

ITEM 7 DRAFT WOLLONGONG HERITAGE STRATEGY 2019-2022

On 31 October 2015, Council adopted the Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2015-2017. Since reconvening in late 2018, the Wollongong Heritage Reference Group have been working on the review of this document.

The purpose of this report is to review the outcomes and achievements under the Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2015-2017 and present the draft Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2020 for endorsement prior to public exhibition.

RECOMMENDATION

The draft Wollongong Heritage Strategy and Implementation Plan 2019-2022 (Attachment 2) be endorsed as a draft Council Policy and placed on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Chris Stewart, Manager City Strategy
Authorised by: Mark Riordan, Director Planning and Environment - Future City and Neighbourhoods (Acting)

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Summary Key Achievements Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2015-2017
- 2 Draft Heritage Strategy 2019-2022

BACKGROUND

The Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2015-2017 and Implementation Plan informed the work of the Wollongong Heritage Advisory Committee (now the Wollongong Heritage Reference Group) and Council's heritage staff during the implementation period. The Heritage Reference Group (HRG) has been assisting in the revision of the document for the current period 2019-2022.

The Heritage Strategy is tied to the State Government Heritage funding streams available from the NSW Heritage Branch. Council has successfully obtained \$12,500 for each of the past two financial years from this funding stream. Council is currently awaiting the outcome of Council's funding applications for the 2019/2020 financial year to support the appointment of a Heritage Advisor and Council's Local Heritage Grant Program.

A wide range of projects and programs were implemented and achieved during the 2015-2017 period. The key achievements under the 2015-2017 Strategy are summarised briefly in Attachment 1 to this report.

The HRG considered reports relating to the revision of the document at its meetings in February, March and May 2019. Their input has been incorporated into a new draft Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022 (Draft 2019-2022 Strategy). The Draft 2019-2022 Strategy retains the same nine overarching strategies with only minor changes to the key goals, including a stronger focus on the conservation of cultural and natural landscapes.

The HRG has also had input into the revision and update of the draft Heritage Implementation Plan 2019-2022. This document is intended to guide Council's operational delivery plans, and will be a living document that allows for flexible delivery of programs and projects aligned with the Draft 2019-2022 Strategy. This document details some aspirational projects which are currently unfunded, but are included to assist with making funding applications, and to prioritise available resources into the future. The draft Heritage Implementation Plan 2019-2022 is included within the Draft 2019-2022 Strategy as Appendix 1.

PROPOSAL

The continued evolution and implementation of the Council's heritage program is considered important in ensuring the ongoing conservation, and increased community appreciation and awareness of our City's unique and valuable heritage. The Draft 2019-2022 Strategy along with the accompanying draft Heritage Implementation Plan 2019-2022 provides a strategic approach to the ongoing management and delivery of Heritage programs and projects.

The progression of the Draft 2019-2022 Strategy will support the ongoing allocation of funding from the NSW State Government Heritage toward Council's Heritage Programs. The structure, format and timeframe of the Draft 2019-2022 Strategy have been prepared to meet the requirements of the NSW Heritage Branch.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

On 16 May 2019, the HRG considered the Draft 2019-2022 Strategy and recommended that:

"Strategy 6 of the draft Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022 and Part 6 of the draft Implementation Plan be updated to include the words "natural heritage".

Council exhibit the updated draft Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022 and the accompanying Implementation Plan."

The Draft 2019-2022 Strategy has now been updated to reflect the above. This report recommends that the Draft 2019-2022 Strategy be placed on exhibition to allow for broader community input. This is considered an important step to ensure the community have input into guiding the implementation priorities.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2028 goal "We value and protect our environment". It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan	Delivery Program 2018-2021	Operational Plan 2018-19
Strategy	3 Year Action	Operational Plan Actions
1.4.1 Programs and projects that achieve proactive heritage management, education and promotion are developed and implemented.	1.4.1.1 Work in partnership with others to promote a diverse range of heritage education and promotion programs	1 Continue to deliver the Heritage Assistance Grant Program
1.4.2 Our Aboriginal community is actively engaged in the management of Indigenous heritage	1.4.2.1 Work with the local Aboriginal community in the management of Indigenous heritage	2 Coordinate the Heritage Advisory Committee (Heritage Reference Group)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with the adoption of the recommendations within this report. It is noted that the Draft 2019-2022 Strategy includes some existing operational items, existing projects (eg Local Heritage Assistance Grants) and aspirational projects which would be subject to either internal or external funding. The aspirational projects are clearly identified as long term projects that are subject to future funding being provided. This approach will assist with making external grant funding applications.

CONCLUSION

Implementation of the Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2015-2017, has resulted in some significant achievements, as acknowledged in Attachment 1 to this report. The revision and adoption of the Wollongong Heritage Strategy for the 2019-2022 period will ensure a continued focus on the implementation and delivery of a strategic heritage management program.

The proposed exhibition of the draft Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022 will allow community input and assist with finalisation of this important work. Following the public exhibition period, a further report will be provided to Council.

WOLLONGONG HERITAGE STRATEGY 2015-2017

SUMMARY OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Introduction

This document provides a brief summary of key outcomes and achievements implemented under the Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2015-2017 and the associated operational delivery plan, the Heritage Implementation Plan 2015-2017. It is noted that this document only highlights the more significant achievements.

Key achievements are noted below, and are listed against the nine (9) key strategies to highlight the key outcomes and achievements against the Wollongong Heritage Strategy.

Strategy 1 – Actively Involve the Community in the Management of Wollongong’s Heritage

- Wollongong Heritage Advisory Committee continued to meet bimonthly throughout the period up until the election on 9 September 2017. Nine regular bi-monthly meetings were held during the two year implementation period.
- The Committee provided advice and input on a wide range of Council projects and policies.
- The Sandon Point Joint Management Partnership met regularly and finalised the Sandon Point Joint Management Agreement. The Management Partnership continues to meet regularly to support decision making.

Strategy 2 – Maintain an up to date list of heritage items

- Council continues to manage a heritage list of approximately 500 heritage items.
- The Heritage Schedule Review Project is progressing –Heritage Inventory Forms have been revised and made available online within the NSW Heritage Inventory for all 500 existing items.
- Over 100 nominated potential heritage items have been preliminarily reviewed and inventory forms completed. Councillors were briefed on the progression of the Heritage Schedule Review Project in late 2018 and the project will be the subject of a Council report in late 2019.

Strategy 3 – Employ and train staff to manage Wollongong’s Heritage and to provide professional advice to the Community

- In 2017 Council increased its staffing to two full time heritage positions. Council now employs a full time Heritage Coordinator and a Heritage Officer.
- Heritage staff completed over 500 development referrals, attended 60 formal pre-lodgement meetings, provided advice to 20+ investigations of illegal works to heritage items, and provided heritage input to 200+ REFs for Council’s capital and operational projects.
- Council’s Museum Advisor continued to provide advice to Council and the Illawarra Museum Network under a joint funding arrangement with Museums and Galleries NSW.

Strategy 4 – Develop and implement programs and projects that aim to achieve pro-active heritage management

- The Wollongong Local Heritage Grant Fund provided \$90,000 (\$30,000 per year) in funding support toward 17 heritage projects with a total work value of over \$350,000.
- Waiver of DA fees was provided to over 10 heritage conservation projects.

Strategy 5 - Provide adequate funding for heritage projects and programs.

- The Wollongong Heritage Grant Fund has been increased to an annual funding allocation of \$60,000 per annum plus annual CPI increase for the 2019/2020 financial year and beyond.
- Council has a \$70,000 per annum recurrent budget to support the Heritage Advisor program.
- Council was successful in obtaining funding for the 2015/16 and 2017/18 financial years from the Office of Environment and Heritage funding streams to support the Local Heritage Grant Program and the Heritage Advisor Program.

Strategy 6 – Identify and manage key heritage precincts and streetscapes

- Council continues to manage nine Heritage Conservation Areas listed within the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan.

- The Sandon Point Plan and McCauleys Beach of Management was adopted by the Joint Management Group and the Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) has now been obtained from the Office of Environment and Heritage to progress a range of conservation works within the Sandon Point Aboriginal Place.
- The Hill 60 Masterplan was adopted by Council. A draft Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report and draft Conservation Management Plan for the Hill 60/MM Beach State Heritage Precinct is currently being finalised to support the progression of approvals.
- The draft Conservation Management Plan for State Heritage listed item Gleniffer Brae is in the process of being finalised by Council.

Strategy 7 – Implement heritage education and promotion programs

- Delivery of the Wollongong Tramway and North Beach Kiosk Heritage Interpretation material was finalised.
- The Puckey's Estate Heritage Interpretation Plan was finalised.
- Virtual Museum platform "Wollongong Heritage and Stories" was established in 2016.
- Heritage Festival programs developed with brochures produced for promotional events including Heritage tours, Gleniffer Brae events/tours, Puckey's Ghost tours, exhibitions etc.
- Wollongong Heritage Trail and Wollongong Museum Trail brochures are regularly distributed from Destination Wollongong and elsewhere.

Strategy 8 – Implement best practice heritage asset management procedures as a positive example to the community.

- Heritage advice was provided in relation to over 200 Council projects.
- Initial Conservation works to Bulli Miners Cottage completed.
- The call for proposals for the adaptive re-use of the Bulli Miners Club were finalised by Council. Negotiations have been continuing with the preferred proposal.

Strategy 9 – Promote sustainable development as a tool for heritage management

- Council continues to offer incentives for the adaptive re-use of heritage buildings, with DA and CC fee reimbursements, Section 7.11/7.12 Fee Waivers, and flexible use provisions under the Local Environmental Plan. Promotion and uptake of these incentives has been increasing with over 10 projects utilising these incentives during the implementation period.

Draft Heritage Strategy 2019-2022

Conserving and enhancing our city's rich Heritage

June 2019



LOST WOLLONGONG - SHOWING OUR REGION'S HISTORY AND HERITAGE
<http://lostwollongong.com>

Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022

Protecting and conserving
our city's rich Heritage

June 2019

*The Wollongong Heritage
Implementation and
Action Plan (Appendix 1)
does not form a part of
the Wollongong Heritage
Strategy 2019-2022.*

*This document is intended
as Council's Operational
Delivery Plan. It contains
some items that are subject
to the securing of funding
and grants and will be
subject to regular review and
evaluation based on available
resources, funding and other
operational requirements.*



View from Hill 60, Port Kembla

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Background

Development of a Wollongong Heritage Strategy

In 2010 Wollongong City Council re-established the Wollongong Heritage Advisory Committee (now known as the Wollongong Heritage Reference Group).

The Reference Group's Charter set key priorities for the Group including development of a three year heritage strategy. With the support of the Reference Group, Wollongong City Council has adopted two previous versions of the Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2011-2014 and the Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2014-2017.

Updating the Heritage Strategy

The Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022, has been developed following a review of the 2014-2017 Strategy and Action Plan, with input from the Wollongong Heritage Reference Group, various Council divisions and following a public exhibition process.

This document provides continued direction to Council, and the Wollongong Heritage Reference Group, in relation to heritage outcomes for the strategy period.

Wollongong City Council respects and acknowledges those who came before us, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our City is built, and all of those who have contributed to the City of Wollongong.

We will do this by working with the community to:

- identify; acknowledge;
- conserve; protect;
- document; record;
- interpret; promote; and
- manage, the significant: places; objects; records; stories; and memorials, of our past, for the benefit, enjoyment, and appreciation of future generations.



Council's Planning Process

Council has an integrated approach. Council's Plans and Strategies work together to make Wollongong a liveable city for all people.

Wollongong 2028

The Wollongong Heritage Strategy expands on the Heritage aspects of our **Wollongong 2028 Community Strategic Plan (CSP)** and sits alongside a number of intersecting and 'supporting documents', which are connected to the Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022. These documents provide further details on how Council will achieve positive heritage outcomes within the Local Government Area.

Objective 1.4 of the CSP specifically deals with heritage "we recognise and celebrate our heritage."

The Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022 is closely linked to the following supporting documents:

- > Creative Wollongong Cultural Plan 2019-2024
- > Cultural Tourism Strategy 2018 (draft)
- > Urban Greening Strategy 2019-2037 (draft)
- > Public Art Strategy 2016-2021
- > City Centre Urban Design Framework 2019 (pending)



Community Strategic Plan

A 10 year plan that identifies our community's priorities and vision for the future



Supporting Documents

A level of interconnected documents that provide further detail about how we are going to achieve positive outcomes for the community



Implementation and Action Plan

Sets out the key projects and ongoing actions that will be delivered by Council as outcomes of the Strategy

Our Heritage

Wollongong's Heritage

Our History

The Traditional Custodians live and care for Country here in the Illawarra as they have done for thousands of years. In 1815 some of the Illawarra's Traditional Custodians led the first white settlers and their cattle down the escarpment. This marked a new chapter in the story of our area.

Today the knowledge and dreaming stories of our Traditional Custodians has been layered with a rich history of timber-getting, farming, coal mining, railway and port building and burgeoning seaside village and holiday communities. All this has occurred in the setting of our beautiful beaches and the magnificent escarpment.

Our Shared Heritage

The Illawarra's heritage places include historic buildings, industrial infrastructure, cemeteries, ocean pools and memorials. But our heritage is much more than just architectural forms. Rural lands, mining sites, cultural and natural landscapes of important to the Aboriginal community are all entwined to form our shared heritage.

Our heritage is the product of thousands of years of Aboriginal custodianship, descendants of the first European settlers and generations of migrants and their families from across the world who moved to the Illawarra and made it their home. It is also continuously evolving as we welcome those drawn to the Illawarra's natural beauty and rich history. This living heritage is a vital part of the cultural fabric that makes up the Illawarra.

Our Heritage Places

At the time of adoption of this strategy Council has over 490 heritage sites and cultural landscapes listed in the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009 and through State Environmental Planning Policies.

Of these items, 23 are listed on the NSW State Heritage Register as being items of significance to the state of New South Wales.

Heritage Conservation Areas

There are nine listed Heritage Conservation Areas in the Wollongong Local Government Area:

- Austinmer Conservation Area
- Brownsville Conservation Area
- Bulli Conservation Area
- Old Bulli Conservation Area
- Garrawarra Hospital Conservation Area
- Kembla Heights Mining Village
- Market Street Conservation Area
- North Beach Precinct and Belmore Basin
- Illawarra Escarpment Landscape Area

Declared Aboriginal Places

There are two declared Aboriginal Places under the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 in the Wollongong Local Government Area. In 2007 Sandon Point was declared an Aboriginal Place, followed by formal recognition of the Bellambi Point Aboriginal Place in 2012.

"Places of cultural significance enrich people's lives, often providing deep and inspirational sense of connection to community and landscape, to the past and to lived experiences. They are historical records that are important expressions of Australian identity and experience.

[These] places reflect the diversity of our communities, telling us about who we are and the past that has formed us and the Australian Landscape. They are irreplaceable and precious."

- The Burra Charter



Objectives

There are five key
Objectives that
this Policy aims to
achieve

- 1 Ensure that the Community are actively engaged in the development and delivery of Council's heritage policies
- 2 Set the Heritage Reference Group's agenda for the period of the Strategy
- 3 Provide a formal mechanism for evaluating, and reporting on Council's performance in heritage management, and the achievements of the Wollongong Heritage Reference Group
- 4 Provide for the long term sustainable management of Wollongong's Heritage
- 5 Provide the supporting policy framework for delivery of the Wollongong's Heritage Implementation Plan Proposals 2019-2022



Our Heritage Strategies

Heritage Strategy

- Strategy 1:** Actively involve the community in the management of Wollongong's heritage;
- Strategy 2:** Maintain an up to date list of heritage items;
- Strategy 3:** Employ and train staff to manage Wollongong's heritage and provide professional advice to the community;
- Strategy 4:** Develop and implement programs and projects that aim to achieve proactive heritage management;
- Strategy 5:** Provide funding for heritage projects and programs;
- Strategy 6:** Identify and manage key heritage precincts, streetscapes, cultural and natural landscapes;
- Strategy 7:** Implement heritage education and promotion programs;
- Strategy 8:** Implement best practice heritage asset management procedures as a positive example for the community; and
- Strategy 9:** Promote sustainable development as a tool for heritage management.

Council will strive to achieve its Heritage Policy and the key Objectives by implementing nine key Heritage Strategies.

Each strategy is linked with a recommendation from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage publication 'Recommendations for Local Council Heritage Management'.



Former Miner's Clubhouse, Kembla Heights

Strategy 1

Actively involve the community in the management of Wollongong's heritage

Heritage Branch Recommendation 1 - 'Establish a Heritage Committee to deal with heritage matters in your local area'

Involving the community in the management of the city's heritage is an essential component of good heritage management. The Wollongong Heritage Reference Group was formed in 2018. The purpose of the Reference Group is to provide a formal means of community involvement in Council's Heritage Management processes and decision making.

Council also acknowledges that the Heritage Reference Group provides only one means for community involvement in heritage management and that Council must also engage with a diverse cross section of our multicultural community in relation to all policy decisions that will impact on heritage outcomes.

Council also recognises the need to continually improve our engagement with the local Aboriginal community in relation to Council works projects as well as Council policy programs.

In recent years, there has been a significant trend within social media toward engagement around issues relating to the history and heritage of Wollongong. Social media provides an opportunity to engage with a broader and younger segment of the community in relation to heritage issues.



Mount Keira Scout Camp, Mount Keira

Strategy 2

Maintain an up to date list of heritage items

Council has a legislative responsibility to maintain a list of heritage places and recognises the importance of this responsibility. Council is committed to the ongoing review and update of Schedule 5 of the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan and is focused on ensuring that the Schedule accurately represents those aspects of our city's heritage that are important to the community.

Council is also working to clearly identify and demonstrate the significance of all heritage items through ensuring that the information available on the NSW Heritage Database is accurate and up to date. This database is accessible online by the general public.

Council also acknowledges that there are many sites and places of significance to the local Aboriginal Community that are not listed on Schedule 5 of the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan. These sites fall under the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and are most appropriately managed by the (former) Office of Environment & Heritage through the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management Database.

Heritage Branch Recommendation 2 - Identify the heritage items in your area and list them in your Local Environmental Plan



Sandon Point Boat Sheds, Bulli

Strategy 3

Employ and train staff to manage Wollongong's Heritage and provide professional advice to the community

**Heritage Branch
Recommendation
3 - Appoint a
heritage advisor to
assist the Council,
the community
and owners of
listed heritage
items**

Council will continue to provide a range of heritage services to the community. These services include:

- Heritage planning advice;
- Advice relating to conservation projects;
- Heritage promotion and education programs;
- Continue to grow and maintain the Wollongong Local Studies Library Collection.

Council recognises the importance of providing adequate resources to maintain and deliver these services to the standard expected by the community.

Council is also committed to the development and implementation of an internal staff training program.



Strategy 4

Develop and implement programs and projects that aim to achieve proactive heritage management

Council recognises the importance of proactive heritage management in providing positive heritage outcomes and is committed to the implementation of projects and programs that encourage the active conservation of our city's heritage.

Former Office of Environment and Heritage as well as community organisations such as the Illawarra/Shoalhaven Branch of the National Trust and the Illawarra Aboriginal Land Council to implement cross organisational projects.

**Heritage Branch
Recommendation
4 - Manage local
heritage in a
positive manner**

Council aims to achieve this by ensuring that heritage advice and guidance is readily available to the community. Council will continue to promote positive heritage projects through the use of the Heritage Incentive clauses in the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan.

Council also takes a proactive role in shaping heritage policy and legislation at all levels of government. Council is also committed to ensuring that the views of the local community, particularly the local Aboriginal community, are meaningfully represented in these spaces.



Strategy 5

Provide funding for heritage projects and programs

**Heritage Branch
Recommendation
5 - Introduce a
local heritage grant
fund to provide
small grants to
encourage local
heritage projects**

Council recognises the importance of funding to support community based and individual Heritage projects as well as to manage our own Heritage assets. Providing funding for a range of projects allows Council to achieve positive heritage outcomes that benefit the entire community. Council is committed to providing funds to support the delivery of this Strategy and associated Implementation Plan.

Council has run a successful local heritage grant program for the past 10 years and will continue to support local heritage owners to achieve positive conservation outcomes. Council will also continue to actively pursue available heritage funding from other levels of government, including the Office of Environment and Heritage Heritage Advisor Program.



Strategy 6

Identify and manage key heritage precincts, streetscapes, cultural and natural landscapes

The identification and management of historic precincts and streetscapes is recognised by Council as an essential component of heritage management, as well as being interlinked with principles of urban design and strategic planning.

Council is committed to managing our highly significant Aboriginal Places, cultural landscapes and environmental heritage through meaningful engagement with the local Aboriginal Community. Council recognises the significance of both the tangible and intangible values associated with cultural landscapes such as Sandon Point, Hill 60 and the natural landscapes of Illawarra Escarpment that are entwined with the environmental values of these places.

Council also recognises that some of our valued rural landscapes such as the West Dapto Precinct and historic industrial sites including former Collieries and Cokeworks are facing significant development pressure and are in danger of being lost.

Council is therefore committed to ensuring heritage is a key consideration of town and village planning, CBD planning as well as in planning and master planning for public places and significant sites with recognised heritage values.

**Heritage Branch
Recommendation
6 - Run a heritage
main street
program**



Strategy 7

Implement heritage education and promotion programs

Heritage Branch Recommendation 7 - Present educational and promotional programs

Council recognises that our heritage places and sites, particularly the Wollongong Harbour Precinct and North Beach Precinct as well as a wide range of other significant places, are unique assets to the community that provide opportunities for education, cultural tourism and the ongoing economic development of the region.

Council recognises that educating and promoting our heritage to the community and visitors to our Local Government Area is an essential part of proactive heritage management. For this reason Council has committed to the ongoing presentation of exciting and engaging education and promotion programs for all ages, related to our shared heritage.

These programs include an ongoing education program for Council staff, a commitment to ongoing support for local heritage events and festivals, as well as the preparation of a Heritage Promotion and Tourism Strategy.

welcome to
WOLLONGONG



SUMMERTIME
SUNRISES

Image: Destination Wollongong

Strategy 8

Implement best practice heritage asset management procedures as a positive example for the community

Council is responsible for the management of over 100 heritage affected properties. These include over 30 heritage listed buildings, more than 20 heritage listed parks and recreation areas, eight Cemeteries, as well as many other heritage items including trees and landscapes, monuments/memorials, ocean pools, historic roads and rail alignments.

In addition to these Council also maintains a number of assets that have cultural significance but may not be listed as heritage items on the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009. These sites include a wide range of Aboriginal sites and places of cultural significance to the local Aboriginal Community.

It is essential that Council puts in place procedures and processes to ensure that Council leads by example and proactively manages our heritage assets. Best practice heritage management benefits our local community by ensuring our shared history, our iconic public buildings as well as our cultural landscapes are cared for into the future.

Heritage Branch Recommendation 8 - Set a good example to the community by properly managing heritage places owned or operated by the council



Old Wollongong Court House, North Wollongong

Strategy 9

Promote sustainable development as a tool for Heritage management

Heritage Branch Recommendation 9 - Promote sustainable development as a tool for heritage management

Council acknowledges that Aboriginal Cultural Heritage is intrinsically tied to the Illawarra Landscape and our rich variety of flora and fauna. Caring for Country, through principles of sustainable environmental management and conservation that have traditionally been practiced by the Aboriginal Community for thousands of years is essential to the management of our Cultural Landscapes.

Council also recognises that the conservation of heritage sites supports the underlying principles of environmentally sustainable development (ESD). Council supports the principles of ESD through the Heritage Incentives Clauses of the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan that encourage adaptive re-use of heritage buildings and the waiver of development application fees where conservation outcomes are achieved.

Council also acknowledges that opportunities to allow heritage buildings to meet modern sustainability outcomes are increasing through the development of new technologies. These innovations can be balanced with the heritage significance of these sites through appropriate management and decision making.



Stanwell Park Viaduct from the Wodi Wodi Track, Stanwell Park

Delivery of this Strategy

Implementation Plan and Policy

To ensure the successful delivery of the Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022, the Wollongong Heritage Implementation Plan Proposals 2019-2022 have been developed. The Implementation Plan Proposals are provided as Appendix 1 to the Strategy.

The
Implementation
and Action Plan are
intended to guide
Council in the
delivery of the nine
strategies detailed
in this Policy



Port Kembla Pool (Image Dee Kramer)

Appendix 1

Draft Implementation Plan 2019-2022

Strategy 1 – Actively involve the community in the management of Wollongong’s heritage						
	Action	Responsibility	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Ongoing
1.1	Explore potential procurement procedures to encourage engagement of Aboriginal contractors for site works on key Aboriginal sites.	Heritage Staff Procurement Staff				
1.2	Hold bi-monthly meetings of the Wollongong Heritage Reference Group.	Heritage Staff WHRG Members				
1.3	Conduct annual reviews of the Wollongong Heritage Reference Group in accordance with the Reference Group Charter to ensure the purpose, membership and operation of the Reference Group is effective.	Heritage Staff WHRG Members				12 Monthly Reviews
1.4	Monitor the implementation of the Heritage Strategy 2019-2022 by undertaking annual reviews of performance against the strategy and implementation plan.	Heritage Staff WHRG Members				12 Monthly Reviews
1.5	Hold bi-monthly meetings of the Aboriginal Reference Group and ensure key Aboriginal heritage policy issues are discussed.	Community Services Heritage Staff				
1.6	Hold regular meetings of the Sandon Point Joint Management Group to inform implementation of the Plan of Management.	City Strategy				

Strategy 2 – Maintain an up to date list of heritage items						
	Action	Responsibility	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Ongoing
2.1	Finalise the review of the Wollongong Heritage Schedules and update the State Heritage Inventory Database accordingly.	Heritage Staff City Strategy				
2.2	Develop a community Heritage Nomination process and associated guidelines.	Heritage Staff WHRG Members				
2.3	Undertake annual reviews to monitor and maintain the schedule of heritage items listed in Wollongong’s planning instruments.	Heritage Staff				12 Monthly Review
2.4	Continue to acknowledge the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System as the key register of Aboriginal Heritage Sites.	All of Council				
2.5	Where sites are identified as being of State Heritage significance, prepare State Heritage nominations for these sites.	Heritage Staff				

Strategy 3 – Employ and train staff to manage Wollongong’s heritage and to provide professional advice to the community						
	Action	Responsibility	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Ongoing
3.1	Explore funding opportunities for the employment of an Aboriginal Heritage role within Council.	City Strategy				
3.2	Develop + implement regular Heritage training for Council staff, Councillors and Heritage Reference Group Members.	Heritage Staff Council				
3.3	Continue to grow and maintain the Wollongong Local Studies Library Collection, including accepting deposits of all completed Heritage Studies.	Heritage Staff Library Services				
3.4	Continue to enhance access to the Local Studies Library Collection through cataloguing, indexing and digitisation projects as funding allows.	Library Services				
3.5	Assess Interim Heritage Order requests under delegation from the NSW Heritage Council in accordance with Council’s delegations.	Heritage Staff City Strategy				
3.6	Provide professional heritage referral advice in relation to development applications with potential heritage impacts.	Heritage Staff Heritage Advisor City Strategy				
3.7	Continue to engage with key community groups (including the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council, The Illawarra Historical Society, the Illawarra/Shoalhaven Branch of the National Trust) and provide opportunity for their input into development applications with potential Heritage impacts.	Heritage Staff & Development Assessment				
3.8	Identify, investigate and enforce compliance matters relating to illegal development involving heritage places.	Regulation & Enforcement Heritage Staff				

Strategy 4 – Develop and Implement programs and projects that aim to achieve pro-active heritage management						
	Action	Responsibility	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Ongoing
4.1	Undertake a review of Chapter E11: Heritage Conservation of the Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009.	Heritage Staff Heritage Advisor City Strategy				
4.2	Develop a localised Heritage paint scheme and materials Design Guide.	Heritage Staff Heritage Advisor				
4.3	Review Chapter E10: Aboriginal Heritage of the Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009 subject to State Government legislation reform.	Heritage Staff Heritage Advisor City Strategy				
4.4	Develop a management policy for moveable heritage items and develop a list of significant moveable heritage within the city.	Heritage Staff WHRG Membership Community + Cultural Services				
4.6	Continue to provide Heritage comments and input into the State Government's Draft Aboriginal Heritage legislative Reforms.	Heritage Staff WHRG Membership				
4.7	Run a Local Heritage Grant program for local conservation projects. (See action 5.2).	Heritage Staff WHRG Membership				
4.8	Offer a waiver of Development Application and Construction Certificate fees for heritage properties where there are positive heritage outcomes.	City Strategy				
4.9	Provide Conservation Incentives for appropriate development to heritage properties through the Conservation Incentives clause in the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009.	City Strategy				
4.10	Continue to work with our local museums to develop a sustainable model for future management of our local museums (See item 3.4.3 of the Cultural Plan).	Community + Cultural Services				

Strategy 5 – Provide funding for heritage projects and programs						
	Action	Responsibility	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Ongoing
5.1	Continue to seek additional State Government Funding to support a Heritage Advisor position and Council's Local Heritage Grant Program, through the NSW Heritage Fund.	Heritage Staff				
5.2	Provide a Local Heritage Grant Fund for local conservation projects (see Action 4.7).	Heritage Staff WHRG Membership				
5.3	Actively pursue grant funding for heritage projects through available programs when they arise.	Heritage Staff WHRG Membership				
5.4	Continue to fund a Consultant Heritage Advisor to support the role of the Heritage Staff.	Council NSW Heritage Branch				

Strategy 6 – Identify and manage key heritage precincts, streetscapes, cultural and natural landscapes						
	Action	Responsibility	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Ongoing
6.1	Consider additional listing of Heritage Conservation Areas and key cultural and natural landscapes as part of Council's Heritage Review (see item 2.1).	Heritage Staff WHRG Membership				
6.2	Explore funding opportunities to develop an Archaeological Zoning Plan for the City (particularly the CBD) and implement procedures through appropriate development controls/mapping.	Heritage Staff Heritage Advisor				
6.3	Explore funding opportunities to develop an Industrial Heritage Study to identify key industrial sites.	Heritage Staff WHRG Membership				
6.4	Ensure Heritage Conservation is a key consideration in the development of Council's Town and Village Planning studies.	City Strategy				

Strategy 7 – Implement heritage education and promotion programs						
	Action	Responsibility	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Ongoing
7.1	Develop a suburb/place name signage strategy which provides consideration of Aboriginal and European heritage and environmental factors (see 3.3.9 Cultural Plan)	Community Cultural + Economic Development				
7.2	Seek funding to support the development and implementation of a signage strategy for the identification of Heritage Conservation Areas.	Heritage Staff Community + Cultural Development				
7.3	Implement the remaining recommended Heritage Interpretation Works contained within the Blue Mile Heritage Interpretation Strategy.	Heritage staff Infrastructure + Works				
7.4	Seek funding to support the development of a Heritage Interpretation Strategy for the Grand Pacific Walk.	Heritage staff				

7.5	Support local events and festivals which celebrate aspects of Wollongong's Heritage. Examples include Naidoc Week, Viva la Gong, Mount Kembla Heritage Festival etc.	Heritage Staff Community Cultural + Economic Development				
7.6	Maintain a heritage section on Council's website and provide a user friendly resource of heritage information/guidelines and publications.	Heritage Staff				
7.7	Explore opportunities to develop interactive heritage trails and walks throughout the City and promote these in collaboration with Destination Wollongong.	Heritage Staff WHRG Membership				

Strategy 8 – Implement best practice heritage asset management procedures as a positive example for the community						
	Action	Responsibility	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Ongoing
8.1	Finalise and Implement the Wollongong Heritage Asset Management Strategy for Council's Heritage Assets.	Heritage Staff Infrastructure + Works Property + Recreation Community + Cultural Development				
8.2	Develop a Historic Cemeteries Management Policy for Council managed cemeteries and rest parks.	Heritage Staff Crematorium + Cemeteries				
8.3	Continue to progress the adaptive re-use of the Bulli Miners Cottage as a community Artist in residence program	Heritage staff Infrastructure + Works				
8.4	Develop a staged program for the short term stabilisation and long term conservation of "Streamhill".	Heritage staff Infrastructure + Works				
8.5	Implement the outcomes of the Sandon Point Aboriginal Place Plan of Management and AHIP in consultation with the local Aboriginal Community and other Stakeholders.	Community Land Management Land Use Planning				
8.6	Develop an updated Conservation Management Plan and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report for the Hill 60 site to support the adopted Masterplan in consultation with the local Aboriginal Community and other Stakeholders.	Heritage staff Infrastructure + Works Property + Recreation				
8.7	Finalise and seek endorsement of the Gleniffer Brae Conservation Management Plan.	Environment + Conservation Services				
8.8	Incorporate Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage considerations in the planning process for Council works projects, seeking independent external heritage advice where appropriate.	Wollongong City Council				

Strategy 9 – Promote sustainable development as a tool for heritage management						
	Action	Responsibility	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Ongoing
9.1	Develop guidelines and policies related to the provision of solar panels, solar hot water systems, water tanks and other technologies aimed at improving sustainability of heritage buildings.	Heritage Staff City Strategy				
9.2	Actively encourage the adaptive reuse of heritage buildings and offer incentives to this end, including waiver of Development Application & Construction Certificate Fees and Section 94 Contributions and free pre lodgement advice for adaptive re-use projects	Heritage Staff Development Contributions				
9.3	Support 'Bushcare' and similar programs that enhance, reinstate and support 'natural' heritage environments and Places of Aboriginal Heritage significance, and involve Aboriginal workers in these projects where possible.	City Strategy				

Do you have a question for Wollongong City Council?

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