

Relevant Information for Council

FILE: X095705 **DATE:** 24 April 2026

TO: Lord Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer

THROUGH: Monica Barone PSM, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Information Relevant To Item 6.5 - Post Exhibition - Draft Generic Plan of Management for Parks, Sportsgrounds and General Community Use Land

Alternative Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the outcome of the public hearing and public consultation process for the Draft Generic Plan of Management;
- (B) Council adopt the Revised Draft Generic Plan of Management for Parks, Sportsgrounds and General Community Use Land as shown at Attachment H to the subject report, ***subject to the following amendments:***
 - (i) *amend the community use and activation section:*

Community use and activation

To encourage community events that contribute to local activation, cultural and community outcomes.

To ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people can practice culture on community land.

To facilitate temporary event use that is appropriate to scale of the open space or facility and in consideration of other uses.

Provision of improved services and/or amenities for community event use so that these functions may be accommodated without adversely affecting the values and character of open space or facilities.

Increased use for community events, appropriate to scale and intensity, ***including by local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups.***

Design places and implement policies that support cultural practice.

Compliance with the Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Policy and other relevant policies

(ii) *amend the cultural and historical significance section:*

Cultural and historical significance

Appreciation and interpretation of the cultural and heritage ~~Aboriginal~~, natural, historical and cultural significance of identified sites. ~~in terms of both components—~~

Consult with First Nations community members and knowledge holders to understand the cultural significance of local spaces and inform park design and park information.

Retention and interpretation of heritage and cultural values.

Undertake heritage and cultural assessment studies to identify cultural and heritage values for retention and interpretation.

(iii) *amend the natural section:*

Natural environment

To maintain and enhance the health of park ecology, including plants, animals, wetlands and water bodies.

To value First Nations knowledge about and responsibility to Country in the management of local places and ecologies.

To ensure access is appropriately controlled to

Develop and implement a native vegetation planting program to provide additional habitat for local animals.

Engage local First Nations knowledge holders, communities and businesses in the development and implementation of activities that heal and care for land and local ecologies.

Provide additional habitat and expand bush restoration areas.

Measurement and monitoring of created native vegetation and habitat.

Water quality monitoring of wetlands and water bodies.

any environmentally sensitive areas.

Manage wetlands and water bodies to maintain and improve the quality of the environment.

Identify environmentally sensitive areas and implement appropriate access control measures.

Evidence of an increasing understanding of local Aboriginal land management with the City's approach.

Compile and review list of environmentally sensitive areas and regularly inspect control measures.

Significant upgrades to take into account urban ecology strategy adopted by Council.

- (C) Council note that this plan will supersede the Generic Plan of Management 2012 and be entitled Generic Plan of Management 2026; and
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments to the Generic Plan of Management 2026 in order to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication.

Purpose

To provide an Alternative Recommendation for Council consideration.

To provide further detail on how the City is implementing community and place principles that are in the Generic Plan of Management for Parks, Sportsgrounds and General Community Use Land.

Background

The draft Generic Plan of Management is a statutory document informed by the overarching strategies, policies, and action plans approved by Council. These documents are cited in the reference section of the draft Generic Plan of Management. Several of these documents outline how the City of Sydney engages with First Nations people and cultures.

This list includes but is not limited to:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Protocols 2023
- Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2025–2028
- Greening Sydney Strategy 2021
- Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Policy 2025
- Naming Policy 2023

Informed by these strategies, the City is integrating these principles into operational workflows. We acknowledge that this is continuous process of learning in partnership with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and knowledge holders.

A few examples of recent initiatives include:

Redfern Neighbourhood Parks Upgrade: First Nations landscape architects, Yerrabingin, led an engagement and design process with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members to design the park upgrades.

McConville Reserve: Wildflower Gardens for Good were engaged by the City to restore the understorey of this reserve with small plants, shrubs and ground cover to support the local ecology.

Indigenous Procurement: The City purchases endemic species from IndigiGrow for planting in our parks and at community planting days.

To reflect the practices we are already doing, our approach has been summarised within the strategy and action plan section of the generic plan of management. This addition does not change any proposed categorisation of the community land included in the draft plan.

Memo from Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer

Prepared by: Mary Ghaly, Public Lands Coordinator

Approved

P. M. Barone

MONICA BARONE PSM

Chief Executive Officer