



**THE CITY OF NEWCASTLE**



## **PUBLIC VOICE COMMITTEE**

Councillors,

In accordance with section 367 of the Local Government Act, 1993 notice is hereby given that a Public Voice Committee will be held on:

**DATE:** Tuesday 15 September 2015

**TIME:** 5.30pm

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

Ken Gouldthorp  
General Manager

**City Administration Centre  
282 King Street  
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300**

4 September 2015

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**PUBLIC VOICE COMMITTEE**  
**15 September 2015**

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**PUBLIC VOICE SESSIONS**

**ITEM-1**                      **PV 15/09/15 - CONSERVATION AND CULTURAL TOURISM  
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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

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**PURPOSE**

For the Parks and Playgrounds Movement to update Council regarding the State Heritage Listed Coal River Precinct (SHR1674) and Council's Conservation and Tourism Management Plan (Pizzey Plan) adopted 2008. The Parks and Playgrounds Movement requests that Council revise the Pizzey Plan to promote the precinct as a special Newcastle historic and recreational place.

The Coal River Conservation and Tourism Management Plan was adopted by Council in 2008 to guide future planning and policy making in the Precinct. The Council report noted the Pizzey Plan provided valuable overview and insight regarding the importance of the precinct and included a series of initiatives to enhance local, regional and national appreciation of Newcastle's history through its indigenous pre-history and European settlement.

The Pizzey Plan recognises the contribution of the Coal River Precinct to the visitor product on offer in the historic East End, noting the synergies between iconic heritage sites including Nobby's and Fort Scratchley as well as identifying opportunities to increase Newcastle's market share within the specialised cultural tourism segment.

The Plan identifies a series of priorities as part of an integrated interpretation and management plan for the Precinct. Council has a number of priority projects underway to implement the major themes of the Plan, including the Bathers Way project, which presents the Coal River storylines in extensive new signage treatments, new paving and public domain improvements. Examples of other Council projects and policy documents that complement the Coal River story include:

- Cathedral Park revitalisation (2012 - ongoing);
- Opening of the Newcastle Museum at Honeysuckle in 2013;
- Delivery of 'City Evolutions' interpretive lighting project in Watt Street - 2013-2014;
- Adoption of the Newcastle Destination Management Plan - 2013 (which recognises heritage as a key asset and one of Newcastle's 'unique selling' points);
- Adoption and implementation of Fort Scratchley Plan of Management 2013
- Newcastle Walking Trails - 6 new themed walks released April and June 2015, one walk is specifically linked to the Coal river story;

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- Dual naming of key sites within the Coal River precinct. A budget of \$50,000 has been allocated in 2015-16 to implement at 8 sites;
- Newcastle East Heritage Trail (to be reproduced 2016).

Other agencies with major projects underway within the Coal River precinct include Newcastle Now, which has enhanced and expanded public access to Nobby's Lighthouse. Newcastle Now continues to improve the visitor experience at this important heritage site through events, interpretations and activities that explore the Coal River theme.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil