### Sewerage systems in Northern Suburbs

**Description:** NF2 request an update on the properties in the Northern suburbs who do not have mains sewerage systems.

**Response:** According to a letter sent by Sydney water to David Farmer in February 2011, Sydney Water have no plans to sewer the properties. Copies of the correspondence have been sent to the Convenor.

### Cater Street clearance of vegetation

**Description:** Can Council please update the forum on when the overgrown vegetation will be cleared?

**Response:** The vegetation was cleared on Monday 14 May. The clippings will be cleared the week commencing 21 May.

### Reorganisation of Neighbourhood Forum information

**Description:** NF2 suggest that an area on the Council website be created that listed all neighbourhood forum and community issues relating to each area. Forum members felt that this would be an effective means of informing residents of what is going on in their area and encouraging people to get involved in neighbourhood forums and community issues.

**Response:** That is an interesting proposal that we can consider as part of the review of the Community Consultation Policy. We will need to look at ways to pull that information together efficiently. Currently it would affect many systems which may or may not speak to each other. In the meantime the NF portal is one place you can find lots of relevant information although not sorted by forum area. [http://wcc.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/default.aspx](http://wcc.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/default.aspx)

### Effective use of rates

**Description:** By what means does Council ensure ratepayers are getting effective use of their rates for maintenance and services? Is there a mechanism to the monitor the productivity of the services provided by either in-house staff or contractors?

**Response:** Council monitors the performance and efficiency of its services and facilities through regular performance measurement reporting. Performance measurement is undertaken at all levels throughout Council and reported in documents available to the public through quarterly reviews and annual report.

### Austinmer Beach facilities

**Description:** Austinmer change rooms and toilets are sub-standard especially in light of the tourist buses who frequently stop there. When is there going to be an upgrade of this facility as it presents a 'third world' image of the city?

**Response:** The refurbishment and upgrade of the amenities block at Austinmer rock Pool is currently programmed for 2013/14. The design and investigation work for the project should commence in 2012/13.

### Open Government

**Description:** What steps has Council taken with regards to adopting and implementing the principles of open government?

**Response:** The legislation to reform FOI was passed by the NSW Parliament and assented to on 26 June 2009 and the Office of the Information Commissioner (OIC) was quickly established. Whilst the OIC was in the establishing phase, work to implement the new legislation commenced at Council. A project plan for the implementation of the new legislation was presented to SMG in November 2009 and progress completed ready for the implementation of GIPA on 1 July 2010.
The project delivered on the following:
• Access to Information Policies and Procedures were reviewed and submitted to Council;
• Staff training needs were identified and key staff trained;
• Organisational 'overview' training material developed and delivered;
• Open Access Information requirements documented and the ability to meet or not meet each requirement documented (exceptions included in the Policy);
• New Applications created;
• Open Access Documents published.

Council continues its long standing approach to proactively release information to the community whilst maintaining the protection of personal information in accordance with privacy legislation.