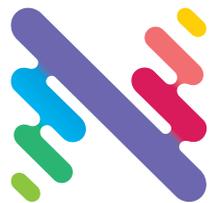


# Annual Report

Public Art Reference Group

2018/19 - 2019/20



City of  
Newcastle

[newcastle.nsw.gov.au](http://newcastle.nsw.gov.au)

Lyrique Lane Light Chandelier  
147 Hunter Street Newcastle

## Acknowledgment

City of Newcastle (CN) acknowledges that we operate on the grounds of the traditional country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with the land, and that they are the proud survivors of more than two hundred years of dispossession.

CN reiterates its commitment to address disadvantages and attain justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this community.

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# Foreword from the Chair



I am pleased to introduce the first City of Newcastle Public Art Reference Group (PARG) Annual Report. This first reporting period has been one of consolidating the Terms of Reference of PARG, testing the boundaries of it and of working with developers whose projects have triggered the conditions of the Newcastle DCP to contribute public artwork.

Some of the items that have arisen for consideration have included:

- helping applicants meet the 1% public art contribution and ensuring the funds are spent on the artwork
- encouraging developers to work with public art consultants and artists in planning and commissioning public artworks
- planning an ongoing strategy to ensure a healthy funding stream for the commissioning and maintenance of public art in the City of Newcastle

It's encouraging to note that many of the developers, representatives and artists that have met with PARG have appreciated the opportunity to understand and clarify their public art commitments.

Public art humanises our urban spaces and built environment. It contributes to our wellbeing in public spaces, reflects our values as a community, and gives our spaces meaning and the opportunity to be unique. It provides opportunities for artists to

create, for visitors and residents to enjoy, and to build an even greater economic contribution to the city by way of the value of our arts and cultural organisations.

In order for the City of Newcastle (CN) to further pursue excellence in public art, PARG has developed new procedures for developers – Public Art in the Private Domain. My sincere thanks to everyone who has worked on this document, shared ideas and chased the 'art of the possible'.

My gratitude is extended to all members of PARG for their enthusiasm and contributions to our work, and my deepest thanks for an exceptional level of support from CN staff including David Clarke, Michelle Bisson, Priscilla Ennett, Tracey Webb and numerous others.

**Councillor Carol Duncan**  
Chair  
Public Art Reference Group  
October 2020



Waterline, Jade Oakley in collaboration with Richard Briggs and Caroline Comino

# Role of the Public Art Reference Group

**The Public Art Reference Group (PARG) acts as an Advisory Committee to the City of Newcastle on Public Art.**

Advising on the commissioning and development of new Public Art works in the public and private domain, ensuring transparent commissioning processes that result in art works reflective of Newcastle's history, culture and community, and advocating for City of Newcastle, the PARG provide leadership and ongoing support on all aspects of Public Art.

# Membership and Attendance

During the period, the PARG met seven times.

PARG membership and meeting attendance is shown below:

Name	Title	Number of Meetings Attended
Councillor Carol Duncan	Chair	6
Councillor Peta Winney-Baartz	Member	7
Councillor John Mackenzie	Member	6

PARG intends to expand its membership in 2021 to strengthen the capabilities to oversee public art in the Newcastle Local Government Area (LGA), in both the public and private domains. To achieve this, it is proposed to appoint up to five external experts to PARG, of which:



**Three positions**

For persons with a strong demonstrated relationship to Newcastle who have acclaimed reputations for excellence in the field/s of visual art, architecture, landscaped architecture, cultural leadership and/or design.



**One specific position**

For a cultural knowledge holder from the Indigenous community



**One specific position**

For a heritage expert

# PARG Meetings

The focus of PARG during the period has been on public art associated with development applications. As such, PARG meetings have been scheduled on an as required basis.

Three meetings were held in the second half of 2019 (June, July & October 2019) and four meetings have been held to date in 2020 (February, April, August & September 2020).

On average, public art proposals are presented to the PARG at three separate meetings prior to the proposals being deemed to have satisfied the PARG's requirements and approval being granted for the Public Art component of the development. Noting that this varies based on the maturity of the proposal and the level of engagement with relevant external agencies or groups.



# Public Art in Private Domain Procedures Development

To provide guidance to PARG, developers and the broader community regarding public art in the private domain, PARG oversaw the development of the Public Art in the Private Domain Procedure 2020.

Clause B.5 of the Newcastle Development Control Plan (2012) provides the planning trigger for public art to be included in certain development applications in the private domain.

## **B.5 Public artwork**

Public art is a defining quality of dynamic interesting and successful cities. More public artworks are needed in private developments and in the public domain.

## **Performance Criteria**

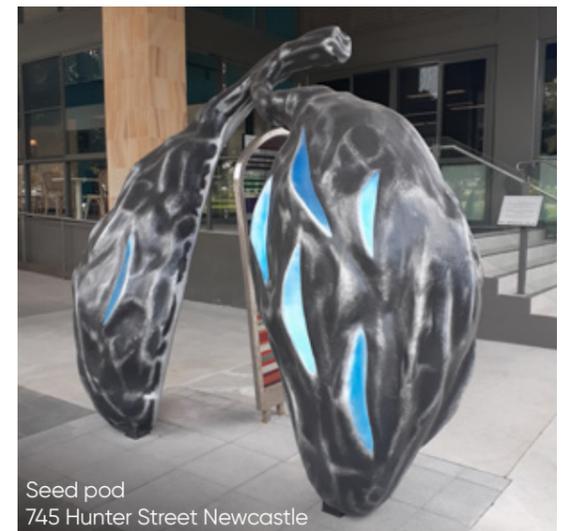
B5.1 Significant development incorporates public artwork

## **Acceptable solutions**

1. Public and civic buildings, developments on key sites and development over 45m in height are to allocate 1% of the capital cost of development towards public artwork for development
2. Council is consulted on the location and proposal for public art

The Public Art in the Private Domain Procedures outline the process to enable a public art proposal to be considered by PARG, including the requirements for documentation, consultation and record keeping.

The Procedures also outline a Principle Framework for Public Art in Newcastle, to ensure high standards of public art are delivered in the private domain, by outlining requirements relating to artistic excellence, local character, heritage and culture, invigoration of the public domain, sustainability and materiality and maintenance.



Seed pod  
745 Hunter Street Newcastle

# Public Art considered by PARG

Since 2018, PARG has considered a number of public art proposals for the private domain which are related to development applications in the Newcastle CBD.

The map below shows the locations of these proposals, with examples explained in the following pages.



3 proposals approved



5 proposals currently under review





# 147 Hunter Street Newcastle

## Lyrique Lane Light Chandelier

The design intent of the Public Artworks is to create a three dimensional interpretation of the arches that feature in the façade of the Lyrique Theatre. A series of light infused rods (or similar) and proposes to define the new public space through a sculptural light, similar to a grand chandelier.

Address	DA	Proponent/ Applicant	Description of proposal	Cost of works (1%)	Date approved by PARG
147 Hunter Street, Newcastle	DA2018/00354	East End Stage 2 Pty Ltd/ SJB Planning	Light Chandelier	\$501,590.00	February 2020



# 745 Hunter Street Newcastle

## Seed pod and facade treatment

The sculpture is a stainless steel construction in the form of a giant seed capsule and a glass seed. The seed capsule is constructed to a height of 2550mm. It is an open form in two parts, each side being a domed shape approximately 2040mm high. The two domed forms are linked at the top with a 170mm diameter tube section. The insides of each half of the seed capsule is a polished mirror finish plane. The outside of the seed capsules will have a matt black painted finish with some stainless steel silver colour showing in areas and a bright metallic blue surface in select zones. The final coat will be a clear 2 pack polyurethane paint.

The seed which sits in between the two domed shapes is made of laminated glass with a coloured film inside. The glass is housed in a stainless steel frame which also contains the LED lighting. The glass and frame are approximately 1785mm high x 640mm wide.

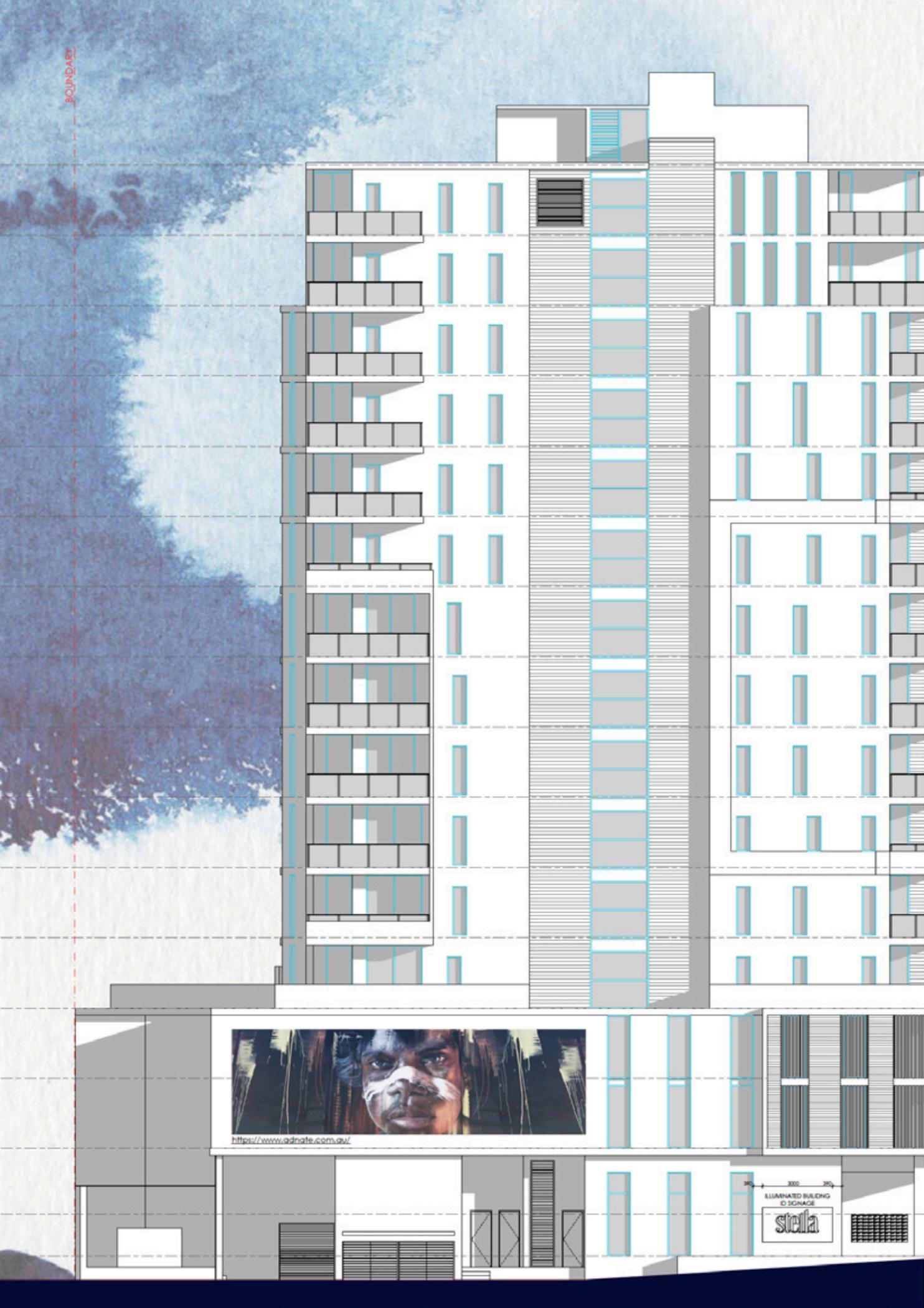
## Newcastle triptych

The three screens for the two carpark levels are comprised of a series of steel panels to be bolted to the building and to one another to stabilise. The three screens will each be divided into 10 panels of approximately 1.5m wide x 3m high to each screen. Each panel will be 3mm mild steel plate with a laser cut design. Each panel will be etch primed and painted in a basecoat of black powdercoat paint before rendered with colour to create the 3 landscape scenes. The panels are to be bolted at one side to the building. The other panels will be interconnected with bolts on strips of painted steel behind the panels.



Address	DA	Proponent/ Applicant	Description of proposal	Cost of works (1%)	Date approved by PARG
745 King Street, Newcastle	DA2016/00654	Core Project Group/ RSL Lifecare Limited	Seed pod statue, screening of façade & 3 large screens	\$430,126.00	May 2019





# 38 Hannell Street Wickham

## Indigenous mural and native artworks

Item 1 - This mural will be informed by the areas indigenous history and acknowledge the stories and traditions of the original custodians of the land. Discussion between Adnate and the Awabakal people is currently ongoing. An elevated presence will provide an opportunity for greater social engagement from within the surrounding neighbourhood as well as an interesting aspect from the Transport Interchange. A prominent position will allow for an enduring impression and an evolution of the original mural.

Item 2 - Adnate has been commissioned for a series of murals for the purpose of providing cohesion to Item 1. Local artists will be asked to collaborate with Adnate to bring originality to each piece. These murals will be informed by the area's indigenous flora and fauna.



Address	DA	Proponent/ Applicant	Description of proposal	Cost of works (1%)	Date approved by PARG
38 Hannell Street, Wickham	DA2017/01399	Thirdi 38 Hannell Pty Ltd	Kangaroo statues, painting & indigenous mural on facade	\$387,663.00	May 2019

# Public Art proposals

currently under review by the PARG

A number of public art proposals in the private domain remain under consideration by PARG.

Address	DA	Proponent/ Applicant	Description of proposal	Cost of works (1%)	Date approved by PARG
10 Dangar Street, Wickham	DA2018/01197	Dangar Street Wickham Pty Limited / KDC Pty Ltd	Indigenous Illumination display on building	\$528,004.48	April, August & Sept 2020
6 Stewart Avenue, Newcastle	DA2018/01107	Doma Interchange Development Pty Ltd / KDC Pty Ltd	Decorative component attached to the façade of the building including illumination	\$547,662.00	August & Sept 2020
309 King Street, Newcastle West	DA2019/01169 (under assessment)	Western Suburbs (N'cle) Leagues Club Limited / Wpp Pty Ltd	Structures and water features within the internal laneway within the development	\$1,608,992.00	February 2020
1 National Park Street, Newcastle	DA2019/00711	Exp No 1 National Park Street Pty Ltd / KDC Pty Ltd	Bronze oval structure suspended within the development site	\$695,420.00	February 2020
The Store 854 Hunter Street, Newcastle	DA2018/01109	Doma Interchange Development Pty Ltd / KDC Pty Ltd	Messaging though ground displays, pavement inlays, Street blades and street furniture.	\$2,000,000.00	March 2019

# Additional items discussed at PARG Meeting

In addition to public art in the private domain, during the period PARG has also provided public art advice relating to several other proposals in the Newcastle Local Government Area.

Address	Description of proposal
426 King Street Newcastle	Facade treatment of the site featuring a wave and boat sculpture
Fernleigh Track Indigenous Artwork	Indigenous mural located along the Fernleigh Track

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