Councillors,

In accordance with section 367 of the Local Government Act, 1993 notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on:

**DATE:** Tuesday 9 May 2017

**TIME:** 5.30pm

**VENUE:** Council Chambers
2nd Floor
City Hall
290 King Street
Newcastle NSW 2300

P Chrystal
Interim Chief Executive Officer

City Administration Centre
282 King Street
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300

2 May 2017

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**NOTE: ITEMS MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE DEALT WITH IN NUMERICAL ORDER**
REPORTS BY COUNCIL OFFICERS

ITEM-48 CCL 09/05/17 - AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORTING

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT - INTERNAL AUDIT
CONTACT: INTERIM CEO

PURPOSE

To provide Council with the proposed means for updating Councillors with the outcome of Audit Committee deliberations.

RECOMMENDATION

1 Council note that an All Councillor Memo will be provided within 14 business days following each Audit Committee meeting.

KEY ISSUES

2 Guidelines issued by Premier & Cabinet Division of Local Government under section 23A of the Local Government Act 1993 require that the Audit Committee report regularly to Council.

3 Council's Audit Committee recognises the importance of open and collaborative leadership and wishes to ensure effective reporting mechanisms are established to provide Councillors with information about Audit Committee business.

4 The provision of Councillor memos within 14 business days of each Audit Committee meeting would ensure that Audit Committee information is timely, rather than only in accordance with the Council meeting cycle.

5 Existing mechanisms such as Notices of Motion and Councillor Service Requests can be used by Councillors in relation to Audit Committee information, where required for confidentiality or other sensitive items, noting that clause 8.3 of the Audit Committee Charter (as adopted by Council on 25 November 2014), states that "due to their sensitive nature, items of Committee business remain confidential unless identified otherwise by the Committee".

6 The Audit Committee will continue to report annually to Council. This annual item will remain on the ordinary Council meeting agenda.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

7 This reporting can be achieved within existing operational budget.
COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

8 Maintaining an Audit Committee and Audit Committee reporting to Councillors supports the strategic direction of Open and Collaborative Leadership.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/IMPLICATIONS

9 There are no implementation issues.

RISK ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION

10 The provision of Councillor memos increases the openness and transparency of Audit Committee reporting to Council.

RELATED PREVIOUS DECISIONS

11 On 19 May 2009, Council established the Audit Committee.

12 On 25 November 2014, Council adopted the current Audit Committee Charter.

13 The Audit Committee consists of two Councillor members who were both appointed by resolution of Council, as well as three independent members. Current members of the Audit Committee are:

- Dr Col Gellatly
- Martin Matthews
- Micah Jenkins
- Cr Sharon Waterhouse
- Cr Jason Dunn

CONSULTATION

14 This matter was discussed and supported by the Audit Committee at their meeting of 9 March 2017.

OPTIONS

Option 1

15 The recommendation as at Paragraph 1

Option 2

16 Council resolves not to adopt the recommendation at paragraphs 1. This is not the recommended option.
BACKGROUND

17 At a meeting on 28 June 2016, the elected Council resolved to adopt a Notice of Motion regarding Open and Collaborative Leadership.

18 Among other items, the resolution called for Council to "draft an Open and Transparent Governance Strategy as a core strategic document. The Strategy is to consider best practice for open councils, including current and planned actions of Council to improve transparency."

19 This matter was tabled for discussion at an Audit Committee meeting held on 9 March 2017. Audit Committee members were asked to provide suggestions or comments that might improve the relationship of the Audit Committee with the elected Council.

20 As a result of this discussion on 9 March 2017, the Audit Committee resolved to provide at least quarterly summary reporting to the elected Council.

REFERENCES

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.
ITEM-49 CCL 09/05/17 - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR THE NEWCASTLE 2030 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

REPORT BY: CORPORATE SERVICES
CONTACT: DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES / MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

PURPOSE

For Council to endorse the Community Engagement Strategy (Strategy) aimed at informing the development of the next Newcastle 2030 Community Strategic Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

1 Council endorses the Community Engagement Strategy as provided at Attachment A.

KEY ISSUES

2 Under section 402 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council must establish and implement a community engagement strategy, based on social justice principles, for engagement with the local community when developing the community strategic plan.

3 Each newly elected council must review the CSP before 30 June following local government elections. The Council is required to endorse a CSP covering at least a period of 10 years from its date of preparation.

4 The review must include a community engagement strategy, as prescribed in the Local Government Act 1993 and referenced in the Division of Local Government, Integrated Planning and Reporting Manual for local government in NSW.

5 The engagement strategy aims to provide opportunities for all members and sectors of the community to contribute to the development of the CSP.

6 A diverse range of community engagement method and resources will be used such as online technologies as part of an expanded engagement program. These include a web-based engagement platform and an online budget simulation tool. Social media will also be used extensively to raise the profile of the project and recruit new participants.

7 Other engagement methods to be used include workshops in all four wards, face to face and online surveys, workshops on specific themes and sectors, and specific activities for young people and the Aboriginal community.
8 Particular attention is given to ensuring opportunities to participate are provided to sectors of the community that traditionally are hard to engage, such as young people, parents of young children, the elderly and small business people.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

9 The costs for the development of the CSP, including the community engagement program and communications plan will be met within the allocated project budgets.

10 New measures and tools will be utilised to increase reach and representation, as well as efficiency in analysing and reporting engagement outcomes. These have been introduced by the Community and Engagement Unit under the expanded engagement program and will be used for many other engagement projects beyond the CSP process.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

11 The development and endorsement of the Strategy is directly aligned to s. 402 of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Division of Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Manual for local government in NSW.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/IMPLICATIONS

12 The endorsement of the Strategy identifies the engagement process that will be used for the development of the next Newcastle 2030 CSP due to be adopted by Council by June 2018.

RISK ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION

13 There is a risk associated with low community participation rates in the CSP engagement activities. This will be mitigated by the use of social media to promote participation opportunities in the project and use of a range of innovative engagement tools that will make participation easier, more accessible and interesting to a broad and representative range of community members. Specific strategies will also be implemented to increase participation rates of hard to reach sectors of the community. The goal of the Strategy is to increase awareness that community engagement and feedback directly informs the goals, priorities and strategies in the CSP.

RELATED PREVIOUS DECISIONS

14 At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 15/03/11, Council resolved:

*Council endorses the revised draft 10-year Newcastle Community Strategic Plan (Attachment A).*
15 At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 4/12/12, Council resolved:

A Council endorse the community engagement strategy as provided in Attachment A.

B That Council be given a briefing on the approaches to community engagement available to Council and how Councillors can participate.

The briefing should describe the legislative framework, past achievements, staffing, proposed methods for gaining information and support from communities and the ways this will be reported and used in Council's planning and operations.

16 At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25/06/13, Council resolved:

To endorse the Newcastle 2030 Community Strategic Plan (Revised 2013) (Attachment A).

The Lord Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

CONSULTATION

17 The Communications and Engagement Unit is working with the Strategic Planning Services Unit to develop and implement the Strategy to inform the development of the CSP. The work will also incorporate consultation regarding the Smart City Strategy and the Open and Transparent Governance Strategy.

18 The development of the Strategy has involved extensive internal consultation with stakeholders across the organisation. Staff with expertise in engaging the Aboriginal community, the disability sector and young people have also been consulted.

OPTIONS

Option 1

19 The recommendation as at Paragraph 1. This is the recommended option.

Option 2

20 Council resolves not to endorse the Community and Engagement Strategy as at Attachment A. This is not the recommended option.

BACKGROUND

21 In March 2011, Council endorsed the Newcastle 2030 CSP following a significant shared planning process with direct input from a wide cross-section of the community. It provided a platform to build on our strengths and unique assets, and described our shared long-term vision for a resilient city that is smart, liveable and sustainable.

23 In June 2013, Council endorsed the Newcastle 2030 Community Strategic Plan (Revised 2013) which provided an update to the original CSP.

24 There has been overwhelming support from the community through the Newcastle 2030 process since it commenced in 2009. The Newcastle community has demonstrated their passion for where they live and a willingness to engage and play an active role in shaping Newcastle into an even better place to be. More than 1,100 community members had direct input into the 2013 review through a range of engagement activities including:

- Newcastle 2030 survey conducted by Newcastle Voice
- participation in the City Expo events
- completion of ideas postcards at community events
- discussions with the Newcastle Interagency and Newcastle Youth Council.

REFERENCES

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Community Engagement Strategy
Community Engagement Strategy

Community Strategic Plan - Newcastle 2030

April 2017
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1 Introduction

The Community Strategic Plan (CSP) represents the highest level of strategic planning undertaken by local councils. It is a shared community vision developed to inform policies and actions over the next 10 years. The inaugural Newcastle 2030 CSP was developed in 2009, revised in 2013, and is due for revision by June 2018. The CSP engagement process will also inform Council's Delivery Program, Operational Plan and asset management plans, translating the community's strategic goals into deliverable actions.

The CSP will guide Newcastle City Councillors and staff as well as government agencies, the business community, community groups and general community.

The Local Government Act and the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Guidelines for local government in NSW require that a Community Engagement Strategy be developed and implemented to inform each new version of the CSP.

Council must demonstrate how community engagement informed the goals, priorities and strategies in the CSP.

Objectives

The project objectives for community engagement are:

- Develop a CSP that is informed by representative and meaningful community engagement.
- Identify community goals in collaboration with stakeholders and the community.
- Involve stakeholders in the development and implementation of strategies and actions to address community goals.
- Address community service level expectations, capture community priorities and manage community expectations.
- Develop an updated CSP which can be easily translated into a more detailed Delivery Program, can be validated as sustainable via the Long Term Financial Plan and enables service level plans to be developed which reflect Community expectations.
- Increase internal awareness of the CSP and Council's core strategic documents.

This Community Engagement Strategy outlines how Council will identify relevant stakeholder groups within the community and methods used to engage each group. The Local Government Act 1993 (s402) states that Council must prepare and implement a Community Engagement Strategy based on social justice principles for engagement with the local community.

Council will ensure social justice is achieved by:

- Ensuring that a broad range of community members have input into developing the CSP
- Specifically consult those groups whose voice is often not heard in community discussions
- Testing the objectives of the CSP against the principles by checking whether the objectives are fair, if they exclude anyone from participating in the community's future and if anyone would be disadvantaged by the decisions
- Ensuring that the CSP is adequately informed by sound social research and needs analysis

This Community Engagement Strategy outlines how council will engage hard to reach groups, the general community, NSW Government agencies and other stakeholders.
2 Policy framework

This Community Engagement Strategy is guided by the following Council policies and frameworks and is consistent with Council’s strategies and action plans.

- Social Strategy (2016-2019)
- Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Commitment Statement
- Inovate Reconciliation Action Plan (August 2016 - August 2018)
- Multicultural Plan (2016-2019)
- Reconciliation Action Plan (2016-2018)
- City Engagement Charter (2012)
- City Engagement Policy (2013)

City Engagement Framework

Newcastle City Council is committed to being a leader in local government in Australia. These are our guiding principles to help us achieve this, improve our service delivery and respond to our community’s needs. Our city Engagement Charter is to:

Be accessible and inclusive by:

- Actively listening to our diverse community’s needs and expectations so that they may be understood and considered by the elected Council.

Actively seek input into our decision-making by:

- Encouraging the community to provide meaningful input and feedback
- Enabling genuine community participation and collaboration by using best practice consultation tools and techniques
- Using emerging innovative communication technologies to engage, plan and encourage information sharing with our community.

Be open and transparent by:

- Being clear and concise in all our communications
- Sharing information about Council services, activities and decisions
- Regularly promoting and celebrating the achievements of Council and the local community.

Participation in decision making

Community participation refers to the level or degree to which the community is involved in planning and decision making.

Newcastle City Council recognises and abides by best practice principles developed by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2). This Community Engagement Strategy will include opportunities for stakeholders to be informed, consulted, involved and collaborated with, as defined by the IAP2 spectrum shown in the figure below.
Informing the community

A significant part of the Community Engagement Strategy is an information campaign to inform all stakeholders about the importance and relevance of the CSP to them and the opportunities they will have to participate in developing the plan. This is outlined in the sections below.

3 Stakeholders

The IP&R Guidelines Essential Element 1.5, states that the Community Engagement Strategy for the CSP "must identify relevant stakeholder groups within the community and outline methods that will be used to engage each group".

All residents, ratepayers, businesses and people that use the services and infrastructure of Newcastle are potential stakeholders of the CSP development process. We will create opportunities for every person to contribute so that no person is excluded from the process that wants to be involved. This is in keeping with Council's engagement framework and the social justice principles that underpin the development of the CSP.

A detailed stakeholder identification and analysis process will be undertaken. The process for identifying stakeholders, organisations and sectors will include (but not limited to):

1. Existing contact list of people and organisations Council already has a relationship with (eg Interagency Network, Smart City/HiP partners)
2. Community networks, reference groups, advisory groups and committees
3. Peak bodies and associations
4. Community directory listed organisations
5. Social media groups/forums/ networks and friends
6. State government agencies, utilities and neighbouring Councils
7. Self-identification and registration of individuals.
The preliminary stakeholder identification has identified the following groups:

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<th>External Stakeholder</th>
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<td>Leadership Group,</td>
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<td>Strategic Planning,</td>
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<td>Infrastructure</td>
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<td>and visitors.</td>
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<td>industry bodies, State</td>
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Hard to engage and stakeholder groups with traditionally low participation

Particular attention will be given to providing engagement opportunities to those identified above as "hard to engage". These engagement activities will be specifically designed to increase participation from sectors of the community that traditionally do not participate in Council engagement activities for a range of reasons.

Council staff

Council has over 900 staff, many of whom live in the Newcastle local government area (LGA). They have considerable knowledge that can inform the process. They can also be ambassadors for the process and encourage their social and community networks to participate. For this reason, a specific staff engagement process will be implemented.

Representative stakeholder sample

Significant effort will need to be made to ensure that data collected through the engagement process will be sourced from or weighted by a demographic representative sample of residents and ratepayers from the LGA. A representative sample/contribution will be sought from people that represent the demographic make-up of the LGA, with a particular focus on:

- Age
- Gender
• Suburb.

Demographic information will be collected from as many engagement activity participants as possible and compared against the 2016 ABS data (due for release in June 2017) for all key demographics and by ward. Newcastle Voice panel membership will also be reviewed against the 2016 Census data and this will be used in the analysis of any contribution by Newcastle Voice.

4 Coordination with other projects

The CSP engagement process will need to coordinate with a number of other community engagement processes being run by Council in 2017. This is to reduce duplication and confusion.

The key projects that will require coordination with the CSP Community Engagement Program include:

• Public exhibition of draft Smart City Strategy
• Consultation regarding a draft Open and Transparent Governance Strategy
• Public exhibition of the 2013-2018 Delivery Program (May 2018).

5 Community Engagement Program

The community engagement program will be delivered in three stages. These are:

Stage one: Introduction and promotion
Stage two: Intensive engagement - Four Parts
Stage three: Adoption.

Stage two will encompass the majority of the engagement activities. It has been divided into four parts. Each part will focus on collecting data around slightly different focus questions and themes. It should however be acknowledged that there will be considerable overlap in the parts and many elements/activities will be running concurrently.

Activities will be designed to get a mix of qualitative data and quantitative data. In addition to activities specifically designed to gather data, the program will aim to create situations were rich conversations can occur which will lead to an increased understanding of the diversity of needs and expectation across the community. Stage three of the program will also include a number of opportunities to foster partnerships and collaboration with and between stakeholders.

Stage 1 - Preparation and Promotion

• Communicate process and promote upcoming opportunities
• Signup and register interest in being involved
• Present key issues and challenges to the community
Stage 2 - Part A: Intensive engagement (May to July 2017)
- Identifying drivers, challenges and opportunities
- Identify satisfaction level with current CSP principles, values, vision, and strategic directions
- Identify service level expectations and priorities within resource constraints.
- Review existing and identify new strategies and actions for the first four years and for the longer period to 2030.

Stage 2 - Part B (August - September 2017)
Note: this aligns with the caretaker period before the election,
- Staff engagement
- Data collation and analysis

Stage 2 - Part C Intensive engagement (October - November 2017)
- Confirm key findings from Part A
- Prioritise current and potential strategies and actions.
- Identify implementation partners
- Identify indicators and monitoring data sets

Stage 2 - Part D Public Exhibition (April - May 2018)
- Draft CSP on exhibition and submissions sought
- Ascertain detailed service and asset level expectations within resource constraints
- Additional targeted engagement activities if required

Stage 3 - Adoption, Evaluation and Promotion (June 2018)
- Evaluate engagement strategy implementation
- Write Stakeholder Engagement Report
- Promote and distribute results and final plan for adoption by the elected Council
Figure 1. Engagement Timeline

Version 7 – Community strategic plan engagement strategy
Engagement Activities

A range of engagement activities and tools will be used.

Table 1 below shows which activities will be used to gather information and ideas for each of the four parts of the Stage 2 intensive engagement process. Examples of activities to be deployed include:

**Workshops - ward based**

A facilitated activity based workshops will be held in each of the four wards. These will be open to anyone to attend. Additional workshop may be organised if there is a high level of interest.

**Workshops - sector or theme focused**

Stakeholder workshops will be organised in stage 2b to focus on prioritising the outcomes of the earlier workshop and/or exploring in more detail specific topics, themes or sectors. These will be by invitation or a combination of invitation and community registration. Examples are a workshop with the business community and one with the disability and community service sectors.

**Surveys and social media polls**

A sequence of surveys and social media posts with a question will be used to target both organisations and individuals via online, hard copy and face to face. The Newcastle Voice community reference panel will be invited to participate in surveys. A randomised telephone survey may also be used if other survey techniques are not achieving a sufficient sample size. A range of techniques will be used to encourage hard to engage sections of the community to participate in surveys and quizzes. These are outlined below.

**Engagement hubs**

Dedicated spaces will be set up in key libraries and some other locations in the LGA, to provide information and engagement opportunities. These hubs will include copies of any surveys, computers/tablets linked to online tools, some interactive activities and information about the range of engagement opportunities that will be available.

**'Do It Yourself Workshop Kit' for organisations**

A kit will be developed to enable groups or organisations to undertake their own mini version of the engagement workshops. The kit will include instructions on how to prepare and set up a short workshop as part of a meeting, and graphically designed interactive activities and templates for the group to complete. The kits will be mailed out to organisations and the results will be posted back to Council for collation.

**Online engagement tools**

A specific online engagement project and site using a recently acquired engagement platform will be set up, and a range of the engagement tools such as 'brainstorming', discussion forums, and FAQs will be used throughout the engagement process. Other online tools such as geo-mapping software will also be used for specific activities or to target specific groups.
Online budget simulation tool

An online tool will be configured with Council assets and services linked to an estimated budget allocation. Community and stakeholders will be invited to manipulate the budget for each class of assets and services to indicate their preferences and priorities, while learning about Council's budget constraints.

Social media activities

Social media activities will be undertaken to target specific sectors of the community and encourage participation. These could include inviting people to post photos, videos or text comments of their aspirations and concerns. Social media will also be used to promote the other opportunities and drive people to the online engagement tools.

Participation via stakeholder functions, meetings and events

Wherever possible we will try to encourage participation of organisations and their members via presentations to meetings, events and forums that are organised by them. We will take the Do It Yourself Workshop Kit to these organisations and facilitate delivery when possible.

Submissions

When the new draft CSP is placed on public exhibition in 2018 there will be a call for submissions on the document. Submission will be able to be provided via the website and via traditional methods.

Other specialist activities as required to engage specific target groups

A range of methods will be used to tailor to the needs of 'hard to engage' people. These are outlined in the section below in detail. Examples include:

- Specialist facilitators will be engaged to run specific activities (or modified versions of other activities) targeted at 'hard to engage' groups. These will include (but may not be limited to) a specialist Aboriginal facilitator and a youth engagement specialist.

- Specific activities may also be needed to be developed to target specific audiences if we find that we are not getting a high level of involvement from some key sections of the community. The need for this will be determined within the first two months of the engagement project.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAGE 2</th>
<th>Intensive Engagement Phase</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identify drivers, challenges and opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identify satisfaction levels with current CSP principles, values, vision, and strategic directions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identify service level expectations within resource constraints</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review existing and identify new strategies and actions for the first four years and for the longer period out to 2025</td>
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<td>Part B</td>
<td>Staff Consultation</td>
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<td>Staff consultation</td>
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<td>Part D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirm key findings from Stage 1 with the community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prioritize current and potential strategies and actions</td>
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<td>Identify implementation partners</td>
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<td>Identify indicators and monitoring data sets</td>
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<td>Part D - Public exhibition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conduct an exhibition and submission sought</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assess service and asset level expectations within resource constraints</td>
<td>X</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Engagement Activities and Stages
Activities tailored for hard to engage groups

There are many different reasons that some sections of the community do not have high levels of engagement in council projects. Some of these include:

- Physical or technological barriers
- Limited time
- Perception that the project is not relevant to them
- Perception that their input will make no difference
- Cultural or linguistics barriers
- Limited literacy and communication skills
- Lack of trust in government.

It is important that every effort is made to make this process accessible and relevant to as many people as possible. Communication and engagement activities will be modified or developed to increase the likelihood of participation by the sections of the community that have been identified as potentially hard to engage in community consultation and engagement projects. This will be done in three ways.

- Targeted communication and promotion
- Tailored delivery and design of engagement activities to overcome barriers and to make participation easily accessible
- Creating engagement opportunities specifically designed to meet the needs of the audience.

Examples of how we will aim to increase engagement with sections of the community identified as hard to reach are set out below.

Young people <25yr olds

- Increase use of social media and online engagement tools
- Specific activities run by the Library in school holidays themed to CSP engagement stages
- Additional promotion via social media targeted at young people
- Ensuring venues used for workshops and events are readily accessible to people via public transport
- Ensure representative groups and organisations are invited to participate in all the activities, especially the workshops and Do It Yourself Workshop Kit (e.g. Newcastle Youth Council, Regional Youth Development Officers Network (RYDON))
- Encourage and support representative organisations and clubs to make representations for their members, clients and/or constituents.

Seniors >75 yr olds

- Face to face surveys being undertaken in places were elderly people are - e.g. Council Senior Citizen Centres, University of the Third Age, use library home delivery service to undertake surveys with house bound people
• Encourage people undertaking computer skills classes at libraries to be supported to do the online activities as part of their learning to use computers

• Ensuring venues used for workshops and events are readily accessible to people with reduced mobility or who cannot drive cars

• Ensure representative groups and organisations are invited to participate in all the activities, especially the workshops and Do It Yourself Workshop Kit.

• Encourage and support representative organisations and clubs to make representations for their members, clients and/or constituents.

• Use microphones for facilitators and questions at workshops to make listening easier.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer, Transgender, Intersex (LGBQTI)

• Ensure representative groups and organisations are invited to participate in all the activities, especially the workshops and Do It Yourself Workshop Kit (e.g. Aids Council of NSW).

• Encourage and support representative organisations and clubs to make representations for their members, clients and/or constituents.

• Promote via existing social media networks and support pages/groups.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

• Employ a specialist liaison officer or facilitator to undertake surveys, interviews and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and groups to do the Do It Yourself Workshop Kit.

• Theme one of the Aboriginal cultural discussion evenings held by Cultural Facilities to CSP engagement themes.

• Promote through the Guraki Committee.

• Ensure representative groups and organisations are invited to participate in all the activities, especially the workshops and Do It Yourself Workshop Kit.

• Encourage and support representative organisations and clubs to make representations for their members, clients and/or constituents.

Disability & Carers

• Ensure representative groups and organisations are invited to participate in all the activities, especially the workshops and Do It Yourself Workshop Kit.

• Encourage and support representative organisations and clubs to make representations for their members, clients and/or constituents.

• Ensuring venues used for workshops and events are readily accessible to people with disabilities.

• Face to face surveys being undertaken were house bound people live- e.g. use library home delivery service to undertake surveys.

• Where feasible make web based engagement able to be voice activate/read and meets accessibility guidelines/standards.

• Identify if there is a need for employment of a sign language interpreter for at least one workshop.
Parents of Young Children

- Face to face surveys being undertaken in places where parents are, such as at library activities targeted at young children, and at school holiday activities
- Increase use of social media and online engagement tools
- Additional promotion targeted at parents with young children, via social media

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD)

- Ensure that online engagement tools, website and survey software can be translated into different languages and promote this
- Ensure representative groups and organisations are invited to participate in all the activities, especially the workshops and Do It Yourself Workshop Kit
- Encourage and support representative organisations and clubs to make representations for their members, clients and/or constituents
- Additional promotion targeted at CALD communities and organisations
- Engage a visual scribe for major workshops and meetings with low literacy groups.

Low literacy

- Employ/provide scribes at workshops to capture and record ideas and contributions on behalf of participants
- Engage a visual scribe for major workshops and meetings with low literacy groups
- Provide opportunities to make visual contributions via photograph, art work or video, especially via social media such as Instagram
- Utilise graphic design techniques and graphic scribing to reduce the need for text base communication in the Do It Yourself Workshop Kit and Engagement Hubs
- Ensure communication and promotion materials are not exclusively text based.

Not digitally connected

- Advertise opportunities to participate in print media and radio
- Provide hard copies of surveys and background materials in key locations such as libraries
- Enable people to request that information and survey’s be mailed out to them
- Promote Do It Yourself Workshop Kit to groups which may have members with low levels of digital access or digital literacy, and the Engagement Hubs in libraries

Shift workers

- Increase use of social media and online engagement opportunities
- Promote opportunities to be involved via radio (early morning and evening) and digital news sites, and social media.
Small Business owners

- Increase use of social media and online engagement tools
- Additional promotion targeted at the business community
- Ensure representative groups and organisations are invited to participate in all the activities, especially the workshops and Do It Yourself Workshop Kit
- Encourage and support representative organisations to make representations for their members, clients and/or constituents.

People with insecure housing

- Ensure representative groups and organisations are invited to participate in all the activities, especially the workshops and Do It Yourself Workshop Kit.
- Encourage and support representative organisations and clubs to make representations for their members, clients and/or constituents.

Relationship with other projects

The CSP will inform all elements of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework. Due consideration must also be given to the expected levels of service expressed by the community when preparing the Community Strategic Plan. Even though the Community Strategic Plan is a high-level strategic document, these discussions are important to inform development of this plan and actions within subsequent plans.

Long Term Financial Plan

The Long Term Financial Plan must be used to analyse financial implications and to inform decision making during the finalisation of the Community Strategic Plan and the development of the Delivery Program.

Asset Management Plan

Council must account for and plan for all of the existing assets under its ownership, and any new asset solutions proposed in its Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program. Each council must prepare an Asset Management Strategy and Asset Management Plan/s to support the Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program.

Delivery Program

The 2013-2018 Delivery Program will be on public exhibition during the CSP community engagement program. Communication messaging will need to acknowledge the relationship with the Community Strategic Plan engagement process.

Smart City

The draft Smart City Strategy will be on public exhibition during the CSP community engagement program. Communication messaging will need to acknowledge the relationship with the Community Strategic Plan engagement process.

Online community engagement activities such as the discussion boards and brainstorming tool will be used to give people an opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Smart City Strategy. Community engagement activities related to the draft Smart City Strategy will be integrated with the online engagement page for the CSP.
Smart City issues, ideas and actions will also be included in the CSP workshops and surveys, as Smart and Innovative City is a strategic direction of the current Newcastle 2030 Plan.

**Open and Transparent Governance**

Council is developing an Open and Transparent Governance Strategy and will be seeking community input on its development. This will link to the Open and Collaborative Leadership strategic direction in the current Newcastle 2030 Plan. Aspects of the Open and Transparent Governance Strategy can be integrated into a range of CSP engagement activities such as the:

- Workshops
- Do It Yourself Workshop Kit
- Surveys
- Online discussion forums and brainstorming ideas

**Key data and events**

The following planned events can be used to promote the CSP and to get target audiences in some of the ‘hard to engage’ groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Events and Opportunities</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers Week</td>
<td>8-14 May 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunter Innovations Festival</td>
<td>18 - 28 May 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multi-cultural expo</td>
<td>24 May 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reconciliation Week</td>
<td>27 May - 3 June 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Naidoc Week</td>
<td>2 - 9 July 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rates notice</td>
<td>October 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Government Week</td>
<td>7 - 12 August 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Holidays</td>
<td>1- 17 July 2017</td>
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<td>23 Sept - 8 October 2017</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Events and Opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newcastle Regional Show</td>
<td>March 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beaumont Street Carnival</td>
<td>March 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors Week</td>
<td>March 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newcastle Writers Festival</td>
<td>April 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Week</td>
<td>April 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>School holidays</td>
<td>April 2018</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### 6 Communication plan

#### Campaign branding

**Newcastle 2030: Our future city.**

Newcastle 2030 is our vision for our future city. As we develop the vision we need to know what your day will look like in 2030. This is our opportunity make sure we are planning for our community today and over the next decade.

#### Awareness and information campaign
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target audience</th>
<th>Communication tools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillors</td>
<td>Memos, briefing, workshops</td>
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<td>Invitations to engagement opportunities via the corporate diary</td>
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<td>Media releases</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broad community</td>
<td>Media</td>
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<td>Media releases at key milestones, editorial, feature stories in a range of print and broadcast media</td>
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<td>Advertising</td>
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<td>Display advertising at start of campaign and at key milestones</td>
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<td>Digital</td>
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<td>Comprehensive portal via Council's website</td>
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<td>Online advertising with broad reach such as via digital news sites.</td>
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<td>Newsletters</td>
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<td>Feature articles in both Council News (quarterly newsletter to all households) and Council eNews (fortnightly e-newsletter).</td>
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<td>Social media</td>
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<td>Video campaign, boosted posts across council channels.</td>
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<td>Radio</td>
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<td>Integrated advertising to include radio and social campaign</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young people &lt;25yrs</td>
<td>16-25 years - Targeted digital campaigns through channels such as Newcastle Live or similar.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Under 16 years - Information distributed to schools for inclusion in newsletters, social media targeted advertising/boosted posts through Newcastle City Council and the Newcastle, Australia facebook pages. Provide online content pack to schools to share on their channels. Print materials in council facilities including bookmarks for libraries, DL flyers at the Museum/Art Gallery.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shift workers</td>
<td>Radio advertising in a range of timeslots.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Boost social media posts through Newcastle City Council and Newcastle, Australia facebook pages.</td>
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<td>Business community</td>
<td>Targeted advertising and editorial for publications such as Hunter Business Review, Hunter Biz.</td>
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<td>Direct contact via letter/email to Hunter Business Chamber including supply of content</td>
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<td>Provide content to business improvement associations and direct contact at monthly meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>CALD communities</td>
<td>Direct contact via letter/email to Northern Settlement Services and via internal staff contacts. Provide translated versions of campaign materials if required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target audience</td>
<td>Communication tools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non digitally connected</td>
<td>Traditional advertising, radio, materials in public places, print materials to all households. Noticeable presence at community events with branded shirts, collateral to giveaway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders</td>
<td>Seek advice from Guraki Committee on best channels for engagement. Direct contact via letter/email to Awabakal. Online advertising via National Indigenous Times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors &gt;75 year old</td>
<td>Editorial/advertising in The Senior newspaper. Posters/signage at libraries, senior citizen centres. Noticeable presence at community events with branded shirts, collateral to giveaway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBQTI</td>
<td>Targeted information through existing internal networks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disability and carers</td>
<td>Targeted information through existing internal networks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents of young children</td>
<td>Advertising/editorial via specific blogs eg The Mummy Project/Alphabet Street. Supply flyers/posters/content to childcare centres/playgroups for distribution. Targeted content via social media.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low literacy</td>
<td>Multi-channel distribution with a range of different/easy to read content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Regular updates via NovoNews and Council’s intranet. Signage at key sites, lift posters. Talking points for leadership group/level 4/5 managers.</td>
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7 Engagement and Communication Timetable

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<tr>
<th>May 2017</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
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<th>January 2018</th>
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</table>
8 Budget and Resourcing

Communication and engagement tasks will be developed by the Communications and Engagement Business Unit with input from the CSP Project Management team.

Project Team

Council’s Communications and Engagement Business Unit will coordinate the implement this strategy on behalf of and in collaboration with the CSP Project Manager and the CSP Project Control Group.

A wide range of staff will be involved in providing expertise and support for various activities throughout the project. These include but are not limited to:

- Library staff to supervise the Engagement Hubs
- Staff with expertise in working with hard to engage groups eg Community Development Facilitator, Youth Engagement Officer (library) and Community Planners
- Finance and Infrastructure staff to prepare and input data in budget simulation tool.

Specialist skills will need to be engaged to undertake specific activities such as:

- Facilitate liaison with Aboriginal people.
- Youth facilitator
- Video producer
- Sign language interpreter
- Other interpreters if required.

Budget

The costs for the development of the Community Strategic Plan, including the community engagement program and communications plan will be met within existing budgets.

New measures and tools will be utilised to increase reach and representation, as well as, efficiency in analysing and reporting engagement outcomes. These have been introduced under the expanded engagement program and will be used for many other engagement projects beyond the CSP process.

9 Reporting and evaluation

Reporting

A report on the findings and outcomes of stages one to three of the engagement program will be provided to council prior to council endorsing the draft plan for public exhibition. The engagement report will be made available to the public at the same time as public exhibition of the draft plan.

A final engagement report will be provided to Council in May 2018 with the results of all the engagement and awareness campaigns for the CSP.

The engagement report will be made available on the Council website and participants will be advised of its availability.
Evaluation

At the completion of an engagement activity the analysis will be provided on community representation, communication and engagement methods and feedback provided throughout the engagement period.

Three levels of project evaluation are proposed. These are:
1. Full engagement project evaluation at the end of the project
2. Milestone evaluation to enable adaptive management and adjustments during the project
3. Activity evaluation.

Evaluation measures

- How representative are contributors/participants of the actual community?
- Did all sections of the community have an opportunity to participate? What barriers may have prevented participation?
- Number of people and organisations that participate?
- Wide ranges of sectors contribute.
- Were people acknowledged for their contribution?
- Could people see how their input had been used or recorded?
- Delivered on budget
- Delivered on time
- Did people learn about the planning process and Council - increased understanding
- Were individual activities evaluated? Where the majority considered successful? If not why?
- Did the outcomes/outputs assist the plan development meet the regulatory requirements?
- Feedback and assessment by Office of Local Government.

Evaluation method

- Participant survey and feedback
- Analysis of correspondents and complaints
- Quality of contributions and submissions (ie on topic and relevant)
- Demographic analysis to assess representativeness of participants
- Budget.
ITEM-50  CCL 09/05/17 - EXHIBITION OF AMENDMENT TO SECTION 6.01 NEWCASTLE CITY CENTRE OF NEWCASTLE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2012

REPORT BY: PLANNING AND REGULATORY
CONTACT: ACTING DIRECTOR PLANNING AND REGULATORY / MANAGER STRATEGIC PLANNING

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to outline the amendment to Section 6.01 Newcastle City Centre of Newcastle Development Control Plan 2012 (DCP), and to seek a resolution of Council to place the draft amendment on public exhibition concurrently with the associated planning proposal to amend the Newcastle Local Environmental Plan 2012 for rail corridor land between Worth Place and Watt Street in the Newcastle City Centre.

RECOMMENDATION

1 Council resolves to place the draft amendment to Newcastle Development Control Plan 2012 (DCP) Section 6.01 Newcastle City Centre, as provided in Attachment A on public exhibition concurrently with the associated planning proposal to amend the Newcastle Local Environmental Plan 2012 (LEP) for rail corridor land between Worth Place and Watt Street in the Newcastle City Centre, for 28 days.

KEY ISSUES

2 Section 6.01 of the DCP contains guidelines for development within the Newcastle City Centre. It is proposed to amend this section to incorporate design guidelines for development occurring within the former railway corridor land between Worth Place and Watt Street Newcastle and certain adjacent land. As with the other locality specific sections of the DCP, the relevant development guidelines sections, such as Section 7.03 Traffic, Parking and Access, will also apply to development in the former railway corridor.

3 Section 6.01 was originally prepared by the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE). As a result it has a different format and appearance to the remainder of the DCP. As part of this amendment, the format and appearance of Section 6.01 has been changed, to be consistent with the format and appearance of the remainder of the DCP. A copy of Section 6.01 Newcastle City Centre, detailing the proposed amendment is contained in Attachment A. The proposed changes are shown in red text.
4 The Newcastle City Centre section of the DCP comprises four parts:

i) Introduction - this part includes general information about the Newcastle City Centre, including the vision, purpose and aims of the section.

ii) Character Areas - The Newcastle City Centre is divided into eight distinct character areas. Specific principles have been developed to guide development within each character area. The former railway corridor land extends through the West End, Civic, East End and Foreshore character areas. Additional principles have been added to the Civic, East End and Foreshore character areas to address changes proposed to the railway corridor land.

iii) General Controls - this section sets out general controls that apply to all development in the Newcastle City Centre. The controls are broadly grouped in relation to building form and how development is to address the public domain. Various changes have been made to this section and these are discussed in more detail below:

a) The proposed amendment to the general controls include new sections for:

- Landscaping - this section is included to provide guidance on landscaping of private land in the Newcastle City Centre and encourage the use of green walls and roofs.

- Site Amalgamation - this section has been included to illustrate opportunities for parts of the rail corridor land to be amalgamated with adjoining land and result in better built form outcomes.

- Infrastructure - this section has been added to ensure adequate consideration is given to services, including stormwater and overland flow paths. It is likely that the map referenced in this section of the DCP will need to be updated as a result of ongoing consultation with UrbanGrowth NSW in relation to stormwater and overland flow path connections, in the broader context of all of the Newcastle City Centre urban renewal projects.

b) Changes have also been incorporated within the access network controls and map, to identify new site connections to improve access between Hunter Street and the Foreshore. In particular, the pedestrian access between Hunter Street and Civic Lane is now proposed to be encouraged under the DCP as through-site connections, rather than land reservation acquisition under the LEP, as was proposed in the planning proposal endorsed by Council on 13 October 2016. The Gateway Determination issued by the DPE on 13 December 2016 raised issues with the strategic justification for an acquisition of land to achieve the link. The DCP could achieve a similar outcome without the necessity for land acquisition.
iv) Key Precincts - the Newcastle City Centre DCP currently identifies three areas as key precincts with specific objectives. The existing key precincts are: Former Hunter Street Mall, Wheeler Place and Birdwood Park. The most significant change proposed to Section 6.01 is the creation of four additional key precincts to cover the former rail corridor land, each with specific objectives and design guidelines that reflect the unique character, opportunities and constraints of each precinct. The proposed new precincts are: Civic Link, Darby Plaza, Hunter Street Live-work units, and Newcastle Station and Foreshore Park. These are discussed in more detail below.

a) The four additional key precincts are:

Civic Link

This Precinct sits within the civic character area to the north of Hunter Street and is bound by Workshop Way and Merewether Street. It encompasses the former Civic Railway Station and railway corridor and the Newcastle Museum. Specific design controls have been included to address access and development adjoining Civic Lane and Civic Link open space.

Darby Plaza

Darby Street currently ends at the intersection with Hunter Street and there is no direct connection to Argyle Street and the foreshore. Darby Plaza will form a new community focused space that provides a pedestrian and cycle connection from Hunter Street to Argyle Street. The plaza will be a combination of public open space and publicly accessible private open space. Specific design controls have been developed to address view lines and the built form adjoining the open space.

Hunter Street Live-work units

This Precinct is located on the Northern side of Hunter Street, between Crown Street and Newcomen Street. This precinct is constrained by the relatively narrow width of the former railway corridor and limited opportunity for amalgamation with adjoining sites. A sensitive design response is needed to minimise view and amenity impacts to the adjoining residential apartment building whilst providing street edge definition.

Having regard to the site constraints, the envisaged form of development is 2-3 storey terrace style building/s containing 'live-work' units. These units will incorporate ground floor commercial / retail space connected to residential space above. Terrace style live-work units are a style of building found in other parts of the Newcastle City Centre and will define the street edge and offer natural surveillance of the street.
Newcastle Station and Foreshore Park

This Precinct incorporates the Newcastle Railway Station buildings and its surrounds as well as Foreshore Park.

Specific design controls have been developed to address access and permeability through the area, and retention of view lines to and from heritage buildings.

5 The Urban Design Consultative Group (UDCG) has reviewed the draft DCP section and is generally supportive of the draft controls, with the exception of a small number of issues within the key precincts, as detailed below. Concern was raised that the draft DCP does not address urban design and landscape issues in Hunter Street frontage, to integrate with proposed light rail.

6 Design guidelines for Hunter Street have not been included in the draft DCP because the DCP only applies to development that requires consent under Part 4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act). Work on public land and / or by or on behalf of public authorities is usually undertaken under Part 5 of the EP&A Act, and does not need to address DCP guidelines. The design and upgrading of Hunter Street is therefore outside of the scope of the planning proposal, and draft DCP section which relates to the former railway corridor land.

7 The specific design and construction requirements of the new public open spaces (proposed to be zoned RE1 Public Recreation under the planning proposal) will be addressed in a planning agreement between UrbanGrowth NSW and Council. A draft planning agreement is currently being developed and will come before Council as a separate report for consideration and to seek endorsement for exhibition. It is intended that the planning agreement would also be exhibited concurrently with the planning proposal and draft DCP section. The planning agreement would apply regardless of whether or not the work is undertaken under Part 4 or Part 5 of the EP&A Act.

8 Issues raised by the UDCG in relation to the key precincts are:

   i) Civic Link

   a) The height of buildings permitted for the site to the immediate north on the opposite side of Wright Lane remains at 30m and this continues to pose issues in relation to overshadowing and consistency of building form.

   Comment:

   This site is located outside of the planning proposal boundary and is a development control within the LEP. As such, no controls can be included in the draft DCP to address this issue.
b) The 7m road reserve width will be insufficient to achieve adequate separation between new residential buildings and the existing buildings located on the southern side of Civic Lane.

Comment:

The 7m road reserve width itself is sufficient to provide for one way traffic and pedestrian pathway for Civic Lane. The future use of the sites adjacent to Civic Lane may not be for residential accommodation and can be for any purpose listed as permissible in the B4 Mixed Use zone. Development for the purpose of residential apartments is required to comply with State Environmental Planning Policy 65 - Design Quality of Residential Apartment Development (SEPP 65) and the Apartment Design Guide. The building separation requirements specified in these documents take precedence over DCP guidelines, and as with any development site, new buildings will need to address all relevant planning controls. As such, the proposed width of Civic Lane is considered to be acceptable.

c) Very clear design concept and implementation strategy needed for Civic Link before development adjoining the site proceeds.

Comment:

The design concepts for Civic Link are largely outside the scope of the DCP, which predominantly deals with development upon development lots. The draft DCP section seeks to ensure active frontages adjoining this important open space area, along with appropriate street wall heights to facilitate high amenity. The design of the Civic Link open space itself is still in development by UrbanGrowth NSW. General design principles will form part of the planning agreement between UrbanGrowth NSW and Council. As outlined previously the draft planning agreement is currently being developed and will come before Council as a separate report for consideration and to seek endorsement for exhibition. It is intended that the planning agreement would also be exhibited concurrently with the planning proposal and draft DCP section.

ii) Darby Plaza

a) Query the difference between the 22m street wall height and the 24m LEP height.

Comment:

The general street wall height for most sites is 16m. For this site a 22m street wall height is proposed to ensure the building design emphasises the prominent corner of this site.
b) Critical for site to be integrated with the adjacent Centenary Road Site.

Comment:

A site amalgamation plan has been included in the draft DCP section to identify the preferred amalgamation of lots.

c) Before any development on the sites fronting the proposed new Darby Plaza is considered in detail, an integrated design for the building forms addressing the Plaza be prepared in consultation with all affected landholders.

Comment:

The planning proposal as endorsed by Council on 13 October 2016 proposed to identify the Darby Plaza site on the key site map. Clause 7.5 of the LEP requires an architectural design competition for development having a capital investment value of more than $5M when identified on the key site map. The gateway determination issued by the Department of Planning and Environment on 13 December 2016 did not support this and advised:

"I have not supported the identification of Parcel 12 and Parcel 8 (and adjacent land) (the Darby Plaza site) as key sites and therefore requiring an architectural design competition. I consider the existing provisions, including the requirement to consider design excellence provide adequate support for quality design and that a mandatory architectural design competition for future development on these sites represents an unnecessary additional step."

To include such a requirement in the DCP would be contrary to the gateway determination. As outlined previously, the draft DCP section includes a site amalgamation plan for this area to ensure that integrated planning with adjacent sites will still occur, rather than the land being developed in isolation.

iii) Hunter Street Live-work units

a) Although the UDCG support the draft DCP controls for this precinct, the UDCG remains of the view that:

"It is not attractive for any residential uses, and that a landscaped / pedestrian space would be preferable. A development of this option for consideration is to also utilise and partly activate the space with facilities such as ball courts / practice nets which require only limited width, screening these from the road with planting."
Comment:

It is acknowledged that redevelopment of this part of the corridor is challenging, and consideration has been given to other options including:

- Multi-level car park: the narrow site width and need to ensure amenity and view lines are retained to the adjoining residential apartment building mean that this form of development would not be feasible.

- Open space: the site orientation and surrounding development would mean the site is in shadow throughout the day. The poor amenity and proximity to other areas of open space would likely see a public space in this location underutilised with possible crime and safety risks.

- At grade car parking and / or ball courts and practice nets: this option is not considered to be a good urban design outcome for the main street in the centre of the city in close proximity to a light rail stop.

On balance it is still considered that enclosing the street with comfortably scaled buildings with an active edge that offers opportunities for natural surveillance provides a more pedestrian focused outcome. It could also provide the opportunity for a complementary active land use adjacent to a future light rail stop proposed within this vicinity.

b) The proposed LEP controls for zoning, height and floor space ratio be reconsidered.

Comment:

The planning proposal currently proposes a B4 Mixed use zone for this area. For the purposes of exhibition it is appropriate that the draft DCP section also covers this area. This precinct will receive further consideration following the concurrent exhibition of the planning proposal and the draft DCP section.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

9 The proposed amendment does not have a direct financial impact on the operations of Council. The provision of development guidelines has an indirect benefit through more efficient processing of development applications.
COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

10 The proposed amendment aligns with the Liveable and Distinctive Built Environment strategic direction of the Community Strategic Plan.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/IMPLICATIONS

11 The process for preparing and amending DCPs and the matters that a DCP may deal with are specified in the EP&A Act and associated Regulation. The Act and Regulation require a relevant planning authority to prepare a DCP and the DCP be placed on public exhibition for at least 28 days.

RISK ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION

12 There are no risks to Council in the proposed amendment to the DCP. The legal process is being followed. The recommended public exhibition period of 28 days is consistent with the plan making requirements under the EP&A Act.

13 The proposed amendment to the DCP is dependent upon the planning proposal progressing and could be discontinued if required.

RELATED PREVIOUS DECISIONS

14 At the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 13 October 2016, Council resolved to forward the planning proposal for an amendment to the LEP to amend zoning, building height, and floor space ratio and land acquisition maps for the rail corridor land between Worth Place and Watt Street, Newcastle to the DPE, for a gateway determination. A gateway determination was issued on 13 December 2016. The gateway supported Council's proposed approach to exhibit amendment to the Newcastle City Centre section of the DCP concurrently with the planning Proposal.

CONSULTATION

15 Consultation has occurred with the UDCG on 15 March 2017.

16 The community will be consulted during the exhibition period. It is proposed that the draft amended Section 6.01 Newcastle City Centre will be exhibited concurrently with the planning proposal.

OPTIONS

Option 1

17 The recommendation as at Paragraph 1. This is the recommended option.

Option 2

18 Council not proceed with the draft amendment to the DCP. This is not the recommended option.
BACKGROUND

19 A gateway determination was issued by the DPE on 13 December 2016 to enable the planning proposal for an amendment to the LEP to amend zoning, building height, floor space ratio and land acquisition maps for the rail corridor land between Worth Place and Watt Street Newcastle to proceed.

20 To support the planning proposal to amend the LEP, detailed draft DCP guidelines have been prepared, to provide further guidance on development within the former rail corridor. It is intended to exhibit the draft DCP guidelines concurrently with the planning proposal.

REFERENCES

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Draft Section 6.01 Newcastle City Centre - Newcastle Development Control Plan 2012.


Attachments are distributed under separate cover.