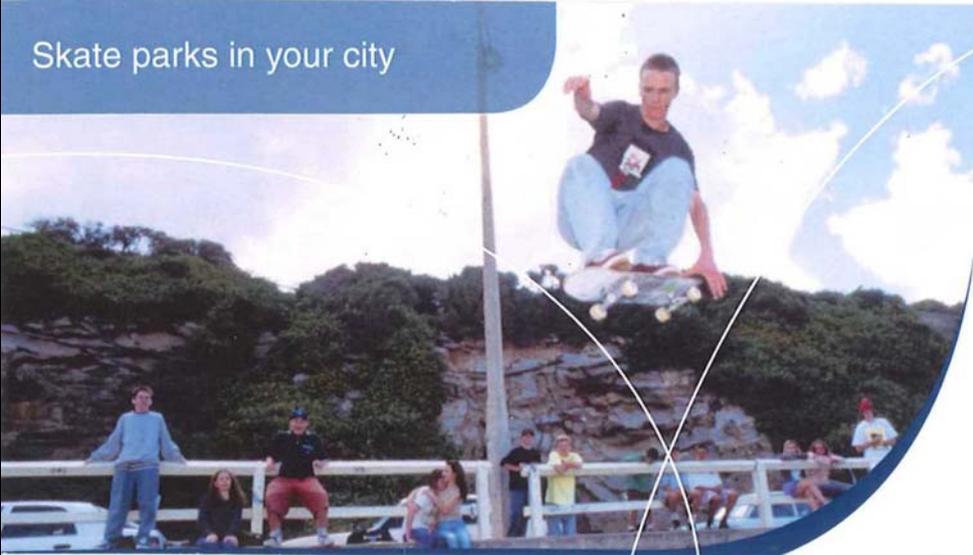
<input type="checkbox"/> 1- Completely dissatisfied	<input type="checkbox"/> 2- Somewhat dissatisfied	<input type="checkbox"/> 3- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	<input type="checkbox"/> 4- Somewhat satisfied	<input type="checkbox"/> 5- Completely satisfied
--	---	--	--	---

5. Would you attend another group like this – on a different subject?

YES / NO

NAME: (optional) _____

Consultation materials 2008-2009



Skate parks in your city

Newcastle City Council is planning for the future of skate spaces across the City. We welcome your input at any of the consultations.

Come along and have your say at the first session on **Thursday 4 December 2008** from 6pm to 7.30pm at multi-purpose building (next to the netball courts), National Park, Parry Street, Newcastle.



There will also be on site consultation sessions at existing skate parks (details below) starting at 4pm.

When	Where
Monday 12 January 2009	Stockton Skate Park (outside pool)
Tuesday 13 January 2009	Empire Park, Memorial Drive, Bar Beach
Wednesday 14 January 2009	Islington Park, Maitland Road, Islington
Thursday 15 January 2009	Walker Fields, Elernmore Vale (behind shopping centre)
Friday 16 January 2009	New Lambton Park, Wallarah Road, New Lambton
Monday 19 January 2009	Grange Avenue Reserve, Maryland Drive, Maryland
Tuesday 20 January 2009	South Newcastle Beach Skate Park
Wednesday 21 January 2009	Wallsend Park, Thomas St, Wallsend
Thursday 22 January 2009	Dangar Park, Maitland Road, Mayfield
Friday 23 January 2009	Heaton Park, Mordue Pde, Jesmond

Can't make it to a consultation but would like to be kept informed?

Call us or send us your email address at mail@ncc.nsw.gov.au and we'll send you our eNewsletter. You can also visit our website at www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au and fill out a feedback form.

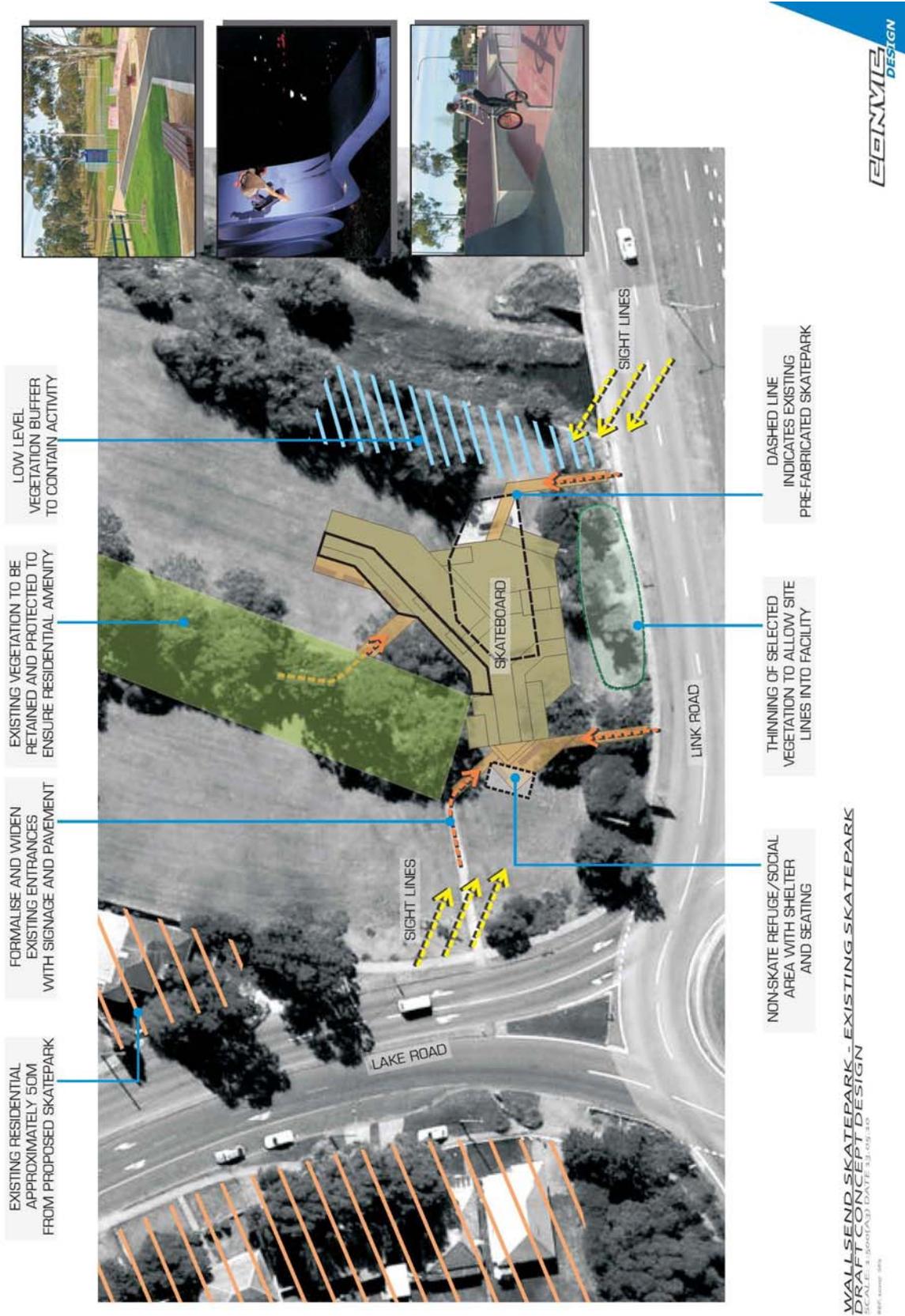
Need more information?

Call Youth Activities Officer, Dale Garbutt, on 02 4974 2094 or Council's Parks and Recreation Section on 02 4974 2807.

Wallsend Park Aerial Photograph: Site 1 at bottom left (near roundabout), Site 2 at top right (at Cowper Street), Site 3 below red roof at left top



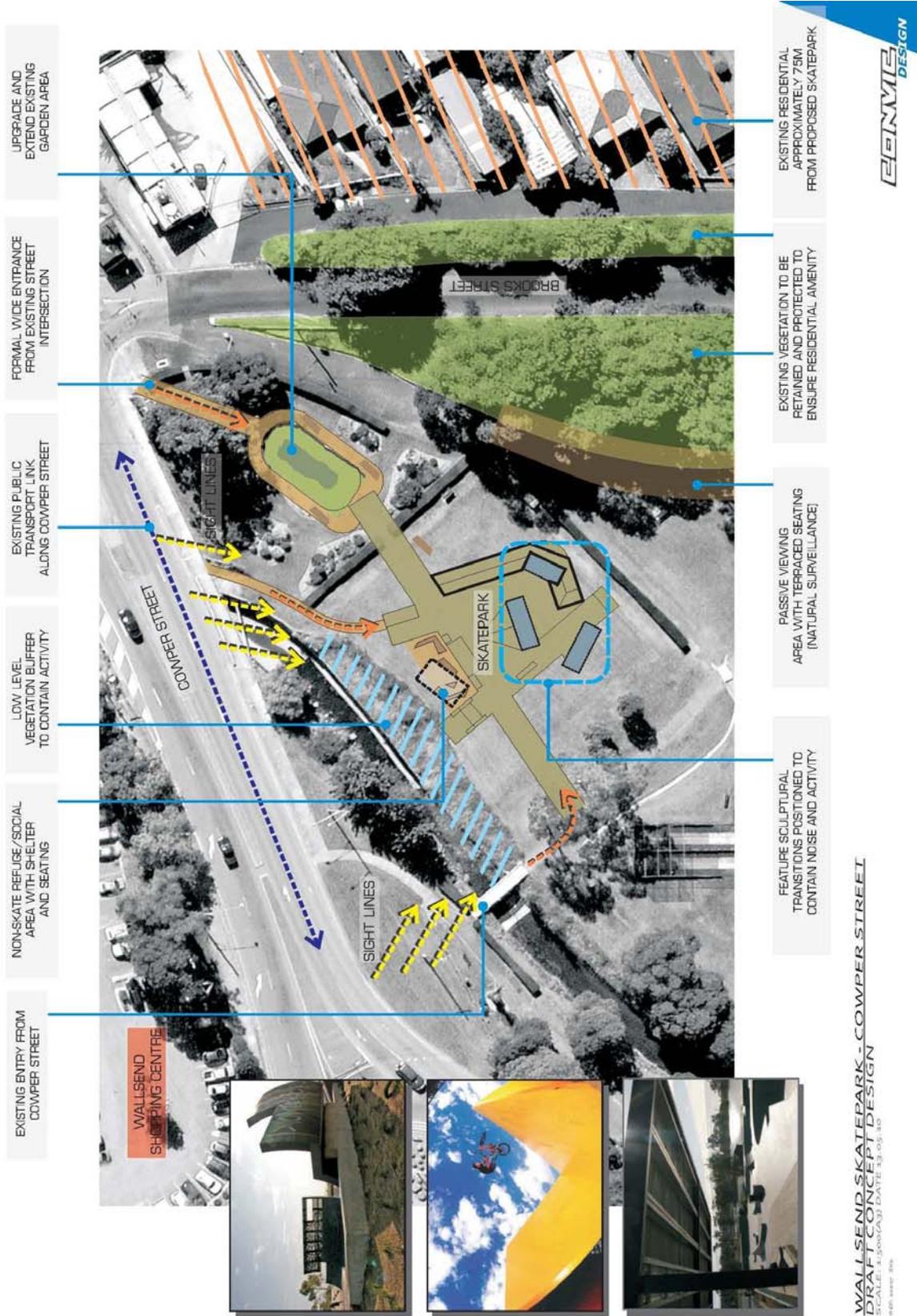
Convic Draft Skate Park Sketch: Site 1 - current location



CONVIC DESIGN

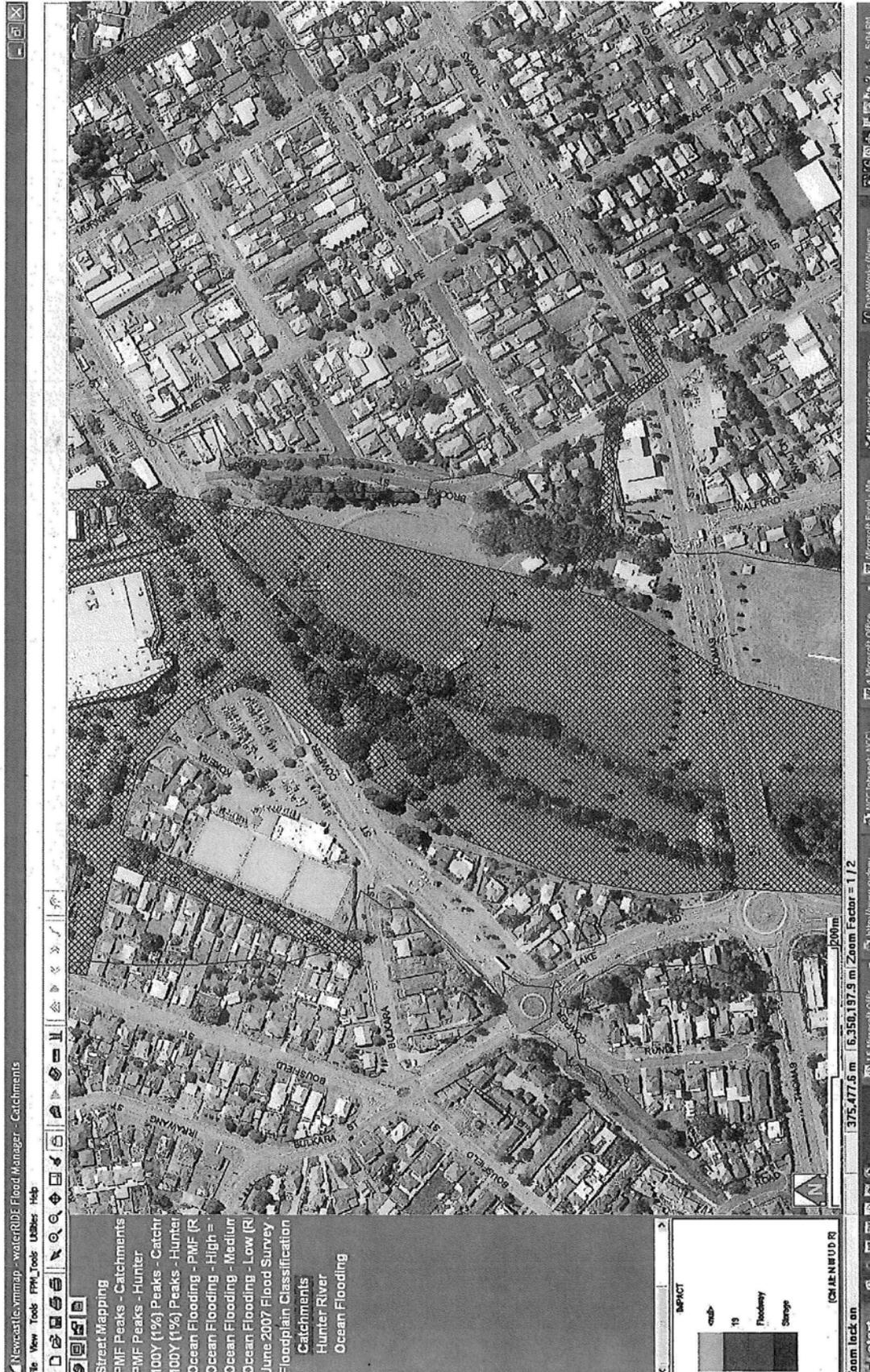
WALLSEND SKATEPARK - EXISTING SKATEPARK
 CONVIC DESIGN
 10/07/2010

Convic Draft Sketch: Site 2 - on disused bowling green

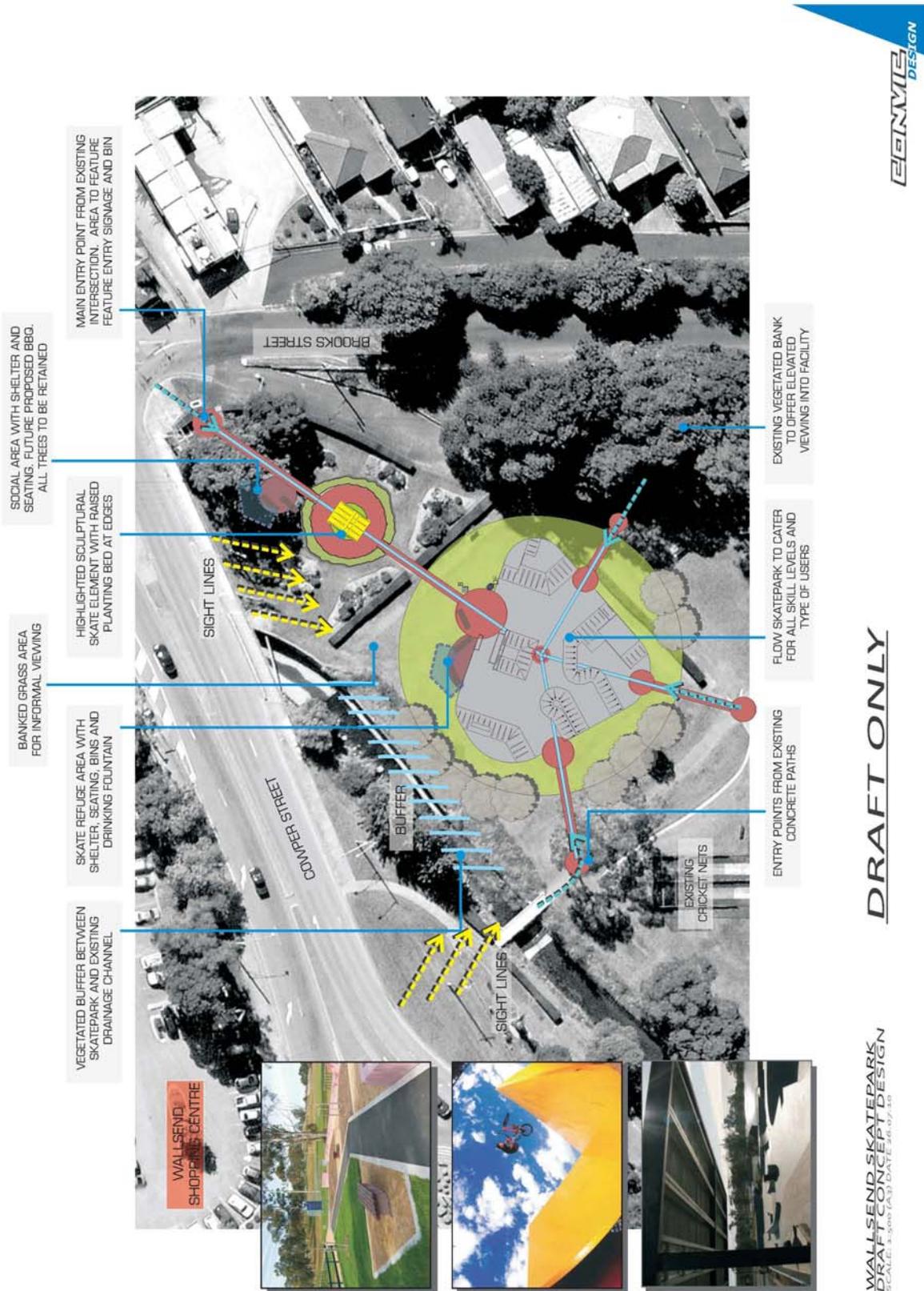


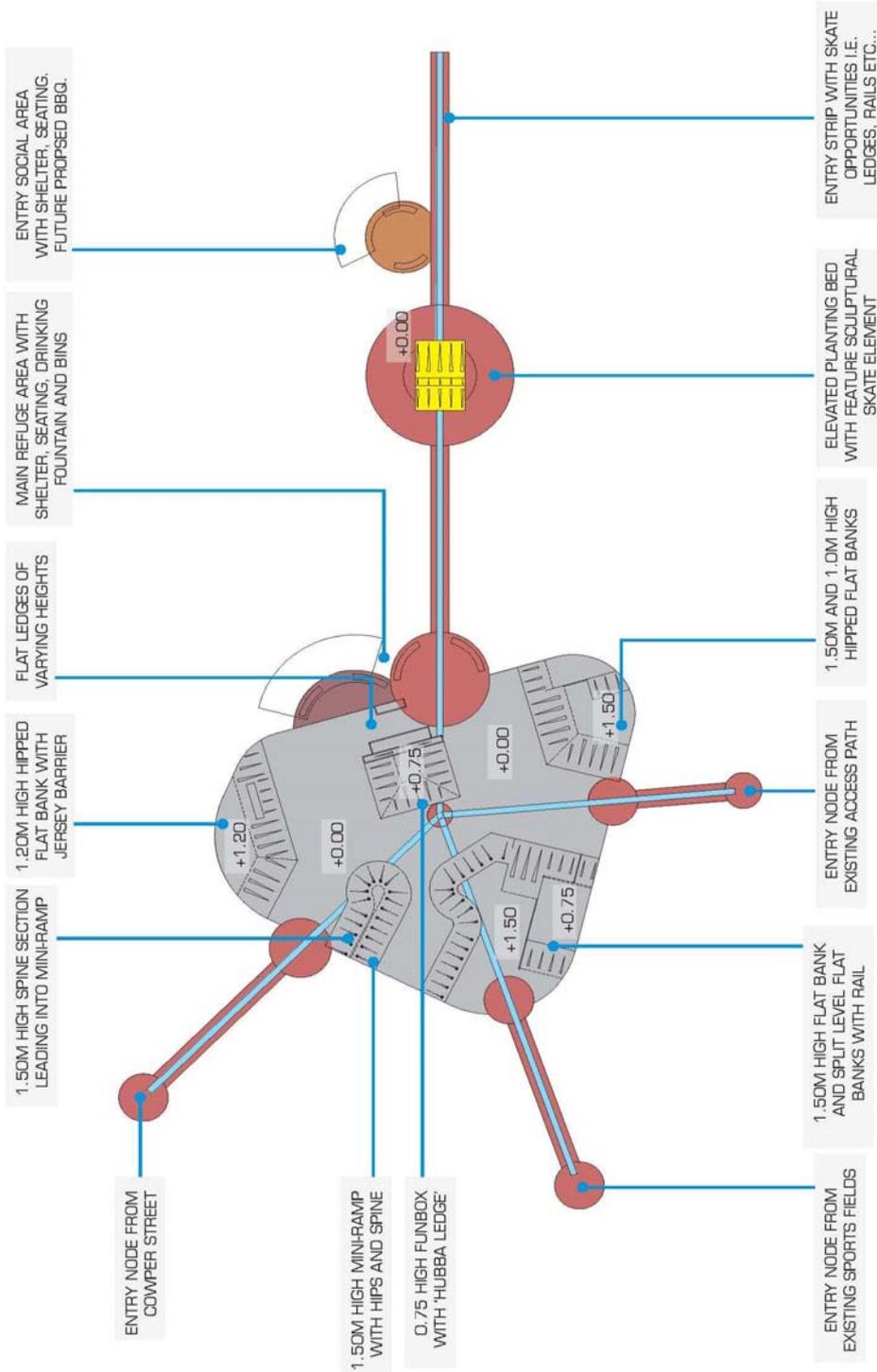
WALLSEND SKATEPARK - COWPER STREET
DRAFT CONCEPT DESIGN
SCALE: 1:500 (PLAN) 1:10 (SECTION)
REV: 00000000

Wallsend Floodplain



Wallsend Skate facility final draft design (2 pages)





DRAFT ONLY

WALLSEND SKATEPARK
FOR THE CITY OF NEWCASTLE
CONCEPT DESIGN

BENTON
DESIGN



Appendix II - Promotional Materials & Media



Postcard (300 distributed) – letterbox distribution and invitation to key stakeholders: sporting clubs, Mainstreet committee

Consulting with our community



Wallsend proposed skate park

Two community workshops are being conducted by Newcastle Voice to discuss the location and draft design for the proposed skate facility in Wallsend Park.

Time: 10am - 12 noon OR 6pm to 8pm

Date: Wednesday 19 May 2010

Venue: Wallsend Diggers, 5 Tyrrell St, Wallsend

Come along and have your say about this important community facility. All welcome.

Please register by Monday 17 May on 4974 2823 to secure your place.



Consulting with our community



Wallsend proposed skate park

Two community workshops are being conducted by Newcastle Voice to discuss the location and draft design for the proposed skate facility in Wallsend Park.

Time: 10am - 12 noon OR 6pm to 8pm

Date: Wednesday 19 May 2010

Venue: Wallsend Diggers, 5 Tyrrell St, Wallsend

Come along and have your say about this important community facility. All welcome.

Please register by Monday 17 May on 4974 2823 to secure your place.



Consulting with our community



Wallsend proposed skate park

Two community workshops are being conducted by Newcastle Voice to discuss the location and draft design for the proposed skate facility in Wallsend Park.

Time: 10am - 12 noon OR 6pm to 8pm

Date: Wednesday 19 May 2010

Venue: Wallsend Diggers, 5 Tyrrell St, Wallsend

Come along and have your say about this important community facility. All welcome.

Please register by Monday 17 May on 4974 2823 to secure your place.



Advertisements: two different executions, run 7 times

T24 invite – 1 May H2 Herald, 5 & 7 May Ncle and Lower Hunter Star

<p>Consulting with our community</p>	<h3>Wallsend proposed skate park</h3> <p>Two community workshops are being conducted by Newcastle Voice to discuss the location and draft design for the proposed skate facility in Wallsend Park.</p> <p>Time: 10am - 12 noon OR 6pm to 8pm Date: Wednesday 19 May 2010 Venue: Wallsend Diggers, 5 Tyrrell St, Wallsend</p> <p>Come along and have your say about this important community facility. All welcome.</p> <p>Please register by Monday 17 May on 4974 2823 to secure your place.</p> 
	

T24 reminder – 12 & 14 May Newcastle and Lower Hunter Star

<p>Consulting with our community</p>	<h3>Wallsend proposed skate park</h3> <p>Two community workshops are being conducted by Newcastle Voice to discuss the location and draft design for the proposed skate facility in Wallsend Park.</p> <p>Time: 10am - 12 noon OR 6pm to 8pm Date: Wednesday 19 May 2010 Venue: Wallsend Diggers, 5 Tyrrell St, Wallsend</p> <p>Come along and have your say about this important community facility. All welcome.</p> <p>Please register by Monday 17 May on 4974 2823 to secure your place.</p> 
	

Letterbox distribution Workshop 2

Consulting with our community



Wallsend proposed skate park

An upgrade to the skate facility in Wallsend Park has been funded for 2010. The second workshop in this consultation round is being held to discuss the site selection and the skate facility's final design with interested community members.

Time: 6pm to 8pm

Date: Wednesday 28 July 2010

Venue: Wallsend Diggers, 5 Tyrrell St, Wallsend

Come along and have your say about this important community facility. All welcome.

Please register by Tuesday 27 July on 4974 2823 to secure your place.



Consulting with our community



Wallsend proposed skate park

An upgrade to the skate facility in Wallsend Park has been funded for 2010. The second workshop in this consultation round is being held to discuss the site selection and the skate facility's final design with interested community members.

Time: 6pm to 8pm

Date: Wednesday 28 July 2010

Venue: Wallsend Diggers, 5 Tyrrell St, Wallsend

Come along and have your say about this important community facility. All welcome.

Please register by Tuesday 27 July on 4974 2823 to secure your place.



Consulting with our community



Wallsend proposed skate park

An upgrade to the skate facility in Wallsend Park has been funded for 2010. The second workshop in this consultation round is being held to discuss the site selection and the skate facility's final design with interested community members.

Time: 6pm to 8pm

Date: Wednesday 28 July 2010

Venue: Wallsend Diggers, 5 Tyrrell St, Wallsend

Come along and have your say about this important community facility. All welcome.

Please register by Tuesday 27 July on 4974 2823 to secure your place.





Advertising Workshop 2

Consulting with our community



Wallsend proposed skate park

An upgrade to the skate facility in Wallsend Park has been funded for 2010. The second workshop in this consultation round is being held to discuss the site selection and the skate facility's final design with interested community members.

Time: 6pm to 8pm

Date: Wednesday 28 July 2010

Venue: Wallsend Diggers, 5 Tyrrell St, Wallsend

Come along and have your say about this important community facility. All welcome.

Please register by Tuesday 27 July on 4974 2823 to secure your place.





Signage

Help shape our city's future

Current Consultation Wallsend Park Users

An upgrade to the skate facility in Wallsend Park has been funded for 2010. Two workshops are being held to discuss the site assessment and key design elements with interested community members:

Date: Wednesday 19 May
Time: 10am - 12noon
Venue: Wallsend Diggers Club, 5 Tyrrell Street, Wallsend

Date: Wednesday 19 May
Time: 6 - 8pm
Venue: Wallsend Diggers Club, 5 Tyrrell Street, Wallsend

Come along to have your say about this important community facility. All welcome.
Please register by Tuesday 18 May on 4974 2823 to secure your place.

Let's have more trees for pedestrian shade
Yes, we think cycle racks will encourage people to leave the car at home

Share your views through mail or telephone surveys, workshops or community discussions.

Newcastle needs representation from all sections of our community. To join **Newcastle Voice** and take part in consultations with Council you must be a Newcastle resident or ratepayer and also be over 16 years of age.

Registering online is easy at
www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/myvoice

Or order your **Free Info Pack** via mail by calling
4974 2000.

Current Consultation Wallsend Park Users

An upgrade to the skate facility in Wallsend Park has been funded for 2010.

The second workshop in this consultation round is being held to discuss the site selection and final design with interested community members:

Date: Wednesday 28 July

Time: 6-8pm

Venue: Wallsend Diggers Club, 5 Tyrrell Street, Wallsend

Come along to have your say about this important community facility. All welcome. Please register by Tuesday 27 July on 4974 2823 to secure your place.

Media Release - extract

14 May 2010

Next week at Council

Monday 17 May

6am Bulk Waste and Green Waste collections

Bulk waste collections get underway this week at Adamstown and Adamstown Heights. Green waste collections are happening this week at Stockton, Kooragang, Warabrook and Mayfield West. Make sure items are on the kerb ready for collection by Sunday night. Visit Council's website to find out more about [bulk waste](#) and [green waste](#) collections including acceptable items, dates for collection and illegal dumping.

Tuesday 18 May

7am Meeting of Newcastle City Centre Committee (Mainstreet)

The meeting will take place at Newcastle Leagues Club, National Park Street.

6pm Ordinary Council Meeting

- The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, Newcastle City Hall, King Street, Newcastle. I

Wednesday 19 May

10am – 12noon Wallsend skate park community workshop 1

Two community workshops are being conducted by Newcastle Voice to discuss the location and draft design for the proposed skate facility in Wallsend Park. Come along and have your say about this important community facility. Please register by calling 4974 2823. The workshop will take place at Wallsend Diggers, 5 Tyrrell Street, Wallsend.

6pm – 8pm Wallsend skate park community workshop 2

Two community workshops are being conducted by Newcastle Voice to discuss the location and draft design for the proposed skate facility in Wallsend Park. Come along and have your say about this important community facility. Please register by calling 4974 2823. The workshop will take place at Wallsend Diggers, 5 Tyrrell Street, Wallsend.



Appendix III – Participant Feedback

Participant Feedback, 19 May

1. What did you particularly like about this workshop?

- Open-minded participants
- Went well.
- In my opinion, there are more important basic issues relative to Wallsend Park: the state of Ironbark Creek, toilet facilities that are often locked; unsafe pedestrian bridges over Ironbark Creek.
- Informative, open, was able to have a say.
- Covered all aspects needed to be discussed.
- Well facilitated; informative. Great presentation from Wade – great to know what possibilities are available.

2. Please suggest any improvements that could be made.

- None – very informative.
- Single purpose discussions for a multi-purpose facility don't work.
- None I can think of.

3. Any other comments?

- If site is chosen and becomes the gateway to the city then toilets, tables etc for travellers to break their journey may add interest/services, as currently not much of a welcome to the area.

4. Please rate your overall satisfaction with the workshop.

Completely dissatisfied	
Somewhat dissatisfied	
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	1
Somewhat satisfied	
Completely satisfied	5
TOTAL	

5. Would you attend another group like this?

Yes 6

No

NB: Not all participants completed a feedback sheet; not all questions were answered on each sheet received. It's a voluntary step, to aid continuous improvement.

Participant Feedback 28 July

What did you particularly like about this workshop?

Very informative with a range of views.

Opportunity to voice concerns, comments and ideas. Courtesy whilst speaking- receivers responses.

Well facilitated, good turnout.

The opportunity to discuss the park with a knowledgeable designer.

This workshop was very informative.

Being able to see the designs.

The number of participants. It was great to see such a large group from the community, ranging from the young to old- people want change and feel good to get involved

Overall, excellent organisation. The council kept everything on a tight time frame

Seeing the new design, knowing there is support for skateparks in Newcastle

Very little, I felt we were 'railroaded' because the decision of location had already been made

All good

Please suggest any improvements that could be made.

The bulk of the meeting was wasted by people not contributing to the actual subject- skatepark design.

People got the wrong information and brought negative influence to the rest of the group.

Force people to leave all suggestions till last.

Allow for angry residents to have separate meeting as opposed to disrupting current one.

Keep people that 'hijack' meetings under greater control. Disappointing- if they came to first meeting to voice concerns it would have been more appropriate. Almost a waste of time because of them.

That all workshops are run on a democratic process. Ratepayers support the Newcastle City Council and it should be them have a vote- not a room full of minors.

Proper articulation of the night's agenda to avoid disgruntled comments from local residents who take up all of the time being upset.

Maybe the council could have put more effort into addressing resident concerns.

Any other comments?

Great work staff!

More of the work experience guy.

Great to see the council is trying to do something for the youth of Newcastle.

It is great to see the NCC Voice is talking to the kids that skate.

I was pleased with the turnout; parents, youth, adults and elderly folk. The majority of the people shared the same view and felt passionate toward the design.

4. Please rate your overall satisfaction with the workshop.

<input type="checkbox"/> 1- Completely dissatisfied 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2- Somewhat dissatisfied 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 3- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 4- Somewhat satisfied 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5- Completely satisfied 5
--	--	---	---	---

5. Would you attend another group like this – on a different subject?

Yes, 9/11 participants