

Date: 4 May 2021	Time: 5.00pm – 6.15pm	Venue: City Hall, Hunter Room, Level 2
Meeting No: 9	Meeting Objective: Liveable Cities Advisory Committee	

1. Welcome

1.1 Attendance

Cr John MacKenzie – Chairperson
Cr Peta Winney-Baartz
Steve O'Connor – Planning Institute of Australia
Sue Anne Ware – University of Newcastle
Kristi Jorgensen – Hunter and Central Coast Development Corporation
David Clarke – Director Governance
Michelle Bisson – Manager Regulatory, Planning and Assessment
Kerry Edson – Executive Assistant to Director Governance – Secretary

1.2 Apologies

Cr John Church
David Moir – Community Member

1.3 Guests

Patricia McCarthy – Urban Planning Section Manager
Samantha Cross – Senior Urban Planner

2. Resignations

2.1 The Chair noted the resignations of Steven Fleming – Community Member and Rachel Cogger – Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA).

2.2 David Clarke noted that a replacement Community Member is unlikely prior to the expiry of the current term of the Liveable Cities Advisory Committee (LCAC) in September 2021, and that discussions will be held with UDIA regarding a possible replacement representative.

3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

3.1 No conflicts of interest declared.

4. Confirmation of Previous Minutes and Actions Arising

4.1 Minutes of the LCAC meeting of 2 February 2021 were moved by Steve O'Connor and adopted.

4.2 The minutes will be placed on City of Newcastle's (CN) website.

4.3 The actions arising were noted. David Clarke noted that a number of actions have been deferred to the August 2021 meeting due to insufficient time to discuss at this meeting.

5. Annual Performance Review Report

5.1 An annual performance review report for LCAC was circulated in compliance with clause 18 of the Guidelines for Meeting Practice – Advisory Committees.

- 5.2 Steve O'Connor asked to be reminded of what the Terms of Reference were for LCAC:
- To provide advice and guidance on the development of strategies, and identification of challenges and opportunities, in relation to safe, health and connected urban systems within the Local Government Area.
 - To provide advice on development of strategies that support urban policy and frameworks to achieve liveability objectives.
 - To provide advice on the planning for integration of affordability, transport, infrastructure, environment, and safety and crime prevention strategies.
 - To provide advice on the planning for integrated public and active transport services and oversee the implementation of City of Newcastle's (CN) traffic, parking and cycling management plans and operations.
 - To consider and advise on environmental and sustainability planning.
 - To provide advice on the protection and enhancement of heritage issues and design character.
- 5.3 The LCAC agreed that the liveability index was a good and positive initiative which the Committee had progressed, along with input to various urban planning initiatives, notably the Local Strategic Planning Statement and the Newcastle Heritage Strategy, noting the considerable contribution of the various working groups.
- 5.4 To provide insights and responses to the question in the performance report on 'The effectiveness of the LCAC', David Clarke confirmed that he would send out a survey questionnaire for members feedback.
- 5.5 The LCAC endorsed the annual performance review report and noted that the Director Governance will include the LCAC report in the annual report that is presented to Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 24 August 2021.
- 5.6 ACTION: David Clarke to send out a survey questionnaire on the effectiveness of the LCAC, circulate the results to members, and include a summary of the results in the LCAC annual performance review report.

6. Urban Planning Update

Presentation given by Michelle Bisson and Sam Cross.

Local Character Pilot Study

- 6.1 The Local Character Pilot Study for Tighes Hill had its first workshop with the community on 28 April 2021 and the second one is scheduled for 12 May 2021.
- 6.2 There was plenty of discussion on character, including the role of setbacks, private open space and increases in medium density.
- 6.3 A future character statement will be drafted. The pilot study will then be reviewed, including consideration of how best to replicate / roll out character studies in other suburbs / clusters in the LGA.

Development Contributions Framework

- 6.4 Members were briefed on a new development contributions framework being developed that supports infrastructure needs in our growing City.

6.5 The new framework aims to optimise development contributions to:

- Ensure adequate infrastructure is provided.
- Ensure that contributions are reasonable.
- Ensure that CN is accountable for contributions received.
- Provide transparent and easy to use contributions plans.

6.6 The LCAC:

- a) Notes that a new infrastructure contributions framework is proposed, and a draft Section 7.11 and Section 7.12 Development Contributions Plans will be reported to Council, with a request to place them on public exhibition.
- b) Notes that Development Contributions Plans provide the mechanism to seek contributions from future residential and non-residential development in the City.
- c) Notes that contributions collected through Development Contribution Plans ensure development makes a reasonable contribution toward the cost of public facilities and services required to cater for those future populations.
- d) Endorses placing the proposed new Development Contributions Plans on public exhibition seeking feedback from the community, industry, and key stakeholders.

6.7 ACTION: The LCAC asked for a copy of the plans once they go on public exhibition.

Development Control Plan 2012 Modernisation Review Project

6.8 This review is a requirement of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and will align CN's strategic direction, particularly the Local Strategic Planning Statement.

6.9 There will be workshops held in late 2021 to early 2022, then public exhibition and report back to Council proposed for March 2022.

Community Infrastructure Incentives Policy

6.10 Members were briefed on the new draft Community Infrastructure Incentives Policy.

6.11 Community infrastructure is works, services and land provided and maintained by or on behalf of CN – not ordinarily provided by development, not currently funded under the existing contribution framework and supports communities in areas undergoing urban renewal.

6.12 The policy considers potential increases in density and the changing needs of the community and introduces development incentive to initiate delivery of community infrastructure.

6.13 Steve O'Connor noted a similar innovative policy developed by Randwick Council for the Kensington and Kingsford Planning Strategy.

6.14 The LCAC:

- a) Notes the draft Community Incentives Infrastructure Policy (Policy) which has been placed on public exhibition by Council.

- b) Endorses the proposed new approach to enhance the delivery of community infrastructure not otherwise funded or delivered within CN's current Infrastructure Contribution Plans, through the provision of appropriate development incentives to support urban renewal.
- c) Promotes the Policy during the public exhibition period with stakeholder, community and industry networks.

7. Working Parties Update

7.1 Nil.


8. General Business

8.1 Nil.

9. Closing

9.1 Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 3 August 2021 at 5.30pm at City Hall, Hunter Room, Level 2.

9.2 Meeting closed at 6.15pm.



Chairperson
Cr MacKenzie